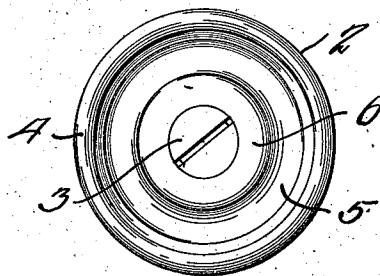


H. J. LEBHERZ.  
HAND CROWNER FOR APPLYING CROWN CAPS TO BOTTLES.  
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 11, 1921.

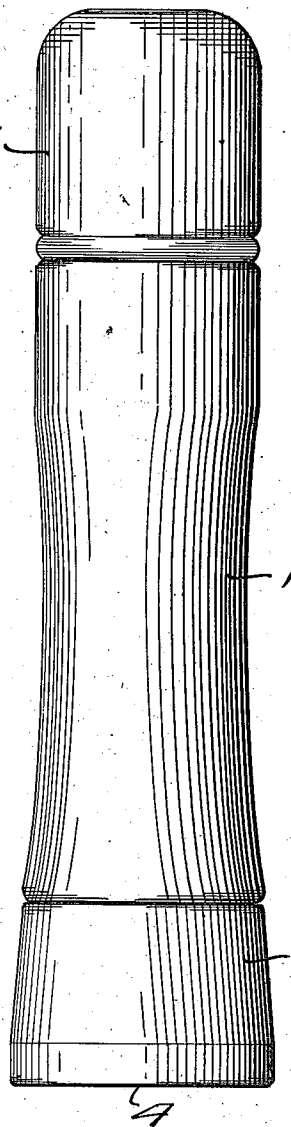
1,421,698.

Patented July 4, 1922.

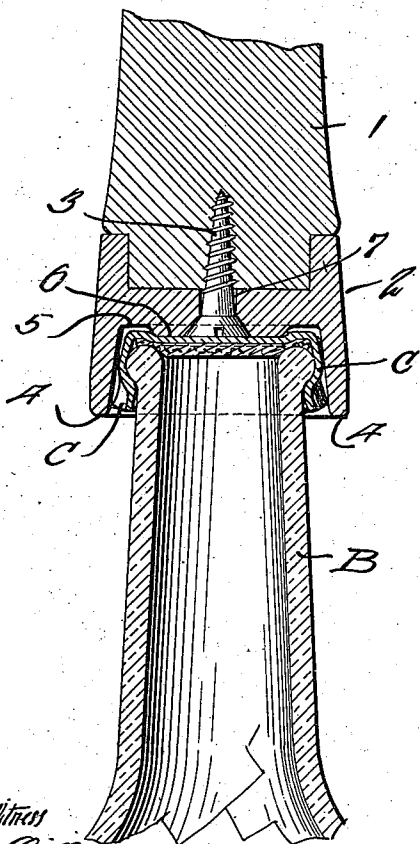
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 3.*



Witness

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY J. LEBHERZ, OF FREDERICK, MARYLAND.

HAND CROWNER FOR APPLYING CROWN CAPS TO BOTTLES.

1,421,698.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 4, 1922.

Application filed March 11, 1921. Serial No. 451,525.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HARRY J. LEBHERZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Frederick, in the county of Frederick and State of Maryland, have invented a new and useful Hand Crowner for Applying Crown Caps to Bottles, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide an improved implement for crowning bottles, so shaped that it will apply the crown without danger of breaking the bottle; and which moreover will apply the crown in such manner as to more efficiently seal the bottle. I attain the objects of my invention by the device illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my invention;

Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view; and

Fig. 3 is a detail vertical section of the device and of a bottle crown cap as it appears and being applied to the bottle by my device.

Like characters of reference indicate like parts in each of the several views.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, I provide a suitable handle 1, preferably of wood, to which a suitable capping head 2 is attached in any suitable manner, preferably by the centrally positioned screw 3, which as shown in Fig. 3 is inserted through the opening 7 in the projecting central portion 6 of the capping head 2, the head of screw 3 being aligned with said portion 6 to function as a part thereof in pressing crown cap C into the neck of the bottle as illustrated. In its preferred form, a chambered portion 4 of the capper head 2 is provided with an annular recess 5 encircling the circular capping projection 6 in the center of the chambered portion of the capper head, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. In operation the implement presses the crown C over the lip of the bottle, the central circular projection 6 pressing the central portion of the crown down into the bottle slightly beyond that portion of the crown cap C which overlies on the edge of the bottle and which is aligned with the annular recess 5 in the capper head. When downward pressure is exerted on the implement in applying a crown cap C on the mouth of the bottle neck B the inner sides of the die portion 4 of the implement will constrict the skirt of the cap into lock-

ing relation with the lip of the bottle neck, while at the same time the circular projection 6 will bear upon the opposing central portion of the cap and operate in the manner above described. The operator will know the crown is down as far as it should go when the raised part or projection 6 in the bottom of the throat or chambered portion 4 of the capper head 2 strikes the metal of the crown cap C, which acts as a cushion and prevents a solid contact between the top edge of the neck of the bottle and the bottom of the throat or chambered portion 4 of the bottle capper head 2.

I am aware that hand implements have heretofore been devised for applying crown caps, but these prior devices are not provided with a recess corresponding to my recess 5, and are inferior because they break bottles, this breakage being caused by the bottom of the throat crushing down on the top of the bottle when the device is hammered.

What I claim is—

1. As a new article of manufacture, a hand crowner for capping bottles consisting of a handle member of suitable size for manual operation, a bottle capper head having a deep chambered portion of suitable size to permit the device to engage over a crown cap and constrict and lock same on the neck of the bottle to which it is applied, the chambered portion of the capper head having an annular recessed portion disposed to overlie the portion of the cap above the edge of the neck of the bottle, and the capper head having a central projecting portion of suitable size to press the central portion of the crown cap downwardly into the neck of the bottle, and a screw securing the bottle capper head to the handle, said screw when applied having its head aligned with the surface of the central projecting portion of the bottle capper head to operate as a part thereof in contact with the crown cap when applying the crown cap.

2. In a hand crowner for capping bottles, the combination of a handle of light material, a metal bottle capper head affixed to the end of the handle, said capper head having a main chambered portion of suitable size to engage over the neck of a bottle to press and lock the crown cap over the lip of the bottle, and having a central projecting portion of approximately the same di-

ameter as the inside of the neck of the bottle to press the central portion of the crown cap into the neck of the bottle.

3. In a hand crowner for capping bottles, the combination of a handle, a bottle capping head securely attached to the end of the handle, said bottle capper head having a chambered portion of suitable size to engage over the neck of the bottle and the crown cap and to press and lock the cap over the lip of the bottle, said capper head having an annular recess positioned approximately over the portion of the cap that seats on the edge of the neck of the bottle.

4. In a new article of manufacture for a bottle capping device, a bottle capper head having a chambered portion of suitable size to engage over the crown cap to apply same over the lip of the neck of a bottle, said capper head having a central circular projecting part adapted to press the central portion of the cap downward slightly into the neck of the bottle, and having an annular recessed portion encircling the said raised part, to prevent the capper head crushing on the edge of the bottle and breaking the same.

HARRY J. LEBHERZ.