Aug. 17, 1948. H. SCHNEIR 2,447,281

CONTAINER FILLER

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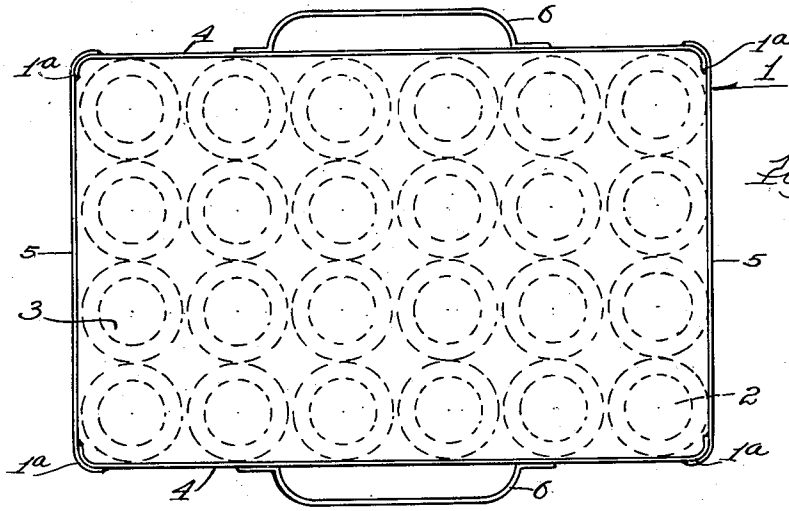


Fig. 1.

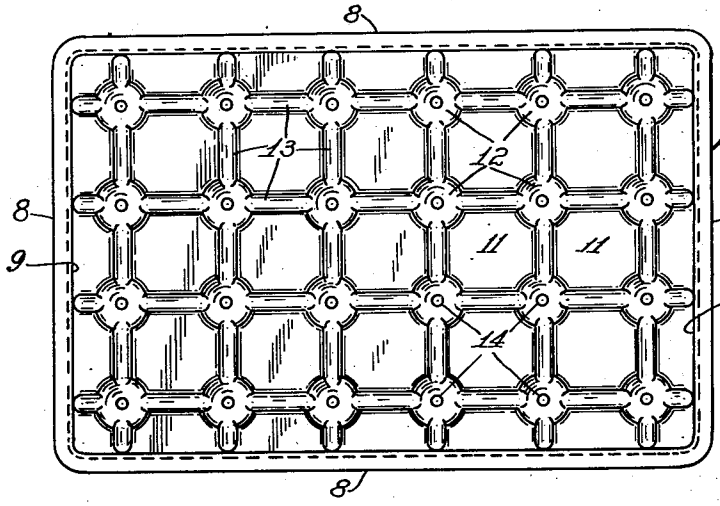


Fig. 2.

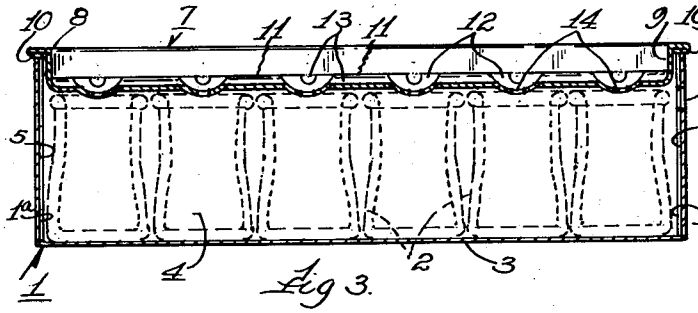


Fig 3.

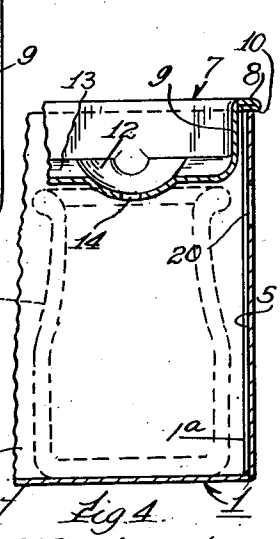


Fig. 4.

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CONTAINER FILLER

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1 Claim. (Cl. 226—93)

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This invention relates to improvements in container fillers and its principal object is to provide means for simultaneously filling a number of liquid containers for restaurant and hotel use and the like. The invention is particularly useful in dining rooms, on board ships, railroad trains and elsewhere where meals are served to a number of persons and it is necessary to provide individual cream containers with the meals. Formerly such containers have had to be filled individually by a waiter or other attendant which operation consumes considerable time and the containers have not all been properly filled, some being filled to the brim and others only partly filled. By the use of the instant device the containers can be filled in considerable numbers simultaneously and to a common level with great saving of time, without the danger of spilling and a material saving of labor afforded.

A further object is to provide a container filler that, after the filled containers have emptied, can be employed as a container washer and thereafter as an empty container storage means so that the empty containers are ready for instant repeat use when desired.

A filler for liquid containers is also herein provided whereby the level of the liquid is readily visible in the containers so that accurately filling same to any desired level is easily accomplished.

With the foregoing and other objects in view the invention consists in the combination and arrangements of parts to be hereinafter fully described, pointed out in the claim and illustrated in the accompanying drawings which form a part of this patent and in which—

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the tray or body portion of the container filler with the cover portion removed, a plurality of containers being shown in the tray in dotted lines.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the cover alone.

Fig. 3 is a view of the assembled filler in elevation and partly in longitudinal vertical section, the containers being shown in dotted lines.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary sectional view in elevation, enlarged.

The filler includes a body or box-shaped tray portion 1 which in this instance is oblong in shape and comprises a bottom 3, opposite sides 4, 4 and ends 5, 5, the sides 4, 4 having handles 6, 6, the corners of the tray being preferably overlapped and soldered or welded as at 1a. The tray is adapted to snugly contain a predetermined number of creamers 2 of uniform size and conventional type, which are to be filled with cream or

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other liquid for individual meal-time service. The body 1 is water tight and is usually formed with an overflow orifice 20 in one end wall.

A cover 7 is provided for the tray and consists of a body portion 11 having an upturned rim 9 formed with a flange 8 that is underturned to form the bead 10 that rests upon the topmost edge of the tray, the body portion of the cover being disposed within said tray immediately above the creamers or containers 2 which are arranged in parallel rows from end to end of the tray.

The body of the cover is formed with a plurality of saucer-shaped depressions 12 connected to each other by channels 13, one depression 12 being provided for each container 2 when the tray is filled, each depression being formed centrally with a perforation 14, the bottom or lowermost portion of each depression being round. The perforations in the depressions are disposed immediately above the mouths of the containers 2 as clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

When it is desired to fill the containers simultaneously the cover is placed in position upon the tray and the liquid poured into the cover to flow through the channels 13 to the several depressions and out through the orifices 14 into the containers. In the event that enough liquid is poured into the cover to cause the containers to overflow the liquid will be retained in the tray until it rises to the overflow orifice if same is provided in the particular tray in use. The liquid in the tray may, of course, be saved for future use. When, after use, it is desired to wash the containers they may again be placed in the tray, the cover applied and water poured into the cover. The tray used as a wash tray is preferably formed with an overflow orifice 20 to permit water above a certain height to escape to the drain.

What is claimed is:

In a manually portable filler for creamers and the like, a tray of rectangular shape having side walls of greater height than the creamers for receiving and retaining same in uniform parallel rows when filled to capacity, a cover for said tray having a body portion of slightly less area than the tray freely received therein, said cover having an upturned rim of slightly lesser depth than the height of said tray above the creamers, said rim formed with an outwardly disposed flange received upon the top edge of said tray spacing said body portion slightly above the top level of the creamers, said body portion formed with parallel rows of perforate depressions complementary to the rows of creamers projected slightly into

the creamer mouths, and channels connecting said depressions.

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