

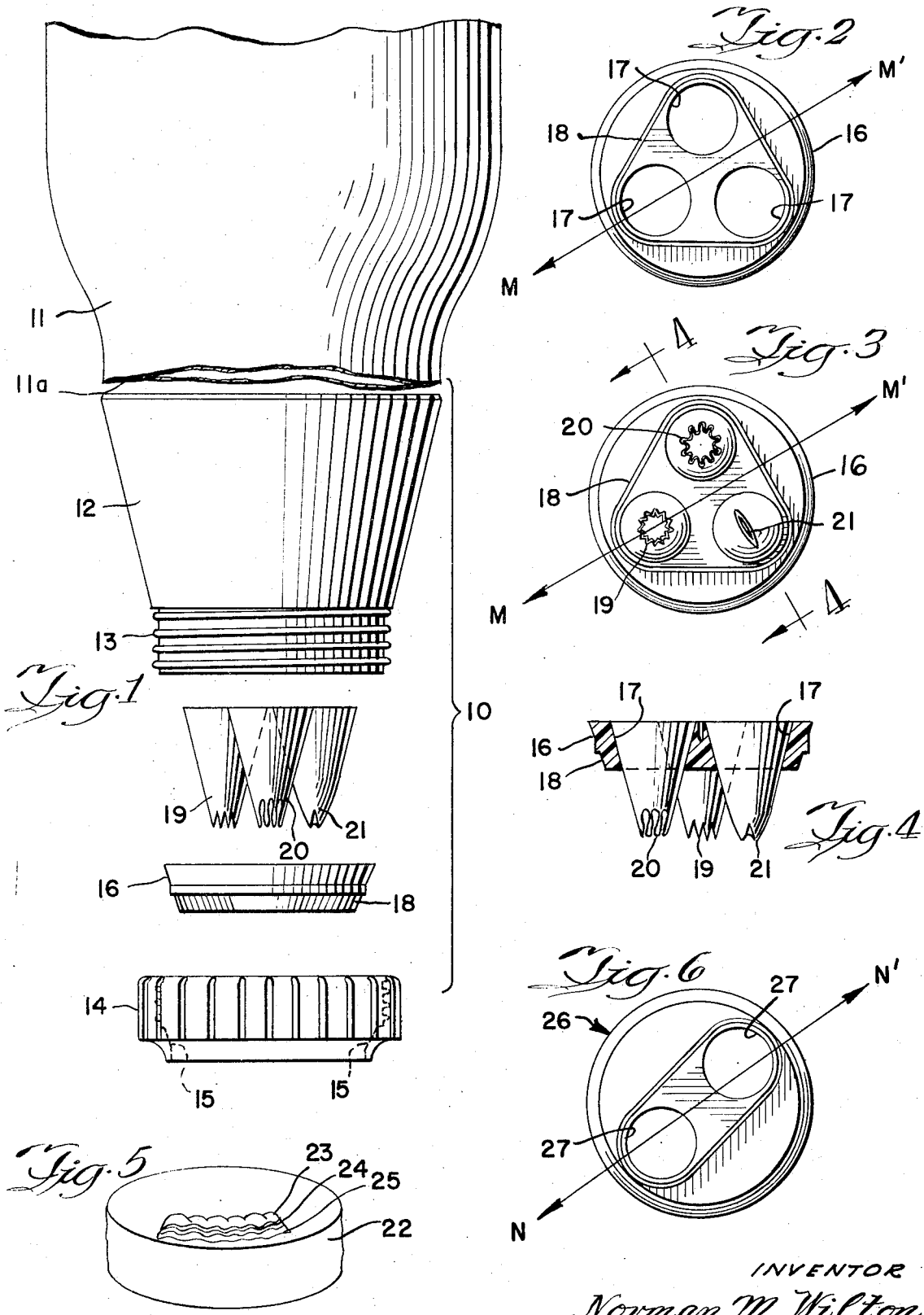
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MULTIPLE LINE DECORATING DEVICE

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## MULTIPLE LINE DECORATING DEVICE

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### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A decorating device for creating multiple borders with the application of a single pressure. The invention provides an insert containing a multiple number of circular openings in which pastry tubes of selected design are dropped. The loaded insert is locked into a coupling device, which, in turn, is attached to an icing container. This construction allows an operator to create any number of different multiple border designs using a single insert.

The present invention relates to a decorating device and more particularly to such a device adapted to create a multiple line design of icing or like consistency material.

### BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The decorating device constructed according to the present invention is of the type in which a pressure sensitive icing container is attached to a coupling device containing tubes having shaped outlets. In decorating, the container is filled with an icing material, normally of pasty consistency, pressure is then applied to the container and the icing is forced through an outlet producing a stream of selected design. The device is particularly useful in creating border designs for cakes.

It is conventional to construct these devices so that a single tube can be inserted and locked into the coupler. By selection of tubes with different shaped openings an operator may form a variety of single border designs. In making a border using this conventional device, the operator places pressure on the icing container and moves the device around the periphery of the cake. However, if multiple row border designs are desired, first a new tube must be placed in the device and then the decorating operation must be repeated with great care so as to match up the borders.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a cake decorating device constructed so that a single insert provides a variable design capacity for creating multiple border designs. Furthermore, a device constructed according to this invention allows a multiple row border design to be created with the application of a single pressure.

It is a further object of this invention to create a cake decorating device which can create multiple borders in the same time and with the same effort it now takes to create a single border. Additionally, this invention allows multiple borders to be created with little or no chance of error.

Other features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description and claims and are illustrated in the accompanying drawings which show structure embodying preferred features of the present invention and the principles thereof, and what is now considered to be the best mode in which to apply these principles.

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### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of the specification, and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same:

5 FIG. 1 is an exploded elevation of an exemplary embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 2 is a bottom view of an unloaded insert constructed as one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 3 shows the insert of FIG. 2 loaded with tubes;

10 FIG. 4 is an elevation of a section along line 4—4 of the insert of FIG. 3;

FIG. 5 is a perspective of a cake decorated using the device embodied in FIG. 1; and

15 FIG. 6 is a bottom view of an unloaded insert constructed as an alternative embodiment of the invention.

### DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

20 Illustrated in FIG. 1 is an exemplary decorating device 10 including an icing container 11 constructed in conical shape out of suitable material. However, the material and shape of the container is not critical to this invention and may be of various materials and designs well known in the art. The container 11 is preferably constructed so as to be easily grasped in an operator's hand. The material may be of cloth or the like which will hold icing material while being mechanically manipulatable to permit squeezing and forcing out of the icing through an end 11a of the container.

30 For directing icing material out of the container 11 and for permitting connection of attachments, a coupler 12 is provided. The coupler is shaped so as to fit securely inside end 11a of the container; therefore, icing passing through end 11a of the container is directed into the coupler. The coupler 12 is constructed out of plastic, nickel-coated brass or other suitable materials. In the exemplary embodiment the coupler has a frusto-conical shape and is grooved to facilitate attachment and handling. The coupler is threaded at its lower end 13 so that a threaded annular coupler ring 14 of like material can be attached thereto.

35 The coupler ring 14 has an inner beveled edge 15 which forms a seat for the placement of a disc-like insert 16.

40 In accordance with the present invention, an attachment permitting the formation of a multiple line decoration using a single squeeze pressure is provided by an insert constructed out of plastic and having a beveled edge which allows it to fit securely when placed against the seat 15 inside the coupler ring 14. The insert 16 is locked into place when the loaded ring is screwed onto the coupler 12.

45 In the present embodiment, as shown in FIGS. 2 and 3, the insert 16 contains three circular openings 17 oriented relative to a real line of movement MM<sup>1</sup>, the altitude of the triangle formed by connecting the centers of the openings, so that when extrudate issues from the tubes 19, 20 and 21 placed therein, a selected different portion of the surface being decorated is covered with icing. In other words, decorative lines are formed with material issuing from different outlets falling contiguous to, but not overlapping extrudate issued from the other outlets. In this embodiment, the insert 16 contains openings placed at the corners of an equilateral triangular raised portion 18.

50 As shown in FIG. 4, the openings 17 are constructed with a frusto-conical shape and are as deep as the in-

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sert itself. This construction enables the conical pastry tubes 19, 20 and 21 to fit securely when dropped into the openings of the insert 16.

The pastry tubes 19, 20 and 21 contain shaped passages which form the icing as it is ejected from the device. The construction of these tubes is well known in the art. For example, they may be made of nickel plated brass. Such a material has strength and can be accurately formed. These decorating tubes are made with a variety of different shaped end passages. FIG. 3 shows an insert 16 loaded with three tubes 19, 20 and 21 each having a different shaped end passage, and selected to produce a desired three-line border design.

The loading operation of a cake decorating device constructed according to this invention includes the following steps: (1) the decorating tubes 19, 20 and 21 are selected so that a specific triple border design will be produced; (2) the selected tubes are placed in the openings 17 of the insert 16; (3) the insert complete with tubes is dropped into the coupler ring 14; (4) the loaded coupler ring is then screwed on to the coupler 12; (5) the complete assembly is affixed to a decorating container 11; and (6) the container 11 is then filled with icing.

Borders are made by putting pressure on the container and directing the device along its line of movement around the perimeter of the cake. As shown in FIG. 5, the described embodiment will produce a border in which three rows of icing 23, 34 and 25 of preselected design will fall adjoining each other on the surface of a cake 22.

FIG. 6 shows a different insert 26 constructed as another embodiment of this invention. This insert contains two circular openings 27 oriented relative to a variable of movement NN<sup>1</sup>. When using this embodiment, a double line decoration will be produced when the loaded insert is locked into the coupler device. It is preferred to select line of movement NN<sup>1</sup> so that the icing issuing from openings 27 will fall adjacent to each other.

Thus, while preferred constructional features of the invention are embodied in the structure illustrated herein, it is to be understood that changes and variations may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive privilege or property is claimed are defined as follows:

1. In a decorating device having an extrudate reservoir and an attached coupler end mechanism the improvement comprising an insert joined to said extrudate reservoir by said coupler, said insert having a plurality

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of openings formed therein, each of said openings receiving a tube, each of said tubes disposed in said openings having shaped outlets to allow extrudate to be ejected therethrough, each of said openings oriented about a line of movement so that the extrudate ejected through each of said outlets of said tubes held by said openings covers a selected different and adjacent portion of a coated surface.

2. The improvement set forth in claim 1 wherein said plurality of openings are arranged so that lines connecting the centers of said openings form an equilateral triangle.

3. In a decorating device having an extrudate reservoir and an attached coupler end mechanism the improvement wherein an insert is carried by said coupler: said insert contains a set of circular openings arranged so that the lines connecting their centers form an equilateral triangle, said openings adapted to hold tubes having shaped outlets and oriented about a line of movement so that extrudate ejected through each of said outlets covers a selected different portion of a coated surface.

4. In a decorating device that includes a container having an extrudate reservoir opening, a coupler, a sleeve-like coupler ring removably mounted on the coupler and an extruder outlet assembly disposed within said coupler ring the improvement wherein: said outlet assembly includes a seated insert having a set of openings and a set of outlet tubes removably socketed in said openings, said insert having the set of openings spaced in a relationship to enable extrudate ejected simultaneously from said outlets to be distributed along separate portions of the decorated surface.

5. Device as in claim 4 wherein said set of openings contains 3 openings.

6. Device as in claim 4 wherein said set of openings contains 2 openings.

7. Device as in claim 4 wherein said set of openings is spaced so that the extrudate ejected simultaneously from said outlets will be distributed in separate, but adjacent portions of the decorated surface.

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