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J. ROSAY

2,323,356

LINER AND HOLDER THEREFOR

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Fig. 1

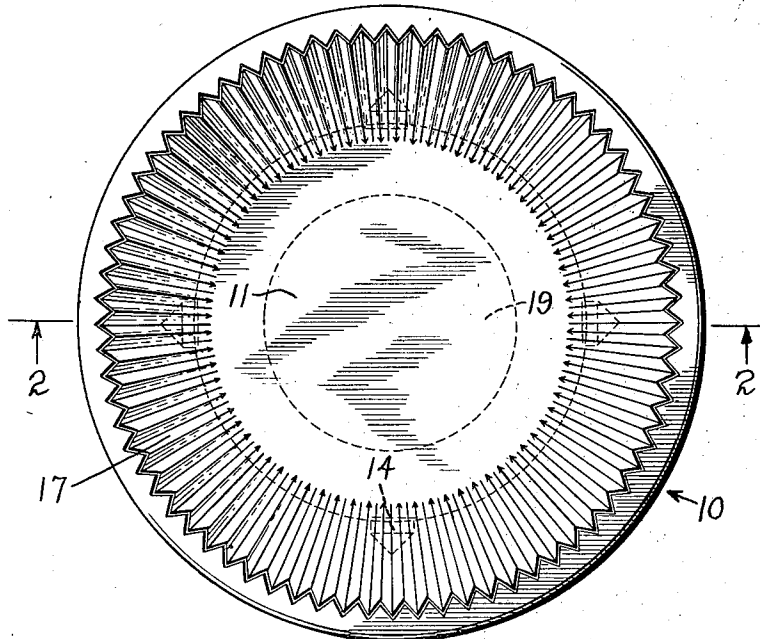


Fig. 2

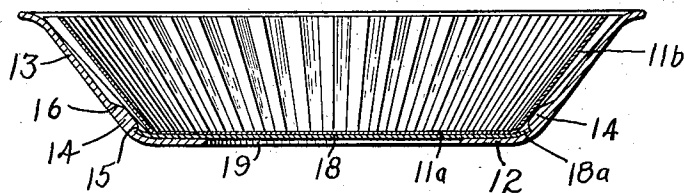


Fig. 3

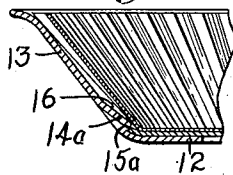


Fig. 4

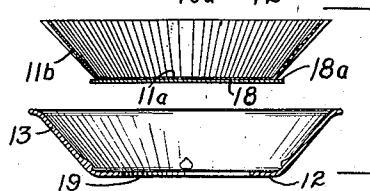
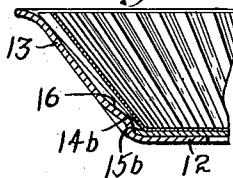


Fig. 5

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LINER AND HOLDER THEREFOR

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14 Claims. (Cl. 65—61)

The invention relates to dish-like containers, and, more particularly, to the type embodying single-use removable and readily disposable liners and holders with which said liners are used.

The liner of the present invention and the holder therefor are simple and cheap to construct, and yet are reliable in use.

Such liners and holders are especially adapted for receiving food products, such as ice cream, and are frequently used at picnics, soda fountains and other similar places, so that after use the liner may be thrown away and the holder set aside for future use. Usually, the liner is made of waterproof paper suitably folded or pleated to fit the holder, and is merely dropped into the holder to rest therein by gravity.

Liners heretofore used have also been held in place by having a part of the body inserted under the edge of the holder or the like. With this construction, it was necessary to make these liners of some substantial, heavy stock which was difficult to work and more expensive.

An object of the present invention is to provide an improved holder and liner construction in which the liner may be conveniently detachably connected to the holder so that it will not inadvertently fall out of the holder or be lifted out of the holder when food, such as ice cream, is being taken from the liner.

According to the present invention, however, the liners can be made of very thin stock inasmuch as they are provided with a base of stiff, pliable resilient material which projects from the bottom edge of the liner and forms a resilient rim or flange to cooperate with the holder to lock the liner in place.

The holders for receiving the liners are provided with abutments, preferably in the form of a plurality of spaced projections on the inner side walls adjacent the base which cooperate with the flange on the base of the liner to hold the same against accidental removal from the holder.

This construction eliminates any objectionable flanges, or the like, on the holder which are hard to clean.

Inasmuch as the holders of the present invention are of a relatively simple construction, they may be inexpensively produced, as they can be readily molded from plastic material, or stamped from sheet metal. In these operations, the projections can be so arranged that the holders closely nest one within the other and thus can be readily stacked. The liners also can be produced very cheaply since the liner proper may be made of a very thin paper-like material, and only the base member is of a stiff material.

The stiff base member may be in the form of a ring or properly positioned elements thereof projecting from the edge of the bottom of the liner so as to snap under the projections on the holder

and lock the liner against accidental removal therefrom. In the preferred form of the invention, however, the base is made in the form of a disk underlying the bottom of the liner and reinforces the bottom of the liner against tearing through due to moisture in the material placed in the dish softening the thin paper, and also against the action of a cutting implement should the same be used to cut the material in the dish.

The liner and reinforcing base can be secured together at the time when they are manufactured, or, if desired, the bottom of the liner and/or the base can be provided with an adhesive which will adhere only to a properly prepared coating surface, so that they can be secured together. Such liners and bases can be easily stacked without adhering to one another, and, when it is desired to use them, they can be secured together quickly by the user. If dry adhesive is used, the liner and base may be assembled by merely pressing the two dry adhesive surfaces together.

The dishes may be made in any suitable shape, and the liners can be printed with decorative designs, as required.

To readily remove the liner from the holder, an aperture may be provided in the bottom of the holder through which the fingers or a suitable instrument can be inserted and apply outward pressure to the reinforcing base to flex the same and cause it to snap from under the projections. Since the liner is held adjacent the bottom thereof, pressure through the aperture in the base of the holder will readily release it for disposal and/or replacement.

Other features and advantages will hereinafter appear.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 shows a top plan view of the receptacle with the liner in place.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view, taken along line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 shows a fragmentary view, similar to Fig. 2, of another form of projection.

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 showing still another form of projection.

Fig. 5 shows an exploded view of the liner and holder therefor just prior to the liner being inserted into the holder.

As shown in the drawing, the receptacle of the present invention comprises a dish-shaped holder or supporting member 10 and a liner 11 therefor. While a circular dish has been shown throughout the drawing to illustrate the invention, it is to be understood that the invention can be applied to receptacles of various shapes, for example, square, oval or other shapes, as required.

The holder comprises a bottom 12 and side walls 13 extending upwardly and outwardly therefrom. Adjacent the bottom of the side

walls on the inner surface thereof is located the locking means for cooperating with the liner to hold it in position. While the locking means may be a continuous rib, I have found that a plurality of projections 14 uniformly spaced at intervals around the dish and each providing a shoulder 15 will securely hold the liner in place.

These projections may be formed, as shown in Fig. 2, by a thickened portion of the wall, preferably made integral with the wall, although separate projections secured to the wall can be used if desired. They can also be formed by a lanced finger 14a bent inwardly to provide a shoulder 15a, as shown in Fig. 3, or by a portion 14b of the wall of uniform thickness being pushed in to provide the shoulder 15b, as shown in Fig. 4. The latter two forms of holder can be more readily stacked as the projections on one will fit within the recess formed in the outer walls of the next adjacent holder in the pile.

Although the projections may be formed with shoulders on their upper surfaces, I have found that a smoother and easier insertion of the liner is accomplished when the upper surface 16 of each of the projections 14, 14a and 14b is inclined upwardly so that it merges with the wall. This inclined portion serves as a guide and camming means for the liner holding means as will be described.

The holder can be easily stamped from sheet metal or molded from a plastic material, and can be provided with legs, handles or suitable ornamentation as required.

The liner 11 is shaped to conform to the holder and has a bottom 11a and side walls 11b. Preferably, it is made of thin paper or the like material. In the illustrated form of the invention, it is blanked out and pleated around its edges, as shown at 17, so that it lies close to the side walls of the holder. Secured to the bottom 11a of the liner is the means for cooperating with the projections to hold the liner in position. In the broader aspects of the invention, this means may be a ring, annulus or segments thereof of stiff, pliable, resilient material located around the bottom to provide a stiff projecting flange or rim adapted to interengage with the projections 14. In the preferred form of the invention, however, a base 18 of stiff, pliable, paper-like material is stamped out so as to be coextensive with and overlie the bottom of the liner and secured thereto to project beyond the edge thereof to form a flange or rim 18a to hold the liner to the holder through cooperation with the projections thereon.

This base also reinforces the bottom of the liner and prevents it from tearing through should it become softened due to the moisture of the material placed in the dish, or when a cutting implement is used to cut said material in the dish.

The liner and the base member can be blanked out in the factory and secured together by suitable adhesives or cements and shipped ready for insertion into the holder. In the alternative, the liner and base member can be shipped separately and assembled by the user. When this method is contemplated, the bottom of the liner may be provided with dry adhesive or the like and the top of the base also provided with dry adhesive or the like. The liners and base members, when so prepared, can be separately stacked without adhering to one another. When it is desired to use a liner, it is merely necessary to

associate a liner and a base with the adhesive surfaces in engagement with one another and apply a pressure thereto whereupon the two will be secured together.

In assembling a liner with a holder, the liner is inserted into the holder and the projecting rim 18a first engages the inclined upper surfaces 16 of the projections 14. Pressure is applied to the liner and continued movement inward causes the rim to pass over these surfaces and be cammed and flexed thereby. As the rim passes over the lower edge of the projections, it snaps into the position shown in Fig. 2 and interlocks with the shoulders to hold the liner in proper position in the holder and against accidental removal therefrom.

The holder is provided with an aperture 19 in the bottom surface thereof and through which the fingers of the user or an implement can be inserted to engage the bottom surface of the reinforcing base member and apply pressure thereto in an outward direction which causes the base member to flex and the rim to release from its engagement with the shoulders, whereupon the liner snaps free of the holding means and may then be readily removed for disposal or replacement.

It has been found that when the liner and base are to be assembled by the user, the two can be readily centered by a novel process which comprises first inserting the reinforcing base member into the holder with the adhesive side facing upwardly.

The thin paper liner is then positioned in the holder, and, inasmuch as it conforms to the shape of the holder, will properly center itself. Pressure is then applied to the bottom of the liner and the cooperating adhesives on the liner and base member secure the two together. This, of course, insures that the projecting flange or rim on the base member will be in proper position with respect to the liner so that it will engage the shoulders on the projections and prevent accidental removal of the liner when associated therewith.

Variations and modifications may be made within the scope of this invention and portions of the improvements may be used without others.

I claim:

1. In a dish-like receptacle, the combination of a holder having a bottom and side walls, the side walls having uniformly spaced projections on the inner surfaces thereof adjacent the bottom; and a liner therefor having a stiff, resilient base member projecting laterally beyond the side walls thereof to snap under the projections and hold the liner in position on said holder against accidental removal therefrom.

2. In a dish-like receptacle, the combination of a holder having a bottom and side walls, the side walls having a shoulder on the inner surface thereof adjacent the bottom; a liner therefor; and a member of resilient material secured to the bottom of the liner to project laterally therefrom and adapted to yield when the liner is inserted into the holder and snap under said shoulder to hold said liner in position.

3. In a dish-like receptacle, the combination of a rigid holder having a bottom and side walls, the side walls having uniformly spaced projections on the inner surfaces thereof adjacent the bottom; a thin paper liner therefor; and a member of stiff, resilient paper-like material secured to the bottom of the liner to project laterally beyond the side walls to snap under said

projections when the liner is inserted into the holder and hold said liner in position.

4. In a dish-like receptacle, the combination of a supporting member having a bottom and side walls, the side walls having uniformly spaced projections on the inner surfaces thereof adjacent the bottom, the upper surface of said projections being inclined and merging with said side walls; a liner therefor; and a member of resilient material secured to the bottom of the liner to project laterally beyond the side walls thereof and engage the inclined surfaces of said projections when the liner is inserted into the supporting member and be flexed thereby and upon passing therefrom to snap under the projections and lock said liner in position.

5. In a dish-like receptacle, the combination of a holder having a bottom and side walls, the side walls having uniformly spaced projections on the inner surfaces thereof adjacent the bottom; a liner therefor; and a member of resilient material secured to the bottom of the liner to project laterally beyond the side walls and adapted to snap under said projections when the liner is inserted into the holder and lock said liner in position, the bottom of the holder having an aperture therein providing means whereby outward pressure can be applied to the liner and associated member to cause said member to snap from under the projections and be released therefrom.

6. In a dish-like receptacle, the combination of a holder having a bottom and side walls, the side walls being of substantially uniform thickness and having portions thereof adjacent the bottom extending inwardly to form shoulders, and a liner therefor having a stiff, resilient base member projecting therefrom and yielding upon engagement with the shoulders when the liner is inserted in the holder so as to pass into a position under the shoulders to hold the liner against accidental removal therefrom.

7. In a dish-like receptacle, the combination of a holder having a bottom and side walls, the side walls being of substantially uniform thickness and having portions thereof adjacent the bottom extending inwardly and downwardly to form integral resilient fingers, and a liner therefor having a stiff, resilient base member projecting therefrom to engage the ends of the fingers when the liner is inserted in the holder to provide holding means to hold the liner against accidental removal therefrom, at least one portion of said holding means yielding to permit the base member to be moved to inserted position.

8. In a dish-like receptacle, the combination of a holder of moldable plastic material having a bottom and side walls, the side walls being of substantially uniform thickness and having molded therein adjacent the bottom thereof inwardly projecting portions to form integral projections, and a liner therefor having a stiff, resilient base member projecting therefrom to engage under the projections when the liner is inserted in the holder to hold the liner against accidental removal therefrom, said base yielding during passage thereof over said projections during insertion of the liner.

9. A liner for use with a dish or the like having

rim-engaging means thereon comprising a dish-shaped member of thin paper-like material having a bottom and side walls to conform with the dish; and a base member of stiff, resilient paper-like material adhesively secured to the bottom to project laterally therefrom and form a rim therearound, said base member being adapted to yield as the liner is put in position and engage the means for holding the liner against accidental removal.

10. A liner for use with a dish or the like having projections thereon comprising a dish-shaped member of thin paper-like material having a bottom and side walls to conform with the dish; and a reinforcing member of resilient material having the same shape as the bottom of the dish secured thereto so as to project laterally therefrom, said reinforcing member being adapted to yield as the liner is put in position and the projecting portion interengaging with the projections for locking the liner against accidental removal from the dish.

11. A liner for use with a dish or the like having walls provided with locking projections on the inner sides thereof comprising a liner member of thin paper-like material having a bottom and side walls to conform with the dish; and a base member of stiff, resilient material secured to the bottom of the liner so as to project therefrom and form a rim therearound, said resilient base member being adapted to yield as the liner is put in position in the dish whereby the rim coacts with the projections and retains the liner against accidental removal.

12. In the method of assembling a holder having projections on the inner side walls adjacent the bottom and a liner therefor, the steps of inserting a base of stiff, pliable material into the holder so as to snap under the projections and cover the bottom thereof; placing a liner shaped to conform with the holder into the holder over the base, the holder centering the liner with the base; and securing the liner and base together while so positioned in the holder.

13. In the method of assembling a holder having projections on the inner side walls adjacent the bottom and a liner therefor, the steps of inserting a base of stiff, pliable material, having an adhesive surface, into the holder so as to snap under the projections and cover the bottom of the holder with the adhesive surface facing upwardly; placing a liner shaped to conform with the holder and having an adhesive surface on the bottom thereof into the holder over the base, the holder centering the liner with the base; and pressing the liner into engagement with the base to cause the two adhesive surfaces to be secured together while the base and liner are so disposed in the holder.

14. In a dish-like receptacle, the combination of a holder having side walls provided with projecting members on the inner surface thereof adjacent the bottom, a liner therefor having a flange member laterally projecting from the base thereof to be disposed under said projecting members upon insertion into the holder to retain the liner against accidental removal, one of said members being resilient and yielding to permit the flange member to pass into retaining position.

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