Feb. 10, 1959 D. O. INMAN 2,873,060

RECEPTACLE LINER

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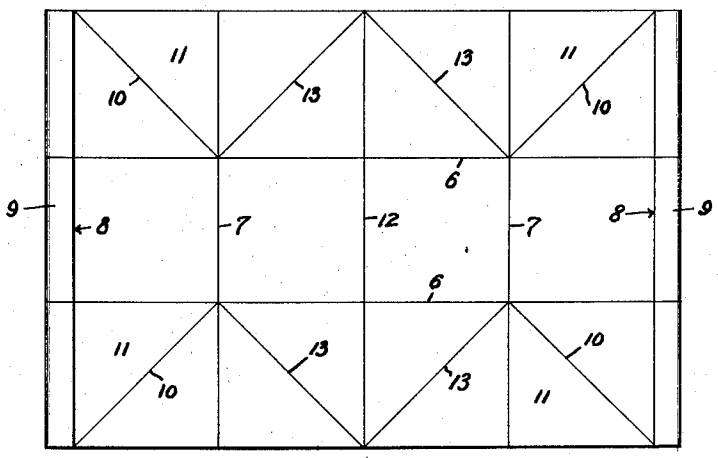


Fig. 1

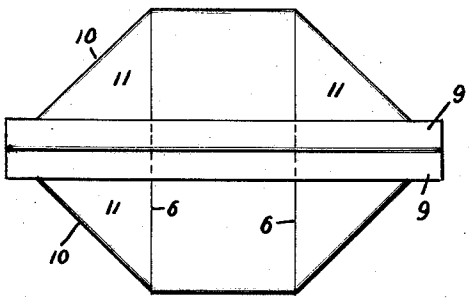


Fig. 2

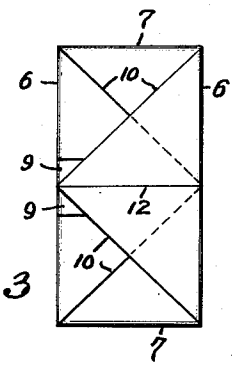


Fig. 3

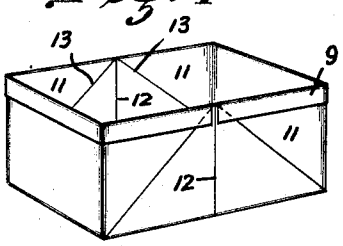


Fig. 4

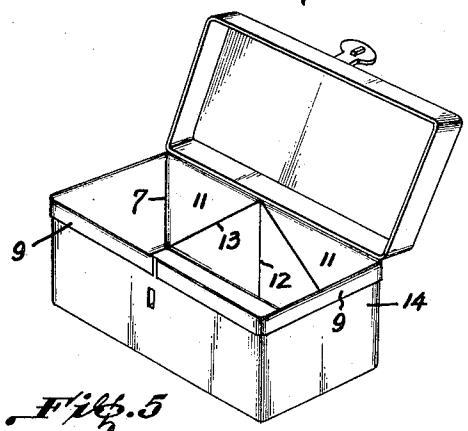


Fig. 5

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RECEPTACLE LINER

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1 Claim. (Cl. 229—31)

This invention is a receptacle liner and is directed particularly for use in connection with lunch boxes.

When food is being put up for lunch, it has been the usual practice to wrap the various articles, such as sandwiches, etc., in an impervious wrapper prior to its being placed in the box, in order to maintain as well as possible the wrapped food in fresh and appetizing condition, to protect the same from coming in contact with the walls of the box, and to prevent moisture contained in the food from coming in contact with the interior walls of the box. Various wrappings for these purposes have been proposed, such as paper, waxed or otherwise, and napkins. There is, however, a serious objection to these methods because they are inadequate and do not provide the protection intended.

It is the purpose of the present invention to provide preformed liners cut to such dimension as to fit snugly within the lunch box, made of suitable sheet material such as paper, either waxed or otherwise, which liners are so constructed as to permit of the same being quickly and easily applied to the interior of the box to cover the bottom, end and side walls, and also to provide aprons or flaps to fold over the edges of the box to maintain the contents in proper condition and against coming in contact with either the bottom or the walls of the container.

A further object of the invention is to provide a liner sheet provided with lines of fold which permit of the liner sheet being folded neatly, in small compass and in compact form for storage purposes and which may be quickly and easily "set up" and applied to the interior of the box to safeguard the contents thereof coming in contact with any of the walls or the bottom of the box and to maintain the contents in substantially sealed condition within the container.

With the foregoing objects in view, together with others which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the novel constuction, combination and arrangement of parts, all as will be described more fully hereinafter, illustrated in the drawings and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the liner sheet in its extended or flat form showing longitudinal, transverse and diagonal lines of fold as a guide to properly setting up or forming the liner,

Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the first step in folding the sheet into compact form,

Fig. 3 is a plan view showing the liner as it will appear when in completely compact or folded form,

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the liner in "set up" condition, and

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a conventional form of lunch box or kit showing my improved liner applied therein.

Referring now more particularly to the drawing, Fig. 1 discloses a flat rectangular sheet of material, such as paper, cellophane, wax paper, or foil, whose dimension

will depend upon the interior area of the box or kit with which it will be associated. The sheet in the present instance is twice the length of the receptacle bottom and three times as wide. This sheet is provided with a pair of spaced parallel lines of fold indicated at **6** extending throughout the length of the sheet, spaced apart a distance equal to the breadth of the box with which the sheet is to be used and the distance between these fold lines and the adjacent longitudinal edges of the sheet will be substantially equal to the height of the side walls of the box. The sheet is also provided with a pair of spaced parallel transverse lines of fold indicated at **7**. These lines will be spaced apart a distance substantially equal to the length of the box with which the liner is to be associated, and the distance between these transverse fold lines **7** and the ends of the sheet indicated at **8** will be substantially equal to the height of the end walls of the box. Each of the ends of the sheet is provided with a flap indicated at **9** extending throughout the breadth of the sheet and preferably integral with the sheet itself. As will be observed from the drawing, these flaps or aprons **9** are substantially narrow.

Additional angular fold lines are provided in each corner of the sheet. These lines of fold are indicated at **10**, and each extends from the intersection of the lines **6** and **7** to the adjacent corner of the sheet to provide gusset poprtions represented at **11**. The sheet is further provided with a transverse line of fold indicated at **12** disposed midway the ends of the sheet and extending throughout the width thereof. Additional lines of fold **13** extend from the intersections of the lines **6–7** to the intersection of the line **12** with the side edges of the sheet.

By providing the scoring or lines of fold in the manner described, the sheet may be folded upon itself as shown in Figs. 2 and 3 to provide a small, thin and compact package as illustrated in Fig. 3, the ends of the flaps **9** affording means whereby the ends may be grasped and pulled in opposite outward directions to unfold or "set up" the liner in the position shown in Fig. 4. When in this set up position, the flaps or aprons **9** are bent downwardly as shown in Figs. 4 and 5 to engage over the edges of the rectangular lunch box or container indicated at **14**. When so set up and applied to the box, it will be observed that the liner snugly fits within the receptacle and protects the contents from coming in contact with the sides or bottom of the receptacle. Moreover, the apron or flap **9** extends entirely around the edges of the box and constitutes a sealing means when the cover is closed to maintain the interior of the box in substantially sealed condition. When the contents of the receptacle are removed, the liner may be easily and quickly removed and dispensed with, insuring the interior of the box against coming in contact with any food or moisture which may have been present in the liner.

It will be understood that the fold line **12** disposed transversely of the blank sheet is the guide for folding the blank upon itself so as to bring about the packet as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawing.

I claim:

A liner for snug and interlocking engagement in a receptacle having a rectangular bottom of a length twice as long as its breadth with sides and ends extending upwardly therefrom with the height of the sides equal to the width of the bottom, comprising a flat rectangular sheet of foldable material three times as wide as said bottom and twice the length thereof, a pair of spaced parallel fold lines extending longitudinally of said sheet and parallel with the side edges thereof and each spaced inwardly therefrom a distance equal to the height of the side walls of the receptacle, a pair of end fold lines dis-

posed transversely of said sheet parallel to each other and to the end edges of said sheet and disposed inwardly from said edges a distance equal to the height of the receptacle ends, a median fold line extending transversely of said sheet intermediate and parallel with said ends, fold lines extending from the intersection of said longitudinal and transverse end fold lines to the adjacent corners of said sheet, fold lines extending from the intersection of the median line with the side edges of the sheet and the intersection of the end fold lines with said longitudinal fold lines, and flaps on said sheet ends coextensive therewith and projecting beyond the edges thereof to provide

aprons to fold over the edges of the sides and ends of said receptacle throughout its perimeter and to meet midway the ends of the receptacle.

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