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H. L. BEACH

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COASTER

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Fig. 1.

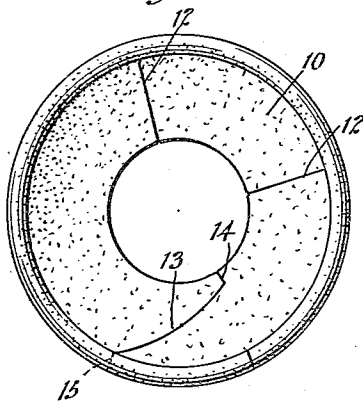


Fig. 2.

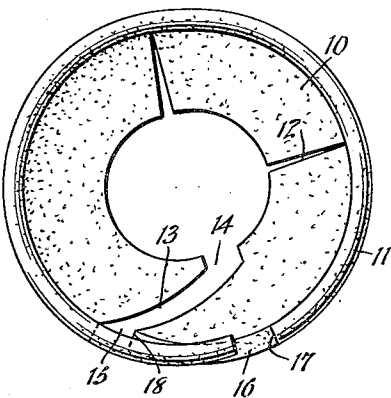


Fig. 3.

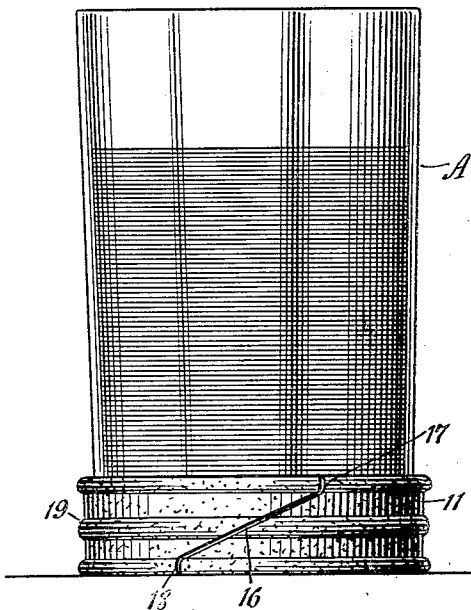


Fig. 4.

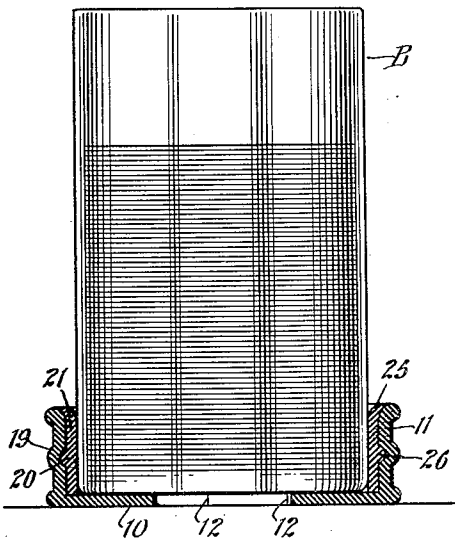
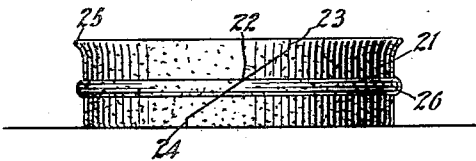


Fig. 5.



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COASTER

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This invention relates to accessories for or adjuncts to drinking glasses, cups, bottles or other analogous liquid receptacles for catching liquid which gravitates down the sides so as to prevent the same reaching and possibly spoiling a table or other article upon which the glass is rested, while precluding the dripping of the same on the clothing or furniture when the receptacle is lifted or held in the hand.

The invention primarily comprehends a coaster or device of the indicated character which is constructed of an absorbent and inherently resilient material and which is adapted to be engaged with the bottom of a receptacle and remain thereon under its contractile action while the same is in use, to afford means for receiving and absorbing liquid which gravitates down the side of the receptacle.

The invention aims for one of its principal objects to provide a coaster which is so constructed as to render the same applicable to receptacles of various diameters, and this without affecting its functional efficiency of collecting the liquid which gravitates down the sides of the receptacle.

More specifically, the invention resides in an improved coaster which comprises a cup shaped body having an apertured radially split bottom and a rim having a diagonal slit communicating with one of the bottom slits to render the body circumferentially expandible and contractible so as to accommodate receptacles of varying diameter, while the diagonal slit in the rim functions to prevent a direct gravitation of the liquid from the sides and insures interception thereof in view of the fact that the edges of the rim defining the diagonal slit are always disposed in vertically overlapped relation.

The invention further contemplates in combination with a coaster of the character set forth an insert or lining sleeve which is adapted to be arranged within the coaster to further widen or increase the range of adjustability of the device to receptacles of varying sizes.

Other objects reside in the comparative simplicity of construction of the device, the

economy with which it may be produced and the general efficiency derived therefrom.

With the above recited and other objects in view, reference is had to the following description and accompanying drawing, in which there is exhibited one example or embodiment of the invention while the claims define the actual scope of the same.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the coaster body in its normal fully contracted condition.

Figure 2 is a similar view illustrating the circumferential expansion of the same.

Figure 3 is a side view of the coaster in applied position to a drinking glass.

Figure 4 is a vertical sectional view through the coaster illustrating the insert or lining sleeve in place and showing the device applied to a drinking glass.

Figure 5 is a side view of the lining sleeve or insert removed.

Referring to the drawing by characters of reference, the coaster, which is formed of a resilient absorbent material, includes a flat annular bottom 10 formed with a marginal upstanding rim 11 at the outer periphery thereof. The bottom 10 is formed with a plurality of radial slits 12 and a substantially diagonal radial slit 13, the opposite inner and outer terminals 14 and 15 of which are substantially radial. The rim 11 is formed with a diagonal slit 16, the opposite upper and lower terminals 17 and 18 of which are substantially vertical. The terminal 18 of the diagonal slit 16 of the rim 11 communicates with the radial outer terminal 15 of the slit 13 of the bottom, so that the coaster body is split to permit of the circumferential expansion thereof while the resilient nature of the material from which it is constructed tends to normally circumferentially contract the same to grip and hold the bottom of a drinking glass or receptacle A, as illustrated in Figure 3 of the drawing. Due to the diagonal arrangement of the slit 16, the ends of the rim will be disposed in a vertically overlapped relation at all times, thereby intercepting liquids which drain down the outer surface of the receptacle A and absorbing the same before they can drop therefrom or reach a sup-

port upon which the receptacle is to be rested.

If desired, the rim 11 may be formed with an intermediate concavo-convex offset portion or bead 19 presenting on its inner side a groove 20, and use may be made of an insert or filler sleeve 21 which is also provided with a diagonal slit 22 having upper and lower vertical terminals 23 and 24. The upper end of the insert or filler sleeve is flared upwardly and outwardly as at 25 to provide a wide entrance mouth for facilitating the insertion of a receptacle therein, and the insert or filler sleeve is provided with a circumferential enlargement or bead 26 which is designed to interengage with the groove 20 in the rim 11. By providing the insert or filler sleeve 21, it is apparent that the coaster may be made to accommodate receptacles B of a smaller size than the minimum internal diameter of the rim 11 of the coaster body. When the insert or filler sleeve is employed, its split portion will preferably be disposed in staggered relation to the slit 16 in the coaster body to further increase the efficiency of the device in collecting moisture and preventing the same from escaping from the coaster.

In use, it is to be understood that the inherent resiliency which tends to contract the rim will serve to frictionally fix and associate the coaster with the bottom of the receptacle A, so that the same remains in place thereon until removal. Preferably, the coaster will be made of an inexpensive material so that it may be thrown away after a single use.

While there has been illustrated and described a preferred disclosure of the invention, it is to be understood that variations and modifications thereof which fall within the scope and the language of the appended claims may be resorted to when desired.

What is claimed is:

1. A coaster comprising a substantially cup shaped body of absorbent resilient material having a centrally apertured radially slitted bottom and a marginal rim formed with a diagonal slit communicating with one of the bottom slits.

2. A coaster constructed of resilient absorbent material comprising a bottom and a marginal upstanding rim, said bottom and rim having communicating diagonal slits and said bottom having additional radial slits to render the coaster circumferentially expandible and inherently contractible about the bottom of a receptacle to which it is applied.

3. A coaster fashioned from a resilient absorbent material including a bottom and an upstanding marginal rim at the outer periphery thereof, said bottom having a plurality of substantially radial slits and said rim having a diagonal slit communicating with one of the bottom slits whereby the coaster is circumferentially expandible to accommodate

itself to receptacles of various diameters and whereby the same is inherently contracted about the receptacle to which it is applied.

4. A coaster fashioned from a resilient absorbent material including a flat annular bottom and an upstanding marginal rim at its outer periphery, said bottom having a plurality of radial slits and a substantially diagonal slit having radial terminals extending respectively through the inner and outer peripheries thereof, said rim having a diagonal slit having vertical terminals extending through the upper and lower edges thereof, the lower terminal communicating with the outer radial terminal of the bottom diagonal slit.

5. A coaster comprising a substantially cup shaped body of resilient absorbent material having an apertured radially slitted bottom and a marginal rim at the outer periphery and having a diagonal slit communicating with one of the bottom slits in combination with a split filler sleeve disposed within the marginal rim.

6. A coaster comprising a substantially cup shaped body of resilient absorbent material having an apertured radially slitted bottom and a marginal rim at the outer periphery and having a diagonal slit communicating with one of the bottom slits in combination with a split filler sleeve disposed within the marginal rim and interengaging means for detachably retaining the filler sleeve within the coaster rim.

7. A coaster comprising a substantially cup shaped body of resilient absorbent material having an apertured radially slitted bottom and a marginal rim at the outer periphery and having a diagonal slit communicating with one of the bottom slits in combination with a split filler sleeve disposed within the marginal rim and interengaging means for detachably retaining the filler sleeve within the coaster rim, said means consisting of an annular depression and projections formed respectively on the engaging peripheries of the rim and sleeve.

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