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W. E. AMBERG

2,483,167

PAPER CUP HOLDER

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Fig. 1

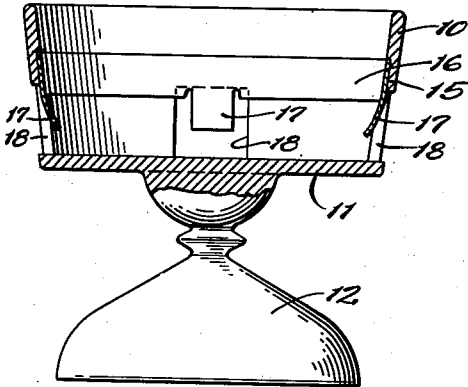


Fig. 2

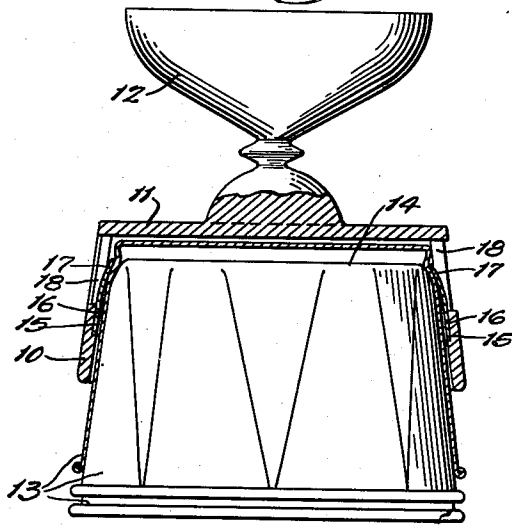


Fig. 3

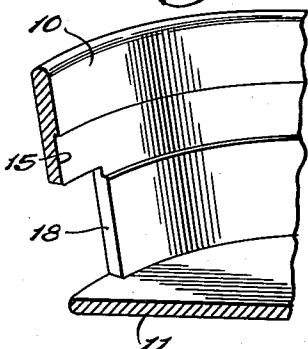


Fig. 4

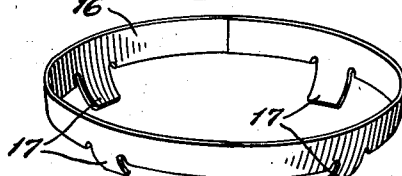


Fig. 5

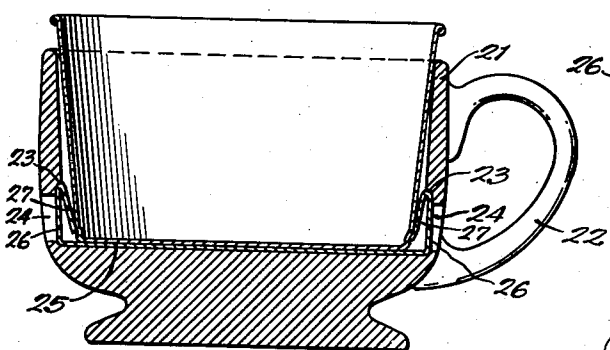
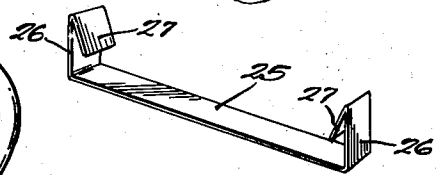


Fig. 6



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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PAPER CUP HOLDER

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5 Claims. (Cl. 65—61)

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This invention relates to paper cup holders and more particularly to devices for holding sundae cups, or the like, during use.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a paper cup holder which is simple and inexpensive to manufacture and which is easy to keep clean during use.

Another object is to provide a paper cup holder by which a single cup may easily be picked up from a stack and held securely during use.

Still another object is to provide a paper cup holder in which a cup body of molded plastic or the like carries a metal strip formed with inwardly and downwardly projecting fingers to engage and hold a cup.

The above and other objects and advantages of the invention will be more readily apparent from the following description when read in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which—

Fig. 1 is a central section with parts in elevation of a cup holder embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a view with parts in section and parts in elevation, illustrating the manner of picking up a cup from a stack with the holder of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a sectional perspective view, illustrating the construction of the cup holder body;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the holding ring;

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 1 of an alternative construction; and

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the holding strip of Fig. 5.

The embodiment of Figs. 1 to 4 includes a generally conical body portion 10 having a flat base 11 carried on a pedestal base 12 to support a conical sundae cup 13 having generally conical side walls and a flat bottom 14. The holder may be formed of molded plastic or other desired material. On the inner surface of the holder body 10 an annular recess 15 is formed, spaced intermediate the top and bottom of the body, to receive an annular holding strip 16 of sheet metal or the like. The strip may be formed as shown in Fig. 4 by rolling a strip of metal into an annulus with its ends disconnected so that it can be sprung into the recess 15. When the strip is in place, as indicated in Fig. 1, it will be held in the recess by its own resilience without requiring any other fastening means.

The strip 16 is formed at several points in its length with inwardly and downwardly projecting fingers 17 which may be integral with the strip and which are preferably resilient. The body 10 opposite the fingers 17 is preferably cut away to provide openings 18 to facilitate cleaning.

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In using the holder to pick up a cup from a stack, the holder is inverted and pressed down on top of the inverted stack of cups as indicated at Fig. 2. The fingers 17 will slide over the bottom portion of the uppermost cup and will engage the sides thereof closely adjacent the cup bottom 14. By squeezing in the sides slightly adjacent the bottom, the top cup of the stack will be freed from the remaining cups of the stack and may readily be lifted therefrom. During use the fingers engage the sides of the cup and hold the cup securely in place in the holder. By having the fingers engage the cup closely adjacent its flat bottom, a minimum deformation of the cup is produced and the cup is held securely since the fingers engage it at the portion of maximum strength where the side walls are reinforced to the maximum extent by the flat cup bottom 14.

In the construction shown in Figs. 5 and 6, a cup-shaped holder 21 is provided formed with a handle 22 similar to a conventional coffee cup. The body 21 is formed at diametrically opposite points with recesses terminating in inwardly projecting shoulders 23 and has openings 24 there-through adjacent the recesses to facilitate cleaning.

A cup is adapted to be held in the holder by a strip of metal, or the like, 25 extending diametrically across the bottom part of the holder and having upwardly turned portions 26 adjacent its ends. At the upper ends of the portions 26, the strip is bent inwardly and downwardly to form fingers 27. When the strip is inserted in the holder body, the upwardly turned portions 26 will fit into the recesses and engage beneath the shoulders 23 to hold the strip securely in place in the body. It will be noted that the fingers 27 register with the openings 24 so that they may be cleaned easily.

This holder may be used in substantially the same manner as that of Figs. 1 to 4 by pressing it over an inverted stack of cups so that the fingers 27 will engage the uppermost cup adjacent its bottom to free it from the remainder of the stack and to hold it securely in place during use.

While two embodiments of the invention have been shown and described in detail, it will be understood that they are illustrative only and are not to be taken as a definition of the scope of the invention, reference being had for this purpose to the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A paper cup holder comprising a cup shaped body adapted to receive a paper cup, the inner

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side walls of the body being formed with recesses, a strip of metal or the like in the body having parts lying in the recesses to secure it in the body, and inwardly and downwardly projecting fingers on the strip within the body to engage the side wall of the cup adjacent the bottom thereof and hold it in the body.

2. A paper cup holder comprising a cup shaped body adapted to receive a paper cup, the body being formed with an annular recess on the inner surface of its side wall, an annular strip of metal or the like fitting in the recess, and inwardly and downwardly projecting fingers on the strip within the body to engage the side wall of the cup adjacent the bottom thereof and hold it in the body.

3. A paper cup holder comprising a cup shaped body adapted to receive a paper cup, the body being formed with diametrically opposite inwardly projecting shoulders, and a strip of metal or the like extending diametrically across the body and turned up adjacent its ends, the turned up ends of the strip fitting beneath the shoulders to hold the strip in the body, and the end portions of the strip being bent inwardly and downwardly in the body to engage a cup and hold it in the body.

4. A paper cup holder comprising a cup shaped body adapted to receive a paper cup, a separate strip of metal or the like secured in the body, and inwardly and downwardly projecting fingers on the strip to engage the cup and hold it in the body, the body being formed with openings there-through registering with the fingers.

5. A paper cup holder comprising a cup shaped

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body having a side wall and bottom adapted to receive and support a paper cup, an annular thin strip of metal or the like secured within the side wall of the body, and inwardly and downwardly projecting fingers on the strip within the body to engage the side wall of the cup adjacent the bottom thereof and hold it in the body.

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