

March 19, 1929.

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1,706,166

SHEET OF FOLDED MATERIAL

Filed June 28, 1926

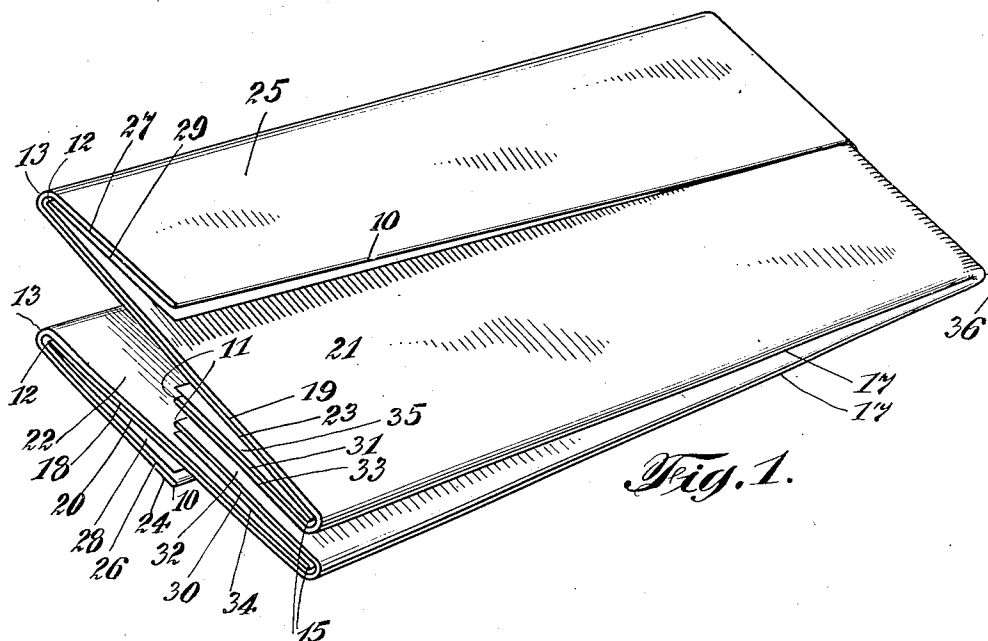


Fig. 1.

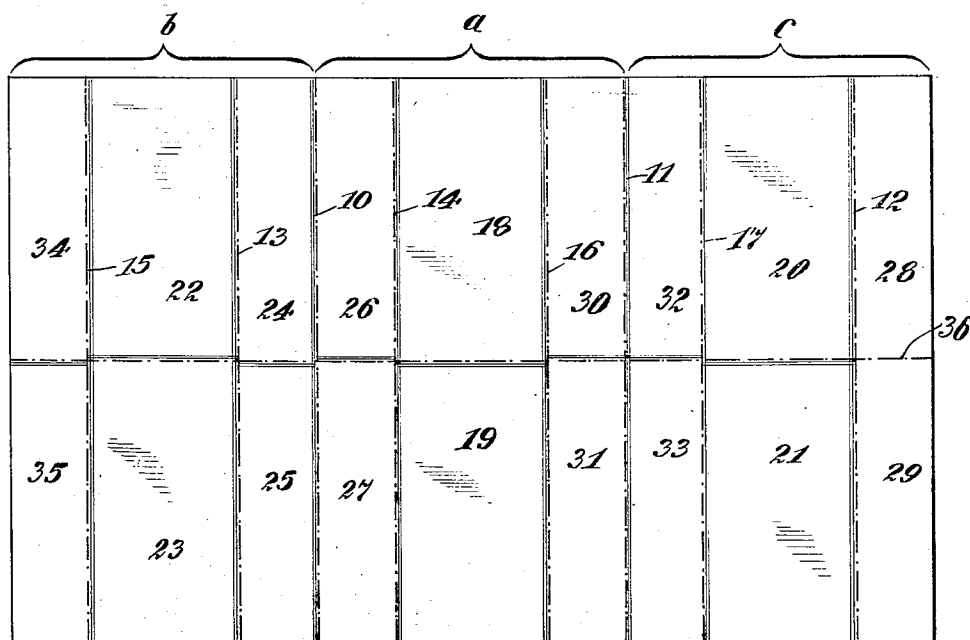


Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SHEET OF FOLDED MATERIAL.

Application filed June 28, 1926. Serial No. 118,942.

This invention relates to an improvement in sheets of folded material and more particularly to sheets of folded paper to be used as napkins or like articles and to be wrapped in bundles and placed in dispensers from which the articles may be readily withdrawn one at a time. Heretofore, sheets of paper have been folded in various manners for accomplishing this purpose. In some instances, for example, the sheet has been folded into a plurality of substantial coextensive sections and outer non-coextensive sections having edges by either one or both of which the napkin may be grasped to be withdrawn from the dispenser. In this form of fold as in similar folds the outermost section causes a greater thickness in the central portion of the superimposed pile or bundle of napkins than at the outer sides thereof and also presents a single thickness of the paper to be grasped by the user. In other instances, for example as shown in my co-pending application, Serial No. 114,633 filed June 9, 1926, a sheet of paper has been folded on itself into correspondingly shaped parts and outer sections have been turned in oppositely disposed directions to provide a double thickness of the article to be grasped in withdrawing the same from the dispenser, and also to cause the pile or bundle of napkins or other articles to be of the same thickness throughout. In this form of napkin the article is of the smaller size, for example approximately 14 by 14 inches when spread out. In some instances it is necessary to provide a larger napkin, for example one which is approximately 14 by 21 inches when spread out, and the present invention relates more particularly to the folding of the larger size napkin in order to obtain the same effect and advantages as those derived by the user of the article as shown and described in my aforesaid application. In carrying out this invention a rectangular sheet is folded transversely into a plurality of substantially equal parts, the folds preferably being made in opposite directions. The then outer longitudinal portions are folded in opposite directions to provide outer sections of the same number of parts and each of a width substantially one half of that of the intermediate or then centrally disposed sections. The article may then be folded transversely to bring one of the outer sections exterior to the intermediate or central sections and to cause

the other outer section to lie between the said central or intermediate sections whereby the outer section which is grasped in withdrawing the napkin from a dispenser is made of a multiplicity of parts and the napkins when placed in superimposed piles form bundles of substantially the same thickness throughout.

In the drawing Figure 1 is a perspective view of a sheet of paper folded in accordance with this invention to form a folded napkin, and

Fig. 2 is a plan of the blank showing the folds therein to produce the napkin.

Referring to the drawing it will be seen that in carrying out the invention the napkin or other article is formed from a sheet of paper or other similar material which is rectangular in outline. As illustrated in Fig. 2, this sheet of paper is folded transversely along a line 10 in one direction and along a line 11 in the opposite direction to produce three substantially coextensive portions indicated at *a*, *b* and *c*, the portion *a* lying intermediate of the portions *b* and *c* with the fold made along the line 10 substantially coincident with the distant parallel edge, and the fold made along the line 11 substantially parallel with the opposite transverse edge. These portions of the sheet as thus folded are then folded in one direction along the lines 12, 13 and 14, which lines are substantially coincident, the direction of the fold being such that the fold made along the line 10 is outermost. In a similar manner these portions are then folded along lines 15, 16 and 17, which lines are substantially coincident, this fold being made in the opposite direction so that the fold made along the line 11 is outermost. The folds as hereinbefore described are so placed that the width of each oppositely folded outer section is substantially one half that of the intermediate sections, that is to say the total width of the outer sections is substantially the same as that of the central or intermediate sections.

In folding the sheet of material as hereinbefore described there is provided therein a plurality of centrally disposed sections or sections intermediate of the outer sections and these sections are designated at 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22 and 23, the parts 18 and 19 lying intermediate respectively of the parts 20, 21, and 22 and 23. One outermost section includes the parts 24, 25, 26, 27, and the parts

28 and 29. The other outermost section comprises the parts 30, 31, 32 and 33, and 34 and 35.

The sheet as thus folded is then preferably 5 folded transversely in a substantially central position to form the article as illustrated in Fig. 1 of the drawing, in which the outer section comprising the parts 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28 and 29 lies exteriorly of the parts of 10 the centrally disposed sections with the part 29 of this outer section lying in contact with the outer surface of the part 21 of the centrally disposed section and intermediate of the same and the parts 25 and 27 of this 15 outer section, whereas the part 28 of this outermost section lies against the outer surface of the part 20 of the centrally disposed section and between the same and the parts 24 and 26 of this outer section.

20 In a similar manner the part 35 of the other outer section lies against the outer surface of the part 23 of the centrally disposed section and intermediate of the same and the parts 31, 33 of this outer section. The part 25 34 of this outer section lies against the outer face of the part 22 of the intermediate section and between the same and the parts 30 and 32 of this outer section. It will therefore, be seen that the outer surfaces of 30 the sections 32 and 33 lie in contact with each other when the sheet is folded in this manner to form a napkin as illustrated. It will be understood that in making the fold the fold line 10 between the parts 24, 26 and 25 25 and 27 is so placed as to be substantially coincident with the edge of the parts 28 and 29, although it may be that the fold line 10 may be so placed as to bring the edge of the parts 28 and 29 slightly within 40 the same. Similarly the fold line 11 between the parts 30, 32, 31 and 33 is so placed as to be substantially coincident with the edge of the parts 34 and 35, although this fold line may be so placed as to cause the edge of 45 the parts 34 and 35 to lie slightly within the same.

In this form of napkin the outer sections are composed of the same number of parts as the central or intermediate sections, the 50 parts of the outer sections being all sub-

stantially coextensive and likewise all the parts of the central or intermediate sections are substantially coextensive, and that when the article is transversely folded one of the outer sections lies intermediate of the 55 centrally disposed sections. Furthermore, as the width of each outer section is substantially one half the width of the centrally disposed sections the articles when placed in a superimposed pile will form a 60 bundle of uniform thickness.

I claim as my invention:

1. A sheet of material folded longitudinally into an odd number of sections to provide a corresponding number of parts which 65 initially are substantially coextensive, the sheet being also folded longitudinally in oppositely disposed directions to bring an initially folded two ply edge to a substantially central position on both sides of the parts 70 intermediate of the secondary folds.

2. A sheet of material folded initially into an odd number of sections to provide a corresponding number of parts of substantially 75 coextensive area, the said sheet being folded to bring the edges of the sheet to opposite edges of the then folded sections, the sheet being also folded in oppositely disposed directions to bring one of the initially folded two ply edges and one free edge of the sheet 80 to one side and the other initially folded two ply edge and the other free edge to the opposite side of the sections intermediate of the secondary folds.

3. A sheet of material folded longitudinally into three sections to initially provide 85 three parts of substantially coextensive area with the edges of the sheet at opposite sides of the then folded parts, the sheet being also longitudinally folded in one direction to 90 bring one initially folded two ply edge and one free edge to one side and in the opposite direction to bring the other initially folded two ply edge and the other free edge to the other side of the then substantially coex- 95 tensive sections intermediate of the secondary folds.

Signed by me this 16th day of June 1926.

JOHN O. HUNT.