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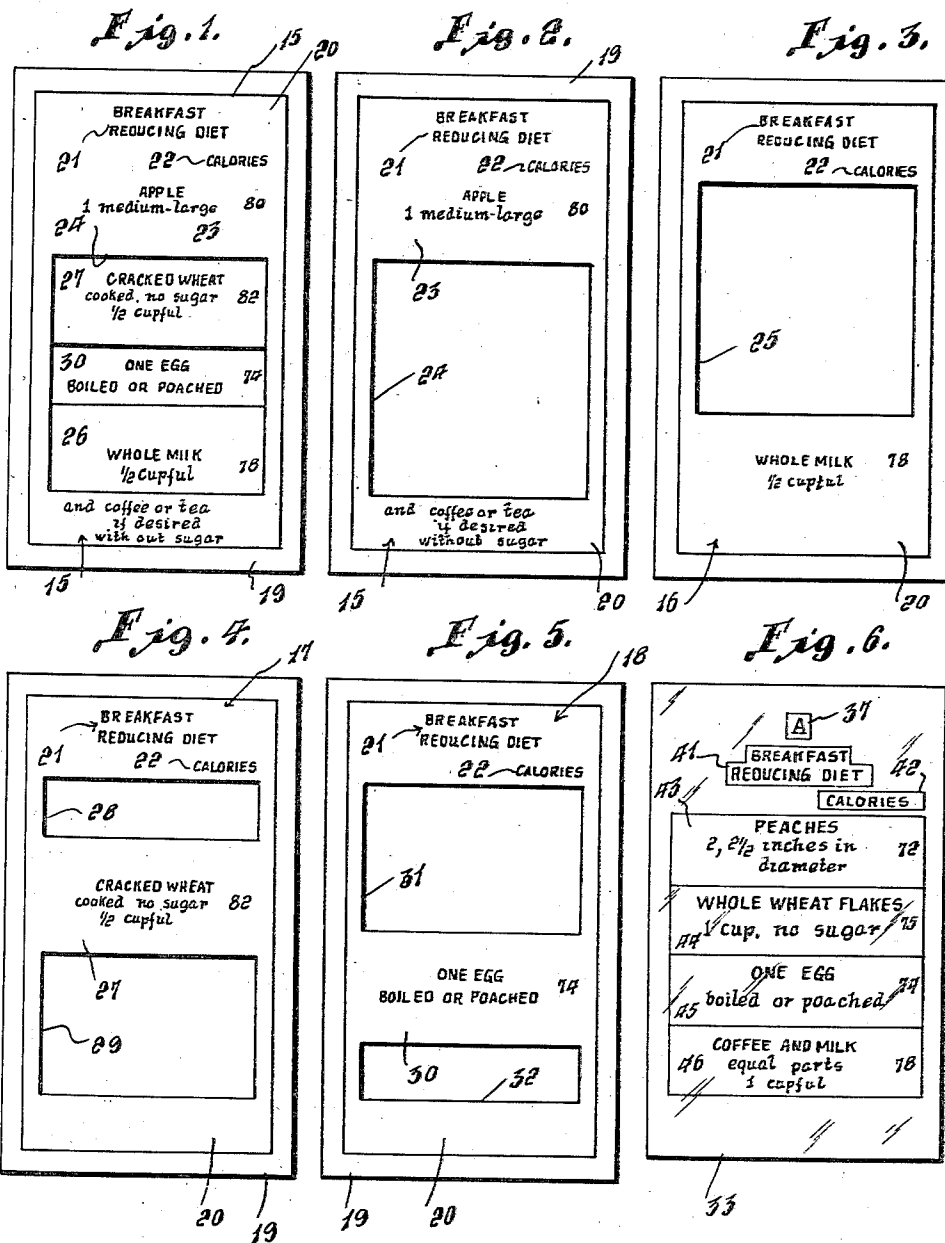
A. EASLEY

2,337,594

MENU CARD DECK

Filed July 3, 1941

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



Inventor

Alex Easley

By *X. F. Randolph*

Attorney

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A. EASLEY

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 7.

A menu card labeled 'A' with the title 'BREAKFAST REDUCING DIET' and a 'CALORIES' field. The main item is 'PEACHES 2, 2 1/2 inches in diameter' with a calorie value of 12. The card is marked with reference numerals 37, 41, 42, and 43.

Fig. 8.

A menu card labeled 'B' with the title 'BREAKFAST REDUCING DIET' and a 'CALORIES' field. The main item is 'WHOLE WHEAT FLAKES 1 cup no sugar' with a calorie value of 15. The card is marked with reference numerals 38, 44, and 45.

Fig. 9.

A menu card labeled 'C' with the title 'BREAKFAST REDUCING DIET' and a 'CALORIES' field. The main item is 'ONE EGG boiled or poached' with a calorie value of 74. The card is marked with reference numerals 39, 46, and 47.

Fig. 10.

A menu card labeled 'D' with the title 'BREAKFAST REDUCING DIET' and a 'CALORIES' field. The main item is 'COFFEE AND MILK equal parts 1 cupful' with a calorie value of 18. The card is marked with reference numerals 48, 49, and 50.

Fig. 11.

A menu card with the title 'BREAKFAST REDUCING DIET' and a 'CALORIES' field. The main item is 'CANTALOUPE 1/2, 4 1/2 inches in diameter' with a calorie value of 30. Below the main item are three empty rectangular boxes, each labeled '48'. The card is marked with reference numerals 51, 52, and 53.

Fig. 12.

A menu card with the title 'BREAKFAST REDUCING DIET' and a 'CALORIES' field. The main item is 'APPLE 1 medium-large' with a calorie value of 80. Below the main item are three empty rectangular boxes, each labeled '51'. The card is marked with reference numerals 54, 55, and 56.

Inventor

Alex Easley

By

A. F. Kueper

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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MENU CARD DECK

Alex Easley, El Paso, Tex.

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6 Claims. (Cl. 35—1)

This invention relates to a novel deck of cards, the different cards of which are so constructed that by selecting a group of cards and stacking them, a complete well balanced menu will be contained in exposed indicia of the different stacked cards.

Due to the increasing knowledge of the chemistry of foods and the effects of proper and improper foods, and combinations of foods on the body, medical science has been advancing rapidly in recent times in the treatment and alleviation of certain illnesses and diseases which are a direct result of improper diets, such illnesses and diseases are being at the present time scientifically treated by prescribed diets. However, physicians up to the present time have encountered considerable difficulty in prescribing special diets, not only in that it is complicated and laborious to the physicians to enumerate the foods, to be eaten and those to be avoided so that all foods which can be eaten will be included, but also in that the patient receives the diet in such a form that it is difficult to follow and there is usually no method employed to insure that the foods will be so combined as to provide a well balanced diet.

It is therefore a primary aim of the present invention to afford a card system whereby a physician can quickly select groups or sets of cards which when combined to form a deck of cards will afford numerous combinations of menus each composed of foods permitted to the patient and each combining to form a well balanced diet by the selection of a single card from each of the sets of cards.

More particularly, it is an aim of the invention to so construct the individual cards that the cards composing the different sets of the deck will be distinctively marked to distinguish them from the cards of the other sets, and also so that by selecting and stacking a single card from each set or group a complete well balanced diet for a meal will be exposed by looking at the stacked group of cards.

More particularly, it is an object of the invention to so construct the individual cards of a deck of the menu cards that the cards of each set or group will contain certain indicia, which indicia of each card will be different and will comprise one item of a menu, said indicia of the different sets being staggered relatively to one another, and said cards being so constructed that when a card of each of the sets is stacked, in any order, the indicia on each of the cards will be visible and exposed to view.

Numerous other objects and advantages of the invention will hereinafter become more fully apparent from the following description of the drawings, which illustrate preferred embodiments of the invention, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a plurality of cards forming a part of a menu deck and comprising a card from each of a plurality of sets of the cards of the deck arranged in a stacked formation,

Figures 2, 3, 4 and 5 are top plan views of the individual cards forming the stack of cards shown in Figure 1,

Figure 6 is a view similar to Figure 1 showing a stacked group of cards of a deck, the individual cards of which are of a slightly different construction than those shown in Figures 1 to 5,

Figures 7, 8, 9 and 10 are top plan views of the four cards which are shown stacked in Figure 6,

Figure 11 is a top plan view of a card of a slightly different construction, and

Figure 12 is a similar view of a card of still another construction.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, wherein like reference characters designate like or corresponding parts throughout the different views, 15, 16, 17 and 18 designate generally four menu cards, shown in Figures 2, 3, 4 and 5, respectively. The cards 15, 16, 17 and 18 each constitutes one of a group or set of cards composing a deck of menu cards for a particular meal, in this instance, constituting a deck of breakfast menu cards. The number of cards in each of the sets or groups can vary depending upon the extent of the diet permitted so that the complete deck can be composed of anywhere from a very few cards to a large number of cards. Each of the cards 15, 16, 17 and 18 includes a border 19, and said borders 19 are adapted to be distinctively colored or otherwise distinctively marked, and the other cards which would compose each of the sets or groups of cards with the cards 15, 16, 17 and 18 would be provided with borders 19 similarly marked or colored so that the cards composing each set of the deck could be readily selected from the cards of the other set or sets.

In the embodiment of the invention as shown in Figures 1 to 5, each of the cards 15, 16, 17 and 18 contains indicia on its face 20 and near its upper edge reading "Breakfast reducing diet." It is to be understood that this title "Breakfast reducing diet," designated generally 21 is only intended to illustrate one type of diet, and that

the cards could likewise be employed for other types of diets including merely well balanced normal diets for healthy persons. The cards shown in Figures 2 to 5, beneath and preferably to the right of their titles 21, preferably include the indicia "Calories," designated generally 22. The card 15, beneath and adjacent the indicia "Calories," is provided with a portion 23 containing the indicia "Apple 1 medium-large," and to the right thereof the numeral "80." Beneath the indicia containing portion 23, the card 15 is provided with an elongated cut-out portion forming an opening 24, the length of which is more than three times as great as the width of the part of the portion 23 which contains the indicia. The card 15, between the opening 24 and the lower part of its border 19 also preferably contains the indicia "and coffee or tea if desired without sugar."

The card 16 contains the indicia 21 and 22, corresponding to card 15, and therebeneath and adjacent thereto is provided with an elongated opening 25 which is arranged nearer to the upper edge of the card 16 than the opening 24 is to the card 15. Beneath the opening 25, and adjacent thereto, the card 16 is provided with an indicia bearing portion 26 containing the indicia "Whole milk $\frac{1}{2}$ cupful," and to the right thereof the numeral "78." The upper portion of the opening 25 is located in the same position relatively to the card 16 as the portion 23 is to the card 15, and the portion 26 is similarly located to the lower portion of the opening 24.

Card 17 likewise contains the indicia 21 and 22 at the top thereof, corresponding to the card 15, and therebeneath and spaced therefrom, the card 17 is provided with an indicia bearing portion 27 containing the indicia "Cracked wheat cooked no sugar $\frac{1}{2}$ cupful," and to the right thereof the numeral "82." Between the indicia bearing portion 27 and the portion of the card containing the indicia 21 and 22, the card 17 is provided with a restricted opening 28, and beneath the portion 27 a larger opening 29.

Card 18, which also contains the indicia 21 and 22 adjacent the top thereof, is provided with an indicia bearing portion 30 containing the indicia "One egg boiled or poached," and to the right thereof the numeral "74." Between the indicia 21 and 22 and the portion 30, the card 18 is provided with an opening 31, corresponding in size to the opening 29, and beneath the portion 30 with an opening 32, corresponding in size to the opening 28.

It will thus be seen that the indicia of the portions 23, 26, 27 and 30 are staggered so that when the cards 16, 17 and 18 are stacked beneath the card 15, in any order, the indicia of portions 26, 27 and 30 will all be visible, as seen in Figure 1, in addition to all of the indicia contained on the face 20 of the card 15 to thus provide a complete well balanced menu for a breakfast for a person on a reducing diet. The other cards, not shown, of the group or set of the cards 15 will be of exactly the same construction and will differ only in the indicia contained on the portion 23 and the same will be true of the other cards of the groups or sets of which the cards 16, 17 and 18 form parts so that any combination of cards composed of a card from each of the four sets comprising the menu deck, when stacked, as previously explained, will provide a well balanced breakfast diet, although the items of which will be different so as to afford numerous different combinations. It will likewise be readily apparent that the same

result could be accomplished, merely by changing the indicia on the cards to provide lunch or dinner and dinner or supper menu decks. Similarly, by varying the sizes of the indicia bearing portions 23, 26, 27 and 30 and the size of the openings in the cards the individual cards can be readily constructed so that there could be more or less than four groups or sets to a deck to increase or reduce the number of items composing the well balanced meal, as the number shown, namely four, is only intended for the purpose of illustration. Furthermore, it will be readily apparent that the different numerals below the indicia "Calories" on the card 15 indicate the number of calories of each item on the menu so that the patient can quickly add these numerals to ascertain the number of calories of the meal that he has selected. Also, if desired, the indicia at the bottom of the card 15 could be similarly applied to the bottom of each of the other cards so that they could be stacked in any order without effecting the result.

Referring to Figures 6 to 10, inclusive, Figures 7, 8, 9 and 10 each disclose a breakfast menu card of a slightly different construction than the cards shown in Figures 1 to 5 in that said cards, designated generally 33, 34, 35 and 36, respectively, are each formed of a transparent material such as Celluloid, for example. The card 33, adjacent its top is provided with an opaque portion 37 containing the letter "A." Cards 34, 35 and 36 are provided with similarly located opaque portions 38, 39 and 40, respectively, containing, respectively, the letters "B," "C" and "D." Beneath the opaque portions 37, 38, 39 and 40, the cards are each provided with a corresponding opaque portion 41, each of which opaque portions 41 contains the indicia "Breakfast reducing diet," and therebeneath and adjacent thereto and adjacent the right hand edge of each of the cards is provided a corresponding opaque portion 42 containing the indicia "Calories."

The card 33 beneath and adjacent its opaque portion 42 is provided with a transversely extending opaque panel 43 containing the indicia "Peaches 2 $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter," and to the right thereof the numeral "72." Card 34 contains a similar panel 44 which is spaced away from its opaque portion 42 a distance of substantially the width of the portion 43, said panel 44 containing the indicia "Whole wheat flakes 1 cup no sugar," and to the right thereof the numeral "75." The card 35 has an opaque panel 45, corresponding to the panels 43 and 44 and spaced from its opaque portion 42 a distance equal substantially to the combined width of the panels 43 and 44. The panel 45 contains the indicia "One egg boiled or poached," and to the right thereof the numeral "74." The card 36 is provided with a similar opaque panel 46, adjacent its bottom edge and spaced from its opaque portion 42 a distance corresponding to the combined width of the panels 43, 44 and 45. The panel 46 contains the indicia "Coffee and milk equal parts 1 cupful," and to the right thereof the numeral "78."

It will be obvious that if the cards 33, 34, 35 and 36 are stacked in any order desired that the four panels 43, 44, 45 and 46 will all be visible, as seen in Figure 6 to provide a complete menu. In view of the detailed description of the cards shown in Figures 1 to 5 a further description of the cards shown in Figures 6 to 10 is considered unnecessary, as it will be readily obvious that these cards each form one of a group or set of cards all of which combine to form a complete

menu deck, in the same manner as the cards in Figures 1 to 5.

Figure 11 illustrates a card of a slightly different construction from the cards shown in Figures 1 to 5 or 6 to 10, and which, it is to be understood, constitutes only one card of one of a plurality of sets or groups of cards of a deck. This card, designated generally 47 is similar to the cards shown in Figures 1 to 5 except that instead of having one large opening or one medium sized and one small opening the card 47 is provided with three openings 47 all of the same size and thereabove is provided with a panel portion 49 containing the indicia "Cantaloupe $\frac{1}{2}$, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter," and to the right thereof the numeral "30." The top of the card 47 is provided with the same indicia as the cards shown in Figures 1 to 10. It is to be understood that in the deck of cards of which the card 47 forms a part there would be four groups or sets of cards of which the card 47 is an example of a card of one of the sets. The cards of another of the sets would be provided with an indicia bearing portion 49 located in the same position relatively to these cards as the upper opening 48 is located relatively to the card 47 and such cards would have an opening 48 located in the same position therein as the indicia of the portion 49 is located on the card 47. Similarly, the indicia of the other two groups of cards would be located to correspond to the intermediate opening 48 and the lower opening 48, respectively, of the card 47, and the locations of their openings 48 would be varied so that in the first card there would be two openings 48 above the indicia of the portion 49 and one therebelow, and in the cards of the last set three openings 48 would be above the indicia bearing portion 49. Thus, when a card from each of the groups or sets comprising the deck, of which the card 47 forms a part, were stacked in any order the indicia of the portion 49 of each of the four cards would be visible.

In Figure 12 a menu card 50 is illustrated which corresponds to the card 47 in every respect except that instead of being provided with openings 48 it is provided with similarly shaped and similarly located transparent portions 51. As the card 50 corresponds in every other respect to the card 47 a further description thereof is deemed unnecessary. Likewise, cards 47 and 50 are preferably provided with borders 52 which are adapted to be distinctively marked or colored, similarly to the borders 19 of the cards shown in Figures 1 to 5, and for the same purpose.

Various other modifications and changes are contemplated and may obviously be resorted to as only preferred embodiments of the invention have been disclosed.

I claim as my invention:

1. A card deck of the class described comprising three or more cards, the first of said cards having an opening means, the second of said cards being disposable behind said first card and having a portion crossing and observable through said openings means, said second card having an opening registrable with the opening

means, and the third of said cards being disposable behind the second cards and having a portion crossing and observable through both said opening means and said opening.

2. A card deck of the class described comprising three or more cards, the first of said cards having an opening means, the second of said cards being disposable behind said first card and having a portion crossing and observable through said opening means, said second card having an opening registrable with the opening means, and the third of said cards being disposable behind the second card and having a portion crossing and observable through both said opening means and said opening, each of said portions having indicia thereon observable through said opening means.

3. A card deck of the class described comprising three or more cards, the first of said cards having an opening means, the second of said cards being disposable behind said first card and having a portion crossing and observable through said opening means, said second card having an opening registrable with the opening means, and the third of said cards being disposable behind the second card and having a portion crossing and observable through both said opening means and said opening, each of said portions having indicia thereon observable through said opening means, the indicia being such as to indicate a menu.

4. A card deck of the class described comprising three or more cards, the first of said cards having an opening means, the second of said cards being disposable behind said first card and having a portion crossing and observable through said opening means, said second card having an opening registrable with the opening means, and the third of said cards being disposable behind the second card and having a portion crossing and observable through both said opening means and said opening, each of said portions having indicia thereon observable through said opening means, all of said opening means and openings being of approximately the same width, indicia on each of said portions and indicia on the first card adjacent to the opening means, all the indicia coacting to indicate a menu.

5. A card deck of the class described comprising three or more cards, each card having a light-penetrable portion and an opaque portion, each opaque portion being at a different relative location on the respective card, whereby the cards when stacked will group and display said opaque portions for joint observation.

6. A card deck of the class described comprising three or more cards, each card having a transparent portion and an opaque portion, each opaque portion at a different relative location on the cards, whereby the cards when stacked will group and display said opaque portions for joint observation through a transparent portion, said opaque portion having indicia thereon, and the indicia coacting to indicate a menu.

ALEX EASLEY.