Feb. 15, 1955 W. M. DAVIS 2,701,878

SANITARY FINGER COVER

Filed Dec. 24, 1952

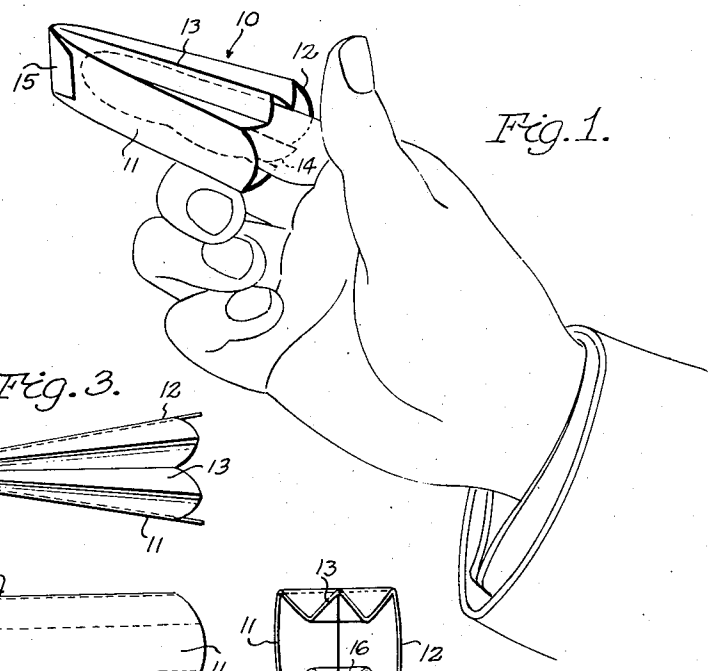


Fig. 1.

Fig. 3.

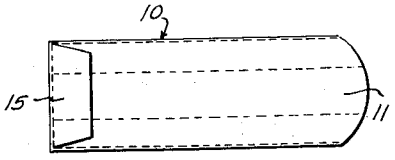


Fig. 2.

Fig. 4.

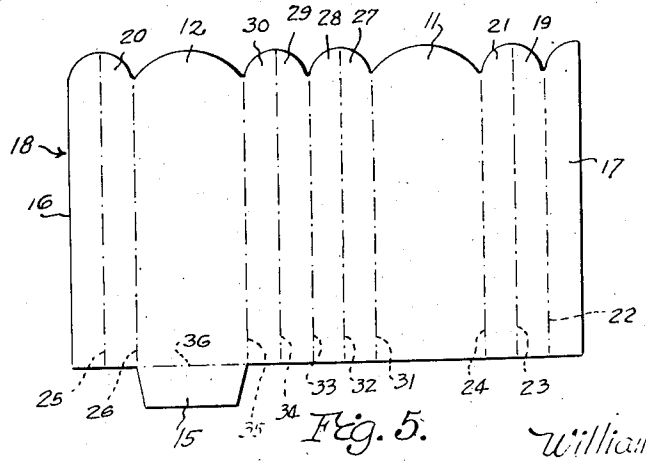


Fig. 5.

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SANITARY FINGER COVER

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1 Claim. (Cl. 2—21)

This invention relates to finger covers.

One object of this invention is to provide a sanitary finger cover made of paper, synthetic plastic or other inexpensive sheet material which will protect the thumb and/or other fingers from grease in eating food held in the fingers, and which at the same time will prevent contamination of the food by dirt and bacteria which may be present on the fingers.

Another object is to provide a sanitary finger cover which is expansible so as to fit fingers of different sizes and at the same time is resilient so as to grip the finger on which it is placed.

Another object is to provide a sanitary finger cover which may be made from a single piece of suitable sheet material which is folded and closed according to the invention so as to provide an expansible resilient finger cover for various sizes of fingers.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent during the course of the following description of the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a sanitary finger cover, according to one form of the invention, as mounted on the index finger of a user;

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the finger cover shown in Figure 1, removed from the finger;

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the finger cover shown in Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a right-hand end elevation of the finger cover shown in Figures 2 and 3; and

Figure 5 is a top plan view of a blank from which the finger cover of Figures 1 to 4 inclusive may be constructed.

Hitherto, the eating of greasy or sticky articles of food, or the handling of articles which soil the fingers has been unpleasant because of the inconvenience but practical necessity of washing the fingers immediately after eating and before eating any other food or other courses of the meal. For example, foods cooked in grease or coated with sugar, such as roast chicken, corn on the cob, doughnuts, sweet rolls and other articles of food involve such disadvantages. Moreover, the preparation, sale or handling of foods with the bare thumb and finger or fingers is also unsanitary, typical foods of this type being meats, fish, cheese, candies and baked goods. The present invention provides a sanitary finger cover which not only protects the fingers as well as the food from such soiling or contamination but also which is resilient so as to fit different sizes of fingers and to cling to the finger upon which it is mounted.

Referring to the drawing in detail, Figures 1 to 4 inclusive show a sanitary finger cover, generally designated 10, having flat front and rear sides 11 and 12 and fluted or pleated connecting sides 13 and 14 extending between the sides 11 and 12, the assembly being held together at one end by a tab 15 integral with the side 12 and extending over and secured to the side 11 in any suitable manner, such as by the use of an adhesive or by heat-adhering material. The sides of the finger cover 10 are secured to one another longitudinally by longitudinal tabs 16 and 17 (Figure 5) formed in a blank, generally

designated 18, from which the cover 10 is formed by suitable folding operations.

The blank 18 consists of an elongated and roughly rectangular piece of sheet material formed from paper, such as wax paper, or from synthetic plastic sheet material or the like and includes not only the flat sides 11 and 12 and tabs 15, 16 and 17 previously mentioned, but also side portions 19, 20 and 21 forming one of the upper sides 13 by suitably folding them along the fold lines 22 to 26 inclusive (Figure 5), and side portions 27 and 30 inclusive forming the lower side 14 by suitable folding of the blank 18 along the fold lines 31 to 35 inclusive. The free edges of the sides 11 to 14 inclusive may be left straight or scalloped, as shown in Figure 5. The tab 15 is folded relatively to the flat side 12 along the fold line 36.

In the manufacture of the invention, the blank 18 is cut out of a sheet of material in any suitable way, such as by stamping it out with a cutter or die. The various portions 11, 12, 13 and 14 are then formed by suitable folding operations along the fold lines 22 to 26 inclusive and 31 to 35 inclusive, in a manner which is self-evident from the drawings, after which the longitudinal tabs 16 and 17 are secured to one another by a suitable adhesive or by the use of a heat-sealing material. The end of the cover 10 provided with the tab 15 is then closed by bending the tab 15 over the adjacent edge of the opposite flat side 11 and securing it thereto by adhesives or heat (Figures 2 and 3). The finger cover 10 is then ready for use.

In the use of the invention, finger covers 10 may be dispensed in a flat folded condition from any suitable type of dispenser. The user then pushes his thumb or finger into the finger cover or covers 10 in the manner shown in Figure 1, whereupon the covers are used to grasp articles in the usual manner. When the user has finished handling the article, he merely pulls off the cover or covers 10 and lays them aside, leaving his fingers clean and unsoiled instead of greasy or sticky as in instances where such covers are not available.

What I claim is:

A paper finger cover formed from a substantially rectangular sheet, comprising elongated flat front and rear panel-forming portions of substantially the same widths spaced apart from one another on said sheet, an elongated scored intermediate side panel-forming portion of substantially the same width as said front and rear panel-forming portions integral therewith and disposed in the space therebetween, a pair of elongated scored side panel-forming parts integral respectively with said front and rear panel-forming portions and disposed along the edges thereof remote from said intermediate side panel-forming portion, said side panel-forming parts having their outer edge portions secured to one another in overlapping relationship to constitute a side panel-forming portion opposite to and of substantially the same width as said intermediate side panel-forming portion, said side panel-forming portions being folded at their scored locations to provide expansible pleated sides, and a tab projecting from one end of one of said flat panel-forming portions and secured in overlapping relationship to the corresponding end of the other flat panel-forming portion to close one end of the finger cover.

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