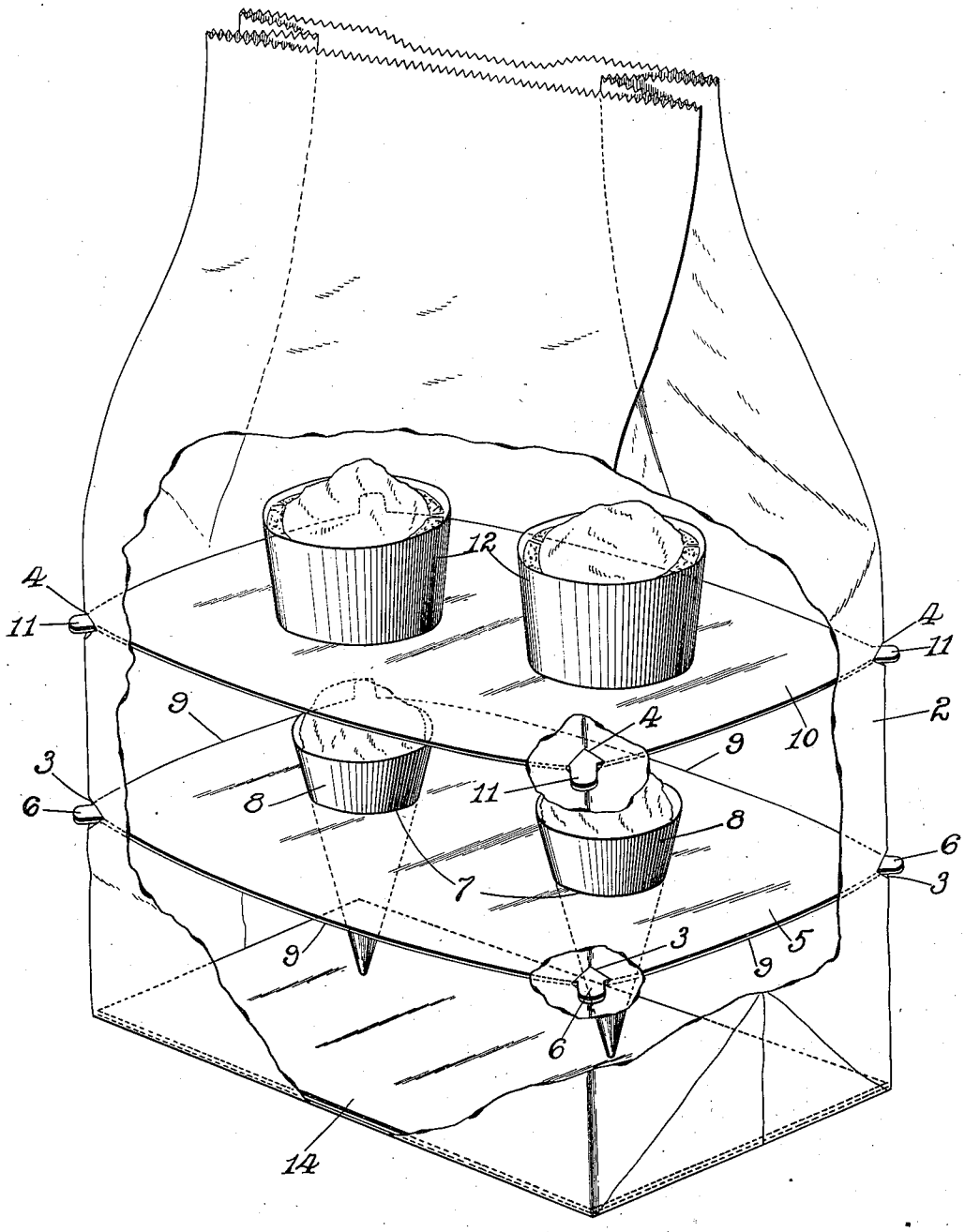
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C. B. McGRATH

PAPER CONTAINER

Filed April 15, 1920



Inventor.

Charles B. McGrath

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES B. McGRATH, OF WOODLAND, MAINE, ASSIGNOR TO THE GRAND LAKE COMPANY, INC., OF WOODLAND, MAINE, A CORPORATION OF MAINE.

PAPER CONTAINER.

Application filed April 15, 1920. Serial No. 374,049.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES B. McGRATH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Woodland, Washington County, in the State of Maine, have invented certain Improvements in Paper Containers, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like reference characters on the drawings indicating like parts in the several figures.

This invention relates to paper containers and it is concerned especially with containers of this type designed to be used in connection with the retailing of ice-cream cones and pastry of the more delicate kinds. It will readily be appreciated by those familiar with the merchandising of goods of this character, that any container or carrier that is to be used extensively in making retail sales of such articles as those just mentioned, must be very inexpensive. The present invention aims to devise a container of this character which will not only come within the practical requirements as to price limits, but which will also provide a very effective protection for the goods, which will require little shipping space, and which will be very convenient for both the merchant and the customer to use.

The nature of the invention will be readily understood from the following description when read in connection with the accompanying drawings, and the novel features will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

Referring now to the drawings, the single figure is an angular view of a container constructed in accordance with the present invention, certain of the parts being broken away to show the interior construction more clearly.

The container shown comprises a paper bag 2 which may be made according to any convenient or usual process. Two sets of notches are cut in the vertical edges of the bag, the lower set being designated at 3 and the upper set at 4. A shelf 5 is supported in the lower set of notches, this shelf being provided with corner projections 6 extending through the notches 3 so that the shelf is supported solely by the sides or walls of the bag 2. This shelf has two holes 7 therein to receive the ice-cream cones, indicated at 8, and the shelf is spaced far enough above the bottom of the bag so that the lower ends of the cones do not touch the bottom. Consequently, when the cones are placed in the apertures 7 they slide into the holes until they find a firm seat, where they rest securely while they are being transported. Preferably the edges 9 of the shelf are curved outwardly, as shown in the drawings, so that they take up the greater part of the bulge in the sides of the bag and thus more completely fill the cross sectional area of the bag.

The upper shelf 10 is similar to the shelf 5 in shape and is supported by corner projections 11 which enter the notches 4. This shelf has the same outline as the lower shelf 5 but is not provided with holes, since this shelf is intended to support articles of pastry 12, such as biscuit tortoni, charlotte russe, eclairs, cakes, or the like. It is obvious, however, that these shelves could be the same in construction and that the character of the shelves selected will depend upon the nature of the merchandise with which they are to be used.

The drawings also show the bag 2 provided with a bottom shelf or loose reinforcing member 14, which may or may not be used, as desired. It is contemplated that this bottom piece 14 will be employed when it is desired to use the space between the shelves 14 and 5 for cakes or some other article of pastry or merchandise.

The shelves may be made of a fairly stiff cardboard or pasteboard and they are stacked together for shipment. The bags are shipped flat in a folded condition in the same way that ordinary paper bags are shipped. Consequently the device requires very little shipping space. When a salesman wishes to use one of these containers, he opens one of the bags, selects a shelf of the character required for the particular articles that he is selling, and slides the shelf into the bag endwise, entering first the projections at one end of the shelf in their proper notches, and then those at the other end in the opposite notches. If a second shelf is to be used it is placed in the bag in the same manner, the merchandise, however, to be placed between the shelves being inserted before the second shelf is placed in position. The bag is then closed and forms an effective protection for the merchandise. The bottom piece 14 enables the bag to stand upright when it is used for relatively light material, such as ice-cream cones and pastry.

It is contemplated that different sizes of bags will be provided and that they may be equipped with any reasonable number of shelves. A very important use for containers of the kind here provided is in the sale of ice-cream cones, and for this purpose the bags are usually provided with one or two shelves, the number of cone receiving apertures in each shelf depending on the size of the bag in which the shelf is to be used.

It will now be appreciated that the invention provides a container which is convenient to use, which is admirably suited to the merchandising requirements of a considerable variety of food products, and which is very inexpensive.

What is claimed as new is:

1. An article of the character described, comprising a paper bag of substantially rectangular outline in horizontal cross section, the vertical edges of said bag having notches cut therein at a substantially uniform distance from the bottom of the bag, and a shelf having projecting corners extending into said notches, whereby said shelf is removably supported in said bag by the engagement of said corners with the edges of said notches.

2. An article of the character described, comprising a paper bag having a plurality of notches cut in its vertical edges at a substantially uniform distance from the bottom of the bag, and a shelf having projections extending from the corners thereof to enter said notches and thereby receive support from the sides of the bag.

3. An article of the character described, comprising a paper bag having a plurality of notches cut in its vertical edges at a substantially uniform distance from the bottom of the bag, and a shelf having projecting corners to enter said notches, and having outwardly curved edges for engagement with the sides of the bag.

4. An article of the character described, comprising a paper bag having a plurality of sets of notches cut in the vertical edges thereof at different levels, and a plurality of shelves, each having corner projections to enter said notches, whereby said shelves are removably supported in said bag at different levels through their engagement with said respective sets of notches.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

CHARLES B. McGRATH.