

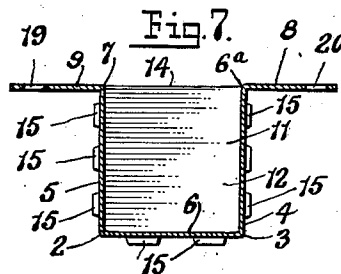
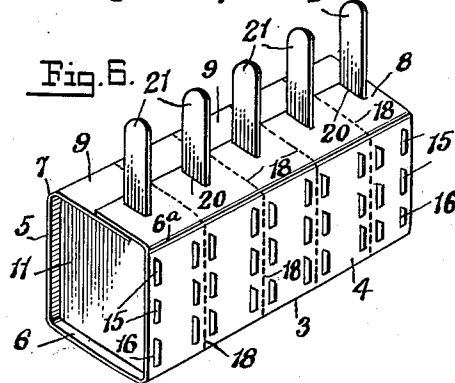
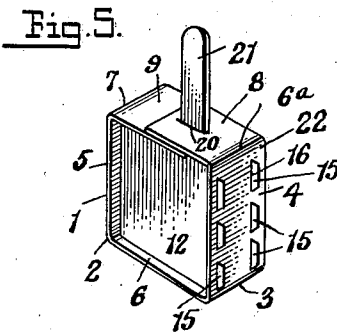
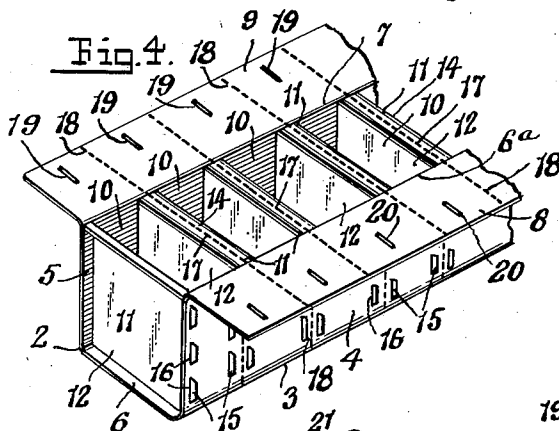
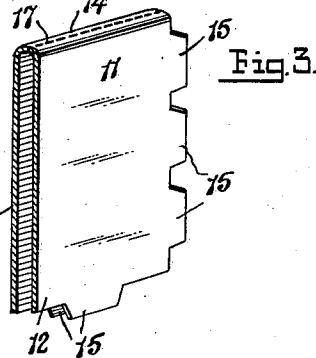
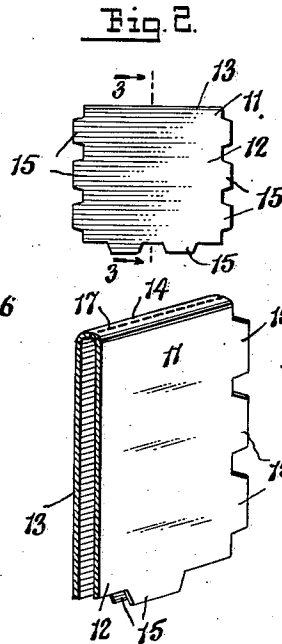
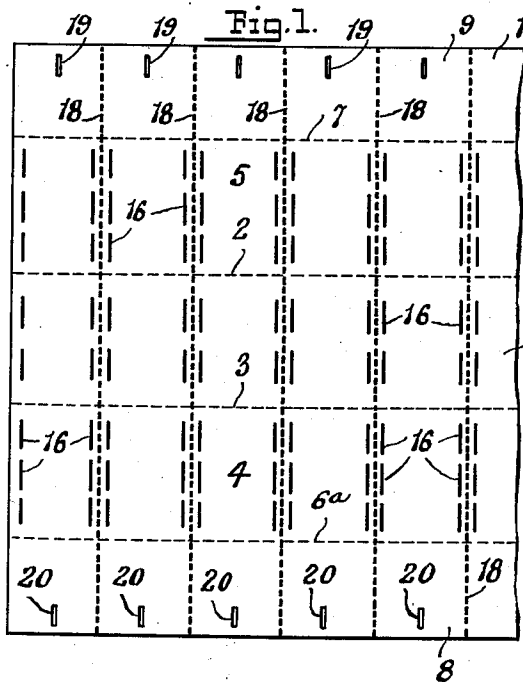
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ICE-CREAM POP MANUFACTURING AND PACKAGING

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ICE-CREAM POP MANUFACTURING AND PACKAGING

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11 Claims. (Cl. 99-180)

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This invention relates to packaging of ice cream pops and has for its primary object the provision of means by which a completely sanitary protective enclosure is provided for each pop at a minimum of expense for manufacturing.

An ice cream pop as presently known in this art, consists of a filling of ice cream, ices, or like frozen material contained in an outer covering such as chocolate. For convenience in handling, the pop is usually provided with a stick or handle having one end frozen in the pop and its other end projecting and serving as the handle part. The pops as presently sold, are often placed in paper bags with the sticks protruding. The bags usually fit the pops very poorly and are often dislodged in handling, thus exposing the pops, and at once defeating the protective purposes for which the bags are intended. In addition, the easy removal and replacement of the bags often permits a purchaser to remove the bag, handle or even taste the pop, and then restore it to the bag and return it to the vendor for another of a different flavor. In other words, it is clear that it is not only desirable for food commodities of this character to be completely enclosed and protected, but also in such a manner that the removal of the same from the enclosing wrapper will at once deface or damage the wrapper to an extent sufficient to indicate to the vendor the fact that the wrapper has been opened and the pop exposed. In addition, it is desirable that the wrappers used may be readily applied to the pops without requiring expensive and complicated packaging machinery; it is desirable that the expense of the wrapper and its cost of application shall be extremely moderate; that the wrapper and its contents shall remain sanitary during handling and shipping and that the wrapper can be readily peeled off or removed from the pop without causing annoyance to the consumer, leaving the pop clean and sanitary and ready for consumption.

The present invention contemplates the provision of a wrapping or packaging construction by means of which the above-described results shall be attained. It contemplates the provision of a packaging means by which a new method of making and packaging the pops may be performed, and finally it contemplates the provision of a wrapper or package which cannot be opened and the pop exposed without indication of the fact that the package was opened. In addition, it provides a strong, protective and desirable wrapping for the pops in which the contained goods will be maintained in a protected and appetizing manner,

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These and other objects are attained by the invention, a more particular description of which will hereinafter appear and be set forth specifically in the claims appended hereto.

In the accompanying drawings, wherein an illustrative embodiment of the invention is disclosed, Fig. 1 is a face view of the sheet or blank from which the body of the container is formed; Fig. 2 is a face view of one of the partitions; Fig. 3 is a sectional view, in perspective, taken on the line 3-3 of Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrows; Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the container ready for filling; Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the packaged pop; Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the container after it has been filled and closed, and Fig. 7 is a transverse sectional view through the open container shown in Fig. 5.

The wrapper for the pops, and which also serves as a mold for making the pops, includes a body portion 1, which may be of any length enabling it to be conveniently handled and which is arranged for the molding and encasement of a plurality of pops, is in the form of a sheet of thick paper or relatively thin and light weight cardboard of sufficient rigidity to support the material which is molded within it and of a flexibility enabling it to be readily peeled off the frozen product by the consumer. It is desirable, but not absolutely necessary, that the paper be coated with moisture-resistant material to prevent absorption of the fat in the chocolate coating of the pop or the moisture in the ice cream.

The wrapper 1 is folded longitudinally on the parallel lines 2 and 3 to thus form it into a tray or trough of channel shape having the upstanding side walls 4 and 5 and bottom 6. The wrapper is also folded longitudinally on the lines 6a and 7 to provide outwardly projecting closure flaps 8 and 9 at the top of the side walls 4 and 5. The result of folding the wrapper as above described is a receptacle of channel or trough shape as seen in Figs. 4 and 7 which is open at the top and forms a mold for the pops and subsequently a portion of the wrapper therefor. The part of the tray referred to as the "top" is subsequently the bottom of the packaged pop.

The receptacle formed as above described is divided into a plurality of compartments 10 by means of spaced vertical partitions 11, the construction of which will be seen in Figs. 2 and 3. It will be therein noted that each of the partitions is of two-ply or double wall thickness. The two plies, indicated respectively at 12 and 13, are connected together along the top of the compartment by the fold 14. The side edges and

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lower edge of each of the plies of the partition are provided with tabs or tongues 15 adapted to enter slits 16 provided in the side walls and bottom respectively of the receptacle composed of the channel-shaped wrapper 1, thus retaining the partition in position in the wrapper and stiffening the same and maintaining it in the channel-shape shown.

Extending along the fold 14 at the top of each partition is a weakened line or tear line 17 upon which the two plies of the partition are separated or torn apart when it is desired to separate a wrapper-enclosed pop from the lengthy wrapper 1. It will be noted that the wrapper 1 is formed with a plurality of weakened or tear lines 18 extending transversely across it, said lines extending through the side walls, bottom and naps, and that these tear lines 18 are located in alignment with the tear lines 17 in the partitions. Therefore, when a section of the wrapper, containing a pop, is to be separated from the rest of the wrapper, it is torn off or cut on one of the lines 18 and its co-operating tear line 17 in the adjacent partition.

To close the wrapper or container the flaps 8 and 9 of the wrapper are adapted to be folded inwardly or toward one another on the fold lines into overlapping relation, and when this is done, slots 19 and 20 provided in the respective flaps 8 and 9 will come into alignment. Sticks 21 may then be inserted into the ice cream contents of the receptacle, through the aligned slots 19 and 20, thus holding the naps in closed position.

In producing pops adapted to be contained or packaged in the above-described container, a simplified method of manufacture may be readily followed. Assuming that the pops are to be composed of an ice cream center covered by a chocolate or similar edible outer coating, it is first desirable that the interior of the channel-shaped receptacle or partitioned paper trough be "lined" with the chocolate coating. This can be done in a number of ways, one of which is to pour the heated liquid chocolate into the receptacle, filling the compartments 10 and allowing the chocolate to also coat the exposed or upper faces of the flaps 8 and 9. The chocolate is then poured out of the receptacle and it will be found that a layer of the same has remained adherent to the inside of the paper wrapper or receptacle. As a substitute for this procedure, the excess chocolate might be withdrawn from the interior of the paper receptacle by suction or other means, leaving the coating adherent to the inside wall surfaces of the receptacle as above explained.

Several other methods of coating the interior walls of the paper receptacle may be followed, the result of each method being to leave an adherent edible coating on the interior walls, such coating subsequently becoming the exterior coating of the resultant pop. After the paper receptacle has been "lined" with the chocolate coating as above described, the ice cream in soft condition is poured or deposited into the compartments 10 of the receptacle. When this has been done, the closure flaps 8 and 9 are folded inwardly or toward one another and into overlapping position, thereby aligning the slots 19 and 20 so that the sticks 21 may be inserted through the slots to project into the contents of the receptacle, leaving a portion of each stick exposed on the outside of the now-closed receptacle to later serve as a handle for each pop. In herein referring to the coating on the inside of the container as "chocolate" it is understood that this term shall com-

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prehend any other edible coating useful for the purpose set forth.

The filled and closed receptacle, with the sticks 21 in place, and appearing as indicated in Fig. 6, is now carried on a suitable conveyor, or by hand, to a freezing chamber where the contents of the receptacle are frozen to required hardness. The complete product is then a lengthy, completely enclosed block made up of a plurality of pops. Each pop is separated from its companions by severance along each of the tear or separation lines 18, and separation of the parts of the wrapper along these lines will also result in separation of the two plies of partition 11 at which the tear line 18 is located. The resultant wrapped or enclosed pop is seen in Fig. 5 wherein it will be observed that the same is fully enclosed by the end walls composed of one ply each of two partitions and by an encircling narrow strip section 22 removed from the wrapper 1. The pop thus enclosed is protected, maintained in sanitary condition and cannot be exposed without tearing at least one of the flaps 8 or 9 outwardly from the slots 19 and 20 formed in said flaps. Such tearing or destruction of the flaps constitutes a "tell-tale" at once indicating to the vendor that the wrapper has been opened and he thus is obligated to refuse to take back or exchange a pop, the wrapper of which has been tampered with. When the outer flap is pulled free from the stick, by destruction of the slot 19, the entire wrapper may then be readily peeled off since the tongue-and-slit connection between the wrapper section 22 and the plies of the partitions is such as to permit ready separation of the encircling part 22 of the wrapper from these partition elements. The peeling of the wrapper in the manner described readily pulls the wrapper away from the chocolate coating which was previously adherent to it, leaving the coating serving as an outer coating for the ice cream of the pop. It has been found that by following the procedure described, the pop will readily become freed from the wrapper and ready for eating. It has been found that while the liquid or molten chocolate will readily adhere to the wrapper, the chocolate in its hardened condition will readily become freed, and adhering to the ice cream, will form the outer coating therefor.

The arrangement of the several parts of the wrapper and the manner of co-operation between the same is such that the folding of the wrapper body 1, the insertion of the partitions, the chocolate-coating and ice cream filling of the wrapper, the folding of the closure flaps thereof and the insertion of the sticks, may be readily performed by automatic machinery if desired, or these steps may be readily carried out manually or with the aid of simple jigs and the resultant product will be uniform and of good appearance. The filling of the wrapper and the after-handling of the goods does not require handling of the contained product so that while the wrapped product may cost slightly more than the known bag-enclosed commodities, most of the expensive machinery used in producing the latter will be dispensed with and the resultant product will be more uniform, better wrapped and more sanitary and have numerous other advantages.

The finished product is such that the pops can be readily dispensed by automatic vending machines or can be housed in a suitable container carrying shearing means by which each wrapped pop as sold will be severed from the block or gang, and the vendor and consumer of the prod-

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uct will appreciate the handling and presentation of it.

Having described one embodiment of the invention, it is obvious that the same is not to be restricted thereto but is broad enough to cover all structures coming within the scope of the annexed claims.

What I claim is:

1. A package for ice cream pops comprising, a channel-shaped strip of paper comprising side walls, a bottom, flaps extending from the tops of the side walls and folded inwardly and into overlapped relation, each of the flaps having an aperture, the apertures being located in registry when the flaps are folded into said overlapped relation, a stick projecting through the registered apertures and extending into the ice cream contained within the package and holding the flaps in such overlapped relation, and spaced end walls disposed within the strip and in engagement with parts of the same.

2. A package for ice cream pops comprising, a pair of spaced end walls, a substantially U-shaped strip extending around the edges of the walls and connected to the same, said strip having flaps adapted to be folded to lie in overlapped relation, and a stick penetrating said overlapped flaps and entering into ice cream contained within the package and serving to hold the overlapped flaps in their overlapped relation.

3. A package for ice cream pops as provided for in claim 2, wherein the end walls of the package are provided on their edges with tabs, the strip having apertures in its side walls into which said tabs enter to thereby hold the ends in place in the strip, and the flaps of the strip being apertured to permit of passage of the stick.

4. A package for ice cream pops consisting of a relatively lengthy channel-shaped paper receptacle having side walls and a bottom, the upper ends of the side walls being provided with laterally extended flaps, said flaps being adapted to be folded toward one another into overlapping relation, each flap being provided with an aperture, the apertures being located in registry when the flaps are in their overlapped relation to permit of a stick to be thrust through said apertures to reach ice cream contents of the receptacle, the receptacle being provided in its side walls, bottom and flaps with a plurality of spaced tear lines, partitions located within the receptacle, each of said partitions being of double thickness and provided with a tear line on which one of the thicknesses may be separated from its companion, the said tear line being disposed in alignment with one of the tear lines provided in the body of the receptacle.

5. A package for ice cream pops consisting of a relatively lengthy channel-shaped paper receptacle having side walls and a bottom, the upper end of the side walls being provided with laterally extended flaps, said flaps being adapted to be folded inwardly and into overlapped relationship, each flap being provided with an aperture, the apertures being disposed in registry when the flaps are in their overlapped relation to permit of a stick to be thrust through the aligned apertures to reach the ice cream contained within the receptacle, the receptacle being provided in its walls and bottom and flaps with spaced tear lines, partitions located within the receptacle, said partitions having edge tabs, the receptacle having apertures receiving the tabs to thereby retain the partition in position, each of the partitions being of double-ply and provided

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with a tear line on which one of the plies may be separated from the other, the tear line in each partition being disposed in alignment with one of the tear lines in the receptacle.

6. A package for ice cream pops comprising, a tray of paper provided with a plurality of spaced double-walled partitions, overlapped closure flaps for the top of the tray, sticks inserted through said overlapped closure flaps between the partitions and entering the contents of the tray and serving as means for maintaining the closure flaps in overlapped relation, and severance lines across the tray, said lines extending through the partitions between the double walls thereof.

7. A package for ice cream pops comprising a strip of paper extending around the sides, top and bottom of the pop, the ends of the strip overlapping on the under side of the pop, a stick extending through the overlapped parts of the strip and embedded in the pop and serving to maintain said parts of the strip in overlapped relation, and end walls within the strip and attached to the strip and contiguous to the faces of the pop.

8. The method of making and packaging ice cream pops consisting in filling a channel-shaped, partitioned paper strip with soft ice cream, closing the top of the strip by folding inwardly to overlapped position flaps provided on the strip, inserting sticks into the ice cream contents through the overlapped parts of the flaps to maintain said parts of the strip in overlapped relation and allowing portions of said sticks to protrude, and freezing the ice cream with the sticks in place and while contained in the strip.

9. The method of making and packaging ice cream pops comprising, coating the inside walls, bottom and spaced partitions of a channel-shaped partitioned paper strip with liquid chocolate and removing the excess chocolate and allowing a coating thereof to adhere to the walls and bottom of the strip, depositing soft ice cream into the strip and within the chocolate coating, closing the strip by folding inwardly to overlapped relation flaps on the strip, inserting sticks through the overlapped parts of the flaps and into the ice cream contents of the strip and leaving the inserted sticks protruding from the overlapped parts to thereby hold the flaps in closed position, and freezing the ice cream and chocolate contents of the strip.

10. The method of making ice cream pops comprising, coating the inside wall surfaces of a partitioned paper tray with a liquid edible coating, filling the coated tray with ice cream, closing the tray, inserting sticks through overlapped closure flaps of the tray to enter into the contents of the tray and hold said flaps in overlapped relation, and freezing the contents of the tray.

11. A package for ice cream pops comprising, an elongated strip of paper transversely folded to divide it into a top panel, two side panels and a pair of overlapping flaps constituting a closure for one edge of the body of an ice cream pop, a stick inserted in the pop and protruding therefrom and projecting through and beyond the overlapping flaps, said stick constituting a locking means for said overlapping flaps and preventing opening of the strip without causing tearing of at least one of said flaps, a pair of end walls contiguous to opposite faces of the pop, said end walls fitting within the folded strip at points inwardly of the longitudinal edges of said strip, the strip being provided with slits adjacent to said edges and the end walls having edge tongues en-

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gaging said slits to thereby attach the end walls to the strip.

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