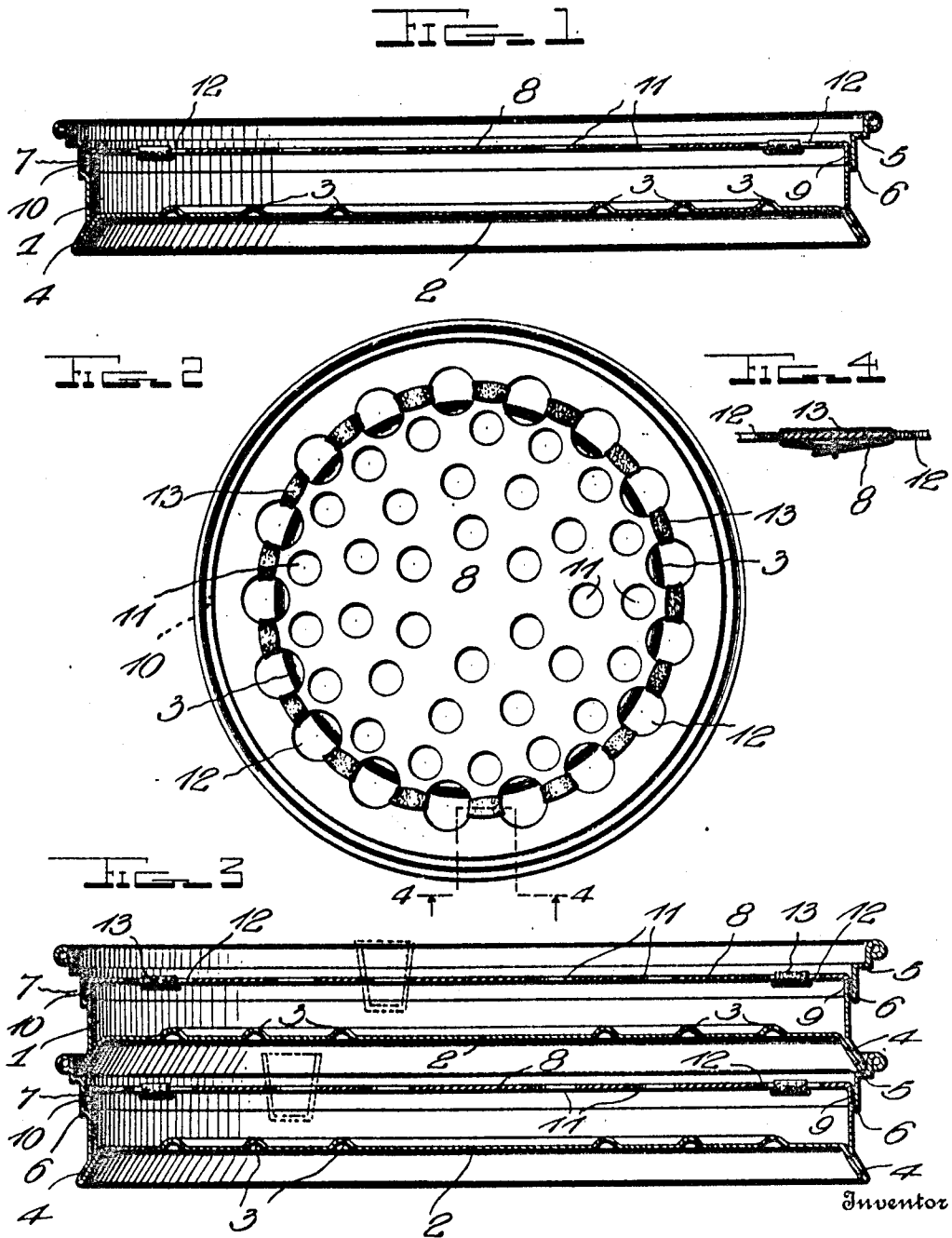


J. G. THOMAS.
COMMUNION SERVICE TRAY.
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1,061,026.

Patented May 6, 1913.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN G. THOMAS, OF LIMA, OHIO.

COMMUNION-SERVICE TRAY.

1,061,026.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 6, 1913.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN G. THOMAS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lima, in the county of Allen and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Communion-Service Trays, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention relates to trays for use in individual communion service, and it consists in a tray possessing the peculiar and practically advantageous characteristics hereinafter described and definitely claimed.

In the accompanying drawings which are hereby made a part hereof: Figure 1 is a diametrical section of a tray constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a plan of the same. Fig. 3 is a diametrical section illustrative of the manner in which a plurality of my novel trays are superposed. Fig. 4 is a detail section taken in the plane indicated by the line 4-4 of Fig. 2 and showing the manner in which the apertured plates of the trays may be padded when deemed expedient.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all of the views of the drawings.

My novel tray comprises a body and an apertured glass-receiving plate positioned within the same, as best shown in Fig. 1. The body is made in one piece and preferably of a sheet metal consonant with its purpose; and it comprises a side wall 1, preferably though not necessarily circular, and a bottom wall 2 which is preferably ribbed, as indicated by 3, to give it increased stiffness and strength. The said bottom wall 2 is disposed in a horizontal plane above the lower edge of the side wall 1 and is joined with said side wall through the medium of an outwardly and downwardly inclined and annular portion of metal 4 interposed between the side wall and the bottom wall. Because of this a chamber is afforded in the lower portion of the tray for an important purpose hereinafter set forth. It will also be seen by reference to Fig. 1 that the portion of metal 4 is bent upon itself which gives it increased rigidity and strength and that it is flared outward from the side wall 1 so that the diameter of its edge is slightly less than that of the upper and preferably beaded edge of said side wall 1. Interiorly the side wall 1 of the body is provided with

an upper ledge 5 and a lower ledge 6, and in the wall slightly above the latter ledge is provided an aperture 7 for a purpose that will hereafter be set forth.

The apertured plate 8 of the tray is provided with a depending marginal flange 9, designed to rest in the tray body and on the lower ledge 6 thereof, as shown. On said flange is a radial stud 10 and this stud is adapted to be positioned in the aperture 7, Fig. 1, with a view to preventing rotation or other movement or shaking of the plate 8 in the body. It will be noticed, however, that the disposition of the stud 10 in the aperture 7 does not interfere with the plate 8 being expeditiously and easily separated from the tray body to facilitate washing and drying of the tray. The plate 8 is apertured, by preference, in the manner shown—i. e., the inner apertures 11, which are designed to receive filled glasses, are smaller than the outer apertures 12, which are designed to receive empty glasses that are handed back by the communicants. However, the said plate 8 may be apertured in any approved manner without affecting my invention; and I would here have it also understood that without involving departure from the scope of my invention the plate at points adjacent the outer apertures 12 may be padded, as indicated by 13, or the plate at points adjacent all of the apertures 11 and 12 may be padded, or the paddings may be altogether omitted from the plate.

When trays embodying my invention are superposed after the manner shown in Fig. 3 it will be manifest that the upper tray rests within the side wall of the lower tray and on the upper ledge 5 of said tray, and hence there is no liability of either tray moving edgewise with respect to the other. From this it follows that an indefinite number of trays superposed as stated may be handled as a unit without liability of accident. It will also be observed in this connection that when a plurality of the trays are superposed or stacked in the manner stated, the chambers in the bottoms of the upper trays receive the upper portions of the cups or glasses in the lower trays and the trays above do not touch the glasses in the trays below them. It will further be observed that the glasses or cups in each of the lower trays will be dust-proof, fly-proof and dirt-proof.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

5 A tray comprising a body having a side wall and a bottom, the bottom being disposed above the lower edge of the side wall, the side wall below the bottom wall being flared outward, the side wall being greater in diameter at its upper and lower edges
10 than at its intermediate portion and provided above the bottom with an upper and a lower ledge, the diameter of the upper ledge being approximately the same as the greatest diameter of the flared portion of the
15 side wall, an apertured plate having a depending peripheral flange, said flange rest-

ing upon the lower ledge whereby the plate is supported in the body below the upper ledge and spaced from the bottom, the plate when in position in a tray having its apertured portion lying in a plane at a distance from the plane in which the upper edge of the tray lies approximately equal to the distance from the bottom of the tray to the plane in which the lower edge thereof lies. 20
• In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses. 25

JOHN G. THOMAS.

Witnesses:

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."