

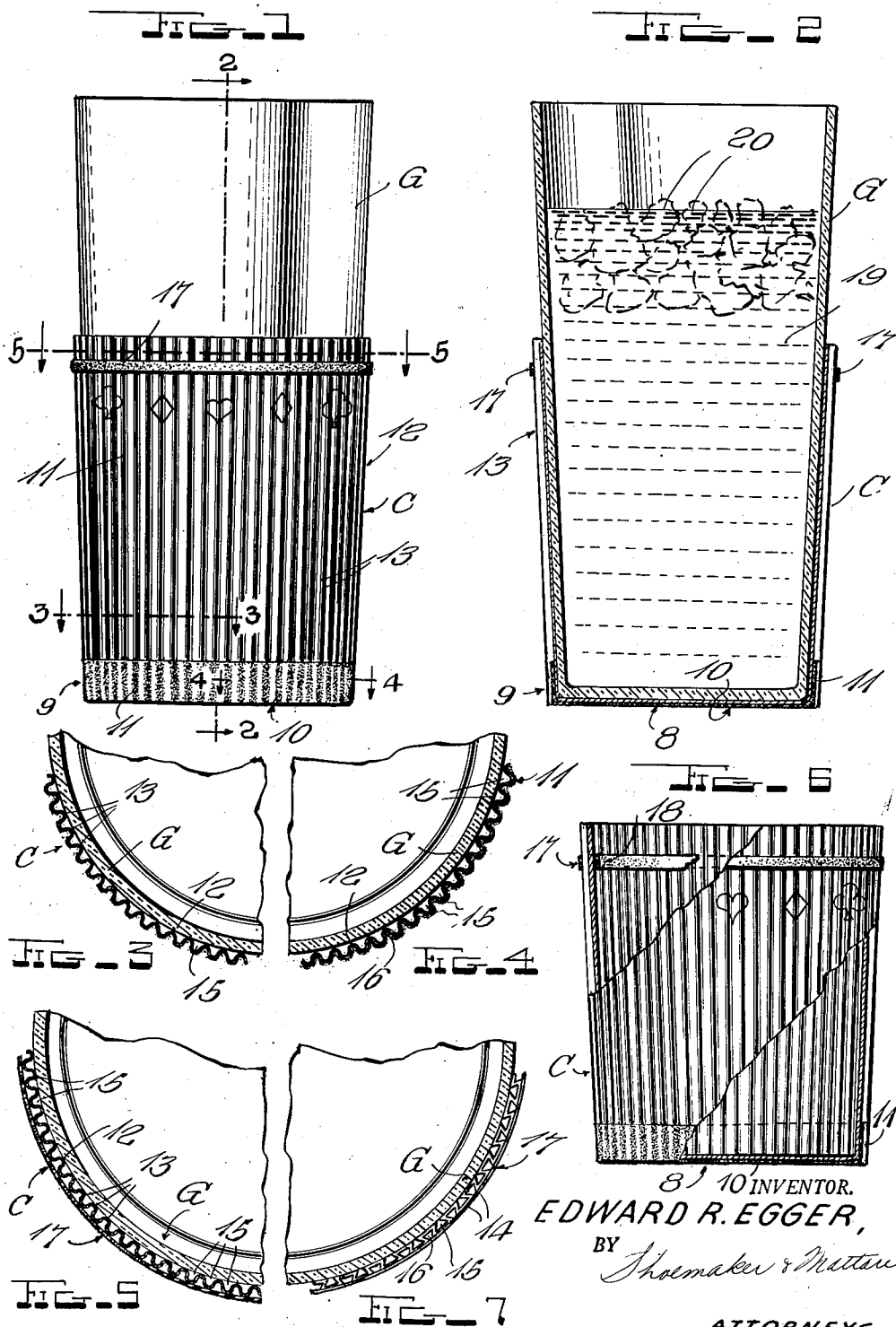
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COASTER TYPE HOLDER

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COASTER TYPE HOLDER

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1

This invention relates to coaster type holders. The invention is more particularly directed to coaster type holders of the type that are fitted about and carried by such containers for liquids as glasses, bottles, cans, etc.

At the present time there are two different types of coasters available. The first type consists of metallic, glass or other coasters that are separate and distinct from the glass or other container for liquids. This type of coaster is sometimes in the form of a flat, absorbent disc on which the glass or other container is placed. Other forms of such types of coasters are those that have an upturned flange or side wall and are made of metal or glass and in both of which the glass with the liquid therein is placed while the actual coaster itself rests on a table or other support. These types of coasters in the main do prevent condensation or moisture that forms on the exterior of glasses or other containers for liquid from engagement with the table or other support on which the coaster and glass is supported. However, where the person using the glass with the liquid contained therein moves about he either must pick up the coaster to carry it to another place for support or hold it in one hand which, of course, is rather awkward and if any amount of moisture has collected therein the same is spilled onto the person holding the glass or the floor or even a table or other article of furniture if it be in the immediate vicinity. Then too, this type of coaster in no way serves to prevent the hand of the person holding the glass from becoming wet by the moisture or condensation that collects on the glass. It is indeed embarrassing if one has been holding a glass and wishes to exchange a hand shake with another and finding that his or her hand is substantially moistened by the condensation formed on the glass. Further, the person holding the glass might well soil his own or other clothing or upholstered furniture, etc. when a group are together indulging in a party or playing games of any kind.

From the above, it is clear that there are many disadvantages to the first mentioned type of coaster.

In the second type of coaster where the same is carried by the glass or other container for the liquid, there are several types known and available, including the knitted or woven type that snugly engages a portion of the glass. While this particular woven or knitted type of coaster is somewhat satisfactory, yet it too in order to serve its function must be somewhat absorbent

2

and the moisture collected therein is transmitted to the hand of the person holding the glass and if the bottom of this type of coaster is not rendered waterproof or moisture-proof, there is a possibility at least that the moisture collected therein will be transmitted to a supporting surface such as a table or other article of furniture when the glass with the liquid therein is placed on the table or the like. Further, this knitted or woven type of coaster is quite expensive and after use requires laundering and reshaping and stretching back to its normal size and shape, and for that and other reasons a good many people do not care to go to the bother of having such type of coaster about.

Further, with respect to the second mentioned type of coaster, some of them are of various materials including paper that slips over the bottom end of a glass or the like and supposedly catch and retain any moisture or condensate formed on the exterior surface of the glass. Here again, one type of such coaster is such that it is furnished to the user in a knocked-down condition and must be assembled and then placed on the glass, and the other type is substantially rigid and supposedly at least partly absorptive to conform with the shape of the glass or other container for the liquid to which it is applied. In no instances in the second mentioned type of coasters that are made of paper is there any provision for the collection of the moisture or other condensate that forms on the exterior of a glass. Therefore, there is a good possibility that if the fit of the coaster about the glass is rather snug or tight, the condensate or moisture will flow on the outside of the coaster and either wet the hand of the one holding the glass, or if the glass is placed on a highly polished surface of the table it will mar the same, making the ordinary white ring that is so commonly seen on a good many tables and other highly polished surfaces on which a glass may be placed.

It is understood in referring to the coasters above and hereinafter that moisture of course will only occur on the exterior surface of the glass or other container for liquid where the liquid itself has been refrigerated immediately prior to introduction into the glass or that the glass contains a liquid and ice or other refrigerant.

In my coaster type holders, the disadvantages of the above mentioned coasters are overcome in that primarily the coaster is of the type that is readily disposable and of the throwaway kind wherein after an individual has used the same

3

about a glass it may be readily removed therefrom and placed in the trash receptacle. This coaster is one that can be manufactured in mass production relatively inexpensively and yet being very effective in its function of preventing moisture from being imparted to the hand of the user or to any support on which the glass with the coaster thereon is placed. The throwaway feature of the coaster type holder is desirable in that there is no laundering, no setting up of the coaster and fitting the same to the glass or other container for the liquid. The coasters may be purchased by the dozens in suitable packages and be kept on hand ready for use and immediate disposal after the same have served their purpose. This is made possible because of the fact that the coaster type holders are nestable within one another and occupy a very small space in their original package and in storage in homes, places of entertainment, etc., and a good many of them can be kept on hand for ready application to and from glasses or other containers for cooled or refrigerated liquids.

Moreover, my coaster type holders are so fabricated that in use and notwithstanding the fact that moisture has been absorbed, substantially the original shape of the coaster type holders will be maintained as there is definite means provided to assist the coasters in closely adhering to the particular kind and type of glass or other container with which it has been associated. This is one difficulty with former paper type coasters that I have overcome, in that in the former coasters after a certain amount of the moisture or condensate is absorbed the coasters become very much misshapened and will not properly remain associated with the glass and in some instances will slip off of the glass, thus soiling the clothes of the one holding the glass or the floor coverings or furniture or whatever may be in the immediate vicinity of the individual.

With the above in mind, it is an object of my invention to provide a relatively simple, inexpensive, yet durable throwaway type of coaster type holders.

It is a further object of my invention to provide a readily disposable throwaway type of coaster type holders of the character that is furnished to the user in a preformed and ready-to-use condition and which may be readily associated with glasses or other containers for refrigerated or cooled liquids and likewise readily disassociated from the glass or the like.

Another object of my invention is to provide an inexpensive yet very effective type of coaster type holders that can be furnished to the user in a nested and very compact packaged form.

Another object of my invention is to provide a coaster type holder of simple yet effective structural features which when once associated with a glass or other container for cooled or refrigerated liquids will remain as such until intentionally removed from such glass or the like.

Another object of my invention is to provide a coaster type holder the base or lower portion of which is water and moisture-proof and the upper portion of which, which surrounds the walls of the glass or the like is absorbent and which upper portion adjacent the mouth thereof is provided with elastic or resilient means that serve to grip the glass or like container for the liquid and prevent any possible accidental disassociation of the coaster from the glass and further serving to maintain substantially the original shape of the coaster type holder while in use

4

or associated with the glass containing a cooled or refrigerated liquid.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts herein-after fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the claim hereto appended, it being understood that various changes in the form, proportions, and minor details of construction, within the scope of the claim, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of a glass with the coaster type holder applied thereto;

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view substantially on the lines 2—2 of Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrows;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary horizontal sectional view substantially on the lines 3—3 of Fig. 1 showing the body construction of the coaster type holder.

Fig. 4 is a horizontal sectional view taken substantially on the lines 4—4 of Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrows showing the base or water-proof and moisture-proof portion of the coaster type holder;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary horizontal view taken substantially on the lines 5—5 of Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrows and showing the resilient means for maintaining the shape of the coaster type holder and gripping of the side walls of the glass;

Fig. 6 is a side elevational view partly in section showing a modification of the invention including the resilient means both exteriorly and interiorly of the coaster type holder adjacent the top or mouth end thereof;

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary horizontal view similar to Fig. 5 but showing a different type of the coaster type holder wall structure.

Like numerals in the several figures of the drawing denote the same parts.

The invention will be more readily understood by referring to the drawings in detail wherein the coaster type holder is denoted generally by the letter "C" and the container in the form of a glass by the letter "G." The glass "G" is more or less a conventional type and size of glass used for the purpose of receiving therein refrigerated or cooled liquid drinks of most any kind. It is understood, however, that many other types of glasses adaptable for receiving the coaster "C" thereon might well be used and that the present glass is merely for the purpose of illustration. The coaster type holder "C" is preferably formed from a single blank of paper, the paper possessing absorptive qualities somewhat on the order of the type of well-known blotting paper. This paper may be of any desired color and provided with any desired surface ornamentation. The blank from which the coaster is formed initially is flat and the center area 8 thereof which forms the base of the coaster may be rendered water and moisture-proof by dipping in or application to that area of paraffin or other moisture or water-proof composition. The paraffin or other water-proof base of the coaster 9 includes the bottom 10 and an upstanding portion 11. The body 12 of the coaster type holder may be fluted as denoted at 13 in Figs. 1 through 6 or may be in the form of slightly modified box pleats 14 as shown in Fig. 7. This fluting 13 or the box pleat formation 14 constitutes the actual body of the coaster

type holder that surrounds the glass to which it is attached. The height of the body of the coaster is of no particular moment, yet it has been found desirable that the coaster type holder body extend upwardly a goodly portion along and about the side walls of the glass or other container with which it is associated. For instance, the height of the coaster type holder as shown in Fig. 1 has been found quite practical but with the different types and heights of glasses or other containers, the height of the coaster type holder is modified accordingly. In providing the fluted body arrangement or the box pleat body arrangement for the coaster type holder, it will be seen that interiorly of the coaster in both instances, there is provided a plurality of substantially vertically disposed passageways 15 and that the inner portions of the fluted body or pleated body 16 actually spacedly engage the outer surface of the glass and thus the passageways 15 are formed between the exterior of the body of the glass and the interior of the coaster type holder as depicted in both modifications of the coaster in the drawings.

The usual well-known methods are employed in providing the fluted and pleated arrangement of the body of the coaster type holder, all of which can be accomplished very simply on known paper container forming machines. Likewise the dipping or actual coating of the paraffin on the base of the coaster type holders is readily and inexpensively accomplished by the use of known machines and apparatus.

The actual coaster type holder "C" before application to a glass or other container is substantially cylindrical. It is seen, however, that the fluted or pleated arrangement of the body of the coaster type holder allows of its association with glasses or other receptacles for liquids of varying diameters. Of course it probably is not feasible to have just one size of my coaster type holders that will be adaptable for all of the varying sizes and shapes of glasses, bottles, etc., yet by providing just a few different sizes of my coasters it is believed such sizes will comprehend and be adaptable for use with the many different sizes and shapes of glasses, bottles, etc., that are now available.

The coaster type holders being substantially cylindrical and the fluted or pleated bodies being expansible and contractible, it will readily be seen provides for the necessary stacking or nesting arrangement. I prefer to utilize a resilient or elastic band or stripe 17 adjacent the top or mouth end of my coaster type holder. This elastic band may be of rubber, latex or any elastic plastic composition that is inexpensive and capable of being readily applied to the upper end of the coasters. The application of the elastic band or stripe can be effected by merely applying and affixing the elastic or stripe to the upper end of the coaster adjacent the mouth opening either exteriorly thereof as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 5 and 7 or both exteriorly and interiorly thereof as shown in Fig. 6 wherein the inner band, strip or stripe of the elastic is denoted at 18. Simple apparatus such as a rotating wheel that will pick up the rubber, latex or other resilient elastic plastic may be utilized for the purpose of applying this elastic ring band or the like to either the interior or the exterior of the coaster or both. If desired, and with some additional expense, ordinary rubber bands or other elastic preformed media could be adhesively or otherwise secured to the upper end of the coaster type holder but it is more econom-

ical to coat the elastic or resilient band or stripe on the upper end of the coaster type holder.

In Fig. 2 of the drawings, the liquid is denoted at 19 and the ice or other refrigerant is denoted at 20. It is to be understood that the refrigerant may be other than ice, for instance, the well-known cubes that have the refrigerant sealed therein and which will not dilute the beverage or liquid in the glass.

While I have shown a glass in the drawings, my coaster type holder is adapted to be slipped over the end of well-known soft drink bottles and other bottles such as those for beer and ale. In providing the fluted or pleated body arrangement for the coaster type holder, the moisture or condensate that collects on the exterior wall of the glass or bottle or whatever the receptacle may be finds its way down through the passageways 15 and 16 between the flutes and the box pleat arrangement and, as the body of the coaster type holder is made of absorbent material, this moisture or any liquid that may be tipped over the edge of the glass from within the same is somewhat uniformly absorbed throughout the body and therefore the same will not become soggy and wet or damp when held in the hand of the user. Then too, the exterior of the body portion of my coaster type holder might be coated with a light coating of paraffin or other waterproofing or moisture-proofing composition, particularly that composition known as "Mar-bon" that is of the type which will not penetrate or impregnate the entire body but will merely coat the exterior of the body, leaving the interior of the coaster body in a highly absorptive state so as to perform its function in gathering up and absorbing the moisture, condensate and any liquid that may be spilled over the top of the glass or bottle.

It has been mentioned herein that the coaster type holder is made of paper having absorptive qualities, except for the base, which is waterproof and moisture-proof, and specific reference has been made to the type of paper similar to blotting paper. It is to be clearly understood that any type of paper may be used in the fabrication of the coaster type holders and that the coaster, except for the base portion which is water and moisture-proof, may be wholly absorbent throughout its body portion or the exterior of the body portion of the coaster and which also might include the base portion which can be treated in accordance with the disclosure in U. S. Patents Nos. 2,322,242 and 2,376,777 whereby the exterior surface only of the paper constituting the coaster type holder is rendered moisture and waterproof. In other words in accordance with the teachings as disclosed in the said patents, the coating composition is of such a nature that it merely slightly penetrates the outer exterior surface of the coaster type holder body and leaves the interior surface of the coaster type holder in an absorptive state whereby the moisture or any liquid that is spilled from the glass or bottle is adequately absorbed totally within the interior of the coaster type holder and the exterior surface thereof will not be wetted. Further, the single paper blank constituting the coaster type holder may be pretreated in accordance with the patents to render the exterior surface only moisture and waterproof, leaving the entire inner surface including the bottom in an absorptive condition, or that portion constituting the base only of the coaster type holder may be rendered moisture and waterproof.

7

In addition to serving merely as a coaster type holder, the particular construction of my coaster type holder, when applied to a glass or a bottle or other frangible container serves as a means to prevent accidental cracking or breaking of the glass or bottle, as the fluted or pleated arrangement has a cushioning effect. Quite frequently in the use of glasses or bottles filled with a refrigerated liquid the same are placed on a hard surface, particularly when outdoors or indoors for use in recreation rooms, and if tipped over accidentally or otherwise upset breakage of the glass or bottle results, whereas, if one of my coaster type holders has been applied to the glass or bottle such breakage will be prevented or the possibility of breakage considerably lessened.

I claim:

A coaster type holder for containers for cold drinks comprising a cylindrical body formed of disposable absorbent paper and being open at its top and having a bottom and an annular wall the lower edge of which is integrally connected with the bottom about the peripheral edge thereof, said annular wall being fluted longitudinally for the entire distance between its upper and lower edges and thereby providing crimps permitting expansion and contraction of the annular wall, the said crimps defining internal water receiving channels extending the full depth of the wall and through which the water of condensation may flow downwardly along the outer surface of a container fitted into the body and be absorbed by walls of the channels, a set coating of paraffin covering the under face of the bottom and the outer surface of the lower portion only of the fluted wall and serving to waterproof the under face of the bottom and reinforce the said bottom and the junction between the bottom and the lower end of the fluted annular wall, and an elastic band extending about the annular wall in downwardly spaced relation to the upper edge thereof and adhesively

8

fixed to outer faces of the flutes and being expandible between the flutes and serving to permit expansion of the fluted wall when a container is thrust into the body and hold the annular wall in close fitting binding engagement with the wall of the said container.

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