Nov. 14, 1961 R. T. MADDING 3,008,835

PACKAGE FOR POWDERED MATERIAL

Filed May 14, 1959

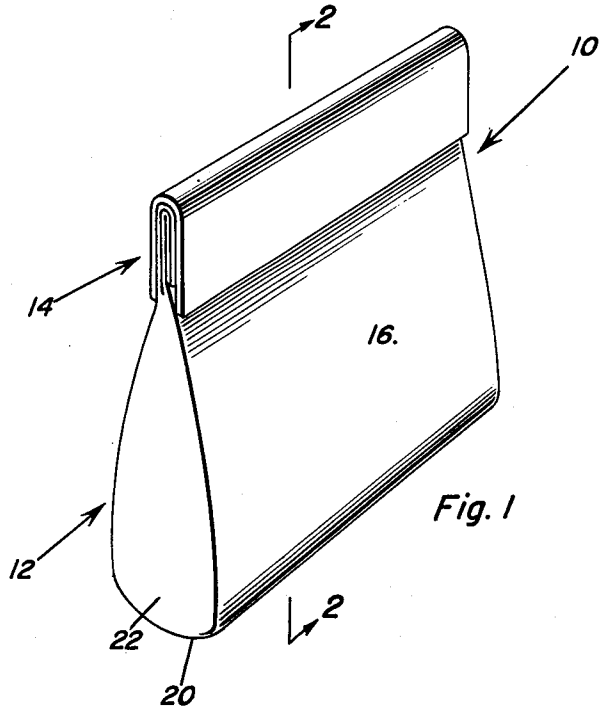


Fig. 1

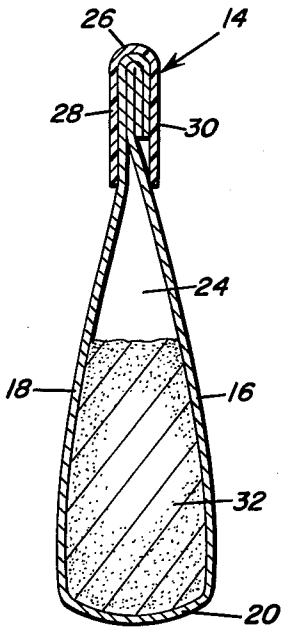


Fig. 2

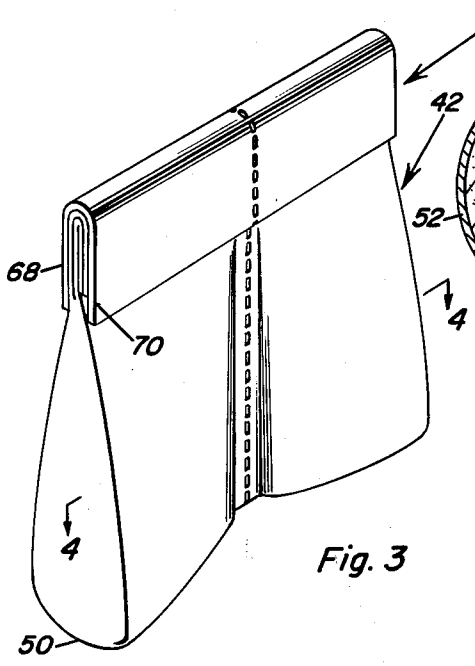


Fig. 3

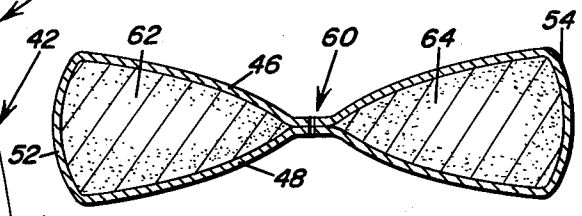


Fig. 4

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PACKAGE FOR POWDERED MATERIAL

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This invention relates generally to packages and more particularly to small packages for accommodating powdered material, such as sugar and powdered cream, for distribution by restaurants or such.

There is apparently a modern trend toward frequenting drive-in restaurants where restaurant employees bring food and beverages to the patron's automobile. Of course, offering this type of service, the restaurant desires to as efficiently package the food and beverages as possible. Accordingly, it is a principal object of this invention to provide a novel closed container construction for accommodating a powdered material as sugar and powdered cream. It of course will be appreciated that a container construction for accommodating powdered material finds a multitude of uses outside of the restaurant field. It will be well appreciated that a container of the type contemplated will be received by picnickers and campers.

In developing a container for the above stated purpose, certain considerations, of necessity, have to be kept in mind. In view of these considerations, it is a further object of this invention to provide a novel closed container for accommodating a powdered material which is small for facilitating transportation and storage and which is efficient and reliable in accomplishing its primary function. It of course is a still further object of this invention to provide a novel closed container construction which is relatively inexpensive to produce and distribute.

In accordance with the above stated objects, below is particularly described the constructional details of the closed container for accommodating a powdered material. The device includes a flexible bag having front, rear, bottom, and a pair of side surfaces. The front and rear surfaces are folded upon themselves at the top portion thereof and received between the resilient inwardly urged leg portions of a U-shaped closure member. If it is desired, a further modified construction of the container includes pinching the bag along a center line thereof parallel to the side surfaces and fixing the front surface of the bag to the rear surface thereof along the center line for forming separate bag compartments on either side thereof.

Other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of one form of container construction;

FIGURE 2 is a sectional view taken substantially along the plane 2—2 of FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 3 is a perspective view of a second form of the invention; and

FIGURE 4 is a sectional view taken substantially along the plane 4—4 of FIGURE 3.

With continuing reference to the drawings and initial reference to FIGURES 1 and 2, the numeral 10 generally represents the closed container for accommodating powered material and includes generally a bag portion 12 and a closure member 14.

The bag 12 is constructed of a flexible material which may be cellophane or plastic or such and it is contemplated that the bag 12 be either transparent or attractively designed with advertising indicia thereon. The bag 12 includes a front surface 16, a rear surface 18, a bottom

surface 20, and a pair of side surfaces 22 and 24. It will be noted that the side surfaces 22 and 24 are tapered, becoming narrower remote from the bottom surface 20.

The closure member 14 is U-shaped in configuration and includes a bight portion 26 connecting a pair of depending legs 28 and 30. The closure member 14 may be constructed of cardboard or plastic or metal. However, it is preferable that the depending legs 28 and 30 are resiliently urged toward each other to grip the top portion of the front and rear surfaces 16 and 18 of the bag 12 therebetween as illustrated in FIGURE 2. It will be noted that between the leg portions 28 and 30, the front and rear surfaces 16 and 18 are folded upon themselves so that the closure member may more securely grip and retain the bag 12. Of course, if desirable, the closure member 14 may be stapled to the top portions of the front and rear surfaces 16 and 18 and a score line may be formed therebelow. However, it is the primary contemplation of the invention to allow the closure member to reciprocally slide relative to the bag with the legs 28 and 30 gripping the front and rear bag surfaces 16 and 18 whereby the container may be partially opened and only a portion of powdered contents utilized with the remainder being resealed in the container. Waste of the contents is thereby minimized and sanitary conditions are kept at a maximum. The bag 12 may receive a powdered material 32 as sugar or such.

Attention is now particularly drawn to FIGURES 3 and 4 wherein a modified embodiment of the invention is illustrated. Again, a bag 42 is defined which cooperates with a U-shaped clip or closure member 44 which may also be of cardboard or other suitable material. It will again be appreciated that the bag 42 includes a front surface 46, a rear surface 48, a bottom surface 50, and a pair of side surfaces 52 and 54. The novelty in this second embodiment is to be seen in the manner in which the front and rear surfaces 46 and 48 are pinched together along a center line or seam generally illustrated as 60 to provide compartments or sections 62 and 64. The center line 60 extends substantially parallel to the side surfaces 52 and 54 and the front surface 46 is fixed to the rear surface 48 as by a suitable adhesive. To facilitate separating the compartments or sections 62 and 64, the center line or seam 60 is perforated from end to end and the closure member 44 is transversely perforated, as shown. This embodiment proves particularly useful when used with coffee inasmuch as powdered cream may be received in the compartment 62 while sugar may be received in the compartment 64.

From the foregoing, it will be appreciated that a novel and useful closed container construction for accommodating powdered material has been disclosed. It will be appreciated that the container will find many diversified and variable uses for restaurants, picnickers, campers, etc.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact constructon and operation shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A closed container for accommodating a powdered material comprising a flexible bag, said bag having a front surface, a rear surface, a pair of said surfaces and a bottom surface, said side surfaces being tapered becoming gradually narrower remote from said bottom surface, a U-shaped closure member, said closure member slidably receiving and retaining therein the top portions of front, rear, and side surfaces, said U-shaped closure

member including a bight portion and a pair of depending leg portions, said U-shaped member being resilient whereby said depending leg portions are urged toward each other, said front and rear surfaces of said bag folded upon itself and retained between said resiliently urged leg portions, said bag being pinched along a center line substantially parallel to said side surfaces, said front surface being fixed to said rear surface along a center line for forming separate bag compartments on either side thereof, said center line and said closure member being perforated to facilitate separating the compartments.

2. A closed container for accommodating a powdered material comprising a flexible bag, said bag having a front surface, a rear surface, a pair of side surfaces and a bottom surface, said side surfaces being tapered becoming gradually narrower remote from said bottom surface, a U-shaped closure member, said closure member slidably receiving and retaining therein the top portions of front, rear, and side surfaces, said bag being pinched along a center line substantially parallel to said side surfaces, said front surface being fixed to said rear surface along said center line for forming separate bag compartments on either side thereof, said center line being longitudinally perforated and said closure member being transversely perforated at an intermediate point to facilitate separating said compartments.

3. A package comprising a bag including a center seam extending from the top to the bottom of said bag and providing therein a pair of compartments, powdered materials in the compartments and a generally U-shaped clip on the top of the bag closing and sealing the compartments, said seam being perforated from end to end and said clip being transversely perforated at an intermediate point to facilitate separating the sealed compartments.

4. A package comprising a bag including a bottom, a front, a back and a top portion, said front and back being adhesively secured together on their longitudinal centers for providing a seam extending from the bottom to the top portion of said bag and defining compartments therein, powdered materials in said compartments, and a generally U-shaped clip on said top portion of the bag closing and sealing the compartments, said seam being perforated from end to end and said clip being transversely perforated at an intermediate point to facilitate separating the sealed compartments.

5. A package comprising a bag including a closed, reversely folded top portion and a bottom, said bag further including a center seam extending from said bottom to said top portion of said bag and providing therein a pair of compartments, powdered materials in said compartments, and a generally U-shaped clip on said folded top portion of said bag sealing the compartments, said seam being longitudinally perforated from end to end and said clip being transversely perforated at an intermediate point to facilitate separating the compartments.

6. A package comprising a bag having an open top and including a pair of compartments, powdered materials in said compartments, and a generally U-shaped clip closing said top and sealing said compartments, said bag having a weakening line between the compartments and said clip having a transverse weakening line at an intermediate point to facilitate separating said compartments.

7. A food package comprising a bag including a bottom, sides, a front, a back, a reversely folded top portion and a center seam joining said front and back and extending from said bottom to said top portion for providing a pair of compartments, powdered foods in the compartments, and a generally U-shaped clip on said folded top portion for sealing the compartments, said seam being longitudinally weakened and said clip being transversely weakened to facilitate separating the sealed compartments.

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