June 25, 1940. F. S. ELSAESSER 2,205,687

ANTIDRIP DEVICE

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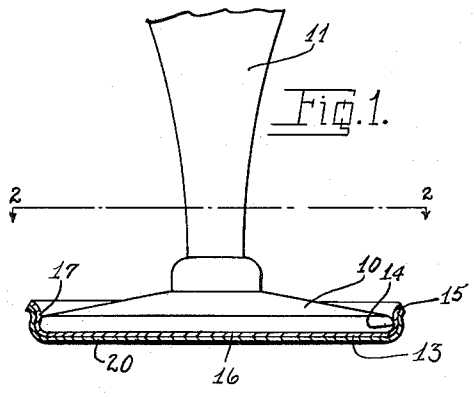


Fig. 1.

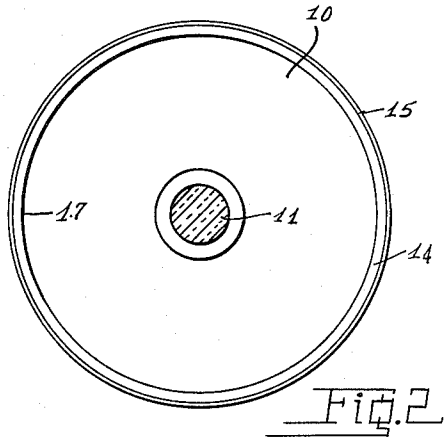


Fig. 2.

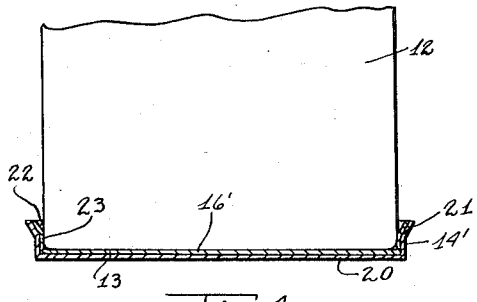


Fig. 4.

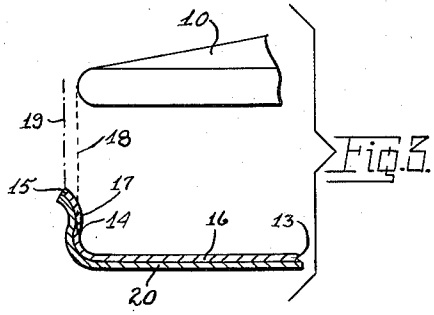


Fig. 3.

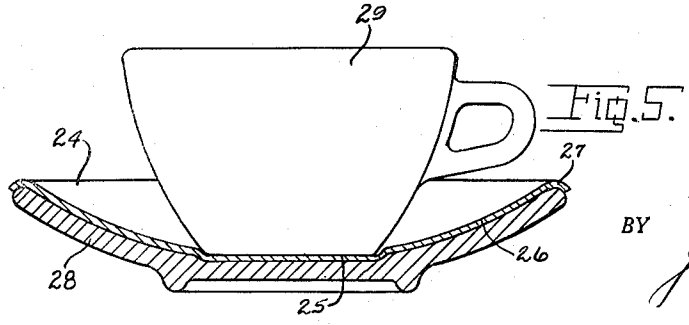


Fig. 5.

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2,205,687

ANTIDRIP DEVICE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 65—53)

This invention relates to improvements in antidrip means for receptacles containing fluid, such as beer glasses, beer bottles, coffee cups and other beverage containers, which are utilized in serving and consuming drinks in restaurants, bars, the home and similar places where the moisture overruns or collects on the exterior of these receptacles and gravitates to the bottom thereof, so that when the said receptacle is tilted the moisture collects at one point and drips therefrom.

I am aware that various attempts have been made to obviate this condition as by providing a removable collector to the bottoms of these receptacles, which collectors were removably secured to the said receptacles by spring arms projecting from the collectors, by paper collectors having zones of adhesive material thereon to engage the bottoms and sides of receptacles when placed thereon, by thin foldable material adapted to be fastened around the foot of stem type glasses and by other means more or less effectively solving the problem of drip from fluid receptacles. However, these prior structures were failures for various reasons, such as too expensive to manufacture and use, cumbersome when in use, requiring an excessive amount of time to keep clean or to put in condition for attachment to the receptacle after being used. By the means disclosed herein, all of these disadvantages are successfully overcome, and a practical structure is provided.

It is therefore an object of my invention to provide an antidrip device which is simple to use and inexpensive to manufacture.

Another object of my invention is the provision of an antidrip device or coaster which can be applied to the bottoms of fluid receptacles, or associated therewith without substantially any effort on the part of the dispenser and thereby without substantially adding to the cost of dispensing drinks and the like in said receptacles.

A further object of my invention is the provision of an antidrip device which is so inexpensive to manufacture that it can have a one time use and then be destroyed without substantially increasing the cost of dispensing the drink in the receptacle or without substantially increasing the cost of the drink, while at the same time obviating the annoyance resulting from the drip from the receptacles when tilted and at the same time avoiding the damage to clothing and the like which frequently results from this drip.

Other objects and advantages of my invention should be readily apparent by reference to the following specification, considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings forming a part thereof, and it is to be understood that any modifications may be made in the exact structural details there shown and described, within the scope of the appended claims, without departing from or exceeding the spirit of the invention.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a transverse, sectional view of the antidrip device or coaster of my invention, mounted on the foot of a stem type glass.

Fig. 2 is a horizontal, sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1, showing in plan the antidrip device of my invention.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary view on an enlarged scale, showing the relation of the parts to one another prior to assembly.

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 1, showing a slight modification in the form of the antidrip device, whereby it may be applied to straight sided containers, such as bottles, tumblers and the like.

Fig. 5 is a view, partly in elevation and partly in section, showing the use of an antidrip device associated with a cup and saucer, and accomplishing the objects of my invention.

Throughout the several views of the drawing, similar reference characters are employed to denote the same or similar parts.

As is well known, when cold drinks, such as beer and other mixed drinks which either contain ice or are of a temperature well below the temperature of the room, are served, moisture collects on the outer surface of the glass or other receptacle, and at the same time it is possible that a small amount of the drink is spilt over the top. This moisture gravitates to the bottom of the receptacle, collecting on the upper surface of the foot 10 of the glass 11, as shown in Fig. 1, or collects around the bottom of the sides of the bottle, tumbler or the like 12, illustrated in Fig. 4. While it is true the excess moisture will flow away from the glass or at least spread out around the glass, a goodly portion, due to the adhesion of moisture, stays on the foot of the glass 11 and adheres to the lower edge of the bottle, glass or the like 12. When the said glass is then raised, as for drinking purposes, and tilted, the moisture adhering thereto flows to the bottom corner and collects as one or more drops, which, by gravity, then falls, and depending upon the position of the head of the drinker, the drop or drops fall on the table just in front of the drinker or miss the table and fall on the drinker's clothing.

In order to avoid these conditions, I have

formed an antidrip device or coaster, in the form of a shallow container, comprising a wafer or circular disc 13 of absorbent material, preferably paper, such as is frequently referred to as blotting paper. This disc is of greater area than the bottom of the receptacle with which it is to be used and the excess material is bent upwardly to form a flange as at 14. In use, the upper end of the flange is outwardly bent or flared, as at 15, to provide a guiding entrant throat for the bottom of the receptacle to be placed within the shallow container.

By referring to Fig. 3, the relation of the receptacle to the antidrip device will be readily seen, and as there shown, it will be noted that the flange 14, between the bottom or body 16 of the shallow container and its entrant throat portion 15, is provided with an inward bulge or rib 17. The distance within the bulge or rib 17 is less than the distance across the bottom of the receptacle, and which distance is shown by way of example by the dotted line 18 on Fig. 3, while the distance across the outer ends of the entrant throat 15 is somewhat greater than the distance across the bottom of the receptacle, as shown clearly by the dot and dash line 19. From this, it will be seen that by vertically moving the receptacle into the antidrip device, the outer edge of the receptacle engages with the inner surface of the bulge or rib 17 and forces same outwardly, so that it will pass into the antidrip device against the bottom 16. As soon as the bottom 16 is reached, the flanges 14 spring back to their normal position and thereby hook the antidrip device to the bottom of the receptacle.

The foregoing description deals primarily with the application of an antidrip device to a footed or stem type glass, such as the glass 11 disclosed in Fig. 1. It will be appreciated, however, that substantially the same conditions would exist when using a straight sided bottle or glass, such as illustrated at 12 in Fig. 4, except that, instead of the rib 14 springing back to its normal position, it will tend to so spring and tightly engage the sides of the glass, tumbler, or bottle.

As is well known, the absorbent material as above described would permit the moisture to permeate same and may flow onto the table top or other support, and may even allow the moisture to drip therethrough should several drops collect simultaneously at any one point. In order to prevent this, the disc 13 is provided on its exterior surface with a more or less impervious or non-absorbing covering 20. This covering preferably would take the form of hard paper or even a thin cardboard or fibreboard, and may have its exterior surface suitably calendared, to prevent any moisture penetration; this covering may also be formed of a metal foil. This covering will conform in all respects to the exterior formation of the inner absorbent liner. This exterior surface, in addition, materially strengthens the side flanges 14, and at the same time adds considerably to the spring of said flanges for causing same to readily and tightly engage the lower ends of the receptacles with which they may be used.

In Fig. 4, a slightly modified construction is illustrated in which the upper ends of the side flanges 14', instead of being arcuately turned outward, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 3, have these upper ends flared on an angle, as at 21. By this construction, the antidrip device has a funnel shaped entrant throat 22 which terminates in a substantially cylindrical or straight sided portion 23 which terminates in the bottom 16' of the antidrip device. This antidrip device, similar to that above described, is of course formed of readily porous material, covered on its exterior surface with a non-porous layer 20.

The antidrip devices above described are for direct attachment to the receptacles, and retain the moisture within themselves until the receptacle is empty, whereupon the said antidrip device is stripped from the receptacle and discarded. As is well known, drinking receptacles, such as cups, have the overflow moisture and fluid collected in the saucers thereof adhering to them, so that when they are raised from the saucer and tilted, this adhering moisture gravitates to the lowest point and drops. I have found that an absorbent liner could be placed within the saucer to wipe off, by absorption, this moisture from the bottom of the cup, so that there is not sufficient moisture thereon to form a drop, whereby a substantially clean, dry cup is being employed. In Fig. 5, there is illustrated the use of my antidrip device with a saucer. As will be readily seen, the antidrip device or liner 24 comprises a bottom 25, similar to the bottoms 16 and 16' above referred to, from which upwardly and outwardly extends sides 26, similar to the flanges 14 and 23, and with the outer ends of the sides 26 flared as at 27, similar to the flaring upper ends 15 and 21 of the above described antidrip devices. The liner 24, however, as utilized in Fig. 5, needs no non-porous outer layer as the saucer 28 will act as such a member. The flaring ends 27 of the sides 26 is employed for acting as hooks or other fastening means for attaching the liner 24 to the saucer so that the moisture between the cup 29 and the saucer will not act to temporarily secure the liner to the cup and cause the liner to be raised with the cup.

Each of the antidrip devices above referred to afford, in addition to its antidrip function, an excellent medium for advertising purposes. In other words, the upper surface of the bottom 16 of the disc or liner 13, and the upper surface of the bottom 25 of the liner 24, may be suitably embossed, imprinted or the like with indicia for advertising either the content of the receptacle, a companion product, or in fact advertise any product or event.

From the foregoing, it will now be appreciated that I have provided an antidrip device or coaster which accomplishes all the objects initially set forth, in that it is relatively inexpensive to manufacture, can be expeditiously and readily applied to the receptacles for use but once and then destroyed, thereby enhancing sanitation, and leaves no residue or particles sticking to the receptacle which must require extra care and effort to remove, and keeps the table top, bar top and table cloth substantially clean and dry all the time.

What is claimed is:

1. A preformed, disposable antidrip device for a receptacle, formed of porous paper and comprising a bottom having an area substantially equal to the area of the receptacle bottom, sides integral with and extending upwardly from the bottom, said sides, a distance above said bottom, having an inward bulge to provide a restricted passage having an area less than the area of the receptacle bottom, said sides, above the bulge, being outwardly flared to provide an entrant throat to the restricted passage whereby the bottom of the receptacle passes through the entrant throat and restricted passage to the botom of the antidrip device, and an outer layer of non-porous

paper coextensive in area and of a congruent shape with the porous paper covering the entire exterior surface of said porous paper, the non-porous paper having the ability to grip and retain the antidrip device on the receptacle.

2. A preformed, disposable antidrip device for stem and footed type receptacles, formed of a disc of porous paper and comprising a bottom having an area substantially equal to the area of the receptacle foot, sides integral with and extending upwardly from the bottom, said sides, a distance above said bottom, substantially equal to the thickness of the foot, having an inward bulge to provide a restricted passage having an area less than the area of the receptacle foot, and said sides, above said bulge, being outwardly flared to provide an entrant throat to the restricted passage to the bottom of the antidrip device and the bulge overlying the receptacle foot, and an outer layer of non-porous paper co-extensive in area and of a congruent shape with the disc of porous paper and covering the entire exterior surface of said disc and the non-porous paper having the ability to grip and retain the antidrip device on the receptacle foot.

FRANK S. ELSAESSER.