

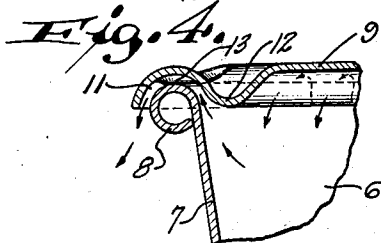
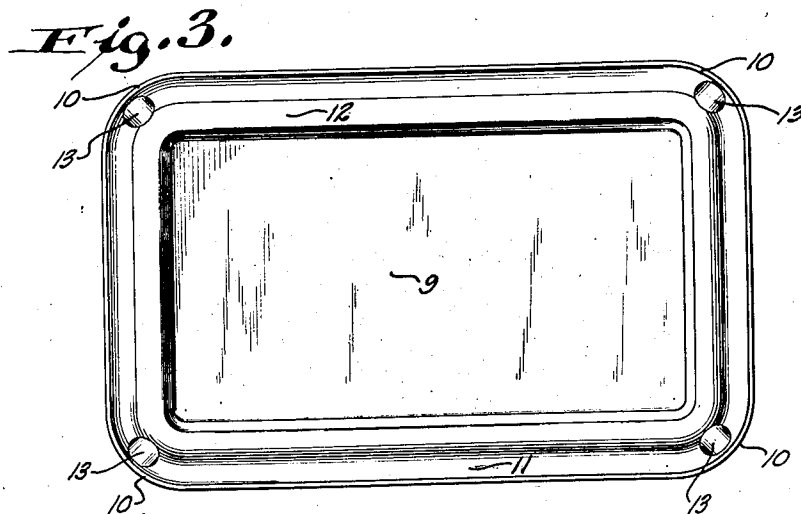
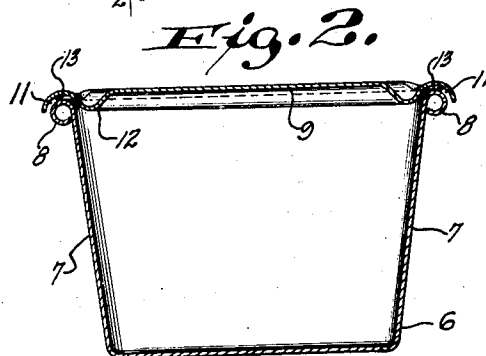
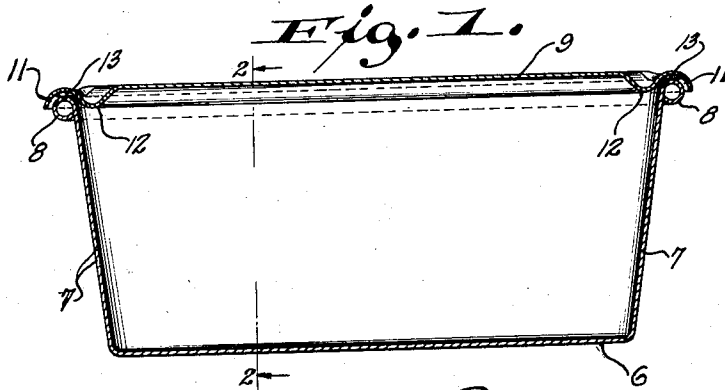
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VITALIZER DISH AND COVER

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VITALIZER DISH AND COVER

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This invention relates to improvements in vitalizer dishes and covers, and more particularly, although not solely, to hydrator dishes and covers for refrigerator use.

5 In mechanical refrigerators the cooled air which circulates through the food compartments is relatively dry. It has been found that if fruits, vegetables and other food-stuffs are put into a compartment totally exposed to the cooled air therein, too much of the water content or moisture is extracted therefrom and said foods are very quickly dried out and lose their freshness. On the other hand, if the food-stuffs under consid-
10 eration are disposed in the refrigerator compartment in an entirely enclosed container the air cannot get access thereto and circulate thereabout, with the result that said food becomes stale and loses its vitality.

15 It has been found that a proper medium can be attained by providing food containers for mechanical refrigerators, which containers are vented so as to permit a certain circulation of cooled air therein and therethrough and about the contained food, but which will prevent too much access to the air and consequent quick drying out of the food, so that food disposed in containers of the aforementioned type will retain for a satisfactory
20 length of time within the refrigerator their proper freshness and vitality.

25 With the above in mind it is the primary object of the present invention to provide a vitalizer dish and cover for mechanical refrigerators which will permit of a limited circulation of air through the dish without approaching either of the two undesirable extremes previously mentioned, so that foods contained by said covered dish will not be unduly deprived of their freshness, vitality and other desirable inherent qualities.

30 A further object of the invention is to provide a dish and cover of the class described for mechanical refrigerator compartments which will permit the placing of the greatest number of dishes and their covers in a limited area to occupy a minimum amount of space.

35 A further object of the invention is to provide seamless dishes and covers of the class described which have no crevices and joints

whereby said articles may be easily kept clean and sanitary.

40 A further object of the invention is to provide a ventilating dish cover shaped to fit accurately on its dish and to permit the placing of other dishes on top of the cover, and furthermore, to provide a dish cover which may also be used as a dish itself, either side up.

45 A further object of the invention is to provide a vitalizer dish and cover which are of very simple construction, are strong and durable, and are well adapted for the purposes set forth.

50 With the above and other objects in view the invention consists of the improved vitalizer dish and cover, and their parts and combinations as set forth in the claims, and all equivalents thereof.

55 In the accompanying drawings in which the same reference characters indicate the same parts in all of the views:

60 Fig. 1 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view of the improved vitalizer dish and cover;

65 Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view thereof taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

70 Fig. 3 is an inverted plan view of the cover; and

75 Fig. 4 is an enlarged, fragmentary, detail sectional view of an upper corner portion of the vitalizer dish and the position of the cover with respect thereto.

80 Referring now more particularly to the drawings it will appear that the numeral 6 indicates a dish preferably formed of sheet metal covered both inside and out by an enamel coat baked thereon. The dish is of approximate rectangular shape in horizontal section and is formed with tapered side and end portions 7 and slightly rounded corners to permit convenient nesting of the dishes and to eliminate sharp corners in which food might lodge. The upper edge portions of the sides and ends are curved in an outward roll, as at 8, which reinforce and give an ornate appearance to the dish, and also serve as a seat for the dish cover, as will later be explained. The dish is of one-piece construction and the corner portions thereof are
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entirely free from seams or joints so that sanitary smooth interior and exterior surfaces are provided.

The cover 9 of the vitalizer dish is of rectangular shape with rounded corners 10 and is formed with edge corrugations of S-shape in cross-section. The outer corrugation is upwardly curved to form a rectangular groove 11 into which the upper edge of the dish extends when the cover is placed thereon, as shown. The inner corrugation is curved downwardly to form a shoulder 12 which extends into the dish close to the upper edge thereof and prevents said cover from accidentally sliding off the dish, and which also permits nesting the covers together. The major surface of the cover is flat so that when in inverted position said cover may be used as a plate or dish. Said cover is also preferably formed of sheet metal covered on both sides with enamel baked thereon.

A particular feature of the invention resides in the formation of the cover in the corner portions of the rectangular groove 11, with protuberances 13 which project from the inner surface thereof. The result of said protuberances is that when the cover is placed upon said dish, in the manner shown, said protuberances rest upon the upper portions of the rolled edge 8 and elevate the major portion of the cover slightly with respect to the dish so that between protuberances, outwardly of the shoulder 12, and between the surface of the rolled dish edge 8 and the spaced inner surface of the outer corrugation of the cover, curved air spaces are provided. Said air spaces afford communication between the interior of the dish and the exterior thereof.

When the improved vitalizer dish and cover is disposed within a compartment, with the cover in closing position, as shown, and the dish contains food which should retain its moisture and freshness, the arrangement is such that this will be satisfactorily accomplished, due to the slight spacing effect between the cover corrugation 11 and the dish edge 8. A limited amount of air can circulate into and out of the dish, as indicated by the arrows in Fig. 4, but the contents of the dish are not exposed too much to the dry air of the compartment.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that the improved vitalizer dish and cover are of simple and novel construction, and are well adapted for the purposes set forth.

What is claimed as the invention is:

1. In combination, a dish having a continuous top periphery, and a cover having a downwardly open peripheral recess adapted to receive said dish periphery to provide a relatively thin ventilating gap connecting the interior of said dish with the surround-

ing atmosphere, said cover having a depending head-like drip portion extending into said dish directly adjacent to the inner periphery of said gap, and said cover also having depending projections within said recess cooperable with the top of said dish periphery to form said gap.

2. In combination, a dish of substantially rectangular horizontal cross section having a continuous top periphery, and a cover having a downwardly open peripheral recess adapted to receive said dish periphery to provide a relatively thin ventilating gap connecting the interior of said dish with the surrounding atmosphere, said cover having a rectangular continuous depending head-like drip portion extending into said dish directly adjacent to and below the inner periphery of said gap, and said cover also having integral depending projections within said recess at the corners of the rectangle and cooperable with the top of said dish periphery to form said gap.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

GEORGE M. CORNELL.