Mar. 13, 1923. 1,448,423

G. L. TILLOTSON

CRACKER BOWL

Filed Mar. 8, 1921

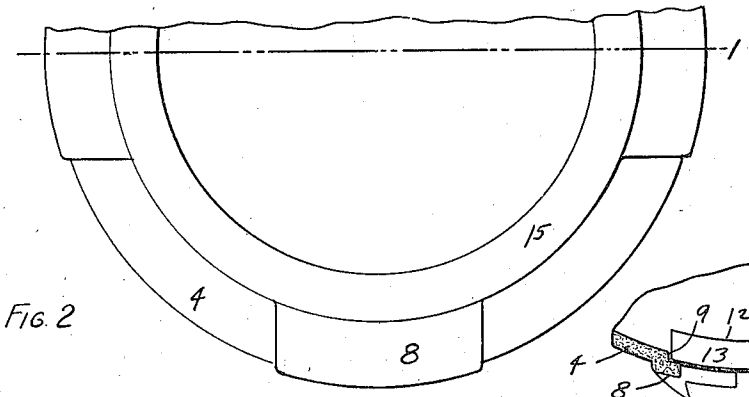


FIG. 2

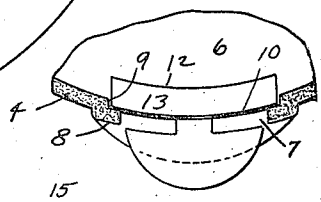


FIG. 3

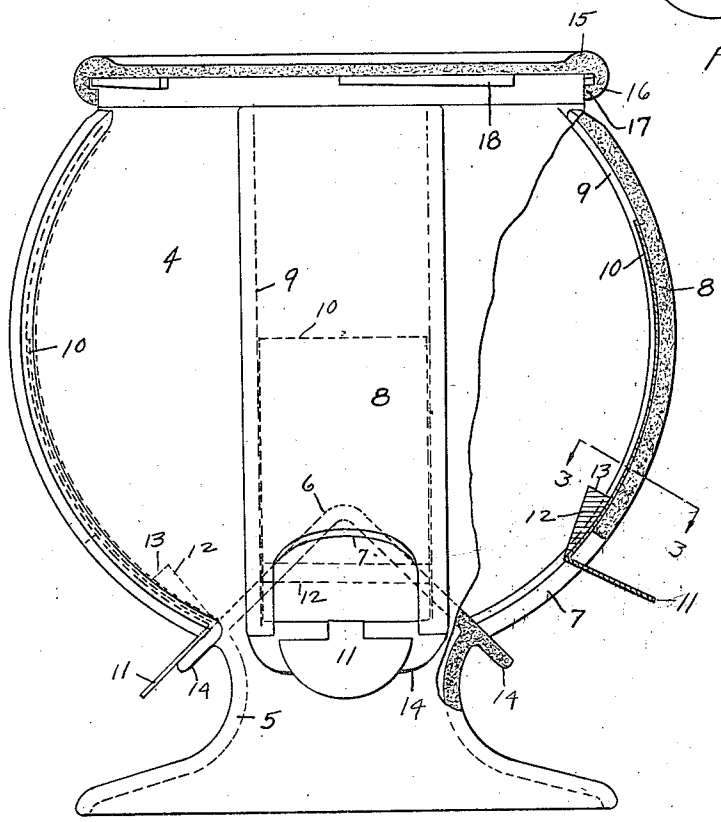


FIG. 1

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Patented Mar. 13, 1923. 1,448,423

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE L. TILLOTSON, OF PORTLAND, OREGON.

CRACKER BOWL.

Application filed March 8, 1921. Serial No. 450,774.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it hereby known that I, GEORGE L. TILLOTSON, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Portland, in the county of Multnomah and State of Oregon, have invented a new and useful Cracker Bowl, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates more particularly to a means for holding oyster crackers, or similar articles.

The object of my invention is to provide an exceedingly simple, efficient and sanitary cracker bowl which will prevent the hands of an individual from coming in contact with any crackers except those which he uses himself.

I attain these results in the manner set forth in the following specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is an elevation of my device with a portion of the body cut away for clearness and the cover cut along the line 1—1 in Fig. 2. Figure 2 is a plan of the device with a portion cut away. Figure 3 is a sectional detail along the line 3—3 in Fig. 1.

Similar numerals of reference refer to the same or similar parts throughout the several views.

Referring in detail to the drawing, I have constructed my device of a somewhat spherical shaped bowl member 4 mounted on a pedestal 5 to which it is united by means of a cone shaped floor member 6. Around the sides of the bowl 4 I have formed the four openings 7 in the projecting areas 8. These areas have a recessed portion 9 in which are placed the curved aluminum strips 10 which slide therein. These strips act as gates for closing the openings 7. At the lower ends of the gates 10 are attached the transverse handle members 11.

It will be seen that this construction forms a means for holding the gate 10 within the guide 9. A wedged shaped member 12 with its point downward is attached to the lower end of the member 10. Its upper end 13 has a somewhat square face and is intended to engage any crackers which may be resting upon same and disturb the surrounding crackers and cause them to fall through the openings 7 when the handle 11 is raised. The crackers are to be caught by the hand which is placed under the lip 14.

In order to safely close the top of the bowl I have provided a cover 15 having a downturned rim 16 whose alternate sectors of 45 degrees are cut away leaving the intervening sectors 17 to form locking lugs which engage a similar set of lugs 18 on the upper edge of the bowl. These lugs 18 are slightly tapered in order to insure a tight fit with only a partial revolution of the cover 15, much after the fashion that a gun breech is secured in place.

The operation of my device is as follows: The gates 10 are put into place by passing the handles 11 through the openings 7 and allowing them to drop down until the openings 7 are completely closed. Crackers may then be put into the bowl 4 and the cover 15 put in place. When using the device from any of its four sides it is only necessary to raise the handle 11 while holding the hand underneath the lip 14 and then depress the handle to cut off the flow of the crackers.

By the use of the cone shaped bottom 6 no accumulation of broken crackers takes place and the angle provided thereby greatly facilitates the discharge of the crackers through the openings 7.

While I have thus illustrated and described my invention it is not my desire to limit myself to this precise form or method of application, but intend that it shall cover all forms and modifications that fall fairly within the appended claim.

What I claim is:

In a cracker bowl, the combination of an elevated bowl member having a bottom which is high at its center and slopes toward its side walls and having a plurality of outlets directly above said sloping floor which passes through said outlets in a manner to form a projecting lip on the outside of said bowl, the interior side of said bowl also having formed therein a recess for each of said outlets and slightly wider than the outlet and an upwardly slidable gate in each of said recesses adapted to close said outlet when down consisting of a curved plate having at its lower end an outwardly projecting handle having projecting sides adapted to engage the rim of the outlet in a manner to hold the gate firmly within the recess and having on the inner side of said gate a wedge shaped member whose pointed end is at the bottom of the gate and whose upper end is adapted to agitate the crackers when the gate is moved.

GEORGE L. TILLOTSON.