June 9, 1942.

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2,285,996

SOAP CAKE RETAINER FOR SHAVING MUGS

Filed May 7, 1941

Fig. 1

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

Fig. 4

Fig. 5

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My invention relates to soap cake retainers for shaving mugs and has for an object to provide a retainer adapted to be placed in a shaving mug for holding a cake of soap within the mug prior to the use of the soap cake.

Another object of the invention resides in providing a soap cake retainer for shaving mugs which will also serve as a closure for the mug.

A feature of the invention resides in providing an extremely simple and inexpensive construction for the purpose.

An object of the invention resides in constructing the soap cake retainer with a head adapted to fit into the mug in a position overlying the soap cake and in constructing the retainer with ears extending outwardly from the head and urged into engagement with the inner surface of the mug to hold the retainer in position.

Another object of the invention resides in constructing the retainer with one or more tabs projecting outwardly from the head by means of which the retainer may be removed from the mug.

An object of the invention resides in providing a plurality of tabs of a length at least sufficient to extend up to the rim of the mug so that the retainer and soap cake become supported through said tabs when the mug is placed in inverted position upon a supporting surface.

A still further object of the invention resides in constructing the retainer from paper and in scoring the same at the juncture of the ears with the head to cause the ears to bend to conform to the shape of the inner surface of the mug when the retainer is applied thereto.

An object of the invention resides in applying a disc to the head for holding the ears in engagement with the inner surface of the mug.

Other objects of the invention reside in the novel combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter illustrated and/or described.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a soap cake retainer illustrating an embodiment of my invention.

Fig. 2 is an elevational sectional view taken on line 2-2 of Fig. 1 and drawn to an enlarged scale.

Fig. 3 is an elevational sectional view of a shaving mug having a cake of soap in it and illustrating an embodiment of my invention applied thereto.

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 showing the mug disposed within a carton and arranged in inverted position.

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 3 showing a modification of the invention.

In the merchandising of men’s toilet articles, I found that shaving soap in cake form may be readily sold together with a suitable shaving mug in which the soap may be used. In packaging such a combination, it becomes highly desirable to hold the soap in position within the mug and at the same time to provide an attractive and distinctive combination. For this purpose, I have provided a retainer which may be placed within the shaving mug and which, when properly positioned, holds the soap in place and at the same time forms a closure for the mug reducing the possibility of the entrance of dust and foreign material into the interior of the mug.

For the purpose of illustrating the application of my invention I have shown in the drawing an ordinary shaving mug which is indicated in its entirety by the reference numeral 11. This mug consists of a bowl 12 of usual form having a bottom 13 and a circular wall 14 connected thereto. The inner surface of the wall 14 is indicated by the reference numeral 15 and converges slightly as indicated at 16 from a locality intermediate the upper and lower ends thereof toward the rim 17. The mug 11 is formed at the top with an opening 18 which is bounded by the rim 17 and through which the soap cake may be inserted. The mug 11, if desired, may be constructed with a handle 19 by means of which the same may be handled. The particular mug shown is also constructed with an annular base 20 issuing from the bottom 13 on which the mug rests. Within the mug 11 is placed a cake 21 of shaving soap which is of a diameter slightly less than the diameter of the mug at the rim 17 and which is of a height equal to about two-thirds of the height of the mug, or somewhat less if desired.

In the packaging of the soap and the mug, the soap is placed within the mug 11 and the mug and soap inserted into a suitable carton 22 shown in Fig. 4. This carton is constructed from paper and has lateral walls 23, a top 24 and a bottom 25, and is of such dimensions as to snugly receive the mug 11. When the mug is inserted into the carton 22, the base 26 rests upon the bottom 25 of the carton and the rim 17 engages the top 24 thereof. The handle 19 of the mug is situated at one of the corners of the carton, thus urging the opposite portion of the bowl 12 into engagement with the opposite walls 23 of the carton 14. In this manner
the mug is substantially held from movement within the carton.

The invention proper comprises a blank 27 constructed of paper, and preferably a type of paper which can be scored and readily bent at the scores. This blank is provided with a circular score 23 of substantially the same diameter as the diameter of the inner surface 15 of mug 11 at the locality where the retainer is positioned when placed within the mug. This provides in the blank a head 29 of plate-like form which serves as a closure for the mug. Issuing outwardly from the head 29 are a number of ears 31 which substantially meet at the score 26 and which are spaced from one another toward their outer ends. Also issuing from the edge of the head 29 and situated between certain of the ears 31 are two tabs 32 which are disposed opposite one another and which are similar to the ears 31 excepting that said tabs are somewhat larger and longer. Overlying the head 29 is a disc 33 constructed of heavy paper of a thickness considerably greater than the thickness of the blank 27. This disc is centered on the head 29 and is of a diameter slightly less than the diameter of the score 28. The disc 33 may be secured to the head 29 by means of a staple or wire stitch 34, or the same may be secured thereto in any other suitable manner as by gluing.

The manner of using the invention is as follows: The shaving mug 11 is placed right side up and the cake of soap 21 inserted into the same through the opening 18 in the upper portion thereof. The soap cake retainer before erection is next placed upon the top of the rim 17. Pressure is then exerted upon the same which may be accomplished manually or which may be accomplished by means of a suitable press having a plunger engaging the upper surface of the disc 33. If the pressure is uniformly applied and if the retainer is accurately centered the disc 33 and head 29 buckle to permit of forcing the same past the rim 17 and into the mug. As the retainer enters the mug the tabs 32 and the ears 31 are bent outwardly therefrom and the entire assembly brought into position upon the uppermost surface of the cake of soap 21 as shown in Fig. 3. If, however, the disc is placed eccentrically upon the rim 17, the portions of the assembly engaging the mug are bent and the retainer slides obliquely into the mug with less distortion of the disc and head. In either case the disc and head are sprung past the rim 17 and into the interior of the mug. Due to the fact that the blank 27 is constructed of paper, the ears 31 and tabs 32 tend to spring back to their original position and are thus urged against the inner surface 15 of the wall 12 of the mug 11. The surface 15 converging at the locality indicated by the reference numeral 16 prevents the retainer from sliding outwardly. Thus the retainer is firmly held in position and retains the soap in place within the mug. When it becomes desirable to remove the container out of the mug, one of the tabs 32 is moved away from the surface 15 of wall 14 and the same grasped and pulled outwardly. This disengages the retainer from the mug and exposes the cake of soap 21 contained therein. If desired, the retainer can be easily re-applied, as previously explained, for the purpose of sanitation and for the protection of the soap from dust and other foreign material.

The tabs 32 are of a length or height such that the same at least come up to the edge of the rim 17 of the mug. When the mug and contents are placed within the carton 22 the ends of the tabs 32 engage the top 24 and prevent movement of the retainer and cake of soap. In the event that the carton and contents are inverted, as shown in Fig. 4, the tabs 32 form legs which rest upon the wall 24 of the carton which originally formed the top, and thus support the contents and hold the same in position.

In Fig. 8 I have shown a modification of my invention. In this form of the invention the disc, superimposing the blank from which the soap cake retainer is constructed, is dispensed with. In such case a blank 35 is employed which is identical with the blank 27 excepting that the same is constructed from heavier material. Due to the fact that blank 35 is exactly the same as blank 27 and that the same may be used with a mug identical with mug 11, the description of the parts of this form of the invention and of the mug will not be repeated and reference numerals followed by the suffix "a" will be used to designate corresponding parts.

With this form of the invention a higher grade of material is required than is the case with the form of the invention shown in Figs. 1 to 4 due to the fact that a thicker material is needed which must bend easily as well as the thinner material. The manner of use of the structure shown in Fig. 5 is identical with that previously described and the advantages of the same are similar to those of the form of the invention shown in Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive.

The advantages of my invention are manifold. An extremely simple and practical construction is provided by means of which a cake of soap may be held in position within a shaving mug. The device can be constructed at a nominal cost. My improved soap cake retainer is readily applied to the shaving mug and can be easily removed therefrom. The device can be reused if desired and thus may serve to protect the soap when not in use for advertising matter. My soap cake retainer can also be constructed to enhance the appearance of the article.

Changes in the specific form of my invention, as herein disclosed, may be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:

1. In combination with a shaving mug having a bowl formed with an opening at the rim of the bowl of sufficient dimensions to permit of insertion of a soap cake therein, and a soap cake within the bowl, a soap cake retainer comprising a plate-like head of the shape of the mug disposed within the bowl in a position overlying the soap cake and slidable inwardly of the rim of the bowl, means at the edge of the head and engaging the inner surface of the bowl for holding the retainer in position, and a plurality of tabs issuing from the edge of the head and distributed about the edge of the head, said tabs extending outwardly of the head and being of a length at least great enough to
reach the rim of the mug and forming supports for the retainer and soap when the mug is inverted.

2. A soap cake retainer for shaving mugs, said retainer being constructed of paper and being flat at the time of insertion into the mug, said retainer comprising a plate-like head of the shape of the mug adapted to fit within the mug in a position overlying the soap cake, a plurality of ears issuing from the edge of the head and extending outwardly therefrom, a disc disposed upon the outermost surface of said head and secured thereto, said disc causing bending of the ears at the location of the inner surface of the mug when the retainer is inserted into the mug and serving to urge the ears into engagement therewith, and a tab secured to said cake retainer for removing the retainer from the mug.

3. A soap cake retainer for shaving mugs, said retainer being constructed of paper and being flat at the time of insertion into the mug, said retainer comprising a plate-like head of the shape of the mug adapted to fit within the mug in a position overlying the soap cake, a plurality of ears issuing from the edge of the head and extending outwardly therefrom, said head being weakened along a line at the locality of issuance of the ears therefrom, a disc disposed upon the outermost surface of said head and secured thereto, the edge of said disc following along said line of weakening of the head and causing bending of the ears at the locality of the inner surface of the mug and serving to urge the ears into engagement therewith, and a tab secured to said head for removing the retainer from the mug.

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