Aug. 5, 1952 S. BLOOMFIELD 2,605,929

TRAY

Filed April 12, 1949

Fig. 1.

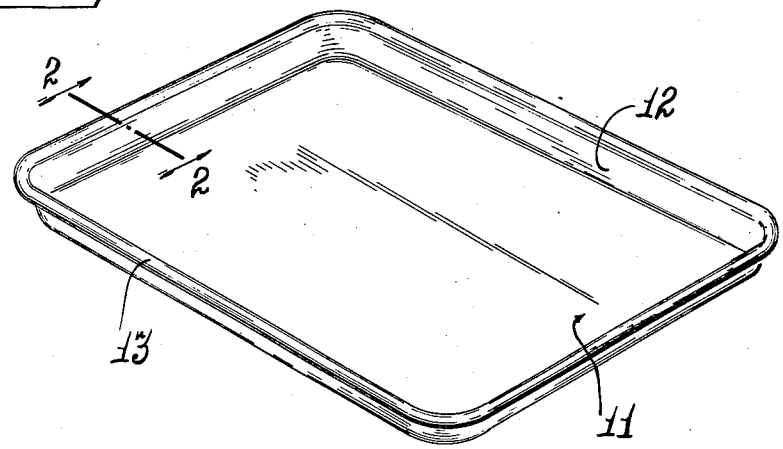
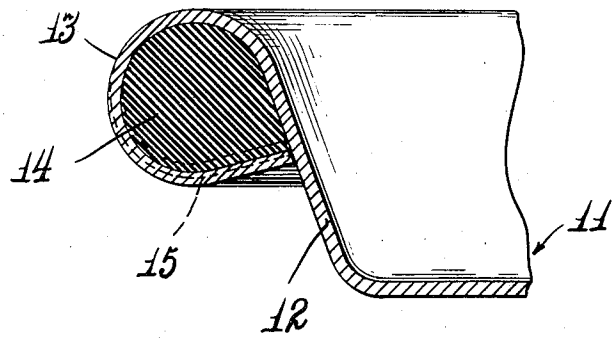


Fig. 2.



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TRAY

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1 Claim. (Cl. 220—73)

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This invention relates to improvements in trays and particularly in trays and like utensils of the kind preferably shaped from a single sheet of thermo-plastic material and formed with a filled surrounding rolled or beaded edge.

The trays and other utensils or containers having an open rolled bead are objectionable because in use the interior of the bead becomes foul and often retains water after having been washed and dried. The water retained in the bead runs down the outside of the tray or container onto the interior surface of another tray when the trays are stacked. An unsuccessful attempt to overcome this very objectionable characteristic in trays fabricated from sheet stock consists in placing a wire rod within the bead. This practice is not satisfactory because of the natural tendency of the material forming the bead to uncurl slightly when the forming pressure is relieved, thus leaving a space between the inside surface of the bead and the enclosed rod.

The present invention overcomes all of the undesirable characteristics outlined briefly hereinabove in that the rolled bead snugly embraces a novel filler after the forming pressure has been relieved.

It is therefore an object of the invention to provide a tray with a peripheral rolled bead that is completely filled with a novel filler.

Another object is to provide a resilient filler for a bead on a tray or like article.

Another object is to provide a structure wherein the bead filler will continue to serve its purpose even though the bead may become distorted or cracked in use.

Other and further objects of the present invention subsequently will become apparent by reference to the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a tray embodying the features of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary sectional detail view taken substantially on line 2—2 of Figure 1.

The tray shown in the accompanying drawing is fabricated from sheet stock such as, for example, thermo-plastic material. It should be understood, however, that sheet stock of other material such as steel or aluminum may be employed.

As best shown in Figure 1 the tray 11 is provided with inclined side walls 12 and a peripheral rolled edge 13 in the form of a continuous hollow bead. In forming the bead 13 the marginal edge of the tray is initially rolled outwardly and downwardly. A strip of resiliently compressible material 14, preferably rubber, which is circular in cross-section, is laid in the inverted channel formed by the downwardly extending margin and

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the side wall 12 of the tray. The downwardly extending margin is then rolled inwardly and upwardly into substantially the dotted lines position shown at 15 in Figure 2 so as to tightly compress the strip 13.

Inasmuch as sheet material of the kind commonly used in the manufacture of trays embodies a limited amount of resiliency, it is desirable to roll the free edge of the margin upwardly beyond its normal intended position. This compensates for the natural springback of the material when the rolling pressure is relieved. As a result, the bottom wall of the bead assumes the normal position shown in full lines in Figure 2.

The bead formed in the manner described hereinabove is continuous and is devoid of any opening on its undersurface through which waste material or water may enter. The resilient filler completely occupies the interior of the bead, thus preventing the entrance and accumulation of any water or waste material within the bead interior, as might occur should the bead become distorted or broken in use.

Although an exemplary form of tray and bead has been illustrated in the accompanying drawing and described in the foregoing specification, it should be understood that the invention may be embodied in the construction and fabrication of other articles without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claim.

I claim:

A tray having an outwardly downwardly inwardly and then upwardly rolled peripheral edge and a filler in said rolled edge, said filler being a yieldable non-metallic solid compressible to permit the free marginal area of the rolled edge to be turned initially upwardly beyond its springback position and to completely fill and seal the bead when said marginal area springs back to its desired position.

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