June 4, 1940. H. GREENHILL 2,203,494

CUP HOLDER AND DISPENSER

Filed Sept. 30, 1937

Fig. 1

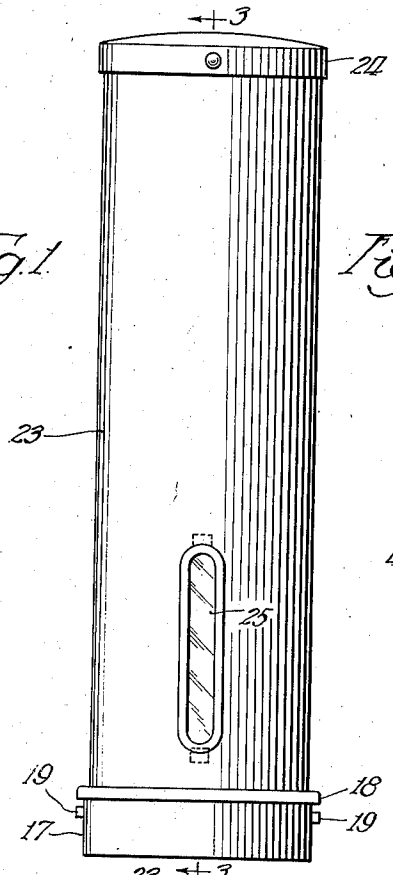


Fig. 3

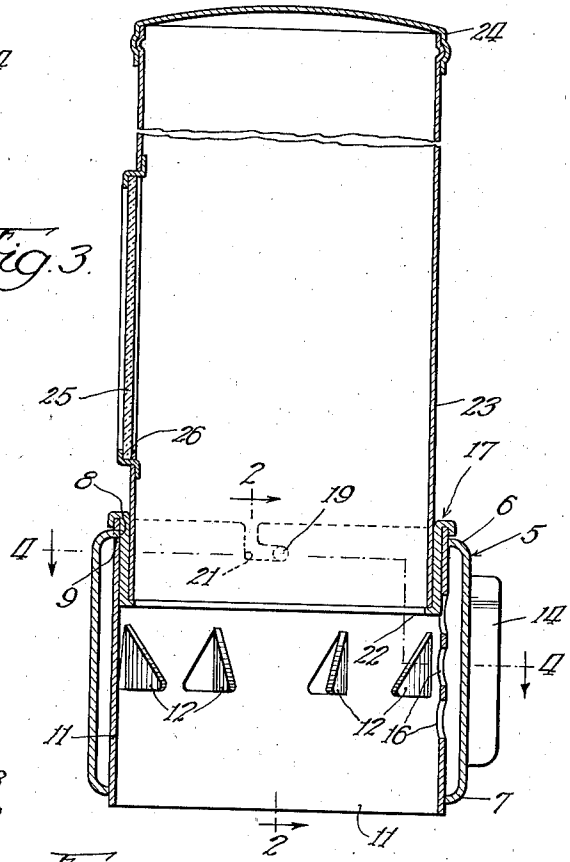


Fig. 2

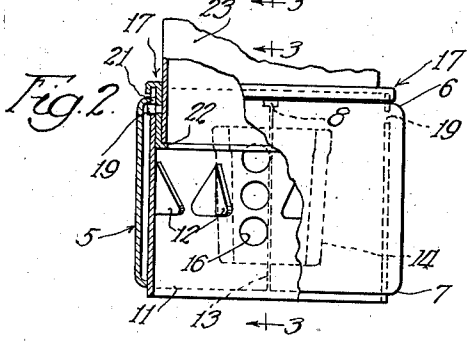
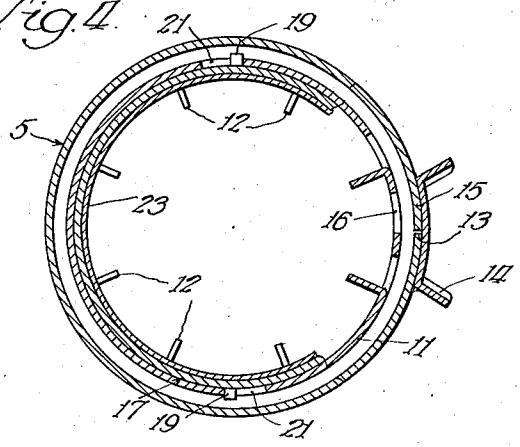


Fig. 4



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CUP HOLDER AND DISPENSER

Harold Greenhill, Chicago, Ill.

Application September 30, 1937, Serial No. 166,631

1 Claim. (Cl. 312—43)

This invention relates to dispensing holders, and particularly to a device for holding paper cups or the like, from which the cups may be withdrawn one at a time as required.

One object of the present invention is to provide a novel construction and arrangement for supporting a stack of cups in the holder, and from which the lowermost cup, only, may be withdrawn.

Another object of the invention is to provide a sanitary holder wherein the cups contained therein are protected against foreign matter, such as dust or the like.

Another object of the invention is to provide means for preventing insertion of cups into the holder except in the manner intended.

A further object of the invention is to provide a cup holder of simple construction, efficient in its operation and economical to manufacture.

A still further object of the invention is to improve devices of the character described in sundry details hereinafter referred to and particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

One embodiment of the present invention is shown for illustrative purposes in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is an elevational view of a cup magazine and supporting ring therefor forming part of the present invention;

Fig. 2 is an elevational view partly in section illustrating the manner of positioning the magazine and ring therefor, shown in Fig. 1, in operative position on the supporting base of the device, the sectioned portion of Fig. 2 being taken substantially as indicated by the line 2—2 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional elevational view of the structures illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, shown in assembled relation, and taken substantially as indicated by the lines 3—3 thereof; and

Fig. 4 is a transverse plan sectional view taken substantially as indicated by the line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

The illustrative embodiment of the present invention, as shown in the drawing, comprises a base member indicated, as a whole, by the numeral 5 and shown, in the present instance, as of circular form and having inwardly extending flanged edge portions 6 and 7 formed thereon adjacent the upper and lower ends thereof, respectively, the upper flange 6 being provided, in the present instance, with an inwardly extending projection 8 adapted to enter a correspondingly shaped aperture 9 formed in a cylindrical member 11 mounted in the circular base 5 for securing the base and cylindrical member in relatively fixed position with respect to each other, the member 11 being provided with a plurality of inwardly extending radially disposed cup supporting prongs 12 formed integrally with the member 11, preferably, by portions of the material of the member 11 being struck up and bent inwardly from the body portion thereof.

To facilitate assembling the base 5 and member 11, the base is split adjacent one side thereof as indicated at 13 in Fig. 4 and a supporting bracket 14 is secured to one end of the base member adjacent said split and adapted to overlie the portion 15 of the base member opposite the split 13, the base member being of sufficient resiliency to permit expansion thereof in a manner to permit insertion of the projection 8 of the member 5 into the aperture 9 of the member 11, after which the free end portion 15 of the base member 5 may be spot-welded or otherwise secured to the adjacent portion of the supporting bracket 14, there being provided in the cylindrical member 11 a plurality of openings 16 through which the welding process may be performed.

Mounted adjacent the upper edge portion of the cylindrical member 11 in a manner to be supported thereon is a supporting ring indicated, as a whole, by the numeral 17 and having an overhanging flange or hook-like edge portion 18 adapted to engage the upper edge portion of the member 11, the ring 17 being provided with a pair of oppositely disposed outwardly extending pins or studs 19 adapted to engage angular notches or recesses 21 formed in the member 11 for removably securing the ring thereto.

Secured to the ring 17, preferably, within the ring in a manner to rest upon an inwardly extending flange 22 formed on the lower edge portion of the ring is an elongated magazine 23 having a cover member 24 secured adjacent its upper end, and adapted to receive a stack of nested paper cups in a manner to position the lowermost cup of the stack in supporting position on the cup supporting prongs 12 in such a manner that the lowermost cup, only, may be withdrawn from the holder through the open lower portion of the member 11, while the prongs serve to engage the next succeeding cup for supporting the remainder of the stack thereon.

It will be noted by reference to Figs. 2 and 3 that the upper sides or edge portions of the prongs 12 are inclined downwardly and inwardly to facilitate the ease and convenience in removing a cup from the holder, while the under side or lower edge portions of the prongs 12 are substantially straight, and positioned in substan-

tially a common horizontal plane in a manner to provide abutments to prevent replacing of cups within the holder from adjacent the lower side thereof, thereby preventing the replacing of used cups within the holder. For convenience in ascertaining the supply of cups within the holder, a window indicated at **25** may be positioned adjacent an aperture **26** formed in the magazine **23** as clearly illustrated in Figs. 1 and 3.

It will be observed from the foregoing description that the present invention provides a novel construction and arrangement for retaining paper drinking cups, for example, in a sanitary condition and in position to be withdrawn from the holder one at a time as required, and that to replenish the supply of cups in the magazine **23**, it is necessary, only, to rotate the ring **17** and magazine **23** secured thereto a slight distance to position the pins **19** in alignment with the vertically disposed position of the angular notches or recesses **21**, after which, the ring and magazine may be removed from the cylindrical member **11**, and as conveniently replaced after a fresh supply of cups have been placed in the magazine.

It will be observed also that by reason of the particular shape of the prongs **12**, cups may be readily withdrawn from the holder, but that the insertion of used cups from adjacent the bottom side thereof is prevented.

Obviously, the present invention is not limited to the precise construction and arrangement shown and described, as the same may be variously modified without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the appended claim.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A dispensing holder for paper cups comprising a tubular base having a supporting bracket thereon, a cylindrical member mounted in said base and secured thereto, a plurality of inwardly extending radially disposed prongs formed integrally along a vertically disposed connection with and from the material of said member, said prongs having substantially straight lower edge portions positioned in substantially a common horizontal plane and having upper edge portions inclined inwardly and downwardly with respect to the interior of said cylindrical member.

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