

May 14, 1963

A. B. WHITE

3,089,583

SERVING TRAY ACCESSORY

Filed Nov. 3, 1960

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1

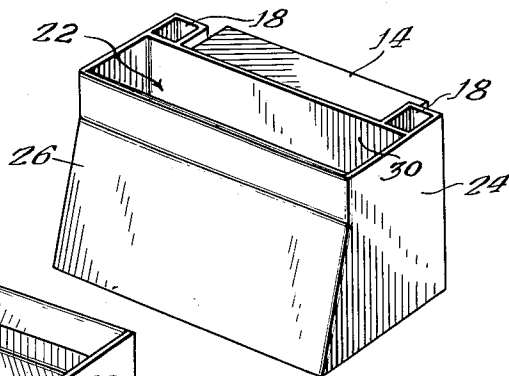
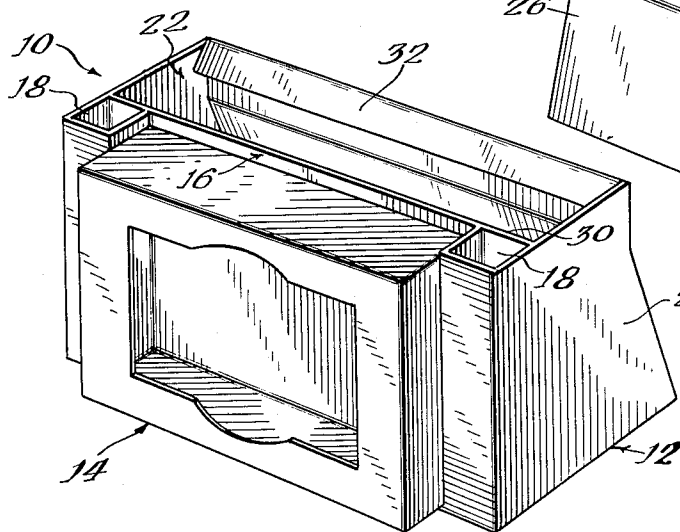


FIG. 2

FIG. 3

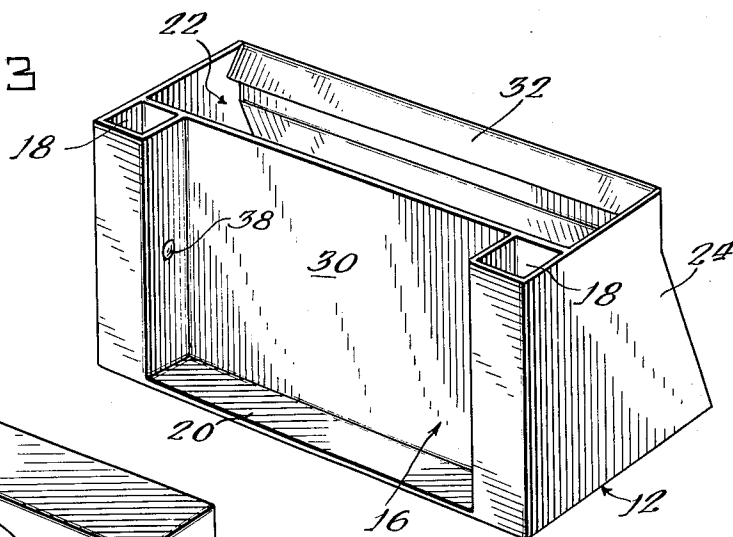
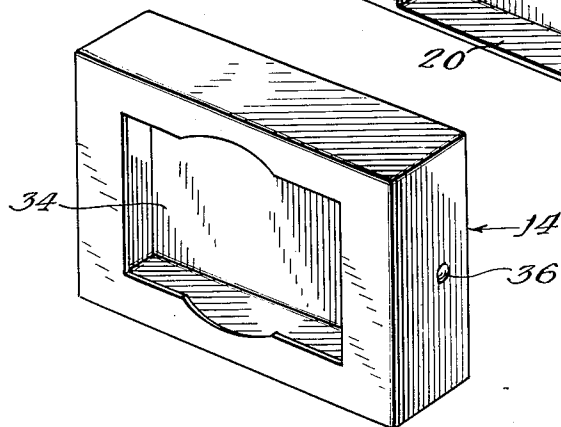


FIG. 4



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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

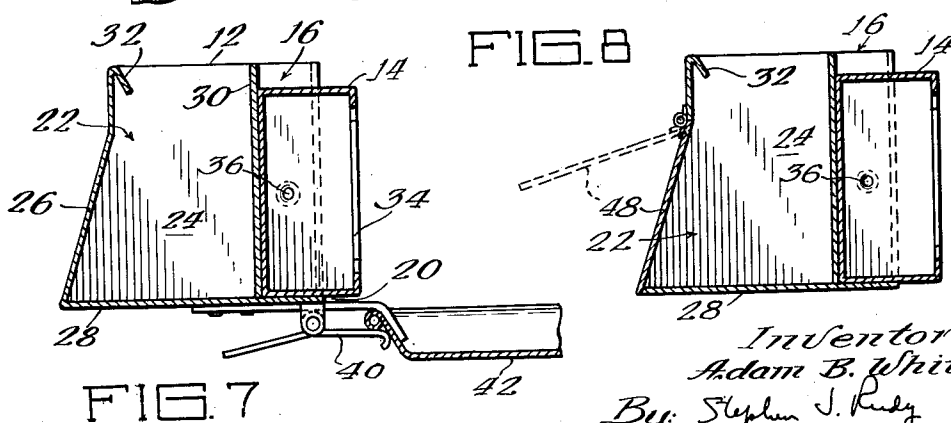
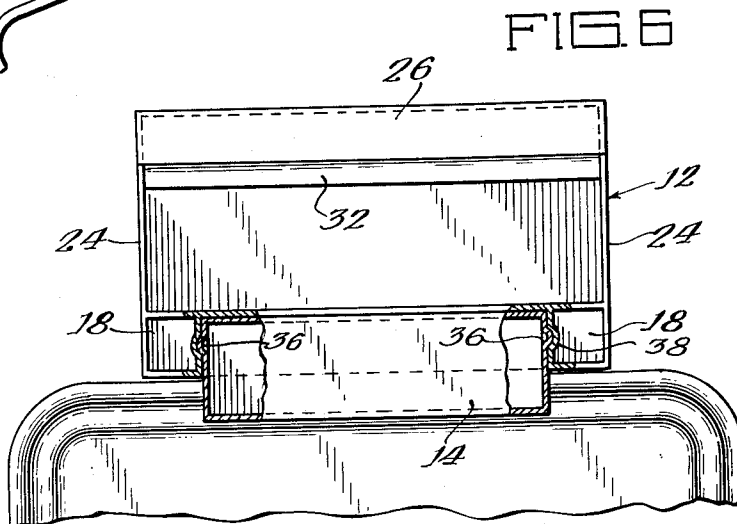
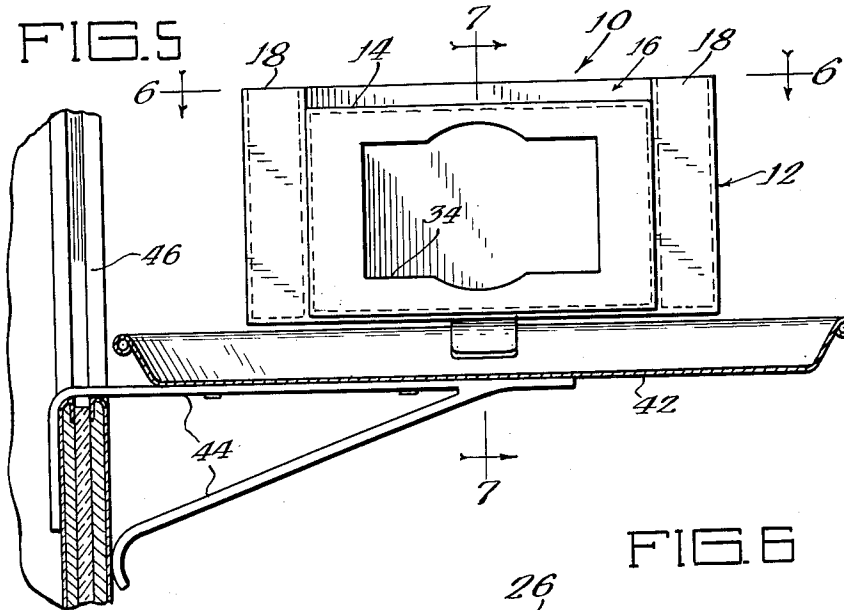
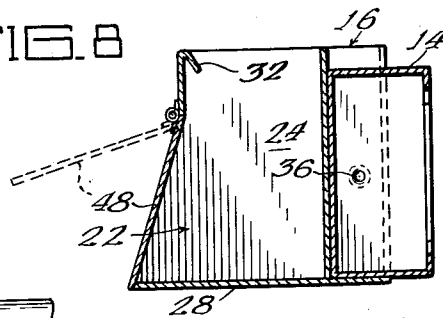


FIG. 8



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1

3,089,583

SERVING TRAY ACCESSORY

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2 Claims. (Cl. 206—1)

This invention relates to a serving tray accessory and more particularly to a combination holder for paper napkins and eating implements, as well as a disposal for waste material.

In the so-called drive-in type of restaurant operation, wherein the customer(s) is served in his automobile by an "outdoor" waitress, certain problems have arisen regarding the handling of eating implements, and in particular, the handling of waste materials such as used paper napkins. Frequently, the area around a drive-in restaurant is littered with used paper napkins, wooden spoons, etc., and if not attended to with a certain amount of diligence, quickly presents a picture reminiscent of a municipal dump.

The serving tray accessory of the present invention not only provides a convenient means for the handling of paper napkins and eating implements, when used at drive-in restaurants, but also allows the orderly disposal of waste material, such as used napkins, wooden spoons, etc. In addition to use at drive-in restaurants, the serving tray accessory will be found useful in other situations, such as in hospitals and in other institutions, or operations where a food tray is employed. Among the features incorporated in the serving tray accessory of the invention is an easy loading napkin holder, and a positive holding waste disposal portion. Another feature resides in the ease with which the serving tray accessory may be applied and removed from a food serving tray.

The main object of this invention is to provide a serving tray accessory for the convenient handling of paper napkins and eating implements, and which allows the orderly disposal of waste material.

Another object of the invention is to provide a serving tray accessory having an easy loading napkin holder.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a serving tray accessory which may be easily applied and removed from a food serving tray.

These and further objects and features of the invention will become more apparent from the following description and accompanying drawings wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective front view of a serving tray accessory embodying the principles of the invention;

FIG. 2 is a perspective rear view on a reduced scale of the serving tray accessory of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is the same as FIG. 1, but with a napkin holder removed;

FIG. 4 is a perspective view of a napkin holder portion of the serving tray accessory of FIG. 1;

FIG. 5 is a front elevation view of the serving tray accessory of FIG. 1 showing it mounted upon a serving tray;

FIG. 6 is a plan view with a portion broken away and generally as seen along line 6—6 in FIG. 5;

FIG. 7 is a section view generally as seen along line 7—7 in FIG. 5; and

FIG. 8 is a section view similar to FIG. 7, but showing a modified embodiment of the invention.

2

Referring now to the drawings, and more particularly to FIGS. 1 to 4, the numeral 10 identifies a serving tray accessory embodying the principles of the invention which incorporates a main body portion 12, and a removable paper napkin holder portion 14. The main body portion 12 is in the form of rectangular box-like structure which is open at the upper side. At the front side of the main body portion 12 is a recess 16 defined in part by vertically arranged rectangular pockets 18 at each end of the recess, as well as a bottom ledge 20, said pockets serving as receptacles for spoons, forks, drinking straws, etc. (not shown).

As best seen in FIGS. 6 and 7, the main body portion includes a disposal portion 22, having side walls 24, a partially slanted rear wall 26, a bottom portion 28, which may be integral with the bottom ledge 20, and a forward wall 30. A lip 32 is formed along the upper edge of the rear wall 26, which lip projects downwardly at an angle into the disposal portion 22. The disposal portion 22 is used for receipt of used paper napkins, as well as used eating implements, and food scraps. The lip 32, and the slanted rear wall 26 serve to maintain the used material or debris within the disposal portion 22, and make it more difficult for such debris to be blown, or otherwise accidentally removed. Such structure, i.e., the lip 32, and slanted wall 26, will not seriously interfere with the easy removal of the debris from the disposal portion 22, when necessary.

The napkin holder portion 14 is in the form of a rectangular box, having an opening 34 on the front surface which may be used for the loading and service removal of napkins (not shown) as in a well known manner. The napkin holder portion 14 has a detent protrusion 36 on each end wall, each of which is arranged to engage a detent 38 formed on the wall of a pocket 18. In such manner, the napkin holder portion may be removably maintained in position within the main body portion 12. A clip means 40 is affixed to the bottom front edge of the main body portion 12, which serves to removably affix the accessory 10 to a serving tray 42 in any convenient position. The latter may be provided with leg or arm members 44 for holding the tray in position adjacent a window recess 46 of a vehicle. It is to be understood that the serving tray accessory 10 may be used on, or with, any serving tray, as for hospital use.

The serving tray accessory may be made from a variety of materials, such as sheet metal, plastics, or cardboard. It will be noted that the design of the accessory 10 is such as to afford ample space for advertising matter to be placed on the outer walls, if desired.

The serving tray accessory shown in FIG. 8 differs from that above described only insofar as a hinged door 48 is provided in the rear wall 26, whereby debris can be more conveniently removed from disposal portion 22.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the serving tray accessory described will satisfy all of the objectives of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A serving tray accessory including in combination, a main body portion in the shape of a rectangular open top debris receiving box provided with a recess at the front side and an outwardly slanted wall at the rear side, a vertically arranged pocket at each end of said

recess, a napkin holder removably supported in said recess, and a clip means affixed to the bottom of the accessory for the attachment of said accessory to a food serving tray.

2. A serving tray accessory according to claim 1, including a lip arranged along the upper edge of the rear wall which lip projects downwardly in the debris receiving box, and a hinged door arranged in said slanted wall.

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