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C. T. HATCH

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ICE CUBE TRAY FOR REFRIGERATORS

Filed May 6, 1929

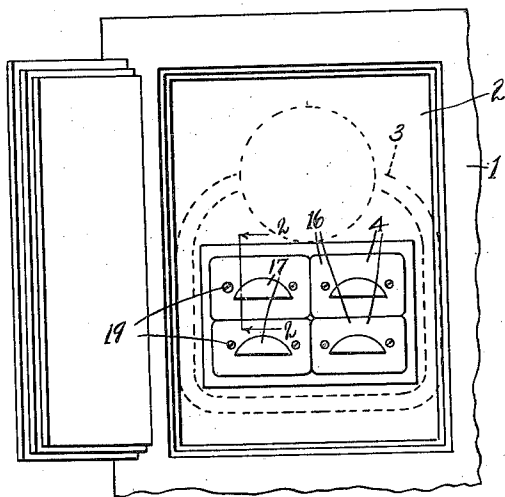


Fig. 1

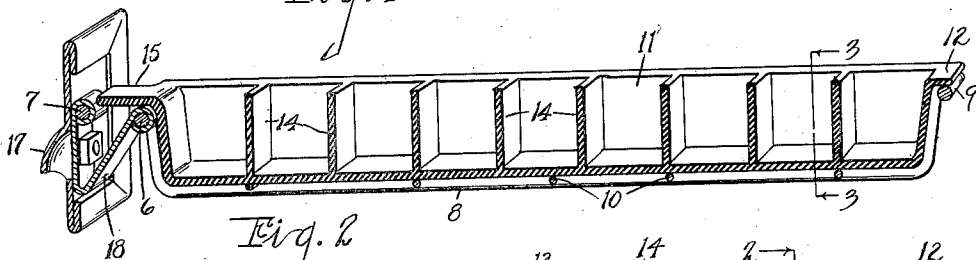


Fig. 2

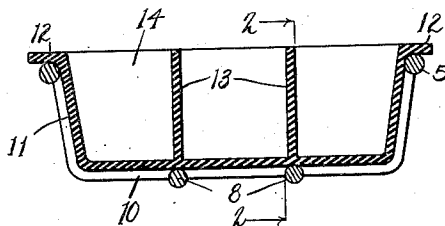


Fig. 3

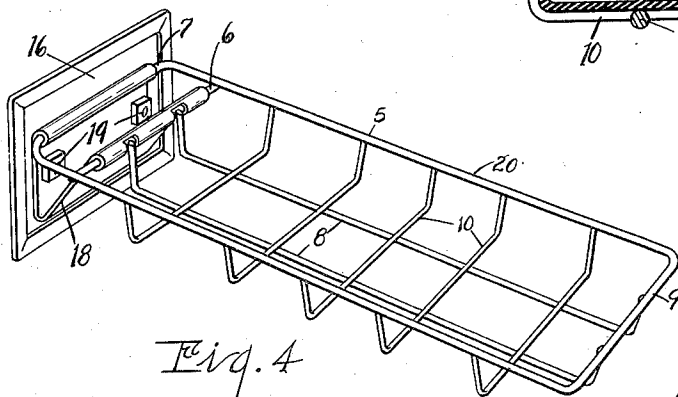


Fig. 4

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ICE-CUBE TRAY FOR REFRIGERATORS

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The main objects of this invention are:

First, to provide an ice cube tray for refrigerators from which the cubes may be easily removed or extracted and which may be conveniently handled, either when filled with water or with ice cubes.

Second, to provide a tray of this character which may be readily adapted to different makes of refrigerators or ice machines now on the market.

Objects pertaining to details and economies of my invention will definitely appear from the description to follow. The invention is defined in the claims.

A structure which embodies the features of my invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary front elevation of a refrigerator with the door of the coil chamber open.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section of my improved ice cube tray on a line corresponding to broken line 2—2 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 3 is a transverse section on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the holder with the container removed.

In the accompanying drawing, 1 represents the refrigerator and 2 the refrigerating coil chamber. The coils are indicated at 3. The structure illustrated is designed to receive four ice cube trays designated generally by the numeral 4.

My improved ice cube tray comprises a holder and a container or receptacle removably arranged therein and formed of flexible resilient material, preferably rubber. The holder comprises a frame 5 formed of wire and having a cross piece 6 secured thereto in spaced relation to its front end piece 7.

The U-shaped longitudinal members 8 are secured by means of their upturned arms to the rear cross piece 9 of the frame and to the cross piece 6. The transverse members 10 are arranged upon the longitudinal pieces 20, being preferably welded thereto so that their upper edges are in substantially the plane of the upper edges of the longitudinal member, see Fig. 3. The upwardly projecting arms of these U-shaped transverse members are se-

cured by welding to the undersides of the frame.

The container 11 is provided with an out-turned flange or rim 12 formed integrally with its walls and resting upon the frame, the container being removably fitted within this frame so that the frame members engage the angles of the rim.

The container is provided with integral longitudinal partitions 13 and transverse partitions 14 arranged with the longitudinal partitions in alinement with the longitudinal members 8. Certain of the transverse partitions are alined with the transverse members so that the container may be quite flexible and at the same time is supported effectively in the holder. The front flange of the container is preferably extended into a finger piece 15.

By thus providing a skeleton frame or holder for the container, the container may be easily stripped or removed therefrom; that is, there is comparatively limited contacting surface between the container and the holder so that the container is not likely to become frozen to the holder. Further, the holder presents a relatively small area to the compartments or supports within the refrigerator so it is not likely to become frozen thereto, it being supported by the longitudinal members 8.

Each holder is provided with a face plate 16 having a handpiece 17 struck outwardly therefrom. These face plates are secured to the outer arm of the V-shaped bracket 18, the ends of the arms of the bracket being rolled about the cross piece 6 and the front end piece of the frame. The face plate is secured to this bracket by means of the bolts 19.

With the parts thus arranged the container may be made very flexible and resilient. At the same time it is effectively supported by the holder, may be easily freed therefrom, and the holder is not likely to become frozen in the refrigerator.

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

1. A holder for containers of flexible resilient material having longitudinal and

transverse partitions providing a plurality of compartments, comprising a rectangular frame, a cross piece disposed in spaced relation to the front end of said frame, U-shaped longitudinal members aligned with the longitudinal members of said container, the rear arms of said members being welded to the rear end piece of the frame and their front arms to said cross piece, U-shaped transverse members arranged upon and welded to said longitudinal members so that their upper surfaces lie in approximately the plane of said longitudinal members, the arms of said cross members being welded to the underside of the frame, certain of said transverse members being aligned with certain of the transverse partitions of the container, a V-shaped supporting bracket having the ends of its arms folded about the frame, and a face plate secured to said bracket and provided with a hand piece.

2. In an ice cube tray for refrigerators, the combination of a container holder comprising a rectangular frame, a cross piece disposed in spaced relation to the front end of said frame, U-shaped longitudinal members, the rear arms of said members being welded to the rear end piece of the frame and their front arms to said cross piece, U-shaped transverse members arranged upon and welded to said longitudinal members so that their upper surfaces lie in approximately the plane of said longitudinal members, the arms of said cross members being welded to the underside of the side members of the frame, a V-shaped supporting bracket having the ends of its arms folded about the front piece of the frame and said cross piece, and a face plate secured to said bracket and provided with a hand piece.

3. A holder for containers of flexible resilient material having longitudinal and transverse partitions providing a plurality of compartments, comprising a rectangular frame, a cross piece disposed in spaced relation to the front end of said frame, U-shaped longitudinal members aligned with the longitudinal members of said container, the rear arms of said members being welded to the rear end piece of the frame and their front arms to said cross piece, U-shaped transverse members, the arms of said cross members being welded to the frame, certain of said transverse members being aligned with certain of the transverse partitions of the container, a V-shaped supporting bracket having the ends of its arms folded about the frame, and a face plate secured to said bracket and provided with a hand piece.

4. In an ice cube tray for refrigerators, the combination of a container holder comprising a rectangular frame, a cross piece disposed in spaced relation to the front end of said frame, U-shaped longitudinal members, the rear arms of said members being welded to the rear end

piece of the frame and their front arms to said cross piece, U-shaped transverse members, the arms of said cross members being welded to the side members of the frame, a V-shaped supporting bracket having the ends of its arms folded about the front piece of the frame and said cross piece, and a face plate secured to said bracket and provided with a hand piece.

5. In an ice cube tray for refrigerators, the combination of a container holder comprising a frame, U-shaped longitudinal and transverse members disposed in crossed relation with the upper ends of their arms secured to said top frame, and a removable container of flexible resilient material having an out-turned flange overhanging the frame and integral longitudinal and transverse partitions.

6. In an ice cube tray for refrigerators, the combination of a container holder comprising a frame, longitudinal and transverse members disposed in crossed relation and secured to said frame, said members being welded at their crossing points so that their upper surfaces lie in substantially the same plane, and a removable container of flexible resilient material having integral longitudinal and transverse partitions.

7. In an ice cube tray for refrigerators, the combination of a container holder comprising a frame and U-shaped longitudinal and transverse members secured thereto, and a container of flexible resilient material having integral longitudinal and transverse partitions removably supported by said holder.

8. In an ice cube tray for refrigerators, the combination of a container holder comprising a frame and longitudinal and transverse members secured thereto, and a container of flexible resilient material having integral longitudinal and transverse partitions removably supported by said holder.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

CHARLES T. HATCH.