

Nov. 23, 1926.

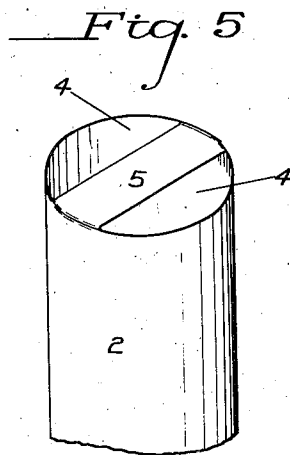
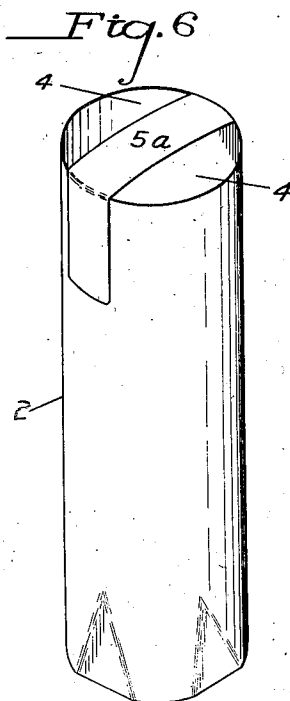
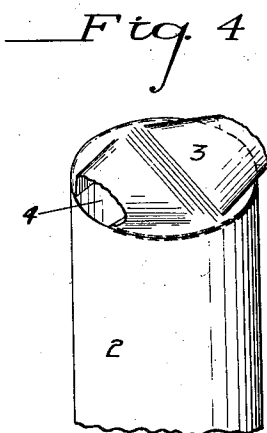
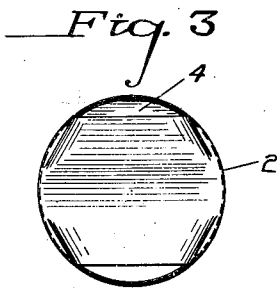
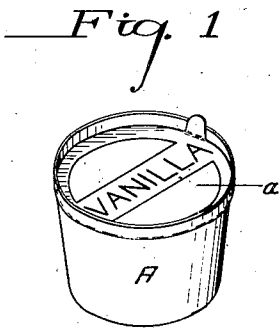
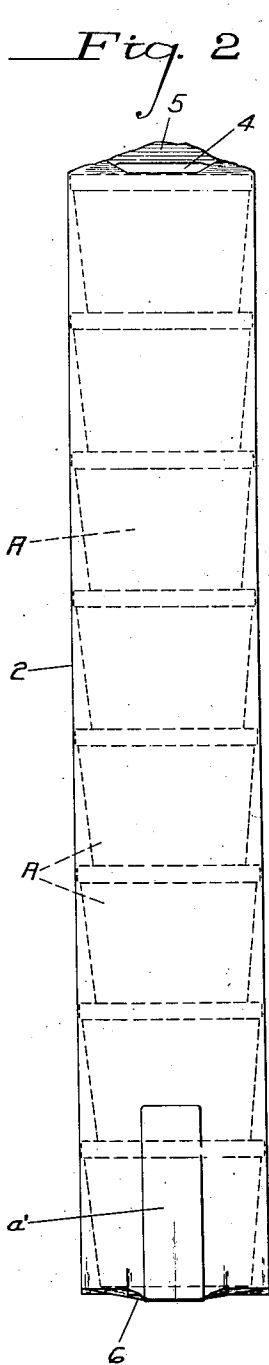
1,608,159

C. N. BERGMANN

MEANS FOR WRAPPING MERCHANDISE

Filed Oct. 16, 1924

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 7

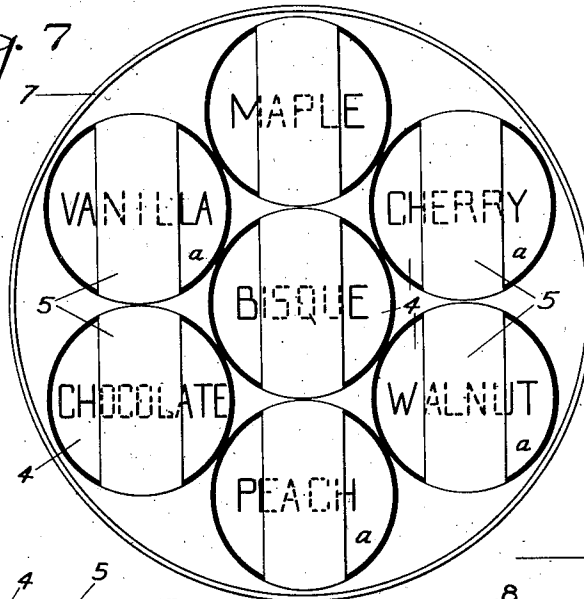


Fig. 9

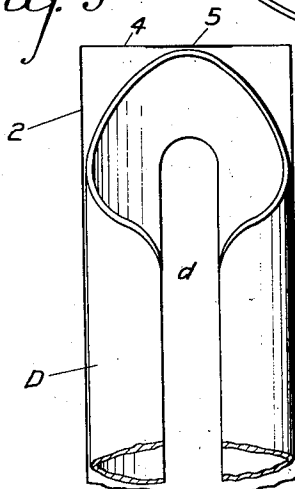


Fig. 8

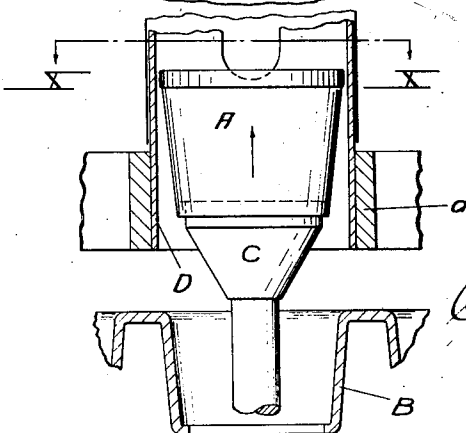
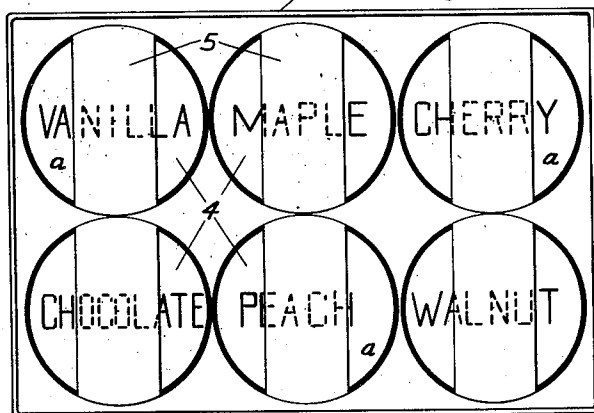
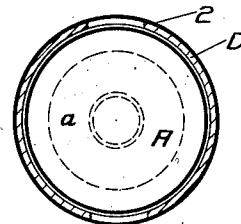


Fig. 10



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHRISTIAN N. BERGMANN, OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO BERGMANN PACKAGING MACHINE COMPANY, OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA, A CORPORATION OF DELAWARE.

MEANS FOR WRAPPING MERCHANDISE.

Application filed October 16, 1924. Serial No. 743,939.

My invention is an improvement in the art of wrapping or packaging merchandise for storage, shipment, or sale.

More particularly, it refers to an improvement in means for holding a plurality of unitary articles of uniform size and shape, in a surrounding flexible bag, as of paper, adapting them for placement in a holding container, and in the method of assembling and charging the articles into the bag, as more particularly hereinafter described.

The invention refers specifically to a convenient and effective means for surrounding and holding a predetermined number of cup-like containers, each filled with a vendible commodity, as ice cream, so that one or more of such containers may be removed from the surrounding wrapper, or the whole number may be delivered with the wrapper intact, as desired.

The invention will be clearly understood from the accompanying drawings, and also in connection with a companion application for an improvement in filling and packaging machines, filed April 4, 1925, Serial No. 20,696.

In the drawings, showing one preferred embodiment of the invention:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of one of the unitary packages of filled containers as it is delivered from the filling machine;

Fig. 2 is a view in side elevation, showing a series of packages surrounded by the wrapper;

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of Fig. 2;

Figs. 4 and 5 are partial views in perspective, showing the upper end of the wrapper in different forms;

Fig. 6 is a similar view, showing a modified construction of half-length wrapper or bag, adapted for filling from the top;

Fig. 7 is a plan view, showing a cylindrical holding vessel or can filled with a plurality of wrapped series of packages;

Fig. 8 is a similar view, showing a rectangular form of holding vessel;

Fig. 9 is a sectional view, showing the operation of ejecting the packages from their holding tray upwardly within the wrapper; and

Fig. 10 is a cross section on the line X—X of Fig. 9.

The unitary cup or package A is of cylindrical tapering form, having an inserted cover *a*, which is usually marked to indicate the contents, and the cup and its cover are ordinarily made of paper.

The cups A are charged into holding trays B, which move through the machine for filling and capping, and are finally ejected upwardly for removal, as in Fig. 9, by plungers C. A vertical series of such filled packages or cups rises with each plunger operation within a surrounding oppositely slotted thin metal tube D, supported on the framework *d*, the lowermost cup being arrested and held by suitable means, as more fully described in the application referred to.

The wrapper of the present invention is an elongated paper bag 2 having a closed or partly closed upper end 3. As shown in Figs. 4 and 5, openings 4 may be made at each side of a middle cross portion so as to expose a portion of the lid or cover of the uppermost container. In Fig. 5, such cross portion 5 consists of a transverse strip, adapted for use as a lifting handle, or for tearing off to remove the top unit individually.

In Fig. 6, I show a modified construction, in which the paper bag 2 is closed at the bottom, as in the ordinary construction of paper bags. In such case, the containers A are filled inwardly of the open end, and a supplemental strip 5^a is then pasted across and at each side of the bag, as shown. When so used, the cups should be inserted into the bag with their tops toward the open end of the bag.

The paper bag 2, as thus made of either form, is fitted down over the thin metal tube D for its full length. When any predetermined number, as eight containers, have been pushed up into the bag through the guiding and supporting slotted tube D, the bag is grasped around the bottom, against the lowermost container, and removed upwardly with such enclosed containers from the metal tube. In such operation the opposite slots *d'* provide clearance for the fingers in grasping the bottom of the bag against the lowermost cup A. The open bottom of the bag is then closed, as at 6, by pasting a strip *a'* or folding and securing

the loose open end across in any suitable manner, and the complete package is then placed in a can 7.

As shown in Fig 7, such can is cylindrical and of a size as to diameter and depth suitable for receiving seven such filled bags of packages or cups in compact formation. If preferred, a rectangular can 8 may be used for holding any suitable number of packages in rows, as in Fig. 8. With either form of can, it may be easily handled for refrigeration, storage, shipment, or placing in the compartment space of drug stores or other vendors of ice cream. As indicated, the several contained bags or packages may be of different flavor, more or less as desired, or one or more cans may be filled with the same flavor, depending on quantity requirements. In either case with the tops of the individual cups uppermost, the marked cover *a* is easily visible for selection, because of the openings 4. Thus, an entire bag may be removed, or, by tearing off the top 3 or cross portion 5 or 5^a one or more individual cups may be removed, to suit the demand.

A further advantage arising from the invention is that any one or more flavors may be exhausted and replenished in the can without disturbance or confusion of the re-

maining contents due to the segregation of flavors in the wrappers 2. It is, therefore, never necessary to remove any superimposed units from a lower strata, and it is always possible for the vendor to determine exactly what flavors remain in stock at any time.

While the invention is partially adapted to the handling of ice cream in cups, it is obvious that other commodities, as jelly, jam, candy, seeds, cereals, etc., may be packed and stored in the same manner, and the invention is not limited in its application to any specific commodity.

Its advantages are obvious, and provision for the size and number of units or other features of special application in use are within the control of the user in determining the dimensions of the bag.

What I claim is:

A mercantile unit comprising a casing adapted to be filled from the bottom with a series of units and thereafter closed and having at the other end a cross retaining portion providing for visibility of the contents of the tube and functioning as a carrying element.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

CHRISTIAN N. BERGMANN.