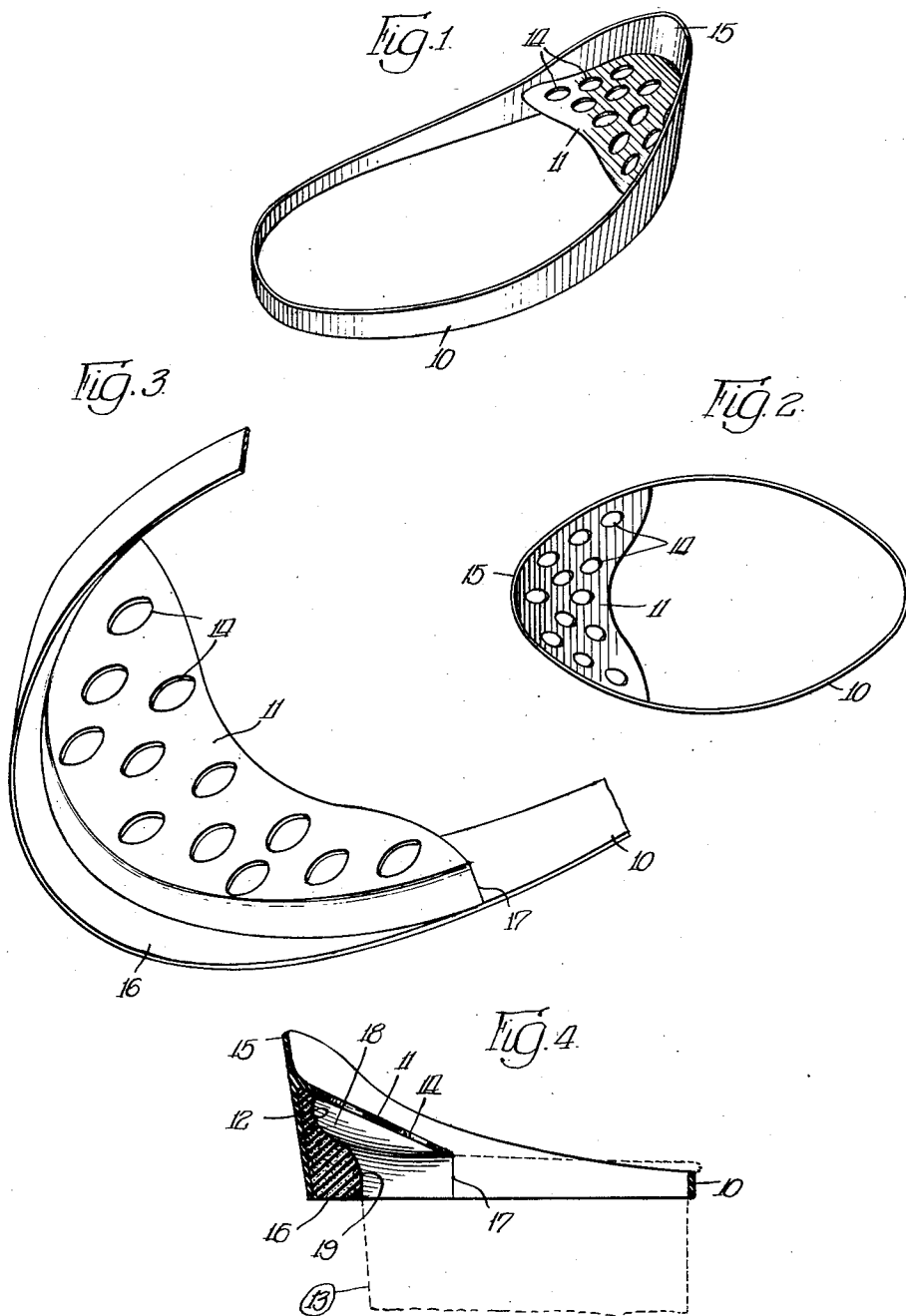


June 13, 1950

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STRAINER ATTACHMENT FOR PITCHERS  
AND LIKE CONTAINERS  
Filed Sept. 20, 1945

2,511,111



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,511,111

## STRAINER ATTACHMENT FOR PITCHERS AND LIKE CONTAINERS

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Application September 20, 1945, Serial No. 617,623

3 Claims. (Cl. 210-163.5)

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The present invention relates to strainer attachments for pitchers and like containers, and has for its main object the provision of a rubber attachment to be engaged over the top of a pitcher or like container for the purpose of retaining therein ice cubes, pieces of fruit and other solids during pouring of liquid from the pitcher.

A still further object of the present invention is the provision of a strainer having a rubber band by means of which the strainer may engage the outer periphery of a pitcher and adjacent its upper open end and thereby maintain in an operative position with the pitcher.

A still further object of the present invention is the provision, in combination with a rubber band aforesaid, of an integrally formed strainer overlying the spout of a pitcher for the purpose of retaining solids therein during the pouring process of liquid from the pitcher.

With the above general objects in view and others that will appear as the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawing forming a part of this application, and in which like designating characters refer to corresponding parts throughout the several views;

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the present attachment;

Fig. 2 is a top elevational view thereof;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged, fragmentary perspective view of the attachment, viewing the same from the bottom; and

Fig. 4 is a vertical cross-sectional view of the attachment, showing its operative position upon a pitcher.

Referring to the present drawing in detail, the strainer attachment shown therein includes a substantially elliptical rubber band 10, narrower at its rear end and gradually widening towards the front end thereof, as is clearly seen in Figs. 1 and 4.

Integrally formed with said band 10 and adjacent its wider front end is a slanting, segmental straining plate 11, made of the same material as said band 10. Said straining plate 11 overlies spout 12 of pitcher 13, when the attachment remains in an operative position therewith. Said straining plate 11 is provided with a plurality of apertures 14 through which liquid may freely pass during the pouring operation thereof, and

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the solids such as ice or fruit may be retained.

The widened front end of band 10 and above straining plate 11 defines an auxiliary spout 15 guiding the flowing liquid into glasses or other containers when the same is poured from pitcher 13.

Cooperating with the strainer attachment is cushion 16, preferably made of softer sponge rubber composition, which is vulcanized or otherwise suitably attached to the inner periphery of band 10 adjacent its front end and below straining plate 11.

Said cushion 16 is of an arcuate formation on horizontal plane, its two ends gradually tapering and merging with band 10. The ends of said cushion 16 terminate at 17, substantially at points of termination of straining plate 11, as is seen in Figs. 3 and 4.

Said cushion 16 adjacent its upper edge, immediately below straining plate 11, is provided with depression 18, substantially conforming to the outline of spout 12 of pitcher 13 within which said spout 12 fits.

Below said depression 18, cushion 16 is provided with curving bulge 19 conforming to the outline of the body portion of pitcher 13, immediately below spout 12. It will therefore be seen that depression 18 and bulge 19 conforming to the outline of spout 12 and the neck portion of pitcher 13, immediately below said spout 12, respectively, provide a liquid-tight seal, preventing leaking of liquid during the pouring process thereof from the pitcher and through spout 12. Since cushion 16 is made of soft, sponge rubber, the same will readily conform to the outer surface of spout 12 and the body portion of pitcher 13, immediately therebelow, when the strainer attachment is in an operative position upon the pitcher, as is seen in Fig. 4. Therefore, attachments of the general construction as herein disclosed, need not be made to the particular size or design of the pitcher, because an attachment having a soft sponge rubber cushion, such as cushion 16 herein shown, will generally conform to a spout such as spout 12. Since band 10 is stretchable, the same will compress cushion 16 to the general outer outline of spout 12 and the adjacent area, and will thus maintain said cushion 16 in a close, contacting position thereof with the spout and the adjacent area of the pitcher.

While there is described herein a preferred embodiment of the present invention, it is nevertheless to be understood that minor changes may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

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What I claim as new is:

1. A strainer attachment for use with a container having a spout, comprising an annular resilient stretchable band, and a straining plate having openings therethrough and extending over a segment of said band, said band being substantially cylindrical and yieldable lengthwise for encompassing the container and spout and having the plate joined integrally along the periphery thereof to the inner edge of the band.

2. A strainer attachment for use with a container having a spout, comprising an annular resilient stretchable band, and a straining plate having openings therethrough and extending over a segment of said band, said plate being attached integrally along the inner periphery of said band and a cushion secured to the inner surface of the band underlying the plate to form a seal with the outer surface of the container beneath the spout.

3. A strainer attachment for use with a container having a spout, comprising an annular resilient stretchable band, and a straining plate having openings therethrough and extending

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over a segment of said band, said plate being attached integrally along the inner periphery of said band a cushion secured to the inner surface of the band underlying the plate to form a seal with the outer surface of the container beneath the spout, said plate extending upwardly at an acute angle to the plane of the cylindrical band, and said cushion having an inwardly and downwardly curved surface to fit the contour under the spout.

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