

Sept. 15, 1953

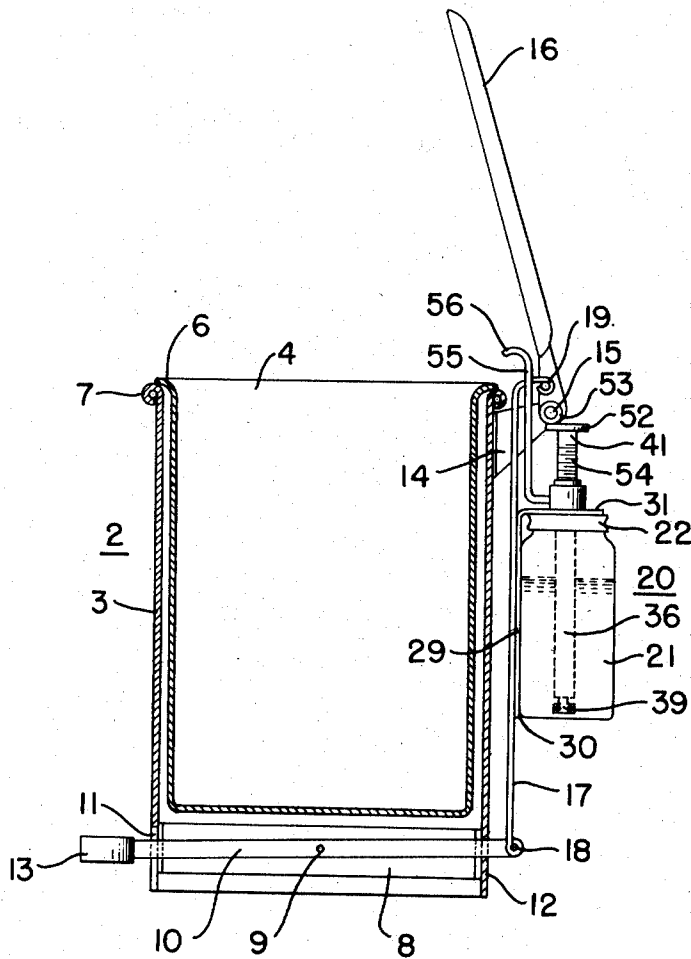
R. R. FARRELL
GERMICIDAL RECEPTACLE

2,652,173

Filed Sept. 12, 1952

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1



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Sept. 15, 1953

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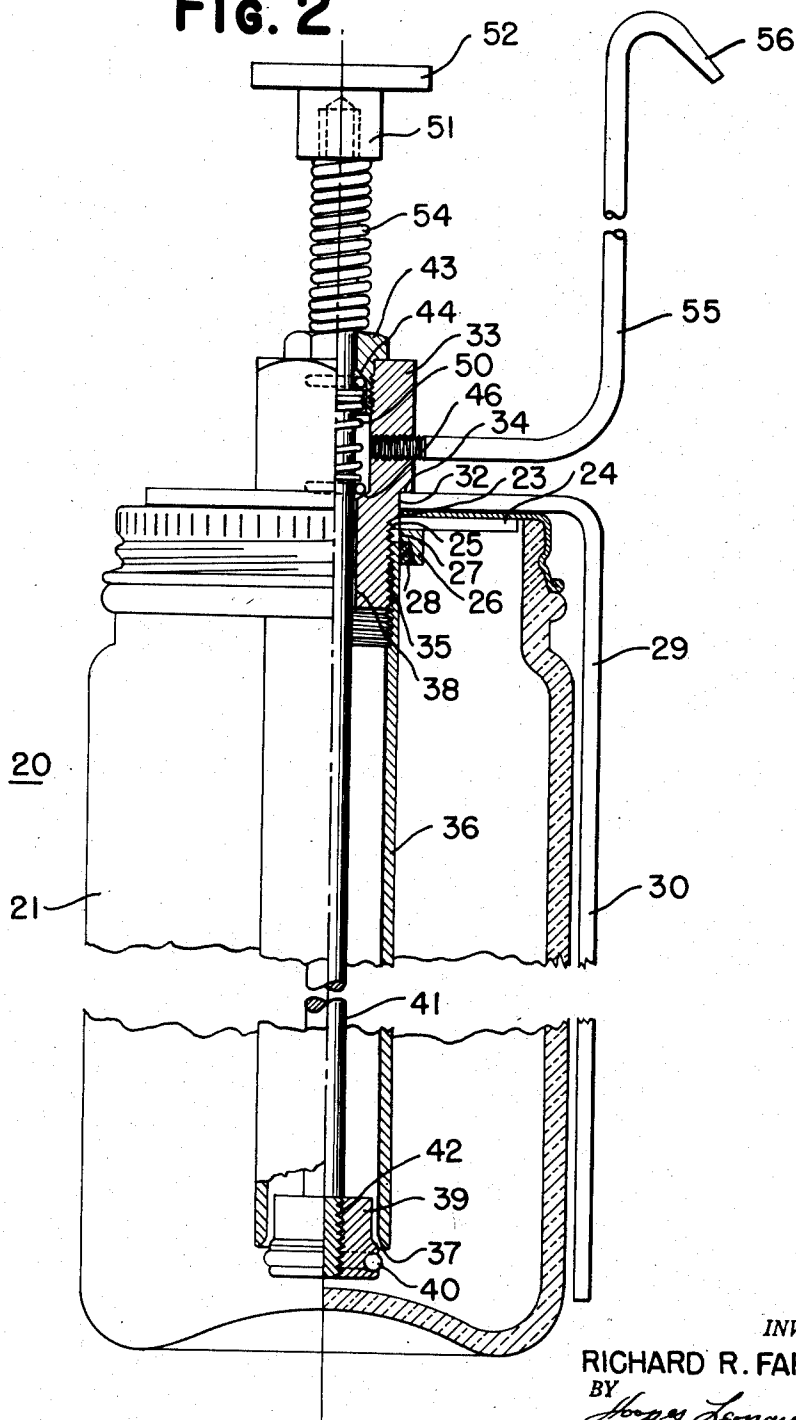
2,652,173

GERMICIDAL RECEPTACLE

Filed Sept. 12, 1952

3 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 2



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Sept. 15, 1953

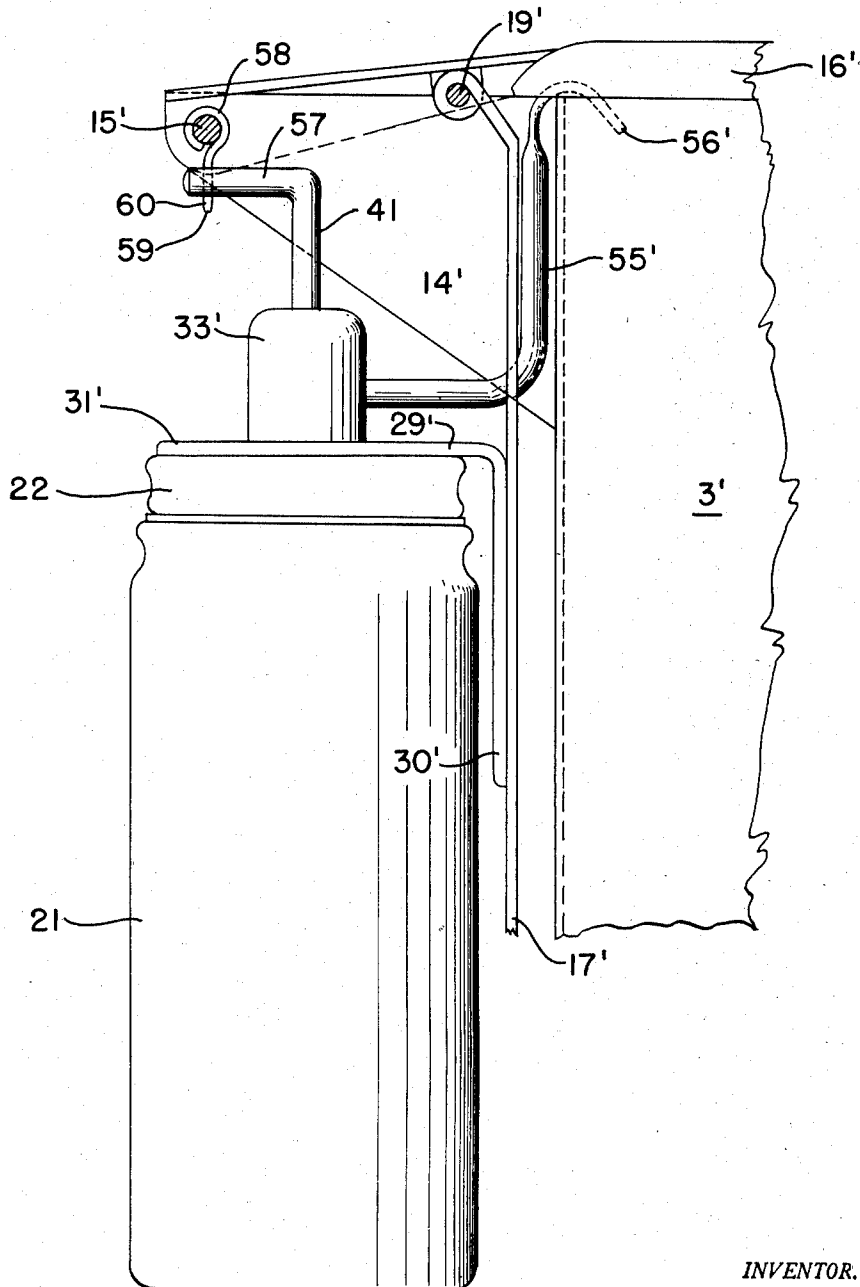
R. R. FARRELL
GERMICIDAL RECEPTACLE

2,652,173

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3 Sheets-Sheet 3

FIG. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,652,173

GERMICIDAL RECEPTACLE

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Application September 12, 1952, Serial No. 309,299

11 Claims. (Cl. 220—87)

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This invention relates to a germicidal receptacle, to wit, a receptacle into which a germicide is projected or "shot" at intervals to inhibit the growth of certain bacteria which cause odors and infection. An example of such a receptacle is a diaper can.

It is not new broadly to provide a germicidal receptacle. However such receptacles which have heretofore been proposed have had disadvantages either in respect of operation or in respect of manufacture. My germicidal receptacle constitutes an improvement from both aspects. It is reliable in operation and economical to manufacture in quantity. Through use of my invention a non-germicidal receptacle may be converted into a germicidal receptacle.

I provide a germicidal receptacle comprising a receptacle, a cover for the receptacle mounted for movement between closed and open positions, a germicide container carried by the receptacle exteriorly thereof, germicide delivery means extending from the germicide container into position to deliver germicide into the receptacle and a connection between the cover and the germicide container expelling germicide from the germicide container through the germicide delivery means into the receptacle upon movement of the cover between closed and open positions. I provide germicide expelling means cooperating with the germicide container to expel germicide from the germicide container through the germicide delivery means into the receptacle upon relative movement between the germicide expelling means and the germicide container and means maintaining the germicide expelling means in generally stationary position. Desirably the cover is pivotally connected with the receptacle for swinging movement between closed and open positions. The connection between the cover and the germicide container is preferably a constantly maintained connection expelling germicide from the germicide container through the germicide delivery means into the receptacle upon swinging movement of the cover between closed and open positions. Desirably the germicide is expelled into the receptacle upon each closing movement of the cover.

I preferably mount the cover upon the receptacle and provide means including a generally vertically movable member for moving the cover between closed and open positions. The germicide container may be carried by the generally vertically movable member so that the germicide container partakes of the generally vertical movement of said member. The germicidal receptacle preferably comprises an outer receptacle and a removable inner receptacle adapted normally to be disposed in the outer receptacle but removable therefrom for emptying and cleaning. The structure is preferably such that the germicide delivery means extend from the germicide container so that in one position of the germicide

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container the germicide delivery means may deliver germicide into the inner receptacle and in another position of the germicide container the germicide delivery means are offset from the inner receptacle to permit removal and replacement of the inner receptacle.

My germicidal receptacle comprises relatively movable cooperative elements for injecting germicide into the receptacle, one of such elements being mounted in substantially stationary position, another of such elements being connected with the operating means for movement relatively to the first mentioned such element to inject germicide into the receptacle upon movement of the operating means to move the cover between closed and open positions. In a preferred form of structure the cover is pivotally connected with the receptacle for swinging movement between closed and open positions and there are provided a lever, a link connected with the lever and with the cover to swing the cover between closed and open positions upon operation of the lever, relatively movable cooperative elements for injecting germicide into the receptacle, one of such elements being mounted in substantially stationary position, another of such elements being connected with the link for movement relatively to the first mentioned such element to inject germicide into the receptacle upon operation of the lever to swing the cover between closed and open positions. I preferably provide a germicide container connected with the link and means for expelling germicide from the container into the receptacle having a portion extending within the container and a portion projecting therefrom. The expelling means are preferably mounted in substantially stationary position so that when the container is moved relatively to the expelling means germicide is expelled from the container into the receptacle. Preferably stop means are provided limiting movement of the expelling means in one direction and resilient means are also provided biasing the expelling means against the stop means, so that the expelling means is maintained in substantially stationary position so that when the container is moved relatively to the expelling means germicide is expelled from the container into the receptacle.

The germicide container is preferably connected with the cover operating means and mounted for generally downward-and-inward and upward-and-outward movement relatively to the receptacle when the cover is swung to closed and open positions respectively and means are preferably provided cooperating with the container to expel germicide from the container into the receptacle when the container is partaking of generally downward-and-inward movement relatively to the receptacle. The last mentioned means preferably have a portion extending within the container and a portion projecting therefrom, and stop means are provided limiting generally

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upward movement of the last mentioned means. I prefer to employ resilient means biasing the expelling means against the stop means so that the expelling means are maintained in substantially stationary position.

In a preferred form of structure my germicide receptacle comprises a receptacle, a cover for the receptacle mounted for movement between closed and open positions, a germicide container carried by the receptacle exteriorly thereof and connected with the cover so that the position of the germicide container is shifted when the cover is moved between closed and open positions, germicide delivery means extending from the germicide container into position to deliver germicide into the receptacle and means connected with the germicide container and positioned by a stationary portion of the receptacle whereby relative movement between such means and the germicide container occurs upon movement of the cover between closed and open positions, such relative movement delivering germicide through the germicide delivery means into the receptacle. The means connected with the germicide container may abut a stationary portion of the receptacle and spring means may press such means against the stationary portion of the receptacle to maintain the same at all times in position thereagainst whereby relative movement between such means and the germicide container occurs upon movement of the cover between closed and open positions. The means connected with the germicide container may have a portion fitting within a stationary portion of the receptacle whereby relative movement between such means and the germicide container occurs upon movement of the cover between closed and open positions. The means connected with the germicide container may interengage with a stationary portion of the receptacle so that such means is restrained against movement in the direction of shifting of the germicide container whereby relative movement between such means and the germicide container occurs upon movement of the cover between closed and open positions.

Other details, objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent as the following description of a present preferred embodiment thereof proceeds.

In the accompanying drawings I have shown a present preferred embodiment of the invention in which

Figure 1 is a view partly in elevation and partly in central vertical cross section through a germicidal receptacle;

Figure 2 is a view to enlarged scale partly in elevation and partly in central vertical cross section of a portion of the germicidal receptacle shown in Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is a fragmentary elevational view of a modified form of germicidal receptacle.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, there is shown in Figure 1 a germicidal receptacle designated generally by reference numeral 2 which comprises an outer receptacle 3 and an inner receptacle 4. The inner receptacle 4 may be a removable can such as a diaper can and may be provided with a bail by means of which the receptacle 4 may be picked up and removed from the receptacle 3 for emptying and cleaning. The receptacle 4 in the form shown has an outwardly projecting annular lip 6 which when the receptacle 4 is disposed within the receptacle 3 rests upon the upper rim 7 of the receptacle 3.

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The receptacle 3 may be of any suitable material, as, for example, metal, and may have within its lower portion a member or structure 8 of any suitable or conventional form carrying a pivot 9 upon which is pivotally mounted a lever 10. The lever 10 projects forwardly through the wall of the receptacle 3 through a slot 11 and projects rearwardly through the wall of the receptacle 3 through a slot 12. At its forward end the lever 10 has a treadle 13 adapted to be depressed by the foot of a person wishing to raise the cover presently to be described.

The receptacle 3 carries externally thereof a bracket 14 to which is pivoted at 15 the cover 16. In Figure 1 the cover 16 is shown in open or inoperative position. It is adapted to move or swing between that position and closed or operative position by pivotal movement about the axis of the pivot 15. A link 17 is pivoted to the lever 10 at 18 and to the cover 16 at 19. When the treadle 13 is depressed the lever 10 turns in the counterclockwise direction about the axis of the pivot 9 viewing Figure 1 whereby its right-hand end is raised. Upward movement of the right-hand end of the lever 10 moves the link 17 upwardly. Upward movement of the link 17 causes the cover 16 to turn in the clockwise direction about the axis of the pivot 15 from closed to open position. The cover never moves so far that its center of gravity passes to the right of the pivot 15 viewing Figure 1. If desired a stop, not shown, may be provided to limit turning movement of the lever 10 in the clockwise direction to insure against the cover becoming overbalanced toward the right viewing Figure 1. Thus the force of gravity is always available to lower the cover from open to closed position by turning in the counterclockwise direction about the axis of the pivot 15, viewing Figure 1, when downward pressure on the treadle 13 is relieved.

In the form of structure shown the dispenser is designated generally by reference numeral 20 and is mounted upon the link 17 so that the container and cylinder of the dispenser, presently to be described, partake of generally vertical movement with the link 17. The movement of the link 17 is not exactly vertical since the upper end of the link partakes of movement generally about the axis of the pivot 15. I find it convenient to employ the trunnion of the pivot 15 as means to limit upward movement of the piston as will presently appear.

The dispenser comprises a container 21 shown as being in the form of a glass jar having a metal screw cap 22 applied thereto. The cap 22 has a round opening 23 therethrough at its center. A washer 24 having at its center a similar round opening 25 lies against the under surface of the cap 22. An annular packing retainer 26 having a central opening 27 of the same size as the openings 23 and 25 underlies the washer 24. Annular packing 28 is disposed within packing retainer 26.

I provide a mounting bracket 29 which is of generally inverted L shape having a generally downwardly projecting leg 30 and a generally horizontally projecting leg 31. The leg 30 of the bracket 29 is connected with the link 17 by welding, bolting or otherwise so that in effect the bracket 29 becomes integral with the link 17. The generally horizontal leg 31 of the bracket 29 has a central opening 32 of the same size as the openings 23, 25 and 27. I provide a connector 33 having a relatively large upper portion and a relatively small lower portion

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with a downwardly facing shoulder 34 therebetween. The lower portion of the connector 33 is generally cylindrical and of such size as to fit fairly snugly within the openings 32, 23, 25 and 27. The lower end of the connector 33 is externally threaded as shown at 35. The cylinder 36 has its upper end internally threaded and is screwed onto the threaded lower end of the connector until the connector and the cylinder grip therebetween the leg 31 of the bracket 29, the cover 22, the washer 24, the packing 28, the packing retainer 26 and the packing 28 as shown in Figure 2. Thus the assembly is maintained by the shoulder 34 and the threaded connection between the connector 33 and the cylinder 36. Thus the container 21 and the cylinder 36 together with the associated elements which have been described form a unit the parts of which are maintained together at all times during operation of the dispenser. The cylinder 36 is open at its lower end as shown in Figure 2, the inner portion of the rim being curved as shown at 37.

The lower portion of the connector 33 has a reduced bore 38 which forms the outlet from the cylinder 36. A piston 39 cooperates with the cylinder 36, the piston being provided with a resilient annular member 40 such as a rubber O-ring which snugly contacts the inner surface of the cylinder when the cylinder moves downwardly relative to the piston. Entry of the O-ring into the cylinder is facilitated by the curved inner rim portion 37; the O-ring is slightly compressed when the piston is within the cylinder. The piston is provided with a piston rod 41 threaded into the piston at 42 and projecting upwardly through the outlet 38 and through the top of the connector 33. The piston rod 41 passes through a packing nut 43 threaded into the upper end of the connector 33 and having a downwardly and outwardly inclined annular seat 44 against which lies a rubber O-ring 45. The connector 33 has just above the outlet 38 a downwardly and inwardly inclined annular seat 46 against which is adapted to seat a rubber O-ring 47. The O-rings 45 and 47 also are adapted to seal against the periphery of the piston rod 41. A washer 48 underlies the O-ring 45 and a washer 49 overlies the O-ring 47 and a compression coil spring 50 acts between the washers 48 and 49 to press the O-ring 45 upwardly and the O-ring 47 downwardly. The O-ring 45 is at all times maintained by the spring 50 against the seat 44 and the piston rod 41 to inhibit leakage between the piston rod and the packing nut 43.

Connected with the upper end of the piston rod 41 so as in effect to be integral therewith is a cap 51 having an enlarged upper portion 52 which is maintained at all times in engagement with the under surface of the trunnion 53 for the cover hinge pin 15. A compression coil spring 54 presses upwardly on the cap 51 and downwardly on the unit through the packing nut 43 so that the upper surface of the portion 52 of the cap 51 remains in contact with the trunnion 53 in all positions of the unit. Thus the piston rod 41 and the piston 39 are maintained at all times at substantially predetermined elevation and indeed in generally fixed position, although there is some lateral movement of the piston rod and piston, particularly at the upper end of the piston rod, due to the fact that the unit is mounted on the link 17 and the piston and piston rod have guided re-

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lationship with the unit through the packing nut 43 and the cylinder 36. However the lateral movement of the piston and piston rod may be neglected so far as operation of the piston relatively to the cylinder is concerned.

A delivery conduit or nozzle 55 communicates with the interior of the upper portion of the connector 33, being threadedly connected therewith at 55'. The nozzle is of generally gooseneck shape as shown and has its upper or outlet end flattened as shown at 56 to reduce its cross-sectional area and insure the discharge therefrom with some velocity of a "shot" of fluid upon each operation of the dispenser.

The spring 50 maintains the O-ring 47 against the seat 46 when the unit moves upwardly relatively to the piston and piston rod but when the unit moves downwardly relatively to the piston and piston rod the liquid forced upwardly by the piston as will presently be explained unseats the O-ring 47 from the seat 46 to permit liquid to pass into the space within the upper portion of the connector 33 and thence into the delivery conduit or nozzle 55. Thus the spring-pressed O-ring 47 is in effect a check valve permitting upward but preventing downward flow of fluid therepast. It insures that the space within the upper portion of the connector 33 and the nozzle 55 will remain filled when the unit moves upwardly relatively to the piston. This insures the ejection of a positive "shot" upon each operation of the dispenser.

When the cover 16 is in closed position the end 56 of the nozzle 55 is disposed downwardly and toward the left from the position of Figure 1, and I find it desirable to have the end of the nozzle disposed just above and possibly in contact with the lip 6 of the receptacle 4. When the treadle 13 is depressed the cover 16 is moved to open position as shown in Figure 1. At the same time the unit comprising the container 21 and the cylinder 36 is moved upwardly relatively to the piston 39, the uppermost position of the unit being shown in both figures of the drawings. When the unit is in its uppermost position the O-ring 40 which is the portion of the piston cooperating with the cylinder is disposed below the lower end of the cylinder as shown in Figure 2 so that fluid from the container 21 passes into the cylinder. The cylinder fills up with fluid because upon the upward movement of the unit relatively to the piston a vacuum is created within the cylinder since the upper end of the cylinder is sealed by the O-ring 47. Thus the cylinder is filled even though the level of the fluid in the container 21 is low, although of course the level of the fluid in the container 21 must be at least as high as the lower end of the cylinder 36. The nozzle 55 is maintained filled with liquid through seating of the O-ring 47 on the seat 46 as above explained.

The pivotal movement of the upper end of the link 17 about the axis of the pivot 15 causes the unit, including the nozzle 55, to move upwardly and away from the receptacle 4 so that when the cover 16 is in open position the receptacle 4 may be removed and replaced.

When downward pressure on the treadle 13 is released the cover 16 moves by gravity from open to closed position. At the same time the link 17 moves downwardly. Since the unit is mounted on the link the unit moves downwardly with the link. The end 56 of the nozzle 55 moves downwardly and inwardly so that when the cover reaches closed position the end of the nozzle lies

on or close to and projects slightly inwardly of the lip 6.

As above explained the spring 54 maintains the upper end of the piston rod always at substantially fixed elevation through its contact with the trunnion 53. As the unit moves downwardly relatively to the piston rod 41 and piston 39 the piston enters the lower end of cylinder 36 and forces the fluid in the cylinder upwardly relatively to the cylinder. Such upward forcing of the fluid in the cylinder unseats the O-ring 47 and the fluid passes into and through the nozzle 55 so that a "shot" of the fluid is projected from the nozzle into the receptacle 4. When next the treadle 13 is depressed the unit again rises to the position shown in the drawings, the vacuum within the cylinder 36 causes the cylinder to become again filled with fluid and the parts are ready for repetition of the cycle.

Figure 3 shows a modified form of germicidal receptacle in which parts corresponding to parts shown in Figures 1 and 2 are identified by the same reference numerals but each with a prime affixed. The structure of Figure 3 differs from that of Figures 1 and 2 in that the piston rod 41' instead of having a cap like the cap 51 has its upper end turned at right angles into generally horizontal position as shown at 57. The spring 54 of the form of structure of Figures 1 and 2 is dispensed with in the form of Figure 3. Disposed about the pivot 15' is a bracket 58 having a depending portion 59 which has an opening 60 through which the substantially horizontal portion 57 of the piston rod 41' passes. The bracket 58 is stationary so that the piston rod in the form of Figure 3 fits within a stationary portion of the receptacle 3' whereby relative movement between it and the germicide container 21' occurs upon movement of the cover between closed and open positions, such relative movement delivering germicide through the germicide delivery means into the receptacle. The portion 57 of the piston rod interengages with the bracket 58 so that the piston rod is restrained against movement in the direction of shifting of the germicide container 21' although the portion 57 may slide laterally in the opening 60 when the germicide container moves relatively to the piston rod.

The dispenser per se, which is of broad utility, is claimed in my copending application Serial No. 309,300, filed of even date herewith.

While I have shown and described a present preferred embodiment of the invention it is to be distinctly understood that the invention is not limited thereto but may be otherwise variously embodied within the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. A germicidal receptacle comprising a receptacle, a cover for the receptacle mounted for movement between closed and open positions, a germicide container carried by the receptacle exteriorly thereof, germicide delivery means extending from the germicide container into position to deliver germicide into the receptacle, germicide expelling means cooperating with the germicide container to expel germicide from the germicide container through the germicide delivery means into the receptacle upon relative movement between the germicide expelling means and the germicide container, means maintaining the germicide expelling means in generally stationary position and a connection between the cover and the germicide container moving the germi-

cide container relative to the generally stationary germicide expelling means upon movement of the cover between closed and open positions.

2. A germicidal receptacle comprising a receptacle, a cover for the receptacle mounted upon the receptacle for movement between closed and open positions, means including a generally vertically movable member for moving the cover between closed and open positions, a germicide container carried by said generally vertically movable member so that the germicide container partakes of the generally vertical movement of said member, germicide delivery means extending from the germicide container into position to deliver germicide into the receptacle, germicide expelling means cooperating with the germicide container to expel germicide from the germicide container through the germicide delivery means into the receptacle upon relative movement between the germicide expelling means and the germicide container and means maintaining the germicide expelling means at substantially predetermined elevation.

3. A germicidal receptacle comprising an outer receptacle, a removable inner receptacle adapted normally to be disposed in the outer receptacle but removable therefrom for emptying and cleaning, a cover mounted upon the outer receptacle for movement between closed and open positions, means for moving the cover between closed and open positions, a germicide container carried by said cover moving means, germicide delivery means extending from the germicide container so that in one position of the germicide container the germicide delivery means may deliver germicide into the inner receptacle and in another position of the germicide container the germicide delivery means are offset from the inner receptacle to permit removal and replacement of the inner receptacle and germicide expelling means to expel germicide from the germicide container through the germicide delivery means into the inner receptacle upon relative movement between the germicide expelling means and the germicide container.

4. A germicidal receptacle comprising an outer receptacle, a removable inner receptacle adapted normally to be disposed in the outer receptacle but removable therefrom for emptying and cleaning, a cover pivotally connected with the outer receptacle for swinging movement between closed and open positions, means for swinging the cover between closed and open positions, a germicide container carried by said cover swinging means, germicide delivery means extending from the germicide container so that in one position of the germicide container the germicide delivery means may deliver germicide into the inner receptacle and in another position of the germicide container the germicide delivery means are offset from the inner receptacle to permit removal and replacement of the inner receptacle and germicide expelling means to expel germicide from the germicide container through the germicide delivery means into the inner receptacle upon relative movement between the germicide expelling means and the germicide container.

5. A germicidal receptacle comprising an outer receptacle, a removable inner receptacle adapted normally to be disposed in the outer receptacle but removable therefrom for emptying and cleaning, a cover mounted upon the outer receptacle for movement between closed and open positions, means for moving the cover between closed and

open positions, a germicide container carried by said cover moving means, germicide delivery means extending from the germicide container so that in one position of the germicide container the germicide delivery means may deliver germicide into the inner receptacle and in another position of the germicide container the germicide delivery means are offset from the inner receptacle to permit removal and replacement of the inner receptacle and germicide expelling means to expel germicide from the germicide container through the germicide delivery means into the inner receptacle upon relative movement between the germicide expelling means and the germicide container, the germicide expelling means being mounted in substantially stationary position so that upon movement of the cover moving means the germicide container moves relatively to the germicide expelling means.

6. A germicidal receptacle comprising a receptacle, a cover pivotally connected with the receptacle for swinging movement between closed and open positions, a lever, a link connected with the lever and with the cover to swing the cover between closed and open positions upon operation of the lever, a germicide container connected with the link for movement upon operation of the lever to swing the cover between closed and open positions, means for expelling germicide from the container into the receptacle having a portion extending within the container and a portion projecting therefrom and means mounting the expelling means in substantially stationary position so that when the container is moved relatively to the expelling means upon operation of the lever to swing the cover between closed and open positions germicide is expelled from the container into the receptacle.

7. A germicidal receptacle comprising a receptacle, a cover pivotally connected with the receptacle for swinging movement between closed and open positions, a lever, a link connected with the lever and with the cover to swing the cover between closed and open positions upon operation of the lever, a germicide container connected with the link for movement upon operation of the lever to swing the cover between closed and open positions, means for expelling germicide from the container into the receptacle having a portion extending within the container and a portion projecting therefrom, stop means limiting movement of the expelling means in one direction and resilient means biasing the expelling means against the stop means, so that the expelling means is maintained in substantially stationary position so that when the container is moved relatively to the expelling means upon operation of the lever to swing the cover between closed and open positions germicide is expelled from the container into the receptacle.

8. A germicidal receptacle comprising a receptacle, a cover pivotally connected with the receptacle for swinging movement between closed and open positions, operating means for so moving the cover, a germicide container connected with the operating means and mounted for generally downward-and-inward and upward-and-outward movement relatively to the receptacle when the cover is swung to closed and open positions respectively and means cooperating with the container to expel germicide from the container into the receptacle when the container is partaking of generally downward-and-inward movement relatively to the receptacle, said last mentioned means having a portion extending

within the container and a portion projecting therefrom, stop means limiting generally upward movement of said last mentioned means and resilient means biasing the expelling means against the stop means so that said last mentioned means is maintained in substantially stationary position.

9. A germicidal receptacle comprising a receptacle, a cover for the receptacle mounted for movement between closed and open positions, a germicide container carried by the receptacle exteriorly thereof and connected with the cover so that the position of the germicide container is shifted when the cover is moved between closed and open positions, germicide delivery means extending from the germicide container into position to deliver germicide into the receptacle and means connected with the germicide container and positioned by a stationary portion of the receptacle whereby relative movement between such means and the germicide container occurs upon the movement of the cover between closed and open positions, such relative movement delivering germicide through the germicide delivery means into the receptacle.

10. A germicidal receptacle comprising a receptacle, a cover for the receptacle mounted for movement between closed and open positions, a germicide container carried by the receptacle exteriorly thereof and connected with the cover so that the position of the germicide container is shifted when the cover is moved between closed and open positions, germicide delivery means extending from the germicide container into position to deliver germicide into the receptacle, means connected with the germicide container abutting a stationary portion of the receptacle and spring means pressing such means against the stationary portion of the receptacle to maintain the same at all times in position thereagainst whereby relative movement between such means and the germicide container occurs upon movement of the cover between closed and open positions, such relative movement delivering germicide through the germicide delivery means into the receptacle.

11. A germicidal receptacle comprising a receptacle, a cover for the receptacle mounted for movement between closed and open positions, a germicide container carried by the receptacle exteriorly thereof and connected with the cover so that the position of the germicide container is shifted when the cover is moved between closed and open positions, germicide delivery means extending from the germicide container into position to deliver germicide into the receptacle and means connected with the germicide container and interengaging with a stationary portion of the receptacle so that the means is restrained against movement in the direction of shifting of the germicide container whereby relative movement between such means and the germicide container occurs upon movement of the cover between closed and open positions, such relative movement delivering germicide through the germicide delivery means into the receptacle.

RICHARD R. FARRELL.

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