July 26, 1949. J. J. JURINAK 2,477,378

BUFFER FOR WATER CLOSET SEAT COVERS

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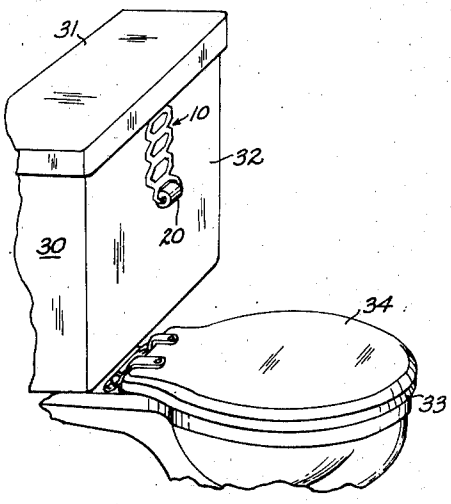


FIG. 4

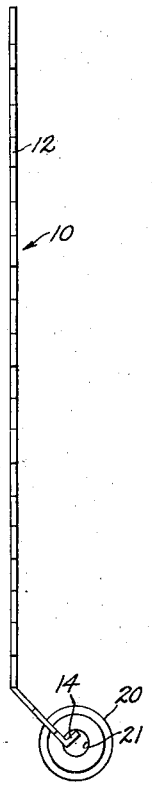


FIG. 2

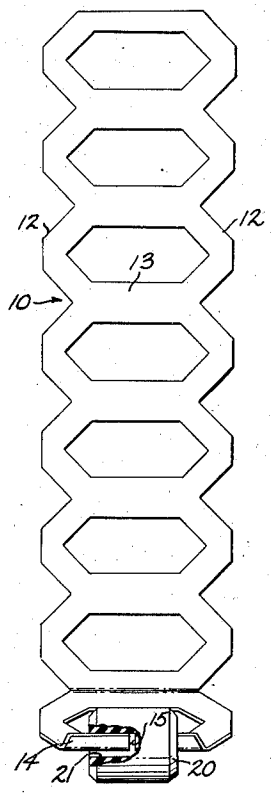


FIG. 1

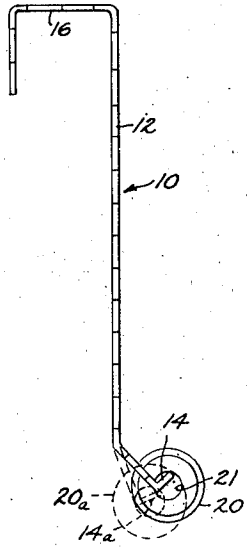


FIG. 3

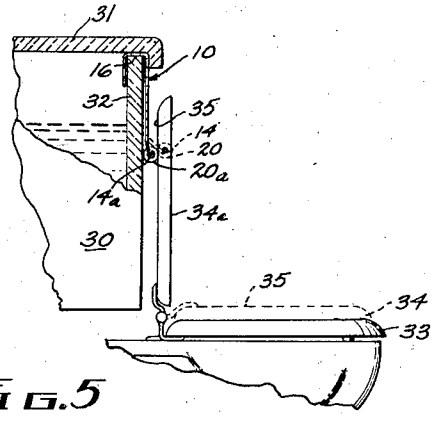


FIG. 5

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BUFFER FOR WATER CLOSET SEAT COVERS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 4—248)

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This invention relates to buffers and particularly to buffers for water closet seat covers.

The primary object of this invention is to provide a seat cover buffer for a water closet that can be mounted in place without requiring the use of any tools.

Another object is to provide a seat cover buffer for a water closet that can be mounted on or removed from any water closet without defacing the device or the water closet.

Still another object is to provide a device of the type stated that is both low in cost and well adapted to the use intended.

These and other objects of the invention will become apparent from a reading of the following specification and clai mtogether with the accompanying drawing in which like parts are referred to and indicated by like reference characters and wherein:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the assembled buffer in its flat condition;

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the same;

Figure 3 is a side elevation of the buffer in its shaped condition;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of a portion of a conventional water closet showing the buffer mounted on the water tank; and

Figure 5 is an end view of the same, partly in section, showing the seat cover in alternate open and closed positions.

A seat cover buffer made in accordance with this invention is shown in the Figure 1. The buffet comprises a body member, broadly indicated by the reference character 10 and a bumper member indicated by the reference character 20.

The body 10 is stamped or otherwise cut from a single piece of sheet material that embodies strength with flexibility such as light gauge galvanized sheet iron. The body is cut in the shape of a ladder having side rails 12 connected by spaced and parallel rungs 13. The side rails have the contour of a series of connected and inwardly facing V's. The opposing legs of the V's of each rail being connected at their ends through the rungs 13 and 14.

The body is bent sharply at the second rung from the bottom when viewed as shown in the Figures 1, 2 and 3. As a result the terminal rung 14 is eccentrically displaced at an angle of approximately 45° from the plane of the balance of the body as shown in the Figures 1 and 2. The terminal rung 14 is bent upon itself to form an axle for the hereinafter described bumper member 20. The terminal rung 14 is split at its center point as shown in Figure 1.

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Reference character 20 indicates a cylindrical bumper member. The bumper 20 is made of any suitable resilient material, such as soft rubber and has an axial bore 21. The bumper is rotatably mounted on the axle-like terminal rung 14 by springing the two halves of the rung apart at the split 15, after which the two halves are again aligned inside the bumper bore 21 as shown in the Figures 1 and 2.

The Figures 4 and 5 show the buffer mounted on a conventional water closet having a water tank 30, a tank lid 31, a seat 33 and a seat cover 34.

The upper portion of the body member is shaped into a concave hanger or hook 16 as shown in the Figure 3. The buffer is positioned against the front wall 32 of the tank 30 with the hanger 16 seated on the top edge of the tank as shown in the Figures 4 and 5.

When the buffer 10 is suspended from the tank edge in this manner the bumper 20 is normally spaced from the front wall 31 by the eccentrically positioned terminal rung 14. The tank lid 31 rests on the hanger 16 and anchors the buffer in place.

When the seat cover 34 is raised to the position indicated by the reference character 34*a* in the Figure 5 its top surface 35 strikes against the bumper 20 and the terminal rung supporting rails are flexed under the force of the blow to move the terminal rung 14 toward the front wall 32 of the tank 30 until the bumper 20 comes into contact with the tank wall 32 as indicated by the reference characters 14*a* and 20*a* respectively in the Figure 5. The energy used to flex the terminal rails and to slightly compress the resilient rubber bumper cushions the blow, so that the seat cover is brought to a gentle stop against the bumper 20.

Since the bumper 20 is free to rotate on the rung 14, all contact between the bumper and the seat cover is accompanied by a rolling action. Therefore there is no scuffing or marring of the seat cover by the bumper no matter how many times the buffing cycle may be repeated.

As can be readily understood from the foregoing, the device can be easily and quickly mounted on or removed from any water closet without the use of tools and without impairing the appearance of the water tank or seat cover.

It will now be clear that there is provided a device which accomplishes the objectives heretofore set forth. While the invention has been disclosed in its preferred form, it is to be understood that the specific embodiment thereof as

described and illustrated herein is not to be considered in a limited sense as there may be other forms or modifications of the invention which should also be construed to come within the scope of the appended claim.

I claim:

In combination with a water closet of the type having a seat cover and a water tank proximate thereto, a seat cover buffer, comprising a unitary sheet material ladder shaped body member having a hanger portion at the upper end thereof engaged with the edge of the aforesaid water tank and an eccentrically positioned terminal rung portion flexibly supported at the lower end thereof, the said terminal rung being bent upon itself to form an axle and a cylindrical resilient bumper member rotatably mounted on the said axle and normally held in spaced relation with the aforesaid water tank by the said terminal rung, the said bumper member being engageable with the opposing surfaces of the aforesaid seat cover and water tank when the seat cover is in its raised condition.

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