June 15, 1943. J. M. HOTHERSALL 2,321,601

CONTAINER

Filed March 23, 1940

Fig. 1

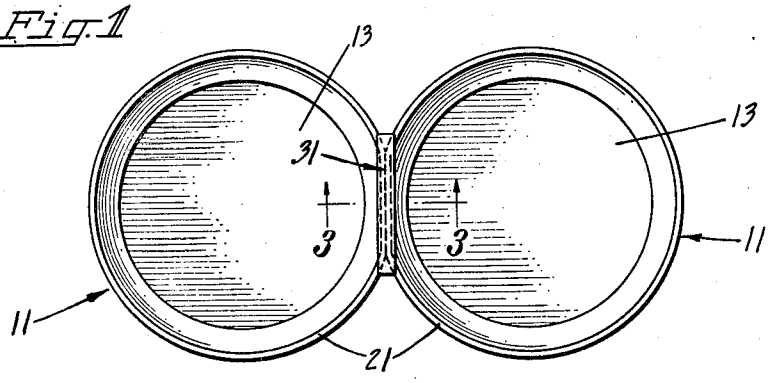


Fig. 2

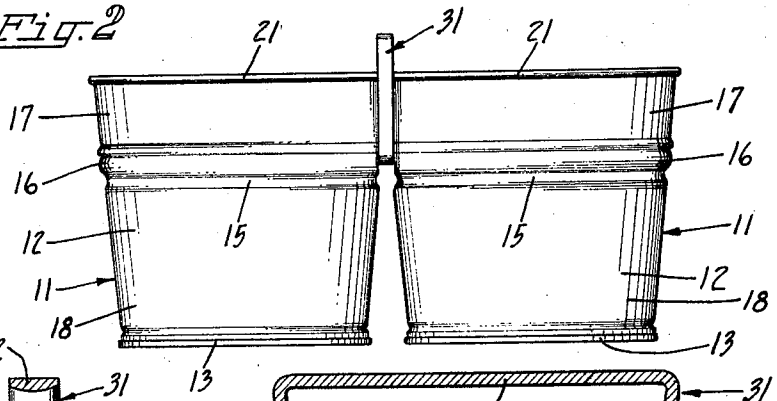


Fig. 3

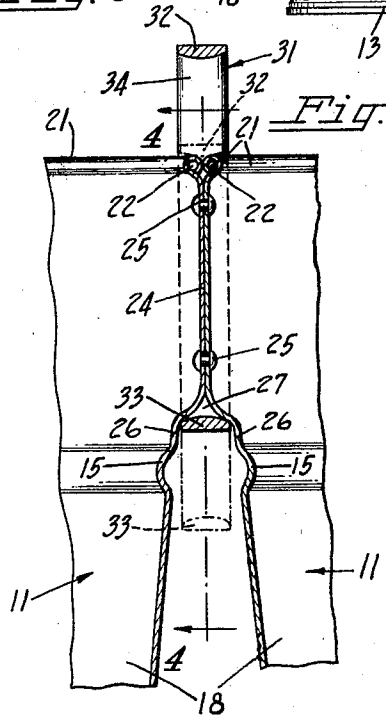
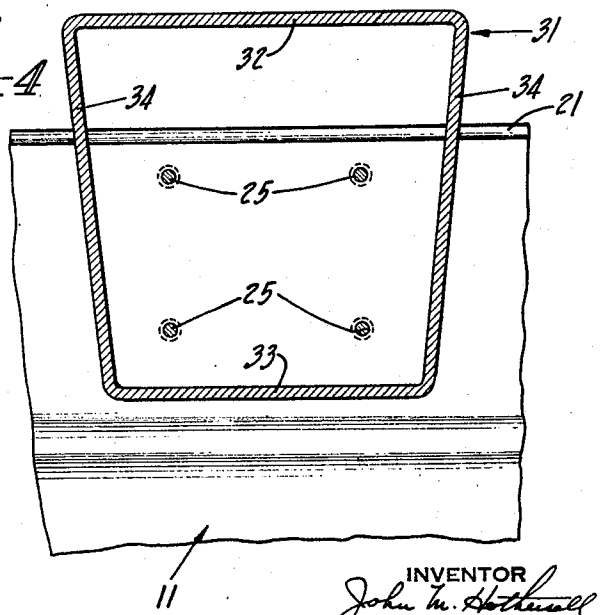


Fig. 4



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CONTAINER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 220—94)

The present invention relates to a double bucket unit which consists of two connected individual pail sections or members and has particular reference to a sliding handle located in between such pail sections so that in one position the handle is out of the way while in another position the entire assembly can be carried as a unit.

In a broad sense the invention relates to a double or twin pail unit, such for example, as disclosed in the F. G. Curtis United States Patent 2,117,405, issued May 17, 1938, and has principally to do with an improved sliding handle which when not in use is adapted to be dropped down between the pail sections and out of the way.

An object of the present invention is the provision of an improved construction of twin pails or double bucket pail units having two individual sections fastened together and having a common carrying handle which is slidable from concealed position within the unit into carrying position where it will sustain the weight of the unit and contents of the pail sections.

Numerous other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent as it is better understood from the following description, which, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, discloses a preferred embodiment thereof.

Referring to the drawing:

Figure 1 is a plan view of a twin pail or double bucket unit embodying the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the unit showing the handle in carrying position;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical sectional view of the pail sections with parts broken away and showing the handle in carrying position; and

Fig. 4 is a similar sectional view of the handle and showing the connection between the individual pail members as viewed substantially along the section line 4—4 in Fig. 3.

The pail sections which are adapted to be used in the double bucket unit of the present invention comprise a pair of pails 11 of similar construction and of the same shape and size. Each pail is formed with a body 12 and a bottom 13 which may be double seamed or otherwise secured to the lower end of the body.

The pail body 12 is preferably provided with a circumferential bead 15 which is shown in the drawing as an interior bead and this bead preferably merges into an upper exterior bead 16 at the top. The wall part above the bead 16 is or may be slightly tapered as at 17 and may be more fully tapered at 18, i. e., in the region between the bead 15 and the bottom 13.

The upper edge of the body wall 12 is curled over at 21 (Fig. 3) such a curl being illustrated as of the outer or exterior curled shape. Each curl 21 preferably extends over and tightly engages a wire ring 22 which provides a stiffening construction for the open mouth of the pail.

In assembling the unit the pail sections 11 are brought into juxtaposition as best illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3 and the body wall section 12 of each pail in its connecting region is straight as at 24 and the parts are held in close contact by rivets 25 (see also Fig. 4). The beads 16 on the two pail sections 11 where the pails are closest together, i. e., adjacent the connecting wall 24, are slightly flattened as at 26 (Fig. 3). This provides a pocket 27 below the engaged pail section walls, the top walls of which merge into the contiguous walls 24.

A carrying handle 31 is provided for the pail unit. Such a handle may be formed of suitable bar stock slightly rounded on the inside to provide a smooth surface. Handle 31 is preferably of trapezium shape or generally ring-like configuration, having an upper wall 32, a lower wall 33 and inclined side walls 34, as best illustrated in Fig. 4.

This handle completely encircles the engaged wall part 24, the inclined side sections 34 of the handle passing down alongside of the upper pail sections 17 and the top section 32 extending over the upper curled edges 21 of the two pail sections. Such a handle being continuous must be placed between the two pail sections before the walls 24 are riveted together. After such riveting handle 31 cannot be displaced from around the contiguous walls 24. It is adapted to be raised into carrying position (Figs. 2, 3 and 4) or it may be dropped down into the dotted line position shown in Fig. 3 which is a non-carrying position.

When the handle is in its raised carrying position, its lower wall 33 is disposed within the pocket 27 and engages the two wall sections of the pail members at such locality, thus supporting the weight of these members together with the contents of the pails. The inclined form of the side walls 34 of the handle is such as to better engage the walls of the pail members in their tapered regions. In such raised position, the upper wall 32 of the handle member is sufficiently spaced from the top curled edges 21 of the pails to provide for clearance of the fingers and for easy engagement of the hand for carrying purposes.

When dropped down into the lower non-carrying position, the handle is out of the way, its upper wall 32 then resting on the curled edges

of the pail members and its lower wall **33** being disposed below the beaded sections **26** between the tapered wall parts **18** of the pails. In such position it is out of the way. The described structure provides an improved carrying member for the double bucket unit, the location of the handle when in carrying position being at the center of the two pails. This provides for the best balancing position for the weight of the unit.

It is thought that the invention and many of its attendant advantages will be understood from the foregoing description, and it will be apparent that various changes may be made in the form, construction and arrangement of the parts without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention or sacrificing all of its material advantages, the form hereinbefore described being merely a preferred embodiment thereof.

I claim:

1. A double bucket unit comprising individual tubular pail members arranged in juxtaposition and having a part of their contiguous walls riveted together, the body wall of each pail member being curled at its top edge, and a ring-like handle member loosely disposed between and surrounding the riveted contiguous walls of said pail members, said handle member being confined against displacement between said pail members by said riveted contiguous walls, said handle member being freely and bodily vertically movable from a non-carrying position where it is supported on said curled top edges of the pail members into a raised carrying position for supporting the two pail members as a single unit with sufficient clearance space for the fingers above the curled edge, the lower portion of said handle member when in carrying position engaging said contiguous riveted wall portions of each pail member.

2. A double bucket unit comprising individual tubular pail members arranged in juxtaposition with their adjacent wall portions secured together and having tapered wall portions spaced apart beneath their secured wall sections, a wire ring extending around the open mouth of each of said pail members, the upper end of the body wall of a said pail member being curled over its said wire ring to strengthen the open top of the pail and provide a smooth mouth, and a movable endless ring-like handle member of trapezium shape loosely disposed beneath and extending around said secured wall sections and over the adjacent top wall portions, the top portion of said handle member constituting a hand grip resting on said reenforced curled edges of said pail members when the handle is in non-carrying position, the bottom side of said handle passing between the spaced tapered walls of said pail members, said handle being freely and bodily movable into raised position for carrying the two pail members as a single unit with sufficient clearance space for the fingers between the top side of the handle and said pail curled edges, whereby to distribute the weight of both pail members and their contents substantially equally on said hand grip, said handle member when in raised carrying position engaging beneath said adjacent secured wall portions of each pail member.

3. A double bucket unit comprising individual tubular pail members arranged in juxtaposition and having their contiguous walls secured together, and a handle member of substantially endless configuration loosely disposed between said pail members surrounding the secured wall portions thereof, said handle member having free bodily vertical movement from a non-carrying position resting on the tops of said pail members into a carrying position extending above the two pail members with sufficient clearance space for the fingers, the inner portion of said endless handle member when in carrying position engaging beneath and supporting said contiguous secured wall portions of said pail members.

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