United States Patent [19]

Lewis

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[54] **RECEPTACLE DEVICE WITH ADVERTISING MEANS**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **232/43.2,** 40/64 R, 232/1 R

[51] **Int. Cl.** **G09f 23/00**

[58] **Field of Search** 232/43.1, 43.2, 43.3, 1; 40/64, 65, 63

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A receptacle device with advertising means comprising a body, an opening at the top, and a chamber therein for storing refuse passed through said opening. Track means are secured to the outer walls of the device and the door for receiving advertising sheet material and a top cover is provided on the device which serves to prevent access to the sheet material in the track structure on the outer walls when the cover is closed and closure means are secured to said door which prevents access to the sheet material in said door track when said door is closed.

6 Claims, 10 Drawing Figures

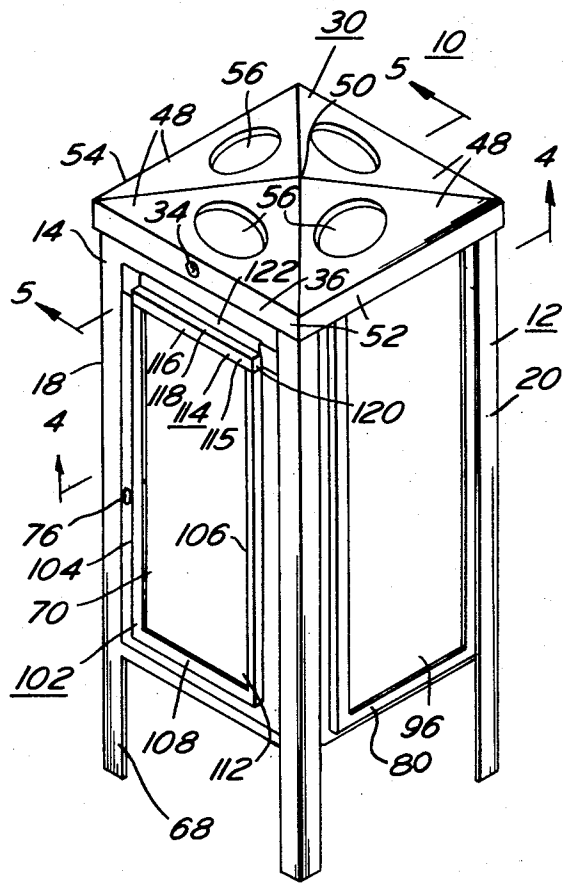


FIG. 1

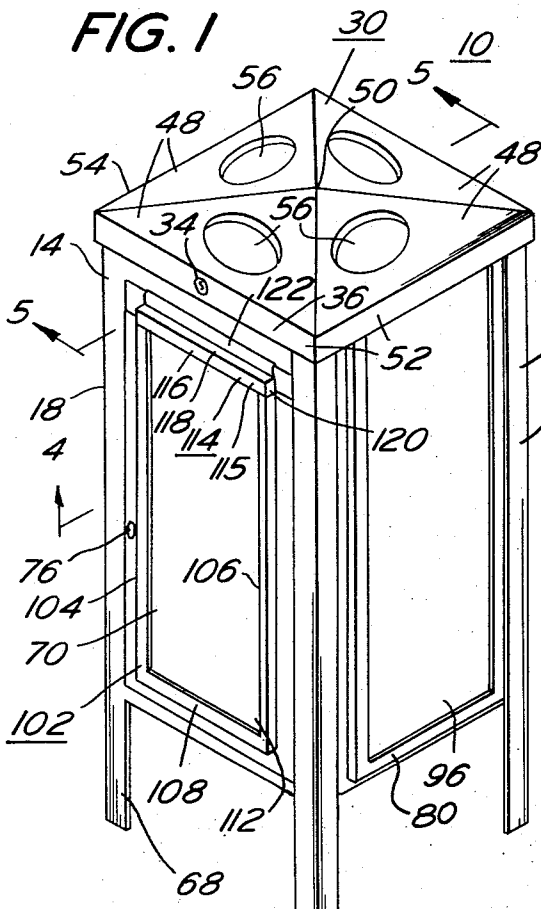
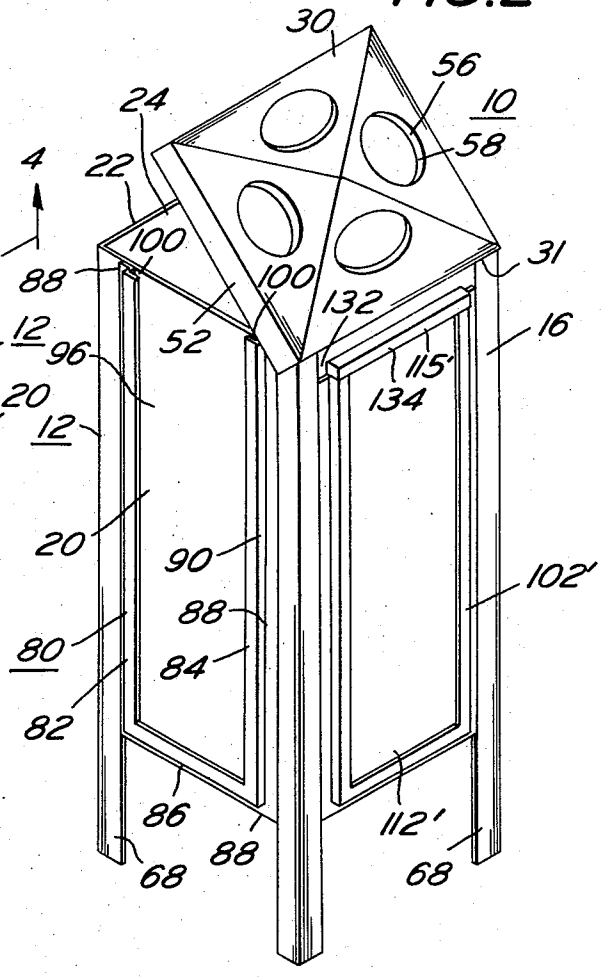


FIG. 2



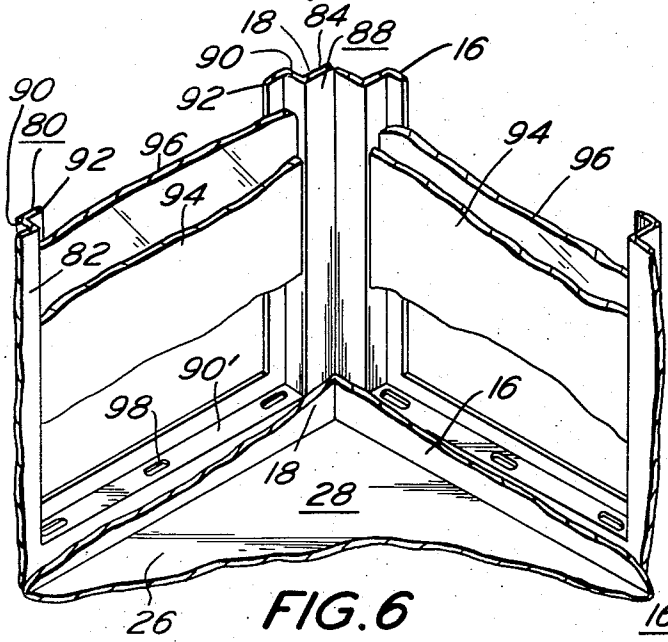


FIG. 6

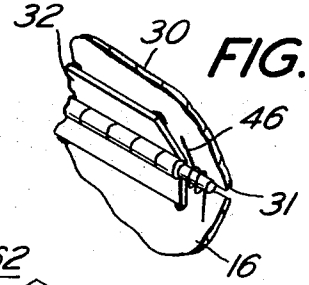


FIG. 7

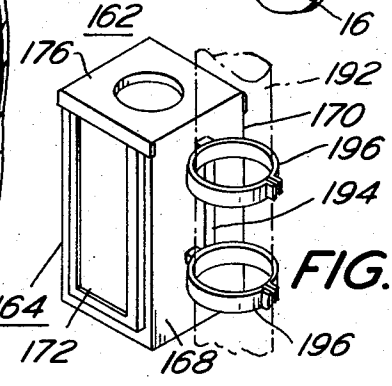


FIG. 10

FIG. 3

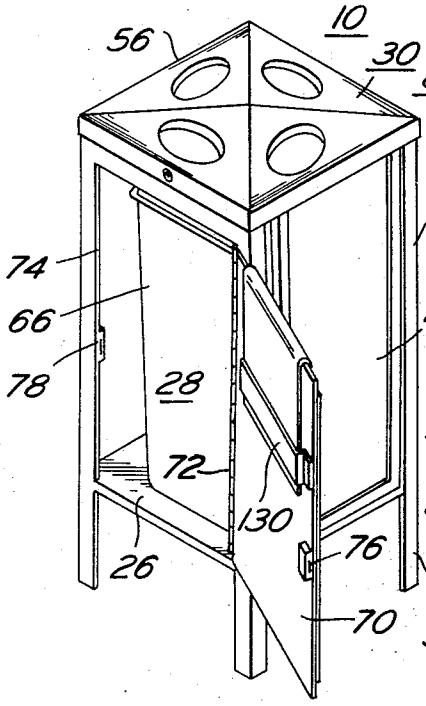


FIG. 4

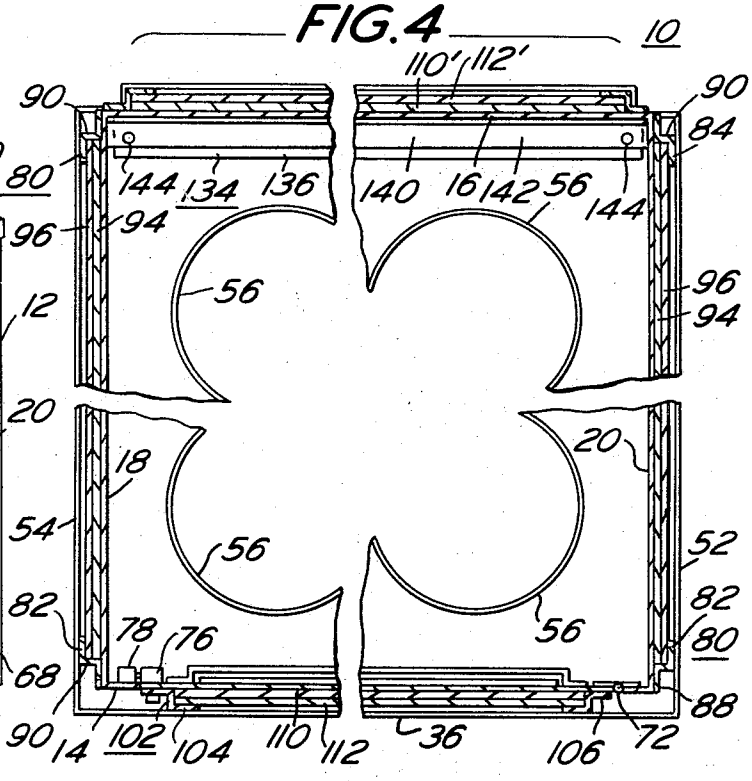


FIG. 8

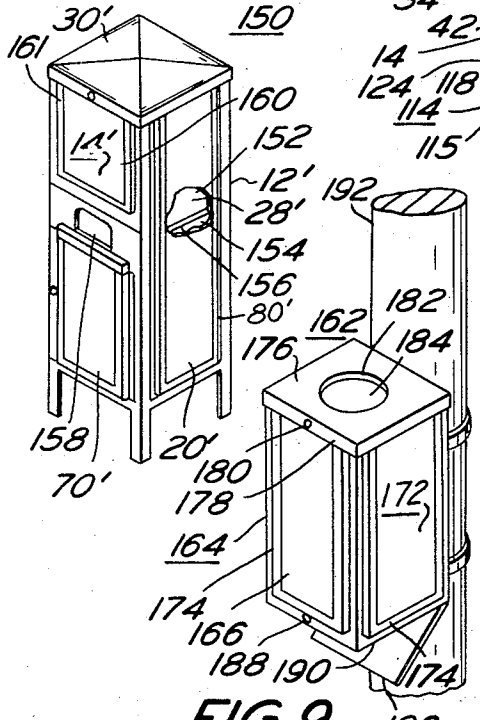
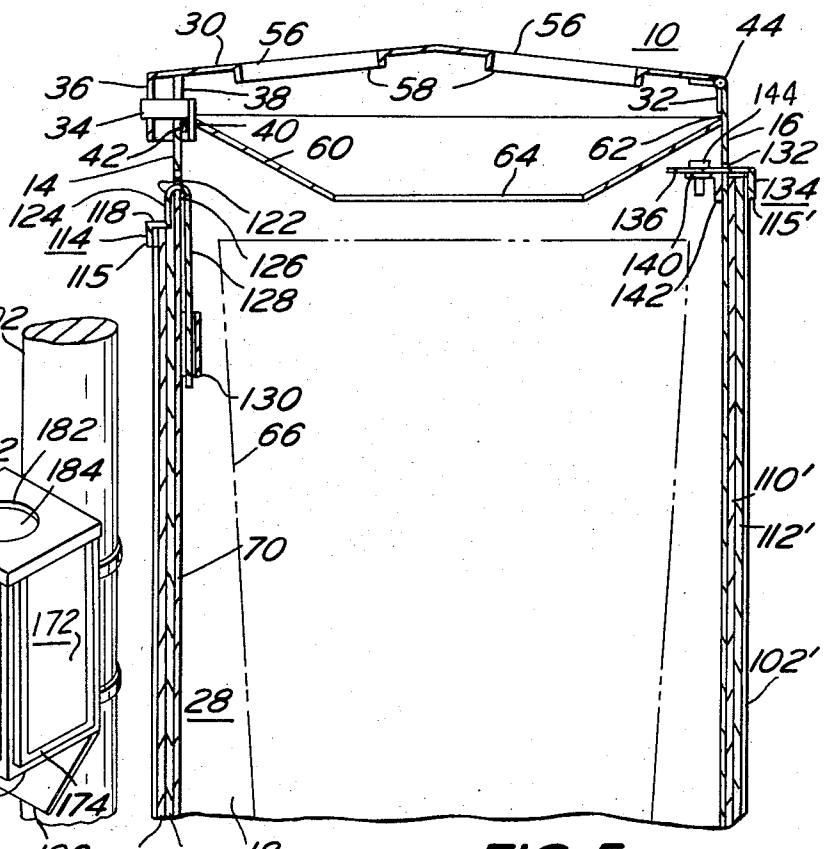


FIG. 9

FIG. 5



RECEPTACLE DEVICE WITH ADVERTISING MEANS

The invention relates to a receptacle device, and more particularly to a receptacle device provided with means for displaying advertising material which is locked in place and may be removed and replaced by authorized personnel only.

Receptacle devices for collecting refuse in public places include the free standing type positioned in various locations as well as the mounted variety attached to standards or poles. Such receptacles have become widely used in the drive to maintain the cleanliness of the streets, highways and public places. Because of their public distribution especially in highly trafficked pedestrian areas and along roads and at picnic sites, such containers are also greatly useful as a means for exhibiting advertising material. However, such containers have not been fully utilized for the purpose of readily placing such advertising material at desired locations protected from detoriation by weather conditions and from unauthorized destruction and mutilation. Present devices also do not provide advertising material which is readily replaceable by new material, for utilizing same to their maximum potential.

It is therefore a principal object of the invention to provide a new and improved receptacle device with means for retaining and displaying advertising material.

Another object of the invention is to provide a new and improved receptacle device of high utility for receiving and retaining refuse, while including means for receiving, retaining and displaying advertising material, and allowing the ready removal and replacement of such material by authorized personnel.

Another object of the invention is to provide a new and improved receptacle device providing the greatest utilization of its outer surfaces for displaying advertising material.

Another object of the invention is to provide a new and improved receptacle device including means for retaining and displaying advertising material while protecting same from weather deterioration and undesirable destruction by unauthorized persons.

Another object of the invention is to provide a new and improved receptacle device with advertising means which may be readily and inexpensively fabricated and which is highly durable.

Another object of the invention provides a new and improved receptacle device with advertising means which requires a minimum of time for operation during removal of refuse, and for removal and replacement of advertising material while being easily locked to prevent unauthorized access.

The above objects of invention are achieved by providing a receptacle device comprising a body having an outer surface providing front, side and rear vertical rectangular walls forming an opening at its top and a chamber therein for storing refuse. A top cover member is hingedly secured at the top of the body along the rear vertical wall for enclosing the opening at the top of the body. Track means including first and second sets of track units are respectively secured with the outer surfaces of the side walls of the body with each of the units having an entrance at its top for removably receiving advertising sheet material therein when the top cover member is in its opened position. With the top cover member in its closed position, the entrance

of each of said first and second sets of track units are enclosed preventing the removal of said advertising sheet material. Lock means is provided for locking the top cover member in its closed position.

The front wall of the receptacle device may include a rectangular door with a top horizontal edge and outer and inner vertical surfaces enclosing a side opening of the body communicating with its chamber. The door is hinged about a vertical axis to move between closed and opened positions. A third set of track units is secured with the outer surface of the door and has an entrance at the top of the track unit for removably receiving advertising sheet material therein. A track closure element is supported by the door and has a cover portion positioned over the entrance enclosing the third set of track units and a U shaped retaining portion extending from the cover portion proximate to the outer surface of the door over the top edge of the door to a position proximate to the inner surface of the door. The track closure element is secured with the door against removal when the door is in its closed position while being removable for opening the entrance to the third set of track units when the door is in its opened position. Locking means are included for locking the door in its closed position.

In one form, the top cover member of the receptacle device is provided with one or more openings for depositing refuse into the chamber of the body. The body is provided with a bottom horizontal wall for supporting a container within the chamber position under the opening of the top cover for receiving refuse. The container is removable through the side opening of the body when the door is in its opened position. A deflector plate secured to the top of the body within the chamber under the opening of the top cover is provided with a downwardly sloping surface to a central opening, for directing refuse into the container positioned thereunder within the chamber of the body.

The rear wall of the receptacle device may also be provided with a fourth set of tract units secured with its outer surface having an entrance at the top of the track unit for removably receiving advertising sheet material therein. A track closure means is provided having a cover portion positioned over the entrance enclosing the fourth set of tract units and a horizontal retaining portion receivable through a slot in the rear wall of the body and releasably secured with the body within its chamber. The closure means is removable only after access is gained to the chamber through the door.

In another form of the receptacle device, a horizontal partition member is secured with the body within its chamber providing a top compartment enclosed by the top cover member and a bottom compartment accessible through the door. The body has a bottom horizontal wall for supporting a container within the bottom compartment, while its front wall is provided with an opening above the door communicating with the bottom compartment for receiving refuse therethrough to the container within the bottom compartment.

In a third form, the receptacle device is provided with means for mounting same on a standard or pole, such as by use of rings or straps secured with the back wall of the body. The front and side vertical walls are each respectively provided with a set of track units, with each unit having the entrance at its top enclosed by the top cover member when the cover member is in its closed position. The top cover member has an opening

for receiving refuse into the chamber of the body and the body has a refuse removal opening at its bottom. A bottom plate member is hingedly secured with the body and has a first closed position enclosing the opening at the bottom of the body for retaining refuse in its chamber. and a second opened position for allowing removal of refuse retained in the chamber of the body. Locking means for respectively locking the top cover member and the bottom plate in their closed positions are provided.

The foregoing and other objects of the invention will become more apparent as the following detailed description of the invention is read in conjunction with the drawing, in which:

FIG. **1** is a front perspective view of a receptacle device with advertising means embodying the invention,

FIG. **2** is a rear perspective view of the receptacle device shown in FIG. **1** which the top cover member partially open,

FIG. **3** is a perspective view similar to that of FIG. **1** illustrating the receptacle device with its front door open,

FIG. **4** is an enlarged sectional view taken on line **4—4** of FIG. **1** with portions broken away and the deflection plate removed for clarity,

FIG. **5** is an enlarged sectional view of the top portion of the receptacle device taken on the line **5—5** of FIG. **1**,

FIG. **6** is an enlarged perspective view of the bottom of the receptacle sevice with portions broken away taken from within the chamber of the receptacle device,

FIG. **7** is an enlarged fragmentary view of the spring biased hinge securing the top cover member with the top of the rear vertical wall of the receptacle device shown in FIG. **1**,

FIG. **8** is a front perspective view with a portion broken away of a modified form of the receptacle device shown in FIG. **1**,

FIG. **9** is a front perspective view of another form of the receptacle device shown in FIG. **1** mounted on a standard or pole, and

FIG. **10** is a rear perspective view of the receptacle device shown in FIG. **9**.

Like reference numerals designate like parts throughout several views.

Referring to FIGS. **1** to **7** inclusive which disclose a receptacle device **10** embodying the invention. The device **10** comprises a body **12** preferably made of sheet metal of rectangular configuration having front and rear vertical walls **14** and **16** and left and right vertical side walls **18** and **20**. The side walls of the body **12** provide an upper edge **22** forming an opening **24** at the top, while the bottom of the body is provided with a bottom horizontal wall **26** joining the walls **14, 16, 18** and **20** and providing a chamber **28** within the body **12.**

A top cover member **30** at its rear edge **31** is secured by a hinge **32** to the top of the body **12** along the rear wall **16.** The cover member **30** in its closed position shown in FIG. **1,** encloses the opening **24** of the body **12** and is locked in its closed position by a key operated locking means **34.**

The locking means **34** may be of a rotatable cylindrical type and has its front ends secured with the downwardly extending front flange **36** of the cover member **30** and being accessible for receipt of the key element from outside the device **10.** The locking means **34** extends inwardly through a vertical directed slot **38** in the top of the front wall **14.** The inwardly extending end of the locking means **34** is provided with a rotatable arm **40** of J configuration. The arm **40** engages a projection **42** extending from the inside surface of the front wall **14** for locking the cover member **30** when in its locked position shown in FIG. **5.** When the locking means **34** is actuated to its unlocked condition, the arm **40** is rotated to assume a horizontal position disengaging projection **42.** In this position, the cover member **30** is released to move upwardly about the axis **44** of the hinge member **32.** The lock means **34** attached to the member **30** moves upwardly through the slot **38** and away from the edge **22** as the member **30** assumes its open position. FIG. **2** illustrates the cover member **30** in a position between its open and closed positions. The hinge means **32** is preferably provided with a spring **46** which urges the cover member **30** towards its fully opened position when the cover member **30** is released by the locking means **34.**

The top cover member **30** has a pyramidical configuration of shallow height providing four triangular surfaces **48** meeting at an apex **50.** In addition to the front depending ledge **36,** the cover member **30** also has left and right side flanges **52** and **54** each depending from respective surfaces **48.** Each of the triangular surfaces **48** is provided with an opening **56** which may be circular in configuration and having an inwardly extending stiffening flange **58.** A deflection shield **60** may be provided comprising a rectangular sheet of material with four outer edges **62.** The edges **62** are respectively secured at the top of the body **12** with the inner surfaces of the vertical walls **14, 16, 18** and **20.** The shield **60** slopes downwardly towards its center where it is provided with an opening **64.** Thus, when a container **66** is positioned within the chamber **28** on the bottom horizontal wall **26,** refuse deposited through an opening **56** in the cover member **30** is deflected by the plate **60** for receipt by the container **66** which may be of rectangular configuration.

The body **12** at its bottom, in the form illustrated in FIG. **1,** is provided with four legs **68** positioned and extending downwardly respectively from each intersection of a pair of adjacent walls, for supporting the body **12** above the ground or floor level, with its cover member **30** at the desired height for receiving hand deposited refuse.

The front wall **14** is provided with a door **70** of rectangular configuration which is secured along its right vertical edge by a hinge **72** for movement between its closed position shown in FIG. **1** and its open position illustrated in FIG. **3.** The door **70** encloses an opening **74** in the front wall **14** communicating with the chamber **28** within the body **12.** The door **70** provides access to the chamber **28** so that the container **66** may be removed, emptied of refuse and replaced. A key operated lock **76** at the left edge of the door engages a keeper **78** fixed with the body at the opening **74** for securing the door **70** in its closed position and for preventing operation by unauthorized persons.

In addition to providing receptacle means for receiving refuse, the device **10** also provides means for receiving and retaining advertising material on the walls of the device **10.** For this purpose, a track unit **80** comprising a pair of parallell vertical brackets **82** and **84,** and a bottom horizontal bracket **86,** providing a U-shaped configuration are secured with each of the side

walls **18** and **20.** Each bracket is provided with a flat outwardly extending bottom flange **88** which is secured with the vertical side wall **18,** and **20** by welding or other suitable means. The bottom portion **88** extends parallell to and in contact with its wall **18** and **20,** while the intermediate portion **90** of each bracket **82, 84** and **86,** extends perpendicularly away from the outer surface of the side walls **18** and **20** to the inwardly extending portion **92.** The portion **92** is parallel to the outer portion **88** of each bracket. The portions **90, 92** of the vertical brackets **82, 84** form a pair of parallel tracks within which sheet material **94** of rectangular form, bearing advertising material on its outer surface may be received and retained. The advertising material **94** may be protected by a rectangular plastic sheet of material **96** which may be placed over the outer surface of the advertising sheet material **94** within the pair of tracks provided by the track means **80.** The horizontal bracket **86** encloses the bottom ends of the vertical brackets **82** and **84** and supports the sheet of advertising material **94** and its plastic protective sheet **96.** The intermediate portion **90'** of the horizontal bracket **86** may be provided with a plurality of openings **98** to allow drainage of any moisture or water which may accumulate due to various weather conditions.

The vertical brackets **82** and **84** extend upwardly so that their top ends are even with the top edge **22** of the opening **24** of the body **12.** The brackets **82** and **84** each provide an opening **100** at their upper ends forming an entrance for slidably receiving into each of the track units **80** the respective advertising sheet material **94** and the protective plastic cover sheet **96** overlying same, when the top cover member **30** is in its fully open position. When the cover member **30** is closed as shown in FIG. **1,** the openings **100** are covered closing the entrance to the track units **80** on the side walls **18** and **20** and preventing removal of the advertising material retained therein. The cover member ledges **36, 52** and **54** also extend downwardly over the top end of the track units, the top portions of the advertising sheet materials **94** and protective sheets **96** also shielding them from rain and adverse weather conditions.

The door **70** may also be provided with a track unit **102** comprising a pair of vertical brackets **104** and **106,** and a horizontal bottom bracket **108** arranged in a U configuration similar to that of the track unit **80.** The vertical brackets **104** and **106** are open at their top ends providing an entrance for receipt of a rectangular sheet of advertising material **110** covered by a clear plastic protective sheet **112** for displaying advertising material on the front wall **14** of the device **10.** The top entrance provided at the top of the brackets **104, 106** is controllably enclosed by a closure unit **114.** The unit **114** comprises a channel member **116** positioned parallell to the bottom bracket **108** and having a front vertical portion **115** extending downwardly over and in front of the brackets **104** and **106** and the advertising material **110** and the sheet **112.** A horizontal portion **118** of the unit **114** joins the vertical portion **115** and the top horizontal ends of the brackets **104, 106,** material **110** and sheet **112.** The channel member **116** of the closure unit **114** has its opposite ends **120** enclosed and serves to shield and protect the advertising sheet material **110** from weather conditions and prevents removal by unauthorized parties. The protective sheet **112** in addition to protecting the advertising sheet material **110** from the weather serves to minimize destruction and defacing of the advertising material.

The channel member **116** is maintained in its position enclosing the track unit **102,** by a U-shaped retaining portion **122** which has a leg **124** which is secured at its end with the channel **116** and is positioned proximate to the front surface of the door **70.** From the leg **124** the portion **122** extends over the top edge **126** of the door **70** with its other leg **128** extending downwardly proximate to the inner surface of the door **70.** The downwardly extending end of the leg **128** passes between a retaining bracket **130** and the surface of the door **70.** The bracket **130** extends horizontally across the inner surface of the door **70,** and is fixed at its ends to the left and right marginal portions of the door. The bracket **130** serves to retain and center the track closure unit **114** on the door **70.**

When the door **70** in its closed position, as shown in FIGS. **1** and **5,** the track closure unit **114** is secured on the door against removal and in a position enclosing the opening to the track unit **102.** Only when the door **70** is in its open position can the track closure unit **114** be moved in an upwardly direction for its removal from the door **70.** This results in the end of the arm **128** clearing the bracket **130.** At such time, the advertising sheet material **110** may be removed and replaced. The track closure means **114** can then be replaced with the door in the open position for enclosing the track unit **102.** With the closing and locking of the door **70,** the advertising sheet material **110** is locked in the track unit **102** and cannot be tampered with by unauthorized persons.

Advertising material may also be displayed on the rear wall **16** of the device **10** by providing a track unit **102'** similar to the track unit **102.** In this case, however, a horizontal slot **132** is provided in the back wall **16** just above the entrance to the track unit **102'.** A closure means **134** is positioned over the upper end of the track unit **102'** for enclosing the entrance to the track unit **102'** and protecting the advertising sheet material **110'** received therein behind the protective sheet **112'.** The closure means **134** has a channel portion **115'** similar to the channel portion **115** of the closure unit **114** and a horizontally extending retaining portion **136** which extends through the slot **132** in the wall **16.** The horizontally extending portion **136** overlies the horizontal portion **140** of a securing bracket **142** which extends horizontally across and is secured with the inside surface of the wall **16** just below the slot **132.** The portion **136** of the closure means **134** and the horizontal portion **140** of the securing bracket **142** are each provided with a pair of openings which are aligned to respectively receive a pair of pins **144.** The pins **144** secure and prevent removal of the closure means **134** from outside of the receptacle means **10.** The pins **144** may be removed only by obtaining access to the chamber **28** through the door **70** at which time the pins **144** may be removed allowing the closure means **132** to be withdrawn horizontally. The retained advertising material **110,** thus, is also secured within the track unit **102'** against unauthorized removal and tampering.

It is thus apparent that the receptacle device **10** is provided with means for receiving and retaining advertising material for displaying on each of its four vertical walls, that such advertising material is protected against weather conditions and vandalism, and can be easily removed and replaced by authorized personnel.

FIG. 8 illustrates a receptacle device **150** which is a modified form of the receptacle device **10**. The device **150** is substantially identical to the device **10** except that the body **12'** is taller and has its chamber **28'** divided into upper and lower compartments **152, 154** by a horizontal partition member **156**. The door **70'** on the front wall **14'** of the body **12'** encloses the lower compartment **154** in which a receptacle **66** is retained. The top cover member **30'** allows access to the upper compartment **152** and is not provided with openings such as those **56** present in the top cover member **30** of the device **10**. An opening **158**, however, is provided in the front wall **14'** of the body **12'** just above the door **70'** communicating with the compartment **154**. The opening **158** allows refuse to be deposited therethrough into the container stored within the lower compartment. The upper portion **160** may also be provided with a track unit **161** similar to the track unit **80'** on the side walls **20'** for receiving and retaining advertising sheet material. Such track means **161** has its entrance enclosed in the manner similar to that of the track means **80'** when the top cover member **30'** is in its closed position as illustrated in FIG. **8**. The upper compartment **152** may be utilized for storage of containers filled with refuse or empty containers, or may provide other storage which may be desirable and useful.

The receptacle device **150**, thus, provides all of the advantages and features of the receptacle device **10**, as well as additional advertising display area and storage space.

FIGS. **9** and **10** disclose a receptacle device **162** which is adapted for being supported by a standard or pole. The receptacle device **162** comprises a body **164** of substantially rectangular configuration with front and rear vertical walls **166, 168** and left and right vertical side walls **170** and **172**. The front wall **166**, and the side walls **170** and **172** are each respectively provided with a track unit **174** which may be identical to the form of track unit **80** of the device **10** for receiving and retaining advertising sheet material therein.

A top cover member **176** which is hingedly secured at its rear with the top portion of the rear wall **162** is provided with front and side downwardly extending flanges **178** which cover and enclose the top portion of the track units **174** when the member **176** is in its closed condition as shown in FIGS. **9** and **10**. A lock **180** is provided for securing the cover member **176** in its closed position. When unlocked, the cover member **176** may be swung upwardly to its vertical position, opening the entrances to the track units **174** for removal and replacement of advertising sheet material.

The top cover member **176** is provided with a central opening **182** for receiving therethrough refuse. The refuse is received into the chamber **184** within the body **164** for storage therein.

The body **164** is provided with a hinged bottom plate member **186** secured with the bottom portion of the rear vertical wall **168** for movement about a horizontal axis. A lock **188** secures the bottom plate member **168** in its horizontal closed position for retaining the refuse within the chamber **184** of the body **164**. When released by the lock **188**, the bottom plate member **186** moves downwardly to uncover a bottom opening **190** in the body **164**, as illustrated in FIG. **9**. This allows any refuse within the chamber **184**, to drop into a container which may be placed thereunder. The bottom plate member **186** may thereafter be placed in its horizontal position and locked by the lock **88**, again conditioning the device **162** for receiving and storing refuse therein. The receptacle device **162** is adapted for mounting on a standard or pole **192** by means of a vertical bracket **192** secured with its rear wall **168** and a pair of split rings **196** attached to the bracket **192** adapted for being received and fastened about a standard **192**.

The receptacle device **162** provides means whereby standards or poles which may be prevalent in many areas of a community, may be utilized for supporting receptacle devices in desired locations, while at the same time providing means for prominently displaying advertising material.

While only a few representative embodiments of the invention disclosed herein have been described in detail, there will be obvious to those skilled in the art, many modifications and variations accomplishing the foregoing objections and realizing many or all of the advantages, but which yet do not depart essentially from the spirit of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A receptacle device comprising a body having an outer surface providing front, side and rear vertical rectangular walls, said body having an opening at its top and a chamber therein for storing refuse, a top cover member hingedly secured at the top of said body along the rear vertical wall for movement between a first position enclosing the opening at the top of said body and a second position away from said opening, track means including one or more sets of track units respectively secured with one or more of the outer surfaces of the walls of said body with each of said units having an entrance at the top of said body for removably receiving advertising sheet material therein, said cover member enclosing the entrances of said track means and preventing removal therefrom or receipt therein of advertising sheet material when said cover member encloses the opening at the top of said body, and means for locking said top cover member in its first position, one of the walls of said body including a rectangular door with a top horizontal edge and outer and inner vertical surfaces enclosing a side opening of said body communicating with its chamber, said door being hinged about a vertical axis to move between closed and open positions, a set of track units secured with the outer surface of said door having an entrance at the top thereof for removably receiving advertising sheet material therein, and a track closure element supported by said door having a cover portion positioned over and enclosing the entrance of said last set of track units and a retaining portion extending behind said door, said retaining portion being concealed when said door is in its closed position and exposed when said door is in its open position, said track closure element being secured with said door against removal when said door is in its closed position and being removable from over said last set of track units for opening its entrance when the door is in its open position, and including locking means for locking said door in its closed position.

2. The receptacle device of claim **1** in which the top cover member is provided with an opening for receiving refuse into the chamber of said body, said body has a bottom horizontal wall for supporting a container within the chamber positioned under the opening of the top cover member for receiving refuse, and said door allows removal of the container through the side opening of said body when it is in its open position.

3. The receptacle device of claim 2 in which the top cover member is pyramidically shaped having four sloped surfaces with each surface having a circular opening, and including spring bias means urging said cover members toward its closed position, and a deflector plate secured with the top of said body within its chamber under the openings of said top cover member and sloping downwardly to a central opening for directing refuse into a container positioned thereunder within the chamber of said body.

4. The receptacle device of claim 1 in which the front wall of said body has said rectangular door said rear wall of said body has at its top a horizontal slot, and including a set of track units secured with the outer surface of the rear wall of said body having an entrance at the top thereof for removably receiving advertising sheet material therein, and a track closure means having a cover portion posititoned over the entrance enclosing said fourth set of track units and a horizontal retaining portion receivable through the slot in the rear wall of said body and releasably secured with said body within its chamber.

5. The receptacle device of claim 1 including a horizontal partition member secured with said body within its chamber providing a top compartment enclosed by the top cover member and a bottom compartment accessable through said door, said body having a bottom horizontal wall for supporting a container within the bottom compartment, the front wall of said body having said rectangular door and an opening above said door communicating with said bottom compartment for receiving refuse therethrough into the container therewithin.

6. The receptacle device of claim 5 in which said rear wall of said body has at its top a horizontal slot, and including a set of track units secured with the outer surface of the rear wall of said body having an entrance at the top thereof for removably receiving advertising sheet material therein, and a track closure means having a cover portion positioned over the entrance enclosing said last set of track units and a horizontal retaining portion receivable through the slot in the rear wall of said body and releasably secured with said body within its chamber.

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