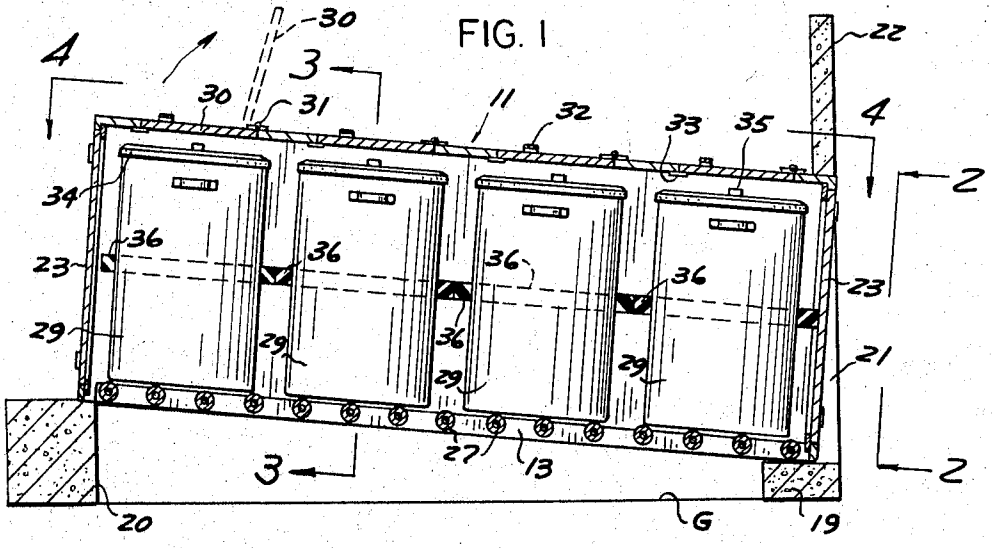
Jan. 17, 1967 E. SAFFORD 3,298,533

REFUSE CONTAINERS

Filed April 27, 1966

FIG. 1



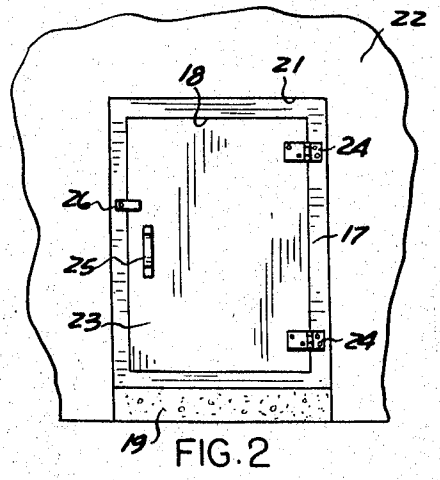


FIG. 2

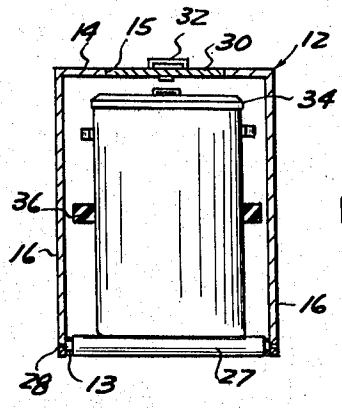
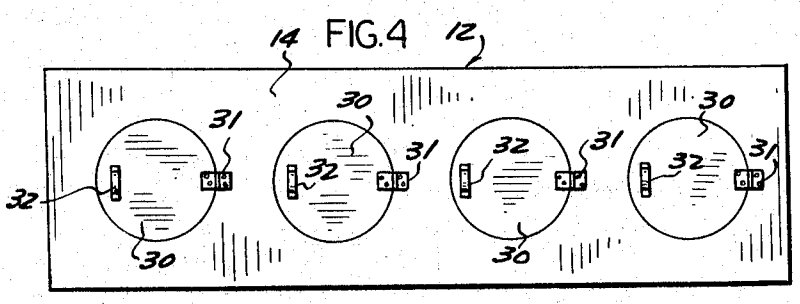


FIG. 3

FIG. 4



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REFUSE CONTAINERS

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5 Claims. (Cl. 211—71)

The present invention relates to refuse receptacles which include trashcans and garbage cans, and, more particularly, an improved means for handling same.

It is an object of the present invention to overcome many of the well-known difficulties in providing cleanliness with respect to refuse receptacles and to overcome problems with cats, dogs, rats, flies, and other insects and problems relating to odor.

It is, therefore, the primary object of the present invention to provide a refuse receptacle in the nature of a closed receptacle within which a plurality of refuse containers may be movably stored in a convenient, but sanitary manner.

It is another object to provide in a refuse receptacle construction a means by which the individual refuse can is elevated above the ground surface and which is arranged for easy loading and unloading.

These and other objects will be seen from the following specification and claims in conjunction with the appended drawing in which:

FIG. 1 is a longitudinal section of the present refuse receptacle.

FIG. 2 is a fragmentary end view taken in the direction of arrows 2—2 of FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is a section taken in the direction of arrows 3—3 of FIG. 1.

FIG. 4 is a plan view taken in the direction of arrows 4—4 of FIG. 1.

It will be understood that the above drawing illustrates merely a preferred embodiment of the invention, and that other embodiments are contemplated within the scope of the claims hereafter set forth.

Referring to the drawing and particularly FIGS. 1 through 4, the present refuse receptacle **11** includes an elongated hollow housing **12** with open bottom **13**, FIG. 1, wherein its longitudinal axis is inclined upwardly and rearwardly from the horizontal from the small acute angle shown in view of the spaced supports **19** and **20** mounted upon ground surface G.

The present housing includes top wall **14** having a series of apertures **15**, the opposed upright side walls **16** and the two end walls **17** apertured at **18** to receive the respective hinge doors **23**.

A first support block **19** is arranged adjacent and at the bottom of an aperture **21** formed through an adjacent fence **22** such as might be expected across the rear lot line of property wherein, as shown, and employing the rearwardly spaced enlarged support block **20**, the said housing **11–12** is so mounted at an incline that one end, namely its lower end, projects into the apertured portion **21** of fence **22** for convenient access from the exterior of a yard enclosed by the said fence.

Both of the doors **23** within the corresponding end wall apertures **18** are suitably hinged thereto as at **24** and have suitable handles **25** and latches **26** for maintaining the same within the closed position.

Both of the respective hinges **24** are spring biased or have built-in spring elements to normally urge the doors to the closed position shown and to maintain the same in closed position. Thus, they must be opened against the spring bias built into the said hinges **24**.

The series of parallel spaced transverse rollers **27** at their opposite ends are journalled within the said side-

walls, FIG. 3, as at **28** within said housing **12** and adjacent its open end portion **13**, as best shown in FIG. 1.

A series of aligned trashcans **29** are loosely positioned in a row within said housing movably mounted upon rollers **27**.

Within the respective apertures **15** of top wall **14** are hingedly mounted as at **31** a series of trapdoors **30** with handles **32** which register with respect to stops **33**, FIG. 1, when closed. Each of the hinges **31** incorporates a spring means for normally biasing the trapdoors **30** to the closed position shown in registry with top wall **14**. The respective trapdoors **30** are generally in vertical registry with the corresponding trashcans **29** which have removable covers **34** sealed thereover.

It is contemplated that the top wall **14** may have a slight downward taper thereover to provide for adequate fluid drainage and to avoid the accumulation of water.

Thus, there is provided a trashcan enclosure wherein due to the inclination of the housing and the inclination of the row of transverse can supporting rollers **27**, the cans will have a tendency to move downwardly along this ramp-like support for access out through the lower and outer door **23**, FIG. 2. This provides a simplified means for removing the cans for emptying.

Each of the cans **29** has intermediate its upper and lower ends an annular flange or ring **36** made of plastic or rubber which serves as a bumper for maintaining not only an alignment and spacing between the trashcans **29**, FIG. 1, but also for spacing the same inwardly of the housing walls and sidewalls **16**.

The housing **12** can be further loaded by application to its inner end wall door **23**, FIG. 1, since the cans within said housing conveniently stored therein are movable downwardly to the respective lowermost positioning of the first can as shown in FIG. 1.

Having described my invention, reference should now be had to the following claims.

I claim:

1. In combination a refuse receptacle comprising a hollow, elongated housing with an open bottom and with its longitudinal axis inclined upwardly from the horizontal at an acute angle;

said housing including side walls and apertured top and end walls;

a hinged door normally closing each end wall;

a series of parallel spaced transverse rollers at their opposite ends journalled in said side walls at the bottom of and within said housing and correspondingly inclined;

a series of aligned trashcans loosely positioned in a row within the housing movably mounted on said rollers;

and a series of spaced separate trap doors hingedly mounted upon and normally in registry with said top wall directly above said trashcans respectively.

2. The combination of claim **1**, each hinge mounting being spring biased for automatic closing of said doors and for maintaining said doors in closed position.

2. The combination of claim **1**, and registering annular bumper rings, one on each trashcan intermediate its ends for spacing the cans apart and for maintaining the cans spaced from said sidewalls.

4. The combination of claim **1**, each trashcan having an individual cover sealed thereover.

5. The combination of claim **1**, and a fence having an aperture therethrough into which snugly extends the lower end of the said housing.

No references cited.

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