Nov. 15, 1949 F. E. LE BARON 2,487,883

TOILET KIT

Filed June 20, 1946 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

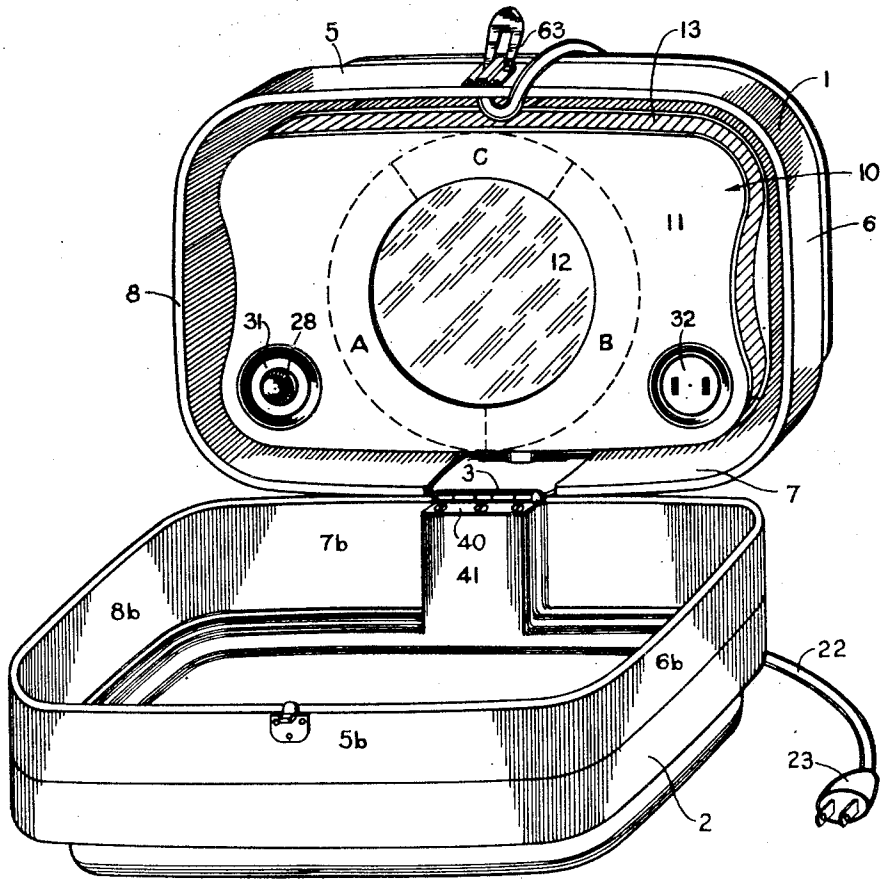

FIG. 1

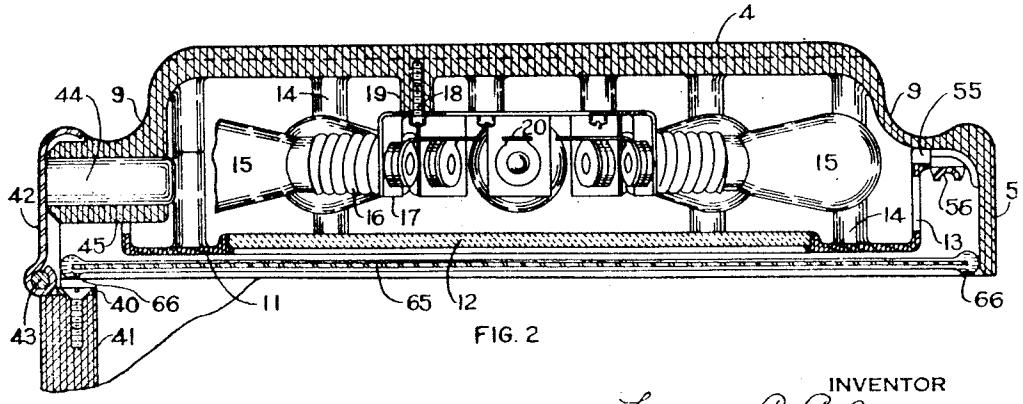

FIG. 2

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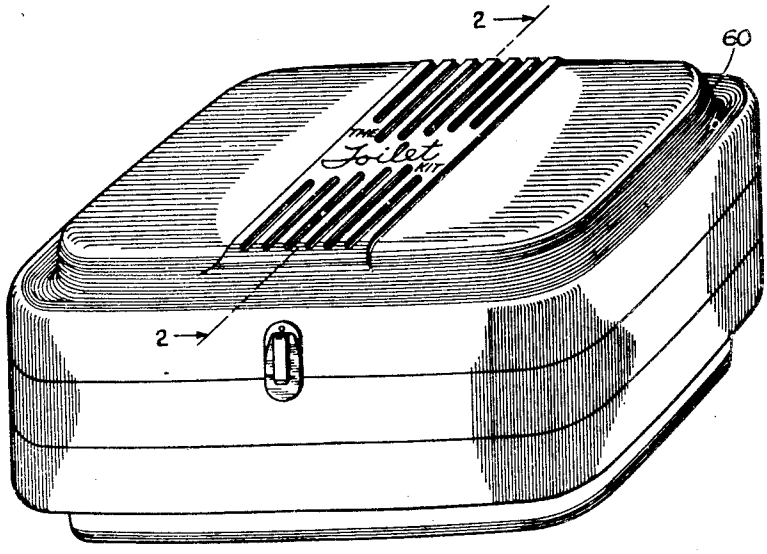

FIG. 3

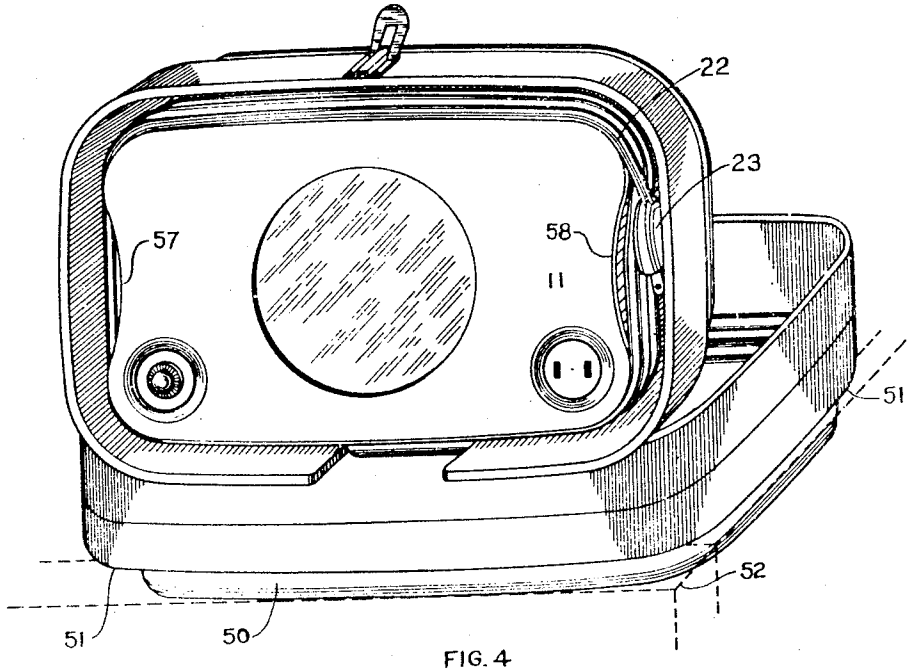

FIG. 4

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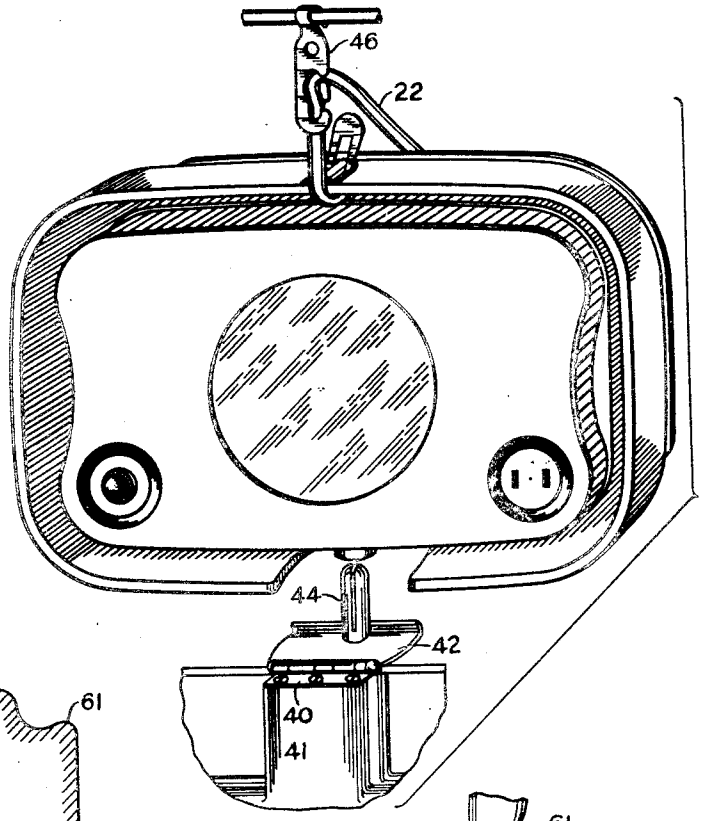

FIG. 5

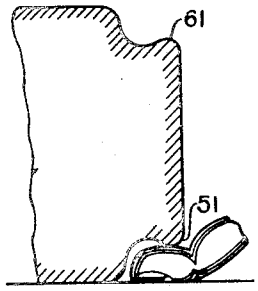

FIG. 6

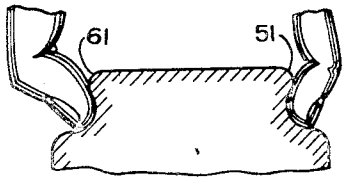

FIG. 7

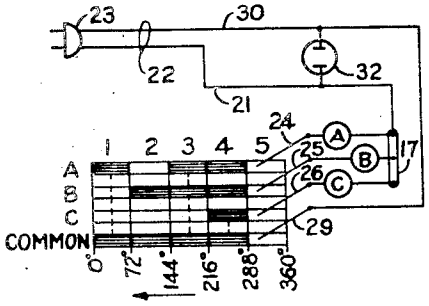

FIG. 8

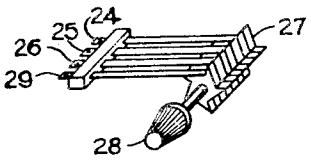

FIG. 9

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TOILET KIT

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Application June 20, 1946, Serial No. 678,008

3 Claims. (Cl. 220—1)

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It is a frequent experience in travelling to find that the shaving mirror is not conveniently placed or does not have adequate lighting around it. One object of the present invention is to provide a toilet kit which, in addition to holding toilet articles, supplies the user with a properly supported mirror and associated illuminating means, and which can be set up in any convenient location.

Another object is to provide a kit of the kind described, in which the mirror and illuminating means are contained in a section of the kit which can be turned around so as to face backward, in relation to another section of the kit which contains the toilet articles, or which can be separated altogether from said other section, so that it can be hung up; for example, by means of an electric extension cord which supplies the illuminating means.

Still another object is to provide a box, such as a toilet kit, so shaped that it can be easily picked up from any side, and without the aid of a handle.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following specification, wherein I have described, by way of example, a professed embodiment of the invention.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a toilet kit constructed in accordance with the invention, with the top section turned up on its hinge.

Fig. 2 is a vertical section substantially on the line 2—2 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the kit, in closed condition.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the kit, with the top section turned upon its hinge and turned so as to face backward, in relation to the bottom section.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary perspective view showing the top section of the kit separated from the bottom section and suspended by the extension cord.

Figs. 6 and 7 are detail views illustrating the method of picking up the kit.

Fig. 8 is a circuit diagram.

Fig. 9 is a detail view of a five-position switch.

As shown in Fig. 1, the toilet kit comprises a top section 1 and a bottom section 2 hinged together by a hinge 3. The inside of the bottom section is preferably lined with plush, or the like, and serves to hold the toilet articles. The top section comprises a top wall 4 (Fig. 2), side walls 5, 6, 7, and 8, and concave joining portions

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9, the purpose of which will be described later. The top section contains a box-like structure 10, formed by a translucent panel 11 having an opening in which is framed a mirror 12, and a lateral grill 13, which extends into abutment with the concave joining portion 9 of the top section. The panel 11 is secured to the top wall 4 by screws (not shown) threaded into posts 14 and counterbored in the top wall 4.

In the present embodiment, illumination is provided by incandescent lamps 15 mounted in sockets 16 on a metal bracket 17 secured by screws 18 to posts 19 of the top wall 4. The central contact (not shown) of each lamp base makes contact in the usual way with an insulated terminal 20. The electrical connections to the terminals 20 and braket 17 are shown in Fig. 8. The bracket 17 is connected to one wire 21 of an electric extension cord 22 having the usual plug 23. The terminals 20 are connected in groups, as indicated by the dotted sectors A, B, and C in Fig. 1, and the groups are connected to respective brushes 24, 25, and 26 of a switch shown in Fig. 9. The switch has a 5-sided rotor 27 composed of an insulator with metal inserts, as shown in the developed diagram in Fig. 8. The rotor can be turned by a knurled knob 28, its five points preventing retrograde movement and giving a snap action to reduce the break arc. A fourth brush 29 is connected to the other wire 30 of the cord 22. As will be seen from Fig. 8, when the switch is in the position shown, none of the lamps is lit. When the switch is turned one step in the direction of the arrow, the lamps in group A will be lit, providing illumination for shaving the left side of the face, without glare from the other lamps. The next step of movement of the switch lights the lamps in group B and turns out those in group A, for shaving the right side of the face. Another step will turn on groups A and B together, and still another will add group C.

Heat generated by the lamps 15 is carried off by air currents entering the space behind the panel 11 through the lower part of the grill 13 and leaving through the upper part of the grill. The bare metallic sockets 16 and supporting metallic bracket 17 offer little obstruction to the air current.

In place of incandescent lamps, any other suitable kind of lamps, such as fluorescent lamps, can be used. The knob 28 of the switch is in a depression 31 in the panel 11, so as not to extend beyond the plane of the panel. An outlet 32 is

provided for plugging in an electric razor and is connected in the circuit as shown in Fig. 8.

The hinge interconnecting the two sections of the kit preferably has the construction shown in detail in Figs. 2 and 5. It comprises a plate **40** secured by screws to a boss **41** of the lower section **2** of the kit, and a plate **42** connected by a pin **43** to the plate **40** and frictionally held to the top section **1** by a bifurcated post **44** fitting into a hole in a boss **45** of the top section. The plate **42** curls over at its edge to match the contour of the side wall **7** of the top section. The top section can be pulled off the post **44** and hung up by means of a hook **46** clamped upon the cord **22**, as shown in Fig. 5. The plates **40** and **42** are hinged together by the pin **43** with enough friction to hold the top in any angular position.

Instead of separating the top section from the bottom section, it can be turned 180° upon the post **44**, as shown in Fig. 4. This position has the advantage of bringing the mirror nearer to the user's face.

Fig. 4 also shows how the kit can be set up in the corner of a bureau drawer, for example. The lower part **50** of the bottom section is of reduced size, providing a ledge **51** adapted to rest on the corner of a drawer **52**. The reduced portion **50** bears against the inside walls of the drawer, holding the kit in place. The user will select the bureau drawer at the most convenient height, to support the kit.

Another feature illustrated in Fig. 4 is the coiling of the cord **22**. The cord, the inner end of which passes through a hole **55** in the grill work **13** and is clamped by a clamp **56**, is coiled around and around the sides of the box-like structure formed by the grill work **13** and panel **11**. This box-like structure has two concave portions **57** and **58**, the latter forming a space into which the coils of the cord are wedged by the plug **23**, whereby the coils are tightened about the box-like structure and prevented from falling out when the top section is turned down to close the kit.

The reduced portion **50** of the lower section is matched by a similar reduced portion **60** of the upper section. These reduced portions are joined to the side walls **5**, **6**, **7**, and **8**, and **5***b*, **6***b*, **7***b*, and **8***b* (Fig. 1), by the previously mentioned concave portions **9**. The resulting contour provides space for fingers to be inserted between the top of the table and the ledge **51**, as shown in Fig. 6, to lift the kit from the table. The complementary ledge **61** of the top section can be grasped by the thumb, as shown in Fig. 7, to lift the kit bodily from the table. The kit therefore requires no handle and can be picked up at any side by one hand. When so grasped it is held closed by the pressure of the fingers and thumb and is not dependent upon a latch to keep it from flying open and spilling its contents, as may happen with a box picked up by a handle on the cover. A hasp **63** may, however, be provided.

The top section may be enclosed by a thin flat tray **65** of steel covered with resilient rubber. The rubber is formed into a thick bead **66**, which fits closely against the inner faces of the side walls of the top section, so that the tray will stay in place while the top section is closed down. A notch in each end of the tray (not shown) permits fingers to be inserted to remove the tray. The tray serves several purposes. It keeps the contents of the bottom section of the box from

damaging the mirror. It provides a convenient soft-finished tray on which to place articles removed from the kit. It may also be used as a non-slip rest for the kit when the latter is set up on top of a table.

While I have shown and described one preferred embodiment of the invention, it will be understood that various modifications may be made within the scope of the invention as defined in the following claims.

I claim:

1. In a toilet kit, a box of generally rectangular shape, comprising a top section and a bottom section, means interconnecting said two sections comprising a hinge having a horizontal axis and pivotal means having a vertical axis whereby the top section can be swung upward and turned on said pivotal means to face backward, said bottom section having a lower portion of substantially reduced cross section and essentially rectangular, whereby said bottom section can be supported on the corner of a drawer, and a mirror and illuminating means therefor on the inside of said top section.

2. In a toilet kit, a box comprising a bottom section and a top section, the top section having mounted to the inside of its top an inner box-like structure spaced from the side walls of the top section, an electric extension cord wrapped around said inner box-like structure and having one end secured to said top section and a connection plug at its other end, said inner box-like structure having a concave shape adjacent said plug across which the coils of said cord are stretched so as to leave a space between said coils and the side of said top section, smaller than the thickness of said plug, said plug being wedged between the side of said top section and said coils so that the latter are bowed into the concave end of said inner box-like structure and contracted upon the same.

3. In a toilet kit, a box comprising a bottom section and a top section, the top section having mounted therein a translucent panel with an opening therein, a mirror in said opening and approximately in the same plane with said panel, and illuminating means behind said panel, said panel being mounted to the inside of the top of said top section, so as to leave a marginal cavity between it and the sides of said top section for storage of an electric extension cord.

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