June 12, 1956 C. FUERST 2,750,246

CLOTHES HAMPERS

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FIG. 1.

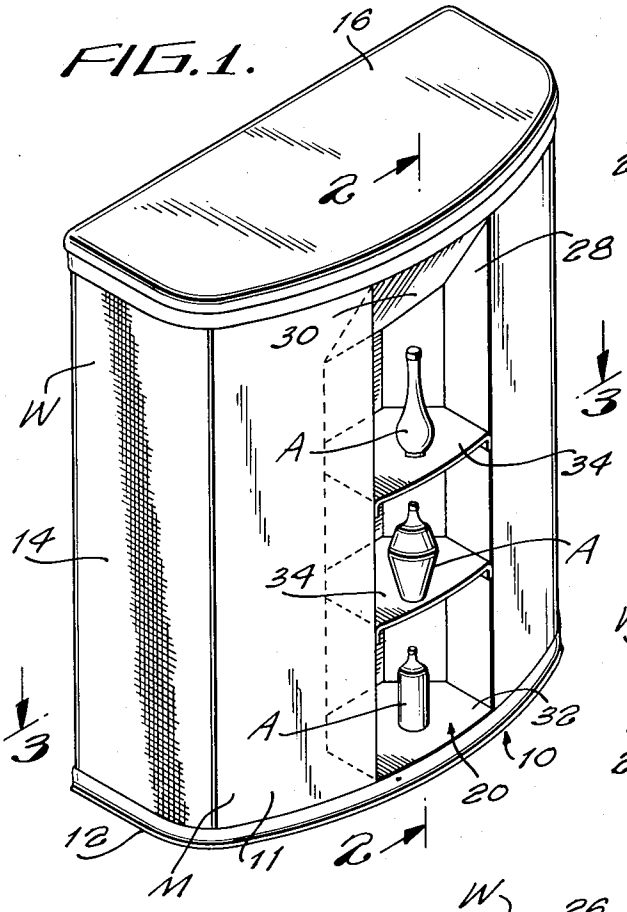


FIG. 2.

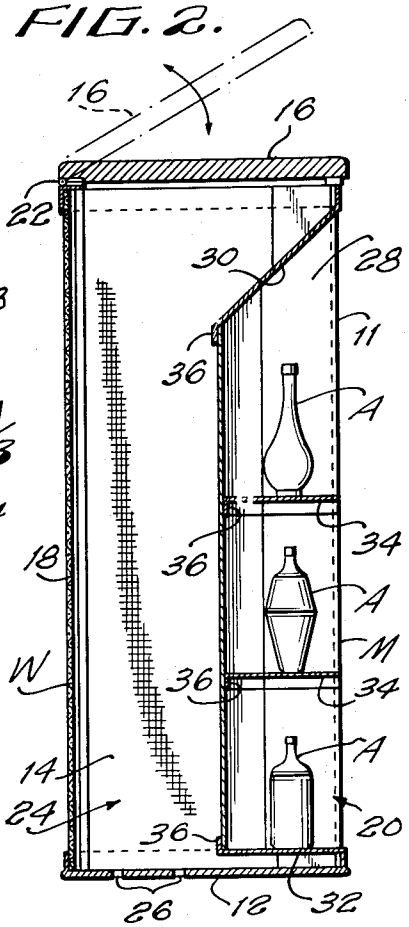
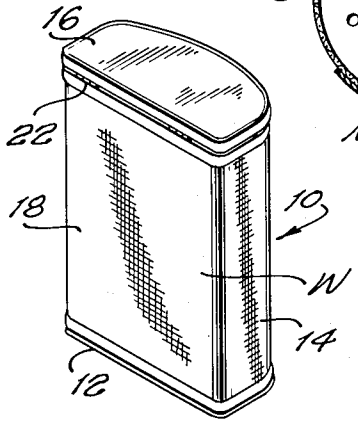


FIG. 4.



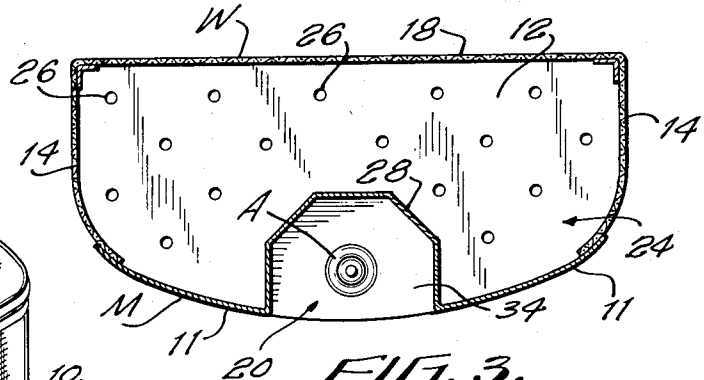


FIG. 3.

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FIG. 5.

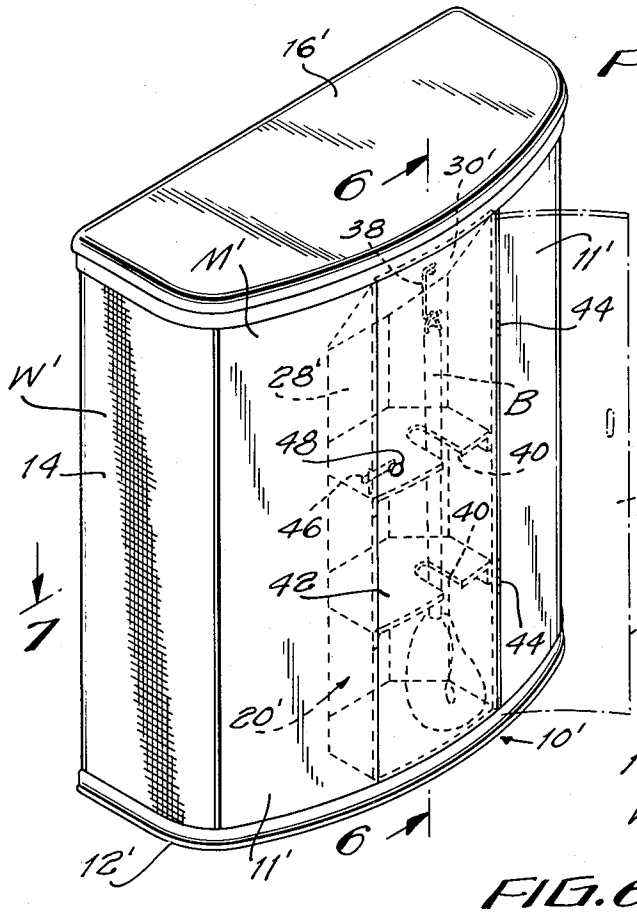


FIG. 6.

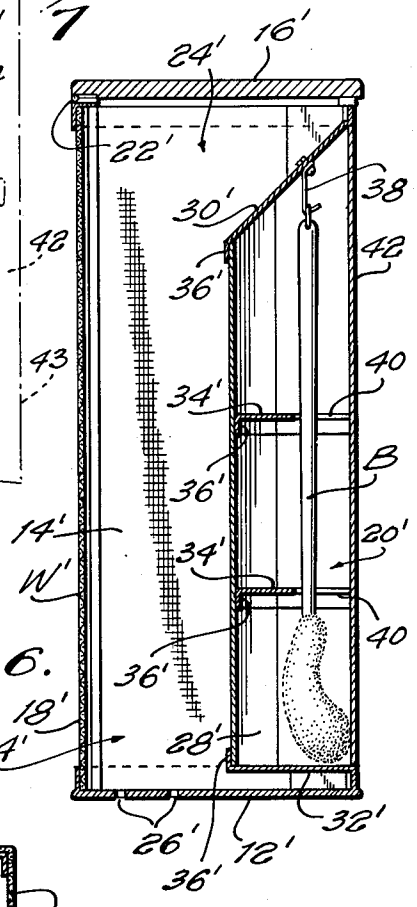
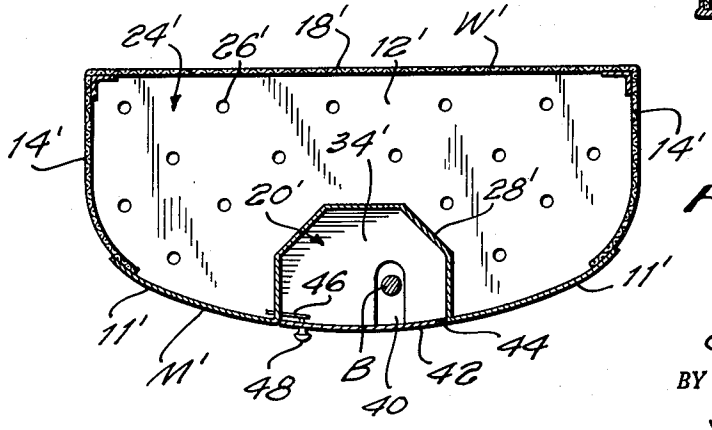


FIG. 7.



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CLOTHES HAMPERS

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2 Claims. (Cl. 312—206)

This invention relates in general to improvements in clothes hampers.

One object of the present invention is the provision of an improved clothes hamper having a receptacle for soiled clothes and linen and a compartment which may be used to contain articles of a different character segregated from the contents of the main compartment.

Another object of the present invention is the provision of an improved clothes hamper which has integrated therewith a separate article compartment, the hamper resembling a conventional hamper in the normal positioning of the hamper in a room.

Another object of the present invention is the provision of an improved clothes hamper having a separate article compartment which is of improved construction and appearance, and in which articles, for example a brush for cleaning the bowl of a water closet, may be disposed and concealed from view.

Yet another object of the present invention is the provision of an improved clothes hamper having a separate article compartment which takes up no more space than a conventional clothes hamper.

The above and other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will be more fully understood from the following description considered in connection with the accompanying illustrative drawings.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front perspective view of a clothes hamper embodying the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a rear perspective view of the clothes hamper taken on a smaller scale;

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 1 showing a modified form of clothes hamper;

Fig. 6 is a sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5; and

Fig. 7 is a sectional view taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 5 with the separate compartment door shown in a closed position.

Referring to the drawings in detail, and more particularly to Figs. 1 through 4 thereof, there is shown a hamper 10 which comprises a front wall 11, a closed bottom 12, upright side walls 14, a top cover 16, a rear wall 18 and a separate article compartment 20. The upright side walls 14 and the rear wall 18 may be made from any suitable conventional material such as wicker work as indicated at W. The front wall 11 may be formed of sheet metal as indicated at M, although if desired, said front wall may also be formed of wicker work W. The top cover 16 of the hamper 10 is hinged to said hamper at 22 and is swingable from the normal closed position shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 4 to an open position shown in broken lines in Fig. 2 for access to the main compartment 24 which normally serves as a storage receptacle for soiled clothes and linen. If desired, the bottom 12 of the hamper 10

may be suitably perforated as indicated at 26 to provide ventilating holes for the main compartment 24 of the hamper.

The separate article compartment 20 is constituted by a rearwardly recessed portion 28 of the front wall 11 as shown in Figs. 1 through 3. As best shown in Fig. 3, the recessed portion 28 is of five-sided cross section, although it will be understood that said recessed portion may be of any other suitable contour. As shown in Figs. 1 through 3, the recessed wall portion 28 of the front wall 11 extends vertically of the hamper 10 for substantially the full height of said front wall and is positioned substantially centrally thereof. In the embodiment shown in Figs. 1 through 4 the front of the compartment 20 is left open and lies in the plane of the front wall 11. From the above it will be seen that the recessed wall portion 28 of the front wall 11 forms the upright side and rear walls of the article compartment 20.

The separate compartment 20 is provided with a top wall 30 which is downwardly inclined towards the rear of the hamper and is preferably formed of sheet metal, said wall being secured to the top of the recessed portion 28 in any suitable manner. The compartment 20 also includes a bottom sheet metal member 32 and a plurality of horizontally disposed shelves 34 located intermediate the top wall 30 and the bottom member 32 which is spaced slightly from the bottom 12 of the hamper. If desired, the bottom member 32 may be made removable from compartment 20 so that said member may be used as a drip pan, as will be readily apparent. The top wall 30, member 32 and shelves 34 may be provided with peripherally extending flanges 36 so that said parts may be readily secured to the recessed wall portion 28 of the front wall 11 by any conventional means, such as welding, riveting and the like. If desired, the separate article compartment 20 may be constructed as a separate unitary structure and secured to the front wall 11 in any conventional manner or, if desired, said article compartment may be formed integral with the front wall 11 as best shown in Fig. 3. The downwardly inclined top 30 of compartment 20 is adapted to direct articles entering the open top of the hamper into the main compartment 24 of the hamper. Thus the downwardly inclined top 30 constitutes directing means to facilitate and guide the entry of articles into the main compartment of the hamper. As shown in Figs. 1 and 2 shelves 34 of compartment 20 are adapted to contain a wide variety of articles separate from the main compartment 24, for example bottled articles A.

With reference to Figs. 5 through 7 there is shown a modified form of hamper 10′ which is structurally similar to the hamper 10 except in the particulars now to be specifically described. The separate article compartment 20′ of hamper 10′ has its shelves 34′ provided with vertically aligned cut-out portions 40 which are provided for the reception of brush handles or other elongated articles. Thus compartment 20′ is readily adapted to contain a variety of articles separate from the main compartment 24′ of the hamper, and said compartment 20′ may readily contain elongated articles such as the bathroom brush B, in a very efficient and compact manner by hanging the brush B on the hook 38 secured to the top 30′ of compartment 20′. Thus brush B is adapted to be supported by the hook 38 with the brush handle being received in the vertically aligned cut out portions 40 of the shelves 34′.

The article compartment 20′ is further provided with a door 42 positioned at the open front of the recessed portion 28′ and is hingedly secured to the front wall 11′ by means of the hinges 44. Thus the door 42 is pivotally movable between open and closed positions and in the latter position the compartment 20′ will be closed to conceal the articles disposed therein. The door 42 at its

free side edge 43, may be provided with suitable latch means which in the illustrated embodiment is constituted by latch 46 secured to knob 48 positioned at the outside of the door 42. The knob 48 is pivotally mounted on the door whereby to pivot the latch 46 to positions for opening and latching the door, it being understood that an adjacent portion of the recessed wall portion 28' is provided with structure complementary to the latch 46.

Thus hamper 10' is structurally identical to hamper 10 except that the former is provided with structure adapted to contain elongated articles such as bathroom brush B and is provided with a door 42 for concealing the contents of the compartment 20'. The compartment 20 of hamper 10 is adapted to contain a wide variety of articles of esthetically desirable appearance, since said compartment is not concealed from view in the normal positioning of hamper 10 in a room whereas the compartment 20' of hamper 10' is adapted to contain a wide variety of articles without esthetic limitation since such articles may be concealed from view by the door 42. As pointed out above, compartment 20' is also adapted to readily support elongated articles by means of the hook 38 and the aligned cut-out portions 40 of shelves 34'.

It will be readily apparent that the hampers 10 and 10', having the separate compartments 20 and 20', respectively, are readily adapted for a multitude of household uses, and said compartments may be used to contain a wide variety of household articles. In the normal positioning of the hampers 10 and 10' in a room, they resemble a conventional hamper and take up no more space than a conventional hamper. The hamper 10' also has integrated therewith a very convenient arrangement for containing and concealing a water closet brush, and the latter is readily accessible on opening of the door 42 to compartment 20'. If desired, the downwardly inclined top 30' may be made movable or removable to provide access to the compartment 20' through the top opening of the hamper when cover 16' is pivoted to the open position. As previously pointed out, the article compartment 20' may be formed integral with the front wall 11' or, if desired, may be formed as a separate unitary structure and secured to said front wall in any conventional manner to facilitate the manufacture of the separate article compartment and its assembly to its complementary hamper structure.

While I have shown and described the preferred embodiment of my invention, it will be understood that various changes may be made in the present invention without departing from the underlying idea or principles of the invention within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. A hamper, comprising a receptacle having an open top, a bottom, and vertical walls including a front wall, said front wall having a portion thereof recessed towards the rear of the hamper and extending substantially vertically of the hamper centrally thereof for substantially the full length of said front wall, said recessed portion being open at the front of the hamper and having a closed top and bottom and at least one horizontally positioned shelf disposed intermediate said top and bottom of said recessed portion, the latter forming a compartment separated from said receptacle for the storage of articles and including a rearwardly disposed substantially vertically extending peripheral wall, and a top cover movable between open and closed positions, the latter position being effective to cover said receptacle and said closed top of said separate compartment, said closed top being downwardly inclined from said front wall to said peripheral wall and having a surface constituting directing means to facilitate and guide the entry of articles into said receptacle through the open top thereof.

2. A hamper, comprising a receptacle having an open top, a bottom, and vertical walls including a front wall, said front wall having a portion thereof recessed towards the rear of the hamper and extending substantially vertically thereof, said recessed portion being open at the front of the hamper and having a closed top and bottom and a plurality of horizontally positioned shelves disposed therein, said shelves having vertically aligned cut-out portions adapted for the reception of elongated articles and said closed top having means for supporting the elongated articles received in said cut-out portions, said recessed portion forming a compartment separated from said receptacle for the storage of articles and including a rearwardly disposed substantially vertically extending peripheral wall, and a top cover movable between open and closed positions, the latter position being effective to cover said receptacle and said closed top of said separate compartment, said closed top being downwardly inclined from said front wall to said peripheral wall and having a surface constituting directing means to facilitate and guide the entry of articles into said receptacle through the open top thereof, and an opaque door positioned at said open front of said recessed portion and movable between open and closed positions, said door in the closed position thereof being effective to close said compartment and conceal the contents thereof.

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