

G. L. WACHTER.  
MILK BOTTLE SAFETY RECEPTACLE.  
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 24, 1913.

1,069,501.

Patented Aug. 5, 1913.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

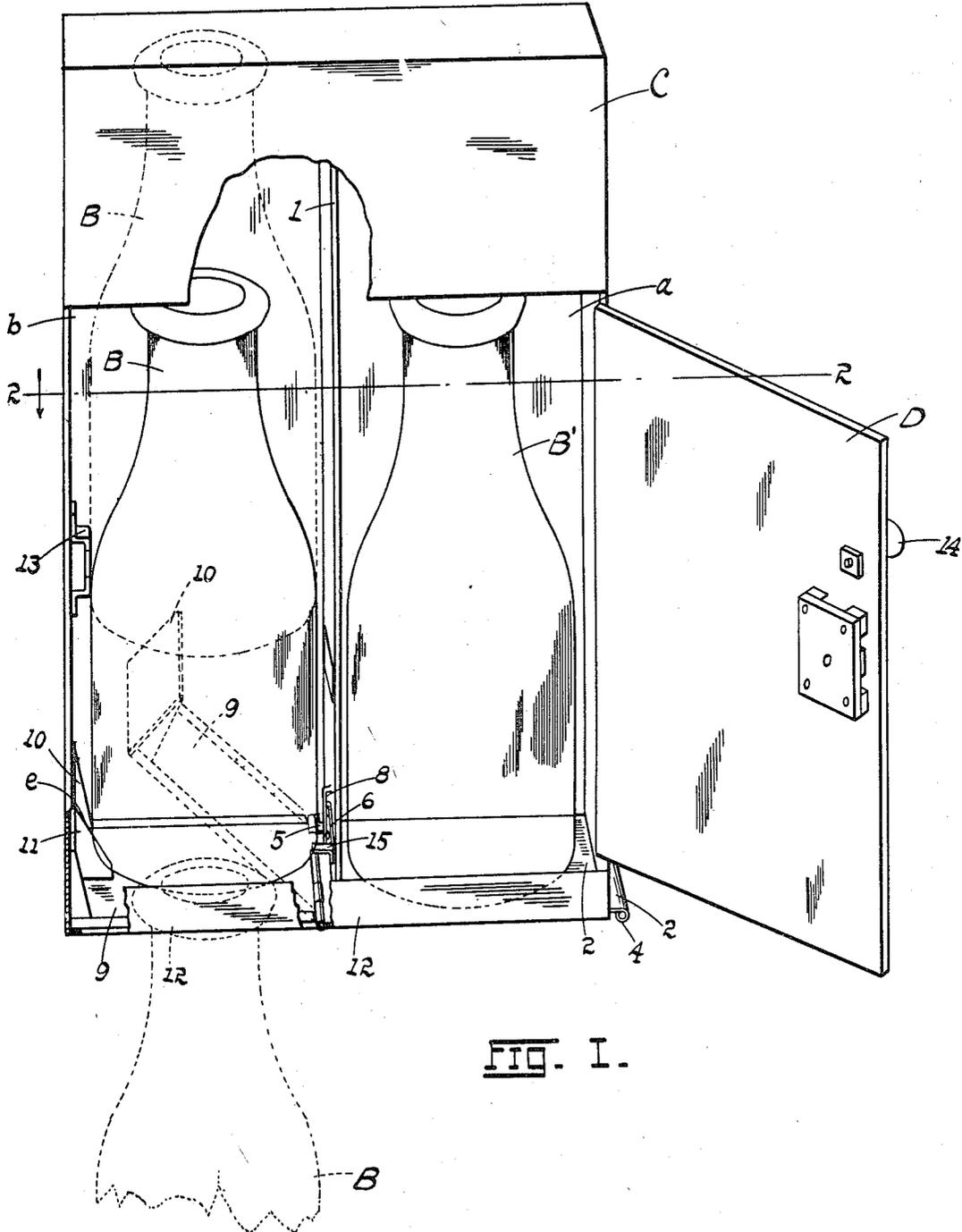


FIG. I.

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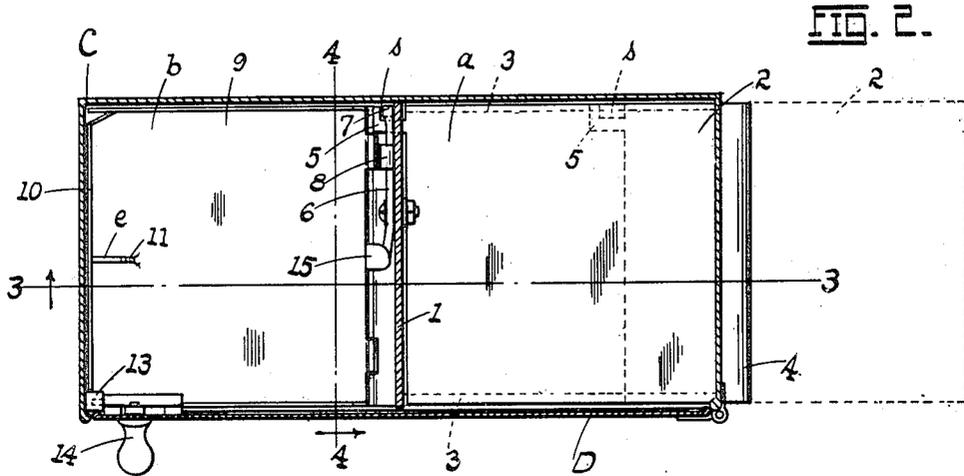


FIG. 2.

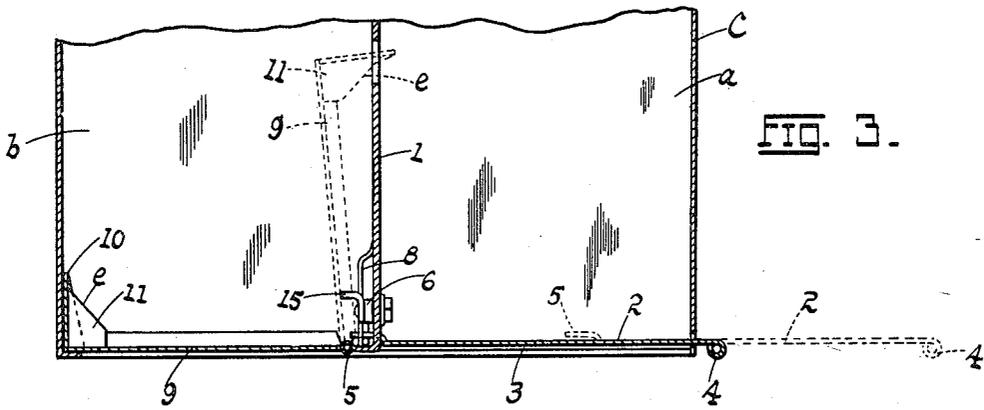


FIG. 3.

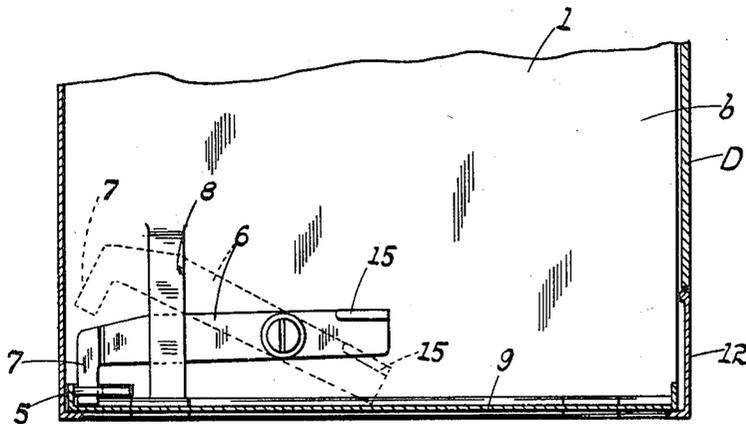


FIG. 4.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE L. WACHTER, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

MILK-BOTTLE SAFETY-RECEPTACLE.

1,069,501.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 5, 1913.

Application filed February 24, 1913. Serial No. 750,356.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE L. WACHTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Milk-Bottle Safety-Receptacles, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

My invention has relation to improvements in milk-bottle safety receptacles; and it consists in the novel details of construction more fully set forth in the specification and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective of the receptacle with door open; Fig. 2 is a horizontal section thereof on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, with door however, closed; Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2; and Fig. 4 is a transverse vertical section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

The object of my invention is to provide a receptacle for a full and an empty milk-bottle, which will permit the milk-man to abstract the empty bottle only after insertion of a full bottle of milk into the receptacle; one which will prevent the abstraction of the full bottle by unauthorized persons; one which is simple, cheap, reliable, and one possessing further and other advantages better apparent from a detailed description of the invention which is as follows:

Referring to the drawings, C represents a cabinet of any convenient design, divided into contiguous compartments *a*, *b*, by a partition wall 1. The compartment *a* is provided with a sliding bottom or gate 2 supported on ledges 3, 3, and adapted to be withdrawn or pulled outwardly from the side of the compartment, said bottom being provided with an outer marginal projecting bead 4 serving as a finger-hold by which it may be readily manipulated. The inner edge of the bottom when shoved inwardly its full extent engages the wall 1, the inner corner of the bottom being provided with a tongue or extension 5 which is free to pass through an opening provided therefor in the wall 1 and pass into the compartment *b*, the tongue being provided with a slit *s* for a purpose presently to appear.

Pivoted at the base of the wall 1 in the compartment *b* is a lever 6, whose center of gravity is to the rear of the pivotal axis of the lever so as to cause the rear arm of the

lever to normally drop, the effect being the same as if the rear arm of the lever were weighted. The rear lever arm is provided with a finger 7 which automatically drops into the slot or opening *s* of the slide 2, thus locking the slide against withdrawal by unauthorized persons. The rear lever arm is spanned by a strap or guard 8 which not only serves as a guide for the lever, but prevents the bottle or other article inserted into the compartment *b* from engaging said lever arm when the bottle settles to its lowest position after being released.

Hinged at the base of the wall 1 in the compartment *b* is a gate 9 whose free edge is provided with an upturned ledge or flange 10 bearing against the outer side wall of the compartment when the gate is closed or dropped to its lowest position. The flange 10 is connected with the gate proper by a rib 11 provided with an inclined guiding edge *e* as shown.

The bases of the fronts of the compartments are provided with strips 12, 12, extending a suitable distance above the bottom of the receptacle, the openings to the compartments above said strips being adapted to be closed by a door D, hinged to the side wall of the receptacle, the door carrying a lock operated by a key (not shown) the bolt of the lock passing into a keeper 13 on the opposite side wall of the casing. The door has in addition a knob 14 by which it may be manipulated.

The front arm of the lever 6 terminates in a laterally deflected lug or offset 15 on which the full milk-bottle inserted into the compartment *b* settles when released, the full bottle being here designated by the reference letter B and the empty one by B'.

The operation of the device may be described as follows:—Let us assume for the purpose of a proper explanation that the compartments *a*, *b*, are empty and the bottoms thereof closed, the slide 2 being shoved in its full limit and locked by the finger 7 of the lever 6. The house-wife or maid unlocks and opens the door D and deposits the empty bottle B' in the compartment *a* and then locks the door. When the milk-man makes his delivery he inserts the full bottle B of milk past the hinged bottom or gate 9, the gate readily opening or oscillating inwardly (Fig. 3), the bottle being pushed upward well into the compartment *b*, after which the milk-man releases the bottle, at

the same time withdrawing his hand from the compartment and out past the gate 9. The gate drops to its closed position with the flange 10 thereof bearing against the outer side wall of the compartment. The bottle as it settles down on the gate thus closed, strikes the inclined edge *e* of the guiding rib 11 which forces the bottle (some portion of the bottom thereof) to settle on the lug or offset 15 of the lever 6, the weight of the bottle tripping the lever and raising the finger 7 of the rear arm thereof out of the slit *s* of the tongue 5 (dotted showing Fig. 4), thereby releasing the gate or slide 2. The slide now being free, the milk-man with one hand seizes the same by the bead 4 and pulls it out (from the side of the receptacle) from under the empty bottle *B'* deposited therein by the housewife, and the bottle drops out of its compartment into the other hand of the milkman. He then pushes back the slide 2, the full bottle *B* being still in the compartment *b*. When the housewife desires the full bottle she unlocks and opens the door *D* and removes the bottle through the front opening of the compartment *b*. Once the full bottle is deposited in the compartment *b*, it can not be abstracted through the bottom of said compartment by a raising of the hinged gate 9, because with only a slight upward oscillation of said gate the flange 10 will engage the side of the bottle driving the same against the partition wall 1, and preventing a free upward or vertical movement of the bottle which is the only condition under which the gate 9 will open. Of course, when the compartment *b* is empty the full bottle is freely insertible into it by the milk-man because there is nothing to obstruct the free inward oscillation of the gate; but once a bottle is deposited over the gate the latter can not be opened sufficiently to permit abstraction of the bottle. This can only be done by one who has the key to the receptacle. When the full bottle *B* has been removed, the lever 6 is released and the finger 7 thereof again drops into engagement with the slot *s* of the tongue 5 of the slide 2, and the latter is again locked against unauthorized withdrawal. It is thus in position to receive an empty bottle which can not be abstracted until a full bottle is deposited by the milk-man, in the adjacent compartment *b*, such deposit having the effect of releasing the slide from the locking lever 6. The device thus insures against possible stealth of either a full or empty milk-bottle; the milk-man can not get the empty bottle until he has delivered a full one to his customer, and the empty one is always handy for him when he is ready to deliver the full bottle.

The receptacle may be mounted in any convenient manner just outside the kitchen-door and is a great labor saver to the house-

wife, the receptacle being always in readiness to receive the empty milk-bottle.

Of course, it is not to be understood that the device is to be restricted in its application to milk-bottles, as it may be employed for a variety of kindred purposes, or operate on different character of packages or contents.

In lieu of the slide 2 any equivalent thereof may of course be substituted, for supporting the empty bottle.

Having described my invention, what I claim is:—

1. A safety receptacle provided with two compartments, a movable supporting member operating in connection with one of the compartments for holding the contents thereof against removal, and means in the other compartment for locking said member against movement while said last compartment is empty.

2. A safety receptacle provided with two contiguous compartments, a movable bottom in one compartment for supporting the contents therein, and means in the adjacent compartment for locking said bottom against movement while said adjacent compartment is empty.

3. A safety receptacle provided with two contiguous compartments, a partition between the compartments, a slide closing the bottom of one compartment, a tongue on the slide operating freely through the partition and entering the adjacent compartment, a lever in the last compartment hinged to the partition, and means on the lever for engaging the tongue and locking the slide against movement while said last mentioned compartment is empty.

4. A safety receptacle provided with two contiguous compartments separated by a partition wall, a movable bottom for supporting the contents of one compartment, locking means in the contiguous compartment cooperating with said movable bottom and preventing displacement thereof when said last compartment is empty, means for permitting the insertion of a package into the last mentioned compartment, and means for effecting engagement between said package and the locking means aforesaid, whereby the movable bottom of the first compartment is released and the contents of said compartment may be abstracted.

5. A safety receptacle provided with two contiguous compartments, a movable bottom in one compartment, a lever in the second compartment operating to lock said bottom against movement, a gate hinged at the bottom of the second compartment and opening inwardly to receive a package inserted through the bottom and past the open position of the gate, means on the gate for guiding the released package against

one arm of the locking lever and tripping the latter to disengage the movable bottom of the first compartment, and means on the gate for engaging the side of the package in the second compartment and prevent raising of the package and thus limiting an inward movement of the gate and preventing abstraction of the package through the bottom of the second compartment.

6. A safety receptacle for full and empty milk-bottles and the like comprising two contiguous compartments separated by a partition wall, a slide closing the bottom of one compartment, a tongue on said slide entering the contiguous compartment through the partition and provided with a slot or opening, a lever pivoted to the partition in the last mentioned compartment and having a weighted arm terminating in a finger to engage said tongue-opening and lock the slide against movement, and having a second arm provided with a lateral lug or shelf, a gate hinged at the bottom of the last mentioned compartment with its hinge axis contiguous to the partition wall, an inwardly turned flange on the free edge of the gate adapted to bear against the adjacent wall of the last compartment for a dropped position of the gate, and a guide rib connecting the flange with the gate body and having an inclined edge for directing a package inserted into the compartment past the gate, against the lug of the locking lever, whereby the latter is tripped to disengage the locking finger and the slide is released, and a suitable locking door for closing the fronts of the respective compartments.

7. A safety receptacle provided with two contiguous compartments, supporting gates at the bottoms of the respective compart-

ments upon the opening of which the articles may be inserted into the respective compartments, and means in one of the compartments for holding locked the gate of the adjacent compartment when the first compartment is empty.

8. A safety receptacle provided with two contiguous compartments, gates at the bottoms of the respective compartments for admitting articles into said compartments and for supporting said articles when inserted, means in one compartment for locking against movement the gate of the second compartment when said first compartment is empty, said locking means being disengaged from said gate with the insertion of an article into said first compartment, whereby the gate of the second compartment may be moved to allow for the removal of the article in said compartment, and means on the gate of the first compartment cooperating with the article inserted thereinto to prevent withdrawal of the article past said gate.

9. A safety receptacle provided with two contiguous compartments, supporting gates at the bottoms of the respective compartments for admitting articles into the compartments, means in one of the compartments for locking against an opening movement the gate of the second compartment when the first compartment is empty, and means for effecting the release of said gate with the insertion of an article past the gate of, and into the first compartment.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE L. WACHTER.

Witnesses:

EMIL STAREK,  
JOS. A. MICHEL.