A. S. YODER.

MERCHANDISE CONTAINER.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 12, 1915.

1,173,909.

Patented Feb. 29, 1916.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

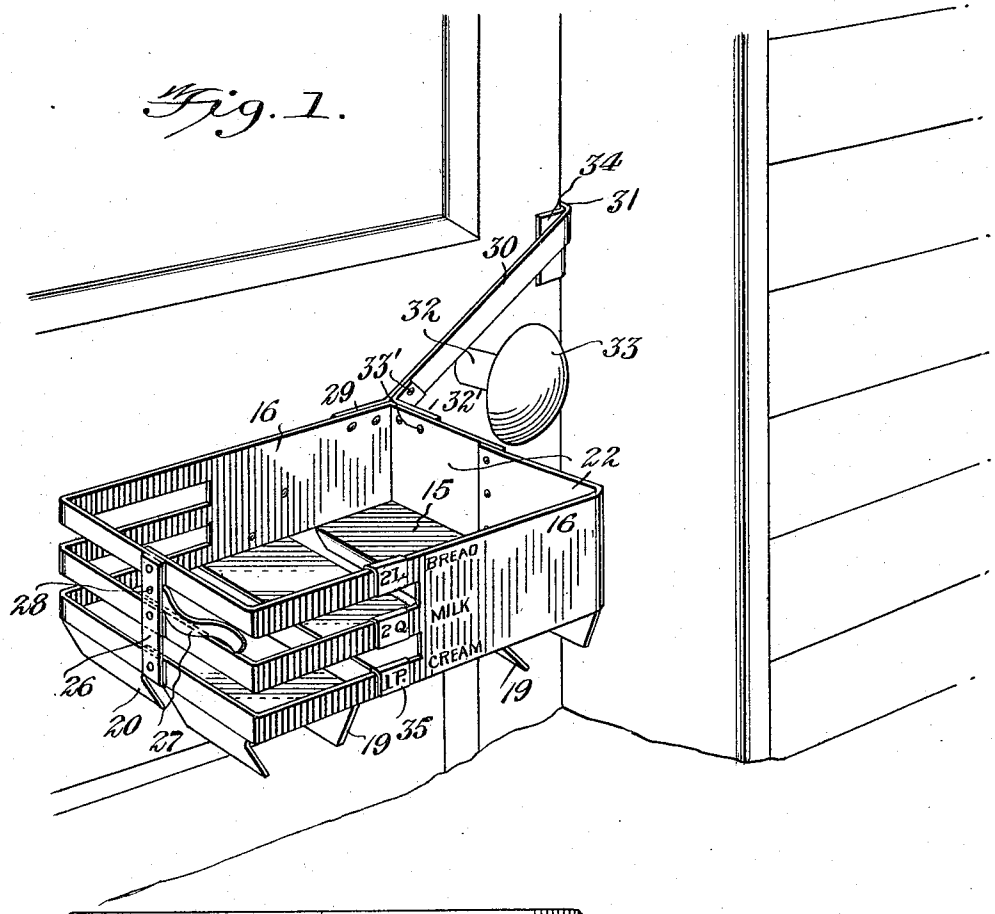
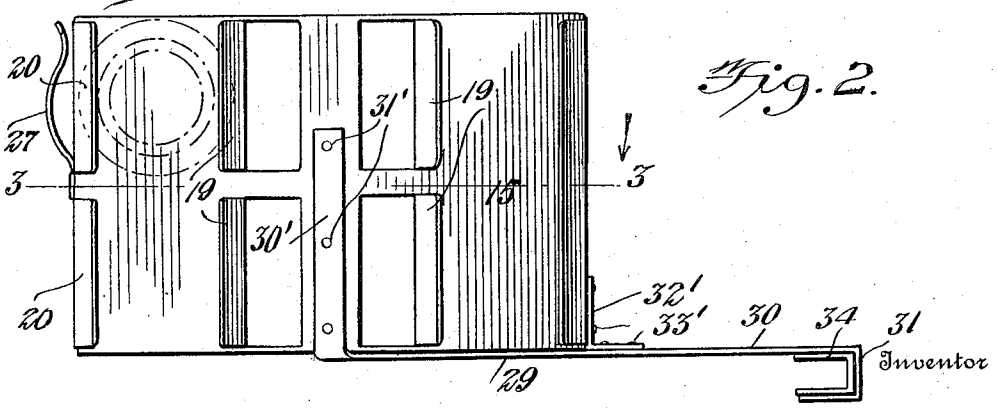


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

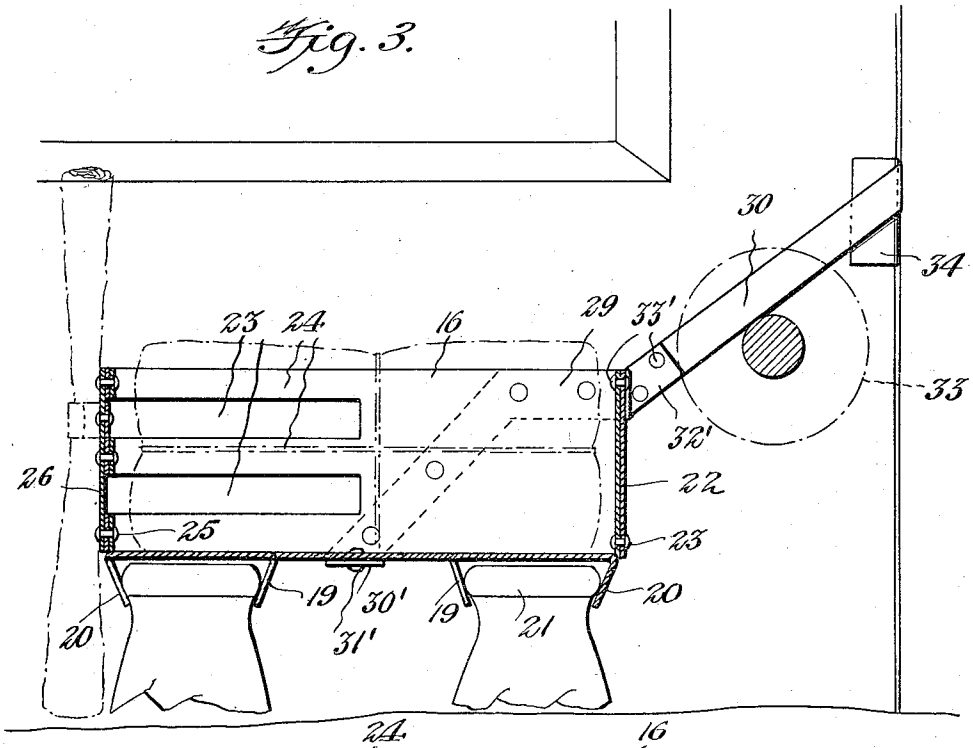


Fig. 4.

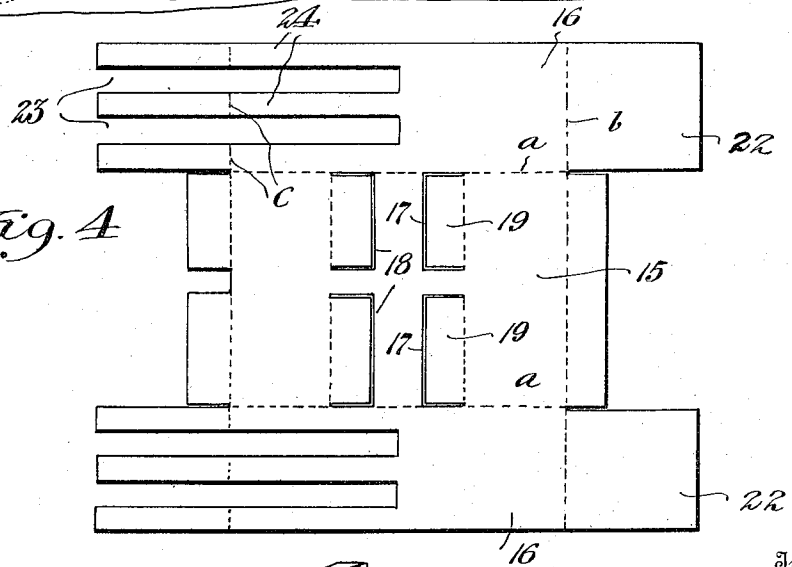
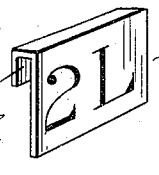


Fig. 5.



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MERCHANDISE-CONTAINER.

1,173,909. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 29, 1916.

Application filed March 12, 1915. Serial No. 13,951.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AMMON S. YODER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented new and useful Improvements in Merchandise-Containers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to merchandise receptacles or containers, and it has particular reference to a container which may be suspended on a door in suitable position to receive and support early morning deliveries of milk, groceries and the like.

The invention has for its object to produce a device of the character described which will be simple in construction, which may be suspended on a door without defacing or injuring the same and which will be adapted to receive and support merchandise, as above set forth.

A further object of the invention is to so construct the receptacle that it may conveniently support a plurality of indicators to indicate the character and quantity of goods which is to be left.

A further object of the invention is to produce a device of the character described which may be conveniently formed from a piece of sheet metal by properly stamping, bending and otherwise manipulating the same.

With these and other ends in view which will readily appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the improved construction and novel arrangement and combination of parts which will be hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings has been illustrated a simple and preferred form of the invention, it being, however, understood that no limitation is necessarily made to the precise structural details therein exhibited, but that changes, alterations and modifications within the scope of the claims may be resorted to when desired.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the improved device suspended on a door in position for operation. Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view. Fig. 3 is a sectional detail view taken substantially on the line 3—3 in Fig. 2, and showing the device in position on a door. Fig. 4 is a plan view showing a sheet metal blank from which the receptacle may be fashioned. Fig. 5 is a detail view in perspective of one of the indicators.

Corresponding parts in the several figures are denoted by like characters of reference.

The improved receptacle may be formed of a piece of sheet metal, mainly of rectangular shape and including a central body portion 15 and side portions 16, which by bending them upward on the lines *a*—*a* will constitute the side portions of the receptacle. The central body portion 15 is provided with U-shaped slots 17, 18 facing in opposite directions and serving to form tongues or flanges 19 which may be bent downward, as seen in Fig. 3, facing other flanges 20 which are bent downward from the ends of the body portion and which coöperate with the flanges 19 to form dove-tailed guideways for the reception of enlarged portions 21 formed at the upper ends of conventional milk bottles, as seen in Fig. 3, enabling such bottles to be conveniently and safely supported in such a manner as to be inaccessible to predatory cats and other animals. The side portions 16 are terminally extended beyond the central body portion forming at one end thereof flaps 22 which, by bending on the line *b* and securing the overlapped ends together by means of rivets 23 will form or constitute one end wall of the receptacle. The opposite ends of the side portions 16 are provided with slots 23 forming spaced arms 24, the extended end portions of which may be bent on the lines *c*, the overlapped ends being secured together by means of rivets 25 which also serve to secure in position a reinforcing member or members 26 which combines with the end portions of the arms 24 to constitute the other end wall of the receptacle. A spring clamp 27 secured on the brace member 26 by a rivet 28 will serve to retain in position a newspaper or the like.

A brace 29 which is riveted or otherwise secured on one side wall of the receptacle is provided with an obliquely disposed arm 30 having a terminal hook 31 which is turned outward with respect to the receptacle and which may be engaged with the edge of a door, as clearly seen in Figs. 1 and 3, for the purpose of retaining the receptacle in proper position, the arm 30 resting on the shank 32 of the door knob 33. The lower end of the brace member 29 has an arm 30′ which is bent beneath the bottom of the re-

ceptacle to which it is secured by rivets 31'. The construction is further reinforced by means of an L-shaped brace 32' which is connected by means of rivets 33' with the arm 30 and with an end wall of the receptacle, as clearly seen in Figs. 1, 2 and 3. The hook 31 is provided with a lining member 34 to avoid defacing and injuring the edge of the door. When the door is closed the hook member 31 will be included between the edge of the door and the jamb, thus preventing surreptitious removal of the receptacle or container.

In connection with the device it is contemplated to use a number of indicators 35 shown in detail in Fig. 5 of the drawings, each indicator being provided at its upper edge with a hook-shaped flange 36 adapted to engage one of the arms 24. There being several of these arms, quite a number of indicators may be used. The names of the articles wanted may be printed or inscribed on the container in alinement with the arms 24, and the indicators may be used merely to indicate the quantity wanted of each article. It is obvious, however, that the quantity, as well as the character of the article wanted may be inscribed on the indicator.

The improved merchandise container or receptacle may be manufactured and provided at a very moderate expense, and it forms a convenient receptacle wherein early deliveries of goods may be placed for the convenience of the householder.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, is:—

1. A merchandise container consisting of a box-like receptacle having bottom, side and end members, said receptacle being provided with a supporting arm extending obliquely from one side and beyond one end member and lying substantially in the plane of the side member from which it extends, said arm having a terminal outwardly extending hook lying beyond the plane of the side member from which said arm extends, said hook being adapted for engagement with the side edge of an ordinary house door, and said arm being adapted to rest on a door knob or similar projection.

2. A merchandise container provided with means whereby it may be suspended above the floor, the bottom of said container being provided with U-shaped slots, said slots forming tongues which are bent downward to produce supporting flanges, whereby a milk bottle may be suspended beneath the bottom portion of the container.

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

AMMON S. YODER.

Witnesses:
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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."