March 15, 1932. B. L. GRIMES 1,849,083

MOP CLEANER

Filed Feb. 3, 1928

Fig. 1.

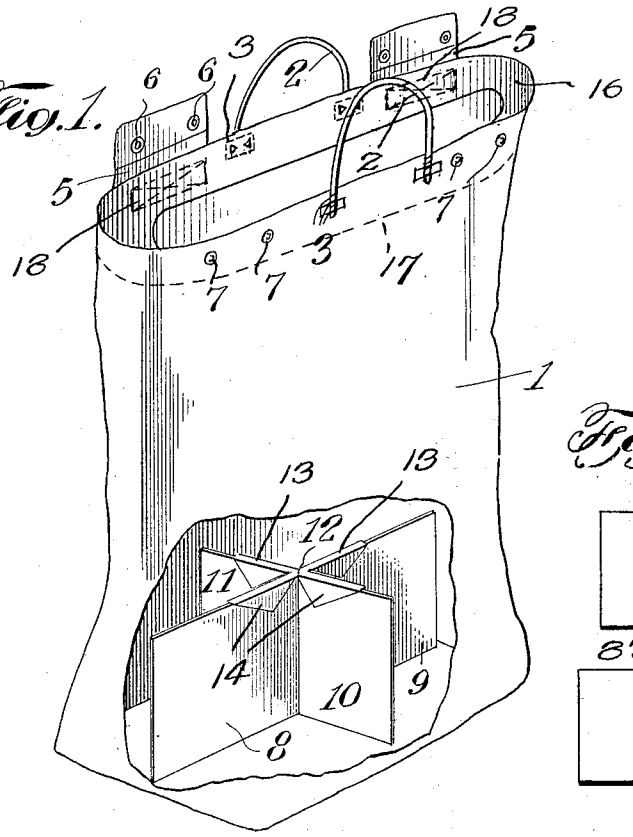


Fig. 4.

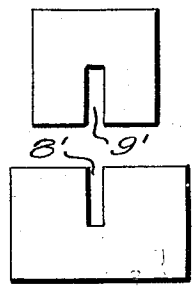


Fig. 2.

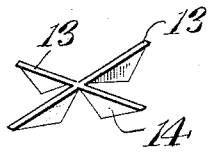
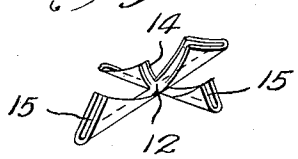


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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MOP CLEANER

Application filed February 3, 1928. Serial No. 251,487.

This invention relates to devices for cleaning and more particularly to a dust container adapted for use with household dry mops, brushes and the like.

It is an object of this invention to provide a novel cleaning container for use with devices such as mops and brushes.

Another object is to provide a device of this character which may be made up of detachable sections.

Yet another object is to provide a device of the character referred to which may be readily dismantled and packed in a small space.

With these and other equally important objects in view, the invention comprehends the provision of a container of some depth having a plurality of dust compartments in the lower portion together with means for preventing the mop head from entering these compartments.

To enable a ready comprehension of the underlying principles of this invention, I have illustrated preferred embodiments of it in the accompanying drawings. In these the same reference numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views, of which

Fig. 1 is a perspective view, with a part broken away to show the interior construction;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail view of one of the elements of the device;

Fig. 3 is an inverted view of the structure shown in Fig. 2, and

Fig. 4 is an elevation of the dis-assembled parts of the combination spacer element and dust chamber partition.

As shown in Fig. 1, one form of the device comprehends a bag 1. This may be constructed of heavy paper, textile material, or the like. In its simplest form this bag may be similar to the paper bags now on the market. At its upper end the bag is provided with the handles 2. These may be of any suitable material such as twine, cardboard, etc. The handles may be secured to the body portion of the bag by any suitable means, such as by the clips 3. It will be understood that the upper section of the bag may be provided with a strip of reinforcing material 16 through which pass the securing means for the handles. This strip is preferably of considerable width and extends the full peripheral length of the upper end of the bag and is secured thereto by threads 17, or by gluing.

Secured to the upper portion of the bag so as to project beyond its edge are a plurality of flaps or tabs 5. In the particular device shown there is one of these on each side of one of the handles. It will be appreciated that the number of tabs may be increased if desired and also that they may be secured to each side of the top of the bag. These flaps may be fastened to the body of the bag by heavy threads 18, adhesive materials, or any other suitable means.

Each flap is provided with one or more snap buttons 6, which are positioned adjacent the free edge. These buttons are adapted to fit over the cooperating and appropriately positioned studs or posts 7 secured to the opposite side of the bag. It will be seen that when the snaps 6 are forced over and locked on the studs 7, the upper edges of the bag are drawn together leaving a restricted opening between the handles 2. While the locking means has been described as comprising a snap button device, it will be appreciated that any other suitable form of locking means may be employed.

As has been intimated hereinbefore the bag is provided with a removable member which cooperates with the body of the bag to provide, in effect, a plurality of dust chambers, and which also serves as a spacer element to prevent the mop from descending into and coming in contact with the dust which may have settled in the chambers or pockets. As shown, this comprises a frame member which includes the angularly disposed members 8, 9, 10 and 11.

The container shown in the drawings is oblong in cross-section, and hence the members 8 and 9 are made of different length than the members 10 and 11. In its preferred form the member within the bag 1 may be made in two separate pieces as shown in Fig. 4 connected to each other centrally by means of vertical slots 8′ and 9′.

The material employed for these members

may be of light wood, cardboard, metal stampings, or any other cheap material of ready availability. In the form shown the members 10 and 11 when separated from the members 8 and 9 can be laid flat thereagainst. The members thus constitute a collapsible frame member. In such circumstances, it will be appreciated, the frame then constitutes a series of flat pieces of material which are superimposed on each other. When in this condition they take up very little space and may be conveniently packed away by being placed flatly on the bottom of the bag. Since the bag is of a flexible material the frame may then be used as a core upon which to fold the bag up into a flat package.

Since the arms of the frame are movable with respect to each other, means are provided to lock them with respect to each other when the device is set up for operation. As shown, this comprises the member 12 which may be made up from a single piece of metal stamping. It is so formed as to present the top, narrow flat portions 13, and the depending sides 14. Each of the portions 13 constitute an arm, and to each of these arms are integrally attached two parallel sides 14. It will be seen then that the top 13 and sides 14 constitute channel portions 15 in which the frame members 8, 9, 10 and 11 may be inserted. Since the member 12 is of rigid material, it will, when placed in position on the frame, hold the frame members in fixed angular position with respect to each other. The sides 14 have been shown as substantially V-shaped in form. The purpose of this structure is to facilitate the assemblage of the spacer 12 with the frame.

The operation of the device will be apparent from the foregoing description. When it is desired to use it for the proposed purpose, the frames 8, 9, 10 and 11 are opened and fixed with respect to each other by placing the member 12 in position. The several channel portions in this member fit down over the upper edges of the frames and hold them laterally immovable. The assembled frame is then placed on the bottom of the bag, as shown in Fig. 1. The mop which is to be cleaned is now inserted in the bag. The head of the mop will rest against the upper edges of the frame, and, hence, the greater portion of the strands of the mop will be prevented from descending into the dust chambers between the several frame members. The handle of the mop will project through the upper, open end of the bag. The flaps 5 are now secured to the body of the bag by means of the locking means 6 and 7. This serves to partially seal the bag as well as hold the mop within it. The mop is then vigorously shaken, preferably by a vertical reciprocatory motion, causing the dust and dirt to be detached from the strands of the mop. The foreign matter will settle to the bottom of the bag and be confined within the several chambers. The upper edges of the frames restrain the descent of the strands of the mop and, hence, prevent them from absorbing or picking up the detached dust and dirt again. After a suitable shaking period the cleansed mop may be removed. The frame may then be readily lifted out of the bag and the contents emptied into some receptacle. By dismantling or collapsing the device in the manner already described it may be folded up into a small package and put away until again needed. It will readily be understood that the flaps 5 may be dispensed with, if so desired without seriously affecting the operation of the device.

While I have shown and described practical embodiments of the invention, it is to be understood that these are given purely by way of example, for, since the underlying principles may be embodied in other specific, mechanical structures, I do not intend to be limited to those shown, except as such limitations are clearly imposed by the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A dust receptacle for mops and the like, comprising a foldable bag, a frame member having angularly disposed arms nesting within the bag at the bottom portion thereof, and means to fix the angular position of the arms.

2. A dust receptacle for mops and the like, comprising a foldable bag, a collapsible frame member having angularly disposed arms nesting with the bag at the bottom portion thereof, means to fix the angular position of the arms, and means to secure portions of the top of the bag to each other.

3. A dust receptacle for mops and the like, comprising a foldable bag, a collapsible frame member having angularly disposed arms removably nesting within the bag at the bottom portion thereof, and detachable means to fix the angular position of the arms.

4. A dust receptacle for mops and the like, comprising a foldable bag, a removable collapsible frame member having angularly disposed arms nesting within the bag at the bottom portion thereof, detachable means to fix the angular position of the arms, and means to secure portions of the top of the bag to each other.

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