J. C. WRIGHT.
GUARD FOR METAL PAILS.
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INVENTOR.
John C. Wright.

BY
Harry De V. Wallace.
ATTORNEY.
To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, John C. Wright, a citizen of the United States, residing at Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Guards for Metal Pails, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in guards for metal pails and the like, and has for its object to provide a novel and simple device of the class for preventing the battering and wearing-out of the bottoms of the pails, which causes the pails to leak.

A particular object of the invention is to provide a guard, for attachment to the metal pails commonly employed in connection with the mopping and cleaning of office and other buildings, for protecting the bottoms of the pails when the cleaners drag or pull the pails over the cement and tile floors, which rapidly wear out the bottoms. And a further object is to provide a guard protector of the class which is resiliently held in place on the pails, and can be readily and quickly applied and removed without requiring any alterations or changes of the pails.

I attain these objects by the means set forth in the detailed description which follows, and as illustrated by the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevational view of an ordinary metal pail, to which my improvement is applied, showing an end view of the guard.

Fig. 2 is a similar view, showing a side view of the guard.

Fig. 3 is a top-plan view of the guard.

Fig. 4 is a central section, taken on line 4-4 of Fig. 3.

In the drawing, 2 represents the body of a metal pail, having a beaded top 3, and a beaded bottom 4, and perforated lugs 5 and 5' secured to the opposite sides of the body, to which a bail or handle 6 is applied in the usual manner.

My invention consists of the following parts: 7 is a metal hoop, preferably having a larger diameter than the bottom 4 of the pail, and adapted to be slipped loosely on the pail 2, to which is permanently applied a pair of similar runner-like guards comprising strips of metal 8 and 8', which are preferably bent U-shaped to receive the bottom 4 of the pail. The upwardly projecting ends 8 of the guards 8 are disposed inside of the ring 7, and are preferably secured thereto by rivets 8. The runners 8 preferably extend an inch or two below the ring 7, so as to prevent accidental release of the device. The guard is held in place resiliently by tension springs 9 and 9', the lower ends of which are provided with hooks 95, which engage perforations in the ring 7, while the upper ends of the springs are secured to S-hooks 10, which engage the perforations in the lugs 5-5'. The springs 9-9' are preferably made considerably shorter than the distance between the ring 7 and the lugs 5-5', so that when the device is applied to a pail, it will be held with sufficient tension to prevent accidental detachment. The runners 8-8' are preferably disposed parallel to each other and arranged to lie flat on the floor, and they are spaced apart sufficiently to prevent rocking of the pail. By this provision the entire weight of the pail is supported by the said runners, and the pails may be drawn over a floor like a sled, without danger of the head 4 coming into contact with the rough and gritty floors, which tends to abrade and rapidly wear out the bottoms of the pails and causes them to leak.

My invention is extremely simple, and can be produced at slight expense. The device can be readily and quickly applied to and removed from a pail, and when properly constructed and applied, the device will last for a long time. By the use of my improved guards, the lives of the ordinary galvanized iron pails, which here-tofore have often become worn out and leaky after three or four weeks' service, may be prolonged for several months, thus saving considerable annoyance and expense.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by letters Patent is—

1. The combination with a pail having perforated lugs at its opposite sides, of a hoop loosely slipped over the bottom end of the pail, U-shaped guards having their free ends secured to the hoop and spaced apart to receive and support the bottom of the pail, and tension springs resiliently connecting the hoop to the lugs of the pail.

2. In a device of the class described, the combination with a pail, of a ring loosely encircling the bottom portion of the pail, U-shaped runners rigidly secured to said ring and supporting the weight of the pail,
said runners disposed parallel to each other and spaced apart to prevent the rocking of the pail, and tension springs for detachably securing the device to the pail.

3. The combination with a pail having perforated lugs at its opposite sides, of an annular part adapted to loosely encircle the bottom portion of the pail, spaced guard strips having their opposite ends secured to the annular part, the intermediate portions of said strips bent downwardly to conform to and receive the bottom of the pail, and tension means for holding said strips against the bottom of the pail.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JOHN C. WRIGHT.