

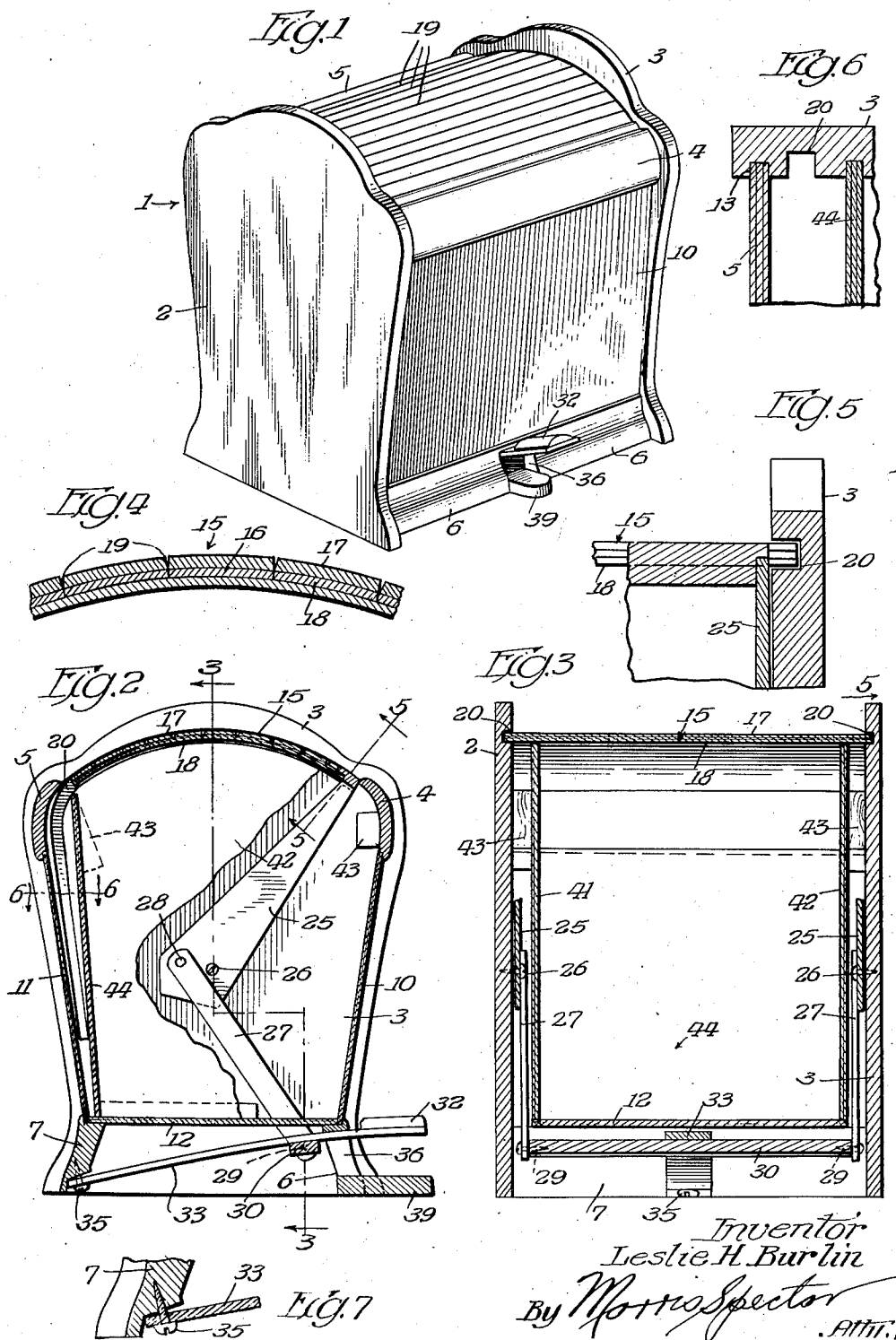
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RECEPTACLE

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RECEPTACLE

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This invention relates to receptacles.

It is one of the objects of the present invention to provide a receptacle such as, by way of example, a waste paper basket, which is simple and economical of construction, pleasing in appearance, and provided with a pedal operated cover for closing the top thereof.

It is a still further object of the present invention to provide a receptacle of the above mentioned character with a simple operating mechanism for operating the cover to its open and closed position. It is a still further object of the present invention to provide a receptacle of the above mentioned character which will employ substantially no metal parts. It is still further object of the present invention to provide a receptacle which may be easily and quickly assembled from the component parts thereof and wherein the operating mechanism is so completely concealed as not to be interfered with by the contents of the receptacle.

The attainment of the above and further objects of the present invention will be apparent from the following specification taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing forming a part thereof.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a receptacle embodying the principles of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a transverse sectional view of the receptacle of Figure 1, with a portion thereof broken away to illustrate the construction of the operating mechanism;

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken along the line 3—3 of Figure 2 and looking in the direction of the arrows;

Figure 4 is a fragmentary transverse sectional view through the flexible cover of the receptacle of Figure 1;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary sectional view taken along the line 5—5 of Figure 2 and looking in the direction of the arrows;

Figure 6 is a fragmentary sectional view taken along the line 6—6 of Figure 2 and looking in the direction of the arrows; and

Figure 7 is a fragmentary enlarged view illustrating the manner of supporting the pedal leaf spring.

In Figure 1 the present invention is illustrated as applied to a receptacle for waste paper and the like, although it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the use of such receptacles but is of general application. The recep-

tacle is indicated at 1 and comprises similar end members 2 and 3 joined by upper wooden front and rear bars 4 and 5 and lower wooden front and rear bars 6 and 7 joined to the end members in any desired manner. This forms a frame closed at the ends and open at the front, rear, top and bottom. The front, the rear and the bottom are closed by panels 10, 11 and 12. These panels are preferably boards each consisting of a thin piece of wood sandwiched between two layers of cardboard, pasteboard or the like, adhered together to make a unitary laminated board. These panels are secured between the appropriate bars 4, 5, 6 and 7, as illustrated in Figure 2, in any desired manner. In addition the end members 2 and 3 each have narrow slots 13 formed on the inner surface thereof into which slots the edges of the panels 10, 11 and 12 extend. By this arrangement the panels 10, 11 and 12 are firmly held in place.

The receptacle is provided with a flexible movable cover, indicated in general by the reference numeral 15. This cover consists of a wooden board 16 sandwiched between outer and inner layers of cardboard, pasteboard or the like 17—18 and secured together to form one laminated board. The cover has a plurality of incisions 19 formed therein which extend across the width of the cover, as may be seen in Figure 1. Each incision is cut to a depth such that it penetrates the outer cardboard layer 17 and the central wooden layer 16 but does not penetrate the lower cardboard layer 18. The cover 15 extends in grooves or channels 20—20 formed in the end members 2—3, which channels extend across the end members 2—3 adjacent the top thereof and then curve and extend downwardly adjacent to the rear edges of the end members.

The cover 15 is illustrated in Figures 1 and 2 in its closed position. The cover is adapted to be actuated to its open position by a mechanism including a lever 25 connected at its upper end to the forward edge of the cover 15 and pivoted at its lower end to the end member 3 by a pivot or pin 26. A link 27 is pivoted to the lever 25 by a pivot pin 28 and is connected at its lower end by a pivot pin 29 to a bar 30. One lever 25 and link 27 is provided on the inner side of the end member 3, and a similar lever 25 and link 27 is provided on the inner side of the end member 2. The bar 30 connects the two links 27—27, as may be seen from Figure 3.

Means is provided for lowering and raising the bar 30. This means comprises a foot pedal 32 at

the end of a leaf spring in the form of a flexible wooden spring strip 33 that is fastened to the rear bar 7 by a screw 35 and is fastened to the bar 30 in any desired manner, as by gluing. Only the top rear corner of the strip bears against the bar 7. The forward end of the flexible wooden spring strip 33 extends through a slot 36 in the bar 6. The spring strip 33 presses upwardly on the top of the slot 36, as may be seen from Figure 2, and is under tension. The amount of the tension may be increased or decreased by tightening or loosening of the screw 35. To permit such adjustment of the tension the inner lower surface of the bar 7 is cut away at an angle to the strip 33, as may be seen in Figure 7. It is apparent that by lowering the foot pedal 32 the bar 30 is lowered to cause the two links 27—27 to swing the levers 25—25 from the position illustrated in Figure 2, in a direction counter-clockwise as seen in Figure 2, to move the cover 15 to its uncovered position. In this movement the cover moves in the channel slot 20. The part of the slot 20 in which the cover 15 rests when the container is closed is a circular arc centered at 26, as may be seen in Figure 2. When the foot pedal 32 is released the springiness of the strip 33 forces that strip upwardly thereby drawing the link 27 upwardly because of the connection between the spring and the bar 30 and returning the lever 25 and the cover 15 to the position illustrated in Figure 2.

A stop 39 is provided to constitute a stop for the pedal 32 when the same is moved to its lowermost position, thus preventing any possibility of unduly stressing the flexible wooden spring strip 33.

In order to conceal the linkage 25—27 and also to prevent injury thereto panels 41—42 are provided on the inside of the receptacle overlying but slightly spaced from the inner surfaces of the end members 2—3, being spaced from the end members by suitable spacer blocks 43—43 to which they are secured. Likewise an inner rear panel 44 is provided for closing the space within which the cover 15 moves in its downward motion and thus preventing the contents of the receptacle from interfering with the cover 15. The panels 41, 42 and 44 are of the same construction as the panels 10, 11 and 12, to-wit, each consists of a thin wooden board sandwiched between layers of cardboard that are adhered thereto.

From the above description it is apparent that the present invention is not limited to waste paper receptacles but is of general application. It is further apparent that the receptacle of the present invention is simple of construction and may be readily assembled from the respective component parts. It is a further apparent that the present invention substantially eliminates the use of metal in the construction of the receptacle.

In compliance with the requirements of the patent statutes I have here shown and described a preferred embodiment of my invention. It is, however, to be understood that the invention is not limited to the precise construction here shown, the same being merely illustrative of the principles of the invention. What I consider new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A container having a bottom, side walls, a front wall and a rear wall, the side walls having opposite circular grooves therein adjacent the top thereof, a sliding cover guided in said grooves, levers pivoted on the respective side walls at the centers of the curvature of the respective grooves, actuating links extending from the respective le-

vers, a bar interconnecting the links for simultaneously operating the links, a cantilever leaf spring secured at its rear end to the container below the bottom thereof and secured adjacent its forward end to the interconnecting bar and supporting said bar and extending forward of said bar, a pedal connected to and extending forward of the bar for lowering the bar against the action of the leaf spring, said bar actuating the links to actuate the levers to swing the cover to its open position.

2. A container having opposite side walls, a slidable cover, a front wall, a pair of spaced apart rear walls, the side walls having cover guiding grooves, said grooves being adjacent the tops of the side walls and guiding the slidable cover into the space between the spaced rear walls, sets of actuating means for the cover mounted respectively on the inner sides of the two side walls, a bar connecting the two sets of actuating means, and means for raising and lowering the bar to actuate the sets of actuating means to open and close the cover, said means for raising and lowering the bar including a foot pedal for moving it in one direction and a spring for moving it in the opposite direction.

3. A container having opposite side walls joined together by upper front and rear bars and lower front and rear bars, front and rear panels extending respectively between the upper and lower front bars and between the upper and lower rear bars, a slidable cover for the container, a cantilever leaf spring bearing at its rear edge against the lower rear bar and extending towards and past the front bar, means adjustably connecting the rear of the leaf spring with the lower rear bar for adjusting the tension of the leaf spring, a foot pedal at the forward end of the spring, a limit stop against which the pedal is moved to limit the downward movement of the spring, and an actuating connection between the leaf spring and the slidable cover for sliding the cover from its closed position to its open position upon actuation of the spring.

4. A container having opposite side walls joined together by upper front and rear bars and lower front and rear bars, front and rear panels extending respectively between the upper and lower front bars and between the upper and lower rear bars, a slidable cover for the container, a cantilever leaf spring bearing at its rear edge against the lower rear bar and extending towards and past the front bar, means adjustably connecting the rear of the leaf spring with the lower rear bar for adjusting the tension of the leaf spring, a foot pedal at the forward end of the spring, a limit stop against which the pedal is moved to limit the downward movement of the spring, and an actuating connection between the leaf spring and the slidable cover for sliding the cover from its closed position to its open position upon actuation of the spring, said actuating connection including a linkage mechanism so that upon release of the leaf spring the leaf spring itself furnishes the power to return the cover to its closed position.

5. A container having opposite side walls, the side walls having opposite curved grooves adjacent the tops thereof, a sliding flexible cover guided in said grooves, the groove in each side wall curving downwardly adjacent to the rear of the side wall to form a rear guiding groove for the cover in its open position, inner and outer rear panels extending between the side walls adjacent said rear guiding grooves, a front wall and a bottom wall for the container, sets of actuating link-

ages for the cover mounted respectively on the inner sides of the two side walls, a bar connecting the two sets of actuating linkages below the bottom wall of the container, means for lowering and raising the bar to actuate the sets of actuating linkages to move the cover to its open

and closed positions, said last means including a foot pedal for moving the bar downwardly and a spring for moving it upwardly, and a foot pedal stop at the front of the container for limiting downward movement of the pedal.

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