

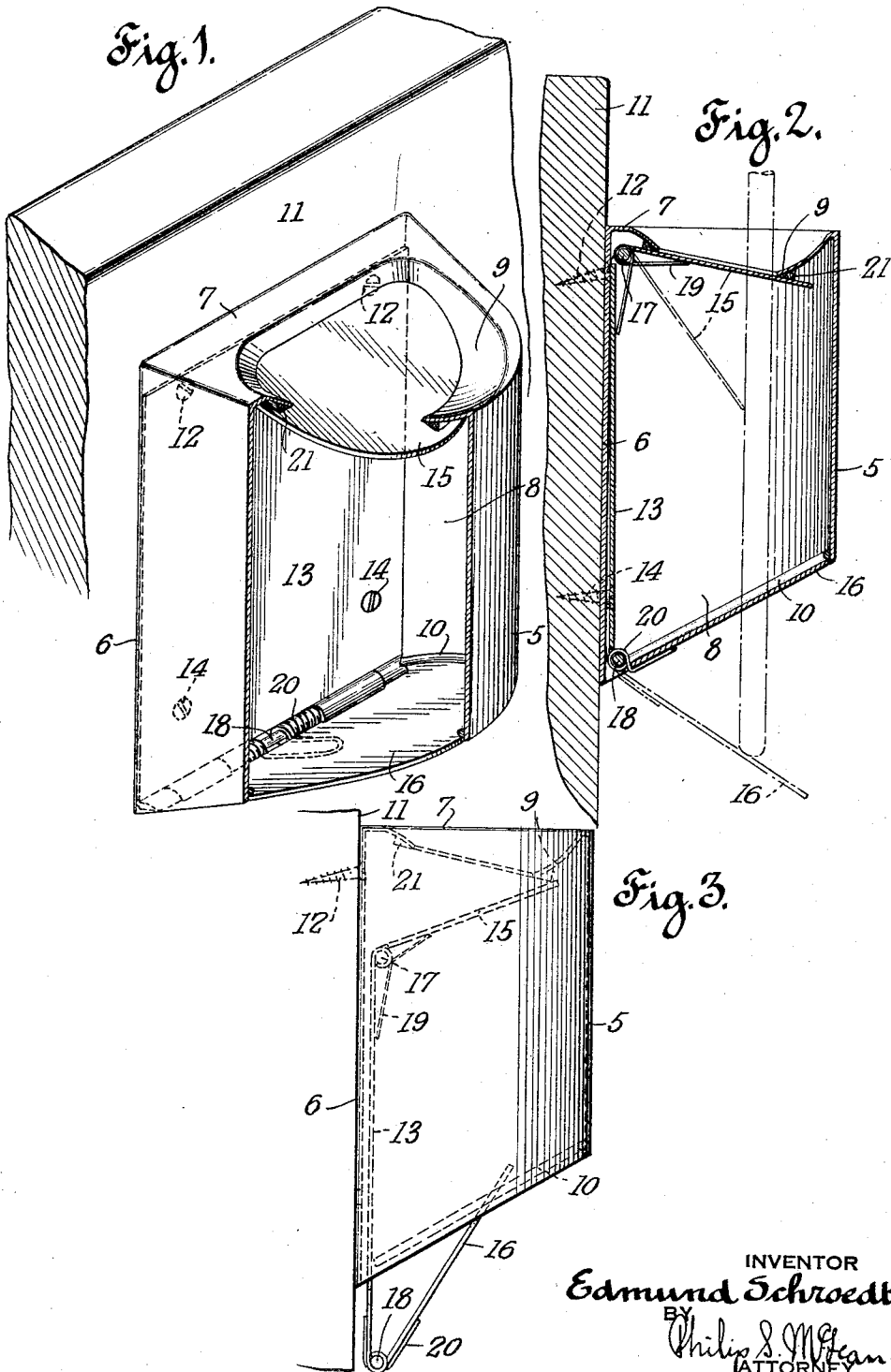
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E. SCHROEDTER

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ASH RECEIVER

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

EDMUND SCHROEDTER, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

ASH RECEIVER

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The objects of this invention are to provide a receptacle for ashes, matches, chewing gum and other débris, particularly suitable for mounting on the back of a theatre chair, in a form attractive to the use of patrons; which can be readily mounted, easily emptied by those authorized to do so and which will be secure against surreptitious removal by unauthorized persons.

The foregoing and other desirable objects are attained by a novel form of construction, combination and relation of parts as set forth in the following specification.

The drawing accompanying and forming part of the specification illustrates one practical embodiment of the invention, but it is to be understood that the structure may be modified as regards this disclosure without departure from the true spirit and broad scope of the invention:

Fig. 1 is a broken perspective view and part sectional view of the receptacle as mounted on the back of a theatre chair or similar support; Fig. 2 is a central vertical sectional view of the device; Fig. 3 is a side elevation illustrating in dotted lines the removal of the false back carrying the upper and lower spring closures.

The body of the receptacle which is designated 5 is shown as made of light sheet metal with a substantially flat back portion 6, a top portion 7 and sides 8 rounding together at the front.

The top is shown as having a wide mouthed opening therein of somewhat triangular shape in accord with the general outline of the body and with a downwardly and inwardly inclining lip 9 about such opening to guide ashes, gum or the like into the receptacle. This lip is shown in Fig. 2 as being inclined downwardly and to the rear to afford a convenient angle for entry of waste or trash. The bottom of the receptacle is shown as opening to the full internal dimensions of the receptacle, except for an internal shoulder, slightly above the lower end of the receiver and shown as a piece of wire 10 secured about the inside of the case.

The body or case of the receiver is secured in position on the back 11 of the theatre chair

or other support by screws 12 extended through the back of the case, preferably near the upper end, close up under the lip in the top opening, but operable by a screw driver inserted through the top opening substantially as indicated in Fig. 2.

To prevent tampering with the mounting screws 12, the latter are covered by a "false back" or back plate 13, which is slid up inside the case over the back wall 6 and secured in position covering the heads of screws 12 by the screws or other suitable fastenings 14, which latter as will be noted in Fig. 2 can be reached through the upwardly inclined open bottom of the receptacle.

The back plate carries at the top a closure flap 15 for the top opening and at the bottom a closure 16 for the bottom opening, said closures being hinged at 17, 18 to the upper and lower ends of the back plate and being held closed, the first by a relatively light spring 19 and the second or lower closure by a fairly heavy closing spring 20.

The upward closing movement of the top closure is limited by engagement of said closure with the downwardly inclined lip 9 of the top opening, which in conjunction with the flap forms a shallow pocket for ashes, gum or the like, which will open with slight pressure to drop the contents into the body of the receptacle, the downward inclination of the flap favoring this opening and dumping operation.

The internal shoulder or bead 10 inside and above the open lower end of the receptacle serves as a stop shoulder against which the lower closure is tightly held by the closing spring 20.

When the bottom closure 16 is held open as indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 2, it will be seen that the screws 14 are readily accessible, but in the closed position these screws can not be reached and as the closure fits up inside the walls of the case, it can not be pried open from below.

Both closures are held closed by spring pressure, the top one under light tension enabling it to open under such light pressure for instance, as that required to break off the ashes of a cigar or cigarette and the bot-

tom closure by sufficient pressure to sustain it securely closed against the weight of any possible contents of the receptacle. The top closure may be held open when required, for instance, by means of a suitable stick, and when it is wished to dump the contents of the receptacle, this stick may be pushed downwardly far enough to force the lower closure down and open as in Fig. 2. This method of opening being known only to the proper attendants, the receptacle is safe for use by the patrons of a theatre, as the only movable part appearing is the swinging door at the top, which simply opens to admit inserted matter.

The bottom closure is housed within the bottom of the receptacle and so is not even apparent as a closure under ordinary inspection. The bottom closing spring 20 may be located entirely within the receptacle, instead of having a portion of it extending beneath the bottom as indicated, thus further avoiding any appearance of a possible opening at the bottom of the receptacle.

The back plate carrying both closures forms a unit, which can be inserted in place or readily removed as indicated in Fig. 3, and when in place, this unit is entirely concealed within the receptacle, the hinges of the closures and other parts being then fully covered and protected. The back of the case is provided with openings therethrough for passage of the screws which fasten the back plate unit in place. To avoid any clatter from operation of the top flap, cork, or other suitable cushioning material may be interposed as a gasket 21 between the contacting portions of the flap and the lip about the top opening.

What is claimed is:

1. An ash receiver comprising a receptacle for mounting on the back of a theatre chair or the like, means for securing the receptacle in position and a cover over said securing means including a back plate insertable up through the bottom of the receptacle, a closure for the bottom of the receptacle, the top of the receptacle having an inlet opening.

2. An ash receiver comprising a receptacle for mounting on the back of a theatre chair or the like, means for securing the receptacle in position and a cover over said securing means including a back plate insertable up through the bottom of the receptacle, a closure for the bottom of the receptacle, the top of the receptacle having an inlet opening and a closure for said inlet opening, said top and bottom closures being both carried by the insertable back plate.

3. An ash receiver comprising a receptacle for mounting on the back of a theatre chair or the like, means for securing the receptacle in position, a cover over said securing means including a back plate insertable up through the bottom of the receptacle, a closure for the bottom of the receptacle, the top of the receptacle having an inlet opening and means for

securing said back plate in position, said latter means being accessible only when the bottom closure is open.

4. An ash receiver comprising a receptacle for mounting on the back of a theatre chair or the like, means for securing the receptacle in position, a cover over said securing means including a back plate insertable up through the bottom of the receptacle, a closure for the bottom of the receptacle, the top of the receptacle having an inlet opening and a closure for said inlet opening, said top and bottom closures being both carried by the insertable back plate, both said closures opening downwardly, and there being means for holding said upper closure seated by a light spring tension and the bottom closure closed by a relatively heavy tension.

5. An ash receiver comprising a receptacle having openings in the top and bottom of the same, a plate insertable within the receptacle and spring closures for said top and bottom openings both mounted on said insertable plate.

6. An ash receiver comprising a receptacle having openings in the top and bottom of the same, a plate insertable within the receptacle and spring closures for said top and bottom openings both mounted on said insertable plate, means for mounting the receptacle on a suitable support, said insertable plate covering said mounting means and means for securing the plate in such position covering the mounting means for the receptacle.

7. An ash receiver comprising a receptacle having openings in the top and bottom of the same, a plate insertable within the receptacle and spring closures for said top and bottom openings both mounted on said insertable plate, means for mounting the receptacle on a suitable support, said insertable plate covering said mounting means, means for securing the plate in such position covering the mounting means for the receptacle, the mounting means for the receptacle being accessible through the top opening of the receptacle and the securing means for the plate being accessible through the bottom opening when the bottom closure is open.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
EDMUND SCHROEDTER.