

J. MENZL & B. L. SCHWARTZ.

DRIP PAN.

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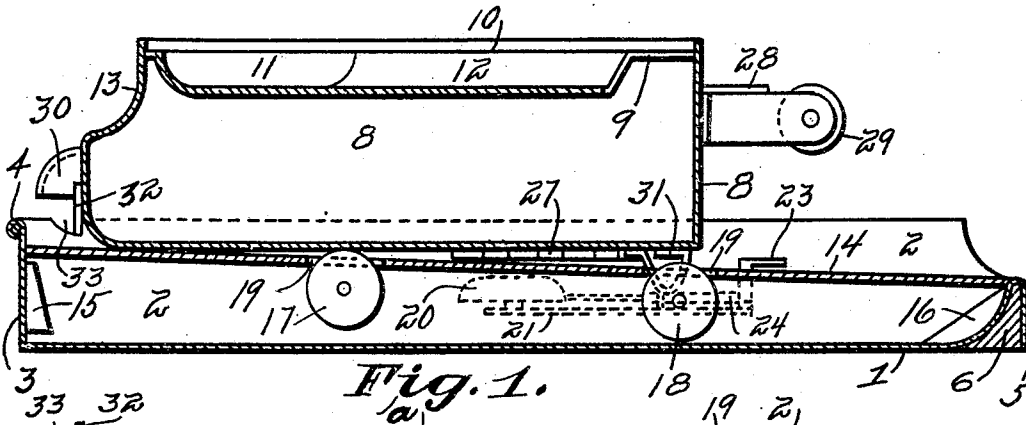


Fig. 1.

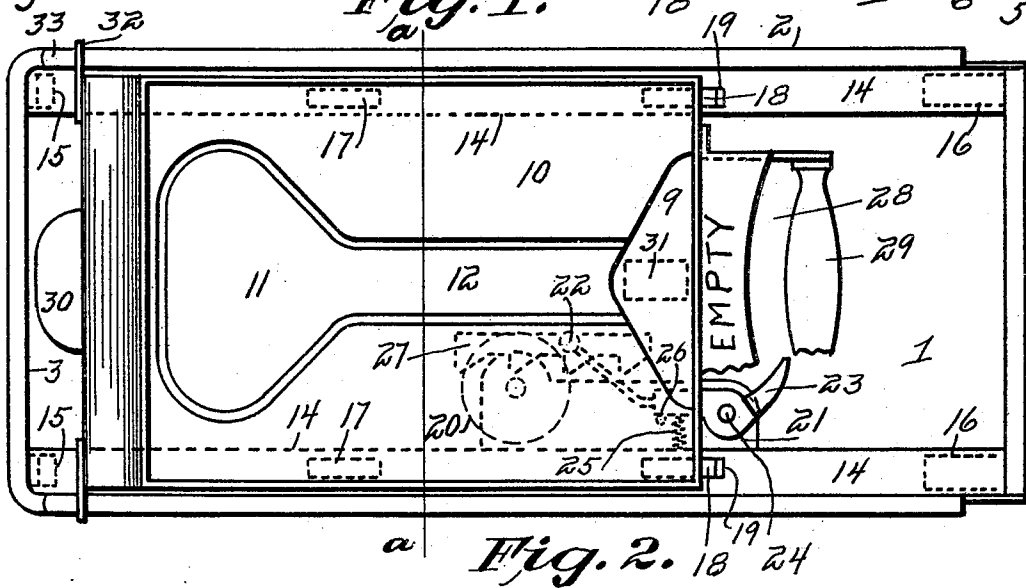


Fig. 2.

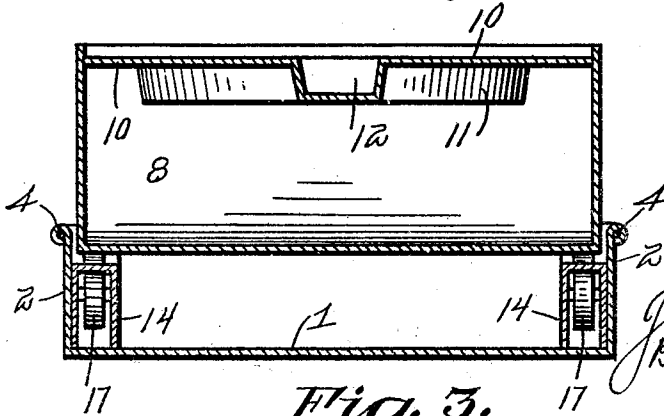


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DRIP-PAN.

940,040.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 16, 1909.

Application filed October 26, 1908. Serial No. 459,508.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN MENZL and BERNARD L. SCHWARTZ, citizens of the United States, residing at Dayton, in the county of Montgomery and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Drip-Pans; and we do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to an improved drip pan for preventing the overflow of water thereto from refrigerators, wash stands, and other places which are not directly connected with a drain pipe to carry the overflow from the premises.

The invention is especially adapted for refrigerators in apartment houses where more or less annoyance is experienced due to the overflow of water from the drip pan beneath the refrigerator.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1, is a vertical longitudinal section taken through the middle of the upper pan and through one of the side tracks in the lower pan. Fig. 2, is a top plan view. Fig. 3, is a cross section on the line *a a* of Fig. 2.

In a detail description of the invention, similar reference characters indicate corresponding parts.

1 designates the lower or base pan which is constructed of a suitable quality of galvanized iron. This pan 1 is provided with two upright sides 2 and a back 3, around which extends a suitable rim 4. The front end of the pan 1 is provided with a down-turned flange 5 which extends over a strip 6 and thus the said lower or base pan 1 is maintained in position below the refrigerator. The strip 6 is an ordinary wooden strip and is secured to the floor a suitable distance in front of the refrigerator. The said pan 1 may be removed from such position by elevating it away from the retaining strip 6. The refrigerator is not shown in the accompanying drawings, but it will be understood that the base pan 1 lies below the refrigerator at a suitable point for the sup-

plemental drip pan to receive the drippings from the refrigerator.

8 designates the upper or supplemental drip pan which is inclosed on four sides and on the top and bottom with the exception of an opening 9 in the front end of the top closure 10. The top closure 10 has a depression 11 therein which lies below the drip pipe of the refrigerator, and a further depression 12 which communicates with the opening 9, so that the water dripping into the depression 11 flows through the opening 9 into the upper receptacle. A portion of the rear end of said pan 8 is removed as at 13, and an amount of water is displaced thereby corresponding to the area thus removed by extending inwardly the upper portion of the rearward end of said pan.

14 designates two tracks that are removably secured within the base pan 1; these tracks 14 are formed by bending the sheet metal longitudinally substantially of a shape shown in Fig. 3. The rearward ends of said tracks engage suitable lugs 15 projecting from the rearward end of the base pan, and the front ends of said tracks receive lugs 16 secured to the forward end of the base pan. In such position, the tracks are maintained against any lateral or longitudinal movement, and yet they may be removed by merely lifting them away from their retaining lugs 15 and 16. Within each of these tracks is mounted two rollers 17 and 18, which extend through openings 19 in the top of said tracks.

It will be noted that the forward rollers 18 are mounted in lower positions than the rearward rollers 17. The latter rollers are approximately in a line coinciding with the middle of the upper drip pan 8. The upper drip pan 8 rests upon the rearward rollers at all times, and until the weight of the water in the forward end of said pan is sufficient to tilt said forward end and cause that portion of the pan to engage the front rollers 18. At that time the upper drip pan 8 rolls forwardly upon said rollers 17 and 18, and from beneath the refrigerator, where it may be seen. In thus moving from beneath the refrigerator, a bell 20 is sounded. This bell is mounted upon a base 21 fixed to one of the side tracks and is provided with

a striker 22 which extends from a pawl 23. The pawl 23 is pivoted to the base 21 at 24. A spring 25 engages said pawl and maintains the striker normally away from the bell. A stop 26 limits the striking movement of said bell striker. The pawl 23 extends in the path of a toothed bar 27 in the form of a rack, the teeth or projections of which engage the pawl 23 as the upper drip pan 8 moves forward on the rollers 17 and 18. The toothed bar 27 is secured to the lower side of the upper drip pan 8 in a proper position to trip the pawl 23, and to thereby cause an alarm. The front of the upper drip pan 8 may be provided with a plate 28 with any suitable inscription thereon indicating that the pan is ready to be emptied. Also the front of said pan is provided with a handle 29 and the rearward end of the drip pan is provided with a handle 30 which, in addition to its function of a handle, also acts as a weight to maintain said upper drip pan 8 in a level position upon the rearward rollers 17, as shown in Fig. 1, until the weight of the water dripping into said pan overcomes said rearward weight. It will be understood that as soon as the amount of water in said drip pan or rather in the forward end of the drip pan equals that displaced in the rearward end by extending inwardly the wall 13, the pan tilts downwardly at its forward end and engages the front rollers 18 as before stated. The forward end of the upper drip pan is provided with a stop 31 which engages the front end of the base pan and stops the travel of said pan 8 in a position where it is exposed to view.

32 designates two bars which extend outwardly from the rearward end of the upper drip pan and engage shoulders formed in the side walls 2 of the base pan by cutting said side walls as at 33. When the upper drip pan 8 is in a level position, this engagement between the bars 32 and said shoulders prevents any accidental forward movement of the upper drip pan before it has received the full quantity of water dripping therein from the refrigerator. When the pan 8 tilts forwardly, the bars 32 rise out of the notches 33 and thus the upper drip pan becomes disengaged and free to move forwardly on the rollers. It will be seen that when the upper drip pan 8 thus travels from beneath the refrigerator, it may be easily removed by means of the handle 29, emptied and replaced.

We claim:

1. A flat drip pan adapted to be placed under a refrigerator, the same having a top closure provided with a gutter extending approximately from one end to the other end of said top and communicating with the interior of said pan through an opening

therein, and a handle attached to the end of said drip pan containing said opening. 65

2. The combination with a base pan, of a supplemental drip pan supported in said base pan upon rollers, and means for maintaining said supplemental drip pan in a level position until the water entering it is of sufficient weight to cause the forward end of said drip pan to engage a forward set of rollers, at which time said supplemental drip pan moves forwardly in the base pan. 70 75

3. The combination with a base pan, having tracks therein, an upper drip pan supported upon said tracks with intervening rollers, the rearward rollers forming a pivot for said upper drip pan to turn upon when the weight of the water entering said upper drip pan becomes excessive in the portion of said drip pan lying in front of the rearward rollers. 80

4. The combination of a base pan having removable tracks therein, and means for securing said base pan at its forward end to a floor beneath a refrigerator, rollers mounted in said tracks, a drip pan supported upon the rearward rollers and adapted to engage the forward rollers to travel thereon from beneath a refrigerator, said drip pan having a depression in its upper side, and an opening leading from said depression to the front portion of said drip pan, and means for maintaining said drip pan in a level position until the weight of the water entering the same is sufficient to cause said drip pan to tilt forwardly in engagement with the front rollers. 90 95 100

5. The combination with a base pan, removable tracks in said base pan, a drip pan supported on said tracks on intervening rollers, said drip pan having a portion of its rearward side extended inwardly to reduce the containing area of the rear end of said drip pan, and the upper side of said drip pan having a depression to receive the dripping water, said depression communicating with the interior of the drip pan at its forward end, and means for maintaining said drip pan in a level position on the rearward rollers until the weight of the water entering the same is sufficient to cause said drip pan to engage the forward rollers. 105 110 115

6. The combination with a base pan having tracks therein, rollers mounted in said tracks, a drip pan normally supported on the rearward rollers in a level position, means for so supporting said drip pan until the weight of the water dripping therein overcomes the equilibrium of said drip pan and causes it to engage the forward rollers, at which time said drip pan moves forwardly under the weight of its contents. 120 125

7. The combination with a base pan having tracks therein with rollers mounted in said tracks, a drip pan normally supported

in a level position on the rearward rollers,
means for maintaining said drip pan in
such position until the weight of the water
dripping therein is sufficient to cause it to
5 tilt in engagement with the forward rollers,
and means for interlocking said drip pan
with the base pan while said drip pan is
maintained in its level position.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures, in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN MENZL.

BERNARD L. SCHWARTZ.

Witnesses:

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