H. H. HOOPS.

PORTABLE POTATO BIN.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 12, 1919.

1,317,577. Patented Sept. 30, 1919.

Fig. 3

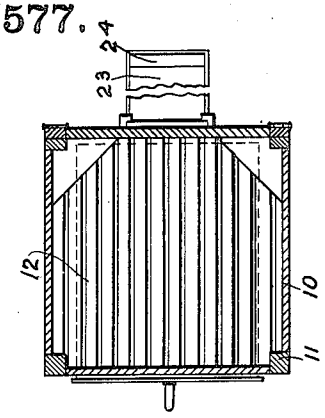
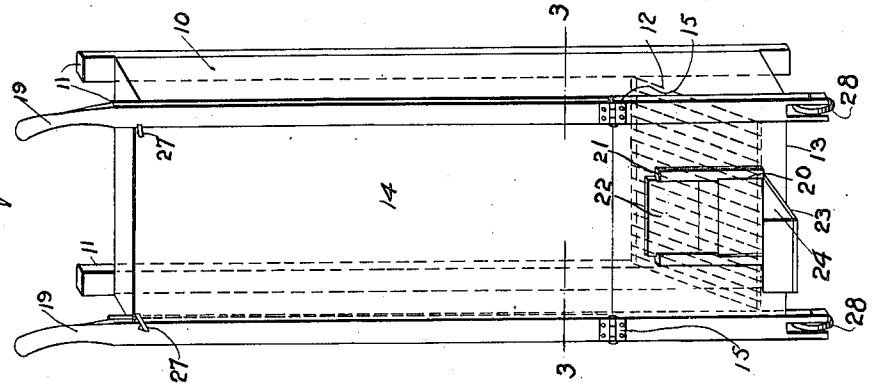


Fig. 2

Fig. 1



WITNESSES

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PORTABLE POTATO-BIN.

1,317,577. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 30, 1919.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERMAN H. HOOPS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Portable Potato-Bin, of which the following is a description.

My invention relates to a portable bin for use by grocers and although capable of use for articles other than potatoes, the structure is more particularly intended for use as a potato bin.

The general object of my invention is to provide a bin, a side of which is adapted to be lowered and to receive thereon a sack of potatoes or the like, means being provided on said movable side to grip or clasp the bottom of the potato bag so that said side may be raised to constitute a closure of the bin and permit the potatoes to gravitate into the bin, thereby facilitating the handling of potatoes in sacks and promoting cleanliness. The invention in its entirety includes a slatted bottom through which dirt and smallest potatoes may pass into a drawer provided for the purpose. There is further provided a chute over which the potatoes may be run from the bin in quantities as desired, and associated with the chute is means to be employed in vending small quantities of potatoes and readily swingable to a position to permit of larger quantities of potatoes being run over the chute into a basket or the like.

The nature of the invention and its advantages will more clearly appear as the description proceeds.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, it being understood that the drawings are merely illustrative of one example of the invention.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portable bin embodying my invention;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof, parts being broken away and the swingable side of the structure being shown lowered for receiving a sack of potatoes; and

Fig. 3 is a cross section approximately on the line 3—3, Fig. 1.

In carrying out my invention in practice, in accordance with the illustrated example, a box-like structure 10 is provided having corner posts 11. Said structure is of such dimensions as to accommodate a sack of potatoes disposed vertically. A slatted false bottom 12 is provided in said structure above the actual bottom 13 and is inclined. The upper portion 14 of the front of the structure 10 is swingable, being hinged at its lower end as at 15 above the false bottom 12 of the bin, whereby it may be lowered, to a position indicated in Fig. 2 for receiving a sack A of potatoes or the like, or raised to a position as in Fig. 1, whereby to close the fourth side of the bin. The sack of potatoes is laid with an open end *a* forwardly and in order to clasp or grip the rear end of the bag, the swingable side 14 has suitable means to connect with the bagging material. In the illustrated example, chains 16 have clasps of a known form and here conventionally shown, said clasps including clamp rings 18. The swingable side 14 has handles 19 for convenience in raising and lowering the same. Below the hinges 15 and at the front of the slatted false bottom 12 a discharge opening 20 is formed in the front of the structure for escape of potatoes, and in guides 21 at the sides of said opening a cut-off slide 22 may be provided to regulate the outflow of potatoes from the slatted bottom 12. At said opening 20 a chute 23 is provided on the front of the bin and associated with said chute is a guard 24 which is pivoted at its inner end as at 25 and may be lowered onto the chute 23 to constitute a guard or may be raised as in the dotted line position in Fig. 2. I prefer to lower the guard 24 in vending small quantities of potatoes, since a reasonable amount may be run onto the chute within the guard and then the given measure taken from the chute. On the other hand, where a comparatively large quantity of potatoes, such as a half peck or peck is to be vended, the guard 24 is swung upward leaving the potatoes free to roll over the chute 23 to the measure or basket (not shown).

To catch dust and dirt as well as the smallest potatoes passing through the slatted bottom 12, I provide a drawer 26 of approximately triangular shape, whereby also the dirt, etc., may be readily removed when desired.

I provide suitable catches to retain the swingable side 14 in the raised position with the sack A sustained thereon. In the illustrated example resilient latches 27 are provided, adapted to engage the handled sides of the swingable portion 14.

At the hinged side of the structure the bin is provided with running rollers or wheels 28 that increase the supportability and facilitate running it into and out of the store for example; the said wheels in being on the same side as the handles 19 of the hinged portion giving the structure the character of a truck.

I would state in conclusion that while the illustrated example constitutes a practical embodiment of my invention, I do not limit myself strictly to the mechanical details herein illustrated, since manifestly the same can be considerably varied without departure from the spirit of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A bin of the class described including means adapted in its upper portion to accommodate a sack of potatoes, an outlet near the bottom of the bin, a chute at said outlet and a guard on said chute and swingable to a raised position to permit the articles to run over the chute or to a lowered position to cause the articles to be confined within the guard in vending small quantities.

2. A bin of the class described including a hinged portion at one side to swing vertically, means thereon to sustain a sack of potatoes, said portion being swingable to a lowered position to receive the sack or to a raised position with the sack disposed within the bin, an outlet below said hinged portion for the escape of the articles from the bin as required, running wheels on said bin at the same side as said hinged portion and below the latter, and handles on said hinged portion.

HERMAN H. HOOPS.