June 21, 1960 J. H. LOMAS 2,941,673

LITTER BASKET

Filed May 26, 1958

FIG. 1

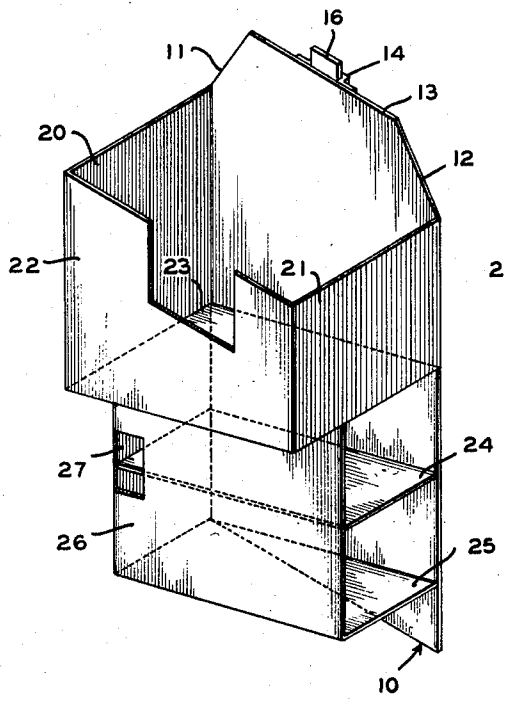



FIG. 2

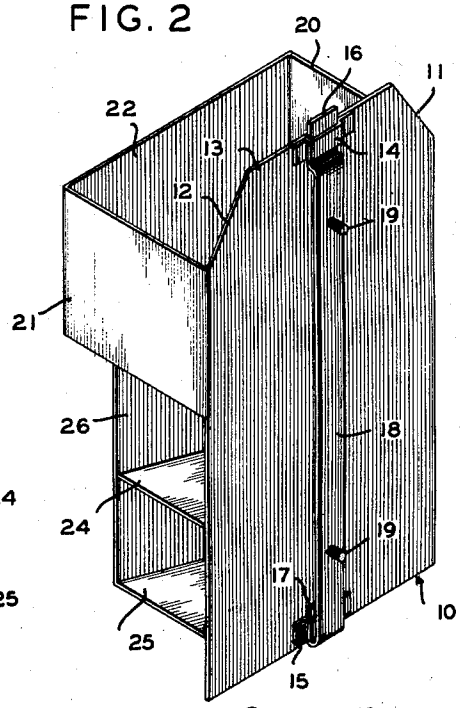
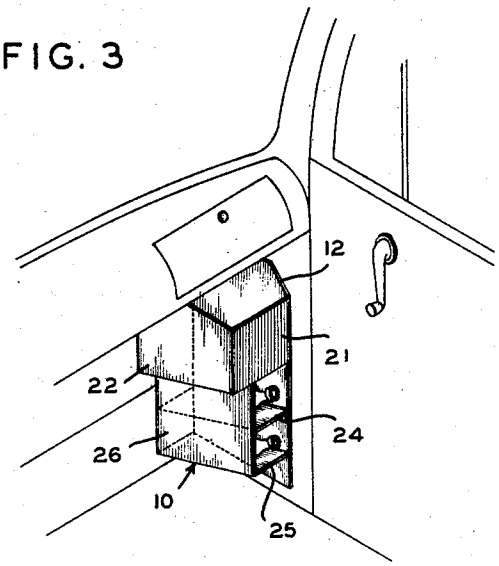



FIG. 3



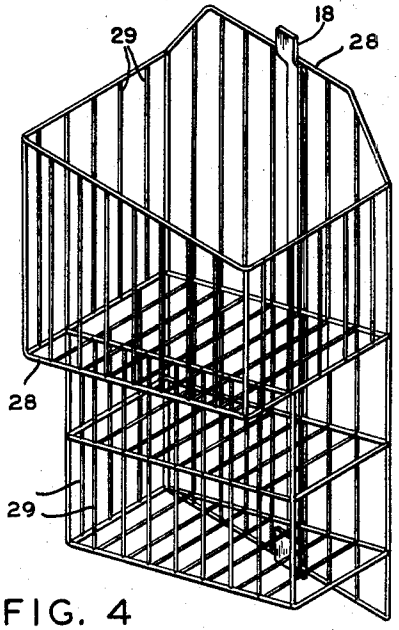




FIG. 4

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# LITTER BASKET

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5 Claims. (Cl. 211—90)

This invention relates to containers of various kinds including those used for the collection of objects such as discarded wrappings of various articles, disposable materials, bottles and the like.

The invention relates more particularly to a receptacle of a small size capable of being used in automobiles and other vehicles for the collection of discarded articles, bottles and the like and adapted to be detachably anchored or fastened in place for convenient use and later removal for emptying.

When travelling in automobiles, articles accumulate, some of which are desired to be kept and others are intended to be discarded including tissues both used and unused, wrappings, bottles including those in which soft drinks are retained and which become a nuisance and sometimes roll beneath the operating and control parts of the vehicle creating a hazard. In same areas it is prohibited by law and in most areas it is undesirable to litter the highway with those discarded articles.

It is an object of the invention to overcome the trash collection problem and to provide a collection receptacle which can be installed within the vehicle at the side beneath the dash and elsewhere for convenient use to improve tidiness and for the collection in a convenient location of discarded articles for later disposal.

Another object of the invention is to provide a receptacle of simple and inexpensive construction having means by which it may be readily secured and fastened in a readily accessible location and which can be easily removed for emptying and replaced.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent on the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective illustration on the application of the invention;

Fig. 2, a perspective taken from the opposite side of the device;

Fig. 3, a fragmentary detailed perspective of an automobile with the invention applied thereto; and

Fig. 4, a perspective of a modified form of the invention.

Briefly stated the invention comprises a collection receptacle and means for securing the same in an upright position, such receptacle having an upper trash collection compartment and compartments beneath the trash compartment for articles such as bottles of the type which contain soft drinks. The device of the present invention may be of sheet material such as plastic, metal or the like, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, or it may be fabricated of wire or rod stock as illustrated in Fig. 4.

With continued reference to the drawing the receptacle of the present invention comprises a relatively flat supporting portion or body of generally rectangular configuration and adapted to be secured in an upright position. This body may be of sheet material **10** as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 and may have inclined upper corners **11** and **12** and an upper end portion **13**.

The body **10** is adapted to be secured in an upright



position by means of a pair of upper and lower brackets or sleeves **14** and **15** fastened in any desired manner to the rear face of body **10** and adapted to receive the upper and lower ends or tongues **16** and **17** of a securing bar **18** secured by fasteners **19** to the side wall of an automobile as for example beneath the dash on the side opposite the driver's side of the vehicle.

In order to apply the body **10** all that is necessary is to place the body in position so that the brackets **14** and **15** are located above the upwardly extending ends **16** and **17** of the attaching bar **18** and then lowered into position until they are located around such ends.

On the front side of the body **10** are provided right, left, front and bottom walls **20**, **21**, **22** and **23** respectively. The side walls **20** and **21** are disposed at right angles on the body **10**, the front wall **22** is attached to the side walls **20** and **21** and is parallel to the body **10** while the bottom wall **23** is inclined downwardly from the left to the right wall and connected to the lower edges of the side and front walls to complete the formation of an open top compartment for the collection of trash and the like.

Beneath this collection compartment are mounted, at different elevations, a pair of parallel inclined shelf forming walls **24** and **25** disposed in vertically spaced relation between the body **10** and a parallel vertical wall **26** the upper end of which is connected to the bottom wall **23** thus providing a pair of compartments, one above the other and each of a size to receive and retain therein by gravity a bottle or the like such as that employed for soft drinks. The bottle compartments are provided with an upright closure **27** at one end thereof. The closure **27** may be integral with or attached to the wall **20**.

Instead of a container of sheet material, the container may be made of wire or rod stock as disclosed in Fig. 4 and may include a body composed of a marginal bar or frame **28** and a series of spaced rods or bars **29** in spaced parallel relation, the shape and arrangement of the compartments corresponding to that of the preceding figures. On the front side of the body are disposed a compartment for the collection of trash and a pair of inclined compartments one above the other, adapted to receive soft drink bottles or the like.

Securing bar **18** is attached to the back **28** as in the preceding figures so that the receptacle of Fig. 4 is interchangeable with the receptacle of Figs. 1, 2 and 3.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art that various changes may be made in the invention without departing from the spirit and scope thereof and therefore the invention is not limited by that which is illustrated in the drawing and described in the specification, but only as indicated in the accompanying claims.

What is claimed is:

1. The combination of a mounting bar adapted to be fastened in a fixed position to receive and support a receptacle, the upper and lower ends of said mounting bar having upwardly disposed offset portions, a receptacle having spaced horizontal portions corresponding to the upwardly disposed portions of said mounting bar in a manner to be received over such upwardly disposed offset portions and with one side of said receptacle being accessible, said receptacle having a series of compartments located one above the other with the uppermost compartment differing in size from that of the lower compartments, and with the bottoms of said compartments inclined from said accessible side to the opposite side thereof whereby articles in the receptacle will tend to gravitate from the accessible side to the opposite side.

2. The structure of claim 1 in which the accessible side differs in depth from the opposite side.

3. The structure of claim 1 in which said lower com-

partments are of a size to accommodate articles of a particular size.

4. The structure of claim 1 in which said receptacle is composed of sheet material.

5. The structure of claim 1 in which said receptacle is composed of wire stock.

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