

G. B. WILLCOX.
 RECEPTACLE.
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1,053,688.

Patented Feb. 18, 1913.

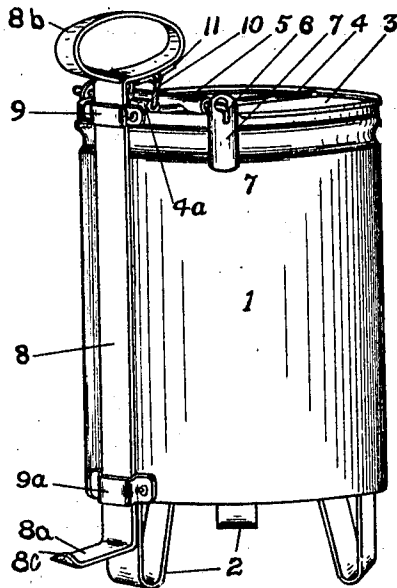


FIG. 1

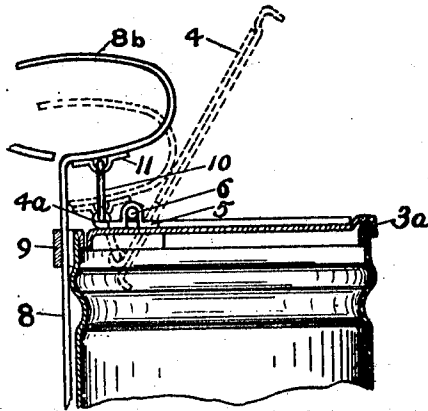


FIG. 2

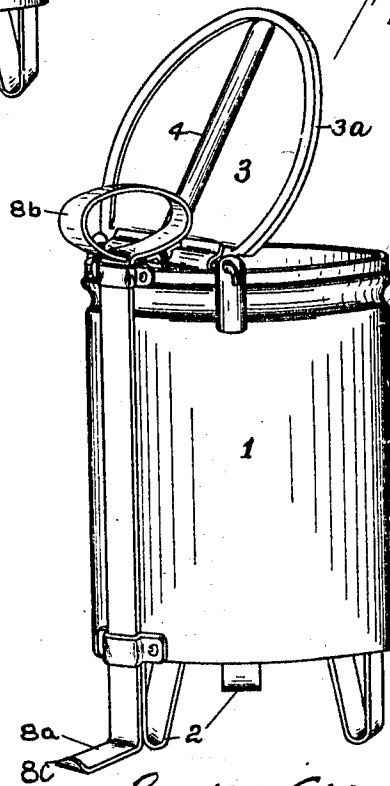


FIG. 3

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RECEPTACLE.

1,053,688.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 18, 1913.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE B. WILLCOX, a citizen of the United States, residing at Saginaw, in the county of Saginaw and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Receptacles; and I do hereby 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.

My invention relates to cans and like receptacles and pertains more particularly to cans having hinged covers and provided with means for raising the cover by pressure of the foot or hand.

My improved receptacle is adapted to a great variety of uses, such as the collecting of kitchen refuse, oily waste and rags in factories, etc., but for convenience it will be described as applied to waste cans.

The objects of my invention are to provide, first, a cover so constructed that when it is tilted the entire interior of the can may be inspected. Second, to provide means whereby the cover may be opened by foot pressure applied near the floor or by hand pressure applied near the cover. Third, to provide a single member in which is combined the functions of a hand-actuated cover opener, a lifting handle, a stop to limit the opening movement of the cover, and a presser foot adapted to avoid overturning the can or bending the presser foot, regardless of the amount of weight applied.

Another object is to provide a cover adapted to clamp tight down when the can is being carried, so that though the can is filled above its rim with papers, waste, or other light material, the contents will not scatter.

Another object is to provide a cover-opening device so arranged that when the can is in position to be emptied, that is, tipped bottom up or nearly so, its weight will operate to open the cover and to hold it open until the can is righted, so that the can may be violently shaken and turned to any desired position for inspection, remaining open until set down.

A further object is to provide a can having few projecting parts, and those parts so arranged that it is not possible by pushing the can under a bench or against a post, to accidentally operate the cover-lifting device, leaving the cover open. This safe-guard against accidental opening is of especial im-

portance in furniture polishing rooms and the like where highly inflammable cloths are deposited in the can.

With these and certain other objects in view, which will appear later in the specifications, the device consists in the construction and combinations of parts and the equivalents thereof, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of the can with the cover closed; Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the cover open; and Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional detail broken away in part, showing the upper part of the can with the cover closed, the open position of the cover being indicated by dotted lines.

As is clearly shown in the drawings, the device consists of a can body 1 having suitable legs 2 and provided with a hinged cover 3. A vertically movable member, as a bar 8, is mounted on the can in any suitable position and held in place by guides as 9 and 9^a. The upper end of the bar 8 is provided with a handle 8^b and the lower end with a laterally projecting presser foot 8^a, which is preferably provided with an upward projection, as 8^c, to prevent the foot of the user from slipping. I prefer to locate one of the legs 2 in close proximity to the bar 8, as shown, in order that the leg may be used as a hand-hold when handle 8^b is pushed down to open the can, as in throwing out the contents of the can. A link 10 is pivoted at its lower end to the rear edge of the cover 3 and at its upper end to the bar 8 in any suitable manner as by means of a strap 11 carried by the handle 8^b.

Downward pressure of the handle 8^b opens the cover as indicated in Fig. 2, and similarly, stepping on the presser foot 8^a also opens the cover. When the handle or presser foot is released, the cover closes by its own weight, restoring bar 8 to its initial position.

To provide a positive stop for the cover to limit its opening movement I arrange the handle 8^b to engage the cover when open, as shown in Fig. 3. All tendency to overturn the can when heavy weight is suddenly applied to the presser foot 8^a is avoided by making the bar 8 of such length that the presser foot rests on the floor when the cover is raised. The presser foot then assists in holding the can upright and the heavier weight applied, the more firmly the can is held.

I prefer to construct the cover as follows: A hinge rod 6 is secured across the cover in any suitable manner as by being inclosed in a housing 5, which may be made of sheet metal. The ends of the rod 6 are received in ears 7 secured to the body of the can. The link 10 is pivoted near the periphery of the cover back of the housing. Lifting the can by handle 8^a pulls upward on the link 10 and yieldingly clamps the cover in its closed position. The link may be received in the looped end 4^a of a stiffening 4 which is secured to the cover 3. The stiffening bar 4 strengthens the cover and also adds weight to the can to make its closing positive.

That part of the periphery of the cover forward of the housing 5 is preferably flanged downwardly as at 3^a and that part of the cover at the rear of the housing is made slightly smaller than the can so as to tilt into the can when the bar 8 is pushed down, as indicated in Figs. 2 and 3. By this arrangement the cover, when opened, permits the entire interior of the can to be inspected and prevents the accumulation of dirt in the top of the can back of the hinge.

In use, the can may be carried in one hand and when set down the cover is opened by downward pressure on the handle without removing the hand. Objects on the floor may then be picked up and thrown into the can, the can and its handle serving as a support for the user while stooping to pick up objects from the floor. Lifting the can automatically closes and clamps the cover. Or the can may be set on the floor near a bench or row of shelves and while the user is employing both hands to pick objects from the shelves, a pressure of the foot causes the cover to fly open and the articles are thrown into the can without stooping.

It will be noted that the handle, being independent of the presser foot, does not become soiled by shoe dirt that accumulates from repeated stepping on the presser foot, and that the hands of the user are not soiled by such dirt.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. The combination with a receptacle, of a hinged cover, a vertically movable member mounted on the receptacle and pivotally secured to the cover, a handle at the upper end of said member and located in the path of movement of said cover, said handle forming a stop to engage the cover and limit its opening movement, and a presser foot at the lower end of said member.

2. The combination with a receptacle, of a hinged cover, a vertically movable bar mounted on the receptacle and pivotally secured to the cover, guides fixed to the receptacle and slidably receiving said bar, a handle at the upper end of said bar and located in the path of movement of said cover, said handle forming a stop to engage the cover and limit its opening movement, and a presser foot at the lower end of said bar.

3. The combination with a receptacle, of a hinged cover, a vertically movable bar mounted on the receptacle, a handle at the upper end of said bar, part of said handle projecting over said cover, a presser foot at the lower end of said bar, and a link pivotally connected at one end to said cover and at the other end to the projecting part of said handle.

4. The combination with a receptacle, of a hinged cover having its rear part slightly smaller than the receptacle, a vertically movable bar mounted on the receptacle, a handle at the upper end of said bar, a presser foot at the lower end of said bar, and a link pivotally connected at one end to the rear part of said cover and at the other end to said bar.

5. The combination with a receptacle, of a hinged cover having its rear part slightly smaller than the receptacle, a stiffening bar secured to said cover and formed with a looped end, a vertically movable bar mounted on the receptacle, a handle at the upper end of said bar, and a presser foot at the lower end of said bar, a link pivotally connected at one end of the looped end of said stiffening bar and at the other end to said vertically movable bar.

6. The combination with a can having legs and a hinged cover, guides fixed to the can, a vertically movable bar received in said guides, a handle on the upper end of said bar, part of said handle projecting over said cover, a link pivoted at its upper end to the overhanging part of said handle and at its lower end to said cover, a laterally projecting presser foot formed on the lower end of said bar, the presser foot movable lengthwise and in close proximity to one of said legs, such leg being adapted to serve as a hand-hold when the can is in position to be emptied.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE B. WILLCOX.

Witnesses:

CHRISTINE A. BRAIDEL
GEO. W. SMITH.