April 19, 1960 L. C. FRY ET AL 2,933,225

LITTERBAG HOLDER

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Fig.1

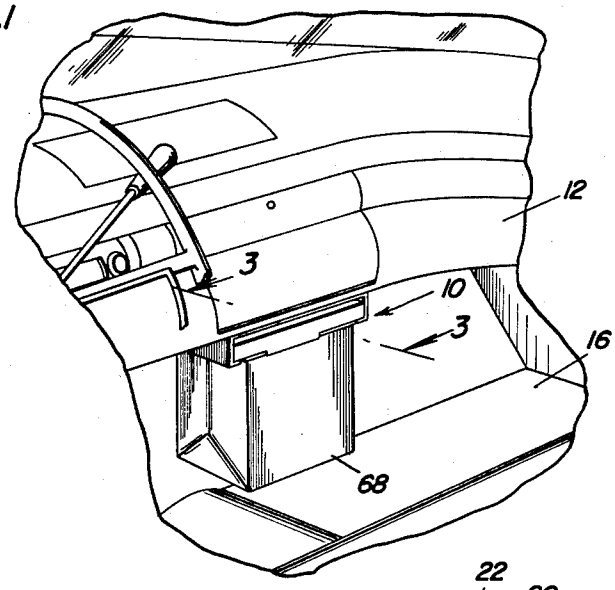

Fig.2

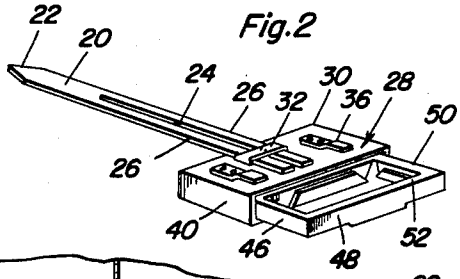

Fig.3

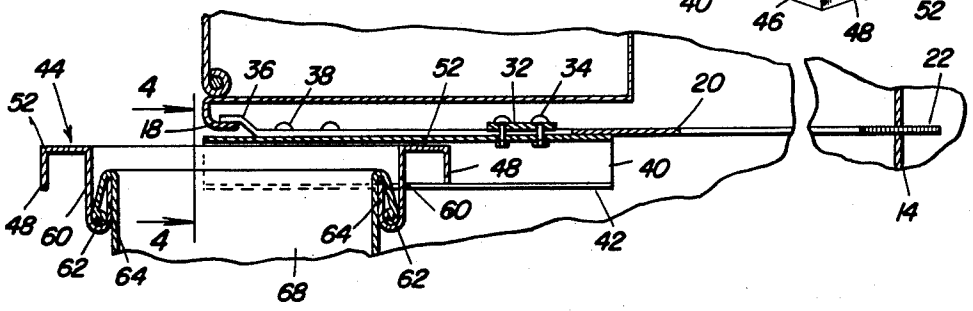

Fig.4

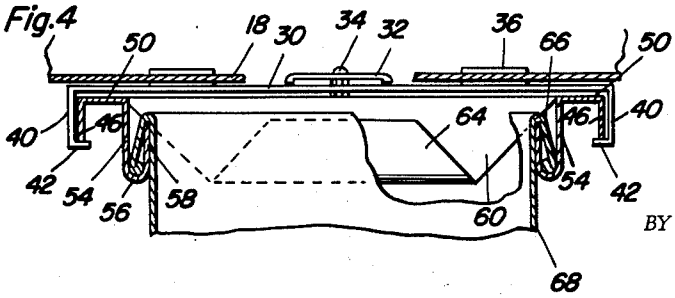

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Fig.5

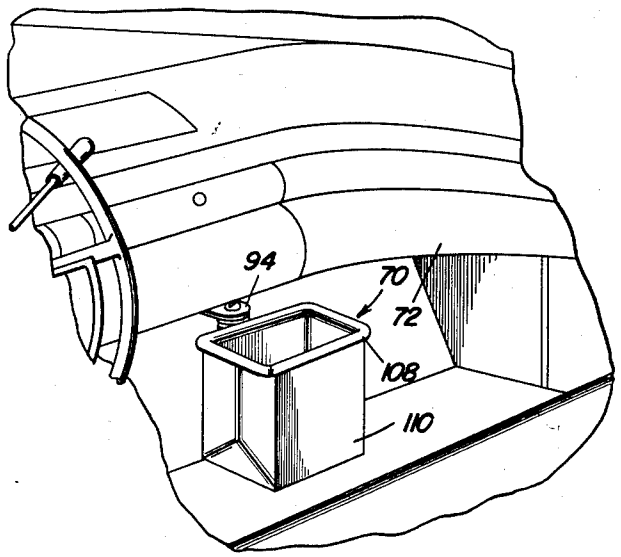


Fig.6

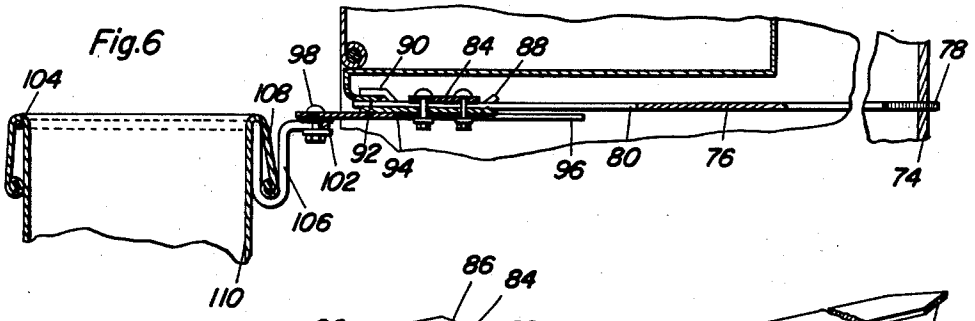
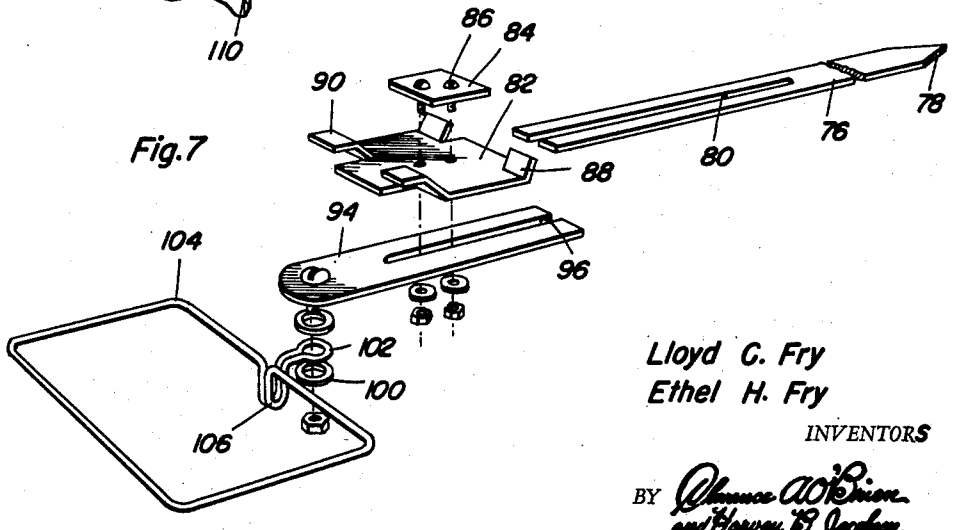


Fig.7



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United States Patent Office 2,933,225 Patented Apr. 19, 1960

2,933,225

LITTERBAG HOLDER

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Application September 16, 1958, Serial No. 761,438

5 Claims. (Cl. 224—42.46)

The present invention generally relates to a holder for a receptacle and more particularly to a holder for a bag for holding refuse or waste material generally termed litter with the bag hereinafter being termed a litterbag.

In many localities there are specific laws provided for apprehending and prosecuting persons found guilty of discarding waste material alongside of highways. It has been the custom for many years and by many persons travelling in vehicles to merely throw the trash out of the vehicle window onto the side areas of roads and highways throughout the country with this trash or waste material greatly detracting from the appearance of highways and cities as well as providing an unsanitary condition. There may be many reasons for motorists throwing this material out the window with the paramount reason probably residing in the desirability to eliminate the waste material from the interior of the vehicle since it would otherwise find a resting place on the floorboard or similar area of the vehicle. Vehicles have long been provided with small receptacles for receiving ashes from cigarettes and also for cigarette butts which have become effective for this particular purpose. However, there has been no convenient receptacle for other types of trash of a relatively bulky nature. Therefore, it is the primary object of the present invention to provide a trash receptacle and more particularly a holder for a conventional paper bag which will provide an extremely inexpensive litterbag which may be easily rendered accessible and which is movable from an accessible to an inaccessible position thereby providing a holder which enables the occupants of the vehicle to readily position trash in the receptacle or bag so that the same may be retained until such time as an accumulation thereof is dumped into a suitable public trash receptacle or in any other enlarged receptacle provided for trash.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a holder for a conventional paper bag which is mounted under the instrument panel or dashboard of a conventional automotive vehicle and which is movable from a position underlying the instrument panel to a position projecting outwardly from the instrument panel in which position the open upper end of the bag is accessible for depositing trash or the like.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a litterbag holder in accordance with the preceding objects in which the mounting means for the holder is extremely simple to install on existing automotive vehicles and also including novel means for mounting a paper bag thereon in a manner that the top thereof will be retained in an open condition at all times.

Another important feature of the present invention is to provide a litterbag holder in which the frame provided for holding the litterbag in open condition is slidably mounted under an instrument panel for sliding movement from an accessible to an inaccessible position.

Still another important object of the present invention is to provide a litterbag holder in which the frame for holding the litterbag in open position is pivotal from an accesssible to an inaccessible position in relation to the instrument panel of a vehicle.

Other important objects of the present invention will

reside in its simplicity of construction, ease of installation, effectiveness for its particular purposes and its relatively inexpensive manufacturing cost.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the litterbag holder and litterbag mounted in position under the instrument panel of a vehicle with the holder and bag being in an inaccessible position;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the litterbag holder per se;

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view taken substantially upon a plane passing along section line 3—3 of Figure 1 illustrating the details of construction of the litterbag holder and its relationship to the instrument panel;

Figure 4 is a detail sectional view taken substantially upon a plane passing along section line 4—4 of Figure 3 illustrating the mounting construction for the frame and the manner in which the frame engages the litterbag;

Figure 5 is a perspective view illustrating a modified form of the present invention installed on the instrument panel of a vehicle;

Figure 6 is a sectional view similar to Figure 3 but showing the details of construction of the modified form of the invention; and

Figure 7 is an exploded group perspective view illustrating the construction of the litterbag holder shown in Figures 5 and 6.

Referring now specifically to Figures 1–4 of the drawings, the numeral 10 generally designates the litterbag holder of the present invention which is mounted in underlying relation to the instrument panel or dashboard 12 of an automotive vehicle having the usual upwardly extending firewall construction 14 located at the forward edge of the floorboard 16. As is usually provided, the instrument panel or dashboard 12 is provided with a horizontally extending and rearwardly facing flange 18 along the bottom edge thereof.

The litterbag holder 10 includes an elongated strap 20 having a pointed end 22 for penetration of the firewall 14 or at least the insulation normally found on the surface thereof. The strap 20 is provided with an elongated slot 24 extending to the other end thereof which slot defines a pair of spaced parallel legs 26.

A supporting bracket generally designated by the numeral 28 is mounted on the strap 20 and includes a flat plate member 30 having a generally U-shaped strap 32 secured thereto as by fastening members 34 which extend through the slot 24 thereby adjustably mounting the plate 30 on the strap 20 with the plate 30 engaging the undersurface of the legs 26 and the clamp member 32 engaging the upper surface of the legs 26. Thus, with this construction, the mounting bracket 28 may be adjusted longitudinally on the strap 20.

Mounted on the plate 30 adjacent each side edge thereof is a pair of offset lugs 36 which face away from the pointed end of the strap 20 and which are held in position by fastening members 38 such as rivets or the like. The offset lugs 36 engage the horizontally extending and rearwardly facing flange 28 as clearly illustrated in Figure 3. Thus, by engaging the lugs 36 with the flange 18 and inserting the pointed end 22 partially through the firewall or the insulation thereon, the strap 20 may be mounted in horizontal position thus mounting the plate 30 in horizontal position. The relationship between the lugs 36 and the pointed end 22 may be adjusted by virtue of the sliding mounting of the plate 30 on the strap 20 by the clamp member 32 and the fastening members 34

thereby enabling the device of the present invention to be installed on automotive vehicles having various relationships between the firewall and flange 18.

Each side edge of the plate 30 is provided with a depending flange 40 which terminates along the lower edge with an inturned flange 42 which forms horizontally disposed parallel trackways for a frame slidable therein with the frame generally being designated by the numeral 44.

The frame 44 generally includes an open rectangular member defined by end vertical flanges 46 and side vertical flanges 48 with each of the flanges 46 and 48 having a top flange with the top flanges being designated by the numerals 50 and 52 respectively. Each of the top flanges 50 is provided with a depending interior flange 54 with each of the vertical inner flanges 54 terminating in a reverse bend 56 and a vertically extending flange 58 with the side edges of the flange 54 converging downwardly and the side edges of the flange 58 converging upwardly thus providing a pair of upwardly facing channels with the flange 58 terminating below the plane of the top flanges 50.

The end flanges 52 are provided with a similar depending flange 60 with a reverse bend 62 at the lower end thereof and a vertically extending interior flange 64 terminating below the top flanges 52 and forming a pair of upwardly facing channels for receiving the reversely folded free edge 66 of a conventional paper bag 68. Thus, by reversely folding the free edge of a conventional paper bag and inserting the reversely folded edges downwardly into the channels defined by the flanges 54 and 58 as well as the flanges 60 and 64, the paper bag 68 may be mounted on the frame 44 for sliding movement in the brackets 28 from a position disposed underneath the instrument panel to a position extending outwardly therefrom. If desired, limit means may be provided on the tracks for limiting the outward movement as well as the inward movement of the frame 44 to assure proper operation thereof but yet permitting removal of the paper bag with an ease when the same is to be replaced with a new and empty paper bag or when dumping the paper bag and reusing the same.

Referring now specifically to Figures 5–7, a modified and simplified form of the invention is generally designated by the numeral 70 and is associated with the instrument panel 72 and firewall 74 in the same manner with this form of the invention including an elongated pointed strap 76 substantially identical in construction to the strap 20 in Figures 1–4 which includes a pointed end 78 and an elongated longitudinal slot 80.

A plate 82 is mounted in underlying relation to the bifurcated end of the strap 76 and is secured thereto by a clamp plate 84 overlying the bifurcated end of the strap 76 and being attached thereto in longitudinally adjusted relation by clamp bolts 86. The edge of the plate 82 facing the pointed end 78 of the strap 76 is provided with a pair of upstanding edge lugs 88 receiving the side edges of the strap 76 thereby preventing rotational or pivotal movement of the plate 82 in relation to the strap 76. The opposite edge of the plate 82 is provided with a pair of upwardly struck and offset lugs 90 thereon which engage the horizontal flange 92 on the instrument panel 72 thus mounting the strap 76 and plate 82 in substantially a horizontal position and by longitudinal adjustment of the plate 82 on the strap 76, the lugs 90 may be brought into engagement with the horizontal flange 92 in a known manner.

A mounting strap 94 provided with an elongated slot 96 is disposed in underlying relation to the strap 76 and in longitudinal alignment therewith and the slot 96 is received on the fastening bolt or clamp screws 86 thereby adjustably mounting the strap 94 onto the strap 76.

The outer end of the mounting strap 94 is provided with a pivot bolt 98 which extends therethrough and which is provided with a pair of washers 100 thereon and which also receives the eye 102 of a wire frame 104 which wire frame 104 is generally rectangular in configuration and provided with a continuous wire member joined in a loop or eye which is horizontally disposed and laterally disposed in relation to the wire frame 104 and is connected thereto by a downwardly extending U-shaped double wire portion 106 which forms an upwardly facing channel for receiving the reversely folded upper edge 108 of a conventional paper bag 110 thus mounting the paper bag on the wire frame 104 with the pivot bolt 98 permitting pivotal movement of the bag and frame about a generally vertical axis for movement from an accessible to an inaccessible position. The orientation of the inaccessible and accessible positions may be varied by adjusting the mounting plate 94 in relation to the plate 82 with the adjustment of the plate 82 on the strap 76 effecting proper mounting of the strap 76.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A litterbag holder comprising an elongated strap having one end engaging the firewall of an automotive vehicle, a plate slidably adjustably mounted on the strap for movement thereon longitudinally thereof away from said end into engagement with the instrument panel of an automotive vehicle thereby mounting the strap in horizontal position, a rectangular frame for receiving the reversely folded upper end of a paper bag, and means movably mounting said frame on said plate for movement from an accessible position disposed outwardly of the instrument panel to an inaccessible position disposed inwardly of and in underlying relation to the instrument panel.

2. The structure as defined in claim 1 wherein said plate includes a pair of upwardly extending and offset lugs thereon at opposite sides of said strap for engagement with the flange of the instrument panel in overlying engagement therewith.

3. The combination of claim 1 wherein said plate is provided with a pair of upwardly struck lugs at opposite sides of the strap for guiding said plate in sliding adjustment of the plate.

4. The structure as defined in claim 1 wherein said means movably mounting said frame comprises downturned side edges on said plate with inturned flanges forming parallel trackways, said frame including a peripheral upwardly facing channel for receiving the reversely folded upper end of a paper bag, said channel being slidably mounted on said trackways whereby the frame may be moved into said positions to correspondingly move the paper bag.

5. The combination of claim 1 wherein said mounting means for said frame comprises a mounting strap secured to said plate, said mounting strap having a free end provided with a pivot bolt, said frame being constructed of wire and having a loop thereon receiving the pivot bolt, said wire having a depressed portion between the loop and the frame for receiving the reversely folded upper edge of a paper bag, said frame being pivotal on said pivot bolt for movement into said positions to correspondingly move said paper bag.

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