

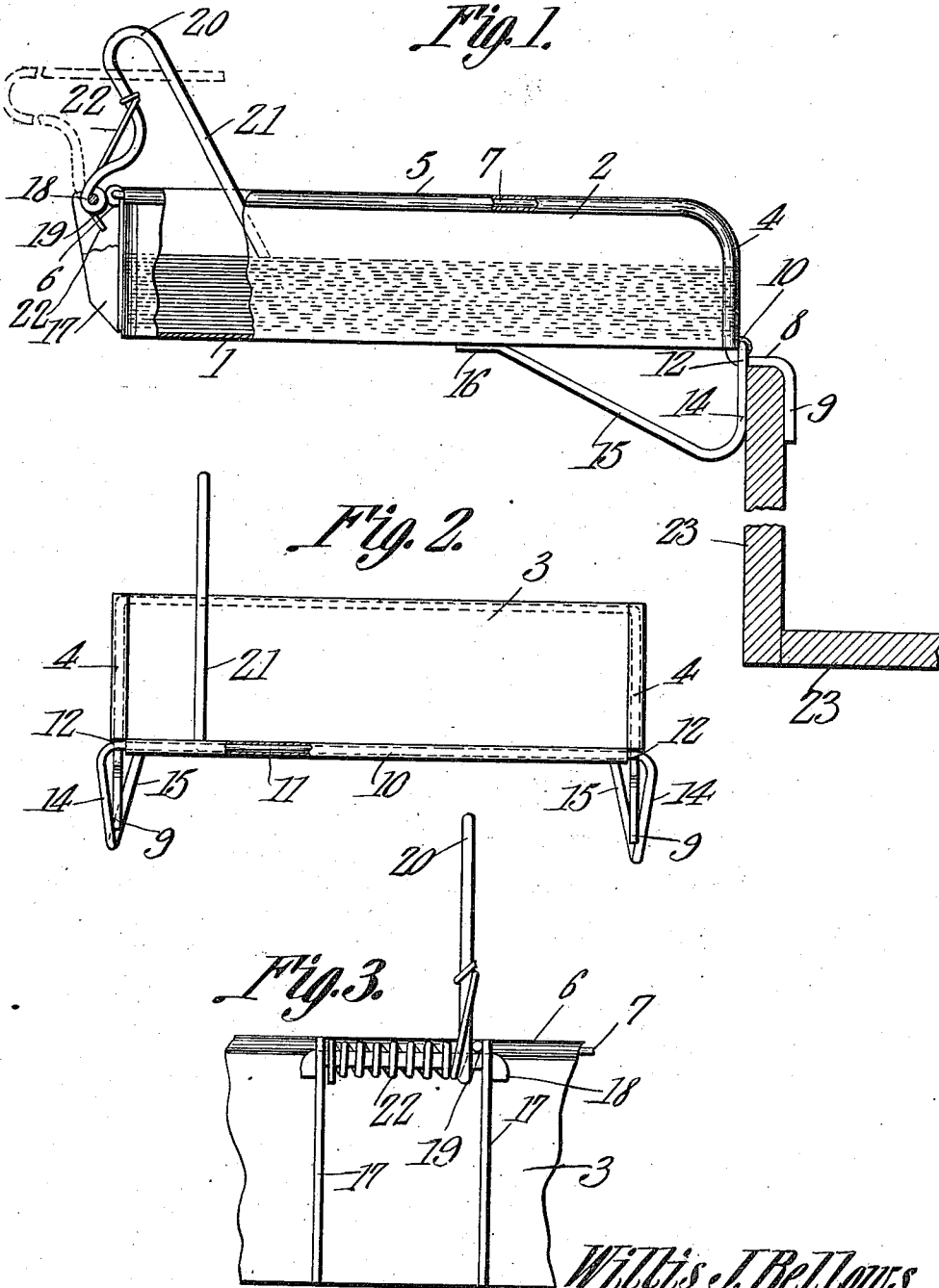
W. J. BELLOWS.

TRAY.

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965,431.

Patented July 26, 1910.



Witnesses
W. J. Bellows
Mason B. Lawton

Willis J. Bellows
Inventor
by *C. A. Snow & Co.*
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIS J. BELLOWS, OF WALLA WALLA, WASHINGTON, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
JOHN W. PYLES, OF WALLA WALLA, WASHINGTON.

TRAY.

965,431.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIS J. BELLOWS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Walla Walla, in the county of Walla Walla and State of Washington, have invented a new and useful Tray, of which the following is a specification.

The device forming the subject matter of this application, is adapted to be assembled with barrels, boxes and the like, to hold wrapping paper or bags, into which the contents of the receptacle are to be placed; the device being intended to facilitate the packing of the contents of the receptacle, by maintaining at hand, the wrappings in which the contents of the receptacle are to be inclosed.

It is the object of this invention to provide a platform of novel and improved form for the holding of the bags and the like, under the circumstances above pointed out; to provide novel means whereby the platform may be connected with a receptacle; and to provide a spring-actuated clip, adapted to hold the bags or papers upon the platform.

In the drawings,—Figure 1 is a side elevation, parts being broken away and sectioned; Fig. 2 is an end elevation, looking into the open end of the device; and Fig. 3 is a fragmental end elevation, showing a portion of the rear wall, and delineating with particularity, the manner in which the spring clip is mounted upon the device.

The invention includes as a primary and fundamental element, a platform, preferably, although not necessarily, fashioned from a single piece of metal. For convenience in description, this platform will be resolved into constituent elements, the platform comprising a base 1, preferably rectangular in outline, and surrounded upon three sides by upstanding walls, the side walls being denoted by the numeral 2, and the end wall being denoted by the numeral 3, one end of the platform thus being open.

The upper edges of the walls 2 and 3 are overbent to form a bead, the bead upon the upper edges of the side walls 2 being denoted by the numeral 5, while the bead upon the upper edge of the end wall 3 is denoted by the numeral 6. The bead which

extends along the upper edges of the walls 2 is carried downwardly along the free edges of the walls 2, as denoted by the numeral 4, the portions 4 of the bead thus terminating at their lower ends, adjacent the base 1 of the platform.

The portions 4, 5 and 6 of the bead inclose a reinforcing strip 7, preferably a length of wire. The ends of this reinforcing strip 7 protrude from the portions 4 of the bead, the ends of the reinforcing strip being bent as shown at 8, into a plane substantially parallel with the plane of the base 1, and thence carried downwardly, as at 9, to form fingers.

The free edge of the base 1 is rolled over to form a bead 10, and in this bead 10 is located a reinforcing strip 11. The ends of the reinforcing strip 11 protrude beyond the ends of the bead 10 in which the strip is mounted, and these protruding ends are carried across the portions 8 of the reinforcing strip 7, as shown at 12, and thence carried downwardly, as at 14 to form a shoulder. The extremities of the reinforcing strip 11 are thence carried upwardly, in inclined positions, as shown at 15, and terminally connected, as at 16, with the lower face of the base 1.

Outstanding from the end wall 3, are spaced ears 17, in which are secured the extremities of a rod 18. A hook-shaped clip is provided, in the end of which there is an eye 19, adapted to receive the rod 18. The clip is carried upwardly, to form a bend 20, terminating in a straight, depending finger 21. Located between the ears 17 and coiled about the rod 18, is a spring 22 which normally acts to maintain the lower end of the finger 21 in engagement with the base 1.

In practical operation, the finger 9 is hooked over the edge of a receptacle 23, the shoulder 14 coöperating with the finger 9 in holding the device in place upon the receptacle, to outstand therefrom. The portion 15 acts as a brace to uphold the platform. It will be seen that the reinforcing strips 7 and 11 are interlocked with each other at 12, to provide elements of unusual strength, adapted to engage the receptacle 23; the construction being such that these receptacle-engaging elements cannot well be

separated from the platform, without tearing the strips 7 and 11 entirely out of the beads in which they are mounted.

A plurality of bags, or sheets of paper, 5 are laid upon the base 1 within the contour of the walls 2 and 3. The spring 22 will actuate the hook-shaped clip, so that the lower end of the portion 21 thereof will bear against the bags, thus holding the bags 10 in place, so that the operator may readily draw one of the bags from beneath the clip, and fill the bag with the contents of the receptacle 23.

By reason of the fact that the bend 20 of 15 the clip normally stands above the walls 2 and 3, the clip may readily be manipulated for the insertion of the bags in place upon the platform.

It should be noted that when the hook-shaped clip is tilted into the position shown 20 (in dotted line in Fig. 1, the bend 20 outstands beyond the end wall 3, the free extremity of the portion 21 of the clip being spaced above the walls 2 and 3. When the clip is 25 positioned as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1, the clip may be hooked over the edge of a receptacle, the platform standing upright within the receptacle. By reason of the fact that the bend 20 of the clip outstands, when 30 positioned as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1, beyond the end wall 3, the entire device may be hung within the receptacle; the platform proper being spaced below the upper edge of the receptacle so that a lid may be placed 35 thereon, without being spaced by contact with the platform proper, apart from the upper edge of the receptacle. Thus, when the occasion for the use of the device has passed, the device may be hung within the 40 receptacle and the lid placed thereon, the device being thus positioned in a convenient, yet out of the way and inconspicuous place.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:—

1. In a device of the class described, a 45 platform having reinforcing strips along its edges, one of said strips being terminally bent to form a shoulder, and the other of said strips being terminally bent to form a finger cooperating with the shoulder in en- 50 gaging a receptacle.

2. In a device of the class described, a platform having reinforcing strips along its edges, one of said strips being carried down- 55 wardly to form a depending shoulder and extended upwardly in inclined position into engagement with the platform, the other of said strips being bent terminally to form a finger cooperating with the shoulder in en- 60 gaging a receptacle.

3. In a device of the class described, a plat- 65 form; a hook-shaped spring-actuated clip pivoted to the platform to bear terminally thereagainst; the clip being tiltable to space its free end apart from the platform, and to dispose its curved portion above and beyond 70 the end of the platform.

4. In a device of the class described, a base having a peripheral upstanding wall; a hook-shaped spring-actuated clip pivoted 75 to said wall to bear terminally against the base within the contour of the wall; the clip being tiltable to space its free end above the upper edge of the wall and to dispose its curved portion beyond the end of the base.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIS J. BELLOWS.

Witnesses:

J. W. BELLOWS,
CLARENCE PYLES.