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TRASH RECEPTACLE AND HANDLING MEANS

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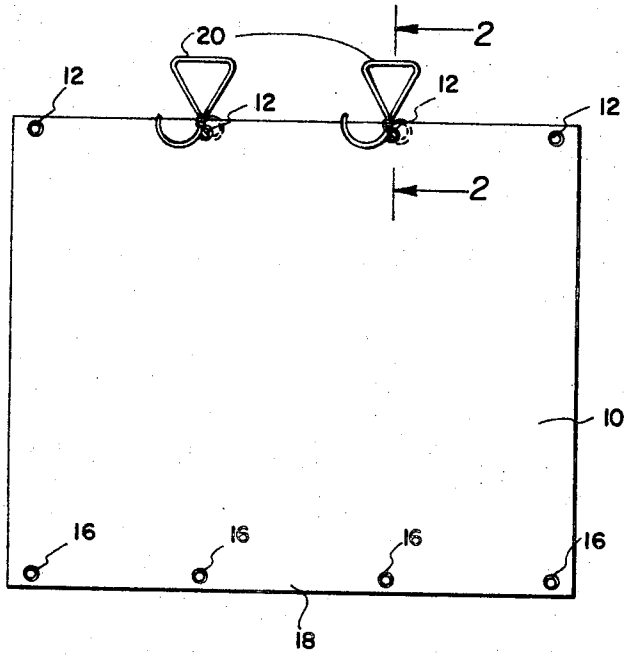


FIG. 1.

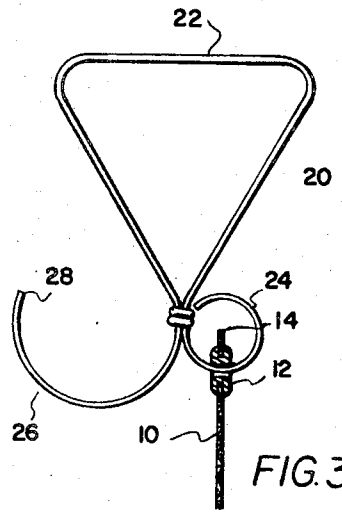


FIG. 3.

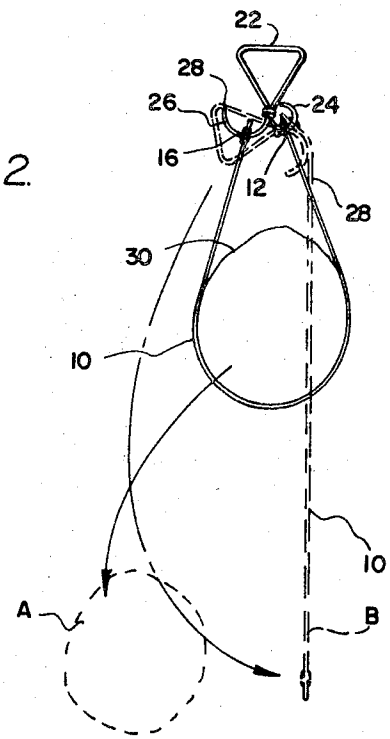


FIG. 2.

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TRASH RECEPTACLE AND HANDLING MEANS

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A flexible sheet of material having opposite edges provided with fixtures adapted to connect said opposite edges; a plurality of handles connected to one of the edges and provided with hooks for hooking through the fixtures of the opposite edges to provide a loop-shaped receptacle for holding trash, such as horticultural prunings, or the like.

This invention relates to a trash receptacle and handling means, and more particularly to a trash receptacle and handling means which is particularly adapted to hold bundles of horticultural prunings, such as tree limbs, or the like, so as to permit them to be readily loaded into municipal trash collecting vehicles, or the like.

When trash is collected by municipal trash collecting vehicles it is important that all trash be contained and capable of being loaded into the vehicle quickly and efficiently. Such trash as horticultural prunings, limbs of trees, and other bulk trash is difficult to place in conventional trash cans due to the bulk of such trash, and therefore trash of this class has posed a substantial problem, not only to home owners, but to trash collectors.

Municipal trash collectors traversing a route do not have sufficient time to gather up limbs of trees and prunings from the ground, and therefore require that these articles of trash be properly bundled or packaged.

Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a very novel and efficient trash receptacle and handling means which is particularly adapted for use in bundling or containing trash such as horticultural prunings, tree limbs, etc., so that such trash may be placed in position along roadways for collection by municipal trash collectors.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel trash receptacle and handle means comprising a flexible sheet having handles secured along one edge thereof, and having hooks on said handles adapted to pass through eyelets in an opposite edge of the sheet, such as to form a looped shaped package for retaining bulk trash in a neat bundle and readily to permit the trash to be removed from the receptacle by relieving the one edge of the flexible means from the hooks of the handle means in order to dump the trash from the receptacle and to provide for a minimum of effort on the part of the trash collectors in the loading of the trash into a trash truck and the return of the receptacle of the invention to the side of the roadway.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel trash receptacle and handle means which is particularly adapted for containing bulk trash such as horticultural prunings, tree limbs, etc., and wherein the receptacle is formed of a single sheet of flexible material such as canvas or the like, having a pair of handles secured to one edge of the flexible member, and provided with hooks disposed to pass through eyelets in the opposite end of the flexible member so that trash may be readily bundled therein and carried by the handles and quickly released by tilting the handles in such a manner that the hooks will be released from the eyelets in the edge of the flexible member for dumping the trash and relieving the flexible member from a looped position to a straight open position.

Further objects of the invention may be apparent from the following specification, appended claims, and accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a side elevational view of the trash receptacle and handle means of the invention, showing the receptacle of the invention in flat open position;

FIG. 2 is an end view of the trash receptacle and handle means of the invention, showing the trash receptacle closed and in a looped shaped position for holding trash therein, and illustrating by broken lines varying positions of the receptacle to effect an open position thereof for dumping the trash therefrom; and

FIG. 3 is an enlarged view of a fragmentary portion of the flexible sheet of the trash receptacle of the invention and one handle and hook structure thereof.

As shown in FIG. 1 of the drawings, the invention comprises a single flexible sheet **10**, which may be made of canvas or any other suitable flexible material. This sheet **10** is provided with a plurality of eyelets **12** along and in the stretcher of the flexible member adjacent to one edge **14**. A second plurality of eyelets **16** are disposed in the flexible member **10** adjacent a second edge **18** thereof.

The eyelets **12** and **16** may be of any suitable construction, but are preferably of metal and similar to conventional eyelets used in connection with canvas and well known to persons skilled in the art.

A plurality of handles **20** of the invention may be permanently connected to the eyelets **12** adjacent to the edge **14**. These handles, as shown in detail in FIG. 3, are each provided with a loop shaped handle portion **22**, having an eye **24** disposed therebelow. Each eye **24** may be extended through one of the eyelets **12** for permanently attaching the respective handle **20** to the flexible sheet **10** adjacent the edge **14** thereof. Each handle **22** is provided with an outwardly directed hook **26** disposed in opposed relation to each eye **14** and the hook **26** is provided with an open end **28** adapted to be inserted through respective eyelets **16**, all as indicated best in FIG. 2 of the drawings.

It will be understood that the preferred form of the invention comprises the use of the metal eyelets **12** and **16** adjacent the opposite edges **14** and **18** of the flexible member **10**. However, the eye portions **24** of the handles **20** may be extended through conventional strap type loop shaped structures of flexible material, such as that of the flexible member **10**, and the hooks **28** may be extended through loop shaped flexible strap structures well known to the art adjacent the edge **18**. It will be understood that the eyelets **12** and **16** may be equivalent to loop straps, and therefore any suitable structure may be used for connection of the handle members **20** with opposite edges **14** and **18** of the flexible member **10**.

In operation, as shown in FIG. 2 of the drawings, the hook portions **26** are placed through the eyelets **16** for holding the flexible member **10** in a loop shaped disposition and a bundle of cuttings or limbs designated **30** may be contained in the loop shaped structure of the flexible member **10**, and when it is desired to dump the material from the trash container of the invention, the handles **20** may be pivoted to the broken line position, shown in FIG. 2 of the drawings, releasing the ends **28** of the hook portions **26** from the respective eyelets **16** and allowing the bundle of trash to fall, as indicated by broken lines A, and to permit the flexible member **10** to assume the broken line position B, all as indicated best in FIG. 2 of the drawings.

It will be appreciated that the simple operation of the trash receptacle of the invention may provide for the rapid loading of trash from the ground into trash collecting trucks, and particularly that trash as hereinbefore

described which may include horticultural cuttings, limbs, and other similar bulk trash which may be of substantial length greatly exceeding the dimensions of the usual trash cans.

I claim:

1. In a trash receptacle and handle means the combination of: a flexible sheet of material; first means adjacent one edge thereof; a plurality of handles connected to said first means; said handles having hook portions extending therefrom; and second means adjacent to an opposite edge of said flexible member and connected thereto and adapted to receive said hook means to thereby hold said flexible member in a loop-shaped disposition in connection with said handle means to surround a bundle of trash; each handle means is provided with an upwardly extending loop-shaped portion and one enclosed eye and open hook portion having an upwardly extending end.

2. In a trash receptacle and handle means the combination of: a flexible sheet of material; first means adjacent one edge thereof; a plurality of handles connected to said first means; said handles having hook portions extending therefrom; and second means adjacent to an opposite edge of said flexible member and connected thereto and adapted to receive said hook means to thereby hold said flexible member in a loop-shaped disposition in connection with said handle means to surround a bundle of trash; each handle means is provided with an upwardly extending loop-shaped portion and one enclosed eye and one open hoop portion having an upwardly extending end; each handle means is formed of a single piece of wire having said eye portions on one end thereof and said hook portions on the opposite end thereof.

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