

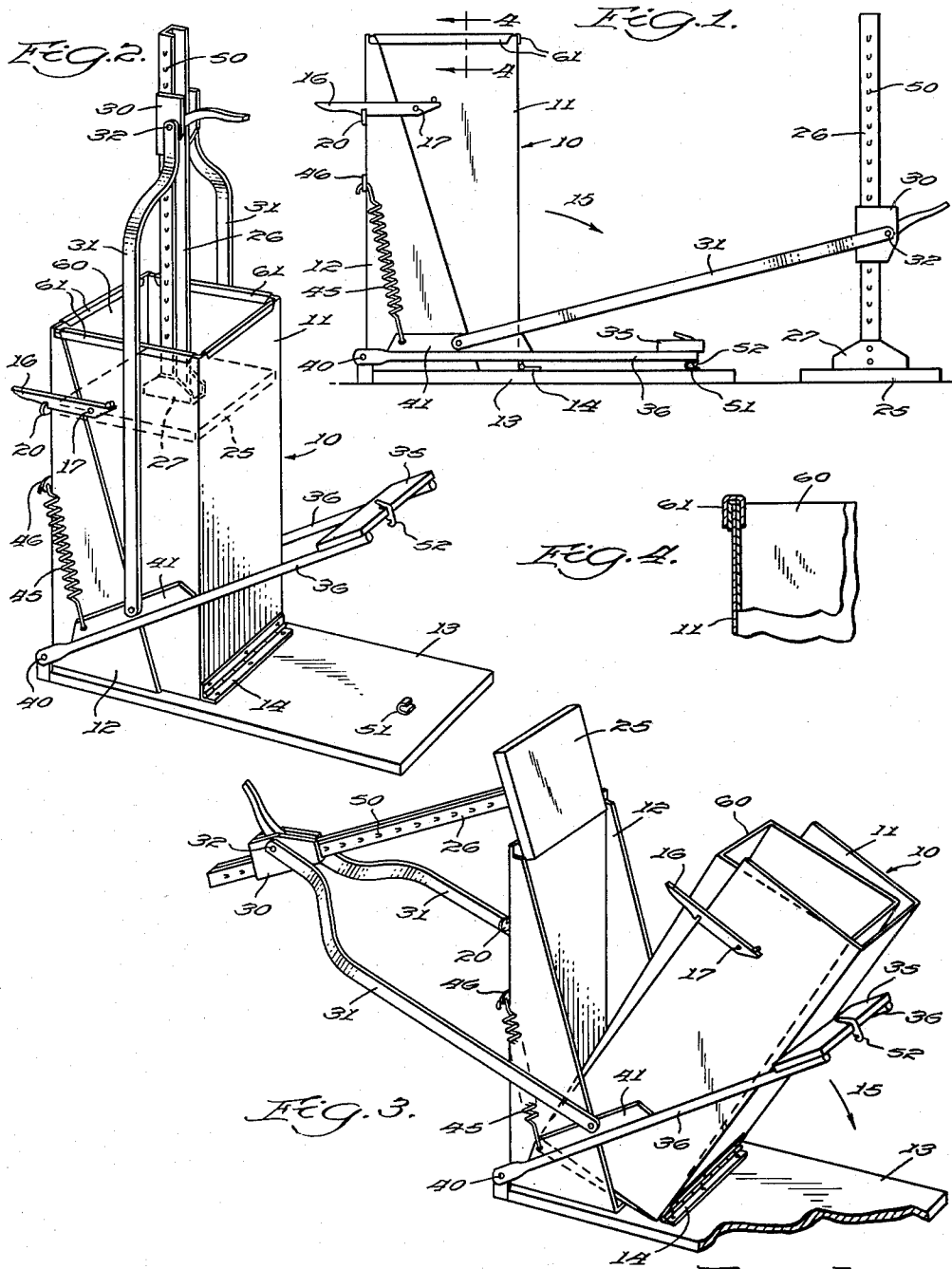
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TRASH BASKET

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TRASH BASKET

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This invention relates to trash containers and more particularly to an improved apparatus for collecting trash within a disposable bag which may have the trash collected and compressed therewithin to consume the smallest possible volume.

Waste receptacles in general, used either in the home or in the office may collect waste, rubbish, or garbage at a relatively rapid rate requiring the receptacle to be emptied far more often than is convenient. Further, in order to empty such a receptacle it is necessary to carry it to an emptying bin or barrel and overturn the same. For this reason an ordinary trash receptacle can not be too large else it will be difficult to carry and empty. The smaller receptacle on the other hand will have to be emptied far more often.

It would, therefore, seem desirable to provide a relatively small receptacle which may conveniently collect a substantially large amount of trash in a relatively small volume and which will further permit emptying of the trash without requiring the physical transport of the basic receptacle.

It is a primary object of the present invention to provide a waste container with a readily sealable disposable inner bag or container to dispose of compressed collected waste material.

Another object of the present invention is to provide an efficient mechanism for compressing waste within a disposable bag in a quick and efficient manner and to provide means for removing the disposable bag which may conveniently be supported by a substantially rigid container.

Yet another object of the present invention is to provide a relatively simple and efficient mechanism which may conveniently be used in the home for collecting a substantial amount of trash in a relatively small disposable container by compressing the volume thereof and providing a readily removable disposable container for discharging the trash.

Yet another object of the present invention is to provide a trash container which will permit the deposit of a relatively large amount of trash within a bag acting as a liner disposed within a compression mechanism for reducing the volume of the collected trash and to provide means for easily ejecting the filled paper bag without exposing the operator to the trash contained within the bag.

The novel features which are believed to be characteristic of the invention, both as to its organization and method of operation, together with further objects and advantages thereof, will be better understood from the following description considered in connection with the accompanying drawing in which a presently preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated by way of example. It is to be expressly understood, however, that the drawing is for the purpose of illustration and description only and is not intended as a definition of the limits of the invention.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a trash container constructed in accordance with the presently preferred embodiment of the invention showing the compressor ram head positioned outside of the container proper;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the apparatus of Figure 1 in which the compressor ram head is positioned within the container;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the apparatus of Figure 1 showing the container in a partially open position for easy removal of a liner which may be held therewithin; and

Figure 4 is a view taken along line 4—4 of Figure 1.

Referring now to the drawing there is shown a trash container which includes a compression mechanism generally designated by the numeral 10 consisting of two parts 11 and 12 which are selectively separable. Sections 11 and 12 are vertically disposed upon a base or platform 13. Sections 11 and 12 should preferably be made of wood or metal to give them a certain minimal strength and rigidity and to preclude them from easily becoming deformed when the trash is compressed therein in a manner to be hereinafter explained. Section 11 is pivotally hinged to the base by hinge 14 so that it may rotate in the direction of arrow 15 to permit easy unloading of the collected trash in an inner bag or container as will be explained hereinafter. A latch mechanism consisting of a pair of arms 16 which are fixedly and pivotally attached at 17 to section 11 holds sections 11 and 12 together when placed in position over catch 20 which is fixedly joined to the back section of section 12 as may best be seen in Figures 1 and 2.

A ram head 25 is shown in Figure 1 as it might appear during loading, thus leaving the top of the receptacle open to receive trash. The ram head 25 is attached to an upright rod 26 by means of a pair of angle brackets 27. A ratchet mechanism 30 is connected to a pair of extending arms 31. The arms 31 are pivotally connected to the ratchet mechanism at 32 in order to adjust the height of the ram head within the receptacle 10; the height depending upon the amount of trash contained therewithin. A treadle foot 35 is fastened over two extending arms 36 which are pivotally mounted at the rear of section 12 by means of pins 40. Two extending members 41 are connected to the arms 36 near the end thereof connected to pin 40. Further, a pair of springs 45 are connected on opposite sides of the section 12 intermediate the members 41 and extending hooks 46. These springs cause the treadle 35 to tend to assume a generally raised position as is shown in Figure 2 until pressure is applied thereupon.

A series of discreet protrusions 50 are provided along the length of ram shaft 26 to act with the ratchet mechanism 30 to change the relative position thereof with respect of the ram shaft 26. A catch 51 may be provided near the front of the base 13 to cooperate with a hook 52 to lock the foot treadle into position against the base as is shown in Figure 1 if desired when the mechanism is not in use.

In operation a disposable waste container or bag which may be a relatively square-shaped paper or plastic bag 60 is placed within the receptacle 10 after sections 11 and 12 are separated by opening of the latch arms 16 to swing the section 11 downward in the direction of the base as is indicated by arrow 15. It should be pointed out that while the shape of the container 10 and therefore of bag 60 is shown in Figures 2 and 3 to be square in cross-section this is not intended as a limitation; any other convenient shape may also be employed. After the bag 60 is placed therein, a plurality of clips 61 which may be made of spring steel are used to clip the bag 60 within the receptacle 10 in the manner as indicated in Figures 1, 2, and 4. This will be done with the ram

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head 25 extending back out of position or resting forward of the base as is indicated in either Figures 1 or 3 respectively. Thereafter, the two sections 11 and 12 are joined and locked together by use of the arms 16 and the ram head 25 will be placed at rest preferably, as shown in Figure 1 to permit easy access to the top of the receptacle. The trash will be deposited within the receptacle thus filling the paper bag 60. After a substantial amount of trash has been deposited within the bag 60 the ram head may be manually raised and placed within the receptacle as is shown in Figure 2. It will, of course, be appreciated that the dimensions of the ram head will be close to but slightly smaller than the inside of the receptacle and the paper bag 60 housed therewithin. The ratchet mechanism 30 will next be used to manually bring the ram head down to its lowest possible position. Next, the operator will step upon the foot treadle 35 thus compressing the trash within the bag 60.

The above described process may be repeated after more trash is added to the bag. Each time, before depression of the foot treadle, the ratchet mechanism may be raised to raise the relative position of the ram head to permit ready use thereof by subsequent depression of the foot treadle 35. Finally, after the bag 60 is substantially filled with trash, the ram head will be removed from the receptacle, the clips 61 holding the bag 60 within the receptacle will also be removed and the top of the bag will be folded to close the same. Finally, the two latch arms 16 will be swung open to permit the sections 11 and 12 to be separated again as shown in Figure 3 to permit ready removal of the bag 60 which is now filled with the trash.

There has thus been described a new and improved trash container which will permit the collection of a substantially large amount of trash within a relatively small volume, while providing ease of unloading.

What is claimed as new is:

1. A waste container comprising: a substantially rigid open top container, said container including a first fixed section and a second hinged section which is pivotally connected to a base, said base supporting said container; means for selectively securing said second section to said first section; a disposable bag; means for selectively fixedly securing said bag within said container; a ram head whose shape is substantially coincident with that of said bag; a foot treadle pivotally hinged to said base; a connecting arm extending perpendicularly from said ram head; and means interconnecting said foot treadle and said connecting arm, whereby when said foot treadle is depressed and said ram head is placed within said bag, waste deposited therewithin will be compressed.

2. A waste container comprising: a substantially rigid open top container, said container including a first

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fixed section and a second hinged section which is pivotally connected to a base, said base supporting said container; means for selectively securing said second section to said first section; a disposable bag; means for selectively fixedly securing said bag within said container; a ram head whose shape is substantially coincident with that of said bag; a foot treadle pivotally hinged to said base; a connecting arm extending perpendicularly from said ram head; a pair of second arms interconnecting said foot treadle and said connecting arm; and ratchet means for selectively adjusting the position of said second arms upon said connecting arm, whereby when said foot treadle is depressed and said ram head is placed in said bag, waste deposited therewithin will be depressed.

3. A waste container comprising: a substantially rigid open top container, said container including first and second separable sections supported by a base; a disposable receptacle; means for selectively fixably securing said receptacle within said container; a ram head having a shape substantially coincident with the opening of said receptacle; a foot treadle pivotally hinged to said base; a connecting arm extending perpendicularly from said ram head; and means interconnecting said foot treadle and said connecting arm, whereby when said foot treadle is depressed and said ram head is placed within said receptacle, waste deposited therewithin will be compressed.

4. A waste container comprising: a substantially rigid open top container, said container including first and second separable sections supported by a base; a disposable receptacle; means for selectively fixably securing said receptacle within said container; a ram head having a shape substantially coincident with the opening of said receptacle; a foot treadle pivotally hinged to said base; a connecting arm extending perpendicularly from said ram head; and means interconnecting said foot treadle and said connecting arm, said interconnecting means being pivotally secured to said foot treadle, whereby when said foot treadle is depressed and said ram head is placed within said receptacle, waste deposited therewithin will be compressed.

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