April 24, 1951 G. T. SHOTWELL 2,550,608

TRACK SANDER

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Fig. 1.

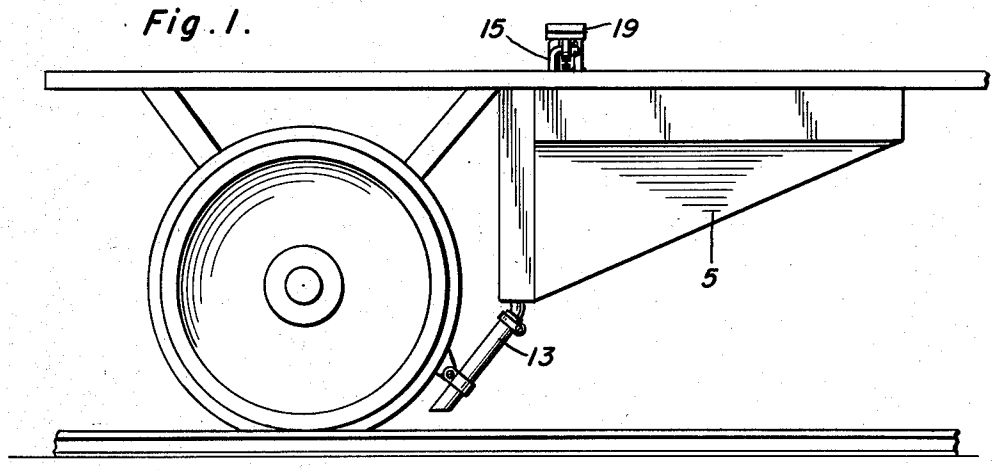


Fig. 2.

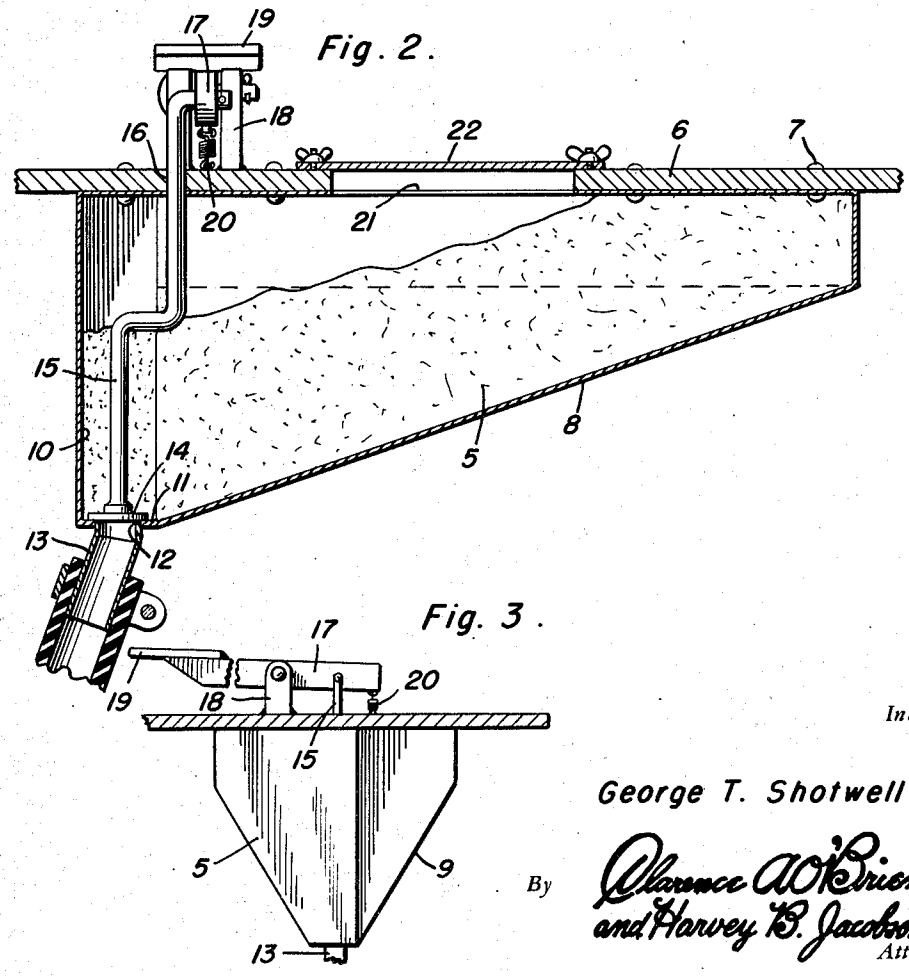


Fig. 3.

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Fig. 4.

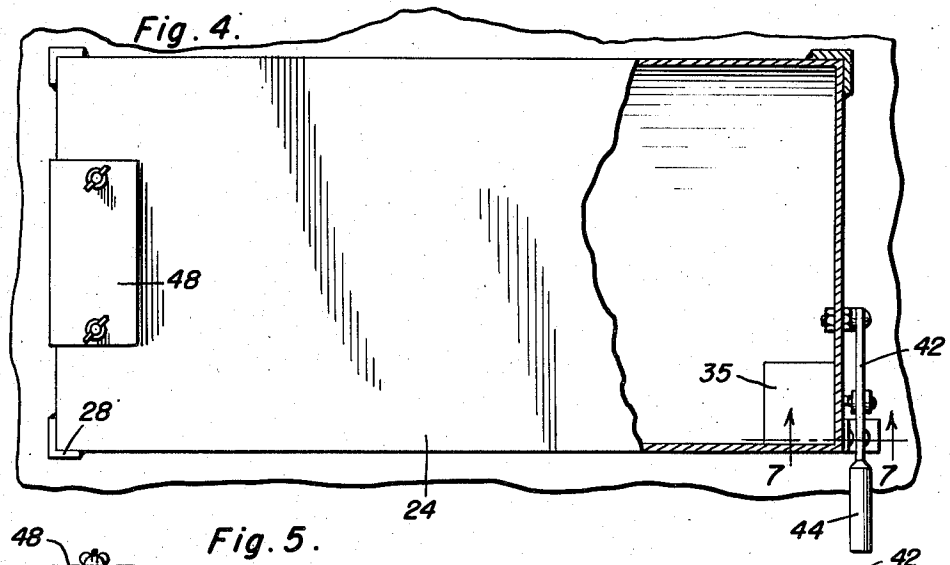


Fig. 5.

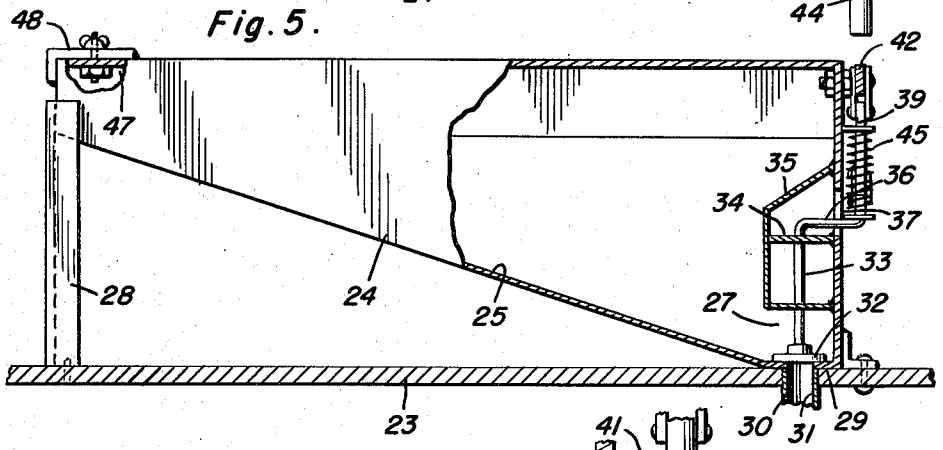


Fig. 6.

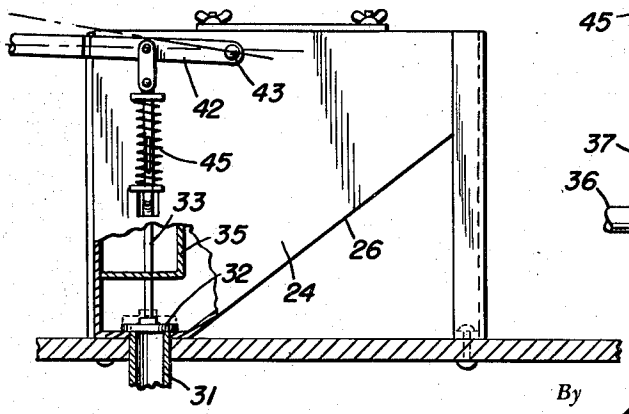
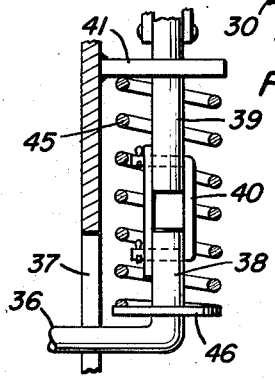


Fig. 7.



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TRACK SANDER

George T. Shotwell, Covington, Ky.

Application March 15, 1949, Serial No. 81,415

1 Claim. (Cl. 291—36)

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The present invention relates to new and useful improvements in track sanders designed particularly for use with motor operated railway cars.

An important object of the invention is to provide a sand box secured to the platform of a railway car and having a sloping bottom with a discharge opening at its lower end from which a spout leads to a position for depositing the sand in front of a railway wheel, the flow of sand being controlled by a valve or cover for the opening moved manually in a vertical direction to open or close the valve.

A further object of the invention is to provide spring means for holding the valve in its closed position and a manually operated lever for opening the valve.

A still further object is to provide a device of this character of simple and practical construction, which is efficient and reliable in operation, relatively inexpensive to manufacture and otherwise well adapted for the purposes for which the same is intended.

Other objects and advantages reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view showing the sand box secured to the underside of the car platform;

Figure 2 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional view;

Figure 3 is an end elevational view;

Figure 4 is a top plan view of a modified sand box construction for mounting on top of the platform of a railway car and with parts broken away and shown in section;

Figure 5 is a side elevational view with parts shown in section;

Figure 6 is an end elevational view also with parts shown in section, and

Figure 7 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken on a line 7—7 of Figure 4.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, and first with respect to the form of the invention illustrated in Figures 1 to 3 inclusive, the numeral 5 designates the sand box which is preferably constructed of sheet metal and secured to the underside of the platform 6 of a railway car by means of rivets or other suitable fasteners 7.

The bottom 8 and sides 9 of the box slope toward one end to a flat bottom 11 provided with a discharge opening 12 with a spout 13 connected thereto.

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A flat disk-like valve or cover 14 is positioned over opening 12 and is suitably secured at the lower end of a rod 15 which extends upwardly in chamber 10 and through an opening 16 in the top of the box to a position above the platform 6. The upper end of rod 15 is suitably connected to one end of a foot lever 17 which is pivotally supported in an elevated position above platform 6 by a pair of spaced parallel posts 18. The opposite end of lever 17 is provided with a foot tread 19 and a coiled spring connects the end of lever 17 adjacent rod 15 to the platform 6 to hold said end of the lever downwardly to maintain valve 14 in a closed position.

A filling opening 21 is formed in platform 6 and top of box 5 and which is closed by a removable cover plate 22.

In the operation of the device sand placed in box 5 will gravitate toward opening 12 and may be discharged through spout 13, when desired, by pressing downwardly on tread 19 of the foot lever 17 to open the valve.

In the form of invention illustrated in Figures 4 to 7 inclusive the platform of the railway car is shown at 23 and on top of which the sand box 24 is secured. The box is formed with a sloping bottom 25 and a sloping side wall 26 to a chamber 27 at the lower corner of the box. The remaining corners of the box are supported in a raised position by legs 28 of angle iron construction welded or otherwise suitably secured to the box and also suitably secured to the platform 23. The chamber 27 at the lower corner of box 24 is provided with a flat bottom 29 having a discharge opening 30 to which a spout 31 is attached. The disk-like valve or cover for the opening is shown at 32 and is suitably secured to the lower end of a rod 33 which is slidable vertically in guides 34 in a housing 35 positioned internally of the box 24 above chamber 27. The upper portion of rod 33 is formed with a horizontal portion 36 which projects outwardly through an opening 37 in the adjacent end walls of the box 24, the outer end of the rod being formed with an upstanding stem 38.

The stem 38 is connected to the lower end of a vertical link 39 by means of a U-shaped connector 40, the link being slidable in a guide 41 suitably secured to box 24 and the upper end of the link is pivoted to a hand lever 42 which is pivotally attached at one end to the box as shown at 43 while the other end of the lever is formed with a handle 44 which projects laterally outwardly at one side of box 24.

A coil spring 45 is positioned between guide 41

and a washer **46** suitably secured to the stem **38**, the spring holding rod **33** and valve **32** downwardly in its closed position. In this form of the invention the valve **32** is raised into its open position by lifting upwardly on handle **44** and lever **42**.

The box **24** is also provided with a filler opening **47** having a cover plate **48** removably secured thereover.

In view of the foregoing description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings it is believed that a clear understanding of the device will be quite apparent to those skilled in this art. A more detailed description is accordingly deemed unnecessary.

It is to be understood, however, that even though there is herein shown and described a preferred embodiment of the invention the same is susceptible to certain changes fully comprehended by the spirit of the invention as herein described and the scope of the appended claim.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

A sanding device for vehicles comprising a substantially rectangular sand box having a sloping bottom and a sloping side, sloping toward an outlet at one corner of the box, legs supporting the remaining corners of the box on a part of a vehicle, said box having a vertical slot in one end adjacent its lowermost corner, a housing in the box behind said slot, a valve closing the outlet, a rod extending upwardly from the valve into the housing and outwardly through the slot, guide means carried by the housing for the rod, a spring on the outer end of the rod closing the valve, and a manually operated lever connected to the outer end of the rod for opening the valve.

GEORGE T. SHOTWELL.

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