United States Patent [19]

Deane et al.

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[54] **TRASH RECEPTACLE**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **220/1 T,** 220/24 GC, 220/23.4, 211/71

[51] **Int. Cl.** **B65d 21/02**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 220/1 T, 24 GC, 23.4; 211/71, 106, 181

[56] **References Cited**

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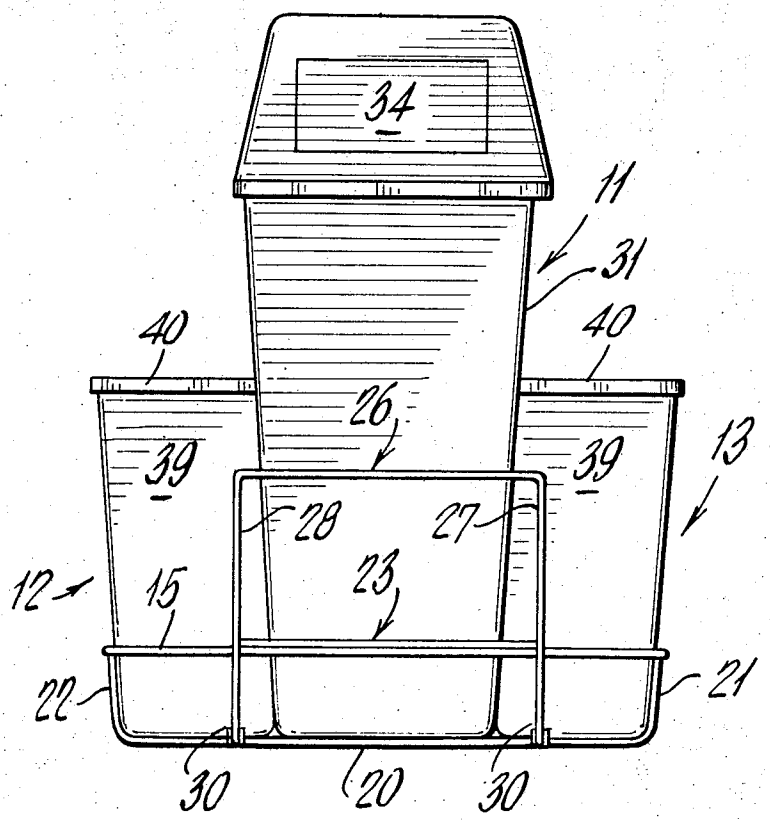
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Assistant Examiner—Douglas B. Farrow

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A trash receptacle comprising a rack, a central container in said rack with outer containers on each side of the central container and a structure carried by and spaced from said rack for retaining newspapers and the like.

1 Claim, 8 Drawing Figures



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SHEET 1 OF 2

Fig. 1.

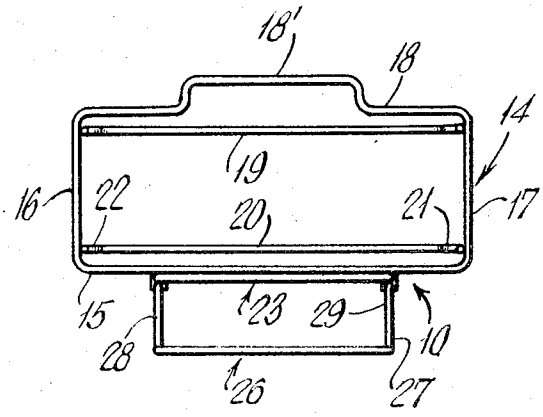


Fig. 3.

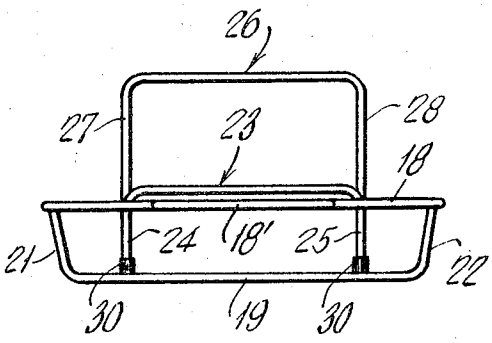


Fig. 2.

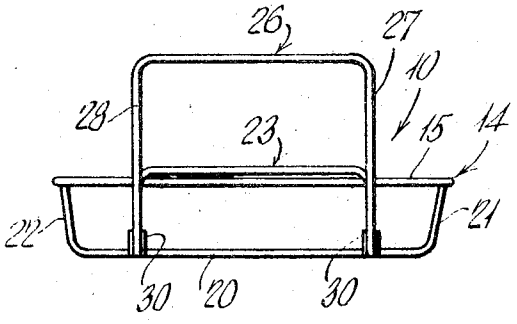


Fig. 4.

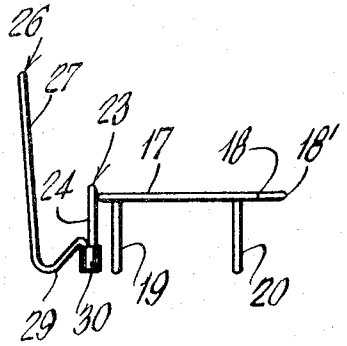


Fig. 5.

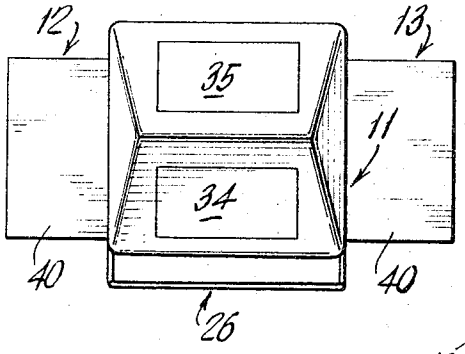


Fig. 7.

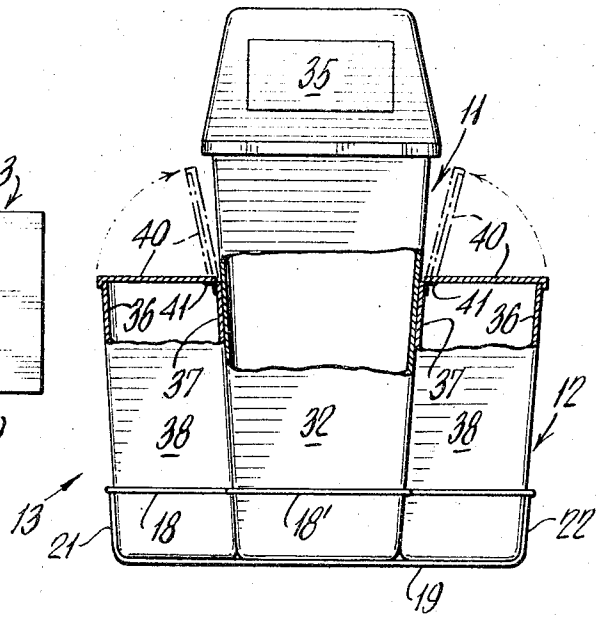


Fig. 6.

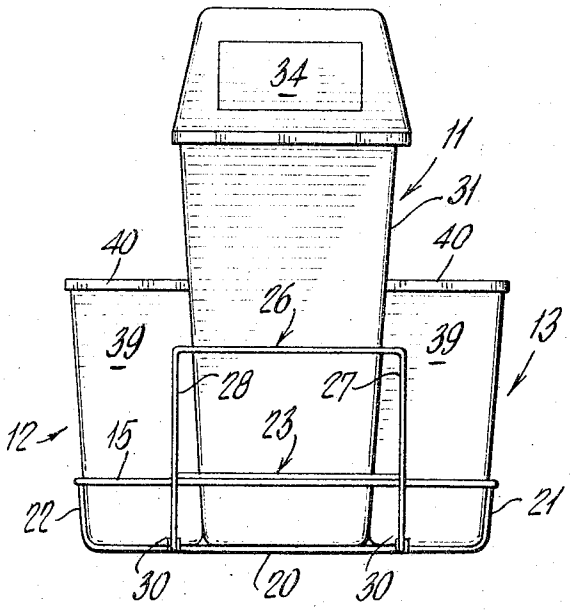
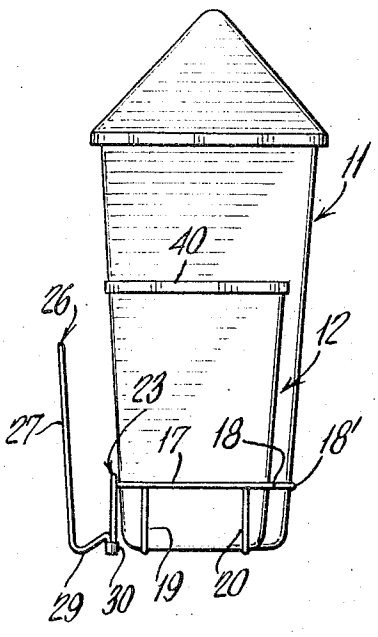


Fig. 8.



TRASH RECEPTACLE

This invention relates to trash receptacles and more specifically to a novel and improved receptacle to facilitate the separation of trash and at the same time provide a structure that is both attractive and convenient.

The separation of trash such as glass, cans, papers and the like is becoming increasingly important to facilitate reclamation of materials and thereby reduce pollution caused by conventional disposal procedures such as burning and the like. The utilization of a plurality of receptacles for trash separation has been proposed, but known structures are generally designed solely for outdoor use and are not adaptable for use in the home. Moreover, such prior known structures are bulky, unattractive and relatively complicated and expensive.

The trash receptacle in accordance with the invention has as one of its objects the provision of an improved arrangement and coordination of receptacles for the disposal of trash which is not only attractive but affords useful and convenient means for segregation of trash such as bottles, papers, cans and the like.

Another object of the invention resides in the provision of a novel and improved trash receptacle arrangement wherein a plurality of receptacles are coordinated to form a single unit with each receptacle being readily accessible and easily emptied.

Still, another object of the invention resides in the provision of a novel and improved combination of a plurality of trash receptacles and coordinating rack therefor which holds the receptacles in a predetermined arrangement and at the same time provides means for retaining newspapers, folded bags and the like.

The trash receptacle in accordance with the invention includes a central receptacle having a removable cover containing openings for insertion of one form of trash such as paper, two smaller receptacles on each side thereof for bottles, cans and the like, and a coordinated rack for supporting the receptacles and providing means for holding newspapers, magazines and the like.

The above and other objects and advantages of the invention will become more clearly understood from the following description an accompanying drawings forming part of this application.

In the Drawings:

FIGS. **1** to **4** are top, rear, front and side views respectively of a rack in accordance with the invention for receiving and holding trash receptacles,

FIGS. **5** and **6** are top and rear views of the combination of the rack of FIGS. **1** to **4** and trash receptacles in accordance with the invention,

FIG. **7** is a front view in partial section of the rack and receptacles shown in FIGS. **5** and **6**, and

FIG. **8** is a side view of the structure shown in FIGS. **5, 6** and **7.**

Referring now to the drawings, the trash receptacle in accordance with the invention comprises a rack generally denoted by the numeral **10,** a central trash receptacle **11,** and two smaller side receptacles **12** and **13.** The rack **10** which may be formed of metal, plastic, or other suitable material comprises an essentially rectangular frame **14** having a rear member **15,** side members **16** and **17,** and a front member **18** having a section **18'** spaced outwardly from the plane of the front member

18 to accommodate the receptacle **11.** A pair of elongated U-shaped members **19** and **20** have upwardly extending legs **21** and **22,** the upper ends of which are secured to the side members **16** and **17** of the frame **14.** An inverted U-shaped structure **23** is secured to the rear member **15** of the frame **14** with the legs **24** and **25** extending downwardly. An enlarged inverted U-shaped rack **26** has downwardly extending legs **27** and **28** with the lower end of each leg having a portion **29** which is curved outwardly and upwardly and terminates in a downwardly extending portion joined to one of the legs **24** and **25** of the U-shaped member **23.** In the instant embodiment of the invention, the portion **29** of the leg **27** and the portion **29** of the leg **28** engage cups **30** secured to the lower ends of the legs **24** and **25.** As will be described, the structure **26** is designed to retain newspapers and similar articles and the reverse curvature of the portions **29** will retain the newspapers when the structure **26** is removed. If desired the structure **26** may be permanently attached to the lower ends of the legs **24** and **25.**

The central trash container **11** comprises a hollow receptacle **31** which is tapered downwardly and inwardly and is disposed centrally of the rack **10** with the front side **32** engaging the offset portion **18'** of the front member **18** of the frame **17.** The top of the container **31** is closed by a triangular shaped cover **33** having a pair of hinged doors **34** and **35** which may be either spring loaded or weighted to hold them in a normally closed position as illustrated. The cover **33** is readily removable from the rack in order to discard the trash collected therein.

Receptacles **12** and **13** are identical in structure and each receptacle is provided with side walls **36** and **37** disposed in parallel relationship and having an inclination coordinated with the inclination of the side walls of the container **31.** The front and rear walls **38** and **39** of the receptacles **12** and **13** are preferably formed integrally with the walls **36** and **37** and are retained by the rack **10** so that the walls **37** lie flat against the sides of the central container **31** to give the appearance of a unitary coordinated structure. Each of the containers **12** and **13** further includes a cover **40** hinged at **41** to the side wall **37.** The covers **40** are shown in solid lines in the closed position and in broken lines in the open position.

With the invention as described above, it is evident that the receptacles **11, 12** and **13** can be independently removed from the rack **10** in order to empty the contents therefrom and at the same time the U-shaped structure **26** may also be independently removed. The positioning of the U-shaped structure **26** to the rear of the central receptacle **27** provides space for the storage of newspapers and other similar articles so that they are normally out of sight when the receptacle assembly is placed against the wall of a kitchen, utility room or the like. By the provision of three individual receptacles, trash can be readily segregated by utilizing the central receptacle **11** for instance for paper, the receptacle **12** for bottles, and the receptacle **13** for cans and other metal objects. Separation of trash in this way greatly facilitates the recycling of trash in comunities wherein collection services are provided for the collection of trash of different materials. It is well recognized that the disposal of trash has presented a serious ecological problem and in order to minimize the problem of trash disposal it is essential that recycling processes be insti-

tuted for those materials capable of being recycled. This invention contributes materially toward the institution of an effective recycling system in that it enables the individual to easily segregate trash and thus avoid the need for complicated and expensive systems for segregating trash after it has become intermixed.

While only one embodiment of the invention has been illustrated and described, it is apparent that alterations, modifications and changes may be made without departing from the true scope and spirit thereof as defined by the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A trash receptacle comprising a rack having a substantially rectangular, horizontally disposed frame including two long sides and two short side portions, one of said long sides having a portion disposed centrally thereof spaced outwardly therefrom and in the plane of said frame, legs carried by said frame to support the frame in spaced relationship to a supporting surface, a first trash receptacle of rectangular configuration positioned centrally in said rack and engaging the other long side and said central portion of said one side to retain said container centrally of said rack and a pair of outer containers engaging the end portions of said rack and positioned in adjoining relationship to the walls of said central container, said first trash receptacle being tapered downwardly and inwardly and said outer receptacles having walls adjoining the first said receptacle which are parallel to the walls of said first receptacle and said rack includes a structure secured to and extending upwardly therefrom and in spaced relationship to said first container.

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