E. E. BERTHOLD.

WASHING MACHINE COVER.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 13, 1919.

1,433,515. Patented Oct. 24, 1922.

Fig. 1.

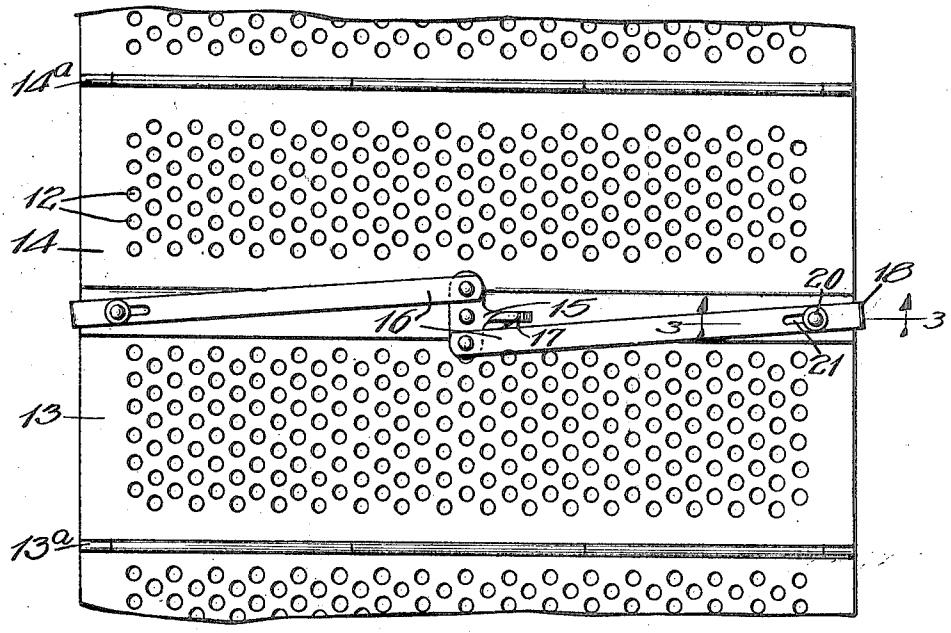


Fig. 2.

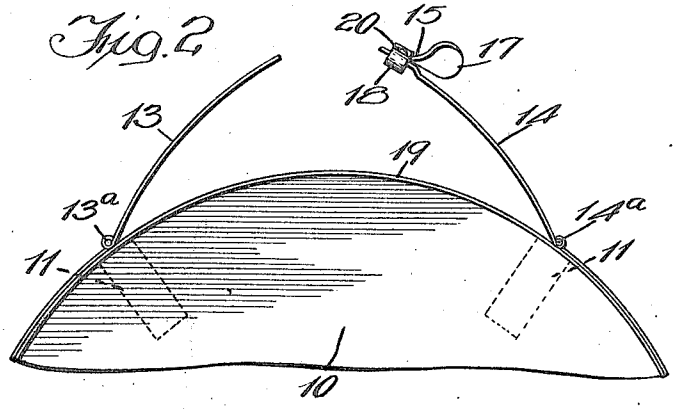
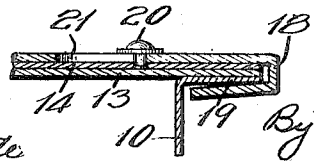


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD E. BERTHOLD, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

WASHING-MACHINE COVER.

Application filed September 13, 1919. Serial No. 323,569.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD E. BERTHOLD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Washing-Machine Cover, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to washing machines and more specifically to an improved closure especially adapted for the movable clothes containers of washing machines.

One object of my invention is to provide a neat fastening for the closure not apt to catch or tear the clothes.

Another object is to provide a closure which will be very simple to operate, as machines of this class are usually handled by people having little mechanical skill.

An advantage of the construction I employ is that there are no detachable parts to get lost or misplaced.

A special object is to provide a means for fastening the closure at both ends by a single simple movement.

Further objects and advantages of my invention will become apparent as the description proceeds.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of a portion of a cylindrical clothes container for a washing machine illustrating a closure according to my invention. Fig. 2 is an end view of the parts shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

In the embodiment of my invention selected for illustration, a cylindrical container is formed from two circular drums or heads 10 defining the ends of the container and rigidly supported in aligned spaced relation by any suitable means such as the longitudinally extending braces 11. The container I have illustrated is intended to be placed inside a water tight tank or receptacle and rotated by suitable machinery. The walls of the container and the cover panels are therefore provided with perforations 12 to permit free circulation of the water used in washing the clothes. The closure illustrated comprises two approximately equal cover leaves 13 and 14 suitably pivoted at 13^a and 14^a respectively on longitudinal axes. In closed position the adjacent edges of the two leaves overlap.

My improved fastening means is attached to the outside edge of the outer overlapping leaf 14 and comprises a centrally located pivoted T-shaped member 15 and a pair of links or latch members 16 pivoted diametrically opposite each other at the ends of the alined arms of the T. The leg 17 of the T is adapted to serve as a handle and in the precise embodiment illustrated the T is formed of sheet material and the leg is twisted into a vertical plane to be conveniently grasped by the hand. The links or latches 16 extend longitudinally in opposite directions and terminate in downwardly and inwardly bent ends forming U-shaped hooks 18. With the arms of the T-shaped member 15 extending longitudinally, the hooks 18 do not engage any part of the container structure so that both leaves may be thrown open one after the other. The drums or heads 10 are equipped with outwardly projecting peripheral flanges 19 which in the case of the sheet metal drums illustrated reinforce the drum itself as well as provide a tight joint with the longitudinally extending portions of the container, and form an engagement flange for the U-shaped hooks 18. After both covers are closed rotation of the T-shaped member 15 through approximately 90 degrees will draw the links or latches 16 toward each other sliding the U-shaped hooks 18 over the overlapping edges of the leaves 13 and 14 and the flange 19 securely clamping the leaves in closed position.

I have provided suitable means for guiding the links or latches 16 in their motion and holding them in position at all times, in the nature of an upwardly projecting headed member 20 adjacent each end of the edge of the leaf 14, the link being slotted at 21 to allow it to move longitudinally.

While I have disclosed and illustrated in detail a specific embodiment of my invention I wish it to be clearly understood that the description is only for purposes of illustration and that many modifications and variations will naturally occur to those skilled in the art.

The shell of the container need not necessarily be cylindrical nor need the container be constructed of sheet material as illustrated. The closure shown is equally serviceable for water tight containers which are not to be placed in any other receptacle or tank, and if desired the entire closure may consist only of a single leaf of appropriate width, as it is obvious that the leaf 13 could be omitted, the remaining elements

constituting a complete operative closure. I aim in the subjoined claims to cover all legitimate modifications and variations of my invention.

I claim as my invention:

1. A clothes container for washing machines having, in combination, a shell having a panel, end members cooperating with said shell to form a complete enclosure, a T-shaped member pivoted to the free edge of said panel intermediate its ends, links pivoted to the oppositely extending arms of said T and extending in opposite directions along the edge of said panel to the ends thereof, means adjacent the ends of said links for guiding said links in longitudinal sliding motion, and means in the nature of hooks carried by the ends of said links adapted upon sliding motion of said links to engage fixed portions at the ends of said container and clamp said panel in closed position.

2. A clothes container for washing machines having, in combination, a shell and end members cooperating to form a complete enclosure, a panel forming part of said shell, an outwardly extending peripheral flange on said end member, a member pivoted to the free edge of said panel intermediate its ends and having arms extending in opposite directions from said pivotal point, links pivotally connected to the ends of said arms and extending longitudinally along the edge of said panel in opposite directions to the ends of said shell, means at the ends of said links to clamp said panel in closed position, and means for rotating said pivoted member.

3. A clothes container for washing machines having, in combination, end members having peripheral flanges, means uniting said end members to form a container, a portion of said means being adapted to be opened and provide access to the interior of said container, and means mounted on and carried by the free edge of said portion operable simultaneously to clamp opposite ends of said portion to said flanges in closed position.

4. A clothes container for washing machines having, in combination, a shell, end members closing the ends of said shell, each end member comprising a diaphragm and a peripheral, longitudinally and outwardly extending flange on said diaphragm, said shell extending over said flange to form a complete enclosure, said shell having a pivoted panel and unitary means mounted on the free edge of said pivoted panel adapted to engage said outwardly extending flanges to hold said pivoted panel in closed position.

5. A clothes container for washing machines having, in combination, a shell comprising fixed portions and pivoted portions, end members in the nature of diaphragms having peripheral flanges extending longitudinally and outwardly, said end members cooperating with said shell to form a complete enclosure, and a single means adjacent the free edge of one of said pivoted portions adapted to engage said outwardly extending flanges to hold all said pivoted portions in closed position.

6. A clothes container for washing machines having, in combination, a shell and end members cooperating to form a complete enclosure, said shell having two pivoted panels located when in closed position with their free edges adjacent and overlapping each other and unitary means carried by the outer one of the overlapping edges of said panels adapted to engage portions of said end members to hold both said panels in closed position.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand.

EDWARD E. BERTHOLD.