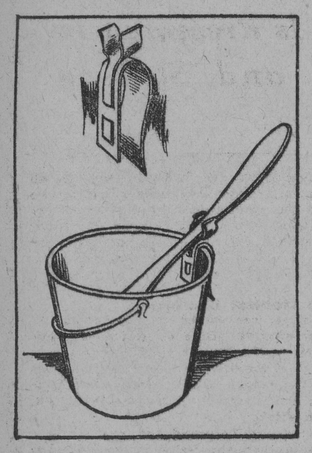
Novel Inventions From The Patent Office

NEW SPOONHOLDER

Resilient Clip Fastens to Side of Pail and Grips Handle.

One of the numerous minor inventions that protect us from the small annoy-



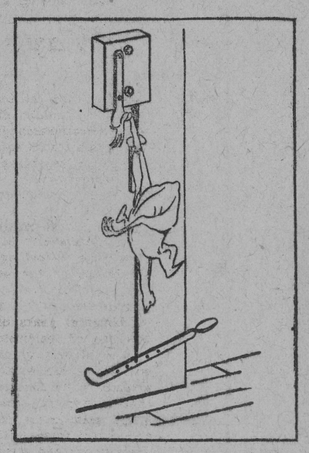
NO SLIPPING INTO BUCKET.

ances of life is the knife, fork and spoon holder that an Illinois man has patented. Anyone who has had to retrieve a spoon from a pail of liquid will appreciate it. A substantially U-shaped clip of resilient metal engages the rim of a vessel. Projecting above this clip is another U-shaped portion just wide enough to admit a spoon or fork at the narrow section of the handle and arrest its downward movement where the handle widens. Another advantage of this is that the cook, when stirring some concoction, need not lay the soiled spoon on the table from time to time, but can let it hang on the vessel until she is quite through with it for that particular compound.

EXTRACTS FOWL'S SINEWS

Apparatus Removes Tough Tendons from Chicken.

For some ways of preparing a fowl it is advisable to remove the sinews of the bird, but this is an operation that is not easy at best and that is extremely difficult for an inexperienced person, unless he or she might have one of the devices invented by a New Hampshire man.



PRESS FOOT ON LOWER ARM

To a box attached to the wall are two claw arms, one of them stationary and the other yieldingly affixed by a strong spring. A horizontal arm that is hinged to the wall near the floor is attached by a chain to the spring claw arm. The chicken's leg is thrust up through the spring arm and the claw made fast to the stationary arm. Pressure of the foot on the horizontal arm below pulls the fowl down, but the sinews that lead from the claw into the leg are stripped cleanly from the flesh.

ADJUSTABLE MIRROR

Can Be Moved to Give Reflection at Any Angle Desired.

A Massachusetts man has patented an adjustable mirror that, while it was designed primarily as a shaving mirror, can be used by women on their dressing tables with equal convenience. The glass is attached to a support that consists of three arms so connected that they have five joints and can be lengthened, shortened, raised or lowered in an instant with one hand. A universal joint on the back of the mirror permits of its movement independent of the angle of the arms. A small bracket that comes

USED ON WALL OR TABLE.

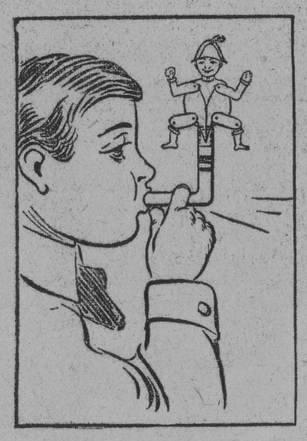
with the outfit is screwed to wall or window frame and the mirror can be inserted in this bracket or removed from it in an instant by means of a short rod on the free end of the last arm. These arms can be turned about to form legs to support the mirror on a table.

AN AMUSING TOY

Blow in Tube and Figure Flings Arms and Legs About.

An amusing variation of the jointed mannikin that flings its arms and legs about when a string is pulled has been designed by a man in Germany, the home of toys. The figure is made and jointed in the same old way and the joints are even connected with a central cord, but there the resemblance to the old toy stops. This central cord is fastened to a plunger that moves up and down in the upper section of a rectangular suction pipe.

To make the mannikin dance, a boy takes the tube in his mouth and alternately blows through it and draws in his breath. This causes the plunger to move rapidly up and down and the cords that are attached to the arms and legs



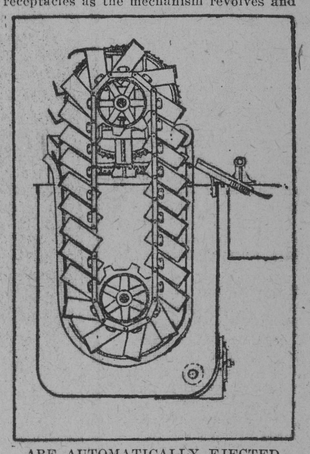
BLOW OUT AND DRAW IN.

are relaxed and drawn taut with the result of moving those members.

BOTTLE WASHER

Machine Thoroughly Cleans and Rinses Them as Well.

An ingenious machine for washing bottles has been invented by a Wisconsin man. It not only washes the bottles thoroughly, but rinses them as well. A series of open-ended receptacles with hinged lids revolve on an endless chain. The lower half of this mechanism passes through a tank of hot water and the chain is enclosed in a framework below the surface of the water, which just permits the bottle holders to pass through with the lids closed. The bottles are thrust into these receptacles as the mechanism revolves and



ARE AUTOMATICALLY EJECTED.

when they come up on the other side they roll out and down a board into a tank of rinse water, which is kept in continual circulation. The lids are so loosely adjusted that they open on the way down, until the enclosing shaft is reached, and are pushed open by the weight of the bottles as soon as the top of the shaft is reached.

NECK PROTECTOR

Knitted Device Fits Inside of Overcoat Collar.

An attachment for overcoats that makes it unnecessary to turn the collars up has been designed by a Minnesota man. A knitted muffler with clips to fasten it in front is fixed inside the coat collar and rises above the linen

NO NEED TO TURN UP COLLAR.

collar of the wearer, the upper part fitting snugly around the neck. Not only does this make it unnecessary to turn the coat collar up, but the muffler prevents the wind from sneaking in in front, as it sometimes will do. The trouble with turning up the collar of a fur or fur-lined coat, for example, is that it is usually so deep that it raises the hat in back and a man is obliged to wear a cap with it. Another objection is that the grease in the hair soils an expensive collar by rubbing against it.

FOUNTAIN TOOTH BRUSH

Hollow Handle Carries Cleansing Fluid to the Bristles.

No longer will it be necessary to carry a bottle or box of tooth wash or tooth

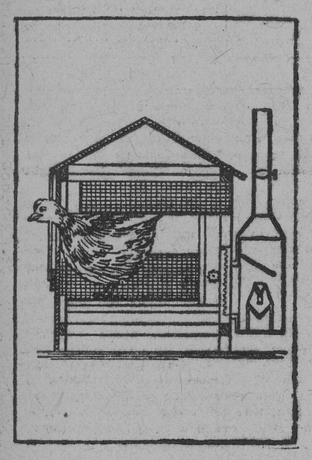
HANDY FOR TRAVELERS.

paste when you go away from home. All you will need will be your tooth brush—that is, if it is the tooth brush devised by a Georgia man. This little implement has a hollow handle and a hollow brush frame with slits on the under side. The handle, which has a screw cap at the outer end, is designed to contain the cleansing preparation, whether fluid or powder, and the flow of this stuff into the brush frame is controlled by a valve. When the fluid is allowed to run into the frame it trickles down the bristles and the brush is all ready for use without a drop of the preparation being wasted. With the handle of this brush loaded and a clean collar a man is ready for a trip.

FOWL FUMIGATOR

Chickens Held With Wings Outspread in Path of Fumes.

For the fumigating of fowls, to remove the vermin which are so injurious, a New York man has designed an effective apparatus. A coop, specially made, has a fumigating generator at one side and communicating with it by means of pipes. There are guide rails within the coop and between these rails the chicken is placed, with its wings spread out over bars that run alongside. Near the top of the coop is a hole for



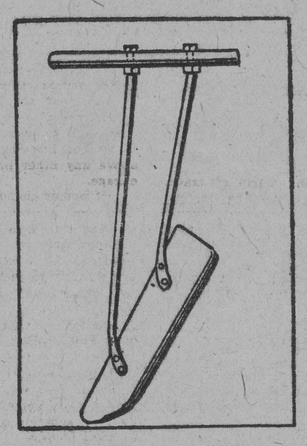
USED FOR LITTLE CHICKS, TOO.

the fowl's head, so that she need not breathe the poisonous atmosphere. A key is turned and the fumes rush into the coop and penetrate the bird's feathers, killing off all lice and other insects. Little chicks can also be fumigated in this device by being placed in a basket that hangs above the place designed for the old fowl.

SOD CUTTER

Broad Blade Shears Through Turf With Ease and Speed.

The cutting of sod with most of the tools used in that operation is rather tedious. It is usually done with a short curved blade on the end of a long handle and the workman has to step on the top of the blade to force it through the turf and repeat the action every six or eight inches. A Minnesota man has devised a sod cutter that appears to be a big improvement over the old type. A broad, sharp blade shaped like the run-



PUSH BLADE STRAIGHT AHEAD

ner of a sledge is fixed to two substantially parallel arms that are attached to a handle. To cut the sod the workmen inserts two sticks in the ground and runs his guide line from one to the other. Then he starts at one end with the cutter and pushing it straight ahead of him, literally ploughs his way along. It is easy to see how much time this implement will save.

BELL ON POISON BOTTLE

Prevents Fatal Mistake of Taking Poison in the Dark.

How frequently we read of tragedies caused by people mistaking a poison bottle for a bottle of medicine in the dark. No matter how glaring the label on deadly liquid, it is useless without a light. But if a small sleigh bell, or some other small bell, is tied to the neck of the bottle, as in the illustration, all danger of mistake is eliminated. Night or day, the phial will

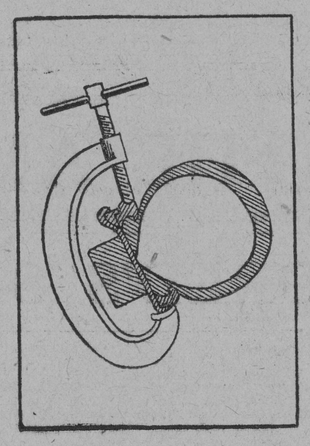
ALWAYS SOUNDS WARNING.

tinkle forth its warning to whoever picks it up, and even small children can be taught to beware of the bottle that rings when they touch it. This little device is suggested so that any person may so equip any bottle of a dangerous nature they may have in the house, but it is more than likely that druggists all over the country will eventually put the bells on in their stores.

TO MOUNT AUTO TIRES

Screw Device Compresses Edges Till They Squeeze Into Rim.

As any motorist will testify, a man should have the fingers of a blacksmith to put the average tire on a wheel. A Minnesota man has designed the following means or mounting the tires: An outer casing with a filler of yielding material sets in a beading that forces its edges together and compresses the filler. To compress these edges still farther than



INSURES A FIRM TIRE

it would be possible to do by hand, even by a strong man, there is a small clamping device with a screw that tightens it up. In this way the lower edges of the tire can be compressed to a point where they will slide into the wheel-rim and the tire will be much firmer than it otherwise would be; or rather, a tire so firm that it could not be adjusted by hand can be put on in this manner.

HANDY ELECTRIC STOVE

New Invention Also Has Fireless Cooker Attachment.

A combination electtric stove and fireless cooker has been patented by a Kansas man. It is said to use electric heat only and to give off practically no heat in a room. The stove is in upright form and the cooker has an opening into the oven instead of at the top. The oven is made of heavy sheet copper with joints double seamed and soldered outside and

DOES NOT HEAT UP ROOM.

the heat from the current is applied directly to the radiator in the oven. It is claimed that in 15 to 30 minutes enough heat can be accumulated in this radiator to cook for half a day. In apartments, a stove of this type would be ideal, both because of being fireless and because it does not give off so much heat that a small kitchen is made almost unlivable in warm weather.

CHICKEN COOP

Of Galvanized Iron and Protects Chickens in Many Ways.

A coop that provides a safe and sanitary home for young chickens has been invented by an Illinois man. It is made of galvanized iron, with a circular body and a peaked, corrugated roof, with overhanging eaves. It is rain, rat and vermin proof. The apertures for ventilation are so arranged that vermin cannot crawl up the sides and enter them, and the

RAIN, RAT AND VERMIN PROOF.

openings through which the moter hen and the little chicks pass in and out are in a slidable section, so the egress of both, or of the hen only, can be cut off at will. Even when closed, however, the ventilation is such that the air is always pure. Another advantage of this coop is that the top, bottom and sides are detachable, and the whole affair can be knocked down in an instant.

EASY EGG BEATER

Can Be Used With One Hand, Leaving Other Free to Pour.

An egg beater that a woman can use with one hand, leaving her other hand free to pour other things into the bowl, has been designed by a New York man. The implement consists of a wooden handle with a wire standard with a circular disk at the bottom running down from it. A revolving wire beater, with two arms, fits around the standard and has a spring device at the top. Pressure

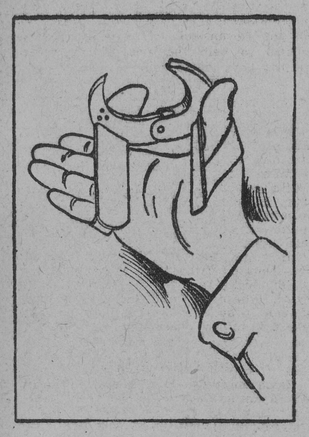
PRESSURE CAUSES REVOLUTION.

on the handle causes the beater to revolve in one direction while removal of the pressure allows it to revolve in the opposite direction. In mixing mayonnaise, for example, this implement is a great assistance, as in order to get the dressing the proper consistency the oil and vinegar must be added continually, and it is advisable, of course, to do this without stopping beating.

CORN HUSKER

Curved Jaws Strap on Hand and Grip Husk Between Them.

It would be amusing if a man could attend an old-fashioned country husking bee with one of these corn-husking devices and keep it hidden. He would so far outstrip all the other huskers that they would wonder how many hands he had. A Michigan man invented this device, which consists of a pair of pivotally connected curved jaws, a handle carried by each jaw, and straps on each handle by means of which they may be fastened to the hand. The interior of the jaws are serrated, so that when they are gripped over the husk of an ear of corn they take hold of it and strip it off in a twinkling, rolling the entire husk back at once. One motion is all that is required, and with a little practice a man



STRIPS OFF HUSK IN FLASH.

can husk corn with this device as fast as he can pick the ears up.

Then—Good-night.

The enthusiasm of Colonel Bryan over the Wilson administration will last at least until he discovers that it is Mr. Wilson who is going to be president.—Kansas City Journal.

CAN'T SLEEP ON THIS

One-legged Stool Prevents Occupant from Taking Snooze.

Few people are looking for things to keep them awake—rather the contrary—but when a man has a job as watchman in a gunpowder factory, for example, he is willing to stay awake until he gets home, inasmuch as this kind of a watchman is supposed to keep his eye on the thermometer and see that the temperature does not get high enough to send him off into a sleep from which he would never awake. However, sometimes nature is too strong for us and some provision must be made that the watchman cannot snooze, even against his own will.

WHEN SLEEP MIGHT BE FATAL.

He is therefore provided with a one-legged stool upon which to sit. If he should happen to fall into a doze he would promptly lose his balance, and if the resultant crash to the floor does not wake him, his future is not worth worrying about any further.

The Flaw.

The opinion that Miss Elise Scheel, of Cornell, is a perfect woman has a vital flaw in it, the admission having been made that she is an ardent suffragette.—Washington Post.

NOVEL MOTOR HOOD

Knitted Head Covering Has Flap That Buttons Around Neck.

As it was a woman who designed the motor hood shown in the illustration, it is to be presumed that it fills the requirements of her sex. At first glance it looks more like the headgear worn by Esquimos than anything else, and it will probably be as popular for skating and cold weather

MAKES GOOD SKATING CAP.

wear as in the automobile. The hood is of knitted material and covers the head completely, excepting the face. The front flaps that button up along the sides can be made with eyeholes and breathing holes and pull down over the face, if need be. A lower flap can be worn either turned up or can be turned down and buttoned around the neck, answering the double purpose of keeping the throat protected and preventing the cap from blowing off. There are earholes in both sides of this headpiece.

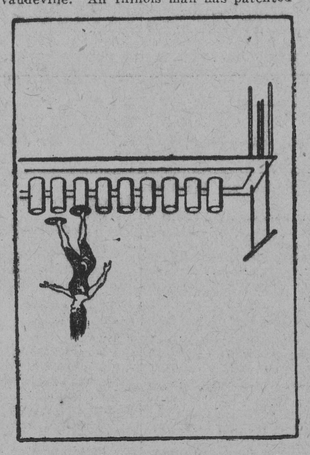
Ought to Interest Andy.

War hath its dividends no less renowned than peace. Thanks to the Sultan, the Krupp gun works show a surplus for the year of $12,500,000.—New York Sun.

HOW TO WALK ON CEILING

Can Be Done by Stepping From One Vacuum Cup to Another.

Next we may look for the human fly in vaudeville. An Illinois man has patented



SUCTION HOLDS PLATES TO CUPS.

a vacuum apparatus by means of which a man or woman can walk upside down with no more inconvenience than a rush of blood to the head. An elevated air chamber, suspended from the ceiling, has a series of vacuum cups along it. Air can be pumped into or withdrawn from these cups at will by an operator on the stage, behind the scenes. The performer has a large, round disk strapped to each foot and when there is a vacuum in a cup the suction is sufficient to hold the plate to it, even with the weight of the performer pulling on the disk. As the "Human Fly" proceeds, air is pumped into each succeeding cup to which his back foot clings, allowing him to remove it and place it on the cup in front.

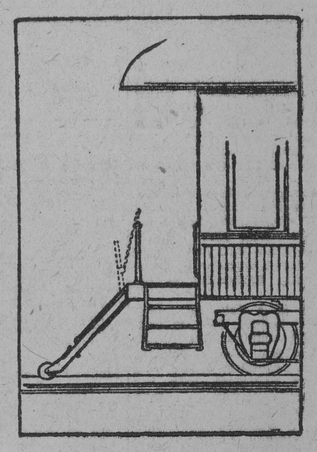
Won't Get Either.

Technically, says Senator Beveridge, the Progressives lost the election. Which would they prefer for 1916, a technical victory or another real one?—New York Post.

TORPEDO PLACER

Drops Signals Along Track as Train Is Proceeding.

Since the railroads adopted the torpedo method of signaling there have been various devices for the placing of the torpedoes along the tracks. The object, of course, was to drop the torpedo without



CAN BE FILLED FROM PLATFORM.

stopping the train and without exploding the signal. A Kansas man has invented a machine which has a carrier extending from the rear platform of a train to the tracks, where it runs on a small wheel at the bottom. Gripping jaws are on the end of a rod pivoted in this carrier and which can be raised to the platform railing for the insertion of a torpedo. They are then lowered to the level of the track and at the point where the torpedo is needed it can be deposited gently by releasing the grip of the jaws upon it.

Tough Time for Common Folk.

Not only has the common drinking cup and the common towel been abolished, but the common carriers are beginning to get a bit nervous.—Indianapolis News.

WASTE BURNER

Wire Basket Collects the Rubbish, Which Is Burned in It.

Suburbanites with lawns big enough to collect dead leaves and papers will find the waste burner designed by an Illinois man a convenient article. An L-shaped frame is mounted pivotally at its angle on a small truck. At the top of the L a wire basket is pivoted to swing freely. At the other end of the L are short legs and a long handle pushes the contrivance about. While collecting rubbish the basket sets on top of the axle and can be wheeled

BURNING WASTE DOESN'T SCATTER.

around from place to place. When the basket is full it can be slid over to the ground and a match applied to its contents. The advantage of this apparatus is that rubbish can be burned in it without flying all about the yard, as when there is a bonfire, and endangering property.

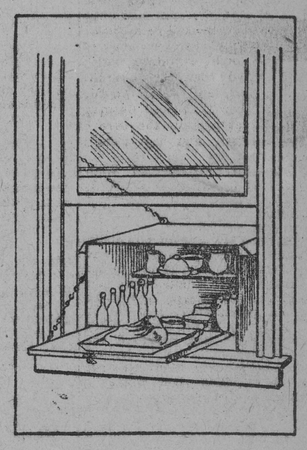
Barnum Had Right Dope.

Surely, literary taste is increasing when book frauds can be perpetrated involving $5,000,000 in the sale of fake "editions de luxe" to dupes.—New York World.

WINDOW REFRIGERATOR

Sets on Sill and Drop Door Opens Into Room.

For the greater part of the year nature furnishes a temperature sufficiently low to keep food outdoors without ice. During this period the window refrigerator patented by an Ohio man will come in handy and save the cost of ice, which in these days is considerable. The refrigerator is a galvanized sheet-iron box coated with aluminum, to prevent rusting. It rests with one end on the outside window ledge while two chains attached to the upper outside corners are fastened to the window frame above to hold it firm. A hinged drop door is fitted into the side of the box facing the room so that when the window is opened this door can be let down and the articles taken out or



SAVES THE COST OF ICE.

placed in the refrigerator, the door forming a shelf at the same time.

None Whatever.

An Arkansas woman is the proud possessor of George Washington's trunk. It may be all right as a relic, but it would stand a small show against a modern baggage smasher.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

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