

#### AN IMPROVED COFFEE URN.

Pictured in the accompanying engraving is a coffee urn arranged to distribute water under steam pressure over the coffee, and permit it to percolate therethrough into the coffee pot, where it is maintained near, but always slightly below, the boiling point. The urn is so arranged that it may be taken apart and thoroughly cleaned. It consists essentially of three receptacles, which are placed one above the other. The lower receptacle A is filled with water, the receptacle B serves as the coffee pot, while the ground coffee is placed in the container C. The container C is formed with a perforated bottom D, and its upper



a hood F at the upper end. Fitted in the tube E is a second tube G. which extends through the coffee pot and into the boiler A. A tube Hin the coffee pot surrounds the tube G, and its upper end fits snugly into the expanded lower end of the tube The coffee pot is **E**. provided with a faucet I, through which the coffee may be drawn off. In operation an alcohol lamp is placed under the urn, and when the water begins to boil, the steam forces it up

end is closed by means

of a dome-shaped cover.

Running up through

the center of the recep-

tacle C is a tube E,

which is provided with

through the tube G against the hood F, and thence into the receptacle C. The boiling water percolates through the ground coffee, and falls into the chamber B. It will be evident that the temperature of the coffee in the receptacle B will always be maintained under the boiling point. The boiler A is provided with a vent at one side, which is closed by a plug J. Ordinarily, it is advisable to unscrew this plug slightly, so as to permit the steam to escape and prevent the water from being forced through the tube too rapidly. However, to prepare the coffee quickly, the vent may be sealed by screwing the plug in tightly. If it is desired to stop the operation of the coffee urn, the plug J is removed, to let the steam flow out freely.

The inventor of this coffee urn is Mr. E. C. Dalleine, of 7 East 40th Street, New York city.

## BOILER-TUBE CLEANER.

The boiler-tube cleaner which is illustrated herewith is adapted to be expanded within a boiler flue so as to crack off the scale. The device is particularly adapted for use in vertical flues so that the scale will fall to the bottom of the boiler. As shown in the sectional view, the device consists of a head A provided with a recess in which are journaled two rollers B. The rollers are preferably disposed at an angle to the axis of the head. Directly beneath these rollers is a second recess adapted to receive a block C, in which a roller E is journaled. The inner surface of the block C is conical in form and is adapted to engage a tapered surface D on a needle F, which projects axially through the head A. A portion of the needle is threaded in the head A, so that when a wrench is applied to the squared ends of the needle the latter may be fed inward to force the block C outward. To prevent the block C from turning when the needle is

# Scientific American

operated a screw G is provided, the inner end of which engages a keyway or slot in the block. In operation the device is inserted in a boiler flue just beyond the flue sheet, after which the needle F is turned by means of a monkey wrench, thereby forcing the roller E outward and virtually expanding the cleaner. The rollers B and E are disposed at such an angle, with reference to the axis of the head, as to permit of readily moving the cleaner through the boiler flue, as the head is rotated. The rollers will then crack off the scale as the head is fed into the flue. Mr. Willis E. Frazee, of Vergas, Minn., is the inventor of this boiler flue cleaner.

## Restriction in Trade-Mark Registration. BY PERRY B. TURPIN.

In the exercise of its appellate jurisdiction over the Patent Office, the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia has recently handed down several important decisions affecting trade-mark registration.

Three of these decisions are especially noteworthy in that the first decides what are goods of the same class from a trade-mark standpoint; the second decision relates to the inclusion in a registration with matter registrable *per se* of non-registrable matter; while the third decision relates to descriptive marks and to what can and cannot be registered.

The first decision referred to above, being that of Walter Baker & Company, Limited, vs. Harrison, was decided December 22nd, 1908. In this case Mr. Justice Van Orsdel, after holding that the marks were the same, decided that coffee and cocoa are goods of the same descriptive properties. In the decision the court said:

"Things may be said to possess the same descriptive properties when they can be applied to the same general use."

## Again it says:

"A mark should be denied, not only when used upon goods of the same descriptive properties as a similar registered mark, but when used on goods belonging to the same general class."

This case went up to the court on appeal from a decision of the Commissioner sustaining a demurrer to the opposition, and the court reversed the Commissioner's decision and has taken a stand, as to the similarity of goods, far in advance of that heretofore occupied by the Patent Office.

The second decision is in the case of Johnson & Brandan, rendered January 5th, 1909. In this case the applicant presented for registration a mark "having the descriptive word (Asbestos) printed in large letters across, and partly obscuring the figure of the ass. This was also an opposition case, and Mr. Chief Justice Shepard said:

"The word Asbestos is clearly descriptive of the goods manufactured by each party."

In sustaining the demurrer the Patent Office Examiner thought that there was other matter in the mark, as applied for, far more striking than the word Asbestos, and the Commissioner of Patents regarded the word Asbestos "merely as a descriptive and subordinate feature of the applicant's trade mark."

The court, however, said:

"The applicant deliberately selected and carefully designated the trade mark having the descriptive word printed in large letters across and partly obscuring the figure of the ass. He thereby made it an actual and permanent feature of his trade mark."

Thereupon the court expressed the opinion that the Commissioner should have denied registration, as claimed, giving the applicant at the same time an opportunity to amend by omitting the objectionable word.

The third case decided, February 2nd, 1909, by Mr. Justice Van Orsdel, In re Central Consumers Company. This was an appeal from the decision of the Commissioner of Patents refusing to register the word "Nextobeer" as a trade mark for a non-intoxicating malt beverage, and the court affirmed the Commissioner's decision, saying:

"It requires no stretch of the imagination to under-

Second, that the application for registration should not include a non-registrable word or symbol with one that is registrable in itself; and

Finally, that the mark should not be descriptive of the character or quality of the goods upon which it is used. If the trade mark be a word, Mr. Justice Van Orsdel says, it should not possess:

"An inherent significance that would of itself enhance the sale or value of the article to which it may be applied."

While it will be seen the action of the court tends to restrict trade-mark registration, it also operates to enhance the real value of registration in cases properly entitled thereto.

## DELIVERY APPARATUS FOR MAIL CARS.

A simple apparatus for delivering mail bags or similar packages from a moving train is shown in the accompanying engraving. The arrangement is such as to deliver the article without a violent shock or blow. A housing is placed adjacent to the track to receive the bag and the apparatus acts automatically to throw the bag into the housing while the



DELIVERY APPARATUS FOR MAIL CARS.

train is passing. Our illustration shows a train with the mail car partly broken away to reveal the details of the delivering apparatus. In the car there is a compartment, access to which is had through a lid at the top. At the upper end of the compartment is a holder carried by a lever which passes through the floor of the car and is fulcrumed to the sill below. The other arm of the lever projects downward and is adapted to engage 'an operating rail secured to the ties. The lever is held in normal vertical position by a spring, but when it strikes the operating rail, which is curved away from the adjacent track rail, it is swung on the fulcrum, throwing the holder through an opening in the side of the car to the position indicated by dotted lines in the engraving. This serves to pitch the contents of the holder into the housing. The mail bag slides along a slideway in the housing and drops into a compartment at the end. There is a compartment at each end of the slideway so as to receive the mail from trains running in either direction. A patent on this invention has recently been secured by Mr. Henry Hoffman, 4608 South Broadway, St. Louis, Mo.

## BACK-PRESSURE REDUCER.

The mechanism illustrated herewith is particularly adapted for use with blowers, pumps, standpipes, and like devices, through which a flow of liquid is maintained, and its object is to provide means for bal-







BOILER-TUBE CLEANER.

stand how the public would at once draw the inference it is manifestly intended it should draw from the use of this mark, that the beverage on which it is used is almost the same as beer, or a good substitute for beer, or possesses almost the same ingredients and qualities as beer."

#### Further on, the court aptly says:

"It was not intended that the mark should lend value to the goods, but that the quality of the goods and the reputation of the owner should ultimately make the mark valuable as a symbol in the connection in which it may be used."

Now these three decisions are of importance to producers operating under trade marks, the enormous value of which is well understood, in that they teach:

First, the necessity of avoiding the adoption of a mark owned by another and used "on goods belonging to the same general class."

BACK-PRESSURE REDUCER.

ancing the back pressure, and thereby insuring easier running of the blower or pump. As shown in our illustration, the water flows up the standpipe A, and into an enlargement or casing B secured thereon. The water passes into the casing B by way of a chamber C and a set of reaction arms E. The chamber C is mounted on a ball bearing, and as the water flows out through the arms E, it is rotated. Float D serves to lift the chamber C, and relieve the weight on the ball bearing. To prevent it from being lifted off entirely from the ball bearing, the upper surface of the float is engaged by a ball F, supported in a bracket. Our illustration shows a second reducer above the one just described, which may be used wherever necessary. This is of spherical form, the casing G serving the same purpose as the casing B. The water fills the chamber H at the top of the standpipe, and flows thence through the reaction arms I. To relieve the weight of the rotating member on the ball bearing, a spherical float J is provided, and this is prevented from rising too far by a ball K, which bears against the top of the float. A check valve is preferably placed in the delivery pipe above the reducer, to prevent downward leakage. The inventor of this back-pressure reducer is Mr. J. B. Ricketts, of Woodland Hall, Forest Park, Baltimore, Md.

# **ODDITIES IN INVENTIONS.**

HAND BAG.-A rather complete hand bag is shown in the accompanying engraving. It is formed with  $\omega$ large compartment and a number of smaller compartments or pockets, in which money, visiting cards, etc.,



can be carried. Unlike the ordinary hand-bag, access can be had to any or all of these pockets without opening the main bag. The forward pocket on the left-hand side is formed with a catch, in which a pocketbook may be detachably secured.

WINDOW VENTILATOR.-The ventilator which is shown herewith is arranged not to admit air into a room, but to withdraw the foul air from the room. The cross-sectional view, Fig. 2, shows how this is done. A small box projects from the upper part of the window at the outside. The ends of the box are open, so as to permit the air to flow through in either direc-



TOASTER.-The toaster which is illustrated in the accompanying sketch is arranged for use in toasting slices of bread in a vertical position. The holder is swiveled on the handle of the toaster, and a rod is



## BREAD TOASTER.

attached to one end of it, with which the holder may be turned on its pivot to bring the opposite side of the slice to the fire. The rod passes through an eye formed on the handle, and is provided with a notch, which engages the eye when the holder is at right angles to the handle.

KNIFE SHARPENER.—Something rather novel in knife sharpeners has recently been invented. The device has the shape of a ring, with the sharpening surface on the inside. It can be used on the dining-room



table. A protector or shield of metal is placed over the back of the knife blade. The blade is then sharpened by pressing it against the inner surface of the ring and rolling the ring along the table. While the ring is rolling, the knife should be moved lengthwise through it.

DOUBLE-ACTING SHEARS .- The ordinary shears or scissors will cut only when the handles are being pressed together. We show here a pair of shears that will also cut when the handles are moved apart. This double cutting action is obtained by the use of three blades, two parallel blades being connected to one handle, while the third is connected to the other handle. The purpose of this arrangement is to en-



able a person to do the cutting by moving the handles in either direction, thus saving the lost motion in the operation of the ordinary shears.

AN ARTISTIC FLY TRAP .- Fly paper and fly traps are ot pleasing objects in the dining room and yet some

is slowly revolved, bringing the cups, one by one, under a vertical cylinder of wire netting. The trap is covered by a miniature representation of a windmill. The flies enter the door of the mill and while they are busy eating the bait, they are carried under the tower. Alarmed at this they fly upward, easily finding their way through the openings in the top of the two cones. Once in the prison tower they cannot escape, and must await the hand of the executioner.

INDOOR RUNNING MACHINE.-An enthusiastic "Marathoner," who evidently does not get sufficient outdoor exercise, has devised a simple apparatus which will en-



INDOOR RUNNING MACHINE.

able him to develop his running muscles indoors. The apparatus is on the order of a treadmill. It consists of a rack mounted at an incline in a suitable frame, and provided with a series of rollers on which the athlete runs. The frame is formed with handles at the side. so as to prevent him from falling in case he should lose his balance, and which will permit him to stop running when he desires to do so.

BOTTLE COOLER.-In ordinary bottle coolers no provision is made for covering the upper part of the

bottle with ice, and, as a consequence, the liquid first drawn out of the bottle is not as cool as it should be. A German inventor has conceived the idea of placing the ice over the top of the bottle, and as the cooler liquid falls owing to its greater weight, a circulation is set up which will cool the entire contents of the bottle: The cooler consists of a double-walled cylinder, the inner wall being arranged to fit onto the bottle. The ice is placed between the two walls of the cylinder. A rubber band on the inner wall presses against the bottle neck, so as to hold the bottle in the cooler when the latter is



lifted by means of the handle.

LATHER RUBBER .- To obviate the necessity of rubbing lather into the skin with the fingers, when shav-



WINDOW VENTILATOR

tion. An opening through the center of the box communicates with the interior of the room. By an arrangement of baffle plates in the box, an aspirating effect is produced, which will draw out the foul air from the room. The baffles also prevent rain or sleet from entering the room in stormy weather.

means of suppressing flies is often absolutely necessary. A Frenchman, bearing this in mind, has designed a trap which makes a pleasing ornament for the table and yet is effective in capturing the annoying insect. He provides a disk formed with a ring of depressions or cups which are baited with jelly or the like. By means of clockwork in the base of the trap the disk



ing, a small attachment for the shaving brush has been provided. It consists of a rubber cap which is fitted over the handle of the brush. The end face of the cap is formed with a series of concentric annular flanges which catch the lather and assist in rubbing it into the skin.