

May 18, 1965

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3,184,176

DUAL TOILET TISSUE DISPENSER

Filed Oct. 1, 1962

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

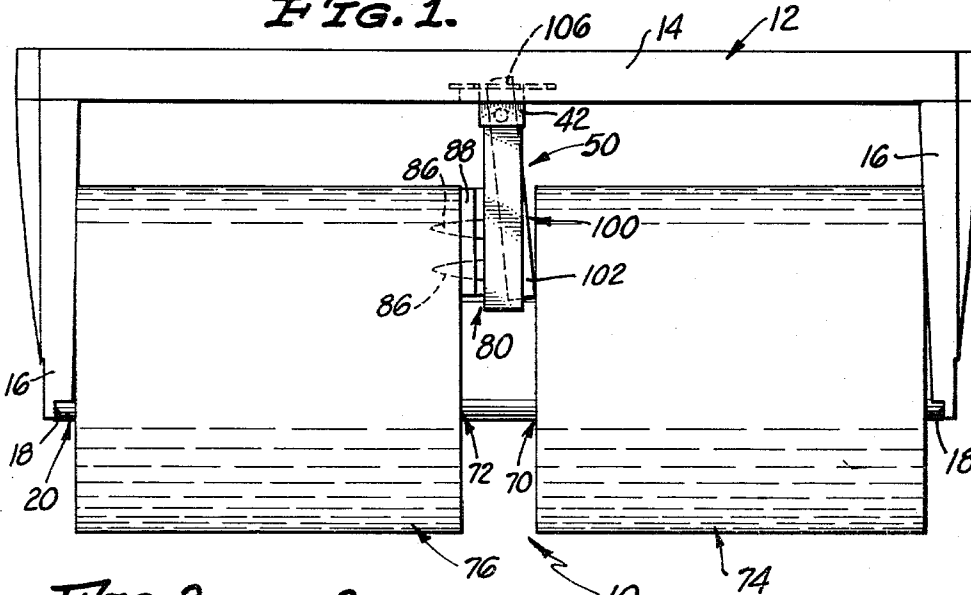


FIG. 2.

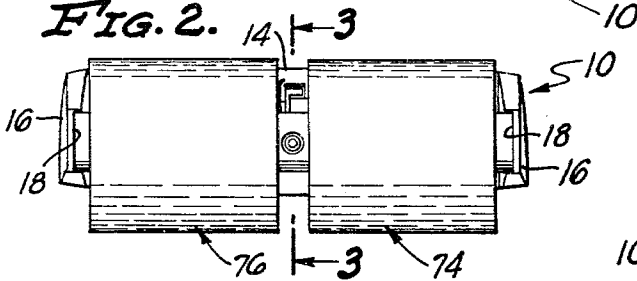


FIG. 4.

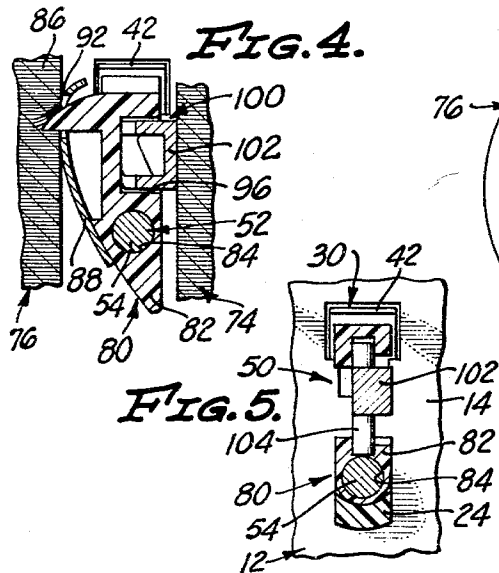
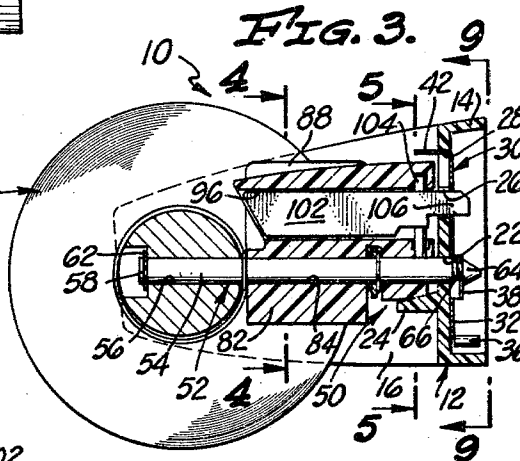


FIG. 5.



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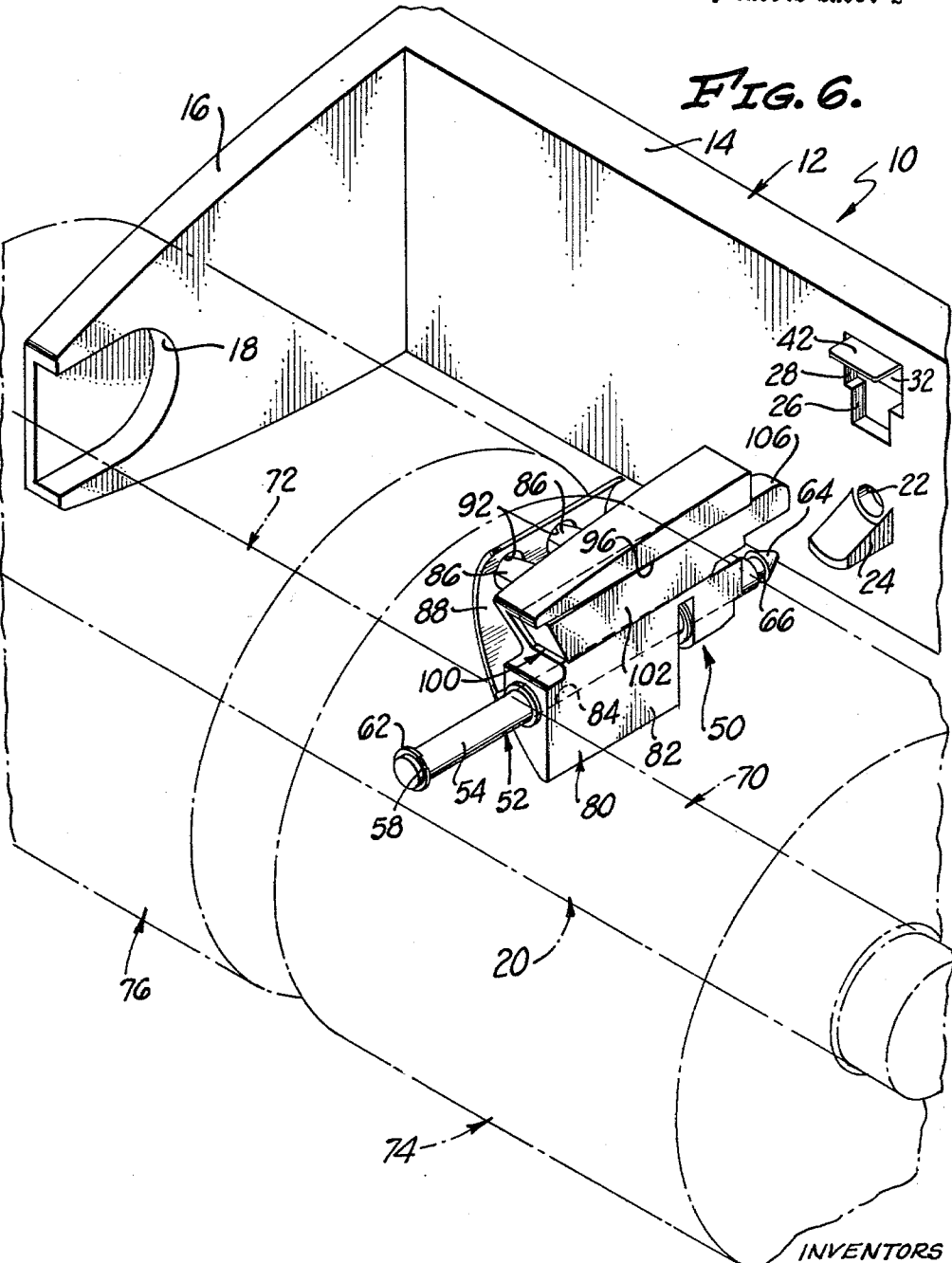
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FIG. 6.



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FIG. 7.

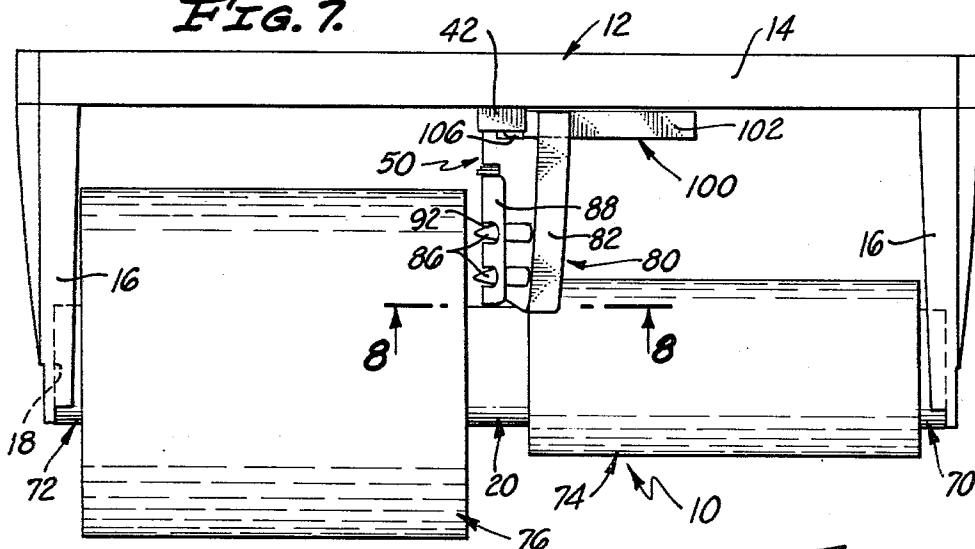


FIG. 8.

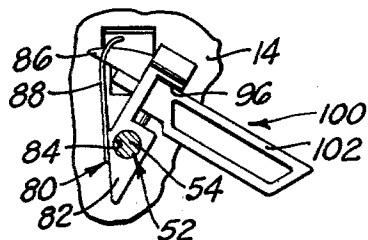


FIG. 9.

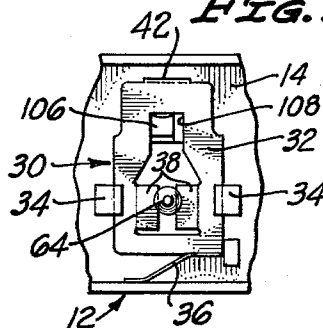


FIG. 10.

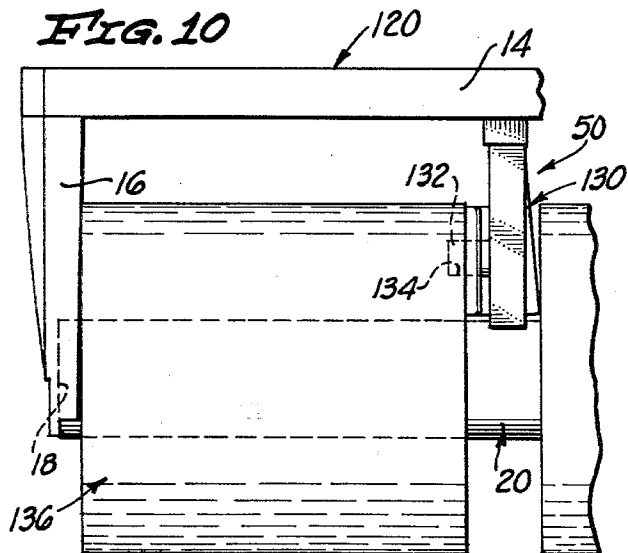
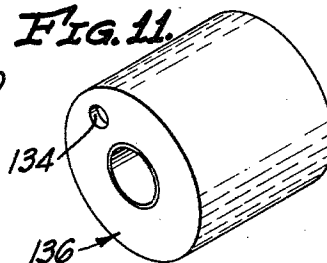


FIG. 11.



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DUAL TOILET TISSUE DISPENSER

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9 Claims. (Cl. 242—55.3)

This invention relates to a toilet tissue dispenser, and, more particularly, to a toilet tissue dispenser adapted to support a plurality of rolls of toilet tissue for successive utilization.

The exigencies of washroom maintenance, particularly in commercial and industrial environments, entail the provision of toilet tissue dispensers adapted to maintain a plurality of rolls for use by the potential consumer. However, conventional dispensers for a plurality of rolls of toilet tissue frequently encourage waste and misuse of the toilet tissue because of the fact that the conventional dispensers permit the simultaneous utilization of the plurality of rolls mounted on the dispenser. Therefore, the persons utilizing the rolls of toilet tissue simultaneously may partially exhaust both rolls with the result that the custodian is compelled to discard the partially utilized rolls in order to insure that an adequate supply of tissue may be available for future use. In addition, the fact that conventional, multiple roll dispensers make two rolls of tissue simultaneously available for use induces wastage and misuse of the tissue.

It is, therefore, an object of our invention to provide a toilet tissue dispenser for a plurality of rolls of toilet tissue which is characterized by the fact that, while a plurality of rolls of toilet tissue is made available for use by a potential consumer, one of the rolls only is maintained in dispensing condition while the other of the rolls is maintained in reserve condition. Therefore, simultaneous use of both rolls of toilet tissue is prevented and the misuse and consequent waste of said tissue is eliminated.

Another object of our invention is the provision of a dispenser of the aforementioned character which includes a support for a plurality of rolls of toilet tissue and which is adapted to maintain one of the rolls in dispensing condition while the other of the rolls is maintained in reserve condition until practically complete consumption of the roll maintained in dispensing condition.

One of the major problems encountered in the utilization of multiple roll dispensers of a conventional nature is the fact that such multiple roll dispensers are frequently extremely difficult to load with new rolls of tissue.

Another object of our invention is the provision of a dispenser of the aforementioned character which includes a roll mounting spindle demountably associated with a mounting bracket, said bracket having a latch thereupon and said spindle having a latch bolt engageable with said latch whereby upon release of said latch, said spindle may be readily dismounted from operative relationship with said bracket in order to facilitate the loading of additional rolls of toilet tissue thereupon.

A further object of our invention is the provision of a multiple roll dispenser of the aforementioned character which entails no modification of the rolls of toilet tissue dispensed therefrom so that rolls of conventional size and construction may be utilized in the dispenser of our invention.

One of the most significant factors resulting in misuse of rolls of toilet tissue in multiple roll dispensers is the provision of support means in conventional dispensers which permit the rolls of toilet tissue to be readily removed from operative relationship with the supporting bracket for the support means.

A further object of our invention is the provision of

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a multiple roll dispenser which is characterized by the provision of cooperative latch and bolt means on the mounting bracket and the supporting spindle, respectively, and which includes a dog adapted to dog the latch bolt means against withdrawal from operative relationship with the latch so that unauthorized dismounting of the supporting spindle from operative engagement with the associated mounting bracket is prevented until such time that the roll of tissue in the dispensing position is substantially completely consumed.

An additional object of our invention is the provision, in a dispenser of the aforementioned character, of detent means adapted to prevent rotation of the roll of toilet tissue maintained in the reserve position on the supporting spindle, said detent means being automatically disengaged from operative relationship with the reserve roll upon substantial consumption of the roll of toilet tissue being dispensed.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following specification and the accompanying drawings, which are for the purpose of illustration only, and in which:

FIG. 1 is a top plan view of the toilet tissue dispenser constructed in accordance with the teachings of the invention;

FIG. 2 is a front elevational view of the dispenser;

FIG. 3 is a vertical, sectional view taken on the broken line 3—3 of FIG. 2;

FIG. 4 is a vertical, sectional view taken on the broken line 4—4 of FIG. 3;

FIG. 5 is a vertical, sectional view taken on the broken line 5—5 of FIG. 3;

FIG. 6 is an enlarged, fragmentary isometric view;

FIG. 7 is a view similar to FIG. 1 showing the manner in which the dog and detent means of the dispenser are automatically rendered inoperative by substantial consumption of the roll of toilet tissue being dispensed;

FIG. 8 is a transverse, sectional view taken from the broken line 8—8 of FIG. 7;

FIG. 9 is a rear, elevational view taken from the broken line 9—9 of FIG. 3;

FIG. 10 is a fragmentary view of an alternative embodiment of the invention; and

FIG. 11 is an isometric view of the roll of toilet tissue adapted to be utilized in conjunction with the dispenser of FIG. 10.

Referring to the drawings and particularly to FIGS. 1–5 thereof, we show a toilet tissue dispenser 10 adapted to be utilized in dispensing a plurality of rolls of toilet tissue in succession rather than simultaneously with each other. The dispenser 10 includes a mounting bracket 12 which incorporates an elongated rear portion 14 and end plates 16 formed integrally with said rear portion. The rear portion 14 of the mounting bracket 12 may be provided with appropriate openings, not shown, to facilitate the affixation of said mounting bracket to a suitable supporting surface by appropriate fasteners, not shown.

Each of the end plates 16 has a semi-circular receptacle 18 formed therein which, as best shown in FIGS. 6 and 7 of the drawings, is adapted to receive the adjacent extremity of an elongated supporting spindle 20 in demountable relationship therewith.

Located intermediate the opposite extremities of the rear portion 14 of the bracket 12 is a latch bolt-receiving opening 22 which, as best shown in FIGS. 3 and 5 of the drawings, has a semi-circular guide 24 disposed therebelow, for a purpose which will be described in greater detail hereinbelow.

Formed in rear portion 14 and disposed above the latch bolt-receiving opening 22 are a dog-receiving opening 26 and a latch actuator opening 28, as best shown in FIGS. 3 and 6 of the drawings. Mounted in operative

relationship with the rear surface of the rear portion 14 of the bracket 12, as best shown in FIGS. 3 and 9 of the drawings, is a latch 30 constituted by a substantially rectangular plate 32 whose opposite edges are supported in guide bosses 34 formed integrally with said rear surface. A spring 36 engages the lower extremity of the plate 32 and biases said plate upwardly to locate a pair of latch tongues 38 provided on said plate in proximity to the latch bolt receiving opening 22. Formed integrally with the upper extremity of the plate 32 is an actuator tab 42 which, as best shown in FIGS. 3 and 6 of the drawings, protrudes through the actuator openings 28 into a position in which it may be contacted by the finger of a custodian of the dispenser 10 in order to urge the latch plate 32 downwardly against the bias of the spring 36.

As previously indicated, the elongated supporting spindle 20 is adapted to be demountably associated with the bracket 12 by insertion of the opposite extremities thereof in the corresponding receptacles 18 in the end plates 16 of said bracket. Mounted intermediate the extremities of the elongated supporting spindle 20 is securement means indicated generally at 50 in FIGS. 1 and 3-8 of the drawings, said securement means including an elongated latch bolt 52 having a shank 54, one extremity of which is secured in a corresponding bore 56 in the elongated mounting spindle 20, as best shown in FIG. 3 of the drawings. The aforementioned one extremity of the shank 54 is provided with an annular groove 58 in which is seated a snap ring 62 adapted to maintain the latch bolt 52 in operative relationship with the intermediate portion of the mounting spindle 20.

The latch bolt 52 has a substantially conical head 64 which, as best shown in FIGS. 3 and 6 of the drawings, has an annular groove 66 located inwardly thereof and adapted to be engaged by the latch tongues 38 provided on the latch plate 32. The upper surface of the semi-circular guide 24 on the front surface of the rear portion 14 of the bracket 12 is tapered and, when the head 64 of the latch bolt 52 is inserted into operative relationship with said upper surface, the head 64 is guided into registration with the latch bolt receiving opening 22. During the installation of the latch bolt 52 through the opening 22, the conical head 64 deflects the latch tongues 38 outwardly until they engage the annular groove 66.

When the latch bolt head 64 is located in the position of FIG. 3 of the drawings, the spindle 20 cannot be withdrawn from operative engagement with the mounting bracket 12 until the actuator tab 42 is depressed to release the latch tongues 38 from the groove 66.

The intermediately located latch bolt 52 divides the mounting spindle into dispensing and reserve locations 70 and 72, respectively, as best shown in FIGS. 1 and 6-7 of the drawings. A first roll 74 of toilet tissue is adapted to be located in the dispensing location 70, and a second roll 76 of toilet tissue is adapted to be located in the reserve location 72 on the elongated mounting spindle 20.

Mounted in encompassing relationship with the shank 54 of the latch bolt 52 is reserve roll detent means 80, said reserve roll detent means being constituted by a body 82 having a bore 84 for the reception of the shank 54 of the latch bolt and incorporating at its upper extremity a plurality of detent teeth 86 which are adapted to be urged into the associated extremity of the reserve roll 76, as best shown in FIG. 4 of the drawings, to prevent free rotation of said reserve roll. Operatively associated with the reserve roll detent means 80 is a leaf spring 88 which has openings 92 therein through which the detent teeth 86 may pass and which is adapted to engage the adjacent extremity of the reserve roll 76, for a purpose which will be described in greater detail below.

It will be noted that the reserve roll detent means 80 is freely and pivotally movable about the shank 54 of the latch bolt 52 from a substantially vertical position, as in FIG. 4 of the drawings, in which the detent means

86 are urged into the adjacent extremity of the reserve roll 76, to an oblique position, as illustrated in FIG. 8 of the drawings, in which the detent teeth 86 are withdrawn from operative engagement with the associated extremity of the reserve roll 76.

Mounted in an elongated slot 96 in the body 82 of the reserve roll detent means 80 is dogging means 100, said dogging means being constituted by an elongated bar 102 pivotally secured to the body 82 by a pivot pin 104, as best shown in FIGS. 3 and 5 of the drawings. Incorporated in the forward extremity of the bar 102 is a dog 106 which is adapted to be located in the dog-receiving opening 26, as best shown in FIG. 3 of the drawings. When so located in said opening 26, the dog 106 maintains the detent means 80 in the vertical position of FIG. 5 of the drawings. Since the detent, when in the vertical position obstructs movement of the actuator tab 42 of the latch plate 30, the bolt 52 cannot be released from the latch plate 32.

The extremity of the bar 102 constituting the dogging means 100 opposite the dog 106 serves as a counterweight whose normal tendency is to pivot the dog 106 out of operative engagement with the corresponding opening 26 and which is adapted to be engaged by the corresponding extremity of the roll 74 of toilet tissue being dispensed, as best shown in FIG. 1 of the drawings, to prevent the dog 106 from being withdrawn so long as a substantial amount of toilet tissue remains upon the roll 74.

The utilization of the toilet tissue dispenser 10 involves the removal of the elongated mounting spindle 20 from operative engagement with the associated receptacles 18 in the end plate 16 of the mounting bracket 12. In order to avoid duplicative description of the function of the device, let it be presumed that the spindle 20 has already been removed from operative engagement with the mounting bracket 12. Therefore, both of the extremities of the spindle 20 are available for the installation of the rolls 74 and 76 thereupon.

In order to insert the mounting spindle 20 into operative relationship with the mounting bracket 12, the conical extremity 64 of the latch bolt 52 is located upon the tapered surface of the guide 24 and is urged inwardly toward the latch bolt receiving opening 22. Since both rolls, 74 and 76, are full rolls of toilet tissue, the engagement of the bar 102 constituting the dogging means 100 by the corresponding extremity of the roll 74 of toilet tissue to be dispensed holds the bar 102 in a position in which the dog 106 upon the forward extremity thereof can pass into the opening 26 in the rear portion 14 of the bracket 12.

Moreover, as best shown in FIG. 4 of the drawings, the engagement of the dogging means 100 with the corresponding extremity of the roll 74 of toilet tissue to be dispensed urges the detent teeth 86 of the reserve roll detent means 80 into engagement with the corresponding extremity of the reserve roll 76 to prevent rotation thereof, and biases the upper extremity of the leaf spring 88 into corresponding engagement with said roll. Consequently, as the bolt 52 is advanced into the opening 22 and the conical extremity 64 of said bolt is advanced between the latch tongues 38, the dog 106 is adapted to pass through the corresponding opening 26 in the mounting bracket 12. Therefore, so long as a substantial amount of toilet tissue remains upon the roll 74, the dog 106 will be maintained in operative relationship with the latch plate 32 to prevent the actuator tab 42 from being utilized to urge said latch plate downwardly to release the conical extremity 64 of the bolt 52. Therefore, removal of the spindle 20 from operative engagement with the bracket 12 is prevented.

Similarly, so long as the reserve roll detent means 80 is maintained in the vertical position by the juxtaposition of the corresponding extremity of the roll 74 of toilet tissue being dispensed to the dogging means 100, the detent teeth 86 will be located in the tissue on the reserve

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roll 76 to prevent the rotation thereof. This prevents an individual using the dispenser 10 from utilizing the toilet tissue on the reserve roll 76 until such time as there has been substantial depletion of the tissue upon the roll 74 being dispensed.

However, as soon as the supply of toilet tissue upon the roll 74 of toilet tissue being dispensed has been substantially depleted, as best shown in FIG. 7 of the drawings, the bar 102 constituting the dogging means 100 will be swung laterally in a counterclockwise direction, to free the dog 106 thereupon from the latch plate 32. Therefore, a custodian may depress the actuator tab 42 of the latch plate 32 to release the latch bolt 52 from operative engagement with said plate and thus permit the spindle 20 to be removed from operative engagement with the bracket 12 to facilitate the replenishment of the roll of toilet tissue being dispensed.

However, until such time as replenishment of the dispenser 10 may be accomplished, the reserve roll 76 is permitted to be freely rotated by a user of the dispenser. This is accomplished by virtue of the fact that the reserve roll detent means 80 has pivoted laterally upon the bolt shank 54 into the position shown in FIG. 7 of the drawings wherein the detent teeth 86 have been withdrawn from operative engagement with the corresponding extremity of the reserve roll 76. The leaf spring 88 facilitates the movement of the detent means 80 into the position of FIG. 7 by urging the detent means 80 to the right to accomplish the withdrawal of the teeth 86 from operative engagement with the corresponding extremity of the reserve roll 76.

In order to reload the dispenser 10, it is merely necessary to depress the actuator tab 42 which urges the latch plate 32 downwardly to disengage the latch tongues 38 thereof from latching engagement with the corresponding extremity of the latch bolt 52. When the latch bolt 52 is so released, the spindle 20 can be moved outwardly from operative engagement with the bracket 12. Therefore, the partially consumed reserve roll 76 can be moved into the dispensing location 70 on the spindle 20 and a full reserve roll can be placed upon the reserve location 72 of the spindle 20. After this has been accomplished, the spindle 20 can then be reinserted into operative relationship with the bracket 12 in the manner described hereinabove.

There is thus provided by the invention a dispenser which is characterized by the fact that it is adapted to maintain a plurality of rolls of toilet tissue available for successive consumption by persons utilizing the same. Despite the fact that both rolls of toilet tissue in the dispenser 10 are exposed to physical contact, only one of the rolls is free to be dispensed until the complete consumption thereof. Subsequently, the reserve roll is automatically freed for rotation and consequent utilization of the tissue thereupon.

Another aspect of the invention which is quite desirable is the fact that removal of the spindle for the rolls from operative relationship with the mounting bracket 12 cannot be accomplished until such time as the roll being dispensed has been substantially depleted. Therefore, premature disposal of the roll being dispensed by a custodian or other person is forestalled.

Another embodiment 120 of the invention is illustrated in FIGS. 10 and 11 of the drawings, wherein those portions of the dispenser which are identical with the previously discussed embodiment are indicated by identical reference numerals. The major distinction between the previously discussed embodiment of the invention and the dispenser 120 of the alternative embodiment is that the reserve roll detent means 130 thereof incorporates a substantially cylindrical detent bar 132 which is adapted to be received in a corresponding cylindrical bore 134 provided in the adjacent extremity of the reserve roll 136 of toilet tissue.

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By the provision of the cylindrical detent 132 and the corresponding detent bore 134 in the reserve roll 136 of toilet tissue, positive prevention of rotation of the roll 136 is achieved. Therefore, the necessity for the penetration of the material of the roll by detent teeth such as the detent teeth 86 of the previously disclosed embodiment of the invention is eliminated. Moreover, the engagement of the detent bar 132 in the corresponding bore 134 in the reserve roll 136 completely eliminates the possibility of rotation of the reserve roll 136 until the detent bar 132 has been withdrawn from the bore 134 by the movement of the reserve roll detent means 130 into the same release position as shown for the roll detent means 80 of the previously discussed embodiment of the invention.

We claim:

1. In a toilet tissue dispenser adapted to support two rolls of toilet tissue in dispensing and reserve positions, the combination of: a mounting bracket; a mounting spindle adapted to be inserted into operative relationship with said bracket and demountably supported by said bracket on its opposite extremities, said mounting spindle having a first, dispensing position thereupon for the reception of a roll of toilet tissue to be dispensed and a second, reserve dispensing position thereupon for a roll of toilet tissue to be kept in reserve until said roll of toilet tissue being dispensed is consumed; a movable latch on said mounting bracket; a cooperative latch bolt on said mounting spindle engageable with said latch and adapted to maintain said mounting spindle in operative relationship with said bracket; and a dog operatively connected to said mounting spindle and engageable with said movable latch to prevent disengagement of said movable latch from said latch bolt, said dog and said latch bolt being mounted on said spindle intermediate the extremities thereof and between said dispensing and reserve positions and said dog having a portion engageable by a roll of toilet tissue being dispensed to prevent the withdrawal of said dog from operative engagement with said movable latch until said roll of toilet tissue being dispensed is almost completely consumed.

2. In a toilet tissue dispenser adapted to support two rolls of toilet tissue in dispensing and reserve positions, the combination of: a mounting bracket; a mounting spindle adapted to be inserted into operative relationship with said bracket, said mounting spindle having a first, dispensing position thereupon for the reception of a roll of toilet tissue to be dispensed and a second, reserve dispensing position thereupon for a roll of toilet tissue to be kept in reserve until said roll of toilet tissue being dispensed is consumed; a movable latch on said mounting bracket; a cooperative latch bolt on said mounting spindle engageable with said latch and adapted to maintain said mounting spindle in operative relationship with said bracket; a dog operatively connected to said mounting spindle and engageable with said movable latch to prevent disengagement of said movable latch from said latch bolt; and detent means operatively connected with said latch bolt and adapted to engage a corresponding extremity of said reserve roll to prevent dispensing rotation thereof upon said spindle while a significant quantity of toilet tissue remains upon the roll being dispensed.

3. In a toilet tissue dispenser adapted to maintain a roll of toilet tissue in dispensing condition and to maintain another roll of toilet tissue in reserve condition, the combination of: a mounting bracket for securing said dispenser to a supporting surface; a spindle demountably associated with said mounting bracket and having a first, dispensing position and a second, reserve position thereupon; a latch on said mounting bracket; a bolt secured to said spindle and engageable by said latch; and a dog operatively connected to said bolt and engageable with said latch to prevent said latch from being released from said bolt, said dog having a portion engageable by an extremity of the roll of tissue being dispensed whereby

releasing movement of said dog from said latch is prevented so long as a substantial amount of toilet tissue remains upon the roll of tissue being dispensed.

4. In a toilet tissue dispenser adapted to maintain a first roll of toilet tissue in dispensing condition and a second roll of toilet tissue in reserve condition, the combination of: a mounting bracket adapted to permit the affixation of said dispenser in operative relationship with a supporting surface; a demountable support for said rolls of toilet tissue having a first, dispensing location and a second, reserve location thereupon; a latch on said mounting bracket; a bolt on said support intermediate the extremities thereof engageable with said latch to maintain said support in operative relationship with said bracket; and a dog on said support engageable with said latch adapted to prevent the disengagement of said latch from said bolt while a substantially full roll of toilet tissue is located on said support in said dispensing location, said dog having a detent portion for preventing rotation of said reserve roll.

5. In a dispenser for first and second rolls of toilet tissue adapted to maintain said first roll in a dispensing condition and said second roll in a reserve condition, the combination of: a mounting bracket adapted to be affixed to a supporting surface, said mounting bracket having a bolt-receiving opening therein located intermediate its opposite extremities; an elongated roll support demountably engageable with said mounting bracket and having a dispensing location thereupon for the reception of said first roll and a reserve location thereupon for the reception of said second roll of toilet tissue; a latch on said mounting bracket adjacent said bolt-receiving opening; a bolt on said elongated support adapted to be inserted through said opening and engage said latch to maintain said support in demountable relationship with said bracket; and detent means operatively connected to said support between said dispensing and reserve locations and adapted to engage said second roll of toilet tissue to prevent the rotation thereof until said first roll of toilet tissue has been substantially dispensed.

6. In a dispenser for first and second rolls of toilet tissue adapted to maintain said first roll in a dispensing condition and said second roll in a reserve condition, the combination of: a mounting bracket adapted to be affixed to a supporting surface, said mounting bracket having a bolt-receiving opening therein located intermediate its opposite extremities; an elongated roll support demountably engageable with said mounting bracket and having a dispensing location thereupon for the reception of said first roll and a reserve location thereupon for the reception of said second roll of toilet tissue; a latch on said mounting bracket adjacent said bolt-receiving opening; a bolt on said elongated support adapted to be inserted through said opening and engage said latch to maintain said support in demountable relationship with said bracket; and a dog on said support engageable with said latch to prevent said latch from being released from said bolt, said dog having a portion engaged by said first roll of toilet tissue to prevent the release of said dog from said latch until said first roll of toilet tissue has been substantially consumed.

7. In a dispenser for first and second rolls of toilet tissue adapted to maintain said first roll in a dispensing condition and said second roll in a reserve condition, the combination of: a mounting bracket adapted to be affixed to a supporting surface, said mounting bracket having a bolt-receiving opening therein located intermediate its opposite extremities; an elongated roll support demountably engageable with said mounting bracket and having

a dispensing location thereupon for the reception of said first roll and a reserve location thereupon for the reception of said second roll of toilet tissue; a latch on said mounting bracket adjacent said bolt-receiving opening; a bolt on said elongated support adapted to be inserted through said opening and engage said latch to maintain said support in demountable relationship with said bracket; and a dog on said support engageable with said latch to prevent said latch from being released from said bolt, said dog having a portion engaged by said first roll of toilet tissue to prevent the release of said dog from said latch until said first roll of toilet tissue has been substantially consumed, said dog being movably mounted on said support and adapted to be automatically released from said latch when said first roll of toilet tissue has been substantially consumed to permit said support to be dismounted from operative engagement with said bracket.

8. In a dual toilet tissue dispenser adapted to maintain a first roll of toilet tissue in a dispensing location and a second roll of toilet tissue in a reserve location, the combination of: a mounting bracket adapted to permit said dispenser to be affixed to a supporting surface; a mounting spindle having dispensing and reserve locations thereupon for the reception, respectively, of said first and second rolls of toilet tissue; a latch on said mounting bracket; a latch bolt on said mounting spindle intermediate said dispensing and reserve locations and engageable with said latch to demountably maintain said mounting spindle in operative engagement with said mounting bracket; and detent means on said mounting spindle intermediate its extremities and engageable with said second roll of toilet tissue to prevent rotation of said second roll of toilet tissue until the substantial consumption of said first roll of toilet tissue.

9. In a dual toilet tissue dispenser adapted to maintain a first roll of toilet tissue in a dispensing location and a second roll of toilet tissue in a reserve dispensing location, the combination of: a mounting bracket adapted to permit said dispenser to be affixed to a supporting surface; a mounting spindle having dispensing and reserve locations thereupon for the reception, respectively, of said first and second rolls of toilet tissue; a latch on said mounting bracket; a latch bolt on said mounting spindle intermediate said dispensing and reserve locations and engageable with said latch to demountably maintain said mounting spindle in operative engagement with said mounting bracket; a latch dog mounted on said mounting spindle in juxtaposition to said latch bolt and engageable with said latch to prevent the release of said latch from operative engagement with said latch bolt; and detent means movably mounted on said mounting spindle and having a portion engageable with said second roll of toilet tissue to prevent the rotation thereof until substantial consumption of said first roll of toilet tissue.

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