June 17, 1958 H. L. LAWALIN 2,839,346

ROLLED PAPER DISPENSER

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Fig. 1

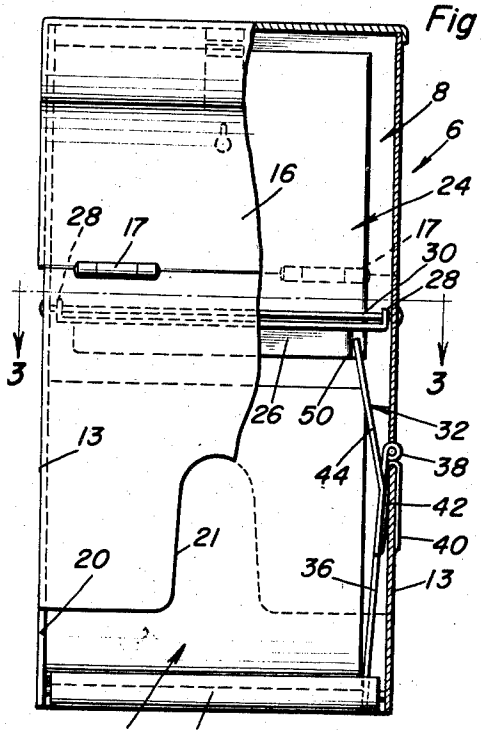


Fig. 2

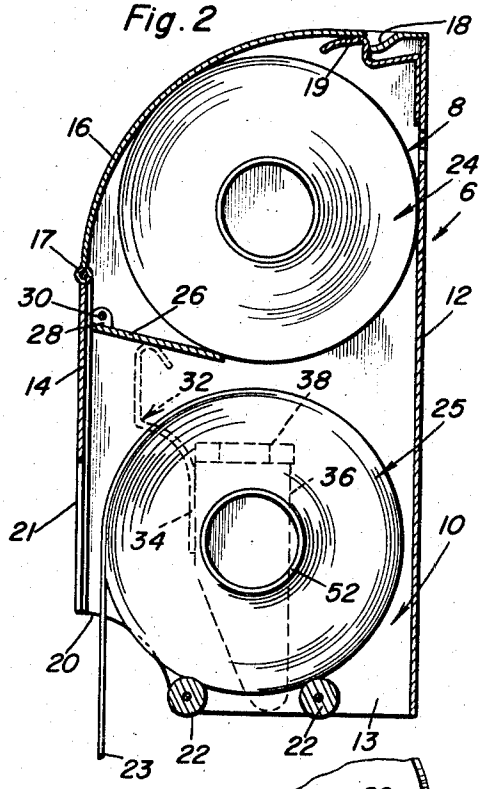


Fig. 3

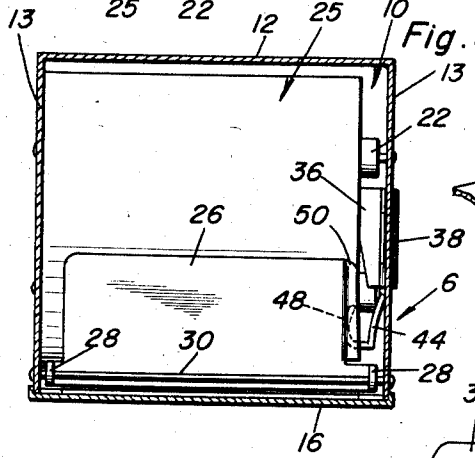


Fig. 4

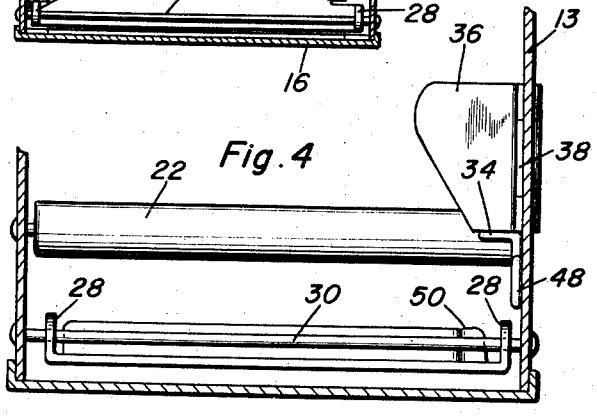
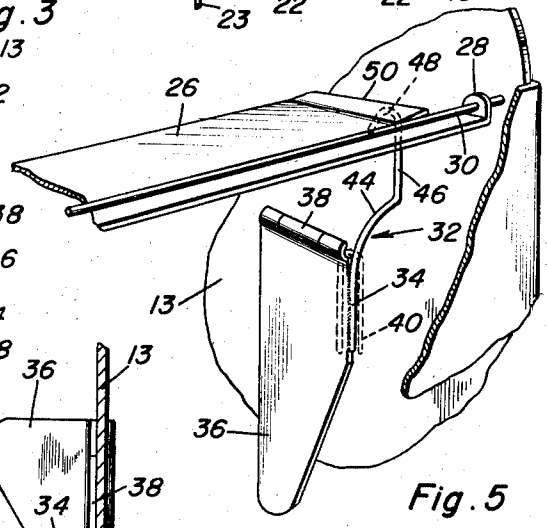


Fig. 5



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ROLLED PAPER DISPENSER

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1 Claim. (Cl. 312—39)

The present invention relates to box-type storing and dispensing cabinets, particularly those which are used to handily hold and progressively dispense tearable sheets of paper from rolled paper, for example, paper towels sold in rolled form, toilet tissue paper and the like.

To simplify the instant presentation of the subject matter of the invention, consider the concept as having to do with a sheet metal box, one which is of a so-called magazine type, that is, is intended to contain and store more than a single roll of toilet paper. The idea of the invention is to provide not only space for at least two rolls of paper, but, what is more important, to utilize a retractible and downwardly folding partition or shelf on the interior which is sufficient to divide the space into upper and lower compartments, one for the reserve roll and the other one, that is the lower one, for the roll which is currently in use.

In carrying out a preferred embodiment of the invention, a relatively narrow shelf is hinged in the intermediate portion of the container-forming box and is normally supported in a generally horizontal position in a manner to properly shelve the upper roll in the upper compartment. The space in the box therebelow, constituting the lower compartment, is characterized by a trigger latch which engages the shelf releasably and holds it in its up position, the trigger latch being carried by a trip which is swingably mounted in the lower compartment, said trip being spring-biased so that it normally maintains the trigger latch in its shelf-supporting position but allows the same to swing from beneath the shelf and to drop the shelf when the lower roll is depleted and the customary cardboard spool or hub thereof is removed from the lower compartment.

Other objects, features and advantages will become more readily apparent from the following description and the accompanying sheet of drawings.

In the drawings, wherein like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the views:

Figure 1 is a view in section and elevation of a magazine-type box or toilet roll holder constructed in accordance with the principles of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a view primarily in section with the paper in elevation showing the details;

Figure 3 is a horizontal section on the line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a fragmentary view with parts in section and elevation and with the rolls of paper omitted; and

Figure 5 is a fragmentary perspective view illustrating the particular details of the invention.

Referring now to drawings, the container is described here as a magazine-type box and is denoted by the numeral **6** and is of appropriate material and is constructed to accommodate upper and lower rolls of toilet tissue denoted by the numerals **24** and **25**. The back wall is denoted at **12**, the side walls at **13**, the front wall at **14** and the curvate top wall at **16**, this providing a lid and being hingedly mounted at **17**. It is provided at its free

end with a detent **18** held by a suitable spring latch **19**, all as shown in Figure 2. The lower corner portions of the side walls are cut away as at **20** and cooperative with a finger notch **21** and freely turnable wooden or equivalent rollers **22** are mounted in spaced parallelism and horizontally between the side walls and serve to position and hold the lower roll **10** in a position for use of the strips of paper **23**. Obviously, the lower roll rests on the rollers **22** in the manner shown.

The essence of the invention is in having the box sufficiently tall to provide the required upper and lower compartments **8** and **10** for the upper roll **24** and the lower roll **25** of paper.

The invention relates especially to the relatively narrow plate which constitutes a downwardly folding shelf and also a divider and this is denoted by the numeral **26** and is generally rectangular in form and has laterally bent ears **28** at its ends rockable on a fixed rod **30** which spans the compartment and is fixed in the side walls **13**. Obviously, when this shelf is "up" it partly underlies the roll **24** and keeps it in the upper compartment **8**. There is a trigger latch **32** provided and this as shown in Figure 5 has a shank **34** fixedly secured to an edge portion of a leaf-like trip plate **36**. This trip plate is arranged in the lower compartment **10** and between the walls **13** and one end portion of the roll **25** as shown perhaps best in Figures 1 and 3. It is of any suitable shape and the upper end **38** is hingedly mounted on the adjacent side wall at the point shown and there is a hairpin-like spring provided and with one leg or limb fixed on the exterior of the wall as shown at **40** and the other leg **42** fixed to the trip plate **36**. This spring urges the plate **36** to the position shown in Figures 1, 3 and 5 and in dotted lines in Figure 2. A slot is provided in the last named side wall to accommodate the spring and hinge means. In any event, this spring pressed trip plate is disposed in the position shown and supports the trigger latch. The intermediate portion of the trigger latch is arcuately bent as at **44** and the upstanding portion **46** has a hook-like bend **48** which underlies a suitably bent end **50** on the hinged shelf.

When both rolls of toilet paper are in their respective compartments, **8** and **10**, the spring means **40** presses the trip plate **36** to the position as shown in Figures 1 and 2. In this position, the trigger latch is such that it underlies the end portion **50** of the divider shelf **26** and keeps the shelf in its "up" position. When in the latter position the shelf **26** underlies the roll **24** of toilet paper and keeps it in the upper compartment **8**. When the paper on the roll **25** has been completely used up and the cardboard hub **52** has been removed, the pressure is taken away from the trip plate **36**, allowing it to swing inwardly to an inclined position and removing the supporting hook **48** from beneath the end portion **50** and allowing the shelf to drop down. This functioning of the parts causes the upper roll **24** of toilet paper to drop and deposit itself in the lower compartment.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

A box adapted to contain at least two progressively usable rolls of paper, an upper roll in readiness for use, and a lower roll which is adapted for current use and which, when it is exhausted, will be replenished by the upper roll, the relatively narrow horizontally disposed shelf having one longitudinal edge portion pivotally

mounted on one of the walls of the box and projecting into the space of the box and dividing the box into upper and lower compartments, one for each roll of paper, said shelf being normally in an up position and providing the sole supporting means for the upper roll of paper and being lowered in part by the weight of the roll of paper and in part by the forces of gravity, a vertically disposed trip plate having its upper end hingedly mounted on one wall of said box and depending into the lower compartment, said trip plate being spring biased and normally interposed between said one wall and an end portion of the roll of paper in the lower compartment and adapted to be acted on by the spring means and swung to a shelf-tripping position when the roll of paper with which it is cooperating has been used up, and a trigger latch carried by and rising from and above the hinged upper end of said trip plate, said latch having its upper end releasably underlying and engaged with an end portion of said shelf.

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