April 3, 1973 J. L. REGAN 3,725,182

TAPE DISPENSER

Filed Aug. 17, 1971 4 Sheets-Sheet 1

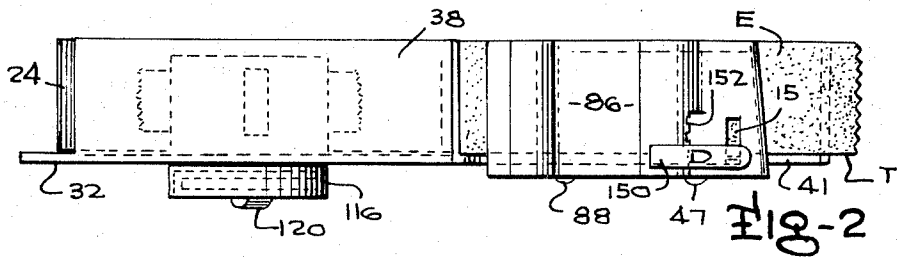


Fig-2

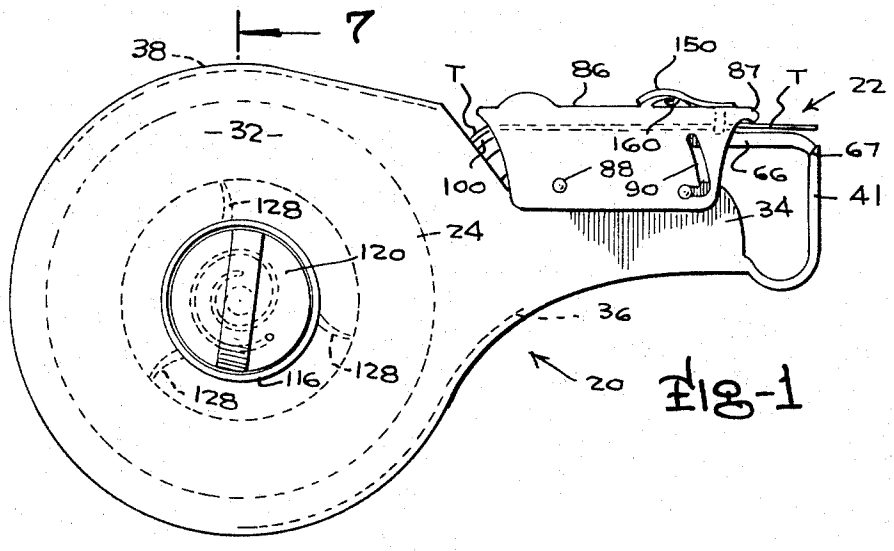


Fig-1

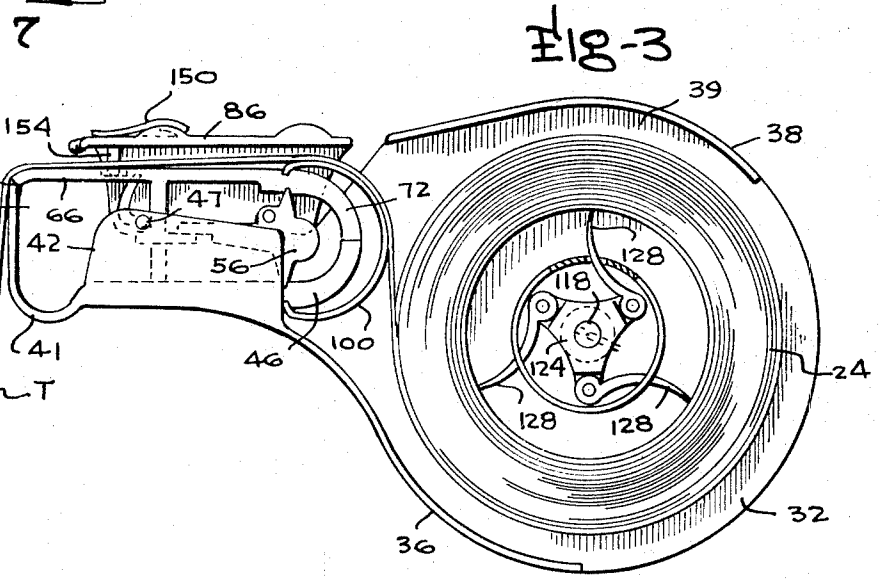


Fig-3

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TAPE DISPENSER

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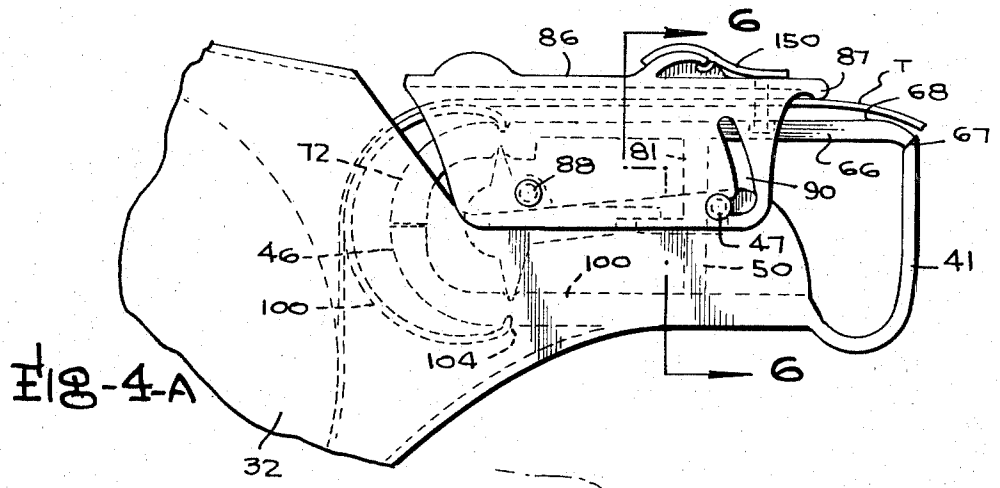


Fig-4-A

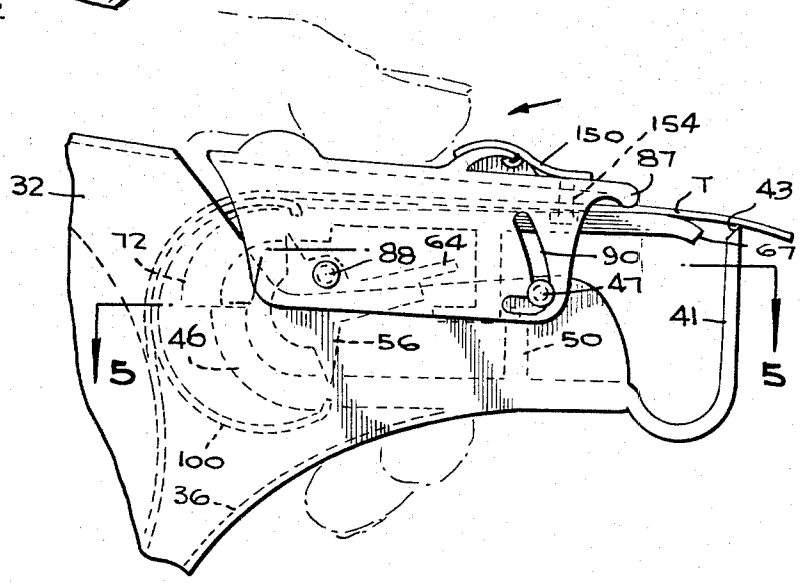


Fig-4-B

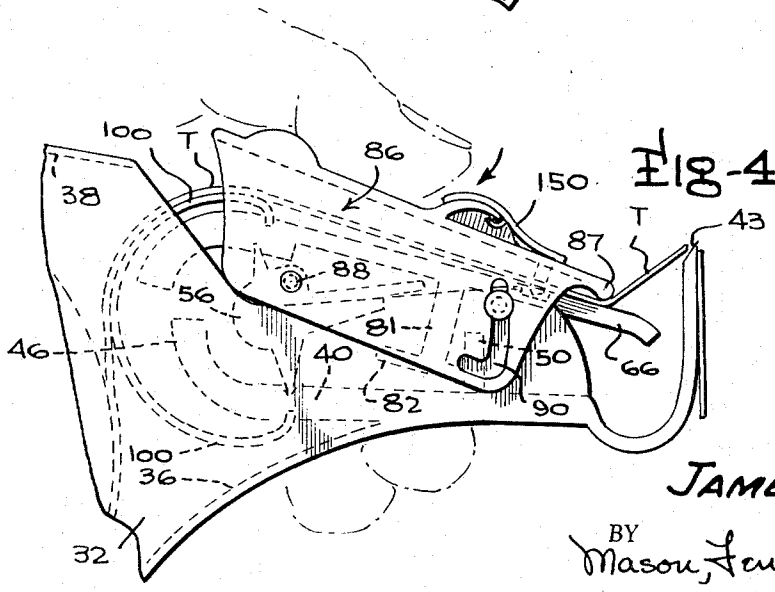


Fig-4-C

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TAPE DISPENSER

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Fig-5

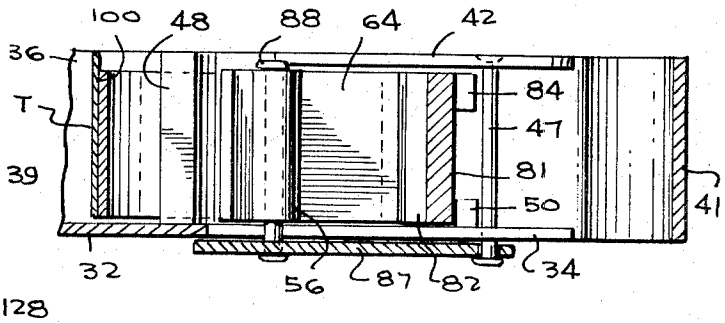
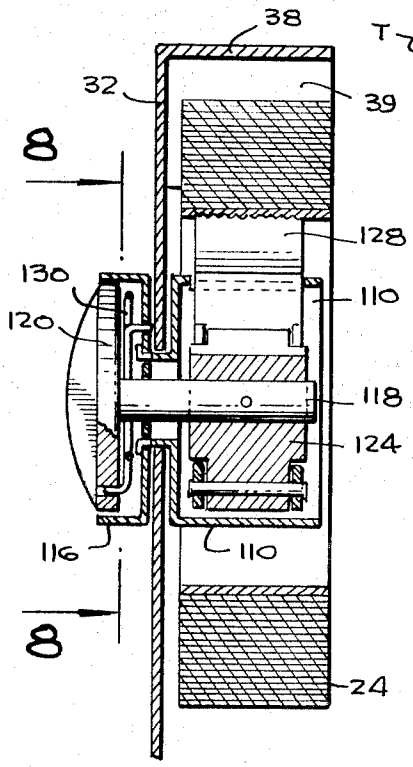


Fig-7



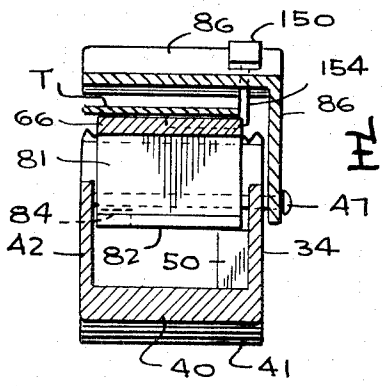


Fig-6

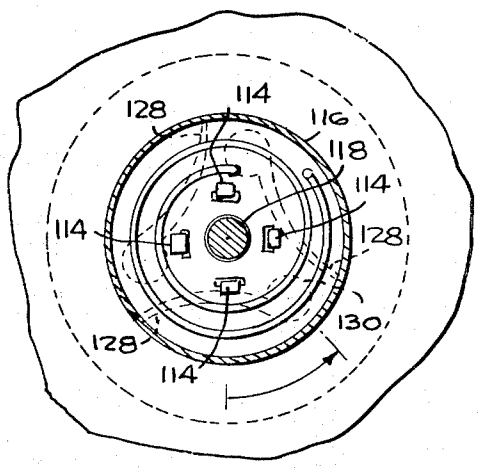


Fig-8

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TAPE DISPENSER

Filed Aug. 17, 1971 4 Sheets-Sheet 4

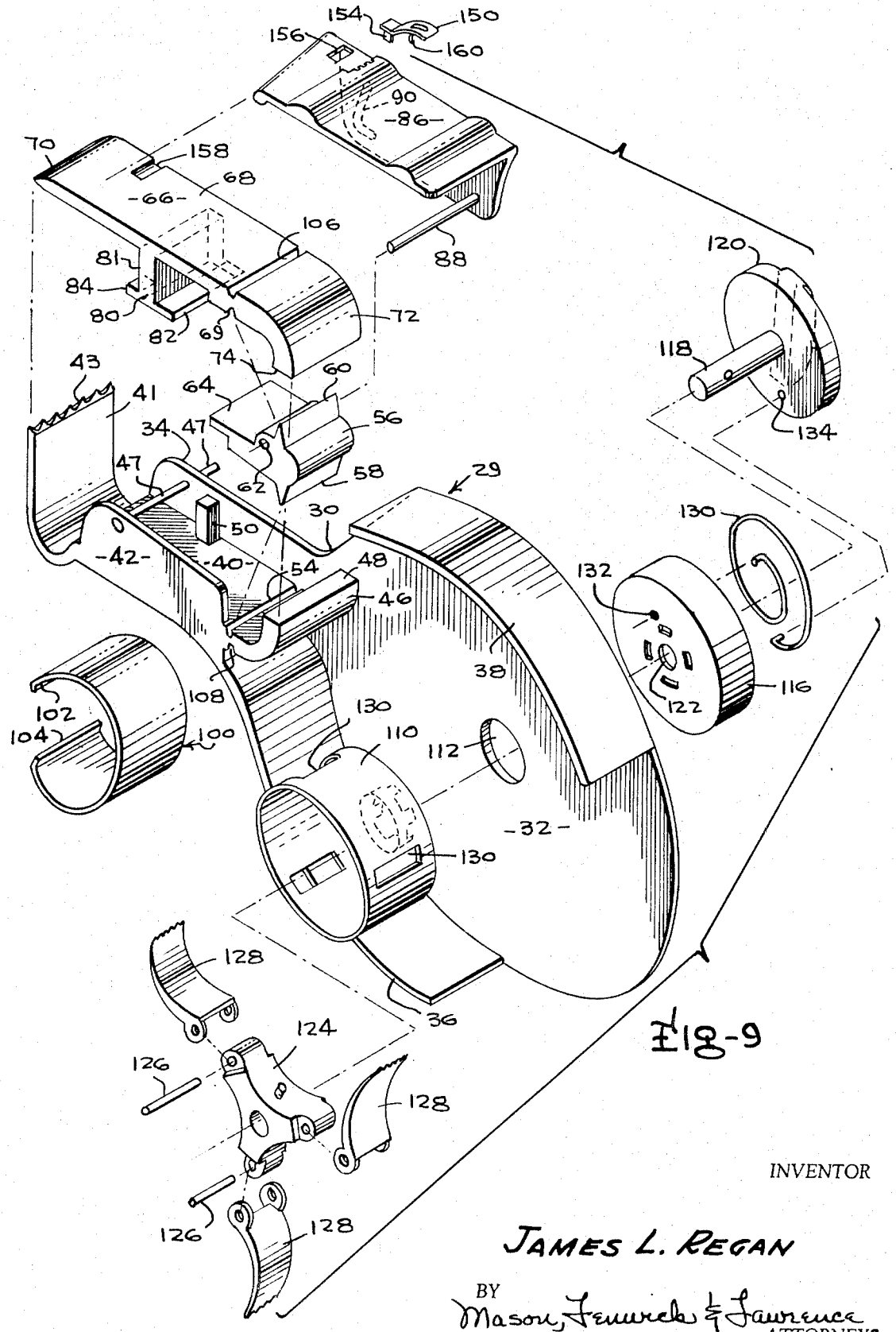


Fig-9

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3,725,182

TAPE DISPENSER

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Int. Cl. B32b 31/18; B26f 3/02
U.S. Cl. 156—527 29 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A hand-held tape dispenser is disclosed including a tape guide adjacent a cutting edge for enabling the application of tape into restricted areas such as a corner with the guide being movable to move the tape against the cutting edge following completion of a dispensing application to cut the tape in the innermost extent to which the tape is applied in such restricted areas.

This invention is in the field of tape dispensing apparatus and is more particularly directed to a novel hand-held tape dispenser particularly useful in dispensing pressure-sensitive tape into restricted, hard to reach areas.

Presently known tape dispensing devices are, for the most part, of the type comprising a roll support and a cutting edge. The tape in such devices is manually pulled from the roll and severed by manual movement against the cutting edge. Such devices are usually relatively simple and constitute a main frame supporting a tape roll from which the dispensed tape extends over and adjacent the cutting element. In operation, the tape is pulled from the roll and is then subsequently moved against the cutting element to sever the dispensed portion from the remainder of the roll. Unfortunately, devices of this type do not enable application of the tape while it is being dispensed from the device, and it is frequently necessary to estimate the desired tape length prior to cutting with the subsequent application of the tape frequently revealing that the user's estimate was erroneous.

While masking tape has long been used for masking glass windows or the like prior to the painting of the window frame, there is no known tape dispensing means capable of dispensing the tape accurately into the corners of a window frame or the like prior to the cutting of the tape. While numerous complicated mechanical tape dispensing means have evolved, none of the known devices has provided an accurate dispensing operation of the type required by those wishing to dispense the tape into such hard to reach restricted areas.

Moreover, some of the prior art devices employ pivotable and movable knife means moved against the tape for severing same in a manner which can be extremely dangerous for the user. In addition, the inherently complicated nature of many of the prior known dispensers makes them completely unsatisfactory due to their high initial cost and frequent mechanical malfunctions.

Therefore, it is the primary object of this invention to provide a new and improved tape dispensing means.

It is a further object of this invention to provide a new and improved tape dispensing means capable of dispensing and severing tape in hard to reach areas.

A complete understanding of the manner in which the objects of this invention are obtained will be easily obtained when the following written description is read in conjunction with the attached drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a front elevational view of the preferred embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 2 is a top plan view of the preferred embodiment;

FIG. 3 is a rear elevational view of the preferred embodiment;

FIG. 4A is an enlarged front elevational view of a portion of the preferred embodiment illustrating the parts in position assumed during a tape dispensing operation;

FIG. 4B is a front elevational view of the same portion

as illustrated in FIG. 4A illustrating the parts in an intermediate position following termination of a dispensing operation and the beginning of a cutting of the tape;

FIG. 4 C is a front elevational view of the parts illustrated in FIGS. 4A and 4B illustrating the parts in position following a cutting of the tape;

FIG. 5 is a sectional view taken along lines 5—5 of FIG. 4B;

FIG. 6 is a sectional view taken along lines 6—6 of FIG. 4A;

FIG. 7 is a sectional view taken along lines 7—7 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 8 is a sectional view taken along lines 8—8 of FIG. 7; and

FIG. 9 is an exploded perspective view of the preferred embodiment.

Attention is initially invited to FIG. 1 which illustrates the preferred embodiment, generally designated **20**, and which constitutes a hand-held tape dispenser from which a tape T is dispensed from a dispensing end **22**. The tape being dispensed is stored upon a roll **24** on the interior of the dispenser **20** in a manner to be discussed in detail hereinafter. Dispenser **20** comprises a main frame generally designated **29** in FIG. 9 and which is made up of a substantial number of individual components, all of which are unitarily connected as parts of the main frame.

Specifically, main frame **29** includes a generally planar base plate **30** which is itself comprised of a generally circular roll storage compartment wall **32** and a laterally extending tape guide arm plate **34** extending outwardly from the generally circular roll storage compartment wall **32**.

A lower border flange means **36** extends outwardly from adjacent the periphery of the wall **32** and an upper border flange means **38** similarly extends outwardly perpendicularly from the upper periphery of the wall **32** with the border flange members **36, 38** serving to define a roll storage compartment **39** in which the roll **24** is mounted.

A floor plate **40** extends outwardly from adjacent the lower edge of the tape guide arm **34**. In addition, a second tape guide arm **42** is provided along the edge of floor plate **40** spaced from the arm **34**. Tape guide arms **34** and **42** lie in parallel spaced planes. In addition, the lower border flange **36** merges into the floor plate **40** as is obvious from inspection of FIG. 9. A J-shaped cutting blade **41** extends outwardly from the floor plate **40** and is provided with a serrated cutting edge **43** as shown in FIG. 9. However, it should be understood that the cutting edge **43** might, in some instances, constitute a smooth cutting edge rather than a serrated edge.

The inner end of the floor plate **40** has a relatively thick stop lug **46** extending inwardly and upwardly for termination in a horizontal surface **48** parallel to floor plate **40**. In addition, floor plate **40** is provided with an upwardly extending pillar **50** extending perpendicular to the floor plate and adjacent the tape guide arm **34**. A guide pin **47** extends between the guide arms **34** and **42** for a purpose to be discussed hereinafter. In addition, the stop lug **46** is separated from the floor plate **40** by means of a transverse pivot slot **54** in the upper surface of the elements and a spring retaining lower slot **108**.

A toggle lever **56** has a lower pivot edge **58** received within the pivot slot **54** and is also provided with an upper pivot edge **60** for a purpose to be discussed hereinafter. Toggle lever **56** also includes a transversely extending circular bore **62** extending across its width and a stop plate **64** (FIG. 9) extending outwardly toward the cutting means **41**.

A tape guide means for guiding tape being dispensed from the tape storage chamber **39** includes a pivotal

slide block **66** having a forward canted end surface **67**, a substantially flat upper surface **68**, a downwardly curved forward tape applying surface **70** and an even more downwardly curved rearmost portion **72**. Upper surface **68** is separated from rearmost portion **72** by an upper spring retaining slot **106**. The rearmost portion **72** terminates in a downwardly facing planar surface **74**, which, in one position of the slide block **66**, rests upon the upwardly facing flat surface **48** of stop lug **46**.

Slide block **66** also includes a downwardly extending control lug **80** extending downwardly from the under surface of the block **66**. Lug **80** includes a vertical plate **81**, rearwardly extending plate **82** and a forwardly extending plate tab **84**; however, it should be noted that the rearwardly extending plate **82** extends across the entire width of the lug while tab **84** is of much narrower width.

Slide block **66** is movable from a first position illustrated in FIG. 4A in which tape is being dispensed to a second position illustrated in FIG. 4C in which the dispensed tape is being cut by virtue of the movement of the slide block to the position illustrated in FIG. 4C.

Movement of the slide block **66** between its two positions discussed above is enabled by actuator means including a thumb slide **86** having a forward protrusion **87**, a pivot pin **88** extending through the bore **62** in toggle lever **56** and also having a slot **90** ridable upon the outer end of the guide pin **47** extending between the tape guide arms **34** and **42**. A cap on the end of the pin **47** retains the thumb slide **86** in engagement with the guide pin **47** in an obvious manner.

A spring clip **100** has ends **102** and **104** respectively received within slots **106** and **108** of the slide block **66** and lug **46** so that the clip **100** tends to bias the slide block **66** downwardly at all times. In addition, the lower surface of the slide block **66** is provided with a pivot slot **69** receivable over the pivot edge **60** of toggle lever **56** in an obvious manner.

The lower pivot edge **58** of the toggle **56** is received in slot **54** (FIG. 9). Consequently, operation of the spring clip **100** serves to pivot the forward end of the slide block **66** in a downward direction. However, the slide block is restrained against downward movement when the block is in the first position illustrated in FIG. 4A and cannot move downwardly until the thumb slide **86** is moved rearwardly in a manner to be discussed.

A tape roll supporting means is provided on the interior of the main frame as was noted previously and includes a cylindrical sleeve **110** mounted coaxially with respect to an access opening **112** in wall **32**. Sleeve **110** includes bearing tabs **114** extending through the access opening **112** and through the base of a cylindrical cup **116** mounted on the opposite side of the wall **32**.

An actuator shaft **118** having an actuator knob **120** on its outer end extends through an axial opening **122** in the base of cup **116** and is provided with a triple arm rotor **124** positioned within the confines of sleeve **110**. The three arms of the rotor **124** are provided with apertures in their ends through which pins **126** extend to provide pivotal support for prong plates **128** respectively attached to the end of each of the arms of the member **124**. Each of the prong plates **128** is positioned in an axially parallel slot **130** of the sleeve **110** so that rotation of the triple arm rotor **124** with respect to the sleeve **110** serves to move the prongs inwardly and outwardly with respect to the sleeve. For example, FIG. 3 illustrates the position of the prongs **128** in their outwardly extending position in which they engage the inner periphery of a tape roll **24**, while FIG. 8 illustrates the position of the prongs in a retracted position to which they are moved when it is desired to install a new, or remove an old, tape roll.

A coil spring **130** is connected between an opening **132** in the cup **116** and an opening **134** on the inner face of the actuator knob **120**. Coil spring **130** serves to bias the actuator knob **120** and shaft **118** along with the triple arm rotor **124** in a direction to extend the prong members **128** outwardly into their FIG. 3 position. However, the prong plates **128** can be retracted by manually gripping the cup **116** and turning the knob **120** in a counter-clockwise direction as viewed from the FIG. 1 position.

Therefore, it will be obvious that a new roll can be inserted upon the roll support sleeve **110** by positioning of the prongs in their retracted position and subsequently permitting the prongs to extend outwardly against the inner surface of the roll under the urging of spring **130**.

It is desirable that the upper edge E of the tape T as viewed in FIG. 2 be supported and positioned to be coplanar with the upper edge of the flange members **38**, **36** and the upper edge of the cutting means **41** in order to enable a dispensing of the tape along the intersection of two surfaces such as a window and a window frame with the edge E being dispensed into the apex of such an intersection. Since the tape T comes in various widths, adjustable means must be provided for enabling the use of different tape sizes. For this purpose, a guide clip **150** is provided on the upper surface of the thumb slide **86** to be positionable in any one of a plurality of transverse positioning notches **152**. The guide clip **150** includes a downwardly extending tape edge guide plate **154** (FIG. 9) which extends downwardly through a slotted opening **156** in the thumb slide **86** into a transverse groove **158** formed in the upper surface of slide block **66**. Guide plate **154** engages the edge of tape T opposite the edge E and is positionable in accordance with the width of the tape to insure that the edge E remains in the position illustrated in FIG. 2 regardless of the tape width being employed. It should also be noted that the guide clip **150** is retained in adjusted position on the thumb slide **86** by a clamp portion **160** which engages the underside of the slide body immediately beneath the respective slot **152** in which the clip is positioned.

A complete cycle of operation of the subject invention will now be discussed with initial reference being made to FIG. 4A of the drawings which illustrates the tape guiding slide block **66** in its first position in which tape T is free to be dispensed. It should be noted that the slide block is positioned against and adjacent to the cutting edge **43** of cutting means **41** so that the tape cannot contact the cutting edge. Moreover, this positioning of the slide block **66** serves to protect against accidental injury of the user of the device.

Tape T is unrolled from the roll **24** with its outer or non-adhesive surface resting against the upper surface **68** of the slide block **66**, but spaced beneath the upper surface of the thumb slide **86** as will be obvious from inspection of FIG. 4A. The tape can be easily dispensed with the upper surface **68** serving to guide the tape and press the tape into position in recessed corners or other hard to reach areas such as window corners or the like. The fact that the edge E of the tape and the open edges of flanges **36**, **38**, and the outer surface of guide arm **42**, and cutting means **41** are coplanar as shown in FIG. 2 enables the tape to be pressed into such hard to reach areas. Attention is specifically invited to FIG. 2 which clearly illustrates the fact that no portion of the dispenser extends beyond the upper edge of the tape.

When slide block **66** is in the first position illustrated in FIG. 4A, the lower surface of the right edge of elements **81** and **82** rest upon the upper surface of pillar **50**. In addition, the lower surface **74** of the rearmost projection **72** rests upon the upper surface **48** of the stop lug **46** and tab **84** extends beneath guide pin **47** to prevent upward movement of pivotal slide block **66**.

The outer end of pin **47** extends through the horizontal lower portion of slot **90** in the thumb slide **86** so that the only possible movement of the thumb slide from the FIG. 4A position is in a rearward direction. Positioning of the

elements as shown in FIGS. 1, 2 and 4A (i.e. the first position of the guide means comprising pivotal slide block **66**, etc.) enables tape to be dispensed and pressed into position by the outer end of the pivotal slide block **66** and by the outer surface of the cutting member **41** in an obvious manner. Consequently, the tape can be dispensed into very close quarters such as the corners of window frames or the like. Moreover, following the application of the tape, the tape can be severed up to the exact point of tape application so that a complete covering of any desired area is easily obtained.

A tape severing operation is initially begun by moving the thumb slide **86** rearwardly in the direction of the arrows about in FIG. 4B with it being noted that such initial movement is limited to rearward movement by virtue of the fact that pin **47** extends through the lower horizontal portion of the slot **90** in the thumb slide **86**.

Initial movement of the parts to the position illustrated in FIG. 4B causes the toggle lever **56** to pivot in a counter-clockwise direction by virtue of the fact that the thumb slide **86** is connected to the toggle lever by pivot pin **88**. This initial movement of toggle lever **56** causes slide block **66** to move rearwardly so that canted surface **67** clears the cutting edge **43**. Such initial movement of the slide block **66** also causes the edge of elements **80, 82** resting on the top of pillar **50** to eventually clear the pillar at substantially the same time as pin **47** is entering the vertically extending portion of slot **80** as shown in FIG. 4B.

At this itme, thumb slide **86** is then rotated in a clockwise direction downwardly in the direction of the arrow in FIG. 4C. This downward movement of the thumb slide causes the forward protrusion **87** of the thumb slide to move against the tape to grasp the tape between protrusion **87** and surface **68**. In addition, subsequent clockwise movement of thumb slide **86** is conveyed to pivotal slide block **66** to move the slide block to the FIG. 4C position to cause the tape to be severed along edge **43**. The fact that the forward edge of protrusion **87** is not perpendicular to the axis of the tape (the edge is canted as shown in FIG. 2) causes the tape to be cut progressively inward from one edge. The bottom surface of pivotal slide block **66** engages pin **47** to prevent clockwise movement past the position illustrated in FIG. 4C.

The above-discussed construction enables the edge **43** to be movable into the innermost extent of any recessed corner or the like in which the tape is being applied so that the tape can be severed accurately at the innermost extent of any such application.

Following completion of the tape severing action, the rearward or leftmost portion of the thumb slide **86** as viewed in FIG. 4C is depressed to rotate the thumb slide in a counter-clockwise direction back through the intermediate position illustrated in FIG. 4B. As pin **47** reaches the horizontal portion of slot **90**, the thumb slide is then moved forwardly toward the FIG. 4A position with the forward movement serving to pivot toggle arm **56** in a clockwise direction until stop plate **64** engages the upper surface of the rearward projection **82**. At approximately, the same time, the edge of member **80** moves over pillar **50** and the pivotal slide block **66** is moving forwardly so that the forwardly extending tab **84** moves beneath pin **47** to hold the pivotal slide block **66** in the position shown in FIG. 4A.

The forward movement of the pivotal slide block **66** from the FIG. 4B to the FIG. 4A position is accomplished largely by the urging of spring clip **100** which tends to return to the position shown in FIG. 4A. In addition, the forward movement of the pivotal slide block **66** is limited by engagement of the forward edge **67** thereof with the cutting edge **43** of cutting means **41**. This re-engagement covers the cutting portion **43** in the manner shown in FIG. 4A to provide a substantial safety feature.

Therefore, it will be seen that the subject invention provides an easily usable and accurate means for dispensing tape and severing same in hard to reach locations and which represents a distinct improvement over the prior known tape dispensing devices. While many modifications will occur to those skilled in the art, it should be understood that the spirit and scope of the invention is to be interpreted solely in light of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A hand-held tape dispenser comprising a main frame, tape roll support means on said main frame for supporting a roll of tape in a tape storage compartment, fixed cutting edge means on said frame positioned outwardly of said tape roll storage compartment, movable tape guide means positionable in a first position to extend between said cutting edge and said tape roll storage compartment for supporting and guiding tape being dispensed from a roll in said storage compartment along a path spaced from said cutting edge but closely adjacent to the cutting edge during a dispensing operation and guide actuator means operable at the completion of a tape dispensing operation for rapidly moving said tape guide means to a second position spaced inwardly of said tape cutting edge whereby tape is carried by said guide means is served as a result of movement of said guide means to said second position.

2. The invention of claim **1** wherein said main frame comprises a base plate formed of a generally circular roll storage compartment wall and a laterally extending tape guide arm plate extending unitarily outwardly from said storage compartment wall, lower border flange means extending perpendicularly from adjacent the edge of said storage compartment wall, a floor plate extending perpendicularly from said tape guide arm plate and merging into one end of said lower border flange means, a second tape guide arm plate spaced from said first tape guide arm plate and extending from said floor plate in a plane parallel to said first tape guide arm plate, a pillar extending upwardly from said floor plate adjacent said first tape guide arm plate, a guide pin extending between said first tape guide arm plate and said second tape guide arm plate parallel to said floor plate, a stop lug extending inwardly and upwardly from the inner end of said floor plate and terminating in a planar surface parallel to said floor plate, a pivot slot formed in said floor flange between said floor plate and said stop lug, a toggle lever arm pivotally mounted in said pivot slot between said first tape guide arm plate and said second tape guide arm plate for pivotal movement, said tape guide means including a pivotal slide block of generally rectangular configuration, a pivot slot in one side of said slide block engageable with an upper pivot edge portion of said toggle lever arm, a curved rearward extension portion of said slide block having an abutment surface on its extreme end engageable with said stop lug when said slide block is in said first position, spring clip means extending between said stop lug and said slide block for biassing the slide block downwardly toward said floor flange to hold said slide block in pivotal engagement with said toggle arm, a depending control lug extending downwardly from the under surface of said slide block in the form of a T-shaped flange including a vertical plate, a rearwardly extending plate and a forwardly extending tab, the lower surface of one side of the vertical plate and the rearwardly extending tab being coextensive and resting on the top of said pillar when said slide block is in said first position to prevent downward movement of said slide block and the upper surface of said forwardly extending tab extending under and engaging said guide pin, wherein said actuator means includes a thumb slide mounted above said slide block and connected to said toggle lever arm whereby rearward movement of said thumb slide pivots said toggle lever arm and moves said slide block rearwardly to a point at which said slide block lug clears the top of said pillar and said slide block is then forcefully moved downwardly into said second position to enable cutting of said tape.

3. The invention of claim **2** wherein said tape support means comprises a cylindrical sleeve extending perpendicularly through said roll storage compartment wall in an

access opening in a central portion thereof, actuator shaft means extending through said access opening in said roll storage compartment wall into the interior of said cylindrical sleeve, an actuator knob on the end of said actuator shaft opposite the side of said roll storage compartment wall on which said cylindrical sleeve is mounted, a triple armed rotor mounted on the end of said actuator shaft, a prong plate mounted on the end of each of the arms of said triple armed rotor for pivotal movement with respect to said triple armed rotor and respectively extending through slots formed in said cylindrical sleeve whereby rotation of said triple arm rotor with respect to said sleeve causes said prong plates to be extended outwardly from the outer surface or moved inwardly with respect to the outer surface of said cylindrical sleeve, and spring means connected to said actuator knob and said cylindrical sleeve for biassing said knob and said actuator shaft in a relative direction to continuously urge said prong plates outwardly from said cylindrical sleeve for engagement with the inner surface of a tape roll for supporting said tape roll.

4. The invention of claim 1 wherein said movable tape guide means includes a pivotal slide block having an elongated upper surface for supporting tape being dispensed when the slide block is in a first position and said guide actuator means includes a thumb slide positioned above said pivotable slide block but connected through connecting means to said pivotal slide block for moving said slide block between said first and second positions thereof.

5. The invention of claim 4 wherein said connecting means includes toggle lever means pivotally supporting said pivotal slide block on said main frame.

6. The invention of claim 5 additionally including spring clip means for retaining said pivotal slide block on said toggle lever means.

7. The invention of claim 6 wherein said toggle lever means is pivotally connected to the under side of a rearward portion of said pivotal slide block whereby actuation of said thumb slide initially moves shaid pivotal slide block rearwardly from its first position to an intermediate position in which abutment means on said slide block clears a vertical abutment member on said main frame to permit immediate subsequent downward pivoting movement of the forward end of said slide block into said second position.

8. The invention of claim 7 additionally including means connected to said pivotal slide block for limiting the upward extent of movement of said pivotal slide block when said pivotal slide block is in its first position.

9. The invention of claim 4 wherein the forward end of said pivotal slide block engages said cutting edge when said pivotal slide block is in its first position to protectively cover said cutting edge.

10. The invention of claim 9 wherein said pivotal slide block extends substantially parallel to the direction from which tape is dispensed with tape being dispensed along the upper surface of said pivotal slide block and said cutting means comprises a blade extending substantially perpendicular to said slide block so that tape being dispensed from along the upper surface of said slide block is dispensed perpendicularly to the cutting edge of said blade.

11. A hand-held tape dispenser comprising a main frame, tape roll support means for supporting a roll of tape, movable elongated guide means for guiding tape from said roll along said guide means during a tape dispensing operation, knife means extending substantially in a direction having a substantial perpendicular component with respect to said elongated guide means and positioning means for positioning an end of said elongated guide means in abutting relationship against said knife means during a tape dispensing operation for covering the cutting edge of said knife means and for providing a continuous outer tape applying surface for pressing tape against a surface to which tape is being applied.

12. The invention of claim 11 wherein said continuous outer tape applying surface is of approximately right angular configuration and is completely exposed and is unencumbered of any other parts of said tape dispenser means.

13. The invention of claim 12 wherein said elongated guide means extends in a generally tangential direction from a cylindrical tape storage compartment in which said tape roll is mounted.

14. The invention of claim 13 additionally including actuator means for moving said elongated guide means to a second position disengaged from said knife means so that the cutting edge of said knife means is unobstructed to permit the cutting of tape previously dispensed from said dispensing means.

15. The invention of claim 11 wherein said tape roll support means comprises sleeve means mounted for rotation on said main frame, prong plate means mounted on the interior of said sleeve for outward movement through openings in said sleeve means to engage the inner surface of a tape roll to support the tape roll and prong actuator means connectable to said prong plate means for selectively moving said prong plate means inwardly or outwardly of said support sleeve.

16. The invention of claim 15 wherein said prong plate actuator means includes a rotor member mounted on the interior of said sleeve with said prong plate members being pivotally mounted on said rotor member and extending outwardly through slots in said sleeve so that rotation of said rotor member causes said prong plate members to move inwardly and outwardly with respect to the external surface of said sleeve.

17. The invention of claim 16 wherein said prong actuator means for said prong plate members additionally includes spring means tending to rotate said rotor means in a direction to cause said prong plate members to extend outwardly as far as possible.

18. The invention of claim 17 wherein said continuous outer surface is of approximately right angular configuration and is completely exposed and is unencumbered of any other parts of said tape dispenser means.

19. The invention of claim 18 wherein said elongated guide means extends in a generally tangential direction from a cylindrical tape storage compartment in which said tape roll is mounted.

20. The invention of claim 19 additionally including actuator means for moving said elongated guide means to a second position disengaged from said knife means so that the cutting edge of said knife means is unobstructed to permit the cutting of tape previously dispensed from said dispensing means.

21. The invention of claim 11 wherein said main frame comprises a base plate including a generally circular roll storage compartment wall and a laterally extending tape guide arm extending unitarily outwardly from said circular roll storage compartment wall, lower border flange means extending perpendicularly from adjacent the edge of said storage compartment wall, a floor plate extending perpendicularly from said tape guide arm plate and merging into one end of said lower border flange means, a second tape guide arm plate spaced from said first tape guide arm plate and extending from said floor plate in a plane parallel to said first tape guide arm plate wherein said elongated guide means comprises a pivotal slide block mounted between said first and second tape guide arms above said floor plate for movement in a generally outward direction for engagement of its outer end with said cutting edge of said knife means.

22. The invention of claim 21 wherein said tape support means comprises a cylindrical sleeve extending perpendicularly through said roll storage compartment wall, in an access opening in a central portion thereof, actuator shaft means extending through said access opening in said roll storage compartment wall into the interior of said cylindrical sleeve, an actuator knob on the end of

said actuator shaft opposite the side of said roll storage compartment wall on which said cylindrical sleeve is mounted, a triple armed rotor mounted on the end of said actuator shaft, a prong plate mounted on the end of each of the arms of said triple armed rotor for pivotal movement with respect to said triple armed rotor and respectively extending through slots formed in said cylindrical sleeve whereby rotation of said triple armed rotor with respect to said sleeve causes said prong plates to be extended outwardly from the outer surface or moved inwardly with respect to the outer surface of said cylindrical sleeve, and spring means connected to said actuator knob and said cylindrical sleeve for biassing said knob and said actuator shaft in a relative direction to continuously urge said prong plates outwardly from said cylindrical sleeve for engagement with the inner surface of a tape roll for supporting said tape roll.

23. The invention of claim **21** wherein said continuous outer tape applying surface is of approximately right angular configuration and is completely exposed and is unencumbered of any other parts of said tape dispenser means.

24. The invention of claim **1** wherein said main frame comprises a base plate including a generally circular roll storage compartment wall and a laterally extending tape guide arm extending unitarily outwardly from said circular roll storage compartment wall, lower border flange means extending perpendicularly from adjacent the edge of said storage compartment wall, a floor plate extending perpendicularly from said tape guide arm plate and merging into one end of said lower border flange means, a second tape guide arm plate spaced from said first tape guide arm plate and extending from said floor plate in a plane parallel to said first tape guide arm plate wherein said elongated guide means comprises a pivotal slide block mounted between said first and second tape guide arms above said floor plate for movement in a generally outward direction for engagement of its outer end with said cutting edge of said knife means.

25. The invention of claim **21** additionally including toggle lever means extending between said floor plate and said pivotal slide block for supporting said pivotal slide block.

26. The invention of claim **25** additionally including spring clamp means for clampingly retaining said pivotal slide block in pivotal connection to said toggle lever.

27. The invention of claim **26** wherein said means for positioning said elongated guide means in abutting relationship against said knife means includes thumb slide means operable for moving said pivotal slide block away from engagement with said knife means.

28. A tape dispensing roll support means comprising a cylindrical sleeve mounted for rotation in an access opening on a support member, an actuator shaft extending through said access opening into the interior of said cylindrical sleeve, an actuator knob on the other end of said actuator shaft on the side of said support member opposite said cylindrical sleeve, rotor means mounted on the end of said actuator shaft on the interior of said sleeve, prong plate members respectively pivotally mounted on one end of said rotor means to extend through slots in said sleeve so that rotation of said rotor member causes said prong plate members to be moved outwardly or inwardly with respect to said sleeve, and biassing means including a spring connected between said actuator knob and said sleeve for biassing said knob and actuator shaft in a relative direction with respect to said sleeve to continuously urge said prong plates outwardly from said sleeve for engagement with the inner surface of a tape roll for supporting such a tape roll.

29. The invention of claim **1** wherein said tape roll support means and said tape guide means includes guide plate means for maintaining one edge of the tape in a position coplanar with the outermost transverse edge of the dispenser part so that the tape can be dispensed on one surface in a position immediately adjacent another surface intersecting said one surface.

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