H. A. AUSTIN.

OPEN BOTTOM SELLING CABINET.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 15, 1913.

1,174,651. Patented Mar. 7, 1916.

Fig. 1.

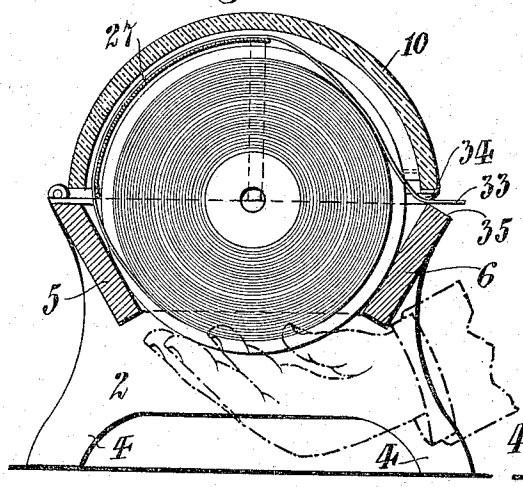


Fig. 2.

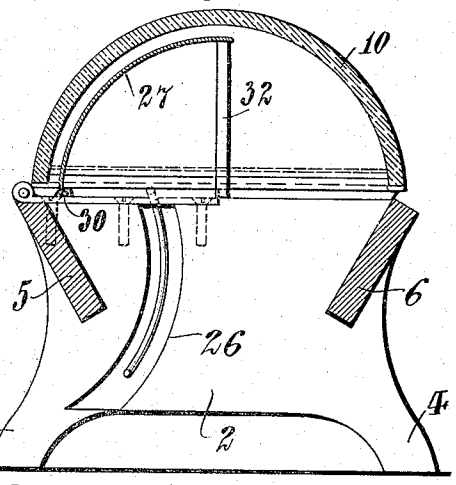


Fig. 3.

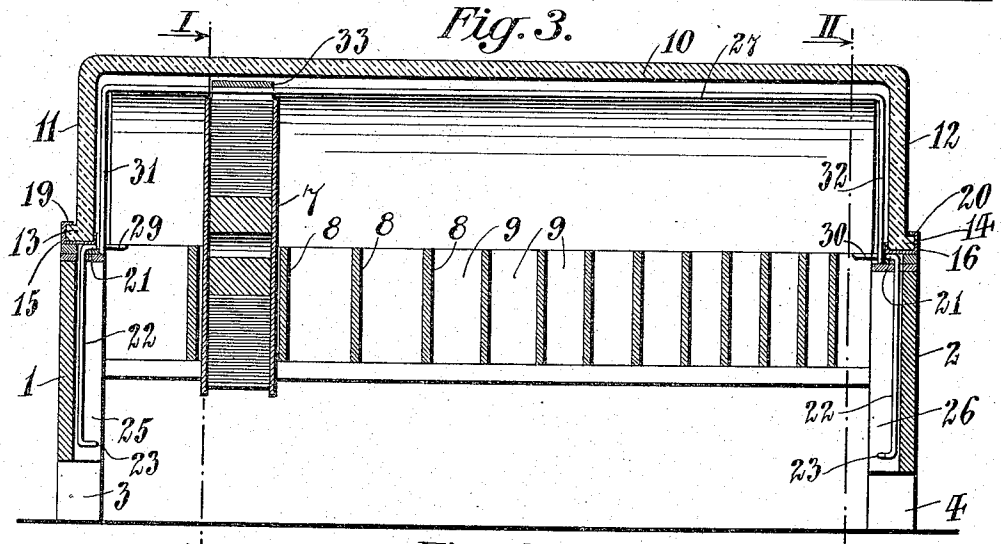


Fig. 4.

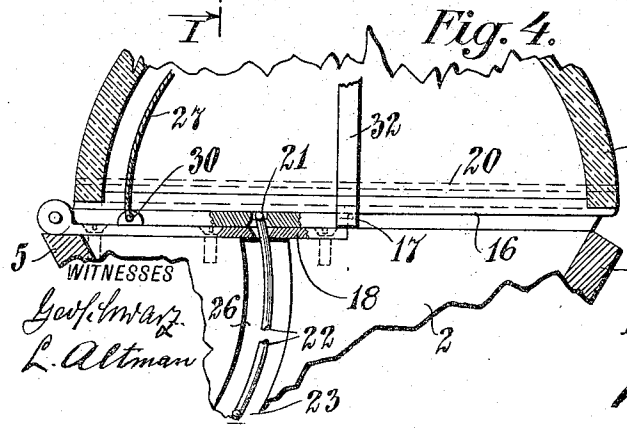
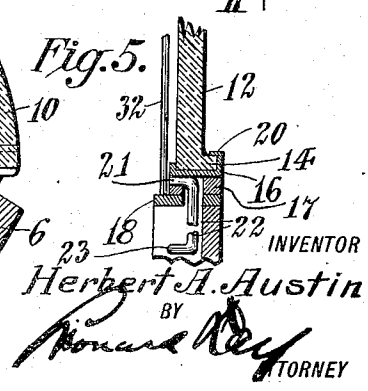


Fig. 5.



WITNESSES

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OPEN-BOTTOM SELLING-CABINET.

1,174,651. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 7, 1916.

Application filed February 15, 1913. Serial No. 748,714.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERBERT AURELIUS AUSTIN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of Boston, county of Suffolk, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Open-Bottom Selling-Cabinets, set forth in the following specification.

This invention relates to cabinets for dispensing articles such as elastic webbing, ribbon, tape and the like, packed in the form of a pan-cake-like coil or reel.

The object of the invention is to provide means for displaying the product on sale in an attractive manner; to protect the same against dust, soot and other causes of damage; to provide for the ready withdrawal of any desired quantity of the tape-like product to be sold; and to make provision for recoiling or taking up in a convenient manner any surplus amount of the product which may have been drawn out inadvertently.

A further object of the invention is to produce a compact, simple, attractive and inexpensive cabinet suitable for containing and dispensing articles of the class described.

The objects of the invention will be apparent from the illustrative embodiment described in the following specification and referred to for illustrative purposes in the accompanying claims, and which is graphically shown in the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this application in which like characters designate corresponding parts, and in which,—

Figure 1 is a cross section looking in the direction of the arrows through line I—I of Fig. 3; Fig. 2 is a cross section looking in the direction of the arrows through line II—II of Fig. 3; Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section in elevation through the cabinet; Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail section with parts broken away adjacent to the inner face of the inner right hand wall as illustrated in Fig. 3; and Fig. 5 is an enlarged detail view with parts broken away showing the hinged structure.

End frames 1 and 2 of any suitable contour provided with supporting feet 3 and 4 are spaced apart a suitable amount to accommodate the number of reels which the cabinet is intended to contain. Joined to these end frames are two inclined downwardly converging string pieces 5 and 6 which form an open bottomed cradle-like structure with the end frames 1 and 2. Any suitable number of compartments of predetermined width to accommodate the size of reel 7 to fit therein are provided in this cradle-like structure by cross partitions 8 between which are formed the partitions 9. The upper edges of the frame pieces 1 and 2 and the upper edge of the string piece 5 are shown terminating in the same horizontal plane, the top edge of the spring piece 5 and the top edges of the end frames 1 and 2 forming a support for the cover 10 which is formed preferably of suitable transparent material such as pressed glass. The cover 10 is semi-cylindrical in contour and has integral vertical end closures 11 and 12, which end closures are provided along their lower edge with outwardly projecting lips 13 and 14 respectively. Metallic binding clips 15 and 16 are shown gripped about the lower edges of the lips of the cover 10 in a manner to interlock with the inner cylindrical wall of the cover. These clips provide convenient means of attachment to the cover for the upper leaf 17 of the hinges 19 and 20. The method of attachment to the clips may be soldering, brazing, riveting or the like. The bottom leaves 18 of the hinges 19 and 20 are attached to the respective end frames 1 and 2 in an obvious manner as by screws. Hinged in a suitable manner as by the outturned end 21 a stop-rod 22 is attached to the upper leaf 17 of each hinge and passes through a suitable opening 18 in each hinge. The lower end of each stop-rod is provided with an offset or stop 23 which limits the opening swing of the hinge to prevent the cover 10 being tilted out farther than is desired. The stop-rods 22 may be pocketed in suitable channels 25 and 26 formed integrally in the end frames 1 and 2. The guide plate 27, preferably formed of sheet metal bent in the form of a quarter cylinder, is supported at the opposite longitudinal ends 29 and 30 of its lower edge upon the end frames 1 and 2 to which it may be secured. In the embodiment shown the sheet metal guide plate 27 is provided with vertical end plates 31 and 32 which bear along the lower edges on the end frames 1 and 2 respectively to complete the support

of this guide plate. The cylindrical surface of this guide plate is concentric with that of the inner surface of the glass cover 10 and is slightly spaced apart therefrom.

The desired number of reels 7 of the tape-like product to be dispensed are mounted within the compartments 9 in a suitable manner capable of being revolved independently of one another as for example in the manner illustrated. It is important however that a considerable extent of the bottom of each reel or coil be exposed at the bottom as shown graphically in Fig. 1, so that the exposed portion may be manually engaged, thus providing for the ready rewinding of the elastic webbing or tape 33. This tape is first passed up over the guide plate 27 by which it is held close to the inner surface of the transparent glass cover 10. In this manner any distorting qualities of the glass is minimized and a glass of a semi-translucent character is found to be suitable when, if the tape were maintained at a greater distance from its inner surface, the same would not be visible. After passing over the guide plate 27 the tape passes out beneath the edge 34 of the cover 10 and over the edge 35 of the string piece 6, which is downwardly spaced a sufficient amount to provide an easy exit slot for the tape. This is unlike the corresponding upper edge of the opposite string piece 5 which is horizontal in the embodiment illustrated and may be provided with a scale or suitable identifying marks for the product contained within the cabinet.

Especial attention is directed to the simple and effective manner in which provision is made for the regulating of any surplus tape which may have been drawn out from the cabinet. The provision of the open bottom illustrated makes it unnecessary to open the protecting cover 10 except in the event of refilling the cabinet. Also attention is particularly called to the guide plate 27 which maintains the tape-like article being dispensed at a uniform distance in close proximity to the inner face of the transparent protecting cover 10 at the side usually presented to the customer. A cabinet of the embodiment illustrated is intended to be placed upon a counter in full view of the customer who can select a size or color of article desired without handling the same and the salesman needs merely to draw out a sufficient length to satisfy the demands of the customer. Any surplus amount may be recoiled by frictional manual engagement with the bottom of the coil through the opening provided. This feature in combination with the means providing for the withdrawing of the elastic merely by pulling out an exposed end and causing the reel of elastic to revolve and unwind is of prime importance.

Although I have shown one specific embodiment of my invention which is preferred, it is to be understood that it is by no means necessary that the protecting cover 10 be semi-cylindrical or that the exact design and general appearance of the cabinet shown herein be persisted in for all embodiments falling within the scope of my invention. The ornamental design embodying essentially a semi-cylindrical transparent cover I claim in my co-pending application for design patent filed on even date herewith.

What is claimed and what is desired to be secured by United States Letters Patent is:—

1. In a dispensing cabinet for reeled fabric, a cradle with downwardly converging sides open at the bottom and adapted to receive a plurality of revoluble reels of narrow fabric; supporting legs for said cradle for sustaining it a limited distance above a supporting surface and maintaining said reels readily manually accessible throughout a limited portion at their bottom edges so as to permit manual engagement with the reels for winding up unwound fabric, an openable and closable cover for said cradle to permit the entrance of said reels and to protect said reels and having a transparent wall to display said fabric; and said parts providing a guiding exit slot for each strip of fabric.

2. In a dispensing cabinet for reeled fabric, a cradle for revolubly supporting one or more reels; a cover for said cradle providing a view of the interior by transparency; a guide under and parallel to a transparent portion of said cover for holding said fabric close to said cover independently of the amount unwound from said reel; and provisions for the exit of each fabric end, whereby a pull on said fabric end will unwind the desired fabric.

3. In a dispensing cabinet for reeled fabric, means for revolubly supporting one or more reels of narrow fabric in parallel planes; a complete inclosure for said reels except a limited exposed portion at the bottom of each to be left downwardly exposed for ready rewinding; a part of said inclosure being a cylindrical transparent wall giving a view of the reeled fabric; and a cylindrical guide wall for fabric, underlying and co-axial with a portion of said cylindrical transparent wall for holding a portion of said fabric under and close to said transparent wall.

4. In a dispensing cabinet for reeled fabric, a cradle provided with a pair of bottom pieces sloping toward each other and spaced apart; a plurality of reels disposed side by side and revolubly mounted between said bottom pieces and extending downwardly therebetween; and means for sup-

porting said cradle at a limited distance above a surface upon which the weight of the dispensing cabinet rests.

5. In a dispensing cabinet for reeled fabrics, a cradle for supporting a plurality of reels; a guard of sheet material having an arcuate form in cross section and journaled at one of its edges adjacent one side of said cradle, the radius of curvature of said guard being slightly greater than the radius of curvature of said reels, so that fabrics may be unwound from said reels and passed across the outer surface of said guard; and a covering member having a transparent portion of arcuate form for covering said cradle and said reels and said guard.

6. In a dispensing cabinet for reeled fabrics, a cradle for supporting a number of revoluble reels; a guard having an arcuate form in cross section, said guard being journaled adjacent one side of said cradle and spaced slightly from said side where thus journaled, so that fabrics unwound from said reels may pass freely between said cradle and thence across the outer surface of said guard; and a cover hinged to said cradle and having a transparent portion of arcuate cross section for protecting and displaying said reels and the fabrics carried thereby.

In witness whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HERBERT A. AUSTIN.

Witnesses:
WM. J. SCHWEIGER,
LEONARD DAY.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."