A. W. LITCHFIELD.

DISPENSING CONTAINER.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 11, 1916.

1,249,141.

Patented Dec. 4, 1917.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

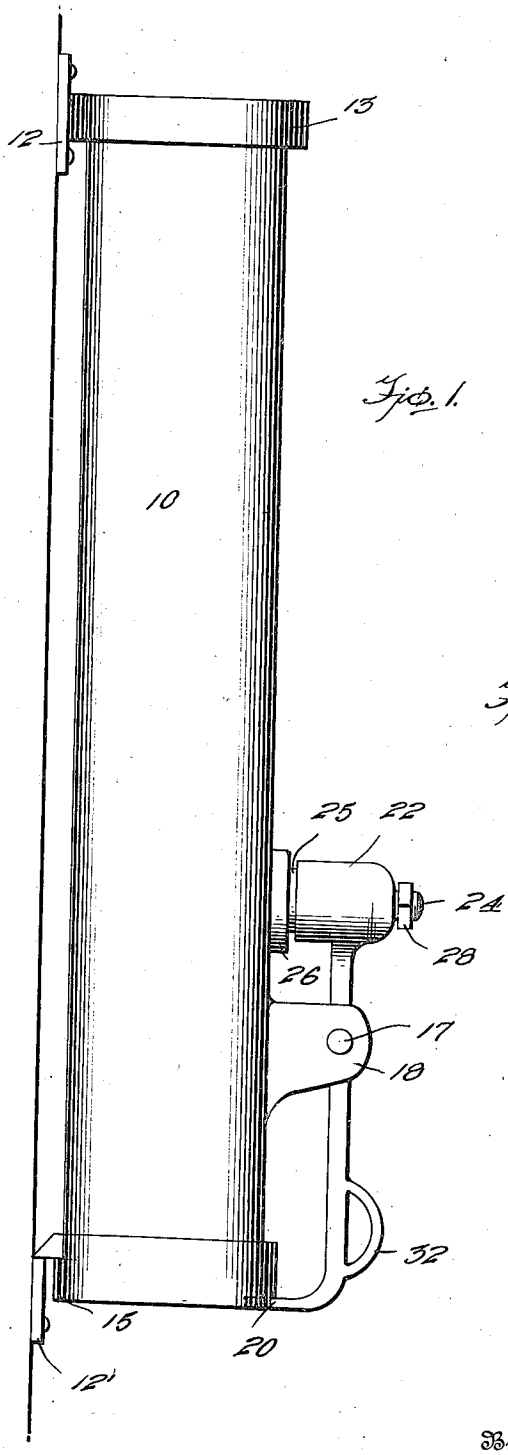


Fig. 1.

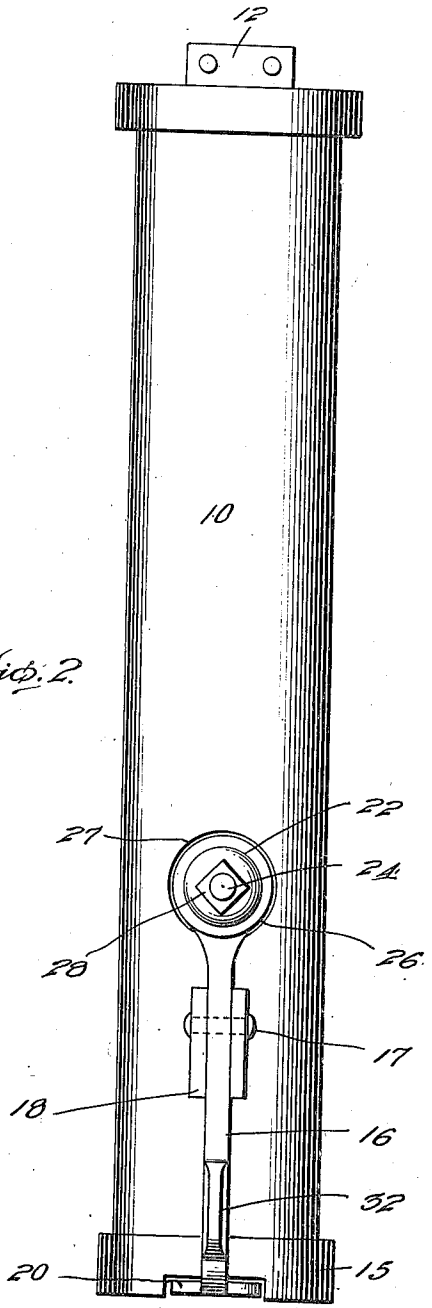


Fig. 2.

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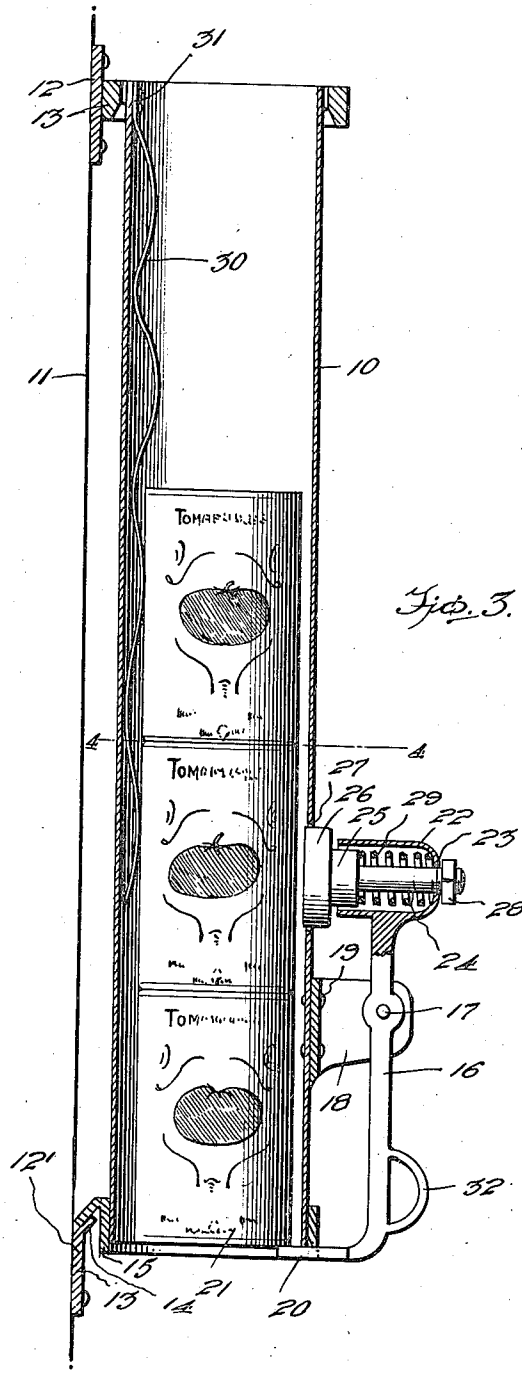


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

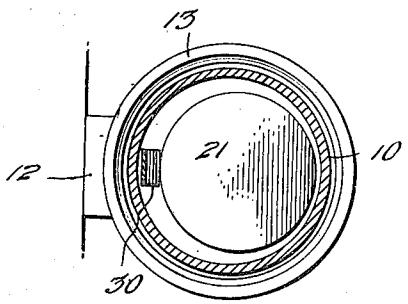
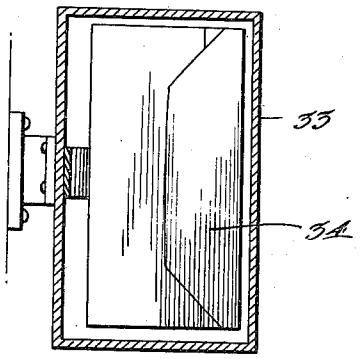


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DISPENSING-CONTAINER.

1,249,141. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 4, 1917.

Application filed December 11, 1916. Serial No. 136,290.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT W. LITCHFIELD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Libertyville, in the county of Lake and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Dispensing-Containers, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to new and useful improvements in dispensing containers, an object of my invention being to provide a novel, strong and durable, and effectively operable dispensing container for cans, boxes and other articles whereby to deliver said articles by gravity singly.

Another object of my invention is to provide a device of the character described which may be cheaply manufactured, may be installed on any vertical partition at any convenient point, may be made to contain articles of various sizes and shapes and contains no complicated or other unreliable operating mechanism.

A further object of my invention is to provide a device of the character described which may be detachably mounted on a wall or partition to provide for filling of the same.

Other objects and advantages not hereinbefore set forth will appear from the following detailed description and the claims, taken with an inspection of the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a dispensing container embodying the improvements of my invention;

Fig. 2 is a front elevational view of the same;

Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view of the same;

Fig. 4 is a transverse section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3; and

Fig. 5 is a similar section of a modified form of the invention.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, wherein similar characters of reference designate like and corresponding parts throughout the various views, 10 designates the body or container of my invention, the same being tubular and preferably cylindrical. Said body is detachably mounted on a vertical partition 11 or the like. A plate 12 is rigidly secured to the upper section of the vertical partition upon which is mounted a collar 13. The lower inner edge of the said collar has a portion thereof removed to form a guiding means for the container 10, when it is desired to insert the same. A plate 12′ is mounted on the lower portion of the vertical partition and provided with a diverging flange 14. A collar 15 is secured to the body of the container, said collar having a tongue formed thereon to engage the flange 14. A portion of the collar is removed forming an opening therein for an obvious purpose.

The dispensing elements comprise a rock arm 16 pivoted as at 17 in a bearing bracket 18, the latter being riveted as at 19 or otherwise secured to the container 10. The lower end of the arm 16 is turned inwardly toward the container and provided with a foot or retaining member 20 engageable beneath the lowermost article within said container, the lower end of the container being open. The articles shown are cylindrical containers 21, the same coming under the head of the usual can goods.

The upper end of the rock arm 16 carries a transversely arranged tubular head 22 having an open inner end and a closed outer end. An aperture 23 is formed in the outer end of the tubular member 22 to accommodate a rod 24, said rod having an enlarged annular portion 25 to form a guide and a head 26, said head being engageable with one of the articles contained in the body 10 through an opening 27. A nut 28 is mounted on the outer free end of the rod 24 to limit the movement inwardly of the same under the action of a spring 29. The spring 29 affords a yielding engagement of the head 26 with the articles.

In order to prevent the articles contained within the body 10 from rattling or otherwise becoming unduly disturbed when removing one of the same I provide a flat spring element 30 disposed vertically within the container 10 and anchored to the upper end of said container as indicated at 31. The spring 30 is provided with sinuosities so that the same normally frictionally engages all of the articles contained within the body 10 serving to guide the articles downwardly through the container. A handle 32 is provided on the arm 16 so that said arm may be actuated.

In the form of the invention shown in Fig. 5, I have illustrated a carton holder or container designated 33 the same being rectangular in configuration to contain similarly shaped articles 34, such as cartons and

the like. The dispensing structure and means for mounting the container are identical with that hereinbefore described.

When it is desired to remove one of the articles from the container 10 the handle 32 is grasped and the arm 16 moved outwardly, the foot portion 20 thereof being removed from beneath the lowermost article permitting the same to drop by gravity from said container. Simultaneously with the outward movement of the lower end of the arm 16 the head 26 is caused to yieldably engage the next article above that being extracted, thereby retaining the remaining articles within the container during the dispensing of one of the same. I desire to lay particular stress upon the extreme simplicity of my improved dispensing container and specifically with relation to the yieldable retaining element embodied in the member 26 and the spring 30. It will be apparent that the articles of my invention may be made of transparent material if desired, both for advertising purposes and for sanitary reasons. The container body may be made any length desired to contain any number of articles. If desired or found necessary the foot member 20 may be lengthened so as to more firmly engage the lowermost article contained within said body.

From the above description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, it is thought that a clear and comprehensive understanding of the construction, operation and advantages of my invention may be had, and while I have shown and described the device as embodying a specific structure, I desire that it be understood that such changes may be made in said structure as do not depart from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. In a dispensing container, the combination of a tubular body having open ends, said body to be mounted in a vertical position, a rock arm pivoted externally of said body and having a foot portion to engage beneath the lower open end thereof, the upper end of said rock arm having a tubular enlargement thereon, a head member yieldably mounted in said enlargement, said body having an opening therein through which said head is to pass, whereby when said foot member is moved out of the path of the lowermost article to permit dispensing of the same, said head engages the next article to prevent movement of the same.

2. In a dispensing device of the class described, a tubular body having open ends, a rock arm pivoted externally of the body adjacent the lower end and having a foot portion to engage beneath the open end of said body, said foot being adapted to support the lowermost article contained in said body, a tubular enlargement on the upper end of said lever, a rod operable in said enlargement, said rod having a head on one end thereof, spring means to maintain said head in a predetermined position, said body having an opening therein through which said head is adapted to engage, means for demountably supporting said body on a vertical partition or the like, said head being adapted to engage an article next to the lowest article when the latter is being removed.

3. In a dispensing device of the class described, a tubular body having open ends, a rock arm pivoted externally of the body adjacent the lower end and having a foot portion to engage beneath the open end of said body, said foot being adapted to support the lowermost article contained in said body, a tubular enlargement on the upper end of said lever, a rod operable in said enlargement, said rod having a head on one end thereof, spring means to maintain said head in a predetermined position, said body having an opening therein through which said head is adapted to engage, means for demountably supporting said body on a vertical partition or the like, and a spring member arranged longitudinally in said body and provided with sinuosities whereby to engage and frictionally retain the articles against accidental displacement.

4. In a dispensing device of the class described, a tubular body having open ends, a rock arm pivoted externally of the said body adjacent the lower end and having a foot portion to engage beneath the open end of said body, said foot being adapted to support the lowermost article contained in said body, a tubular enlargement on the upper end of said lever, a rod operable in said enlargement, said rod having a head on one end thereof, spring means to retain said head in a predetermined position, said body having an opening therein through which said head is adapted to engage, a collar secured to said body having a tongue formed thereon, a plate secured to said partition and provided with a flange to receive the said tongue, a second collar having a portion of the lower edge removed to form a guiding means for the body, and the said second mentioned collar being rigidly secured to the vertical partition.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature hereto.

ALBERT W. LITCHFIELD.