

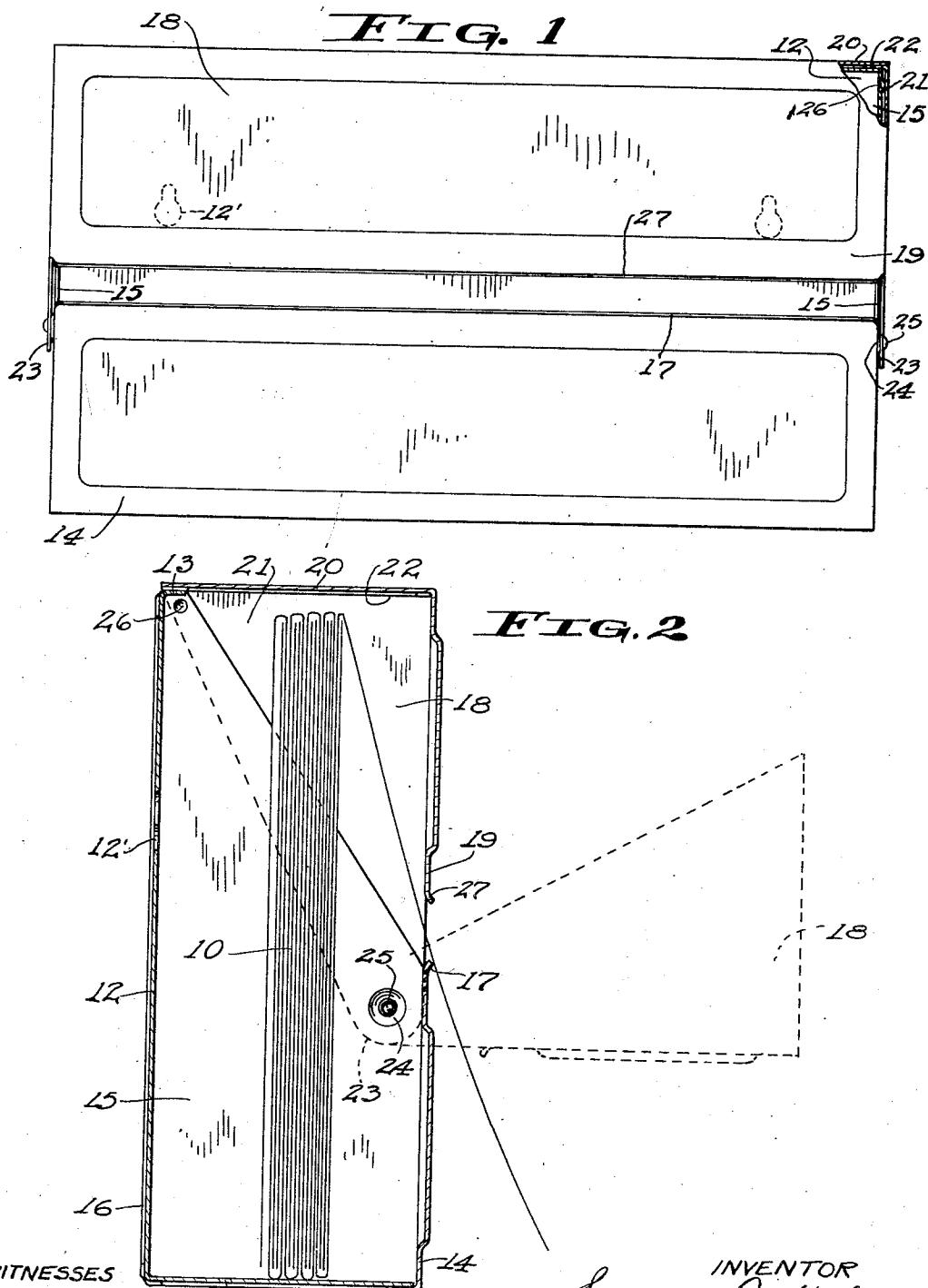
April 5, 1932.

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1,852,848

SHEET DISPENSING CABINET

Filed Oct. 23, 1930



WITNESSES

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SHEET DISPENSING CABINET

Application filed October 23, 1930. Serial No. 490,618.

The invention relates to dispensing cabinets for interfolded sheets, such as paper towels, and more particularly to cabinets adapted for household use and of the type in which a dispensing slot is formed in an intermediate portion of the front wall of the cabinet to receive therethrough the foremost sheet of a pack of sheets resting on edge on the bottom wall of the cabinet.

An object of the invention is to provide a simple and inexpensive dispensing cabinet of this general type in which the upper edge of the dispensing slot is defined by a pivotally mounted cover forming the top wall of the cabinet and the upper portion of the front wall, the lower portions of the cover being pivotally secured to the opposite end walls of the cabinet container or casing adjacent the opposite ends of the slot and below the slot-forming edge of the cover.

Another object of the invention is to so locate the pivotal connections of the cover as to permit the use of inexpensive and easily applied pivot members and minimize the displacing forces on the cover by the withdrawal of the sheets through the dispensing slot in the front wall of the cabinet.

A further object of the invention is to perfect details of construction generally to the end of obtaining manufacturing economies.

The invention further consists in the several features hereinafter set forth and more particularly defined by the annexed claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a sheet dispensing cabinet embodying the invention, parts being broken away and parts being shown in section, and

Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional elevation of the cabinet, an outer position of the pivotally mounted cover being shown in dotted lines.

In these drawings, the cabinet is shown to consist of a rectangular box-like container or casing for holding therein a pack of interfolded paper towels 10, or the like. A plate of sheet metal is bent to form a bottom wall 11 and back wall 12, and a forwardly projecting flange 13 at the upper edge of the

back wall. The back wall 12 is provided with keyhole slots 12', or other suitable apertures for the reception of screws by which the cabinet may be secured to a room wall. Another plate of sheet metal is bent to form a front wall 14, opposite end walls 15, and a number of marginal flanges 16 which are secured, as by spot welding, to the rear face of the back wall 12 and the bottom face of the bottom wall 11. The front wall 14 may be suitably embossed for re-enforcing and ornamental purposes and has its horizontal upper edge curved outwardly to form a smoothly rounded lip 17 at an intermediate part of the cabinet. The upper edge of each end wall 15 is inclined, as seen in Fig. 2.

A third plate of sheet metal is bent to form a cover 18, which includes a front wall 19, a top wall 20, and triangular opposite end walls 21, the upper edges of the end walls being provided with inturned flanges 22 which are secured, as by spot welding, to the top wall 20. The end walls 21 of the cover overlie the end walls 15 of the container and are provided at their lower and forward ends with ears 23 extending below the lip 17 and abutting against embossments 24 formed in the end walls 15. The cover is pivotally mounted to the container by tubular rivets 25 extending through the embossments 24 and the ears 23, the inner heads of the rivets being disposed within the embossments. When the cover is in closed position, rear portions of the top wall 20 rest on the flange 13 of the back wall 12, and the opposite end walls 21 of the cover frictionally engage small embossments 26 formed in the upper rear portions of the container end walls 15.

The front wall 19 of the cover is embossed for re-enforcing and ornamental purposes and has its horizontal lower edge curved outwardly to form a smoothly rounded lip 27, which, in the closed position of the cover, is spaced upwardly from the similar lip 17 formed on the front wall 14 of the container to present between them a horizontally extending slot receiving therethrough the foremost paper towel, as seen in Fig. 2.

When the cabinet is to be loaded, the cover

is swung forwardly about its pivotal connections 25 to the dotted line position seen in Fig. 2 to permit the introduction of a pack of interfolded paper towels, the foremost towel having its forward leaf disposed to lie outside the lower lip 17 and through the space between the front wall 14 and the forwardly spaced lip 27 of the open cover. The pack of interfolded paper towels rests on the folded edges on the bottom wall of the cabinet with the upper edges extending above the front wall of the container where they may remain grasped in the hand until properly positioned, thus giving complete control thereof to avoid disarrangement however large or small the pack may be. The cover is then swung to its closed position to form the dispensing slot, which then has the first towel protruding therethrough. The towels 20 are then withdrawn successively through the slot in the usual manner. During the withdrawal of the towels, there is little tendency to displace the cover, since the dispensing slot is relatively close to the pivotal axis of 25 the cover, and only a light frictional contact with the embossments 26 is required for retaining the cover in closed position. The location of the pivotal axis for the cover also permits the use of inexpensive and easily applied tubular rivets for the pivotal connections, instead of the considerably more costly pin hinges commonly employed in cabinets of this general type. The end walls 21 of the cover are spaced from the end walls 15 of the 30 container by the embossments 24 and 26, thus minimizing marring of the exterior finish of the cabinet by the opening and closing of the cover.

In the event that a protruding paper towel 45 should become torn off close to the slot, it is only necessary to swing open the cover and place the next towel in position to pass through the slot when the cover is again closed.

The outward and downward opening of the cover provides free access to the cabinet from above and from in front, so that a thick pack 50 of interfolded towels can be easily placed in the cabinet without requiring the cover to be held by hand in the open position, and without danger of curling or doubling of the pack into an improper position. The stiffening flange 13 formed at the upper portion of the back wall is relatively narrow so that it causes no interference when loading the cabinet. Simultaneously with the placement of the pack of towels into the cabinet, the foremost sheet of the pack is easily passed 55 downwardly through the space or gap formed between the lower front wall of the cabinet and the forwardly spaced lip 27 of the open cover, thus placing the foremost sheet in dispensing position when the cover is swung to 60 its closed position.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A dispensing cabinet for sheets such as paper towels and the like, comprising a box-like container including opposite end walls 70 and a front wall which latter wall has an upper edge disposed at an intermediate elevation with respect to the height of the container, a cover including a top wall and a depending front wall which latter wall forms a 75 continuation of the container front wall, the lower edge of said cover front wall being spaced upwardly from the upper edge of said container front wall to form a horizontally extending dispensing slot therebetween 80 at an intermediate point in the front wall of the cabinet, said cover having end portions lapping the end walls of said container, and aligned pivot members securing together the lapping portions of said cover and container 85 and spaced below the lower edge of said cover front wall, said cover when swung open having its front wall spaced forwardly from said container front wall to form therebetween a gap adapted to receive therethrough 90 from above the foremost sheet of a pack of interfolded sheets placed in the container and projecting above the front wall of the container, whereby when the cover is swung to its closed slot-forming position said foremost sheet will protrude through the slot in dispensing position.

2. A dispensing cabinet for sheets such as paper towels and the like, comprising a box-like container including opposite end walls 100 and a front wall which latter wall has an upper edge disposed at an intermediate elevation with respect to the height of the container, a cover including a top wall and a depending front wall which latter wall forms a 105 continuation of the container front wall, the lower edge of said cover front wall being spaced upwardly from the upper edge of said container front wall to form a horizontally extending dispensing slot therebetween 110 at an intermediate point in the front wall of the cabinet, said cover having depending ears at its forward portions overlying the opposite end walls of said container, and aligned pivot members securing said depending 115 cover ears to the opposite end walls of said container and spaced below the lower edge of said cover front wall, said cover when swung open having its front wall spaced forwardly from said container front wall to form therebetween a gap adapted to receive therethrough 120 from above the foremost sheet of a pack of interfolded sheets placed in the container and projecting above the front wall of the container, whereby when the cover is swung to its closed slot-forming position said foremost sheet will protrude through the slot in dispensing position.

3. A dispensing cabinet for sheets such as paper towels and the like, comprising a box- 130

like container including a pair of sheet metal pieces one of which integrally forms the bottom and back walls of the container and the other of which integrally forms the front and opposite end walls of the container, a sheet metal piece integrally forming a top wall and depending front wall and opposite end walls of a cover, the front wall of said container being disposed at an intermediate elevation with respect to the height of the container and the depending front wall of said cover forming a continuation of said container front wall, the lower edge of said cover front wall being spaced upwardly from the upper edge of said container front wall to form a horizontally extending dispensing slot therebetween at an intermediate point in the front wall of the cabinet, and means for pivotally securing the end walls of said cover to the end walls of said container below the lower edge of said cover front wall, said cover when swung open having its front wall spaced forwardly from said container front wall to form therebetween a gap for receiving therethrough from above the foremost sheet of a pack of interfolded sheets placed in said container.

4. A dispensing cabinet for sheets such as paper towels and the like, comprising a box-like container including opposite end walls and a front wall, which latter wall has its upper edge disposed at an intermediate elevation with respect to the height of the container, a cover including a top wall and a depending front wall which latter wall forms a continuation of said container front wall, said front walls of the container and cover having their proximate edges spaced to form a horizontally extending dispensing slot therebetween at an intermediate point in the front wall of the cabinet, said cover including end portions overlying the container end walls, the container end walls having integral embossments engaging the inner faces of the cover end portions, and aligned pivot members securing said cover end portions to said embossments, said cover when swung open having its front wall spaced forwardly from said container front wall to form therebetween a gap for receiving therethrough from above the foremost sheet of a pack of interfolded sheets placed in said container.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature.
SAMUEL N. HOPE.