Feb. 4, 1930. W. I. SHERWOOD 1,745,771

DISPENSING SUPPORT FOR ROLL PAPER

Filed Oct. 3, 1925

Fig. 1.

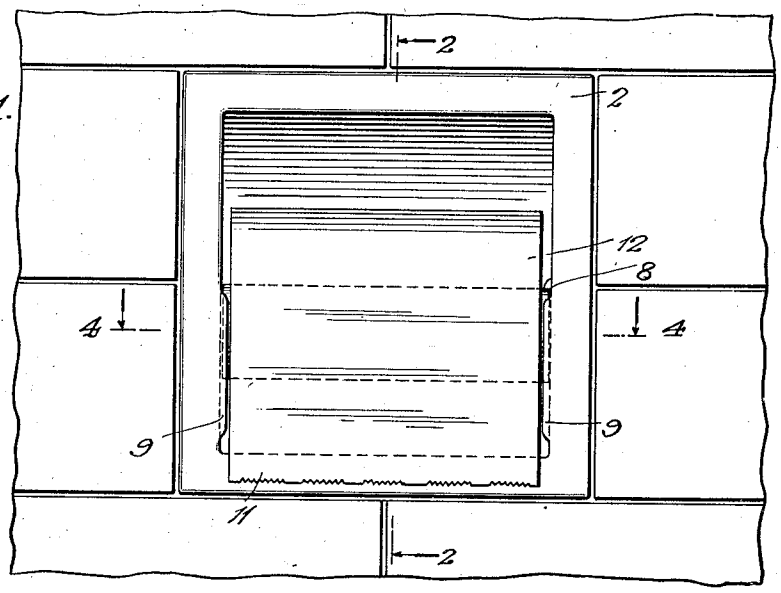


Fig. 4.

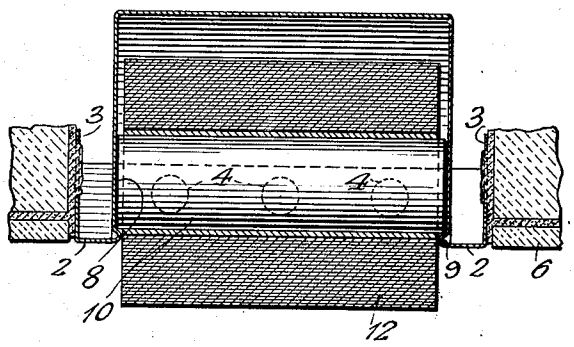


Fig. 3.

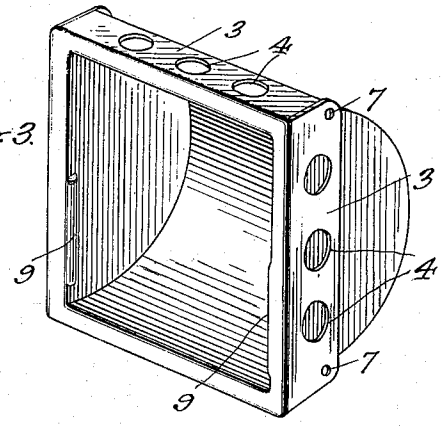
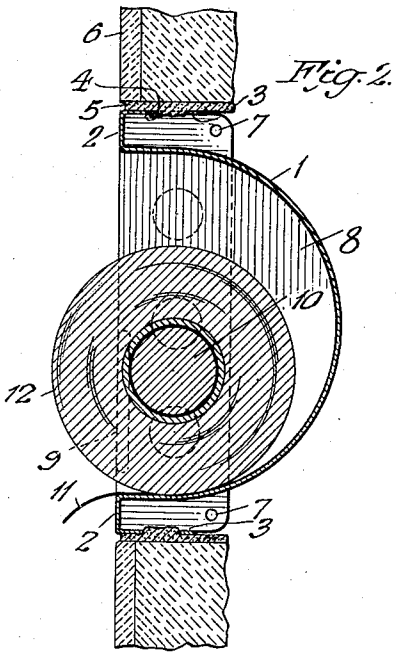


Fig. 2.



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DISPENSING SUPPORT FOR ROLL PAPER

Application filed October 3, 1925. Serial No. 60,189.

This invention relates to dispensing holders for roll paper, and is particularly applicable to the type which is mounted within or countersunk substantially flush into the wall of a bathroom for dispensing toilet paper.

In prior dispensing devices for supporting a roll of toilet paper, the roll was freely rotatable and when the free end of the strip of paper was pulled outwardly such as by jerks, considerably more than the desired amount of paper frequently unwound. In tearing off a desired length of the paper, it was usually necessary to hold the roll with one hand while the unwound strip of the roll was torn off, and the line of tearing was usually irregular and often through the central part of a sheet. The replacement of new rolls was also not a simple operation.

An object of this invention is to provide an improved dispensing support for a roll of paper, with which unintentional unwinding of the paper strip will be prevented; with which a roll will always be held sufficiently firm to enable the tearing off of any desired length of the strip; with which an unwound length may be torn straight across at a definite point with a comparatively smooth straight tear; with which a new roll may be mounted in the holder in a simple manner, by a simple operation, and in a minimum length of time, without tools or special skill; with which the manner of inserting a new roll will be obvious regardless of whether or not a person is familiar with the fixture; and which will be relatively simple, convenient, and inexpensive.

A further object is to provide an improved dispensing support for a roll of paper which will accomplish each and all of the above objects; which may be set or countersunk into a wall of a room so that the open face thereof will be substantially flush with the wall of the room; and which may be effectively locked therein in a simple manner.

Various other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description of an embodiment of the invention, and the novel features will be particularly pointed out hereinafter in connection with the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawing:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a portion of a tiled wall of a bathroom, having a dispensing fixture for toilet paper countersunk flush therein and constructed in accordance with this invention;

Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional elevation through the same, with the section taken substantially along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a perspective of the shell of the holder, removed from the wall; and

Fig. 4 is a sectional plan of the fixture and wall, the section being taken approximately along the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

In the illustrated embodiment of the invention, an approximately semi-cylindrical shell 1 of sheet metal is provided around the edge of its open face with a short border wall 2, which is within the plane of the open face of the shell, the edges of the shell then being turned or flanged backwardly, as at 3, in spaced relation to the shell wall so as to constitute flanges by which the shell may be mounted within a wall of a room. The flanges 3 may have apertures 4 provided therein at spaced points, so that when the shell is set into or countersunk flush with the wall as shown in the drawing, the cement or plaster 5 surrounding the shell may enter the apertures and lock the shell against removal from the opening in the wall.

When the holder is mounted in the wall of a room which has a tiled surface, the front wall 2 of the shell will be disposed flush with the outer faces of the tiles 6, and the cement, which is used to set the tiles and to fill the crevices or spaces between the shell and the wall opening, may flow into the apertures 4 of the flanges 3 to some extent and anchor the shell against removal forwardly from the holder. If desired, however, the flanges 3 may also be provided with small apertures 7 at their ends, through which screws (not shown) may be passed into a frame defining the opening in the wall. Thus, if the fixture is mounted in the wall before the tiling is set, it may be secured in position by screws passing through the openings 7 in the flanges 3,

and at a later time the tiles 6 set and the space between the flanges 3 and the edge of the wall opening closed by cement.

The fixture preferably has external dimensions approximately equal to the dimensions of tiles or multiples thereof, so that it may be set into an opening without necessitating the cutting of the usual tiles employed. For example, the fixture may be substantially square, with each dimension of its face periphery approximately equal to double the width of the tiles usually employed, as shown in Fig. 1. That is, its face area is approximately equal to the face area of two tiles.

The flat end walls 8 of the shell 1 are provided along their forward edge with ledges or flanges 9 which extend upwardly from adjacent the lower edge of the shell preferably to a point about midway of the height of the shell. These flanges or ledges may be conveniently, and preferably are, provided by drawing or forcing the metal of the end walls into the open space of the shell to provide integral ribs. The inner vertical edge of each flange or rib will serve as an abutment surface for confining a core 10 within the shell.

The core 10, which supports the roll of paper to be dispensed, may be a simple cylindrical block of suitable material and of such a length as to fit nicely between the end walls of the shell, and be freely movable vertically therein. This core or roller 10 should also be slightly longer than the length of the roll of paper to be supported, so that when a roll of paper is mounted on said roller or core and inserted within the shell, the paper roll will clear the ribs 9. The roll or core 10 is free to move vertically within the shell 6, but is held against forward movement out of the shell by the engagement of its ends with the ribs 9. Sufficient space is left between the upper ends of the ribs 9 and the upper edge of the shell to permit of the insertion of a paper roll and its core 10 through the upper part of the open face of the shell, and when a roll thus inserted is released, it will fall by gravity into the position shown in the drawing and be held against falling out forwardly by the ribs 9.

The paper roll is preferably inserted with the free end of the strip of which it is formed passing under the roll body in leaving the shell, as shown in Fig. 2 where the free or unwound end 11 of the roll 12 is shown as extending outwardly from the shell. The corner edge along the lower border of the open face of the shell, that is, at the juncture of the inwardly extending wall of the shell with the lower stretch of the wall 2, is preferably somewhat sharp or angular, so as to serve as a tearing edge for the unwound end 11 of the paper constituting the roll. The shell may be coated upon all exposed faces or surfaces with a suitable enamel or given any desired finish.

In the use of such a fixture for a paper support, the shell is disposed in an opening in the room wall in the manner described and illustrated, with the front face formed by the walls 2 flush with the face of the wall or of the tiles 6. To mount a roll of paper in the fixture the core or roller 10 is removed from the shell by moving it upwardly above the upper ends of the ribs 9 and then outwardly. The core may then be inserted through the core opening of a paper roll 12, and the paper roll and core together inserted into the shell 1 through the upper part of the open face thereof, during which insertion the ends of the core or roller 10 pass above and then downwardly behind the ribs 9.

The paper roll should be so inserted that the free end of the paper strip constituting it should pass downwardly under the roll in leaving the open face of the casing as shown in Fig. 2. Since the paper roll 12 thus inserted into the fixture is free to move vertically, its weight and that of the core 10 will always cause the roll to bear upon the free end 11 of the paper strip being unwound and frictionally hold it against unwinding. The free unwound end in passing over the corner at the forward edge of the shell may be pressed thereagainst and torn along the same, the edge serving as an abutment which facilitates the tearing along straight lines, and the weight of the roll of paper and its core serving to hold the roll against unwinding during the tearing operation.

Thus, it will be seen that a person may with one hand draw out a desired length of paper and then with certainty tear it with a straight tear along a definite, desired line, and without the necessity of holding the roll of paper with the other hand. The resistance to withdrawal of the paper strip which is afforded by the weight of the paper roll and its core also serves to prevent the pulling out unintentionally of a longer strip of paper than is desired such as might occur by the inertia of the moving roll when a strong jerk is applied to the free unwound end.

To remove the paper roll, or to remove the core when the paper has been exhausted, it is merely necessary to elevate the core, or the core and roll, upwardly into the upper part of the shell, and then pull it forwardly through the open face, an operation obvious to every one and requiring no instruction. The shell may be formed of a single piece of sheet metal by the usual metal stamping and drawing processes, so that its cost is relatively small.

When the shell is formed of sheet metal and given a coating of white vitreous enamel, the edges of the flanges will appear dark and unless turned backwardly would be visible when the shell was mounted in a white tile wall.

It will be obvious that various changes in the details, which have been herein described

and illustrated for the purpose of explaining the nature of the invention, may be made by those skilled in the art within the principle and scope of the invention as expressed in the appended claim.

I claim:—

In a roll holder, a hollow body of semi-cylindrical form arranged with its axis extending horizontally and with its internal surface sloping in a forward and downward direction and terminating in a horizontal tearing edge, the forward edges of the side walls being in the same vertical plane as said tearing edge, and flanges extending inward from the forward edges of said side walls, the upper ends of said flanges being adjacent the centers of said side wall edges and the lower ends of said flanges adjacent said tearing edge, whereby a rolled strip provided with a core of suitable length may be inserted within said body and be retained by gravity with the core ends in abutment against said flanges and the free end of the rolled strip adjacent said tearing edge.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my signature.

WILL I. SHERWOOD.