

July 26, 1949.

P. A. AVELLI
BOBBY PIN DISPENSER

2,477,034

Filed July 8, 1947

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

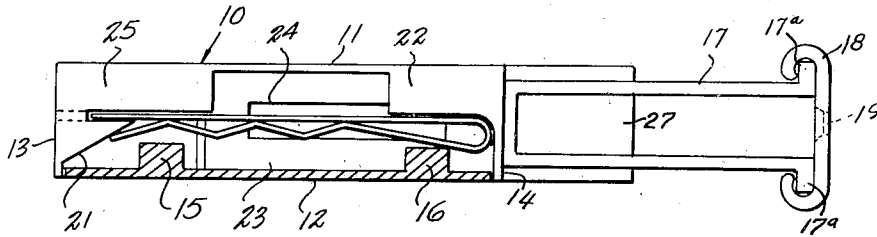


FIG. 2.

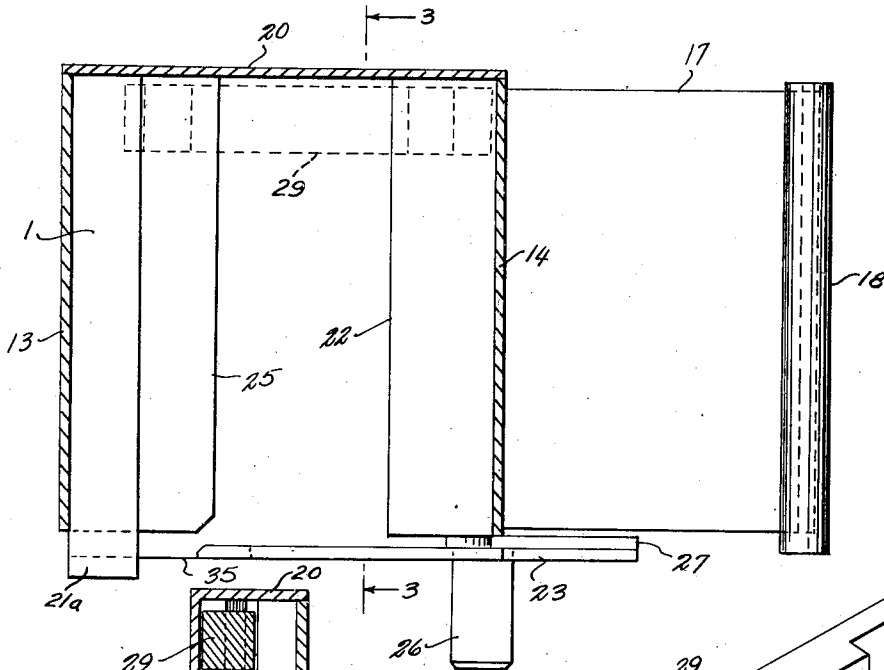


FIG. 3.

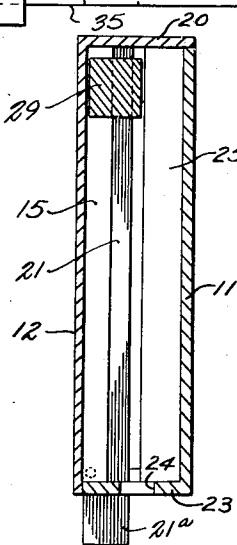
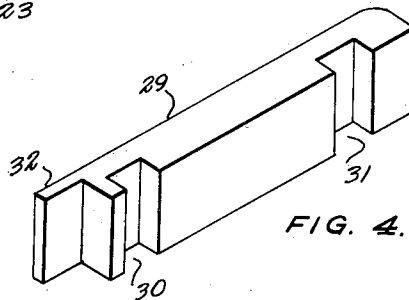


FIG. 4.



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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

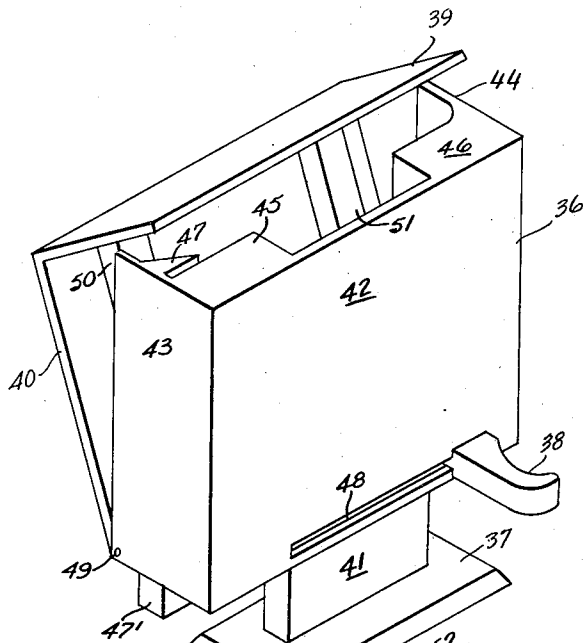


FIG. 5.

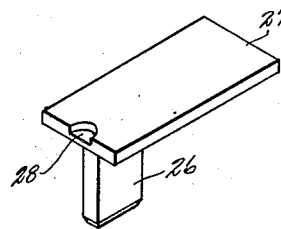


FIG. 6.

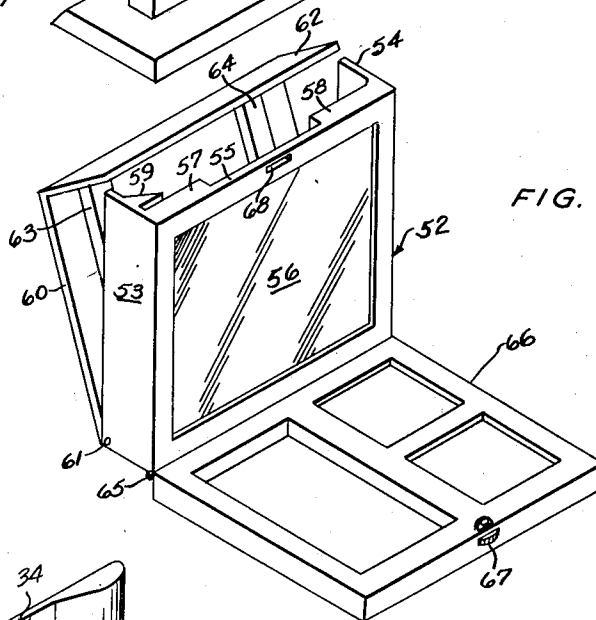


FIG. 7.

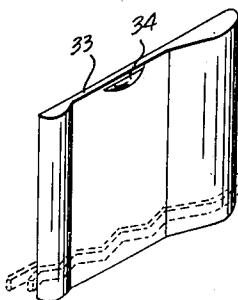


FIG. 8.

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BOBBY PIN DISPENSER

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Application July 8, 1947, Serial No. 759,511

4 Claims. (Cl. 132-1)

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This invention relates to a packaging and dispensing device, and is particularly directed to the packaging and dispensing of bobby-type hairpins.

An object of the present invention is to provide a simple but effective holder for bobby pins that will permit a person, by the use of only one hand, to obtain a bobby pin in its opened position while the other hand is readying the hair for engaging the bobby pin thereto.

A further object is to provide a clean and sanitary holder for as many as forty or fifty bobby pins when not in use, and one that can be refilled without difficulty.

A still further object is to provide a dispenser which permits dispensing of bobby pins, one at a time, by operating a slide without jamming, etc., that is common among such automatic dispensers.

Other objects and advantages of my invention will be apparent from the detailed description and the drawings, wherein like references are made to designate like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of an embodiment of my invention with the cover and follower removed and a part broken away in order to disclose detail and show the normal position of the bobby pins.

Figure 2 is a side elevational view of my invention as seen from the under side in Figure 1, being partly in vertical section, with the side wall through which the bobby pins are loaded in the device disposed in its opened position.

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken along line 3-3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the weight normally mounted within the dispenser on the stack of bobby pins.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the pusher slide.

Figure 6 is a perspective view in elevation of a modified embodiment of the present invention.

Figure 7 is a still further modification of the present invention.

Figure 8 shows a special type package for maintaining the bobby pins prior to their being inserted into any of the dispensing devices shown herein.

As everyone knows, bobby pins are universally used by women for holding the hair in place, and as the adjustment of the hair into presentable condition is always a problem, it has occurred to me that the purposes of time saving and convenience may be served by having a special dispenser

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at hand for dispensing individual bobby pins so that it will not be necessary to pick these pins up from an irregular heap or to extricate them from a jumbled pile in a container. As a result, I have succeeded in producing a bobby pin dispenser for dispensing bobby pins one at a time whenever desired, as will now be set forth more fully.

Hence, in the practice of my invention, and referring again to the drawings, a magazine-type bobby pin dispenser, generally indicated at 10, primarily includes a rear wall 11, a pair of opposite end walls 13 and 14 secured thereto and extending forwardly therefrom, and a front wall 12 which may either be hinged between the end walls 13 and 14, or removable altogether when the dispenser is to be loaded with a stack of bobby pins. The U-shaped yoke 17 is secured to the end wall 14 with the arms or two opposite portions thereof terminating in a pair of oppositely-extending flanges 17a, 17a. In order to support the dispenser on a wall or the like, a wall bracket 18, which virtually forms a channel with the side edges turned inwardly, has a plurality of apertures 19 through which screws may be inserted in order to secure the same to the wall in a position to support the dispenser in convenient dispensing position.

Inasmuch as the invention does not reside in the U-shaped bracket slide or support 17, the latter may assume various forms, so long as it serves to secure the dispenser to the wall bracket 18.

To the rear wall 11 are integrally secured a pair of guide blocks 22 and 25, which extend vertically and are parallel, these blocks being spaced apart and rigid with the end walls. At the junction of guide block 22 with wall 14, the block is formed with a rounded junction to accommodate the rounded heads or ends of the bobby pins, while to the opposite end wall 13 is secured a slide guide integral with the wall at 21 which is of substantially triangular cross-section and spaced a slight distance from the rear guide block 25 in order to receive between the guide block 25 and said triangular slide guide the end or toe of the straight leg of a bobby pin substantially as apparent in Figure 1. The other or diverging end or toe of the bobby pin which is shorter than the straight leg normally fits exteriorly of the triangular slide guide so that the bobby pins may be received between the end walls 13 and 14 with the straight leg or portion slidably located against the blocks 22 and 25 and the acute angle of the triangular slide guide 21 projecting between the two toes or ends of the bobby pins. In order to

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cooperate with the guide blocks and slide guide just described, the removable or hinged front wall 12 is provided with a pair of inwardly-projecting guide ribs 15 and 16 which are spaced apart and spaced a small distance from the relatively adjacent guide block 25 or 22, respectively, to accommodate the bobby pins between said guide ribs and said guide blocks so that the bobby pins may be held in the dispenser in a stack, one above the other.

A base or bottom 23 is secured to the rear wall 12 and extends forwardly to the front wall 11, while also extending from beneath the end wall 14 the major portion of the distance between the latter wall and the end wall 13, terminating substantially beneath the inner end of the guide block 25 in order to provide a space 35 for dispensing the bobby pins individually. Externally of the end wall 14 the base 23 extends substantially half the distance from this wall to the wall bracket 18 for a purpose which will immediately be explained. In the base or bottom 23 is a longitudinal slot 24 which terminates outwardly beneath the end wall 14 and at the other end a short distance from the inner end of the base or bottom beneath the intermediate portion of the dispenser. Upon the base 23 is slidably mounted a slidable pusher 27 which, as best seen in Figure 5, has an end notch 28 normally so located as to receive the rounded end or head portion of the lowest bobby pin in the stack or series within the dispenser, while rigidly depending from the pusher 27 is a finger piece or handle 26 through slot 24 in base 23, in such position that this handle 26 may be pushed along the slot toward guide block 25 and end wall 13 in order to push the lowest bobby pin from the stack toward end wall 13 and opening 35 in the bottom. To facilitate proper operation of the dispenser, a ballasting stack weight 29 (Figures 2, 3 and 4) is adapted to lie directly on top of the uppermost bobby pin in the stack within the dispenser, this weight member having a pair of slots 30, 31 spaced apart and cooperating with the vertical guide ribs 15 and 16 on the front wall 12, while the longitudinal extension 32 thereof extends a short distance between the two guide members 21 and 25 with the head portion or end of the lowest bobby pin engaging in the end notch 28 of the slidable pusher 27 in operative position for dispensing.

The arrangement is such that when the dispenser thus far described is to be loaded with bobby pins, a package guide member or core, best seen in Figure 8 at 33, having a finger depression 34 is placed in vertical position and the bobby pins then threaded or mounted on the same by sliding them downwardly upon said member 33 until a series or stack of bobby pins substantially envelops this member along the major portion of its height. The package member 33 with its mounted stack of bobby pins is then slid into place within the dispenser, while the front wall 12 is either removed or swung aside to allow access to the interior of the dispenser. Thereafter, while one hand is used to retain the bobby pins in place, the fingers of the other hand are used to grasp the package member or core at the notch or depression 34 and the core member pulled upwardly until it is free from the bobby pins and completely extracted from the dispenser, when the stack of pins will be in place. The closing member or wall 12 may then be placed in position between end walls 13 and 14 after having duly loaded the stack with the weight 29

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when the guides 15 and 16 will prevent forward displacement of the bobby pins in the stack or of the weight 29. As a matter of convenience, the dispenser has a cover 20 which normally overlies the entire upper end thereof so as to conceal the guide blocks 22 and 25, as well as the slide guide 21, the rear wall 11 and the end walls 13 and 14, this cover being secured rigidly to the front wall 12 which serves as a closing member therefor in a double sense.

With the bobby pins in position, it is a simple matter to dispense a single pin from the lower end of the dispenser by shifting handle 26 toward the end wall 13 and thereby sliding pusher 27 with it to push the lowest pin in the stack toward end wall 13, when the pin may be grasped through opening 35 and thus removed from the dispenser. It may be noted that the slide guide 21 extends down below the bottom of the dispenser as a downward projection 21a which normally serves as a stop for the bobby pins and facilitates downward dispensing thereof individually by cooperating with opening 35 to tend to direct the prongs or toes of the pin being dispensed and spread sufficiently from bottom 23 to be accessible for removal thereof. On the other hand, it may be noted that the end walls 13 and 14, as well as guide blocks 22, and 25, terminate a short distance above the bottom 23 which is equivalent to the width of a bobby pin when lying flat upon the bottom 23, the slight spacing of these members from the bottom thus providing a clearance space both for the sliding member 27 and for the bobby pin being dispensed. It is thus evident that the operator is able to grasp the dispensed bobby pin with only two fingers of one hand, for example, by means of the thumb and forefinger and simultaneously able to use the other hand in positioning and holding the hair in place to receive the bobby pin. Then the operator naturally grasps the handle 26 and slides the same back to its original operating position by pushing handle 26 to the right, as shown in Figure 2. Obviously, when one pin has been dispensed, the stack weight 29 forces the next bobby pin into dispensing position, so that the device is immediately ready to dispense a further bobby pin when the handle 26 is again used to shift sliding member 27 toward end wall 13, as already described.

While a stack weight 29 has been described as used to ballast the stack within the dispenser, it is obvious that other means may be used within the skill of those familiar with the art, while it is equally true that a return spring may be connected to slidable pusher 27 to restore it into its initial operative position if so desired.

While the form of the invention already described is supported upon a wall bracket 18, modification is shown in Figure 6 wherein the dispenser 36 is mounted upon a base 37 having an upwardly-extending supporting wall 41 directly supporting the dispenser. In this case, the internal structure of the dispenser as a whole is substantially identical with that already described, but in reverse, that is, the wall 42 and end walls 43 and 44 have the integrally-secured guide blocks 45, 46, while the triangularly-shaped slide guide 47 extends inwardly from end wall 43, at the left. It may be mentioned that in this form the bottom is not necessarily slotted inasmuch as slot 48 is provided in wall 42 and the slider or pusher within (not shown) is connected through slot 48 with an exteriorly-accessible handle 38 by which to dispense the pins

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from the device. The closure member formed by wall 40 normally opposite to wall 42 and the cover 39 rigidly fixed to the upper portion of wall 40 is pivotally connected or hinged to the lower corners of the end walls 43 and 44 by means of pivot pins 49 so that when wall 40 is in closed position with respect to the end walls the cover 39 also covers both end walls and the guide members 45, 46 and 47, as well as wall 42. Upon the inner side of wall 40 are the two vertical guide ribs 50 and 51 similar to the previously-described ribs 15 and 16 serving to hold the stack of pins in place within the dispenser, the lower end of the triangular slide guide 47 extending at 47' below the bottom of the dispenser.

In Figure 7 is shown a modification in which the internal structure is substantially as already described in connection with Figures 1 and 6, but in the dispenser generally indicated at 52 the end walls 53 and 54 are secured to the wall 55 which is provided with a mirror 56 upon the outside and upon the inner side with the guide blocks 57 and 58, while the end wall 53 is provided with the triangular slide guide 59. In this form of the invention also the closure member 60 is hinged to the lower corners of the end walls 53 and 54 by pivot pins 61, and is provided with the cover 62 rigidly secured thereto and beneath the latter upon the inner side of wall 60 are fixed vertical guide ribs 63 and 64 serving the same purposes as the previously-described guide ribs 15 and 16. To the lower edge of the wall 55 is hinged at 65 a compact 66 with a latch 67 adapted to engage with the notch 68 in the upper edge of wall 55. This form of the invention is intended to provide a small and compact bobby pin dispenser which has the added convenience of including the mirror and compact so that it will be universally useful and readily carried in a lady's handbag.

The various forms of bobby pin dispensers of the magazine type which have been described may be made of cardboard, wood, metal or plastic, or any material that will serve the purpose.

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

1. A device for dispensing bobby pins including a receptacle forming a magazine for receiving a holder carrying a stack of bobby pins, the receptacle comprising a side wall, a bottom and a pair of end walls secured to the opposite ends of the side walls, the side opposite the latter and the top of the receptacle being open, the open side serving to receive the holder and the open top facilitating upward withdrawal of said holder with the stack of bobby pins remaining in the magazine, a closure for the open side and top, means upon the interior of said side wall and corresponding means upon the interior of the closure cooperating therewith for receiving the bobby pins upon the bottom of the receptacle and retaining and guiding the bobby pins in a vertical stack, said bottom having a pin-exposing and dispensing opening, a manually-operable pusher slidable within said receptacle adjacent to the stack in order to engage the extreme pin at one end of said stack and propel the latter pin to the pin-exposing and dispensing opening, and a spreading means for said pin disposed in the path thereof when propelled to said pin-exposing and dispensing opening and holding the propelled pin in attained position for removal from said receptacle.

2. A device for dispensing bobby pins including

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a receptacle forming a magazine for receiving a holder carrying a stack of bobby pins, the receptacle comprising a side wall, a bottom and a pair of end walls secured to the opposite ends of the side walls, the side opposite the latter and the top of the receptacle being open, the open side serving to receive the holder and the open top facilitating upward withdrawal of said holder with the stack of bobby pins remaining in the magazine, a closure for the open side and top, means upon the interior of said side wall and corresponding means upon the interior of the closure cooperating therewith for receiving the bobby pins upon the bottom of the receptacle and retaining and guiding the bobby pins in a vertical stack, said bottom having a pin-disposing and dispensing opening, a manually-operable pusher slidable within said receptacle adjacent to the stack in order to engage the extreme pin at one end of said stack and propel the latter pin to the pin-exposing and dispensing opening, a spreading means for said pin disposed in the path thereof when propelled to said pin-exposing and dispensing opening and holding the propelled pin in attained position for removal from said receptacle, and means making active contact with the other end of said stack and forcing the stack of bobby pins into effective position for individual propulsion by said pusher.

3. A device for dispensing bobby pins including a receptacle forming a magazine for receiving a holder carrying a stack of bobby pins, the receptacle comprising a side wall, a bottom and a pair of end walls secured to the opposite ends of the side wall, the side opposite the latter and the top of the receptacle being open, the open side serving to receive the holder and the open top facilitating upward withdrawal of said holder with the stack of bobby pins remaining in the magazine, a closure for the open side and top, means upon the interior of said side wall and corresponding means upon the interior of the closure cooperating therewith for receiving the bobby pins upon the bottom of the receptacle and retaining and guiding the bobby pins in a vertical stack, said bottom having a pin-exposing and dispensing opening, a manually-operable pusher slidable within said receptacle adjacent to the stack in order to engage the extreme pin at one end of said stack and propel the latter pin to the pin-exposing and dispensing opening, a spreading means for said pin disposed in the path thereof when propelled to said pin-exposing and dispensing opening and holding the propelled pin in attained position for removal from said receptacle, means making active contact with the other end of said stack and forcing the stack of bobby pins into effective position for individual propulsion by said pusher, and means sustaining said receptacle in a position allowing access to the pin-exposing and dispensing opening.

4. A device for dispensing bobby pins including a receptacle forming a magazine for receiving a holder carrying a stack of bobby pins, the receptacle comprising a side wall, a bottom and a pair of end walls secured to the opposite ends of the side walls, the side opposite the latter and the top of the receptacle being open, the open side serving to receive the holder and the open top facilitating upward withdrawal of said holder with the stack of bobby pins remaining in the magazine, a closure for the open side and top, a pair of vertical guide blocks fixed upon the interior of said wall and a pair of vertical guide ribs spaced apart upon the interior of the closure serving to cooperate with the vertical guide blocks

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for receiving the bobby pins upon the bottom of the receptacle and retaining and guiding the bobby pins in a vertical stack, said bottom having a pin-exposing and dispensing opening, said receptacle having a slot therein, a manually-operable pusher slidable within said receptacle adjacent to the stack in order to engage the extreme pin at one end of said stack and propel the latter pin to the pin-exposing and dispensing opening, a handle upon said pusher extending through the last-mentioned slot into accessible position, a spreading means for said pin disposed in the path thereof when propelled to said pin-exposing and dispensing opening and holding the propelled pin in attained position for removal from said receptacle, a pressure means within the receptacle making active contact with the other end of said stack and forcing the stacked bobby pins into

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effective position for individual propulsion by said pusher, and means sustaining said receptacle in a position allowing access to the pin-exposing and dispensing opening.

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