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A. W. ROSENMAN ET AL

2,579,758

DISPENSING AND DISPOSING TISSUE CONTAINER

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 1

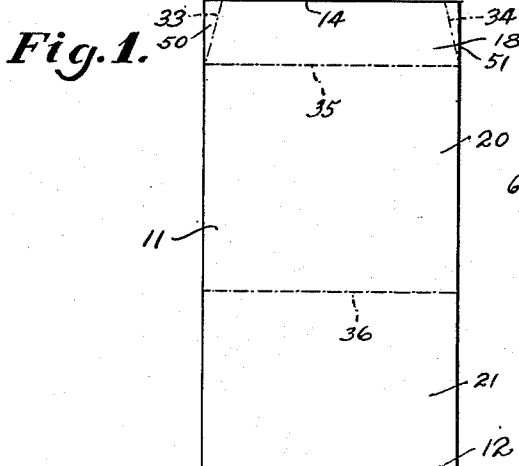


Fig. 8.

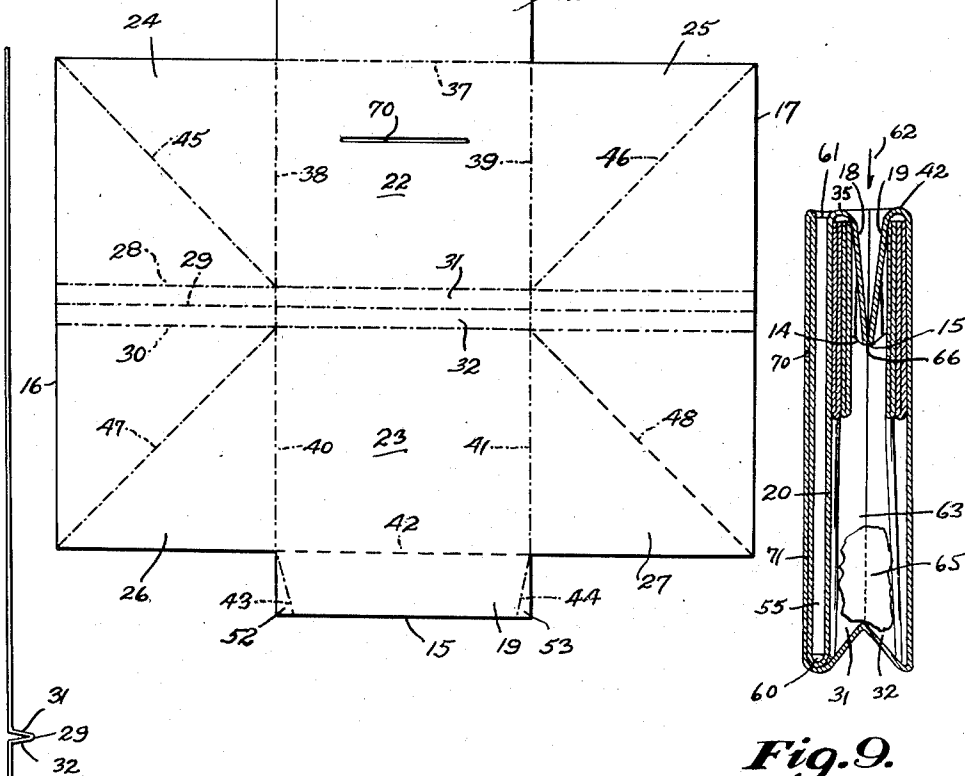
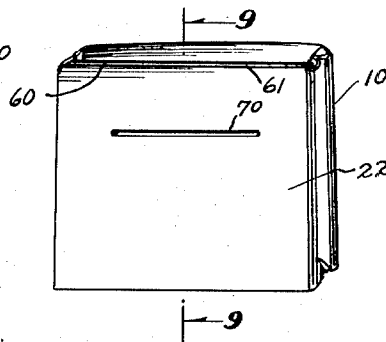


Fig. 9.

Fig. 2.

ABRAHAM W. ROSENMAN
RUDOLPH F. GREISER

BY *Richard S. Tenkes*
ATTORNEY

Dec. 25, 1951

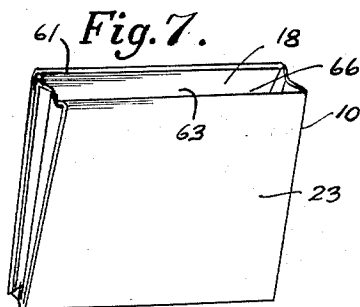
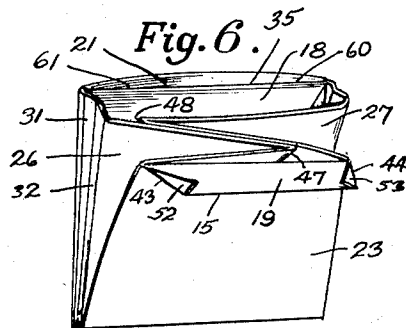
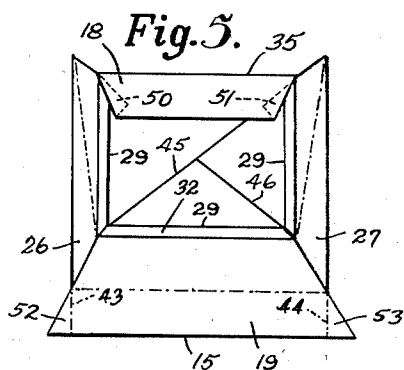
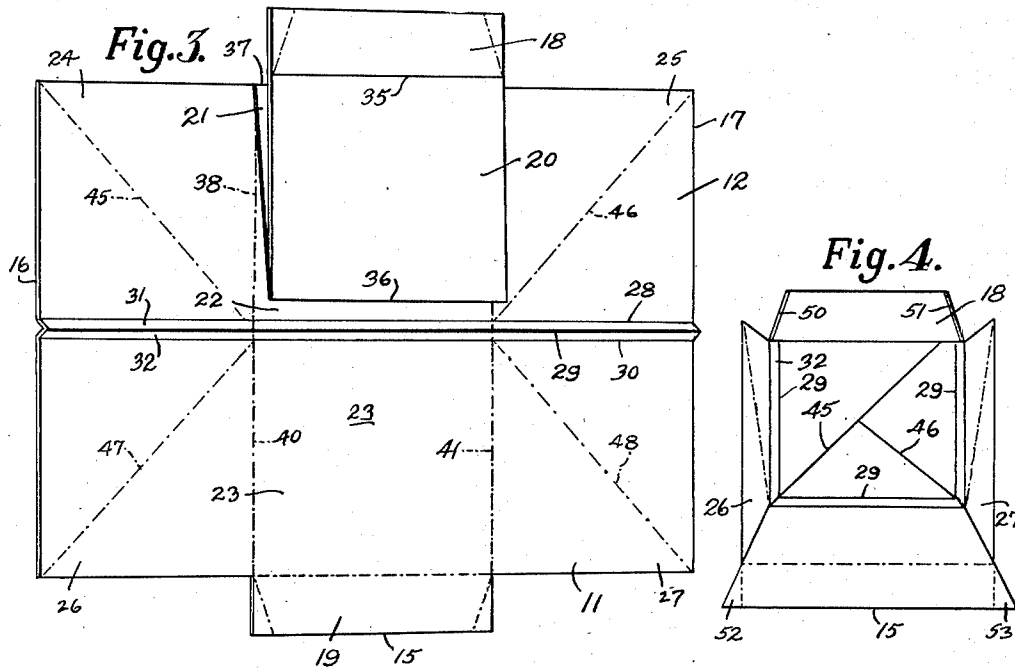
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DISPENSING AND DISPOSING TISSUE CONTAINER

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2



ABRAHAM W. ROSENMAN
 RUDOLPH F. GREISER
 INVENTORS
 BY *Richard S. Temko*
 ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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DISPENSING AND DISPOSING TISSUE CONTAINER

Abraham W. Rosenman, Fairfield, and Rudolph F. Greiser, Easton, Conn.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 206—57)

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This invention relates generally to packages and containers and most particularly to containers especially suited for the dispensing and disposing of tissues and/or absorbent sheets.

With the improvement in absorbent tissues and in the methods of manufacturing same, these tissues have become low in cost so as to have a very wide use. Ordinarily they are packaged in relatively large containers so that their use is convenient only near the large container. When a number of tissues are removed and carried, unprotected, in the pocket of the user, because of their fragile nature they tend to disintegrate. Even when they are carried in a supplemental container, there is a problem in disposing of them in a satisfactory manner after they have become soiled. The construction of the container adds the additional feature of sanitary disposal.

It is therefore among the objects of the present invention to provide a novel and useful container construction in which tissues are properly maintained, in both a fresh and used condition.

Another object herein lies in the provision of structure of the class described that may be fabricated of a single blank of flexible planar material, so that it may be light in weight and of low cost.

Another object of this invention lies in the provision of container structure, especially suited for the use of tissues, in which the removal of a fresh tissue and the replacement of it after it has become soiled is a simple and convenient matter.

A feature of the invention lies in the fact that even though the tissues are of fragile character so as to tend to disintegrate in the presence of moisture, replacements of tissues are retained in the container to avoid contamination of the user's pocket or pocketbook as the case may be.

A feature of the invention lies in the simplicity thereof so that the container, being of low cost, may contain advertising material relating to the product contained or other products, on the outer walls thereof so that after the container has become loaded with soiled tissues, the entire container may be disposed of.

Another object herein lies in the provision of a device of character described which has self-closing and self-locking characteristics.

These objects and other incidental ends and advantages will more fully appear in the progress of this disclosure and will be pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings in which similar reference characteristics designate corresponding parts throughout the several views:

Figure 1 is an elevational view of the blank from which a preferred embodiment of the invention is formed.

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Figure 2 is a left side elevational view, with the first and second pleat portions formed forwardly (toward the inside of the device when fully assembled).

Figure 3 is a perspective view with the first and second wall members in a position approaching their fully folded position, representing a second stage in the assembly of the device.

Figure 4 is a reduced schematic perspective view showing a later stage in assembly.

Figure 5 is a view corresponding to Figure 4 but showing a following stage in assembly.

Figure 6 is a view corresponding to Figure 5 and showing a following stage in assembly.

Figure 7 is a view corresponding to Figure 6 and showing a final stage in assembly.

Figure 8 is a rear perspective view.

Figure 9 is a section on plane 9—9 of Figure 8.

In accordance with the invention the device generally indicated by reference character 10 is fabricated by blanking, scoring, folding, and interengaging the various parts thereof. The blank, generally indicated by reference character 11 is preferably composed of relatively thin, flexible, planar material. This material is preferably somewhat stiff but nevertheless flexible paper. Another desirable quality of the material from which the blank 11 is formed is that it offers some resistance to moisture. This quality may be obtained by impregnating or layer coating the material with a water resistant substance such as wax, oil, natural or synthetic resin, or the like. Since only the relatively inner surface 12 of the blank 11 is likely to contact moisture, if desired only this surface need be treated to resist the same.

As best seen in Figure 1 the blank 11 includes a top free edge 14, a bottom free edge 15, a left side edge 16, and a right side edge 17. Further, the blank 11 includes a first closure member 18, a second closure member 19, a first wall member 20, a second wall member 21, a third wall member 22, a fourth wall member 23, a first gusset 24, a second gusset 25, a third gusset 26, and a fourth gusset 27. Disposed between the gussets 24 and 26, third and fourth wall members 22 and 23, and gussets 25 and 27, and delineated by the scored fold lines 28, 29 and 30 are the first and second pleat portions 31 and 32. Reference characters 33 to 43 inclusive indicate scored fold lines.

As will be readily apparent to one skilled in the art to which the present invention relates, certain of the assembly steps may be performed in a slightly different manner or in different order, but for the purpose of this disclosure, one method of assembly of the device is here given. With the blank in the position shown in Figure 1 and the inner surface 12 facing the assembler the first and second pleat portions are brought forwardly,

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by folding about the fold line 29 to take on the appearance shown in Figure 2. Next the first wall member 20 is folded forwardly through 180° about the fold line 36 and the second wall member 21 is folded forwardly through 180° about the fold line 37. This puts the parts substantially in the position shown in Figure 3.

Following this the first closure member actuating tabs 50 and 51 are bent forwardly about the fold lines 33 and 34 (see Figure 4). Next the first and second gussets are brought forwardly and inwardly about the fold lines 38 and 39 and at the same time the folds 45 and 46 are formed and brought toward each other to overlap (see Figure 4).

Following this the first closure member 18 is folded downwardly about the fold line 35 through substantially 180° with the actuating tabs 50 and 51 tucked underneath, as shown in Figure 5.

Next the gussets 26 and 27 are brought upwardly in the direction of the closure member 18 so that the folds 47 and 48 overlap (see Figure 6). Following this the second closure member actuating tabs 52 and 53 are folded inwardly about the fold lines 43 and 44 (Figure 6) and the second closure member 19 is brought over the then uppermost edges of the gussets 26 and 27 to be pushed downwardly behind the gusset 27, the device then taking on an appearance generally indicated in Figures 7 and 8.

In its finally assembled form a supply of fresh tissues 55 or similar articles is deposited within the dispensing chamber 60 from which they may be conveniently removed by the user through the top opening 61. When a tissue (or tissues) has become soiled or used it may be then inserted in the direction of the arrow 62 (Figure 9) downwardly between the closure members 18 and 19, and deposited in the disposing chamber 63.

Owing to the resiliency of the relatively stiff paper or similar material of which the device 10 is composed the first and second pleat portions may open up or expand in accordion fashion to accommodate the increased bulk of the tissues in a used condition 65. The folds 35 and 42 tend to open up and they are assisted in this movement by the actuating tabs 50 to 53 inclusive, so that the resilient contact at the edge of the opening 66 is maintained or promoted. Furthermore, by reason of the angular arrangement of the closure members 18 and 19 they tend to pull the used tissue from the user's fingers to facilitate the placing of said tissue in the chamber 63.

It may thus be seen that we have provided a novel and useful dispensing and disposing tissue container which may be of such low cost that after it is loaded with used tissues the entire container may be conveniently thrown away.

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In the present construction, the entire device is composed of one piece of material and no glue or similar adhesive is required for assembly, the parts automatically retaining themselves by a selflocking action in the assembled condition thereof. Sanitation in the use of absorbent tissues is increased and the compartment or chamber into which the used tissues are placed is a selfclosing one.

The device 10 may be composed of kraft paper or the like, and have imprinted thereon various forms of advertising.

Where desired, the third wall member 22 may be provided with an opening 70 which provides access to the space lying between the third wall member 22 and the second wall member 21. This compartment or chamber 71 provides an auxiliary pocket which may be used for a number of purposes including that of carrying samples of products for which it is desired to use the device 10, also as an advertising medium.

We wish it to be understood that we do not desire to be restricted to the exact details of construction shown and described, for obvious modifications will occur to those skilled in the art to which the present invention relates.

We claim:

A collapsible plural chamber container for tissues or the like, which in its unassembled state has the form of a planar blank of generally inverted T-shape including a plurality of wall members arranged in a row extending in the stem portion of said T-shaped blank and in the central portion of the cross bar of the T-shaped blank; a plurality of gussets radiating from the central portion of the said cross bar portion; a closure member disposed on the free end of said stem portion; a second closure member disposed on the lowermost free edge of said cross bar portion; and first and second pleat portions extending on said cross bar portion transversely of the stem portion; said first and second closure members being provided with actuating tabs.

ABRAHAM W. ROSENMAN.
RUDOLPH F. GREISER.

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