Aug. 18, 1925. 1,550,544

E. J. HANSEN

DEVICE FOR DISPENSING NAPKINS

Filed April 2, 1925

Fig. 1.

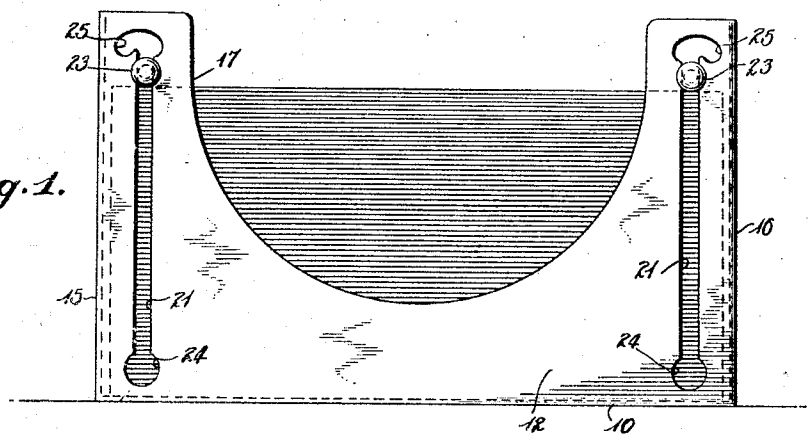


Fig. 2.

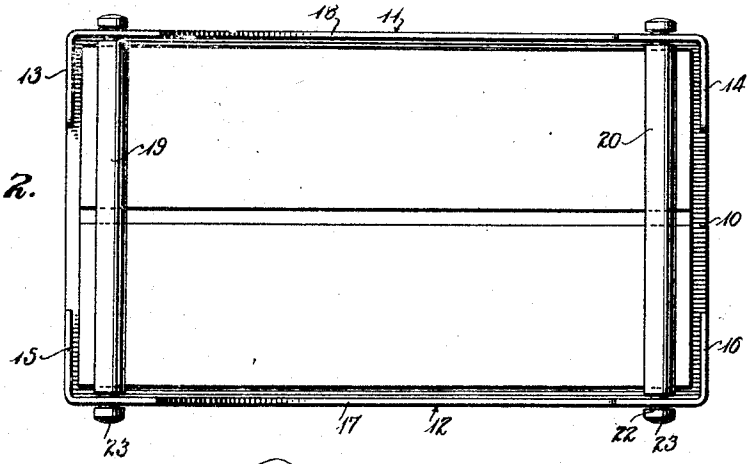
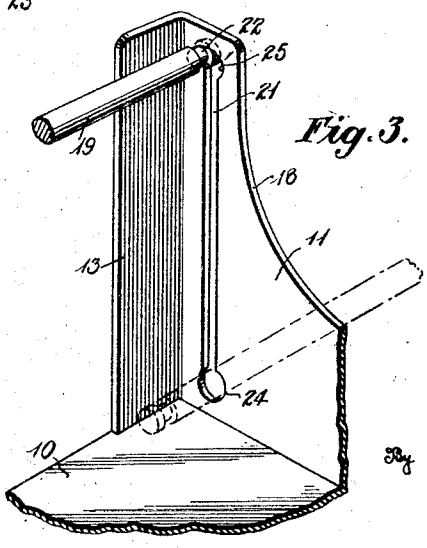


Fig. 3.



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Patented Aug. 18, 1925. 1,550,544

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMIL J. HANSEN, OF GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN.

DEVICE FOR DISPENSING NAPKINS.

Application filed April 2, 1925. Serial No. 20,141.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that EMIL J. HANSEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Green Bay, in the county of Brown and State of Wisconsin, has invented a new and useful Improvement in Devices for Dispensing Napkins, of which the following is a specification.

It is an object of the invention to provide a device which will hold napkins by means of weights placed along their ends in a receptacle wherein they may be readily accessible to the user.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a fixture having movable weights that cannot be removed when there are any substantial number of napkins therein.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a fixture having movable weights and simple means to retain the weights in elevated position while napkins are being placed in the fixture.

Further objects of the invention will appear from the following description when read in connection with the accompanying drawings showing an illustrative embodiment of the invention and wherein

Fig. 1 is a side elevation;

Fig. 2 is a plan view; and

Fig. 3 is a detail perspective of one corner of the empty fixture showing a weight in retained elevated position and showing in dotted lines the method of assembling a weight with the fixture.

As shown, the device comprises a tray having a preferably solid bottom member 10, which may be placed upon any suitable pedestal, not shown. Sides 11—12 are provided, which may, if desired, be formed integrally with the bottom of the device and end members 13—14—15—16 extending a portion only of the width of the bottom 10.

The sides 13—14 are preferably formed integrally with the side 11, and the end members 15—16 integrally with the side 12. When so formed, the entire device may be made from a suitable integral blank stamped from a sheet of material and bent to the form illustrated.

The sides 11—12 are shown cut away at 17—18 to give ready access to the contents of the tray and the end members 13 to 16 inclusive, leaving a portion of the end open to allow ready inspection of the contents of the tray.

The width of the end members referred to is sufficient to retain the napkins within the tray and to stiffen and brace the side members 11—12. The lower ends of the end members 13 to 16 inclusive may be secured to the margin of the base 10 as by soldering or welding in any well-known manner.

To retain napkins in the tray in a manner to make them readily accessible to the user, weights 19—20 are shown resting upon the ends of the napkins. As shown, these weights are in the form of cylindrical rods, although their cross-section may be anything desired.

To guide the weights in vertical travel as the napkins are withdrawn, there are shown slots 21 in the ends of the sides 11—12 parallel with the end members 13—16. To retain the weights in the slots each weight is shown as provided adjacent each of its ends with a reduced portion or neck 22 of dimension to freely slide in the slot. To retain the weights in the slot, the ends thereof are shown as formed with buttons 23, preferably of substantially the same dimension as the body of the weight 19—20.

Provision is made for the assembly of the weights with the fixture in the form of an opening 24 at the bottom of each slot 21, and closely adjacent the bottom of the side 11 or 12.

The opening referred to is made large enough to freely admit the button 23 and the body of the rod 19 or 20 in the manner shown in dotted lines in Fig. 3, and the weights may be readily assembled with the fixture when there are no napkins therein. However, when napkins are in the tray in any substantial quantity, the weights cannot be lowered to position to be slipped out through the openings 24. This point is important for use of the fixture in public places where patrons of a restaurant, for instance, would idly remove the weights with their attendant loss if it were possible.

To retain the weights in elevated position out of the way while napkins are being placed in the fixture, an offset portion 25 is provided at the top of each slot 21. If the weights are lifted to the upper end of the slot 21 and moved laterally the necks 22 will be received by the offsets 25 and the weights will then lie therein until returned to the top of the freshly inserted napkins.

Minor changes may be made in the phys-

ical embodiment of the invention without departing from the spirit.

I claim:

1. A fixture for dispensing paper sheets, comprising a tray, movable weights adapted to lie upon the sheets in said tray, means to guide said weights in their movement as the quantity of sheets varies, and means to prevent removal of said weights when there is a substantial quantity of sheets in the tray.

2. A fixture for dispensing paper sheets, comprising a tray having vertical guides adjacent the ends of its side members, weights traveling in said guides, and means whereby the presence of a substantial number of sheets in the tray may prevent removal of the weights from the guides.

3. A fixture for dispensing paper sheets, comprising a tray having vertical guides adjacent the ends of its side members, weights traveling in said guides, means whereby the presence of a substantial number of sheets in the tray may prevent removal of the weight from the guides, and means to retain the weights in elevated position while renewing the supply of sheets in the tray.

4. A fixture for dispensing paper sheets, comprising a tray and weights, the said tray having side members formed with plane surfaces, a vertical slot adjacent each end of each side member, the upper end of each slot widened to provide a recess in the plane of the side member surrounding the same, said recess laterally offset from the path of the slot, the lower margin of each recess adjacent the side of the slot extending above the bottom of the remainder thereof, the said weights being elongated and terminating in reduced portions at their ends, each of said portions engaging one of said slots, whereby said reduced portions may be raised and retained in said recesses to support the weights while the sheets in the fixture are replenished.

5. A fixture for dispensing paper sheets, comprising a tray having vertical slots in its side walls adjacent the ends thereof, weights having reduced neck portions traveling in said slots adapted to rest upon the ends of the sheets in said tray, openings at the lower ends of said slots adapted to pass said weights and their head portions exterior of the said necks for assembly of the weights with the tray when there is no substantial quantity of sheets in the tray, said slots having offset portions adjacent their upper ends to receive said necks for support of the weights while replenishing the supply of sheets in the tray.

EMIL J. HANSEN.