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PACKAGE OF PAPER NAPKINS, TOWELS, AND THE LIKE

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In the manufacture of paper napkins, towels, and like articles, it is customary to place a predetermined number of the articles in a superimposed pile, whether the articles be folded or unfolded, and to wrap the bundles of napkins thus formed with a band or cover, or for example, to place the same in an envelope. The paper napkins, towels or similar articles thus prepared are placed on the market and sold to the users. It will be obvious that with paper napkins, towels, or the like, thus prepared, that when a package or bundle thereof is once opened, all the napkins must be used at substantially the same time as there is no means provided for re-packaging or covering any of the articles which may not be needed when the package is originally opened. It will also be appreciated that in this use of paper napkins, those which are not utilized when the package is opened become separated, soiled and oftentimes become unfit for subsequent use. It is also generally understood that paper napkins and the like, should be maintained in a sanitary condition, as otherwise they are not properly fit to be used.

The object of my present invention is the provision of a package of paper napkins, towels, and the like, which is a convenient and economical substitute for linen napkins, towels, handkerchiefs, and similar articles, and may be used in place thereof for innumerable purposes, ranging from household use in the dining room and kitchen to removing grease and oil from the hands, for example in driving motor vehicles. In carrying out the invention, the package made in accordance therewith comprises a container or receptacle having an opening in one wall thereof, and enclosing a plurality of superimposed paper napkins, towels, and the like, prefolded in such a manner as to be readily grasped and withdrawn through the opening in the wall of the container or receptacle when necessary for use. The container is normally closed and may be so maintained while the napkins or other articles are not being withdrawn therefrom, so that until the napkins are exhausted they are provided with a container which maintains them in position and keeps them clean and in place and ready for use at any time, the package being of such shape and of such dimensions as to be conveniently kept in an accessible place or carried about for outings away from the home.

The package for napkins, towels, and the like, made in accordance with my present invention will be hereinafter more particularly described in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved package.

Fig. 2 is a similar view illustrating the use of the article in the withdrawal of a napkin therefrom.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged section on line 3-3, Fig. 1, and

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a napkin or similar article folded so that when piled and placed in the container member of the package, each napkin or similar article is readily available for use by being withdrawn therefrom.

By reference to the drawing it will be seen that the improved package of paper napkins, towels, and the like, made in accordance with my invention includes a box or container made from a suitable blank of cardboard or other like material so as to comprise a top wall 10 in which there is provided an opening 11 which preferably conforms in outline to the configuration of the top wall; a bottom wall 12, side walls 13 provided at both ends with extension flaps 14, 15, the bottom wall being similarly provided with extension flaps 16, 17, and a slide cover 18 which as illustrated, is preferably made with a pull tab 19 at one end thereof. The container thus constructed is set up by turning in the flaps 14 and 15, and turning up the flaps 16, 17, and inserting the extremities thereof beneath the top member 10, with the slide cover fitting immediately beneath this top member and adapted to be withdrawn or partially withdrawn to uncover the opening to make the contents available, and to be re-inserted to close the opening to complete the continuity of the top member. The package of napkins may be inserted into the box by releasing one of the end flaps 16 or 17.

The box or receptacle contains a pile of superimposed paper napkins or similar articles, and as illustrated in Fig. 4, each of these articles preferably comprises a plurality of substantially coextensive sections 20, 21 and 22, and outer non-coextensive sec-
tions 23 and 24. Furthermore, the article is preferably folded transversely along the line 25 so as to bring the outer non-coextensive sections at the top and the bottom of the article, making it immaterial which side is placed uppermost in the pile, and also to provide for the edges 26 and 27 of the non-coextensive sections to lie at appreciable distances from the edges of the coextensive sections of the napkin in order to facilitate the grasping of the napkin.

The napkins or other articles as thus folded are placed in a superimposed pile and inserted in the container so as to normally fill the same, it being understood that the napkins are bundled in piles of predetermined number so that a bundle is adapted to thus fill a container.

In the use of the package as illustrated in Fig. 2, the slide cover is withdrawn sufficiently far to uncover the napkins within the container, and the user may grasp either the edge 26 or the edge 27 or both of these edges of the non-coextensive sections 23 and 24, and readily withdraw the uppermost napkin from the superimposed pile thereof within the container. It being obvious that any desired number of napkins may be thus withdrawn individually from the container, and that due to the manner in which the napkins are folded in thus withdrawing the same, each napkin in turn will be partially unfolded, and therefore, practically ready for use.

The package as herein shown and described is more or less illustrative of my invention, and the same may be made in other forms without departing from the nature and spirit thereof.

I claim as my invention:

A combined package and dispenser for paper napkins, each of which is folded to have a longitudinally extending free edge, comprising a container the top of which is partly cut away for forming an opening through which the longitudinally extending free edge of the uppermost napkin in a pile of folded napkins is accessible for individual withdrawal, the four edges of said opening being formed by inwardly extending flanges which act to confine the napkins, one end of the package, adjacent said opening, being slotted, a manually operated cover, slidable in the slot, beneath said flanges, over the pile of napkins, for protecting the napkins from dust and dirt, and movable to uncover the uppermost napkin to allow manual withdrawal thereof, and a hinged end flap, one edge of which is tucked in under one of said flanges, permitting loading of the receptable from the end.

Signed by me this 6th day of Aug., 1925.

PAUL H. HORWITT.