Sept. 2, 1952 H. W. MARANO 2,609,219

LOOSE LEAF PAPER SAFE AND DISPENSER

Filed Dec. 1, 1950 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1

Fig. 1.

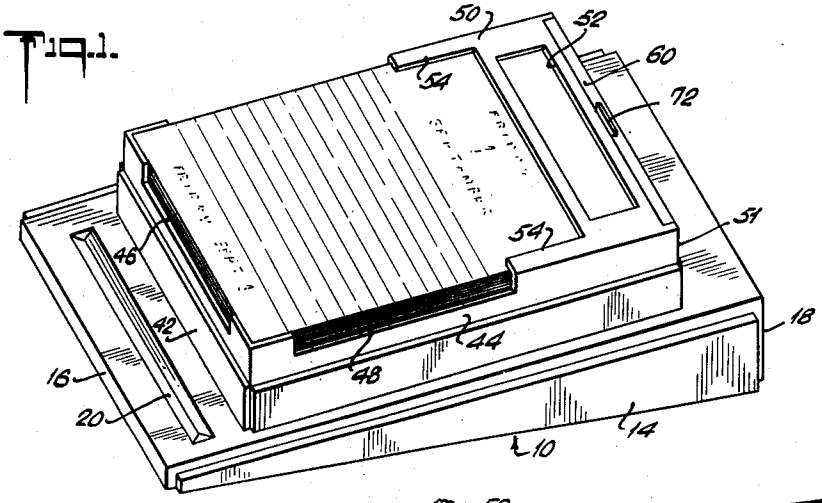


Fig. 2.

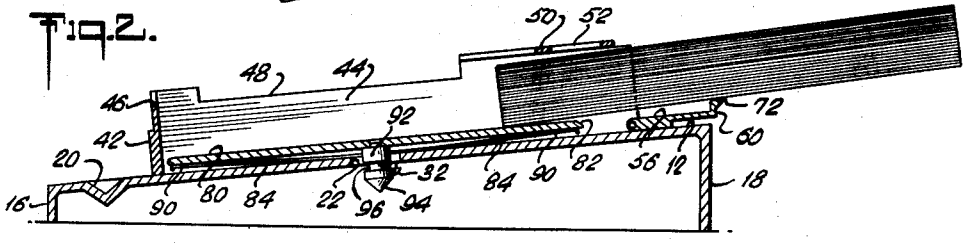


Fig. 3.

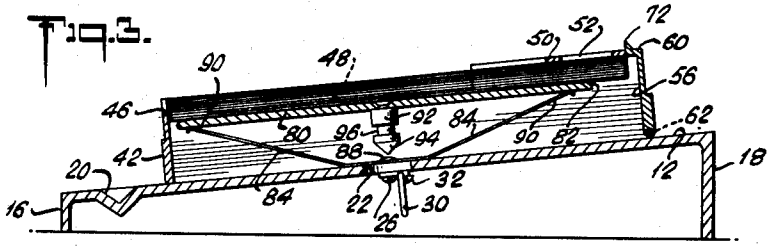
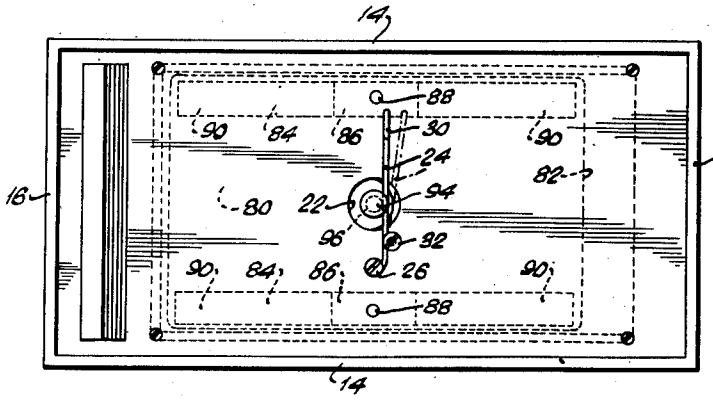


Fig. 4.



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LOOSE LEAF PAPER SAFE AND DISPENSER

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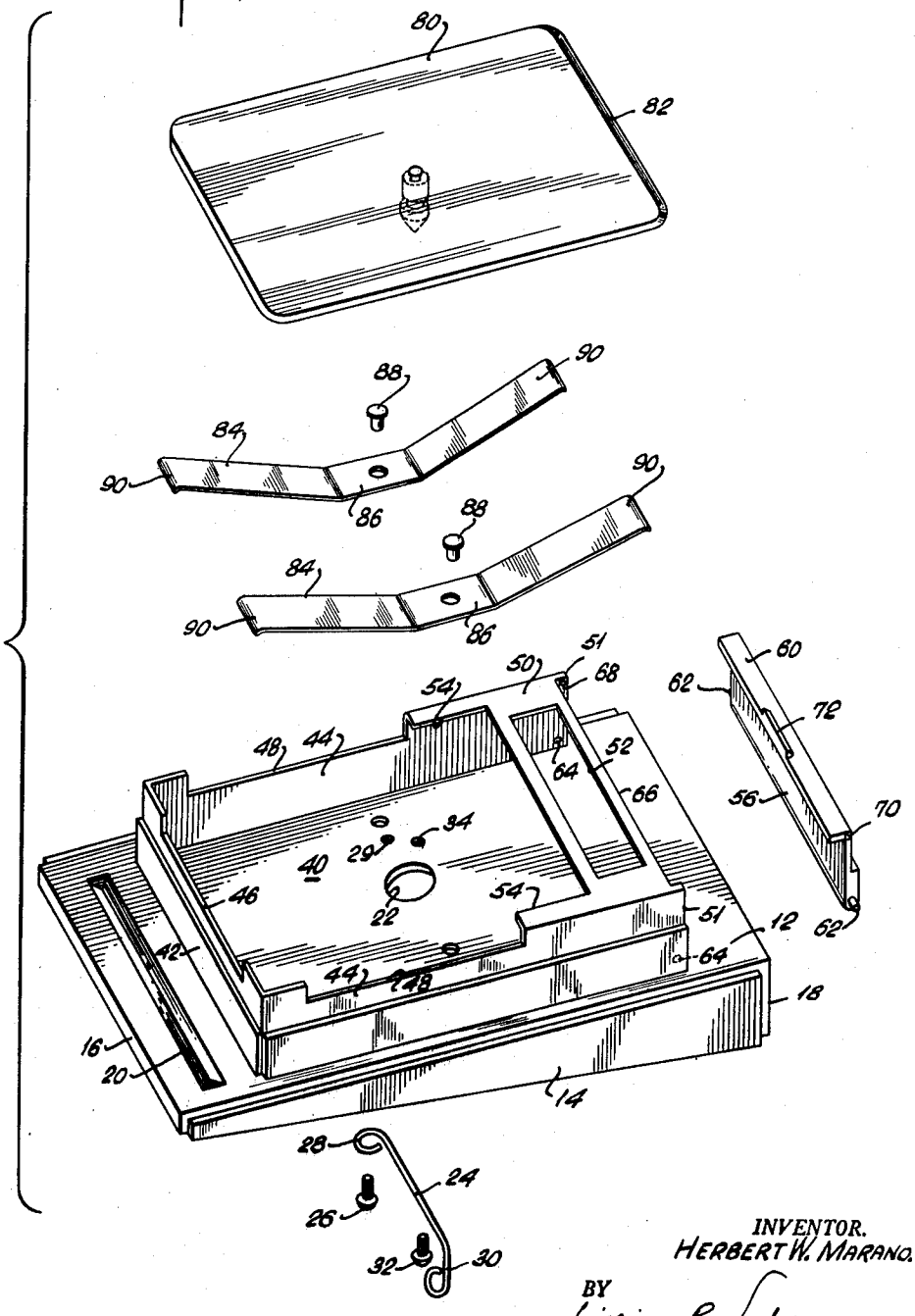
Fig. 5.



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2,609,219

LOOSE LEAF PAPER SAFE AND DISPENSER

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Application December 1, 1950, Serial No. 198,561

3 Claims. (Cl. 281—44)

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The present invention relates generaly to devices for holding and dispensing paper sheets, and in particular it relates to a holder and dispenser of the desk type for use with calendar sheets, that is, sheets for each day in the year, or ordinary blank memorandum sheets.

The holder and dispenser most commonly in use at the present time employs a multi-sheet refill, and is generally provided with a pair of removable screw posts or similar mebers for holding the loose-leaf calendar refill between a clamp bar and the base or stand. This type of device requires refill pages or sheets having accurately spaced holes formed adjacent the edge of the refill to line up with the spaced removable posts. The loading of such type of base with the proper refill is awkward and time consuming, since the screw posts must be removed from the base and then passed through the corresponding holes in the refill, extreme care being necessary in handling the refill so that the individual sheets are not disturbed thereby distorting the alignment of the pierced holes. The screw posts must then be brought into registry with the corresponding tapped holes in the base and tightened to complete the loading of the calendar. Furthermore, in order to remove the individual sheets from the base, they are either torn from the holding device along the edge of the clamp bar, or cut along a suitable scored line which may be provided. After several sheets have been torn or otherwise so removed from the stand, the device presents an unsightly and unattractive appearance. To remedy this, the screw posts must be withdrawn, and the torn remnants of the sheets removed, and the screw posts replaced. This is again time consuming and awkward.

It is, therefore, a principal object of the present invention to provide an improved loose leaf paper sheet holding and dispensing device.

Another object of the present invention is to provide an improved loose leaf holding and dispensing device which will hold a stack of paper sheets, always presenting substantially the full face of the top sheet ready for use in a convenient position regardless of the number of sheets remaining in the stack.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide an improved paper holding base or stand which will accommodate a standard loose leaf calendar refill which lacks the usual perforations, thereby obviating the need for accurate hole piercing operations, and also reducing the cost of the refills.

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A further object of the present invention is to provide an improved paper holding base or stand which will accommodate a standard loose leaf calendar refill, from which base successive sheets may be simply removed or dispensed without any tearing or cutting.

Still a further object of the present invention is to provide an improved paper holding base or stand or similar device which may be quickly and simply loaded with a stack of paper sheets or a loose leaf calendar refill.

The above and further objects of the present invention will become apparent from a reading of the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein

Figure 1 is a top isometric view of an improved calendar base or stand embodying the present invention and illustrated in loaded condition;

Figure 2 is a transverse longitudinal sectional view illustrating the improved calendar base opened and being loaded with a loose leaf refill;

Figure 3 is a transverse longitudinal sectional view illustrating the improved calendar base in loaded operative position;

Figure 4 is a bottom plan view thereof; and

Figure 5 is a disassembled perspective view of the improved calendar base illustrating the individual parts and components.

The present invention broadly contemplates the provision of an improved loose leaf paper sheet holder and dispenser comprising guide walls having inwardly extending portions at their upper edges, a platform reciprocably shiftable along said guide walls between upper and lower positions thereof, spring means urging said platform to its upper position, and means actuated by said platform upon said platform being depressed to a predetermined level to releasably lock said platform at said predetermined level. More particularly, there is provided in the device of the present invention a compartment of rectangular cross-section having a substantially open top wall and inwardly extending stop portions or lips proximate the upper edges of the side walls. A sheet support or platform is positioned in the compartment and is free to move vertically, spring means being provided normally operable to urge the platform to its uppermost position as defined by the aforesaid inwardly extending stops or lips. The bottom of the compartment has an aperture formed therein, and a plunger is provided depending from the platform which plunger projects through the aperture when the platform is sufficiently depressed. A locking element releasably engages the plunger when it is urged

through the aperture, thus retaining the platform in its lowermost or loading position. The rear wall of the compartment is hinged so that it may be opened, thus permitting the insertion of a stack of sheets or a loose leaf calendar into the compartment, whereupon the rear door is closed and the locking mechanism operated to release the plunger. The spring means urge the platform and supported sheets upwardly until they are stopped by the lips. Removal of any sheets or leafs is accompanied by a following movement of the platform against the remaining sheets.

Referring now to the drawings, which illustrate a preferred embodiment of the present invention, the improved loose leaf dispensing device includes a base portion generaly designated by the numeral 10 and having an upwardly sloping top wall 12, side walls 14, 14, whose upper and lower edges converge as illustrated, and front and rear walls 16, 18. A groove 20 is formed in the top wall 12 adjacent front wall 16 of the base to receive and hold a pencil, pen or the like. A substantially centrally located circular aperture 22 is formed in the top wall 12, and associated therewith is provided a locking device whose function will be hereinafter described.

The locking device is formed of resilient wire or rod and includes a horizontal arm 24 secured to the under face of the top wall 12 by means of a screw 26 passing through an eye portion 28 formed at one end of the arm 24 threaded into a suitably tapped opening 29 in wall 12; the other end of the arm 24 being provided with a depending portion 30 defining a finger piece or handle. A second screw 32 is likewise threaded into a tapped opening 34 in top wall 12 spaced from screw 26, and abuts the arm 24 to position the arm across the aperture 22 and spaced slightly from the center thereof.

A compartment indicated by reference numeral 40 and adapted to receive and dispense a stack of paper sheets, loose calendar or the like, is provided and located on the top wall 12, which defines the bottom or floor of compartment 40.

Compartment 40 comprises a front wall 42, and side walls 44, 44, which have formed therein cut-out or recessed portions 46 and 48 respectively .A bridge member 50 spanning the rear of compartment 40 extends between and across the upper edges of the walls 44, 44, proximate the rear ends thereof, and has a rectangular opening 52 formed therein. Furthermore, overhanging lips or flanges 54 project inwardly from the upper edges of the walls 22 starting at points adjacent the rear of the cut-out portions 48 and extending to the bridge member 50. It should be noted that the base member 10 and the housing of compartment 40 may be integrally formed, and may be of die cast aluminum, or plastic, or may be formed of steel sheet or otherwise fabricated.

The rear wall of the compartment 40 is defined by a door 56 of rectangular outline provided with an inwardly projecting flange 60 along its upper edge. A pair of coaxial horizontally extending pins 62, 62 are positioned at the opposite lower corners of the door 56 and engage a pair of corresponding holes 64, 64 formed in the opposite side walls 44, 44 at their lower rear corners. The door 56 is thus hinged to swing between a horizontal or open position and vertical or closed position; in the latter position the flange 60 registers with a recess 66 defined by the rear edge of the bridge member 50 and the end portions 51 of the side walls 44, 44. In order to releasably retain the door 56 in closed position,

detents 68 are provided on the inner faces of the side walls 44 adjacent their upper corners, and depressions 70 are formed in the outer and upper side edges of the door wall 56. Thus, detents 68 engage the depressions 70 when the door 56 is in vertical position to close the compartment 40 at the rear thereof. A suitable finger piece 72 is formed on the flange 60 to facilitate manipulation of the door 30.

The mechanism for advancing the stack of paper sheets upwardly as successive sheets or leafs are used and removed from the top of the stack, includes a platform or support 80 of substantially rectangular cross-section having a bevelled rear edge 82. Platform 80 is positioned in the compartment 40, and is normally urged upwardly by a pair of leaf springs 84, 84. Leaf springs 84 have flattened mid portions 86, by which they are secured to top wall 12 in laterally spaced parallel position by means of rivets 88, 88, or the like, the rivets passing through suitable openings in mid portions 86 and threaded tappings in wall 12. Extending from the mid portions 44 are the upwardly angled wings 90, 90 having rounded ends which bear against the under face of the platform 80, urging the platform upwardly. The upper limit of movement of platform 80 is determined by bridge member 50, and the flanges 54.

A cylindrical plunger 92 depends from the under face of the platform 80 at the center thereof, and is in axial alignment with circular aperture 22 in wall 12. Plunger 92 is of such diameter as to pass through said aperture 22 readily. The lower end 94 of plunger 92 is conical or bullet shaped, and a peripheral groove 96 is formed in the body of the plunger, above its lower end 94. Plunger 92 cooperates with the locking mechanism of spring 24 above described. On depression of platform 80 below a predetermined level, plunger 92 is extended into and through aperture 22. The reduced tapered nose 94 of the plunger tip rides past horizontal arm 24, camurging it radially outwardly and against the screw 32, as seen in the dotted line position of Figure 4. Upon further depression of the platform 80 against the pressure of leaf springs 84, 84, the peripheral groove 96 is brought to the same level as the resilient arm 24 which springs into groove 96, and thereby retains the platform in its depressed position. By pressing against the finger portion 30 of the locking mechanism, the horizontal arm 24 may be forced out of engagement with the peripheral groove 96, thus permitting the leaf springs 84 to carry the platform upwardly.

Considering now the operation of the improved paper holding and dispensing device above described, a stack of paper sheets such as a loose leaf calendar or the like which has a length and width corresponding to that of the compartment 40 may be loaded into the device by depressing the platform 80 until it is locked in its lower position as aforesaid by the resilient arm 24 automatically engaging the groove 96 in the plunger 92. The door 56 is then swung to its horizontal or open position and the stack of sheets is inserted into the compartment 40 through its open rear end. The door 56 is then closed and the platform released by pressing against the finger piece 30 and disengaging plunger 92. Leaf springs 84, 84 then urge the platform 80 and the supported stack of sheets upwardly until the top sheet abuts the bridge member 50 and the flanges 54. A sheet may be removed whenever desired by slip-

ping it from between the flanges **54** and bridge member **50** and the succeeding lower sheet. Upon removal of a sheet, the leaf springs urge the platform **80** and the remainder of the stacked sheets upwardly until the following sheet is in contact with the under faces of the bridge member **50** and flanges **54**.

While there has been described and illustrated a preferred embodiment of the present invention, it is obvious that numerous alterations and omissions may be made without departing from the spirit thereof.

I claim:

1. A loose leaf dispensing device of the character described comprising a compartment having a bottom wall, front and rear walls and side walls, a stop member projecting inwardly from the top edge of at least one of said walls, and said bottom wall having an aperture formed therein, a platform disposed for vertical movement within said compartment, spring means urging said platform upwardly, a plunger depending from said platform and in substantially axial alignment with said aperture, said plunger having a substantially conically shaped lower end and a peripheral groove formed above said lower end, and a resilient wire element secured at one end thereof to the under face of said bottom wall and overlying said aperture and normally axially offset relative to said plunger, the unsecured

end of said wire element being provided with a depending finger portion.

2. A loose leaf dispensing device as in claim 1, wherein there is provided a bridge portion extending from and between the upper edges of said side walls adjacent the rear thereof.

3. A loose leaf dispensing device as in claim 1, wherein said rear wall is hinged between said side walls to permit the swinging of said rear wall between open and closed positions to permit the loading of said compartment therethrough with a loose leaf stack.

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