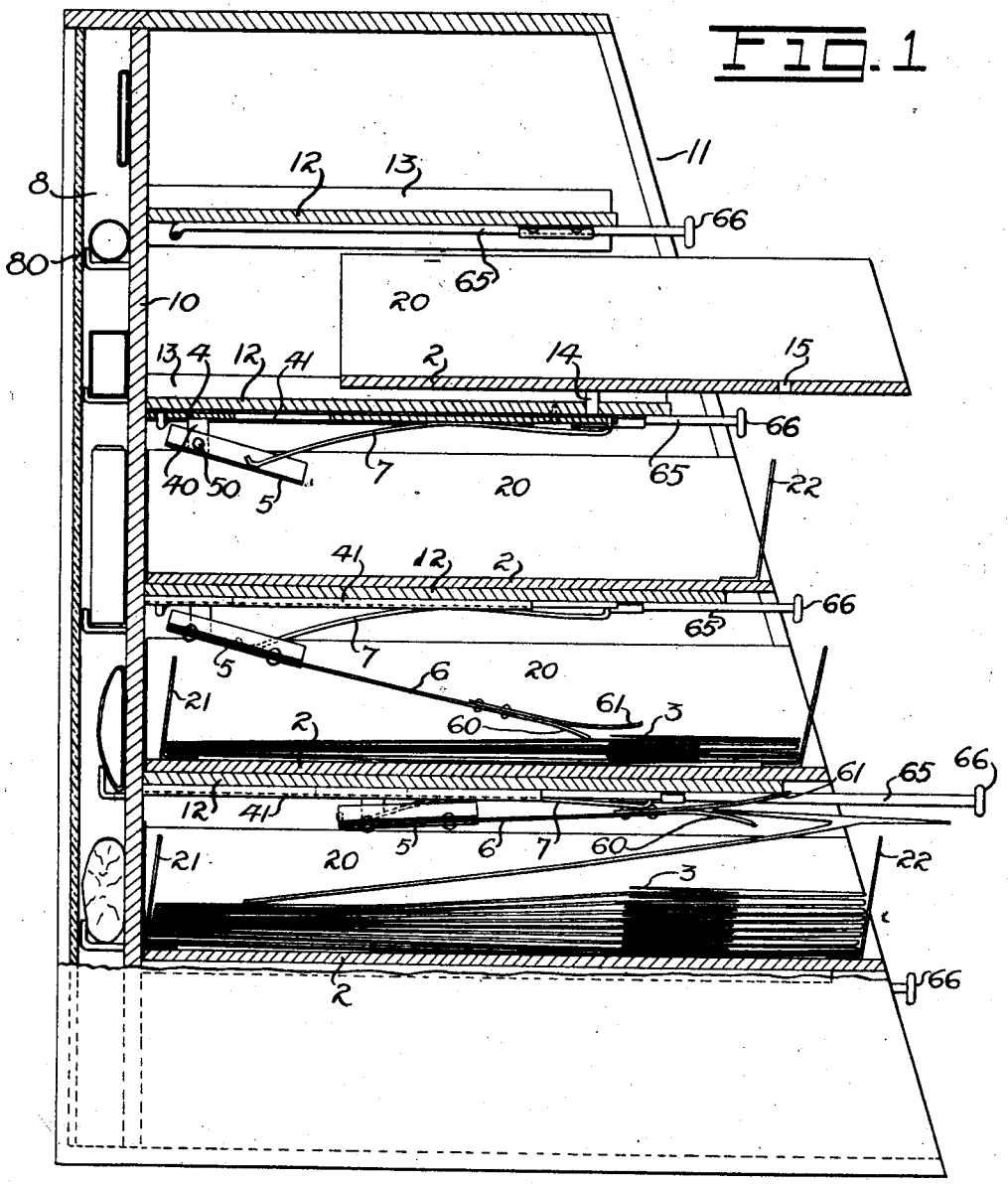
July 2, 1929. G. W. RITTENHOUSE ET AL 1,719,451

BAG DISPENSING CABINET

Filed Sept. 19, 1927 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1



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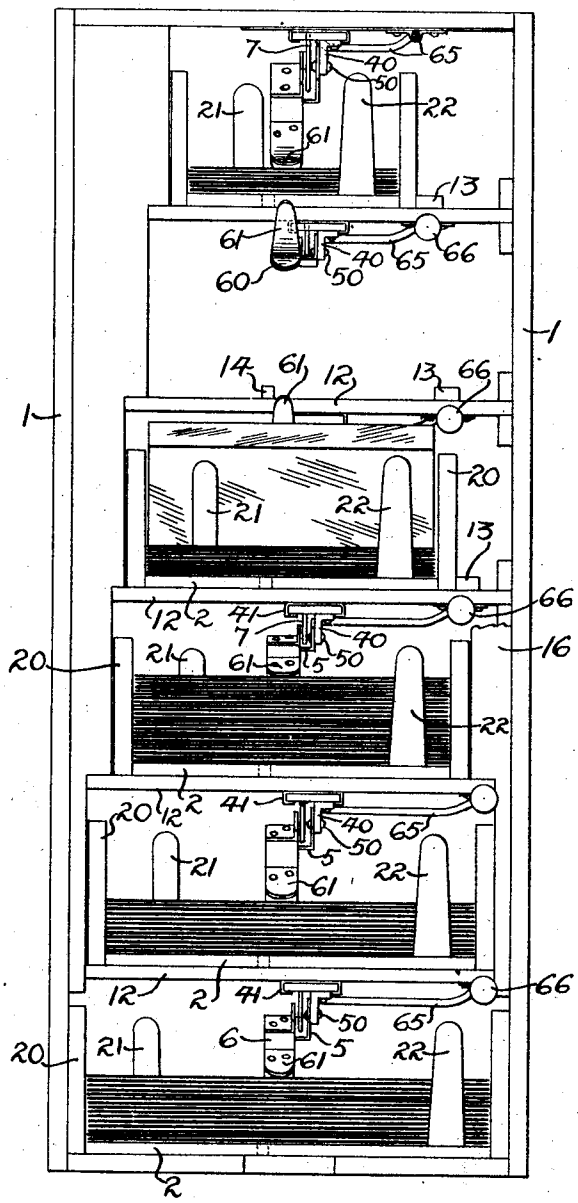
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BAG DISPENSING CABINET

Filed Sept. 19, 1927 3 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 2



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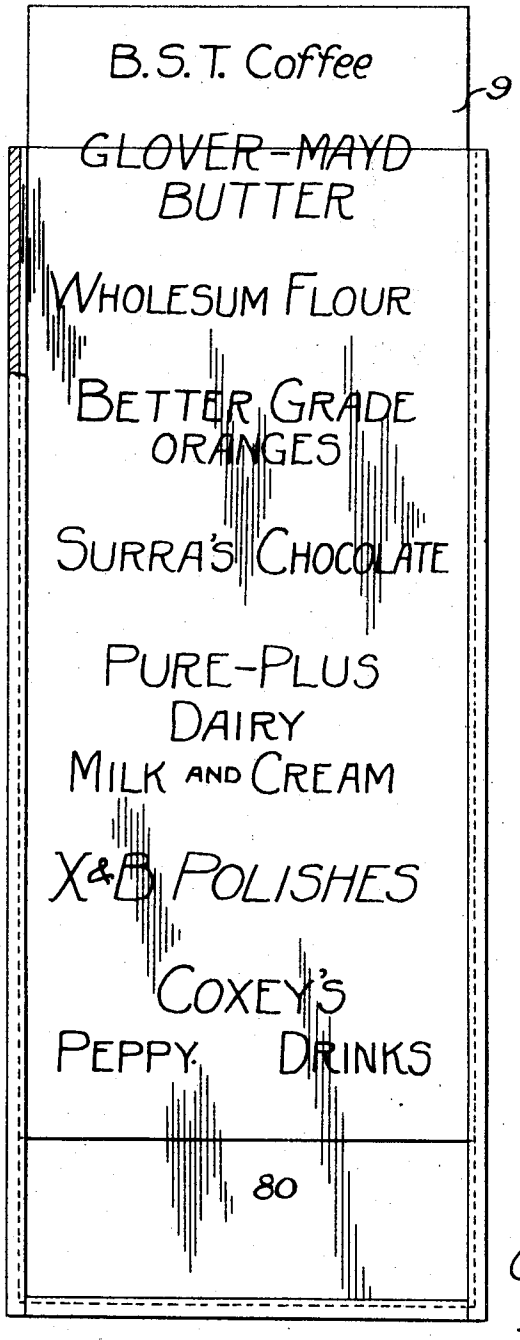
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BAG DISPENSING CABINET

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Fig. 3



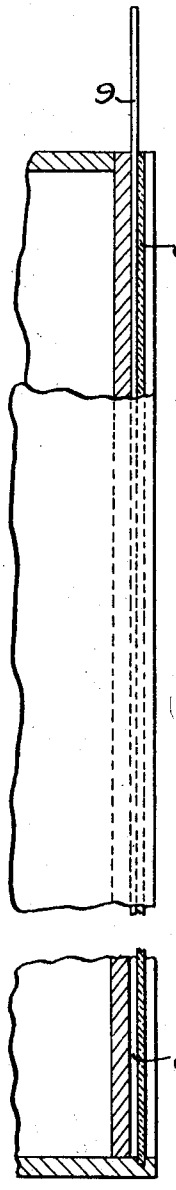


Fig. 4

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. RITTENHOUSE AND HOMER P. SMITH, OF SEATTLE, WASHINGTON.

BAG-DISPENSING CABINET.

Application filed September 19, 1927. Serial No. 220,401.

Our invention relates to a cabinet which is designed for two purposes, one, to dispense paper bags one at a time, and the other, to provide with the above, advertising possibilities which will enable an income to be produced in addition to its use as a bag-dispensing cabinet.

It is the object and intention of our invention to provide a cabinet which will be desirable to a merchant who uses many bags, and make it convenient to obtain such bags promptly as desired, and thereby induce him to give the article space, and, at the same time, permit rental of the advertising space provided by the cabinet. While the latter object is one had in mind by us, the dispensing feature of the device, independent of the advertising matter, is also one of our objects.

In the accompanying drawings we have shown a cabinet made in accordance with our invention, and in the following description we will set forth the specific construction of such cabinet and disclose the principles involved therein, and in the claims terminating the same will define the scope of our invention.

Figure 1 is a vertical sectional elevation of a cabinet, the plane of section extending from front to rear, with the tray of the upper compartment removed, and that of the second compartment partially removed.

Figure 2 is a front elevation of the cabinet with a part of one of the side bars of the front surface broken away.

Figure 3 is an elevation of the rear of the cabinet, showing an advertising card partially removed from the cabinet.

Figure 4 is a partial section taken in a plane at right angles to Figure 3 and illustrating the same construction.

In applying our invention to a cabinet, we arrange to have the bags of different sizes arranged in superposed relation, with the larger bags at the bottom and the smaller bags at the top. We prefer, if a complete assortment of sizes is to be used, that two cabinets be employed, one of these containing bags which are of every other size, while the other cabinet contains the sizes which are omitted from the first. The reason for this is, that if a single cabinet be employed which contains all of the sizes in order as manufactured there will not be sufficient variation in the sizes of bags contained in adjacent compartments to secure as perfect functioning as is secured by omitting every other size in one cabinet and placing these omitted sizes in a second cabinet.

The shape of the cabinet which we have found to be best adapted to this purpose is illustrated by observing Figures 1 and 2. This cabinet 1 is shown as having two side walls which are parallel, a rear wall 10 which is placed in right angular relation to the side walls, and a front face 11 which is inclined. This makes the cabinet deeper from front to rear at its bottom than at its top. In this cabinet is provided a series of tray-holding compartments, and a tray for each compartment. Each tray, in its simplest form, comprises a bottom 2 and, preferably, sides 20, together with means for holding the bags in definite position from front to rear, as, for instance, a finger 21 at the rear and a similar finger 22 at the front. This leaves the outer or exposed end of the tray substantially open, so that the bags contained therein may be made easily accessible.

By inspection of Figure 1, it is seen that the plan of placing the larger bags at the bottom and making alternate compartments to hold bags of a material difference in length, the bags in each tray are uncovered for a short distance at their outer ends, thus making it easy to engage and remove one of the bags by the fingers.

Each tray is supported from the cabinet preferably by a partition or floor 12. Means are also provided to hold the trays in proper position after having been inserted, which means should be of such character that the trays may be easily removed by the mere act of lifting them. A simple means for securing this is illustrated in both Figures 1 and 2, and consists of a peg or pin 14 projecting upward slightly from the floor 12 and entering a suitable hole 15 formed in the bottom of the tray 2. These are so positioned that the pin will enter the hole when the tray is in its proper inserted position, but the tray may be lifted enough to free it when it is desired to remove the tray for placing therein additional sacks. Guide and positioning strips 13 are placed upon the floor at the side of the trays to hold the trays in proper transverse position.

In loading these trays, the bags are assembled with their bottom ends outwardly and with the folded bottom of the bag upward. This causes the flap 3, formed at the

bottom by folding the same, to lie upwardly and to extend rearwardly. Means are provided for engaging beneath this flap so as to lift the uppermost bag and to force the same somewhat outwardly, thereby to separate the end of this bag from the others sufficiently to make it easy to engage the same for removal. The means for securing this is clearly shown in Figure 1. Such means employs a reciprocating base member or plate 4 mounted to slide from front to rear in guides, such as 5, to which is connected an actuating rod 6 which is supported in suitable guides and which is connected with the base plate 4 in such manner that as the rod is moved from front to rear such plate 4 is moved therewith. The plate 4 carries a pivot ear 40 upon which is pivotally mounted a finger-holding member 5, herein shown as having an angle bar cross section. This is pivoted at 50 upon the pivot ears 40. The pivot point 50 for the member 5 is located somewhat forward of its rear end. To this member 5 is secured a finger 6 which extends towards the front of the cabinet and has a tip 60 adapted to pass beneath the fold 3 of the bag when said finger is moved forwardly. The reciprocation of the finger 5 and the sliding base member 4 to which it is pivoted is secured through the reciprocable action of the rod 6, which is connected with said parts. This rod has a button 60 secured to its outer end, or in other manner is provided with a readily engageable tip for convenience of operation.

Secured by one end to the cabinet is a spring wire 7, the rear end of which bears upon the plate 5 which carries the finger 6. The position at which it bears upon this plate is such that as the plate 5 is moved forwardly, the rear end of the spring 7 will slide upon said plate 5 and eventually be engaged therewith rearwardly of its pivot point. Prior to this the action of the spring 5 has been to hold the finger 6 down upon the bags, but as soon as the point of engagement of the spring is to the rear of the pivot point 50, the pressure of the spring will throw the finger 6 upwardly, or into the position shown in the compartment which is second from the bottom in Figure 1. As the finger rises, it carries with it the uppermost bag, and any further movement possible in the finger towards the front of the casing will serve to project the bag over the retaining finger 22, as has been indicated in Figure 1. Whether the bag is projected over this finger or merely raised, it has been placed in a position where it is conveniently engageable by the finger of the merchant for removal. When the rod 6 is pushed backward, the finger is retracted and depressed upon the bag ready for engagement with the next bag.

In constructing this cabinet, we contemplate providing at the rear side thereof a compartment for the reception of either a printed advertising card, or of merchandise samples. In Figure 1, we have shown a construction in which a compartment 8 is provided having a glass outer front 80. In this means are provided for securing samples, which are thus exhibited for advertising purposes. In Figures 3 and 4, a construction is provided which, in principle, is the same as is shown in Figure 1, except that the depth of the chamber 8 is made sufficient only to nicely receive an advertising card 9, which is slid into position back of the glass plate 80.

As the bag-holding trays 2 above the first are of lesser width than the lowermost blank, spaces are thus provided at the sides of the cabinet which may be utilized in the same manner as has been indicated for the rear face. Upon the bars 16, which are employed to close this space at the front edge, we may provide numbers as 10 to 14 to indicate the size of bag for which each compartment is designed.

In use this cabinet will be placed upon the counter with the open edge to the rear and the rear face of the cabinet, upon which the advertising is placed, outside where it will be visible to the customers. While the side faces of the cabinet may also be utilized for adveritsing purposes, such faces will not be as plainly visible as the edge which has been shown as containing the compartment 8, which is the rear face of the cabinet.

What we claim as our invention is:

1. A bag-holding cabinet having a series of bag-holding compartments open at one end, a bag-holding tray for each compartment, and means mounted in each compartment for reciprocation lengthwise of the compartment and containing a finger adapted to engage under the folded bag bottom, and means for lifting said finger at the end of the stroke.

2. A means for separating a single bag from a pile comprising a manually reciprocable member, a bag-separating and lifting finger pivoted upon said reciprocable member, and a spring bearing against said finger at a point which shifts to the opposite side of the finger pivot as said finger is reciprocated.

3. In a paper bag-dispensing machine, a bag-separating finger pivoted near one end, a spring bearing upon the finger near its pivot, and means for reciprocating said finger to transfer the point of contact with said spring to the opposite side of its pivot.

4. A bag-dispensing cabinet comprising a casing open in front, a series of bag-holding trays, and means for removably supporting them in superposed position in said casing with their ends at said open side of the casing and each projecting slightly beyond that of the tray above it, and means for slightly

raising the outer end of the uppermost bag in the trays when the withdrawal of a bag is desired.

5. A bag dispensing cabinet comprising a casing, open along one edge and divided into a series of superposed compartments, a bag holding tray for each compartment, means normally holding each tray against movement in its compartment, a bag engaging and projecting finger in each compartment resting one end upon the bags in said compartment, and means for selective reciprocation of said fingers to project the uppermost bag of a pile.

6. In a bag dispensing cabinet, a casing having an open front and a series of vertically spaced tray supports, bag holding trays placeable upon said supports, means for removably securing said trays in proper position on said supports, and a bag engaging and projecting finger mounted to be reciprocated above each tray and having one end supported upon the bags in its tray, and means for raising the outer end of said fingers towards the end of their outward movement.

7. In a bag dispensing cabinet, a casing having an open front and a series of vertically spaced tray supports, bag holding trays placeable upon said supports, means for removably securing said trays in proper position on said supports, an upwardly extending bag holding member at the outer end of each tray, a pivoted finger mounted for reciprocation above each tray and having its end resting upon the bags in the tray, whereby the uppermost bag is engaged and projected, and means for lifting the outer end of the finger to raise the engaged bag over the retaining member.

Signed at Seattle, King County, Washington, this 12th day of September, 1927.

GEORGE W. RITTENHOUSE.
HOMER P. SMITH.