

June 29, 1937.

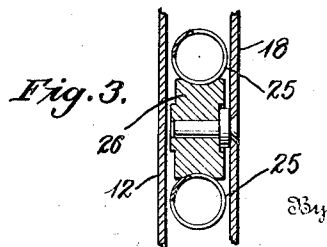
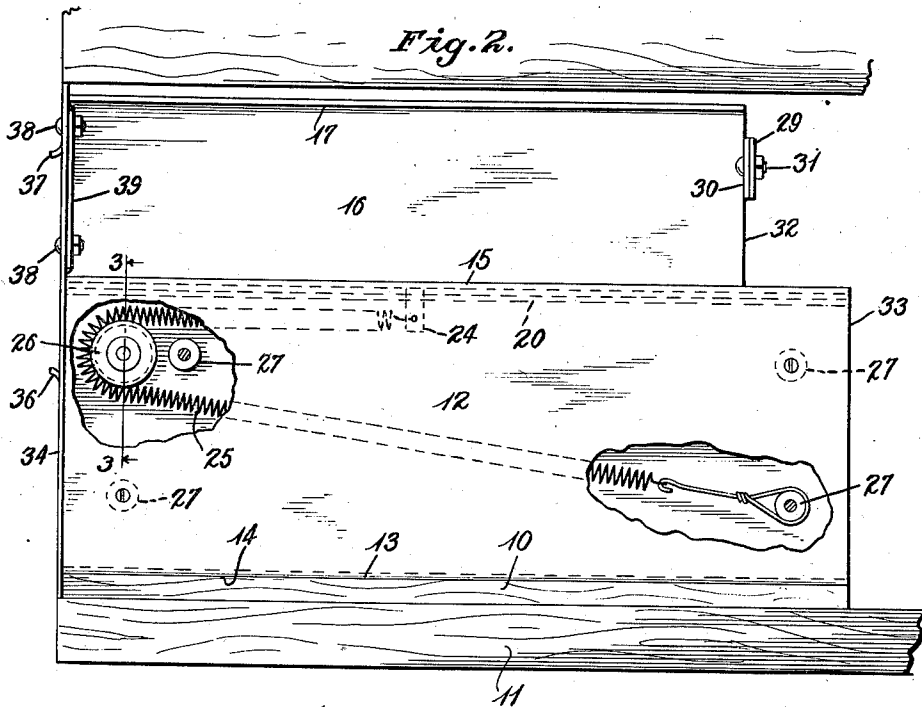
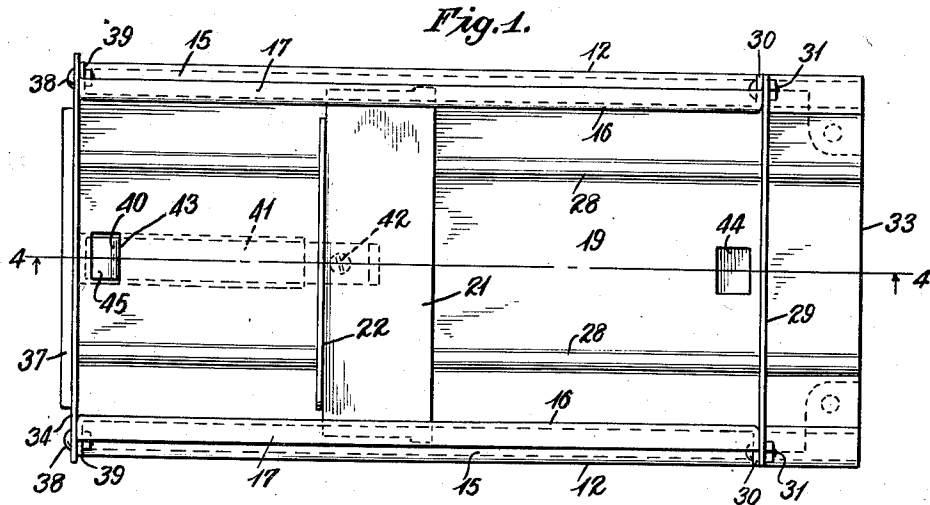
G. A. SHAFFER ET AL

2,085,479

DISPENSER CABINET

Filed April 6, 1933

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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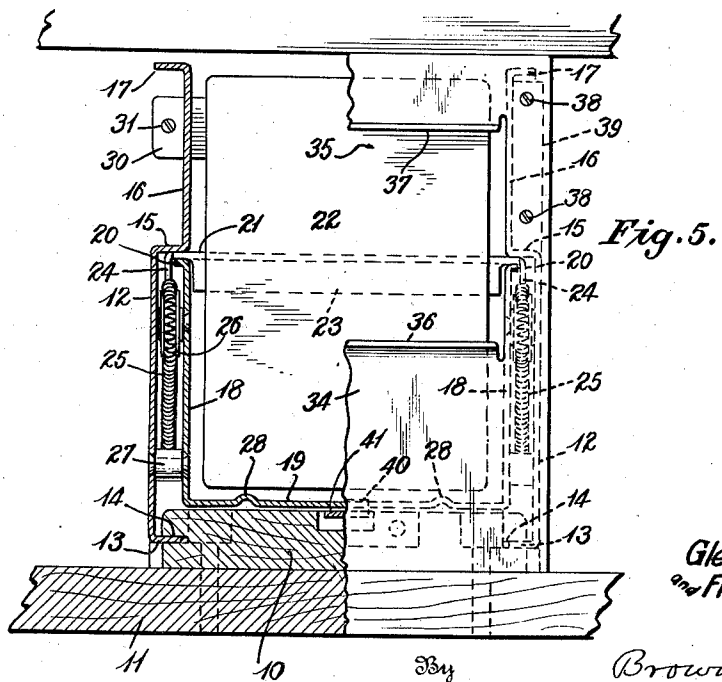
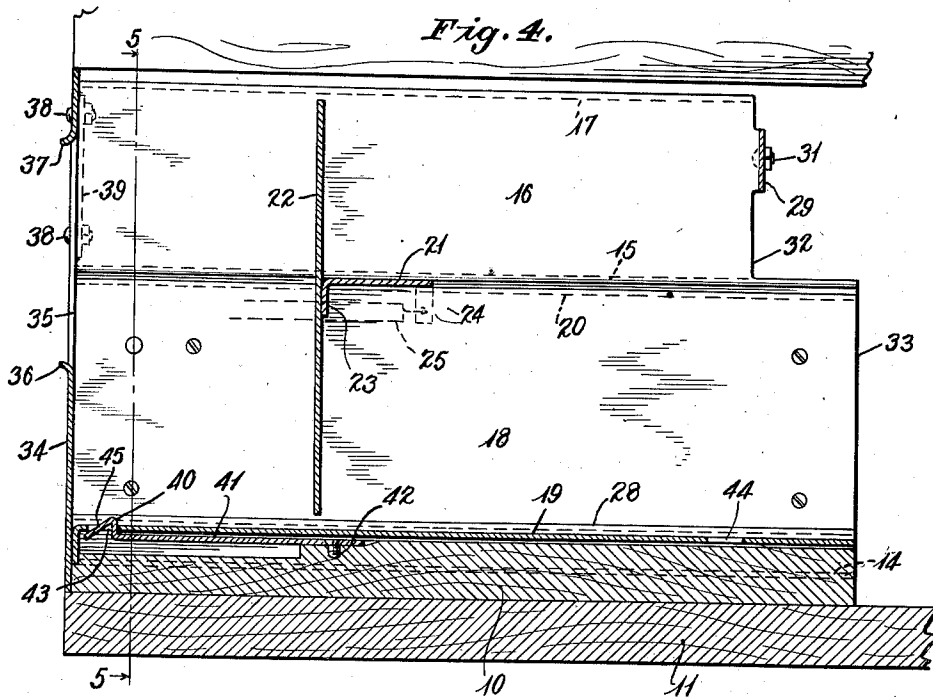
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DISPENSER CABINET

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,085,479

DISPENSER CABINET

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5 Claims. (Cl. 312-62)

The invention relates to dispenser cabinets and has as an object the provision of a drawer type of napkin dispenser which may be utilized in any desirable form of cabinet.

In ordinary cafeterias the counter space has become so limited that the ordinary type of napkin dispenser sitting upon the counter is using space which is essential for other use. It is therefore an object of the invention to provide a napkin dispenser which may be placed in a space under the table or counter top where the napkins may be readily available, or in a cabinet of such nature that the top of the cabinet itself may be available as counter space. In this service the invention provides a dispenser which is in the form of a drawer which may be slid outwardly for replenishment of the napkins therein.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a drawer type dispenser as referred to wherein the follower plate and its impelling means are carried by the drawer itself so as not to disarrange the relation of the follower plate to any remaining napkins in the drawer when the drawer is slid out of the cabinet.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a drawer type dispenser in which the impelling means for the follower plate are concealed in the sides of the drawer.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a device of the character referred to having novel form of follower plate impelling means.

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 plan view of the drawer with the cabinet omitted;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation partly broken away of a drawer with a base upon which it may be mounted and which may form a portion of a cabinet;

Fig. 3 is a detail vertical section on line 3-3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a central vertical section on line 4-4 of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 5 is a front elevation partly in transverse section on line 5-5 of Fig. 4.

As shown the device is designed to slide upon a base 10, which, as indicated in Fig. 5, may be secured to the bottom 11 of a cabinet not shown, the device comprising an open top drawer having side plates 12. The rearward end of the drawer may be left open if desired since no function would be secured by its closure. The side mem-

bers 12 are shown as having angularly turned portions 13 at their bottom edge to coact with grooves 14 in the baseboard 10.

To provide enclosures for impelling means for a follower plate, the side plates 12 are shown as turned inwardly at 15 and then upwardly at 16. The top edge may be turned at an angle as 17 if desired to promote stiffness and to avoid a sharp edge at the upper portion of the open drawer. An inner enclosure for the housing or enclosure for the impelling means is provided in the form of an inner receptacle having sides 18 and a bottom 19 connecting the sides. The interior spacing of the sides 18 is the same as the interior spacing of the sides 16 of the upper part of the drawer and the upper edges of the sides 18 terminate in outwardly turned flanges 20 spaced from the lower edges of the portion 16 to provide slots in which the horizontal plate 21 secured to the follower plate 22 is caused to slide. The plate 21 is shown as formed with a downwardly turned flange 23 secured to the follower plate 22 whereby to hold the follower plate in accurate position.

To force the follower plate toward the front of the drawer, the plate 21 is provided with projections 24 which extend into the enclosures between the plates 12 and 18 and are turned downwardly therein to each be secured to a coiled spring 25 passing about a pulley 26 and anchored at its end to a spacing member 27 adjacent the rear of the drawer. The spacing of the plates 12 and 18 is preserved by bushings 27 and rivets or screws passing through the bushings and through the plates to thus hold them in rigid relation with each other.

To reduce friction of napkins in the device, the bottom 19 is desirably provided with beads 28.

A rear stop for the plate 22 is indicated in the form of a bar 29 secured to outwardly turned flanges 30 upon the portion 16 of the side plate as by means of screw bolts 31, which bar 29 serves not only as a stop for the follower plate but as a brace for the rear end of the drawer when the same remains open. The rear end portion 32 of the drawer is shown as offset from the end portion 33 thereof to allow the plate 21 to retreat beyond the stop 29.

A front plate 34 having a dispensing opening 35 with outwardly flared edges 36, 37 is shown as secured by screw bolts 38 to outwardly turned flanges 39 carried by the side plates 16. To hold the drawer in closed position, a concealed catch is provided in the form of a catch member 40

carried by a leaf spring 41 secured to the base 10 as by means of a screw 42. The catch member 40 is adapted to engage an opening 43 in the bottom plate 19 of the drawer.

5 To prevent the drawer from being completely withdrawn from the cabinet by accident, a second keeper opening 44 is shown in the drawer bottom adjacent its rear end into which the catch member 40 will snap when the drawer has been
10 pulled out a sufficient distance. When the drawer is again pushed in, the cam portion 45 of the catch member will automatically depress the catch so as to allow the return of the drawer. An attendant familiar with the construction can
15 readily force any napkins present in the drawer and the follower plate 22 rearwardly sufficiently to gain access to the catch to release the catch member 40 whereupon the drawer member may be readily pulled out for replenishment of nap-
20 kins.

The follower plate is held out of contact with the bottom of the drawer and being supported in an upright position by the plate 21 at about the center of gravity of plate 22, the follower plate
25 will slide very freely and efficiently hold folded napkins upright and feed them toward the delivery opening.

Minor changes may be made in the physical embodiment of the invention within the scope of the appended claims without departing from the spirit thereof.

We claim:

1. A napkin dispenser comprising, in combination: a casing; a front for said casing having a
35 dispensing opening; outer side walls for said casing; inner side walls for said casing extending substantially one-half the height thereof and spaced from the outer walls to provide
40 spaces therebetween; means to partially close said spaces at their edges adjacent the central vertical extent of the casing leaving slots into said spaces; a follower plate; means project-
45 ing at the vertical edges of the follower plate into said slots to support and guide the follower plate for sliding movement; and impelling means housed in said spaces and connected to said
projections to urge the follower plate toward said opening.

2. A napkin dispenser comprising, in combination: a cabinet structure comprising a bed plate; an open top drawer slidably mounted on said
50 bed plate, having a dispensing opening in its front and keeper openings in its bottom adjacent its front and rear ends; a spring catch secured to said bed plate, normally engaging the front keeper opening and by engagement with the rear keeper opening serving to limit outward
55 sliding of the drawer; a cam surface on said catch to automatically disengage the catch from the rear opening when the drawer is closed; a follower plate slidably mounted in said drawer; and means to urge the follower toward the draw-
60 er front.

3. In a napkin dispenser, in combination: a casing including inner and outer portions; said inner portion comprising side plates extending substantially one-half the height of the casing; said outer portion comprising side walls spaced at
5 their lower portions from said inner side walls; the upper portions of the outer side walls inwardly offset to lie in the plane of the inner side walls with the adjacent edges of the respective
10 side walls spaced to provide slots opening into the spaces between the side walls; a follower plate in said casing; means projecting from said follower plate through said slots; a front for said casing formed with a dispensing opening; and means housed in the space between the side
15 walls and connected to said projecting means to impel the follower plate toward said dispensing opening.

4. In a napkin dispenser, in combination: a casing including inner and outer portions and a
20 front provided with a dispensing opening; said inner portion comprising a bottom and side walls extending substantially one-half the height of the casing with their upper margins turned outwardly; said outer portion comprising side walls,
25 the lower portions thereof spaced from said inner side walls to provide impeller housing chambers, the central portions thereof turned inwardly above said inner side walls to close said chamber, and their upper portions extending up-
30 wardly in the planes of and with their lower edges spaced from the upper edges of said inner side walls; a bar of substantial width mounted with its end in the slots thus provided between the edges of the inner and outer side walls; a follower plate
35 secured to an edge of said bar; and impeller means in said chambers connected to the ends of said bar to urge said follower toward said dispensing opening.

5. A dispenser for folded paper napkins, comprising a container of rectangular cross-section
40 having its side walls provided with longitudinally extending narrow slots and having an apertured front end, a follower plate within said container, a carrier for said follower plate comprising a
45 member having a part secured to said follower plate and having flat end portions projecting outwardly through the slots in said side walls, said carrier supporting said follower plate for movement in said container, said flat end portions being
50 in sliding engagement with said slotted side walls and having extended bearing in said slots to prevent tilting of said plate about a horizontal axis, means secured to said carrier and adapted to have extended bearing engagement with the
55 surfaces of said side walls to prevent tilting movement of said follower plate about a vertical axis, and springs secured to said flat end portions outwardly of said side walls for constantly urging said follower plate toward said apertured
60 front wall.

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