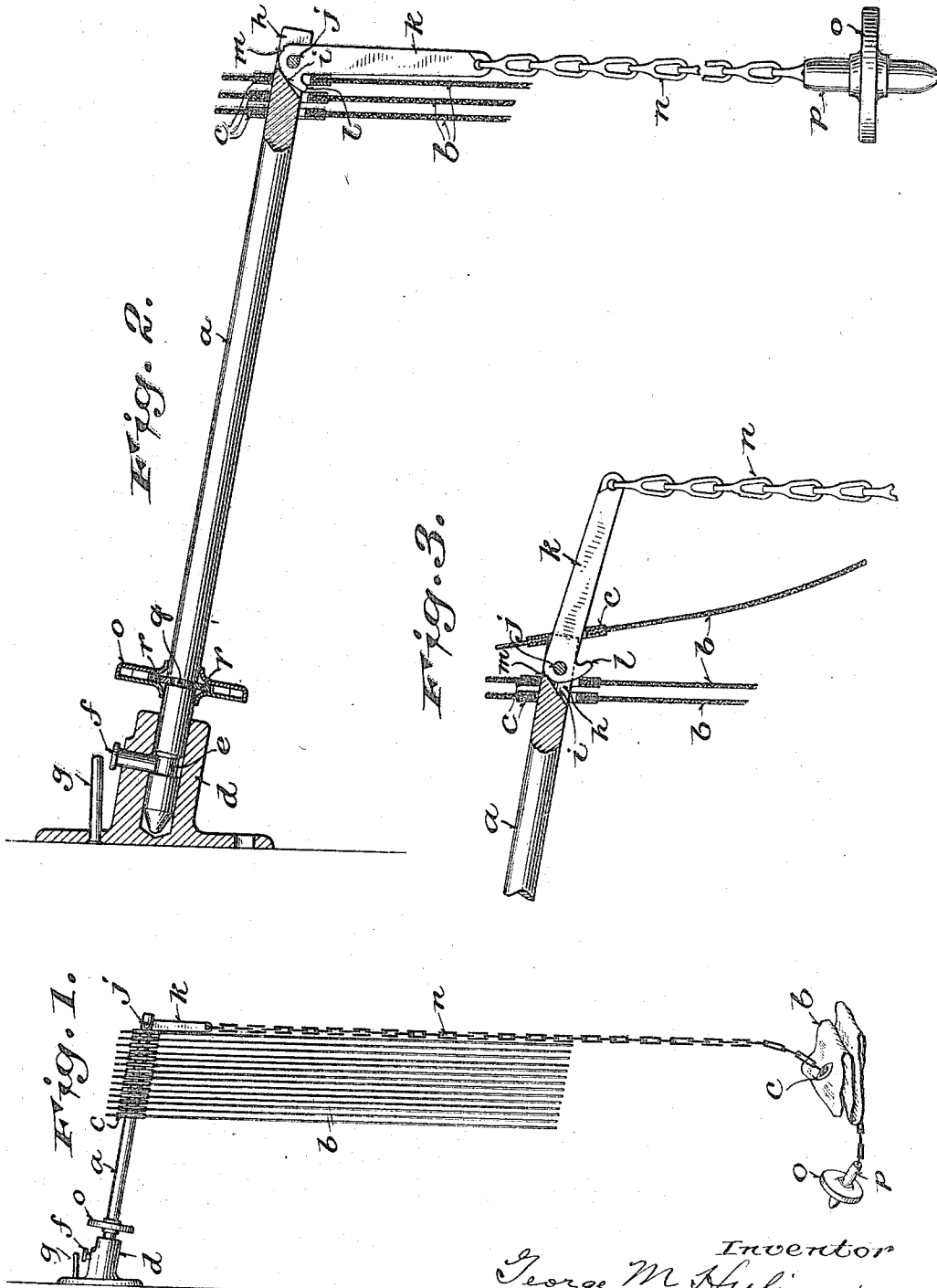


G. M. HUBINGER.
TOWEL DISPENSING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 8, 1916.

1,268,246.

Patented June 4, 1918.



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TOWEL-DISPENSING DEVICE.

1,268,246.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 4, 1918.

Application filed June 8, 1916. Serial No. 102,403.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE M. HUBINGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Milwaukee in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Towel-Dispensing Devices, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part thereof.

This invention relates more particularly to individual towel service and supply devices of the class shown and described in my application Serial No. 46,803, filed August 23, 1915, for United States Letters Patent.

The main objects of the present invention are to prevent removal from the hanger rod of more than one towel at a time, and generally to improve the construction and operation of devices of this class.

It consists in the construction, arrangement and combination of parts as herein-after particularly described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawing like characters designate the same parts in the several figures.

Figure 1 is a side elevation showing a towel dispensing device embodying the invention as installed ready for service; Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the same partly in side elevation and partly in section; and Fig. 3 is a fragmentary view similar to Fig. 2, showing the stop and releasing member in delivery position.

The device comprises a round metal hanger rod *a*, on which a number of towels *b*, provided with eyelets or gromets *c*, are adapted to be strung and held in convenient condition for delivery and use. It is removably fitted and adapted to be held preferably in a downwardly inclined position, as shown, in a socket of a bracket or fixture *d*, which may be fastened to the wall of a cabinet or room where the device is to be used. The end of the rod which is fitted in the bracket or fixture *d*, is pointed, beveled or rounded as shown in Fig. 2, to facilitate stringing towels thereon and inserting it in the socket of the bracket or fixture. It is formed adjacent to its beveled or rounded end with a circumferential groove *e*, for

locking or fastening it in the bracket or fixture by means of a pin *f* or other suitable fastening or locking device. The removal and loss of the pin *f*, which fits freely in a hole intersecting the socket in the bracket or fixture, is prevented by a stud or lug *g*, projecting over it from the base or other part of the bracket.

At its other end the rod *a* is formed with a longitudinal slot or recess *h*, terminating at its inner end in a beveled or inclined stop shoulder *i*. In this slot or recess is pivoted on a cross pin *j*, a stop and releasing member or arm *k*, which is formed at its pivoted end with a laterally, inwardly and downwardly inclined or curved spur *l*, adapted by engagement with the stop shoulder *i*, as shown in Fig. 2, to limit the downward and backward movement of said member or arm.

A shoulder or projection *m*, formed on the pivoted end of the member or arm *k*, is adapted by engagement with the upper end of the stop shoulder *i*, as shown in Fig. 3, to limit the upward and outward movement of said member or arm in its delivery position in approximate alinement with the rod *a*.

A transfer holder *n*, for used towels, is connected with the free end of the member or arm *k* so as to receive towels therefrom as they are withdrawn from the rod *a*. This transfer holder is preferably made of some flexible material such as a chain, wire or small cable, which may be conveniently wrapped around a bunch of towels strung on the rod, to hold them in a compact bundle for transportation and delivery, and which, when the rod is inserted and held in a bracket or fixture *d*, will permit freedom of use by one or more persons of a towel or towels withdrawn from the rod, but still retained on the flexible transfer holder.

To prevent unauthorized removal and theft or loss of towels, the device is provided with lock stops *o*, one of which is applied to the rod *a* adjacent to the end opposite the member or arm *k*, and the other to the free end of the transfer holder *n*. These stops, which may be like or similar to those shown and described in my pending application hereinbefore mentioned,

are provided with a key or keys which are kept at the laundry furnishing the towel service, where the soiled towels are removed from the holder and clean towels are strung on the rod. The stops are preferably, made to be slipped into place and fastened on the hanger rod *a* and holder *n*, without the use of a key, the holder *n* being provided at its free end with a short rod *p*, corresponding in section with the rod *a*, and like said rod, formed with a groove *q*, as shown in Fig. 2, for engagement with spring actuated jaws *r* with which each stop is provided.

In use the device operates as follows:

The hanger rod *a* being supplied with clean towels and fastened, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, in a bracket or fixture *d*, when a towel is required, the outer towel on said rod hanging against the arm *k* in its normal pendant position, as shown in Fig. 2, is grasped and drawn forward over the end of said rod, thereby turning the arm *k* upward into its delivery position, as shown in Fig. 3. By this operation the spur *l* is thrust downward from the slot or recess *h* between the eyelet or gromet *c* of the first towel and the eyelet or gromet of the towel next to it, which is thus held back on the rod *a* while the first towel is free to slip from the arm *k* upon the chain or flexible holder *n*. Before another towel can be withdrawn from the rod *a*, the arm *k* must be turned back to its normal position, as shown in Fig. 2, thereby turning the spur *l* upwardly into the recess *h* and permitting the eyelet or gromet of the next towel to pass below the end of the spur against the back edge or side of said arm into position to be released and separated from the towel behind it, when said arm is again turned upward into its delivery position, as shown in Fig. 3. Thus the towels suspended from the rod *a* can only be released and withdrawn therefrom one at a time. After they have been used, the towels slide down on the chain or flexible holder *n*, on which they are retained by the lock stop *o* with which said holder is provided, and may be thrown into a box, hamper or basket.

In its normal pendant position, the arm *k* serves as a stop to prevent the towels, suspended on the rod *a* and tending to slide downwardly thereon against said arm, from slipping off from the rod over the end thereof. When said arm *k* is turned upward into its delivery position, in approximate alinement with the rod *a*, as shown in Fig. 3, the downwardly projected spur *l* separates and releases the front towel from those behind it and serves as a stop to retain all but the front towel on said rod.

The projection of the rod *a*, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, a short distance beyond the arm *k*, when the latter is in its normal pend-

ant position, prevents towels with large eyelets or gromets *c*, from tipping and slipping over the end of the rod and falling down on the transfer holder *n*.

Various modifications in minor details of construction may be made without departure from the principle and scope of the invention as defined in the following claims.

I claim:

1. In a towel dispensing device the combination of a hanger rod, a stop and releasing member connected with one end of the rod and adapted to prevent the removal therefrom of more than one towel at a time, and a transfer holder connected with said stop and releasing member and adapted to receive towels withdrawn from said rod.

2. In a towel dispensing device the combination of a portable hanger rod, a stop and releasing member pivoted to one end of said rod, and a flexible transfer holder connected at one end with said stop and releasing member and provided at its other end with a stop.

3. In a towel dispensing device the combination of a hanger rod adapted to be detachably fastened at one end to a fixture and supported thereby in working position, a lock stop removably secured on said rod adjacent to its supported end, a stop and releasing member connected with the free end of said rod and adapted to permit the withdrawal therefrom of but one towel at a time, and a flexible transfer holder connected at one end with said member and provided at the other end with a removable lock stop.

4. In a towel dispensing device the combination of a hanger rod, a stop and releasing member consisting of an arm pivoted at one end to said rod and provided at that end with a lateral spur adapted when said arm is turned from its normal into delivery position to separate and permit the withdrawal of one towel from others suspended on the rod, and a transfer holder for used towels connected with the free end of said arm.

5. In a towel dispensing device the combination of a hanger rod adapted to be supported at one end in working position, an arm pivoted at one end to said rod adjacent to the free end of the rod and provided with a spur adapted when the arm is turned from its normal pendant position into approximate alinement with the rod to release and permit the withdrawal therefrom of one towel only.

6. In a towel dispensing device the combination of a hanger rod adapted to be supported at one end in working position and formed at the other end with a recess and stop shoulder, a stop and releasing arm pivoted at one end to said rod in the recess therein and provided with a lateral downwardly inclined spur adapted when

said arm is turned from its normal pendant position into approximate alinement with the rod to separate and release the outer towel from others suspended on said rod, and a flexible transfer holder connected at one end with said member and adapted to receive towels therefrom.

In witness whereof I hereto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE M. HUBINGER.

Witnesses:

CHAS. L. Goss,

ALICE E. Goss.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."