Aug. 13, 1935. H. C. GESSLER 2,011,403

PAPER NAPKIN DISPENSER CARTON

Filed Aug. 29, 1933

Fig. 1

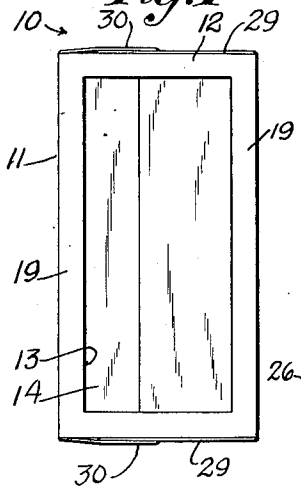


Fig. 2

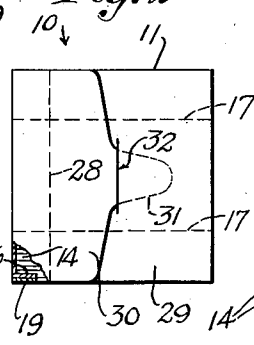


Fig. 3

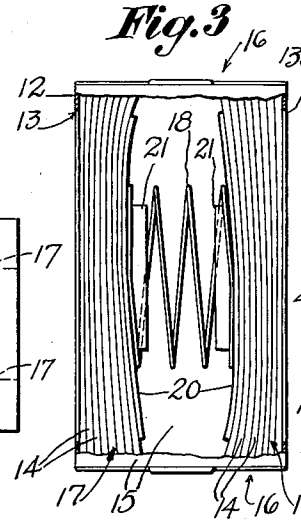


Fig. 4

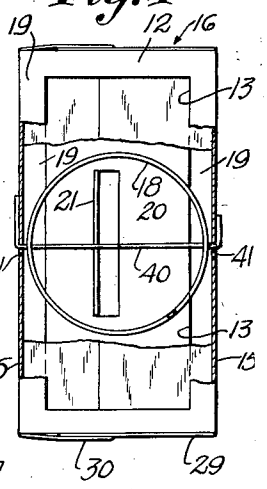
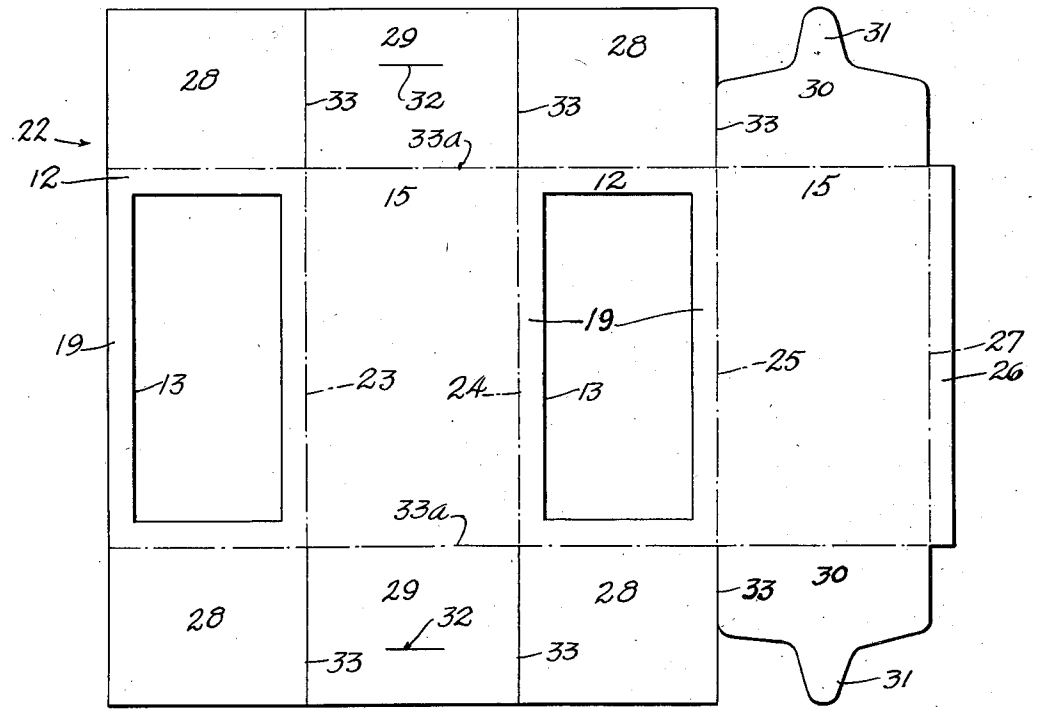


Fig. 5



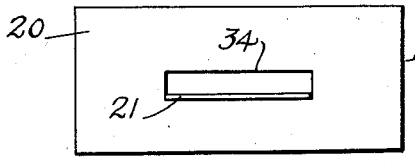


Fig. 6

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PAPER NAPKIN DISPENSER CARTON

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Application August 29, 1933, Serial No. 687,259

6 Claims. (Cl. 206—57)

This invention relates to napkin dispensers.

One object of the invention is to provide an improved paper napkin dispenser carton, wherein the carton is to be discarded after the napkins have been consumed.

Another object of the invention is the provision of an improved napkin dispenser construction forming a novel merchandizing arrangement, whereby the napkins instead of being sold to the ultimate consumer in ordinary packages, are made available directly in cheap paper dispensers, which are nevertheless adapted for use as regular convenient dispensers until the napkins are exhausted.

Another object of the invention is to provide a napkin dispenser which is adapted to be shipped in convenient flat form, and which may consist of a single blank of material.

Another object of the invention is to furnish a device of the nature set forth having relatively few and simple parts, and which is inexpensive to manufacture and assemble, which will reliably hold the napkins in a simplified manner, and which is neat and compact, reliable and efficient in use.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent as the specification proceeds.

With the aforesaid objects in view, the invention consists in the novel combinations and arrangements of parts hereinafter described in their preferred embodiments, pointed out in the subjoined claims, and illustrated in the annexed drawing, wherein like parts are designated by the same reference characters throughout the several views.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of a device embodying the invention.

Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof, with a part removed.

Fig. 3 is a view similar to that of Fig. 1, but taken at right angles thereto, with parts removed.

Fig. 4 is a view similar to that of Fig. 1, but with parts removed and parts in section, and showing a modified construction.

Fig. 5 is a plan view of a blank for the device.

Fig. 6 is a plan view of an element of the device.

The advantages of the invention as here outlined are best realized when all of its features and instrumentalities are combined in one and the same structure, but, useful devices may be produced embodying less than the whole.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art to which the invention appertains, that the same may be incorporated in several different constructions. The accompanying drawing, therefore, is submitted merely as showing the preferred exemplification of the invention.

Referring in detail to the drawing, 10 denotes a dispenser embodying the invention. The same may include a dispenser carton 11 made of an inexpensive material so that the carton is discardable. For example, the carton may be made of paper or other pliable or composition material having sufficient strength or stiffness to be self sustaining. Said carton may include duplicate front and rear walls 12 having openings or windows 13 for the removal of conventional folded paper napkins 14. Said carton may also have side walls 15, and suitable upper and lower reenforcing wall structures 16, whereby the carton assumes a rectangular or other suitable shape. The size of the carton is such as to relatively snugly receive two batches 17 of the napkins 14, said batches being individually received alongside of said windows and arranged to be retained in the carton by the walls 12 surrounding said windows.

For resiliently actuating the batches 17 apart from each other and toward said windows 13, a suitable yielding or elastic means is provided. The same may, for example, be in the nature of any cheap expansion coil spring 18 whose diameter is such as to be fit between the side walls 15 of the dispenser carton. In order to assure relatively uniform pressure of the spring against the paper napkins, and particularly to prevent a relatively thin batch thereof from being pressed through an adjacent window, the spring 18 is not only arranged to exert pressure against the narrow vertical sections 19 of the wall 12, but sheets of paper 20 or similar sufficiently stiff material may be inserted between the spring and said batches to equalize the pressure thereon. To support the spring, the elements 20 may have vertically elongated tongues or flaps 21 struck therefrom so as to project into end coils of the spring. However, the elements 20 may be omitted, and the spring will be supported with the dispenser carton resting on either end, by reason of frictional engagement and slight deformation or embedment of the ends of the spring in the soft tissue of the paper napkins 14. In any case, the spring exerts a generally central pressure on the batches of napkins causing portions thereof to concave outward to cause a supporting action for the spring. This occurs because the spring is spaced from upper and lower ends of the napkins.

While the spring 18 and the napkin batches 17

may be inserted into the dispenser carton through the windows 13, in assembling the device, it is preferable to provide an end wall structure 16 which is adapted to be readily opened for receiving the same, and then to be quickly and effectively closed. If desired, both upper and lower end wall structures may be so arranged, whereby the dispenser carton may be collapsed flat for inexpensive shipment.

Desirably the dispenser carton is made of a single blank 22, which may form the successive walls 12 and 15 by means of parallel fold lines 23, 24 and 25, an end tongue 26 being provided by a fold line 27 for attachment, if desired, with the opposite end section of the blank, such as a vertical element 19 of a wall 12. Extending from the walls 12 of the blank, flaps 28 may be provided, and other flaps 29 and 30 may extend from the walls 15, the flaps 30 having tongues 31, and the flaps 29 having slits 32 for receiving the tongues. The different flaps may be connected along fold lines 33a and may be separated from each other by cuts 33 alined with the fold lines 23, 24 and 25. In general, it is noted that a conventional flap closure is provided.

In striking out the windows 13, the pieces of material formed constitute the elements 20. In the same operation, the flaps 21 may be formed as by striking an opening 34 and bending the section 21 at right angles. In this manner all material is utilized, with no resulting waste. In practice, the device 10 may be shipped with the paper napkins 14 in large containers or boxes, and the springs being separately boxed, and the blanks 22 packed flat. However, the sections 26 may be glued in place in the factory, and the flaps being open, the carton may be collapsed into flat condition for shipment.

In use, the consumer purchases the device 10, which may be wrapped in cellophane, if desired, for sanitary reasons. The device 10 may then be used in the home or at lunch counters as a regular metallic dispenser with the napkins being successively grasped and withdrawn through the windows 13. When the supply of napkins is consumed, the dispenser carton and its associated parts may be discarded.

The advantages of this invention from a merchandizing viewpoint are very great. The device is light in weight, neat in appearance, adds very little to the cost of the napkins, and has a high degree of utility by keeping the napkins together in a presentable manner for immediate and convenient use. The dispenser may stand upright and be used like a regular dispenser. The dispenser may also be rested on a wall 15 or may be supported by a string 40 looped over the carton and engaged under the flaps of an end wall structure or threaded through central holes 41 in the side walls 15 and between the coils of the spring, and shown partially broken away, this arrangement being a modification of the invention.

In order that the foregoing advantages may be obtained, the essential criterion is cheapness in manufacture, in assembling and in shipping. All of these factors are taken care of by the invention. For instance, in assembling the device, two batches 17 of the napkins are obtained and the spring 18 and the backing strips 20 placed therebetween to form an insertable unit which the operator may hold in one hand, compressing the spring. With a single movement, said unit is inserted into the dispenser carton, and then the end wall structures may be closed.

The invention herein described and shown may be embodied in other forms and constructions within the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. A paper napkin dispenser including a carton of a pliable sheet material having openings in opposite walls thereof, spaced batches of paper napkins disposed in the carton against said opposite walls and adapted for individual removal of the napkins through said openings, and means including a coiled spring disposed between said batches and urging the same apart and against said walls, said spring having a diameter substantially equal to the width of said carton so that the spring exerts its pressure against the said opposite walls at portions thereof at the corners of the carton, whereby the corners of the latter are utilized as a reenforcement for preventing distortion of the pliable material of the carton by the spring.

2. A pliable napkin dispenser carton adapted to receive spaced batches of napkins against opposite side walls thereof, the latter having large dispenser openings affording relatively narrow wall portions against which the napkins are adapted to rest, and means including a spring for acting expansively between the said batches, said spring being substantially fitted between the other side walls of the carton so that the reaction of the spring pressure is re-enforcingly taken up by the carton at the corners thereof.

3. An elongated pliable napkin dispenser carton adapted to receive a batch of napkins and having a side wall provided with a relatively large elongated opening for bodily withdrawal of the napkins, a backing member for the napkins consisting of material cut from said wall in forming said window, and a spring in the carton bearing on the backing member for urging the napkins against said wall, said spring having a greater width than the backing member and being substantially fitted between said walls of the carton so that side corner portions of the carton reenforcingly assume the stress caused by the spring.

4. A pliable napkin dispenser carton adapted to receive spaced batches of napkins against opposite side walls thereof, the latter having larger dispenser openings affording relatively narrow wall portions against which the napkins are adapted to rest, and means including a spring for acting expansively between the said batches, said spring being substantially fitted between the other side walls of the carton so that the reaction of the spring pressure is re-enforcingly taken up by the carton at the corners thereof, and the spring being supported solely by the napkin batches.

5. A paper napkin dispenser including a pliable dispenser carton having a plurality of spaced napkin batches disposed along opposite side walls of the carton, the side walls having dispenser openings for the napkins, backing members for the napkin batches consisting of the portions cut out from the side walls in forming said openings, and an expansion coil spring in the carton between the backing members and bearing thereon, said spring being of greater diameter than the widths of the backing members, and being substantially fitted between the remaining side walls of the carton so that the side corner portions of the carton re-enforcingly take up the stress caused by the spring, the backing member and the spring being otherwise independent of the carton, and being supported by the napkin

batches, with the backing members frictionally engaged with the napkin batches.

6. A paper napkin dispenser including a pliable dispenser carton having a plurality of spaced napkin batches disposed along opposite side walls of the carton, the side walls having dispenser openings for the napkins, backing members for the napkin batches, and an expansion coil spring in the carton between the backing members and bearing thereon, said spring being of greater diameter than the widths of the backing members, and being substantially fitted between the remaining side walls of the carton so that the side corner portions of the carton re-enforcingly take up the stress caused by the spring, the backing members and the spring being otherwise independent of the carton, and being supported by the napkin batches, with the backing members frictionally engaged with the napkin batches.

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