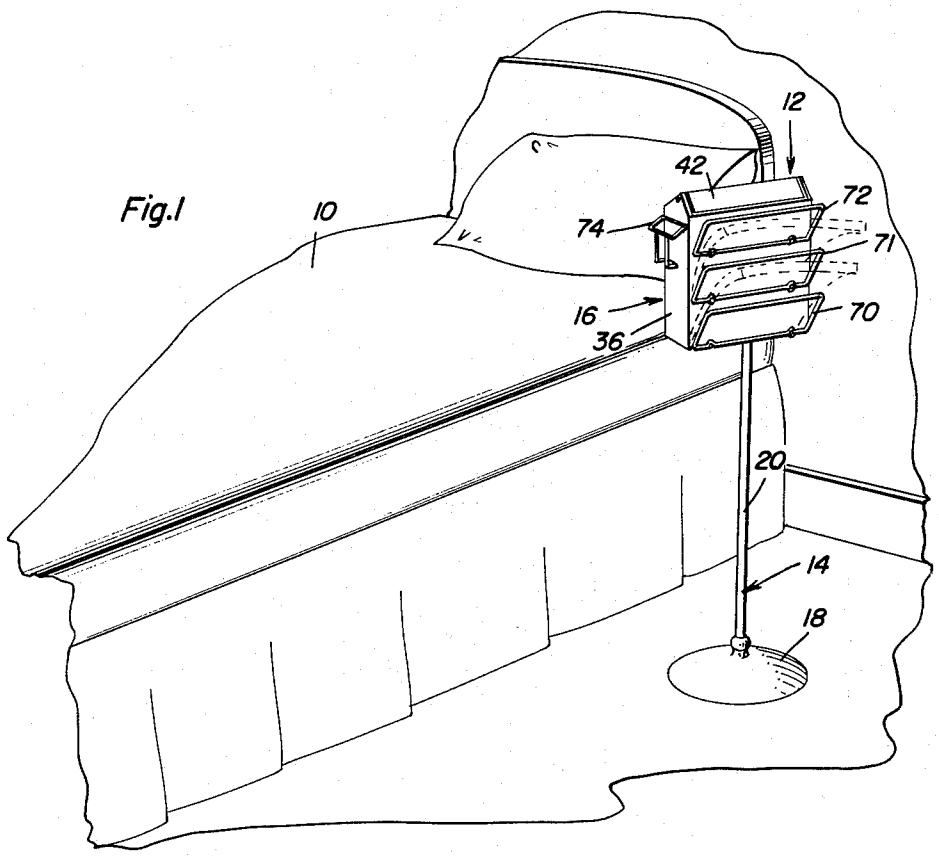
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TISSUE DISPENSER

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Fig.1



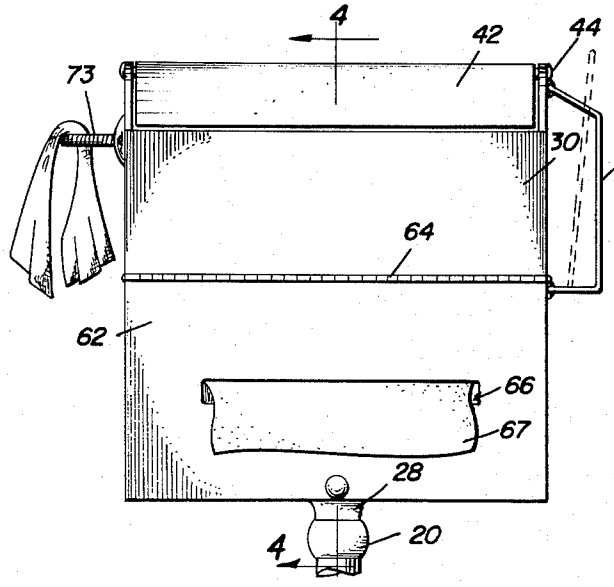


Fig.2

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Fig.3

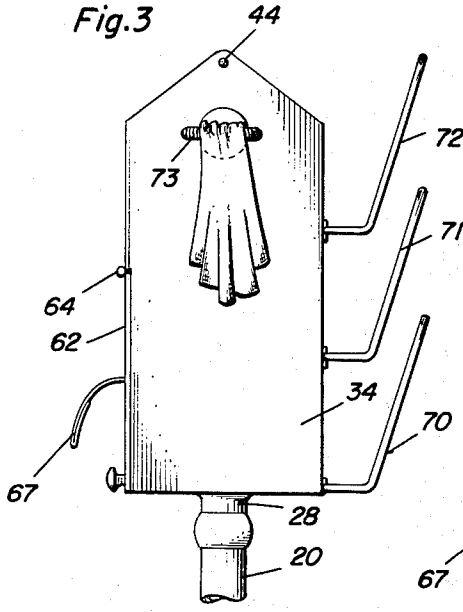


Fig.4

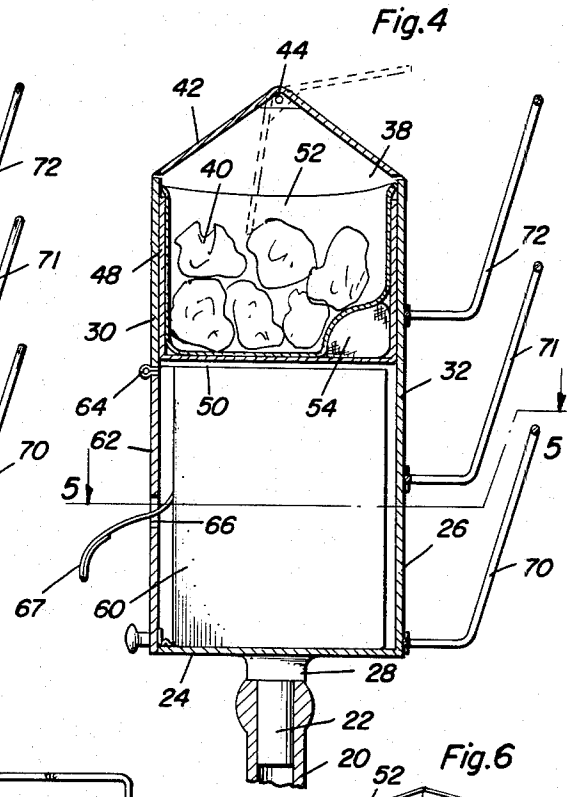


Fig.5

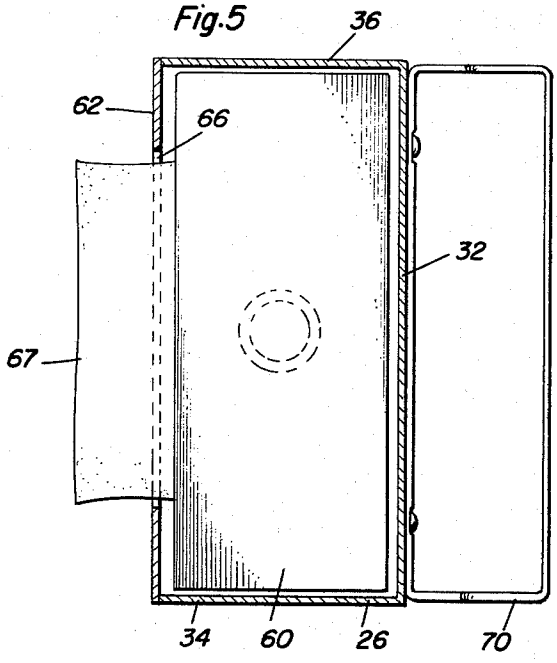
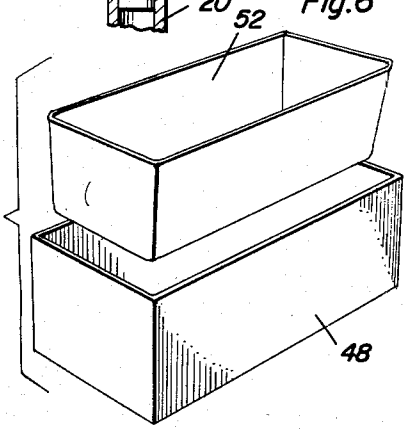


Fig.6



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TISSUE DISPENSER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 312—211)

This invention relates to dispensers and more particularly to a tissue dispenser and stand.

An object of the invention is to provide a tissue dispenser capable of being supported close to a bed, lounge or the like occupied by a person who is ill or convalescent so that the tissues especially are readily accessible at all times.

The invention provides not only a very handy dispenser but also novel means for accepting and accumulating the soiled tissues.

One of the features of the invention is found in the convenience by which the tissues are available to a patient and also various and sundry items such as a towel, newspaper, magazine, and the like.

The disposal of soiled tissues is not especially sanitary, even in the most modern hospitals. Soiled tissues are generally thrown into a wastebasket. Sometimes, the wastebasket has a paper bag within to accumulate the soiled tissues, and the paper bag is disposed of eventually. This is more for the convenience of the workers than anything else. This invention has a compartment within which there is a removable container and a liner in the container that is removable therewith. The liner can be a disposable item or may be made of fabric or plastic that is separable from the container so that it can be periodically washed. Moreover, the invention contemplates a disinfectant bag to be placed between the liner and container or in the container so that the area adjacent to the soiled tissues constantly undergoes a disinfecting treatment.

It is annoying to the patient to have to reach to a table or some other usually inconvenient support on which a box of tissues is placed. This invention provides a stand that supports the tissues and the means for disposing of the tissues alongside of the bed. Moreover, the upper part of the dispenser is rotatable through a full 360° so that it can be positioned to suit the patient thereby avoiding the difficulty of the patient having to stretch and reach for a tissue and in some instances, call for a nurse's aide or nurse to fetch a tissue or the tissue box.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of a dispenser constructed in accordance with the invention showing it in a typical place along the side of a bed.

FIGURE 2 is a front view of a part of the dispenser in FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 3 is an end view of the dispenser in FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 4 is a sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of FIGURE 2.

FIGURE 5 is a sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of FIGURE 4.

FIGURE 6 is an exploded perspective view of a container and liner within which to place soiled tissues.

In the accompanying drawings there is a hospital bed or any other type of bed **10** adjacent to which the dispenser **12** is located. Although the principal application

of the invention is in connection with beds, lounges or the like on which patients are seated or which patients occupy, it is to be clearly understood that the principles of the invention are applicable in connection with other environments. For instance, the dispenser may be placed in a barber shop or may be used in the home.

Dispenser **12** is made of two sections or companion parts **14** and **16**, with section **14** being a stand. The stand embodies a substantial suitable heavy base **18** that can be rested on the floor, and a post or pedestal **20** attached to it and rising vertically therefrom. The post is hollow and has spindle **22** in its upper open end. The spindle is part of the upper section **16** since it is attached to the bottom wall **24** of casing **26**. Collar **28** is also attached to bottom wall **24** and is located above spindle **22** to form a thrust bearing inasmuch as it is seated on the upper end of post **20**. Accordingly, casing **26** is rotatable through a full 360° movement with spindle **22** rotating in the bore of hollow post **20**.

In addition to the bottom wall **24**, casing **26** has a front wall **30**, a rear wall **32**, end walls **34** and **36** respectively and an open top to form entrance **38** for soiled tissues **40**. The upper ends of the sides or side walls **36** and **34** are extended slightly beyond the front and rear walls **30** and **32** respectively to support the apical part of swinging closure **42** by either trunnions or a pivot rod **44** attached at the upper extremities of sides **36** and **34**. Closure **42** is substantially V-shaped in cross-section and can swing forward and rearward to expose the soiled tissue entrance **38**. The configuration of the closure **42** is capable of being varied. The closure **42** may be substituted by one or two spring-loaded panels that are urged to the closed position by means of springs or a single torsion spring and that open upon depression of either of the panels so that soiled tissues can be easily inserted through entrance **38**.

The upper part of casing **26** has a rectangular container **48** separably disposed in it. The container fits reasonably snugly within the walls of casing **26** and rests on strips **50** that are attached to the end walls **34** and **36**. A disposable or non-disposable liner **52** of approximately the same shape as container **48**, is in the container and is removed from casing **26** simultaneously with the removal of container **48**. The liner **52** may be of paper, plastic, fabric or any other cloth-type material. The purpose of the liner is cleanliness and sanitation, and the same holds true for the cover or closure **42**. To further this end, there is a disinfectant bag **54** which may be placed anywhere in container **48**, for instance between the bottom wall of container **48** and the liner **52** (FIGURE 4). When removing the liner **52**, the soiled tissues **40**, are removed therewith. When a closure such as illustrated in FIGURE 4, is used, the closure may first be removed by separating the pivot rod **44**. For further convenience, container **48** may be made shallow enough so that it fits through the space between either the front or rear wall and the pivot rod **44** so that the closure **42** can be swung to a full open position and the container and liner **52** separated from the casing **26**.

The lower part of casing **26** is adapted to support a box **60** of tissues. Door **62** is connected by hinge **64** to the fixed upper part of wall **30** so that the door can be swung open to insert or remove a tissue box. Slot **66** is in door **62** so that the tissues **67** may be pulled therethrough.

A number of attachments may be secured to the casing **26**. Magazine and newspaper racks **70**, **71** and **72** on wall **32**, are typical examples. Towel and wash cloth ring **73** is another example of an attachment and it is applied to wall **34**. Holder **74** occupies some of the space of wall **36**. A number of other attachments may be

used in lieu or in addition to those illustrated and mentioned herein.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. In a patient's bedside utility device, a portable stand embodying a pedestal, a vertically elongated, open top casing rotatably mounted in upstanding position atop said pedestal and having front and rear walls, and opposite end walls, the latter having upper portions arising above the upper edges of the front and rear walls, a pair of opposite horizontal strips fixed in said casing to said end walls, an open top container for waste tissue removably fitted in the upper portion of said casing and seated on said strips and defining a lower compartment in the casing for clean tissue to be dispensed from said compartment, a flexible liner removably fitted in said container for holding a mass of waste tissue for removal from said container by removal of said liner, and an inverted V-shaped closure having inclined walls cooperating with the front and rear walls at the top of the casing to close the top of the casing and the top of the container and having apical end portions hinged between the upper portions of said end walls for swinging in opposite directions to open the top of the casing and the top of the container at either the front or the rear of said casing.

2. A tissue dispenser according to claim 1, and a bag of disinfectant in the bottom of said container beneath said liner for disinfecting the container and waste tissue in the liner and providing for removing the liner without disturbing said bag.

3. For use in a sick room, to effectually serve certain every day needs of a patient confined to a bed; a bedside utility device comprising a portable stand having a base designed and adapted to be placed firmly for use on the floor beside the bed and a perpendicular post attached at a lower end to the base and rising vertically from the

base, a rotary housing provided with selectively usable utilities and facilities to serve the patient, said post being of a height that the housing occupies a position in a plane somewhat above the level of the bed mattress, said housing having a bottom wall detachably and swivelly mounted atop said post, said housing having a rear vertical wall provided exteriorly with optionally usable racks, said housing also provided with a front vertical side having a hingedly mounted liftable and lowerable door, said door affording access to a lower part of said housing, said lower part defining a compartment of a size and shape that it is adapted to contain a readily insertable and removable box of disposable facial tissues, and a median portion of said door being provided with a slot so that, if desired, tissues in the box may be threaded through the slot and thereafter pulled therethrough for use without having to open and close the door each time a tissue is needed, said housing being open at the top and having end walls provided with elevated upper end portions projecting to a level about the upper edges of the front and back walls, an inverted V-shaped hood-like cover horizontally disposed, conformable with, and normally covering the otherwise open top and having end portions hingedly mounted between said upper end portions, interior surfaces of the end walls being provided with horizontal strips constituting supporting ledges, and an open top receptacle fitted in the upper portion of said housing and supported by said ledges, the bottom of said receptacle spanning and dividing the space of the housing into upper and lower portions.

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