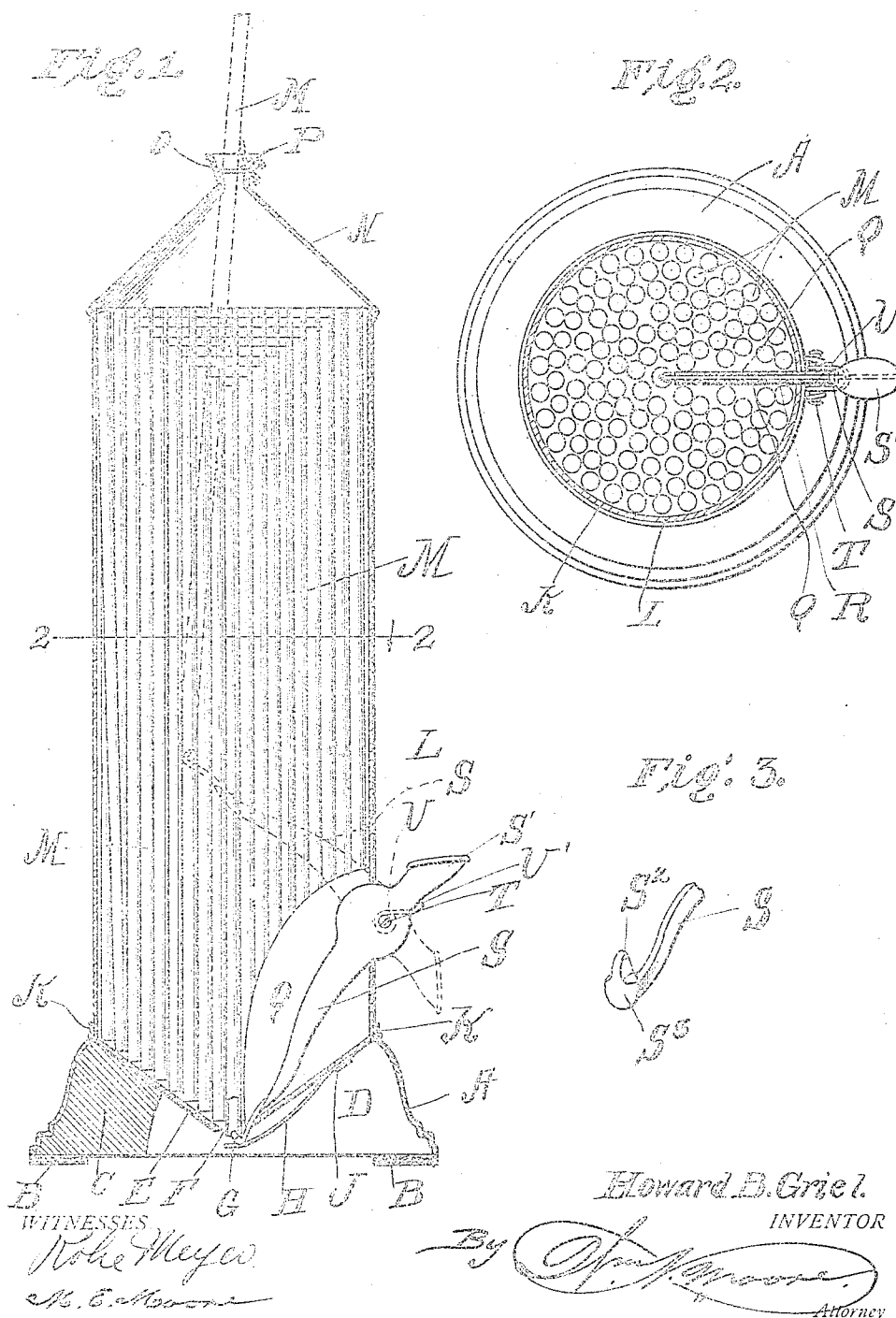


H. B. GRIEL.
DISPENSING APPARATUS.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 30, 1912.

1,056,630.

Patented Mar. 18, 1913.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOWARD B. GRIEL, OF LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA.

DISPENSING APPARATUS.

1,056,330.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 18, 1913.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HOWARD B. GRIEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lancaster, in the county of Lancaster and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Dispensing Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in dispensing apparatus, and refers particularly to a straw dispensing or delivery device for use in delivering the straws such as used in drinking beverages.

One object of my invention is the provision of a highly attractive and ornamental apparatus which will be perfectly clean and sanitary and which will positively protect the straws from dirt, handling or outside contamination.

Another object of my invention is the provision of an ornamental and sanitary apparatus which will prevent handling of the straws and which can be operated with great ease to project only one straw at a time for the use of the customer.

Another object of my invention is the provision of a straw dispensing apparatus which will entirely cover and protect the straws; which will permit the delivery of but one straw at each operation, and which will be of such simple and inexpensive construction as to insure the highest degree of efficiency.

With these ends in view, my invention consists of a straw dispensing apparatus embodying novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts, substantially as disclosed herein.

In order that the detailed construction and the operation of my apparatus may be understood and its points of merit and advantages may be appreciated, I invite attention to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 represents a vertical central sectional view of my apparatus, the container being filled with straws and the ejector lever being shown in full lines in normal position and in dotted lines in the act of delivering or dispensing a straw. Fig. 2 represents a sectional view on line 2—2 of Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 represents a perspective view of the lower end of the ejector lever to illustrate its novel and necessary construction.

In the drawings:—the letter A designates the foot or base of my apparatus; which

may have the cushion supports B and which is weighted or filled at C and provided with the chamber or cavity D, and the base is formed with the conical bottom E, formed at its apex with an opening F. From this construction it will be noted that the base forms a substantial support and provides a conical bottom and directly beneath the opening F in the bottom rests the free end G of the flat spring H, rigidly secured at J to the bottom of the base and fitting in the annular flange or rim K of the base is the barrel or container L, forming the receptacle for the straws M. The container is of suitable size and has fitted upon its mouth or upper end the conical cap N, provided with a straw outlet O, which is normally closed and sealed by the hinged flap P, which while forming a perfect closure for the container offers no resistance to the proper delivery of a single straw, said flap assuming the position shown in Fig. 1 when lifted to permit the passage of the straw.

The container on its inner portion near the bottom is formed with a pair of parallel walls Q, which form a protecting pocket and guide R for the inner long arm S of the ejector lever which is formed at its outer end with a finger portion S' and is pivoted at T outside the container and said lever is returned to normal position by means of the spring U, which is coiled upon the pivot of the lever and has its free end U' bearing upon the lever adjacent the finger portion. In normal position the container is filled with straws and one of the straws always falls with its lower end in the opening or hole in the case bottom and the said lower end of each straw must fit upon the vertical pointed end S², formed on the head S³ at the lower end of the long arm of the ejector lever, and to deliver a straw it is simply necessary to press down upon the finger piece which instantly ejects a single straw as clearly shown in Fig. 1 and while one straw is being delivered another one is falling into position in order that every straw in the container will be positively delivered one at each operation of the lever. It will be seen that the straws cannot hinder the operation of the lever and also that the flat spring always holds the lower end of the ejector lever in proper place beneath the straws.

The use for which my apparatus will be most desirable is in connection with soda

apparatus and the device may be made of any material and of any desired size and embellished or ornamented to suit the purchaser.

5 The apparatus can be easily operated to deliver only one straw and insures the protection of the straws from dirt, disease germs, or contamination, and in every respect will prove useful, desirable and practical.

I claim:—

1. A dispensing apparatus, consisting of a base having a conical bottom terminating in an opening, a container mounted on the base, an ejector having its lower end fitting the opening of the bottom of the base and adapted to engage a straw to discharge the straw from the container, and a spring secured to the base with its free end lying under the opening thereof.

2. A dispensing apparatus, consisting of a base having a conical bottom formed with an opening, a spring having one end secured and the other end lying under said opening, a container fitting on the base to receive the straws, a spring controlled lever ejector fulcrumed to the container and having a head at its lower end, engaged by the said spring secured to the base, and a reduced tapered portion formed on said head to engage the lower end of each straw to insure the ejection of a single straw at each operation of the lever.

3. A dispensing apparatus, consisting of a base having a conical bottom formed with an opening, a spring having one end secured and the other end lying under said opening, a container fitting on the base to receive the straws, a spring controlled lever ejector ful-

crumed to the container and having a head at its lower end, engaged by said spring secured to the base, and a reduced tapered portion formed on said head to engage the lower end of each straw to insure the ejection of a single straw at each operation of the lever, and a guide for the ejector lever arranged in the container.

4. A dispensing apparatus, consisting of a container to receive the straws having a discharge opening, a hinged flap closing said opening, a base supporting the container and having a conical bottom formed with an opening, an ejector lever fulcrumed to the container having an operating handle outside the container and a long arm in the container provided with a straw engaging head at its lower end fitting in the opening of the conical bottom of the base, and a spring secured to the base with its free end lying under the opening thereof.

5. In a dispensing apparatus, the combination with a base having an opening, a container on said base, and an ejector fulcrumed to the container and comprising a short arm providing an operating portion and a long arm formed with a headed portion terminating in an upwardly inclined article engaging portion adapted to enter said opening in the base, and a spring secured to the base at one end and having its free end disposed under the opening in said base.

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

HOWARD B. GROBL.

Witnesses:

WM. J. COULTER,
GEORGE DANZO.