L. A. JIRANEK.

SANITARY SEAT COVER APPARATUS.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 6, 1915.

1,163,667.

Patented Dec. 14, 1915.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

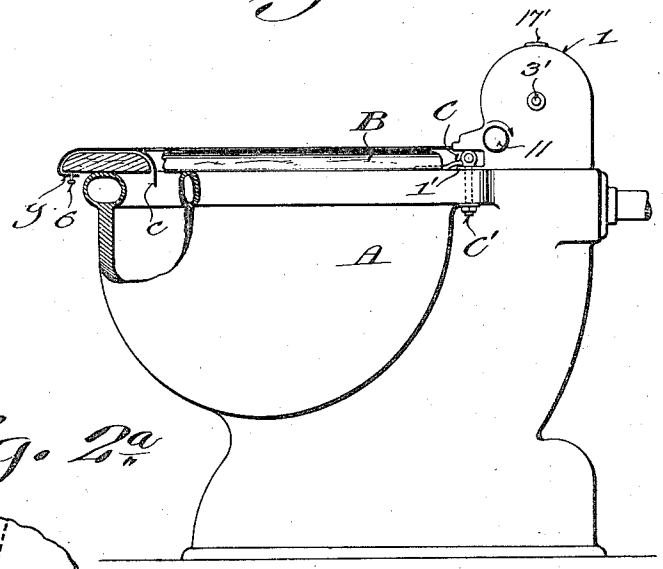


Fig. 2a.

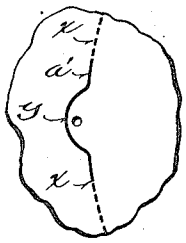
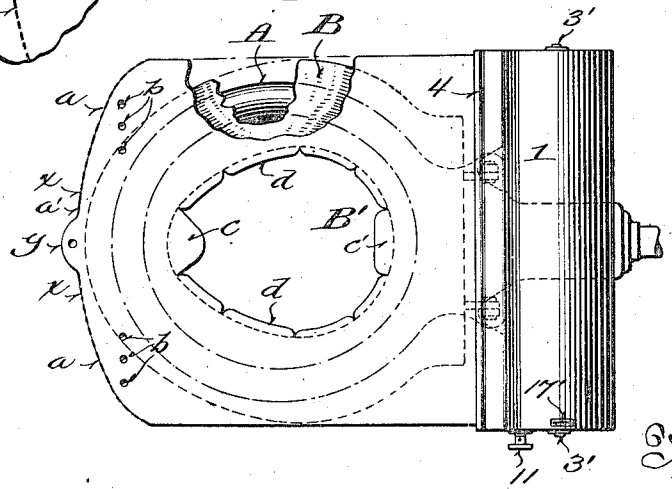


Fig. 2.



Witness:

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 5.

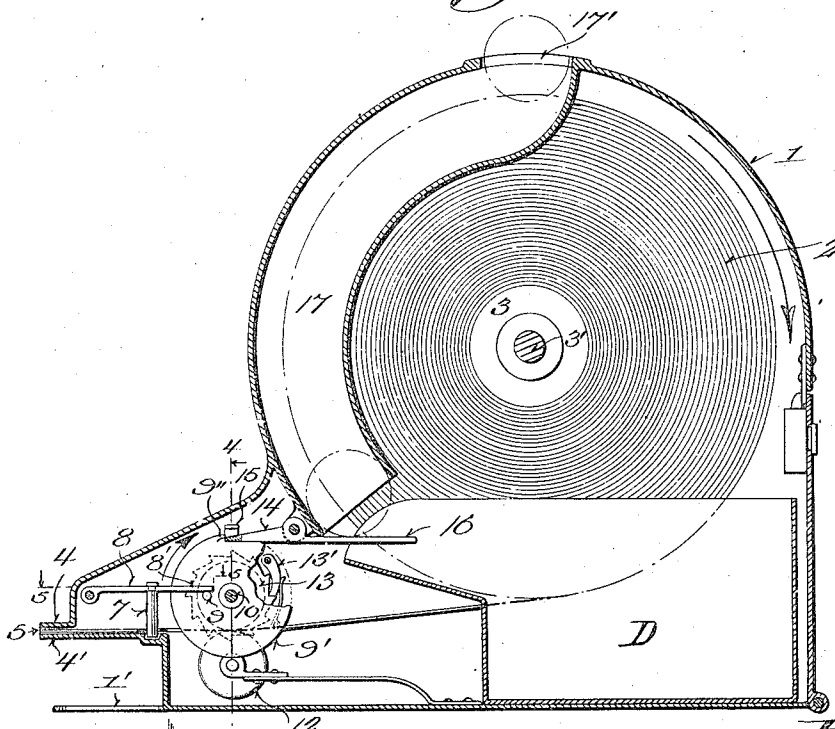


Fig. 6.

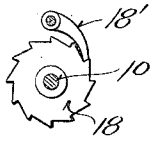


Fig. 5.

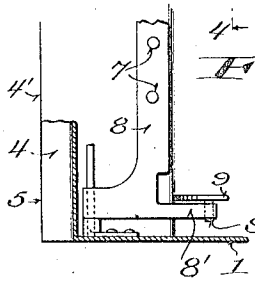
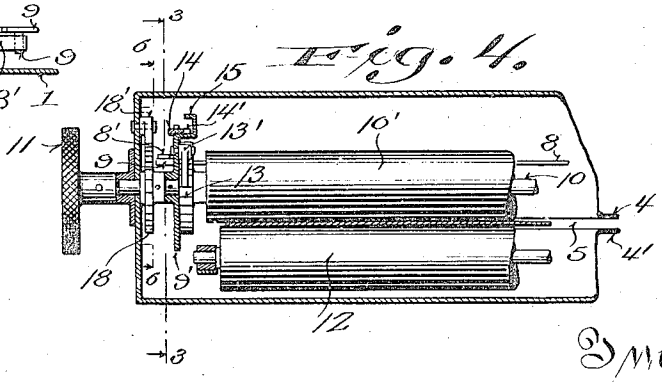


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SANITARY-SEAT-COVER APPARATUS.

1,163,667. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 14, 1915.

Application filed April 6, 1915. Serial No. 19,441.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS A. JIRANEK, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Birnamwood, in the county of Shawano and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sanitary-Seat-Cover Apparatus; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention has for its object to provide a simple, economical, sanitary and effective temporary seat cover supply means for commodes.

The essential feature of my invention is the arrangement whereby a fresh cover may be drawn over the permanent seat by each individual user, which cover is supplied preferably from an endless roll mounted in a container that is positioned in close relation to the commode seat, whereby it can be drawn thereover with one movement and secured in any suitable manner at its forward end, while the rear end of the sheet is held within the container.

The preferred form of device as shown is of roll type provided with perforations whereby the cover sections may be readily broken from the main roll under control of suitable mechanism.

With the above objects in view the invention consists in certain peculiarities of construction and combination of parts as hereinafter set forth with reference to the accompanying drawings and subsequently claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a commode with parts broken away and in section having attached thereto a cover supply apparatus embodying the features of my invention; Fig. 2, a plan view of the same showing a cover sheet extracted from the container and positioned for use with parts broken away and in section to show structural features; Fig. 2^a, a fragmentary view of the center portion of the cover sheet roll illustrating the division lines between said sections; Fig. 3, an enlarged cross-sectional view of the roll container showing the cover feed mechanism in detail, the section being indicated by line 3—3 of Fig. 4; Fig. 4, a fragmentary sectional elevation of the container showing the feed mechanism, the section being indicated by line 4—4 of Fig. 3; Fig. 5, a detailed sectional plan view of sheet-locking means used in connection with the feed mechanism, the section being indicated by line 5—5 of Fig. 3, and Fig. 6, a detailed sectional view showing ratchet mechanism employed in connection with the feed, the section being indicated by line 6—6 of Fig. 4.

Referring by characters to Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings, A represents a standard type of commode provided with an open seat B which is connected to the rear portion of the commode by hinges C, the fixed hinge member being in the form of a headed bolt C′, which passes through a flange of the commode.

A cylindrical shell 1 is mounted at the rear of the commode seat and in this instance the said shell is provided with a forwardly projecting lip 1′ having apertures therein through which the hinge bolts C′ extend, whereby the shell is rigidly confined at the rear of the seat. The said shell constitutes a container for a continuous roll 2 of cover sections, which roll is preferably composed of some inexpensive tough tissue paper. The roll is mounted upon a core 3 having trunnions 3′ that project through the ends of the cylindrical shell 1. The free end of the rolled sheet rests between the lips 4, 4′, of a mouth 5, through which the sectional covers are drawn, the said mouth being upon the same approximate plane as the top face of the seat B and positioned directly to the rear of the same. As best shown in Figs. 2 and 2^a of the drawings, the roll at regular intervals is provided with series of transverse perforations *a*, which extend from the opposite edges of the rolls inwardly and terminate at points *x*, from which points the perforations are connected by a slot *a*, whereby detached tongues *y* are formed at the center and forward end of each cover section, the said tongues being provided with apertures for engagement with a confining pin 6 that depends from the lower face of the forward portion of the seat. Transversely alined directly rearwardly of the perforations *a*, *a*, are two series of locking apertures *b* and the central portion of each cover section is cut away to form a seat opening B′, which seat opening is formed with front and rear protecting tabs *c*, *c*′, respectively, and two series of

marginal flanges *d* that are arranged about the edge of the opening connecting the tabs upon opposite sides.

When a cover section is positioned over the seat, as shown in Fig. 2, all of the tabs are bent downwardly to form a proper protecting shield and at the same time they serve to center the cover over the seat opening and the front tongue *y* is folded over the seat in engagement with the pin 6. After a seat-cover has been detached from the end of the roll, as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings, it is preferable to have the tongue *y* rest flush with the mouth 5 of the roll container. Hence the concealment of the tongue will preclude the possibility of individuals withdrawing cover sections from said roll indiscriminately. When the unused cover section is so positioned, the locking apertures *b* come in register with pins 7 of a locking comb, the said comb comprising a bar 8 to which the pins are attached and said bar is, as shown, suitably pivoted to the end walls of the shell 1. One end of the bar 8 has a projecting arm 8′ which is positioned within the field of rotation of a release stud 9, the said stud being mounted upon a disk 9′, which disk is carried by a shaft 10 that is journaled in the end walls of the shell, one end of said shaft being extended therebeyond and provided with a knurled operating wheel 11. The shaft 10 carries a feed roller 10′, under which the cover sections are adapted to travel to the mouth 5 and the paper strip constituting the roll sections is held in frictional engagement with the feed roller 10′ by a spring-pressed idle roller 12 which is suitably attached to the base of the container or shell by flexible strips as shown. The feed roller 10′ is loosely mounted upon the shaft 10 and carries a ratchet wheel 13, which ratchet-wheel is engaged by a pawl 13′ that is mounted upon the rear side of the disk 9′, whereby movement of the shaft is transmitted to the feed roll in one direction, as indicated by the arrow in Fig. 3.

In public places, under some conditions, it is desirable to make a small charge for such seat covers and, with this in view, I provide a token or coin-controlled lock and release mechanism for the container, whereby cover sections cannot be extracted therefrom until after the required coin has been deposited within the container to release the feed mechanism. With this in view I provide the disk 9′ with a locking notch 9″, as shown in Fig. 3 and, when the mechanism is at rest, the said notch is engaged by one end 14 of a locking lever, which lever is suitably pivoted to the container walls. The locking end 14 of the lever is formed with a rearwardly projecting tooth 14′, which tooth is adapted to engage a stop finger 15 that is offset from the disk 9′, as best shown in Fig. 4. The rear end 16 of the locking lever is positioned under the discharge throat of a coin runway 17, which runway is formed with its coin-receiving throat 17′ at one end of the shell accessible to the public. Coins deposited in the runway 17 will come to rest at the discharge throat upon the tail 16 of the locking lever 14 and the weight of the coin will thus cause the forward end of said lever to disengage the notch 9″ of the disk, being stopped in its upward movement by engagement of the tooth 14′ with the stop finger 15. Thus it will be seen that the feed mechanism is released and, in order to obtain a cover sheet, the operator now, by manipulating the hand wheel 11 rotates the feed roller 10′ through one revolution. The initial movement of the disk 9 will cause the pins of the locking comb 7 to be lifted from their engagement with the locking apertures *b* of the end cover and said movement will also cause the stop finger 15 to travel beyond the tooth 14′ of the lever 14, whereby the weight of the coin will cause said lever to travel upward and thus further movement will depress the tail 16 of the lever to such an extent as to permit the coin to travel free of the discharge throat and be deposited within a coin box D, as shown in Fig. 3. It is obvious that, as soon as the coin leaves the tail portion of the locking lever, the preponderance of weight of the forward portion of the lever will cause it to drop back and ride upon the annular surface of the disk preparatory to effecting a locking engagement with the notch 9″ when said disk has completed one revolution.

Attention is also called to the fact that the shaft 10 is provided with a ratchet-wheel 18, which ratchet-wheel is engaged by a pawl 18′, whereby movement of the shaft in a reverse direction from that desired is prevented. Hence the individual using the apparatus must revolve the shaft in the direction indicated by the arrow and said direction will be plainly indicated in simple instructions as to the operation that may be displayed in a conspicuous position upon the container. The single revolution manually imparted to the feed-roller 10′ is sufficient to cause the tongue *y* to be fed beyond the mouth of the container, whereby said tongue may be grasped by the individual and thereafter a section of the roll is drawn out to expose a complete cover in proper alinement with the seat aperture, as shown in Fig. 2. After this length of cover has been extracted from the container, the pin 7 of the locking comb will be registered with the locking apertures *b* and said pins will thus drop through the apertures and thereby block further downward movement of the cover section. After the cover section has been utilized, it should be removed and destroyed. This is effected by drawing

on the cover section from its free end with sufficient force to cause said cover section to become detached from the unused and incased following cover section, the detachment being effected upon the line of perforations *a* and slit *a'*. Hence it will be seen that as each cover section is extracted from the container it will be held at its rear end by said container and that it will require an extraordinary pull to break the same away from the rear connected cover section and when this extra draw is manifest to the individual, the cover section will be in place. It is obvious also that the feed mechanism can be used with or without the coin-controlled lock and release.

While I have shown and described one complete apparatus for extracting the cover sections, it is obvious that I may vary all details of construction without departing from the spirit of said invention as the various details may be constructed differently in detail to obtain the desired result. Furthermore, it should be understood that the container may be attached in its associated position with relation to the seat in any other simple manner than that shown, whereby the desired result is obtained to aline its mouth with the upper face of the seat.

I claim:

1. The combination of an apertured commode seat, a sanitary seat-protecting apparatus comprising an open mouthed container, means for fastening the same to the rear of said commode seat, whereby its mouth is approximately alined with the face of the seat, a roll of paper revolubly mounted within the container, the roll being interrupted transversely to form weakened connected series of cover sections having seat apertures therein, means carried by the container for feeding the roll from its mouth, and automatic gripping means associated with the container for checking the feed of the cover section whereby its aperture is stopped in alinement with the commode seat aperture.

2. The combination of an apertured commode seat, a sanitary seat-protecting apparatus comprising an open mouthed container, means for fastening the same to the rear of said commode seat, whereby its mouth is approximately alined with the face of the seat, a roll of paper revolubly mounted within the container, the roll being interrupted transversely to form weakened connected series of cover sections having seat apertures therein, and locking apertures back of the weakened connections, a feed mechanism for the roll, and locking means associated with the feed mechanism for engagement with the locking apertures.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand at Birnamwood, in the county of Shawano and State of Wisconsin, in the presence of two witnesses.

LOUIS A. JIRANEK.

Witnesses:
D. W. VAN DOREN,
JOHN PERRAR.