Feb. 9, 1937. W. J. FARNSWORTH ET AL 2,070,264

DISPENSING DEVICE

Filed June 17, 1935

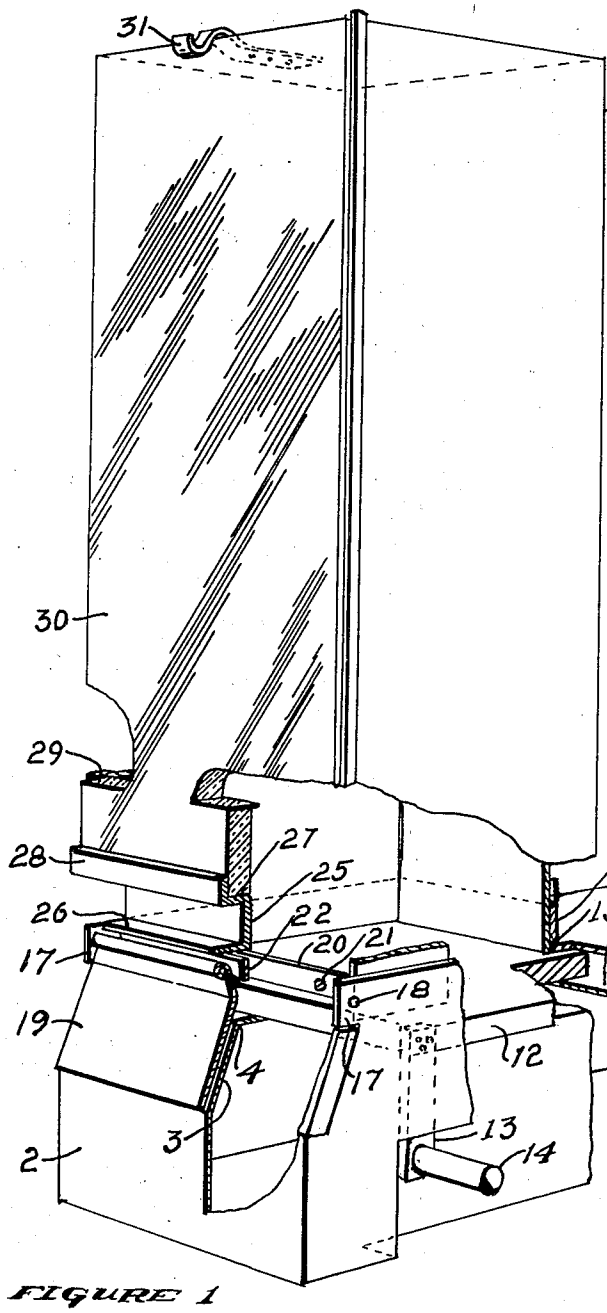


FIGURE 1

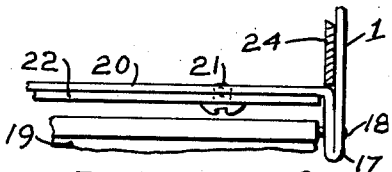


FIGURE 2

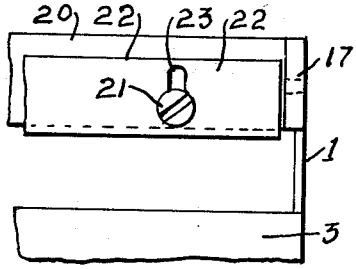


FIGURE 3

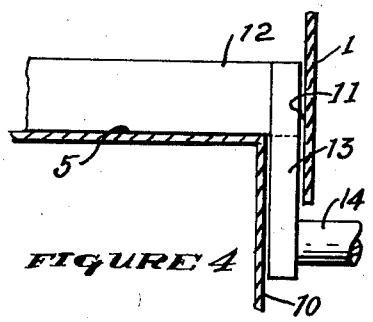


FIGURE 4

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Patented Feb. 9, 1937 2,070,264

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,070,264

DISPENSING DEVICE

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San Jose, Calif.

Application June 17, 1935, Serial No. 27,040

1 Claim. (Cl. 312—67)

Our invention relates particularly to means for dispensing single items such as, for instance, slices of bread, although, of course the device may be constructed to discharge more than a single article at one time.

It is one object of the invention to provide a device of the character indicated that is so constructed and arranged that it will hold a relatively large quantity of the material to be dispensed, and yet will be so compact in form and so arranged and manipulated that it will occupy but a small space.

It is another object to provide a means of the character indicated that will obviate the necessity of handling the material to be dispensed, such as sliced bread, from the time it is placed in the device to the time when it is taken off of the plate by the consumer, and one that will keep the material clean and sanitary and in the case of such material as bread, effectually keep the same from drying out.

It is still another object to provide a device of the character indicated that is self-cleaning, that is, one in which crumbs and similar particles will be automatically removed during the normal operation of the device.

Finally, it is an object of the invention to provide a device of the character indicated that will be economical to manufacture, simple in form and construction, quickly and easily operated without the use of a coin or other token, strong, durable, and highly efficient in its practical application.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective illustration of the device, partly in section and with parts broken away.

Figure 2 is a plan view of a portion of the housing forming the base and showing the delivery control.

Figure 3 is a front elevation of the structure shown in Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a sectional view through a portion of the base showing the position of the slide operating means.

In the particular embodiment of the invention herein disclosed we show at 1 a base comprising a rectangular housing open at the bottom but closed on all sides, except a portion of the front.

The front has a vertical part 2 and a sloping or inclined part 3 which connects at 4 with a horizontally disposed table 5 spaced as at 6 from the top 7.

The table 5 extends rearwardly of the base but stops short of the rear end to form a passage at 8 whereby such materials as crumbs may drop down to the open bottom below.

A recess 9 is formed in one side of the base and extends upwardly a distance from the bottom as shown, the inner wall 10 of this recess extending upwardly to join the table 5 and forming a slot 11 between it and the outer wall.

At 12 is shown a slide disposed on the table 5 and extending the full width of the interior of the housing 1 and a little less than half its length. An arm 13 is mounted on the edge of slide 12 to depend therefrom through slot 11, this arm being provided with a handle 14 projecting outwardly through recess 9.

By means of this construction the operator may move the slide forwardly and backwardly on the table 5. When the slide is moved forwardly it will push any article on table 5, such as a slice of bread, off of its front end, and in its rearward movement it will push such particles as crumbs that may work rearwardly over the top thereof off of the table into the passage 8.

The top 7 has an opening 15 formed in its forward portion and is provided with an upstanding flange 16 extending along two sides and the back of said opening. The front ends of the side portions of the flange extend forwardly to form ears as 17, and in the ears 17 is mounted a shaft 18 in which is journaled a flap 19.

Connecting the front ends of the side portions of flange 16 is a bar 20, this bar therefore lying at the base of ears 17. The bar 20 is spaced from the table 5, its bottom edge lying in the plane of the under surface of top 7, and is provided with adjusting screws as indicated at 21.

At 22 is shown an adjustable bar lying flat against the front surface of bar 20 and provided with vertical slots as 23 engaging the screws 21. By manipulation of screws 21 the bar 22 may be adjusted vertically so that the device may be set to accommodate slices of any given thickness.

The flap 19 overlies the front of this opening between bar 22 and the table 5 and also the inclined wall 3. If a stack of sliced bread is placed on the table 5 and the slide 12 moved forwardly the bottom slice is pushed forwardly through the space under bar 22 and against the flap 19. The forward movement of the slice pushes the flap 19 open and permits the said slice to slide down the part 3 on to a plate or other receptacle. In this operation the bars 20, 22 hold back the stack as a whole and permit only the bottom slice to be pushed out.

In a device of this kind it is desirable that a dust-proof and substantially air-tight housing be provided for the stacked slices of bread or other material, and this housing should be readily attached to or removed from the base, and should be so constructed as to permit the quick and easy disposal of the material to be dispensed therein.

The housing that we provide for this purpose comprises a sheet-metal rectangular housing as **24** that is closed on the top end and three sides only, the lower ends of the three sides fitting snugly in the flange **16** which thus frictionally supports the housing **24** in a vertical position on the base **1** and in direct and open communication with the table **5**.

Connecting the front edges of the two side portions of the housing **24** is a plate **25**. The lower edge of this plate is turned forwardly as at **26** so that when the housing is in position the part **26** will overlie the space between the flap **19** and the bar **22** and prevent foreign matter from entering at this point. The upper portion of the plate **25** is also bent forwardly to form a seat as at **27** and then upwardly as at **28** to form a door retaining flange.

The front edge of each side portion of the housing **24** is turned outwardly and then forwardly as at **29** to form seats for the side edges of the door as shown. A glass door **30** is provided and is of such a size that it will seat snugly in the seats **27** and **29**, and this door is held securely in place by a catch **31** mounted on the top of the housing **24**.

When the device is assembled as described a load of sliced bread may be placed in the housing **24** with its bottom slice resting upon the table **5** and the slide **12** moved back into the pocket **32**, the door **30** being positioned as described. The bread is now perfectly protected against contamination and may be dispensed as desired, a slice at a time as described.

The slide **12** is in the form of an ejector plate and is of substantially the same thickness as the slice or article to be ejected, thereby taking the load of the stack as the bottom slice is ejected.

In order that the device may be readily adapted for use in various locations we have made the flanged opening **15** square. Since as above described the bottom end of the housing **24** fits snugly within this flanged opening it also is square, and can be mounted on the base **1** with the door **30** facing in the direction shown in parallel relation to the end of the base, or it may be mounted on the base with the door **30** facing one side thereof. This arrangement permits placing of the base with either an end or a side foremost while maintaining the door in a desired position.

It is to be understood, of course, that while we have herein shown and described but one specific embodiment of the invention, changes in form, construction, and method of assembly and application may be made within the scope of the appended claim.

We claim:

A sliced bread dispensing device comprising, a horizontally disposed oblong housing having an opening formed in the forward portion of its top, a vertically disposed housing for sliced bread disposed thereon to discharge through said opening, a horizontally disposed table mounted within the first housing below said opening and the top of the first housing to form a pocket therebetween, said first housing having a recess formed in one side thereof provided with a slot in the top thereof communicating with the table top, an ejector slide mounted on said table to slide in said pocket and having a depending operating arm mounted thereon and projecting through said slot, the front end of the first housing having an opening formed therein to align with the table top to permit the ejection of a slice of bread by said slide, and a flap swingably mounted on the first housing over said front opening and above the same and operable outwardly by a slice of bread ejected therefrom to direct the ejected slice downwardly.

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