April 26, 1966 A. LOWERY ETAL 3,248,006

SHEET TISSUE PAPER DISPENSER

Filed April 22, 1964 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

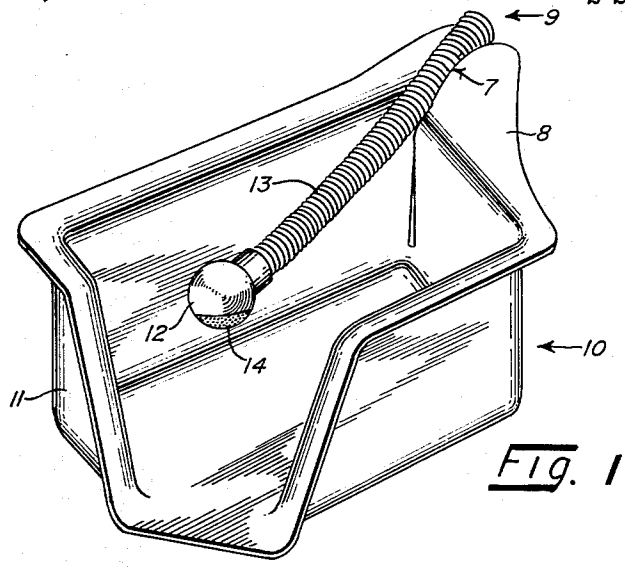


Fig. 1

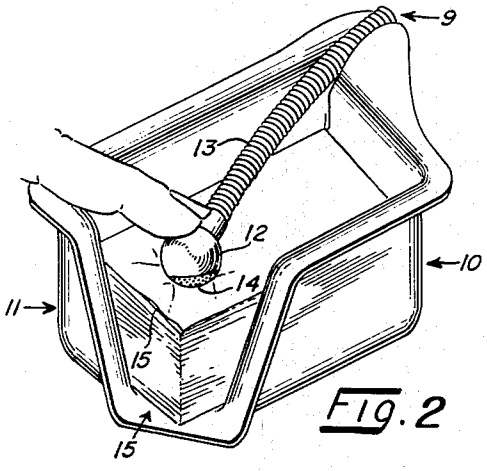


Fig. 2

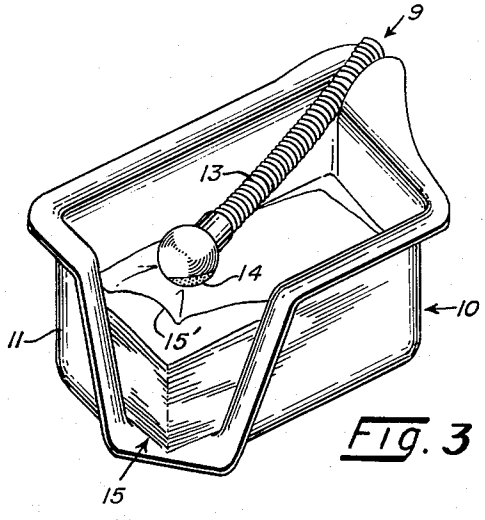


Fig. 3

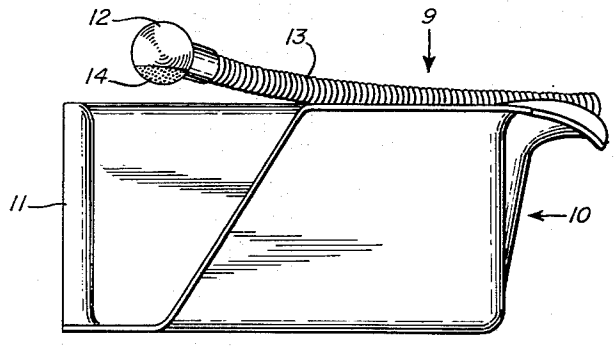


Fig. 4

INVENTOR.

BY Andrew Lowery
William T. Lowery
B. B. Olive
ATTORNEY

April 26, 1966 A. LOWERY ETAL 3,248,006

SHEET TISSUE PAPER DISPENSER

Filed April 22, 1964 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

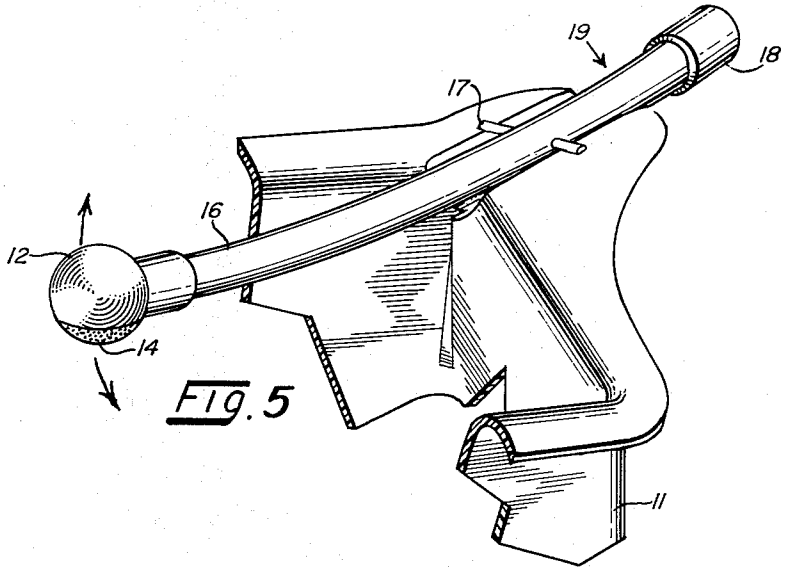


FIG. 5

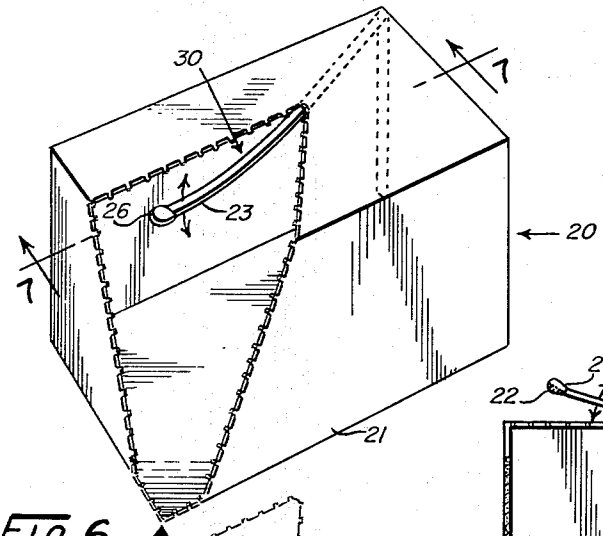
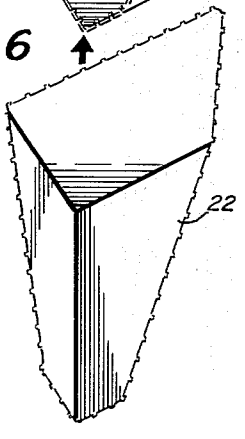


FIG. 6



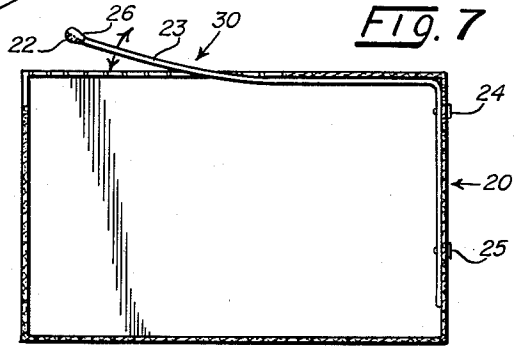


FIG. 7

INVENTORS

Andrew Lowery

William T. Lowery

BY B. B. Olive

ATTORNEY

United States Patent Office 3,248,006
Patented Apr. 26, 1966

3,248,006

SHEET TISSUE PAPER DISPENSER

Andrew Lowery, 4806 Revere Road, Durham, N.C., and William T. Lowery, 15-501 Bypass, Chapel Hill, N.C.

Filed Apr. 22, 1964, Ser. No. 361,677
1 Claim. (Cl. 221—36)

This invention relates to sheet tissue paper dispensers More particularly, the invention relates to a sheet tissue paper dispenser for dispensing individual sheet tissues such as hair end wraps used in beauty parlors and the like.

In removing sheet tissues from their container difficulty is often encountered in that a single tissue is difficult to remove from the container without picking up extra tissues at the same time. The removal of a single tissue from its container is often facilitated by wetting a finger and using that wet finger to remove the tissue from its container. The finger wetting process is unsightly to the patron and allows the tissue to absorb moisture.

Certain occupations requiring use of individual sheets of tissue paper, such as beauty shops for curl end wraps and laboratories for various filter and test papers, need a sheet tissue paper dispensing system that affords easy and quick dispensing of the tissues and which leaves the tissues dry.

It is an object of this invention to provide a sheet tissue paper container and dispensing unit for beauty parlor end wraps and the like, whereby a stack of individual sheet tissues can be placed in the unit and be singly dispensed.

It is a further object to provide a sheet tissue dispensing device for beauty parlor end wraps and the like which will act to lift the top sheet from a stack of sheets and hold the same for removal.

It is another object to provide a combined sheet tissue container and dispensing device which can be employed without having to be secured in position.

Another object of this invention is to provide a pickup unit and a tissue shipping carton which can be manufactured and used as an integral unit.

These and other objects of the invention will appear as the description proceeds. In the drawings:

FIGURE 1 is a top perspective view of a tissue paper container and dispenser which incorporates the invention.

FIGURE 2 is a top perspective view similar to FIGURE 1 but showing the container with a stack of tissues and the pickup head in a pickup position.

FIGURE 3 is a top perspective view similar to FIGURES 1 and 2 and showing a single sheet of paper being pulled up by the pickup head.

FIGURE 4 is a side elevation view of the tissue paper container and dispenser previously shown in FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 5 is a partial perspective view of a gravity operated counter balanced pickup head, an alternative embodiment.

FIGURE 6 is a perspective exploded view of a combined tissue paper shipping carton, operating container and dispenser which incorporates the invention in a further alternative embodiment.

FIGURE 7 is a sectional elevation view taken along line 7—7 of FIGURE 6.

Referring to the novel elements of the invention as embodied in FIGURES 1, 2, 3 and 4, the numeral **10** generally represents a tissue paper container and dispenser which is comprised of a tissue holder **11** and a tissue pickup unit **9**. The pickup unit **9** is comprised of a flexible shaft formed by a coil spring **13** and a pickup head **12** to which is applied a non-drying, pressure sensitive tacky adhesive **14**. Holder **11** is preferably molded in the shape shown of a thermoplastic material such as polystyrene. During manufacture, one end of the coil spring

13 is pressed into the fold **7** of the shelf portion **8** of holder **11** while the material is heated and is in a flowable state. Some of the material will flow into the coils of spring **13** and when cooled to room temperature, the spring will be found to be firmly secured to the holder **11**. Other means for securing spring **13** to holder **11** may of course be employed but in any case it is desirable to orient the axis of the flexible member along the diagonal of the holder. It should also be noted that the flexible member can be in the form of a cantilevered rubber bar, flat leaf spring or the like.

It will be noticed in FIGURES 1 through 4 that one corner of holder **11** is left open and that spring **13** is secured to the top of the opposite diagonal corner. This arrangement allows a relatively long flexible member to be employed. When a finger is pushed down on the pickup head **12** there is almost no horizontal thrust asserted. Therefore, since the device does not tend to shift it does not have to be secured or otherwise fixed when in use. The open corner also has the advantage of giving the operator substantial freedom to push the pickup head down without interference when the stack is at relatively low level and furthermore facilitates removal of the sheets at all levels of the stack.

With regard to the pickup head **12**, a suitable head is a molded rubber head which can be slipped on and off the end of coil spring **13** very much like a replaceable rubber pencil eraser. It thus becomes an easy matter to clean or replace the pickup head when desired. For an adhesive, any pressure sensitive, non-drying tacky adhesive will operate. For example, a small piece of "Scotch" tape wrapped around the pickup head **12** will serve. As an alternative, any of the commercially available pressure sensitive, non-drying adhesive such as those conventionally employed to hold sanding discs will serve the same purpose.

In FIGURES 2 and 3 stacked sheets of paper are represented by the numeral **15**, with the top sheet being designated **15'**. To pick up a single tissue paper **15'** the pickup head **12** is pressed downward until the adhesive **14** makes contact with the paper **15'**. The pickup head **12** is then released and allowed to return to its up position. As shown in FIGURE 3, the paper **15'** is lifted singularly and separately from the other paper **15** and can easily be removed from the pickup head **12** with dry fingers.

Other pickup arrangements may be employed with the holder **11**. For example, referring to FIGURE 5, counter balance pickup device **19**, holds the previously mentioned pickup head **12** and adhesive **14** on a shaft **16** which is pivoted on a fixed pivot pin **17** and which mounts a counter weight **18**. Shaft **16** is mounted along the diagonal of holder **11** as was described in regard to coil **13**. However, shaft **16** is not fixed but rather is arranged to pivot freely on pin **17** which is sealed to the material of holder **11**. Operation of this device is as previously described, except the pickup head **12** is returned to the up position by the shaft **16** pivoting about the pivot **17** due to force of the counter weight **18**.

Referring to FIGURES 6 and 7 the numeral **20** represents an integrated paper shipping and dispensing carton which includes a principal carton body **21** and a perforated tear away access flap **22**. Secured to body **21** by means of rivets **24**, **25** is a pickup unit **30** comprised of a flexible leaf spring member **23**, a pickup head **26** and a non-drying tacky adhesive **27**. Pickup unit **30** could of course be constructed as a separate unit for attachment on a variety of paper holders.

The integrated unit is constructed as shown in FIGURES 6 and 7 and packed with papers or tissues, not shown. To use, the tear away flap **22** is removed so as to open up one corner and thereby allow access to

the stack of tissue papers, not shown, and to the pickup unit **30**. Operation is as described previously.

While specific details of construction have been referred to in describing the illustrated forms of the invention, it will be understood that other details of construction may be resorted to be within the spirit of the invention. The word "tissue" as used in the claim is intended to mean relatively thin uniform size sheets of paper and is not limited to any particular shape except where so specified.

We claim:

A dispenser unit for holding and dispensing individual tissues from the top of a stack of tissues comprising, in combination, a rectangular molded thermoplastic container including side and bottom walls, said side walls being connected at three corners and providing one open corner adapted to receive one corner of said stack, an elongated coil spring member having one end thermoplastically secured to the top corner of said container opposite said open corner and extending diagonally across said container generally in the plane of the top thereof and including a free removable end piece supported above said stack proximate said open corner, a substantially non-drying pressure sensitive adhesive material secured to said free end piece, said free end piece being thereby made retractable and adapted when pressed to adhere to the top tissue of said stack and when released to lift and hold said top tissue.

References Cited by the Examiner

UNITED STATES PATENTS

317,234	5/1885	Spitzli	221—40
1,291,231	1/1919	Stokkan	221—210
1,549,456	8/1925	Bartlett	221—210
2,101,579	12/1937	Hamer	221—63
3,012,692	12/1961	Petersen	221—63
3,028,049	4/1962	Eppy	221—265
3,094,323	6/1963	Catania	221—37
3,161,336	12/1964	Loescher	221—63

FOREIGN PATENTS

7,201	4/1896	Great Britain.

LOUIS J. DEMBO, *Primary Examiner.*

RAPHAEL M. LUPO, *Examiner.*