This invention relates to dispensing apparatus and more particularly to a storage device for dispensing rolled paper.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a combined paper storage and dispensing device for conveniently enclosing at least one roll of any desired type of paper in a convenient and ready to use manner.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a paper storage and dispensing device that may be conveniently placed upon any desired supporting surface without means fastening the member containing the same thereto, which will effectively and accurately allow such paper to be withdrawn and severed in a simple and efficient manner.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a paper storage and dispensing device of the above type that bears all of its parts completely self contained in a manner for securing the web of paper at any desired location, while allowing the free end of the paper web to be automatically accessible for the next dispensing operation.

Other objects of the invention are to provide a combined paper storage and dispensing device bearing the above objects in mind which is of simple construction, has a minimum number of parts, is inexpensive to manufacture and efficient in operation.

For other objects and for a better understanding of the invention, reference may be had to the following detailed description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of a combined paper storage and dispensing device made in accordance with the present invention;

FIGURE 2 is a longitudinal cross sectional view of the device shown in FIGURE 1 with its top removed;

FIGURE 3 is a front elevational view of the device shown in FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 4 is a transverse cross sectional view taken along line 4-4 of FIGURE 3;

FIGURE 5 is a bottom plan view of the device shown in FIGURE 3; and

FIGURE 6 is a top plan view of the device shown in FIGURE 3.

Referring now more in detail to the drawing, a combined roll paper storage and dispensing device 10 made in accordance with the present invention is shown to include a housing in the form of a substantially hollow cylindrical shell 12 that is closed at the bottom end by a base wall 14 and which is open at the upper end to define an access opening 19 into the interior thereof. The base wall 14 includes a plurality of resilient friction pads 16 that enable the device to be supported upon any desired surface without moving relative thereto during use. A spindle 18 secured to the base wall 14 concentrically within the shell 12 rotatably supports at least one roll of paper having an axial longitudinal opening therethrough (shown in phantom lines in FIGURE 4) that may be dispensed periodically.

A longitudinally extending slit 20 in the shell wall 13 provides an outlet for receiving the end of the paper web therethrough during use. A cutting device is also provided in the form of a plate 22 that is secured, such as by rivets 23 or spot welds to the exterior of the shell 12 in circumferentially spaced apart relationship with the slit 20. A radially outwardly extending triangular plate 24 integral with the base plate 22 has an outermost free edge 26 that is undulated or serrated to provide means for cutting the paper web drawn into engagement therewith.

In actual use, one or more rolls of paper are placed within the interior of the shell 12 upon the spindle 18, with the respective web of each being drawn through the slit 26 so as to be conveniently accessible whenever a strip is to be removed. A closure cap 30 is frictionally secured to the top open end of the shell 12 and may be removed whenever desired by means of a handle 32. When it is desired to sever a sheet of paper, it is only necessary to exert an outward pull upon the outer end of the web of paper 28 until the desired length has been attained, following which it may be drawn into engagement with the radially outwardly extending serrated edge 26 of the cutting device so as to sever it swiftly and cleanly. In order to prevent the roll or rolls of paper from dispensing additional paper during this cutting operation, the upper surface of the base wall 14 is provided with roughened areas 15 that frictionally retard continued rotation of the roll of paper relative thereto. Thus, a sheet can be cut swiftly without additional paper being fed outwardly from the housing during the cutting operation. In addition, the resilient pads 16 provide sufficient frictional resistance between the supporting surface and the housing 12 to prevent movement thereof during the outward pull and cutting of the paper web.

While various changes may be made in the detail construction, it shall be understood that such changes shall be within the spirit and scope of the present invention as defined by the appended claims.

What I claim as new and desire to protect by Letters Patent of the United States is:

A paper roll storage and dispensing device adapted to be supported vertically upon a flat horizontal surface, comprising a vertically disposed hollow housing consisting of a vertical cylindrical shell member open at its upper end and embodying an integral closed circular bottom plate and a removable top closure cap substantially of the same diameter as the diameter of said cylindrical shell member, said top closure cap being removable whereby a roll of paper may be provided with an axial passage having an axial passage of a roll of paper for supporting said roll of paper and retaining it within the shell member for rotation about the vertical axis thereof, a plurality of supporting pads depending from the under surface of said closed bottom plate adjacent the periphery thereof for engaging the flat supporting surface whereby the weight of the holder housing and the weight of the roll of paper combined will so effect the device to remain in a stationary position upon the supporting surface, the upper surface of said closed bottom plate having a roughened surface area in juxtaposition with said spindle and arranged for engagement with the lower flat end of a cylindrical roll of paper on said spindle for retracting the rotation of such a roll of paper, said shell member provided with a vertical slit arranged to receive the free end portion of a web of paper as it is unrolled from a roll of paper mounted upon said spindle, a guard plate embodying a rectangular shaped base plate portion with an outwardly extending triangular shaped plate portion supported longitudinally in parallel relation to the outer edge and for a desired distance from said slit, the said rectangular base plate portion of said guard plate being rigidly secured vertically to the outer surface of said shell member, the lower end of said triangular shaped plate portion extend-
ing normally and radially outwardly from said shell member, the outer edge of said triangular shaped plate portion being serrated for forming a cutter for cutting the web of paper at desired lengths, said serrated edge disposed inwardly and upwardly in relation to the axis of said shell member and terminating adjacent the upper extremity of the rectangular base plate portion whereby a portion of the free end of the web of the paper equal in length to the distance of said guard plate from said slit always remains outside said shell member with a triangular portion thereof of greater dimension at the bottom thereof to be grasped by the user and the roughened upper surface of the bottom plate preventing excessive unrolling of the paper from the roll of paper mounted on said spindle.

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