Sept. 6, 1927. 1,641,841

J. M. FERNANDEZ

NAPKIN HOLDER

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Fig. 1.

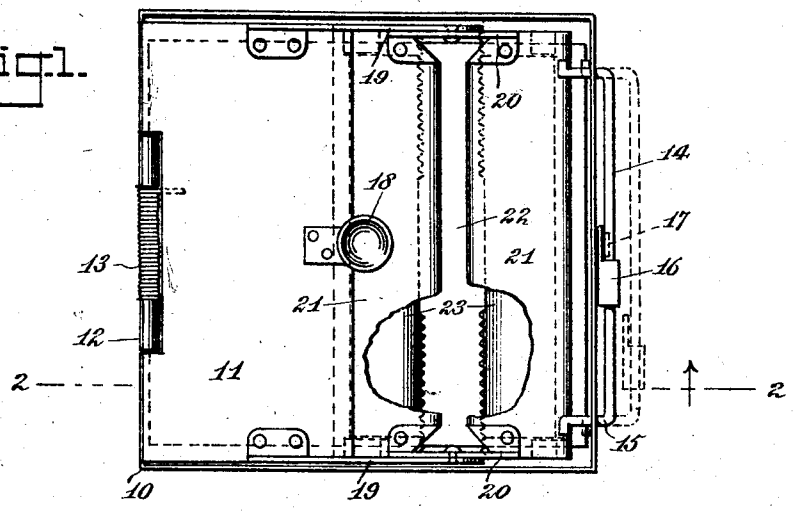


Fig. 2.

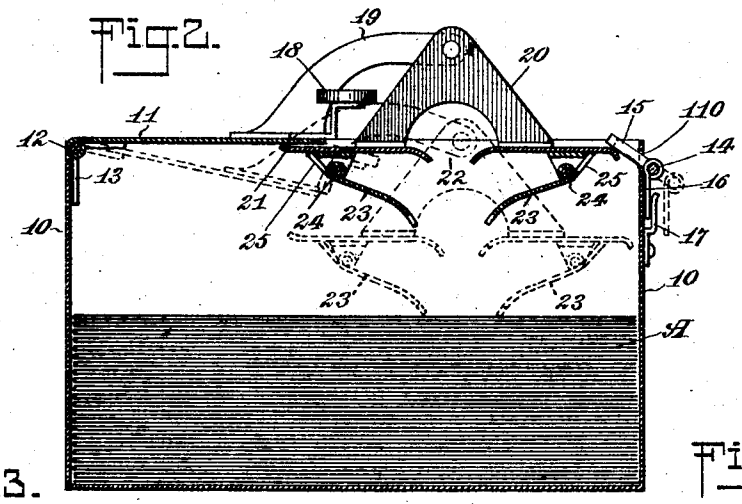


Fig. 3.

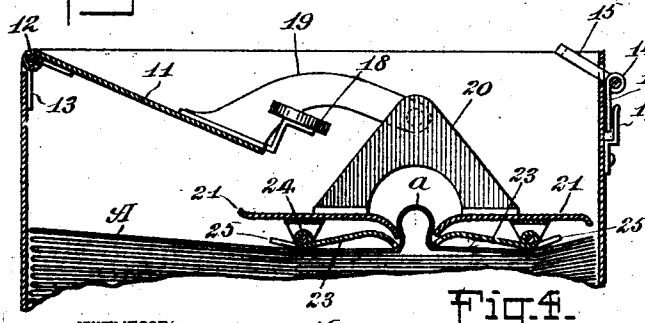


Fig. 5.

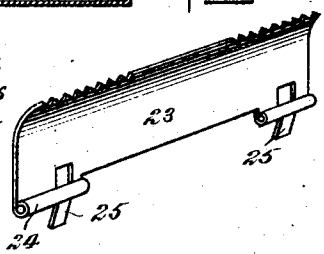
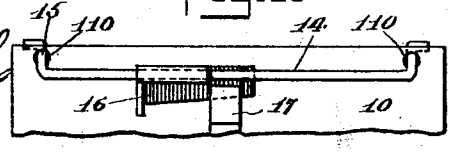


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN M. FERNANDEZ, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

NAPKIN HOLDER.

Application filed August 26, 1926. Serial No. 131,679.

My invention relates to a device for use in dispensing napkins and other paper articles in single succession, as in restaurants and other eating places.

The general object of my invention is to provide a very simple and practical means whereby a depressible cover or the like will cause gripping means to give the napkin or other article a form to be conveniently grasped.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification, it being understood that the drawings are merely illustrative of one example of the invention.

Figure 1 is a plan view of a napkin holder embodying my invention with parts being broken away.

Figure 2 is a vertical section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1 showing the grippers in the raised position.

Figure 3 is a vertical section of the upper portion of the napkin holder when the grippers are in position engaging a napkin.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary detail in front elevation to show the illustrated form of the cover latching device.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of one of the grippers.

In carrying out my invention in accordance with the illustrated example a suitable container 10 is provided to hold a stack of napkins "A". Said container has a cover 11 hinged as at 12, the hinge having a spring 13 tending to raise the cover. The opposite side of the container from the hinge has a latch to hold the free end of the cover from being raised by spring 13. Said latch may have any suitable form. The spring 13 maintains the cover 11 raised to a position to be depressed for the gripping movement.

I have shown a rod 14 having inwardly directed end portions 15 movable in holes 110 in container 10 to a position to prevent the cover 11 from rising or to a position to permit said cover to rise. In the cover-engaging position rod 14 is held by a slide 16 engaging a keeper plate 17 on container 10. The cover is adapted to be depressed by pressure against the key or disc 18. The use of said key 18 is not necessary as pressure may be exerted directly against the plates 21 next referred to. On the cover 11 are brackets 19 or the like from which is swingably suspended hangers 20 having plates 21 separated from each other to provide a space 22 therebetween. At the under side of the cover 11 are disposed grippers 23 pivoted at one edge as at 24 and provided with stops 25 adapted to engage plates 21 to limit the dropping of the grippers 23 under their own weight.

In use, downward pressure against key 18 will depress cover 11 thereby carrying downward the hangers 20 and the grippers 23 and thus causing the grippers to engage the uppermost napkin in the stack as indicated in dotted lines in Figure 2 so that the continued downward movement of the grippers will buckle the engaged napkin to give it a looped portion "*a*" as shown in Figure 3 for the convenient grasping of the napkin.

I would state furthermore, that while the illustrated example constitutes a practical embodiment of my invention, I do not limit myself strictly to the exact details herein illustrated since, manifestly, the same can be considerably varied without departure from the spirit of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A holder for paper napkins and other articles including a container, a depressible cover thereon, and hinged grippers on the cover adapted to engage an article in a stack and for giving the article a looped portion to be grasped.

2. In a holder for paper napkins and other articles, a container adapted to hold a stack of the articles, a hinged cover thereon, a hanger swingably mounted on the cover, plates carried by said hanger, grippers carried beneath said plates and hinged along one edge, teeth on the grippers at the opposite edges to engage the article and give it a buckled form, and stops on the grippers adapted to engage said plates to limit the downward movement of the grippers.

3. A holder for paper napkins and other sheet articles including a container adapted to hold a stack of the articles, depressible means on said container, a pair of grippers, and means pivotally mounting said grippers to partake of the movements of said depressible means, the pivots of the grippers being spaced a distance apart to cause the

gripping edges to move in arcuate paths distant from each other to afford a clearance for the article to buckle therebetween.

4. A holder for paper napkins and other articles including a container adapted to hold a stack of the articles, depressible means on said container, a pair of grippers, means pivotallly mounting said grippers to partake of the movements of said depressible means, and a spring to raise said depressible means.

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