A. ALLEN.

ROLLER TOWEL CABINET.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 5, 1908.

945,669.

Patented Jan. 4, 1910.

Fig. 1.

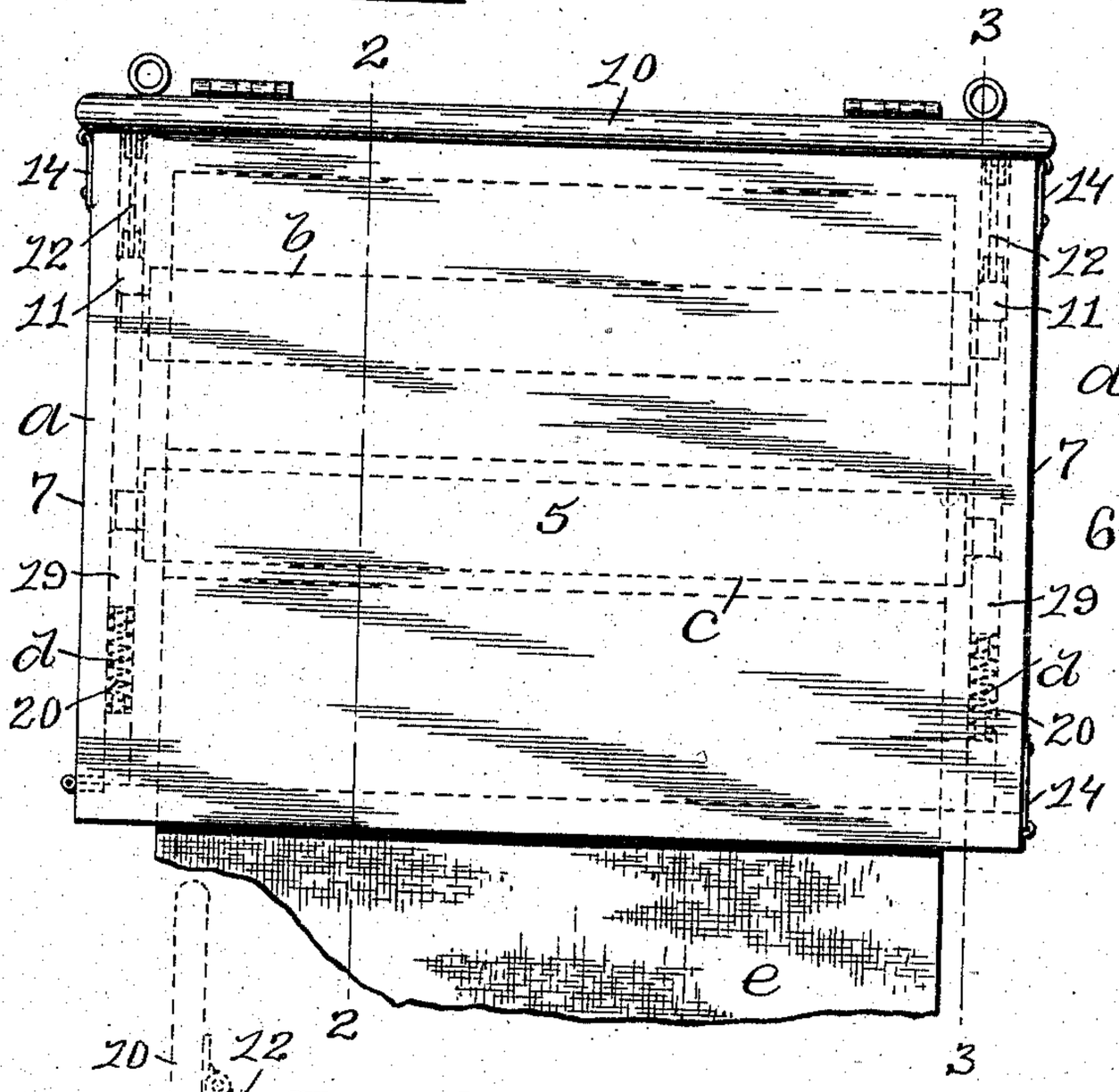


Fig. 2.

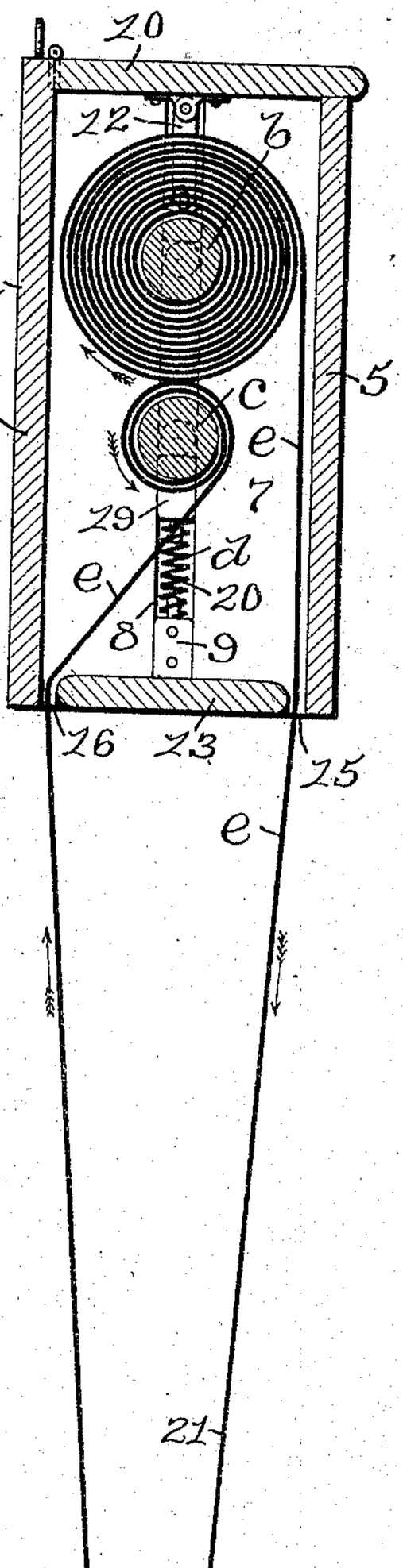


Fig. 3.

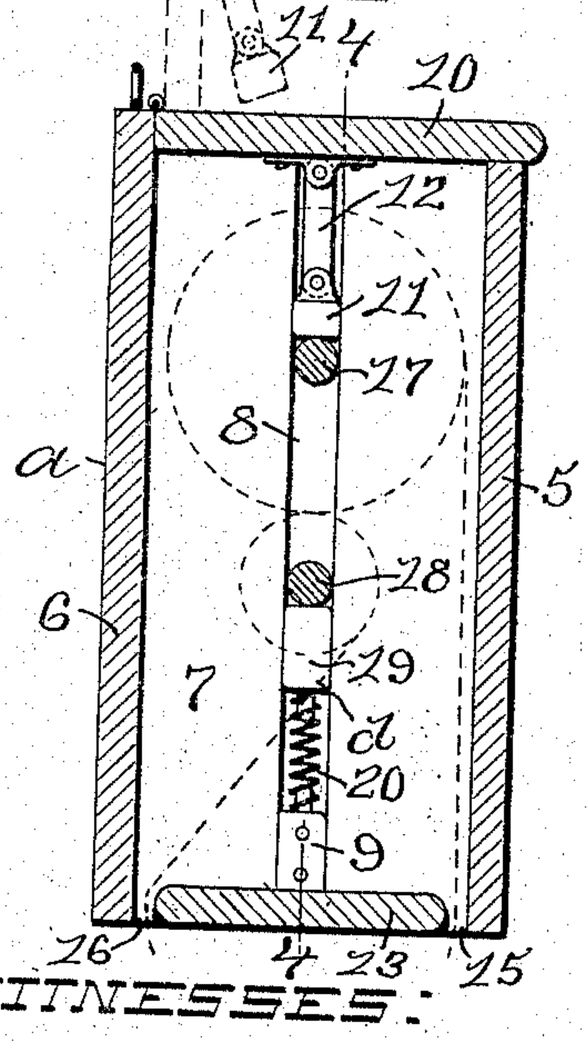
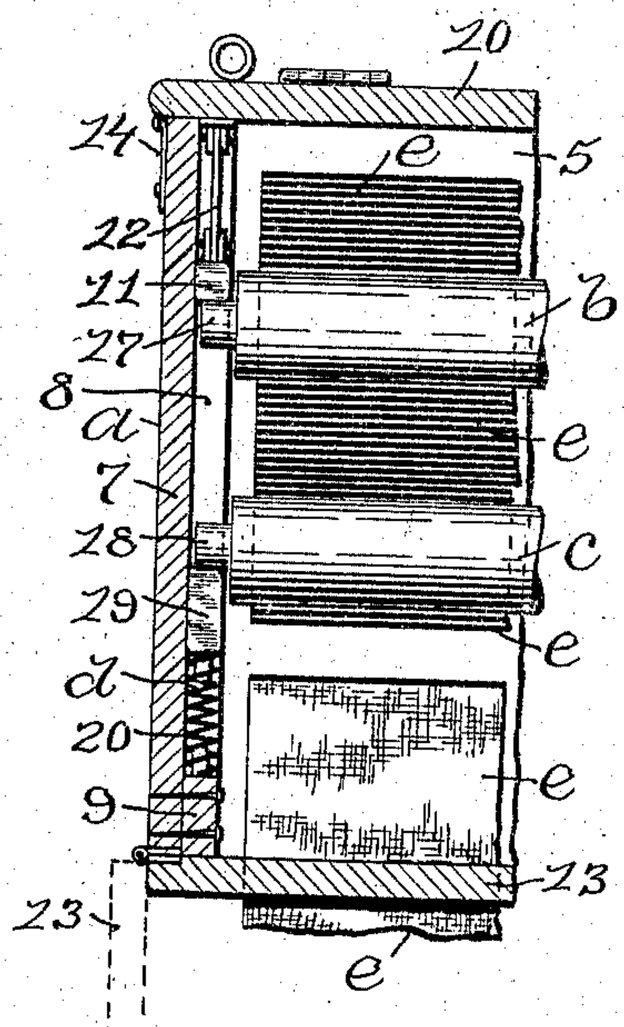


Fig. 4.



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ROLLER-TOWEL CABINET.

945,669. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Jan. 4, 1910.**

Application filed October 5, 1908. Serial No. 456,223.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER ALLEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Pawtucket, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Roller-Towel Cabinets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to an improvement in towel cabinets and more particularly to an improvement in roller towel cabinets.

The object of my invention is to improve the construction of a roller towel cabinet whereby the toweling on the take-up roll is held in direct frictional contact with the toweling on the supply roll under spring tension and the take-up roll more positively driven to automatically take up the used toweling than has heretofore been done.

A further object of my invention is to simplify the construction of roller towel cabinets, thereby reducing the cost of manufacturing the same.

My invention consists in the peculiar and novel construction of a roller towel cabinet having a supply roll, a take-up roll, means for holding the toweling on the supply roll in frictional contact with the toweling on the take-up roll under spring tension, and details of construction as will be more fully set forth hereinafter and claimed.

Figure 1 is a front view of my improved roller towel cabinet, showing the lower portion of the toweling broken away. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse sectional view through the cabinet taken on line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a sectional view similar to Fig. 2 taken on line 3 3 of Fig. 1, and Fig. 4 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view taken on line 4 4 of Fig. 3 looking toward the front with the greater portion of the cabinet broken away.

In the drawings, *a* indicates the frame, *b* the supply roll, *c* the take-up roll, *d d* the spring tension device, and *e* the strip of toweling.

The frame *a* is in the form of a box having a front 5, a back 6, the ends 7 7, each end 7 7 having a central inside vertical groove 8 and a block 9 secured in the bottom of the groove 8, a top cover 10 hinged to the back 6 and having two bearing blocks 11 11, each bearing block 11 being pivotally secured to a link 12 which in turn is pivotally secured to the cover 10 in a position for the bearing blocks to enter the grooves 8 8 in the ends 7 7, as shown in Fig. 3, and a bottom cover 13 hinged at one end to the left-hand end 7 of the frame *a* and secured when in the closed position at the other end to the right hand end 7 of the frame *a* by a hook and eye attachment 14, as indicated in Fig. 1. The bottom cover 13 is somewhat narrower than the inner depth of the frame *a* and is held in a central position when closed, thereby forming a longitudinal slit 15 in the bottom at the front for the egress of the toweling *e* and a longitudinal slit 16 in the bottom at the back for the entrance of the used toweling, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. The top cover 10 is also held in the closed position at each end by hook and eye attachments 14 14, as indicated in Fig. 1.

The supply roll *b* extends the interior length of the frame *a* and has the trunnions 17 17 at the ends adapted to be rotatably held in the grooves 8 8 in the ends 7 7 of the frame *a*. The take-up roll *c* also extends the interior length of the frame *a* and has the trunnions 18 18 at the ends adapted to be rotatably held in the grooves 8 8 in the ends of the frame.

The spring tension devices *d d* each consist of a bearing block 19 adapted to have a sliding fit in a groove 8 and a coiled spring 20 placed intermediate the bearing block 19 in the groove 8 and the block 9 secured in the bottom of the groove 8, as shown in Fig. 3.

In the operation of my improved roller towel cabinet one end of the strip of toweling *e* is secured to the supply roll *b* and all but enough to form the loop 21 is wound on the supply roll. The other end of the toweling *e* is now secured to the take-up roll *c*. The top cover 10 is opened, thereby withdrawing the bearing blocks 11 11 from the grooves 8 8 in the ends 7 7 of the frame *a*, as shown in broken lines in Fig. 3, and the bottom cover 13 opened, as shown in broken lines in Fig. 4. The take-up roll *c* is now placed in the cabinet with the trunnions 18 18 in the grooves 8 8 and bearing on the bearing blocks 19 19, and the supply roll *b* placed in the cabinet with the trunnions 17 17 in the grooves 8 8, thereby bringing the toweling *e* on the supply roll *b* into frictional contact with the toweling or the take-up roll *c*, as shown in Fig. 2. The top cover 10 is closed and secured by the hook and eye attachment with the bearing blocks 11 11 in the grooves 8 8, thereby bringing the bearing blocks 11 11 on top of the trunnions 17

17 on the supply roll *b* and forcing the toweling on the supply roll against the toweling on the take-up roll, where it is held in frictional contact by the spring tension devices *d d*. The bottom cover is now carried upward between the loop 21 and secured in the closed position by the hook and eye attachment 14. The toweling *e* now extends downward from the supply roll *b* through the slit 15 on the front and upward through the slit 16 on the back to the take-up roll *c*, thereby forming the loop 21, which may be of any length desired. When a fresh supply of toweling is required the toweling is pulled downward on the front through the slit 15, thereby unwinding the clean toweling from the supply roll and through the positive frictional contact of the toweling on the supply roll with the toweling on the take-up roll revolves the take-up roll and winds the used toweling on the take-up roll at the same ratio. When all of the toweling is used, it is removed from the rolls to the laundry and the cabinet supplied with a clean strip of toweling.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent;—

1. A roller towel cabinet, comprising in combination, a casing having vertical grooves formed in opposite sides thereof, a take-up roll having journals bearing in said grooves, a supply roll superposed upon said take-up roll and also having journals bearing in said groove, a cover movably mounted on the top of said casing having links pivoted thereto which depend in said grooves, stops pivotally secured to the depending ends of said links and bearing on said supply roll journals, and tension springs fixed in the lower ends of said grooves and bearing against said take-up roll journals.

2. A roller towel cabinet, comprising in combination, a casing having vertical grooves formed in opposite sides thereof, a take-up roll having journals bearing in said grooves, a supply roll superposed upon said take-up roll and also having journals bearing in said groove, a cover movably mounted on the top of said casing having links pivoted thereto which depend in said grooves, stops pivotally secured to the depending ends of said links and bearing on said supply roll journals, a hinged bottom secured by one end to the lower edge of said casing, said bottom being narrower than said casing to leave a slot on each side thereof through which the runs of the toweling project, and means normally pressing said rolls together.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ALEXANDER ALLEN.

Witnesses:

ADA E. HAGERTY,

J. A. MILLER.