

**Dec. 23, 1941.**

F. J. NATWICK ET AL

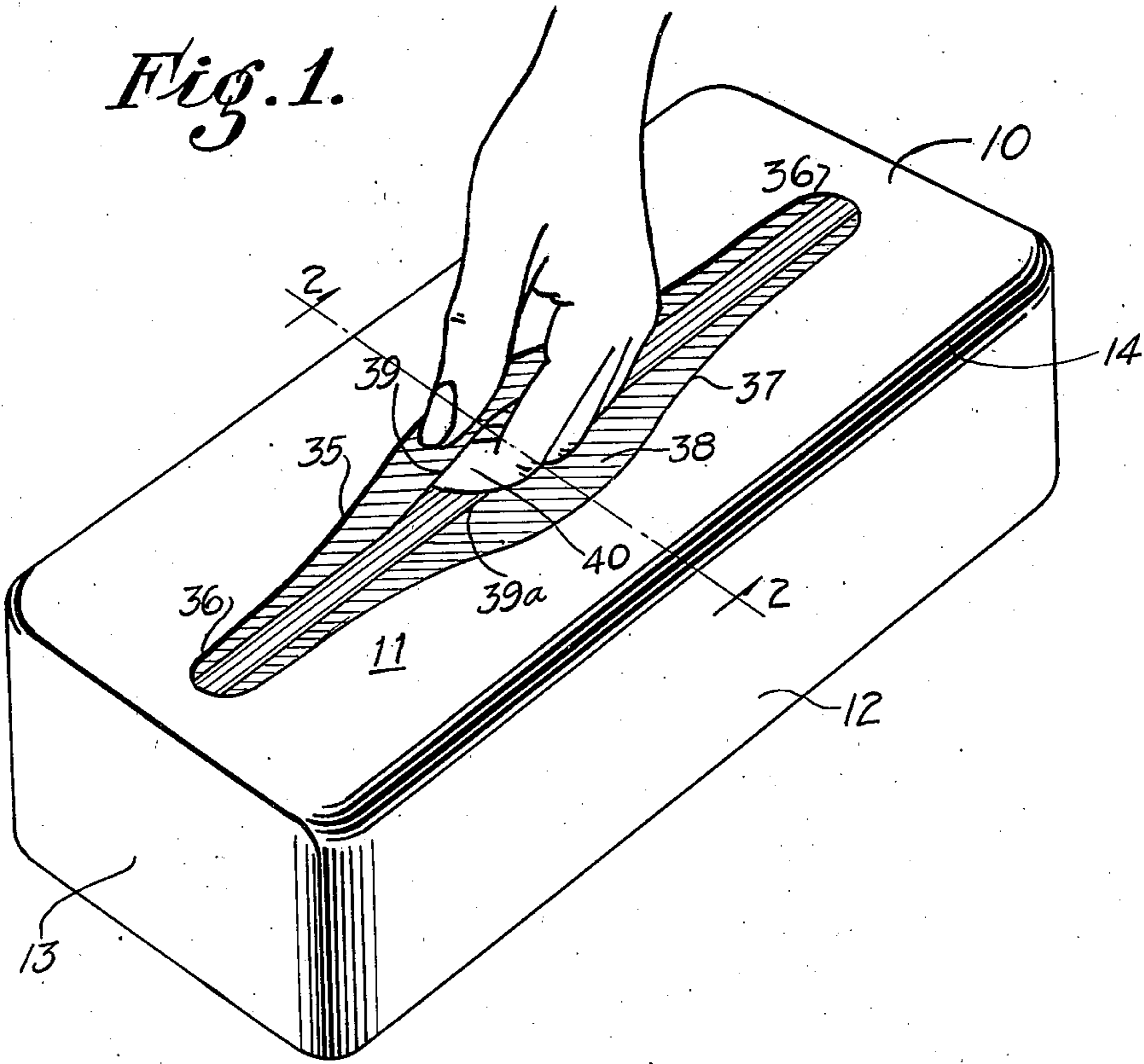
**2,267,305**

CONTAINER FOR TISSUE KERCHIEFS

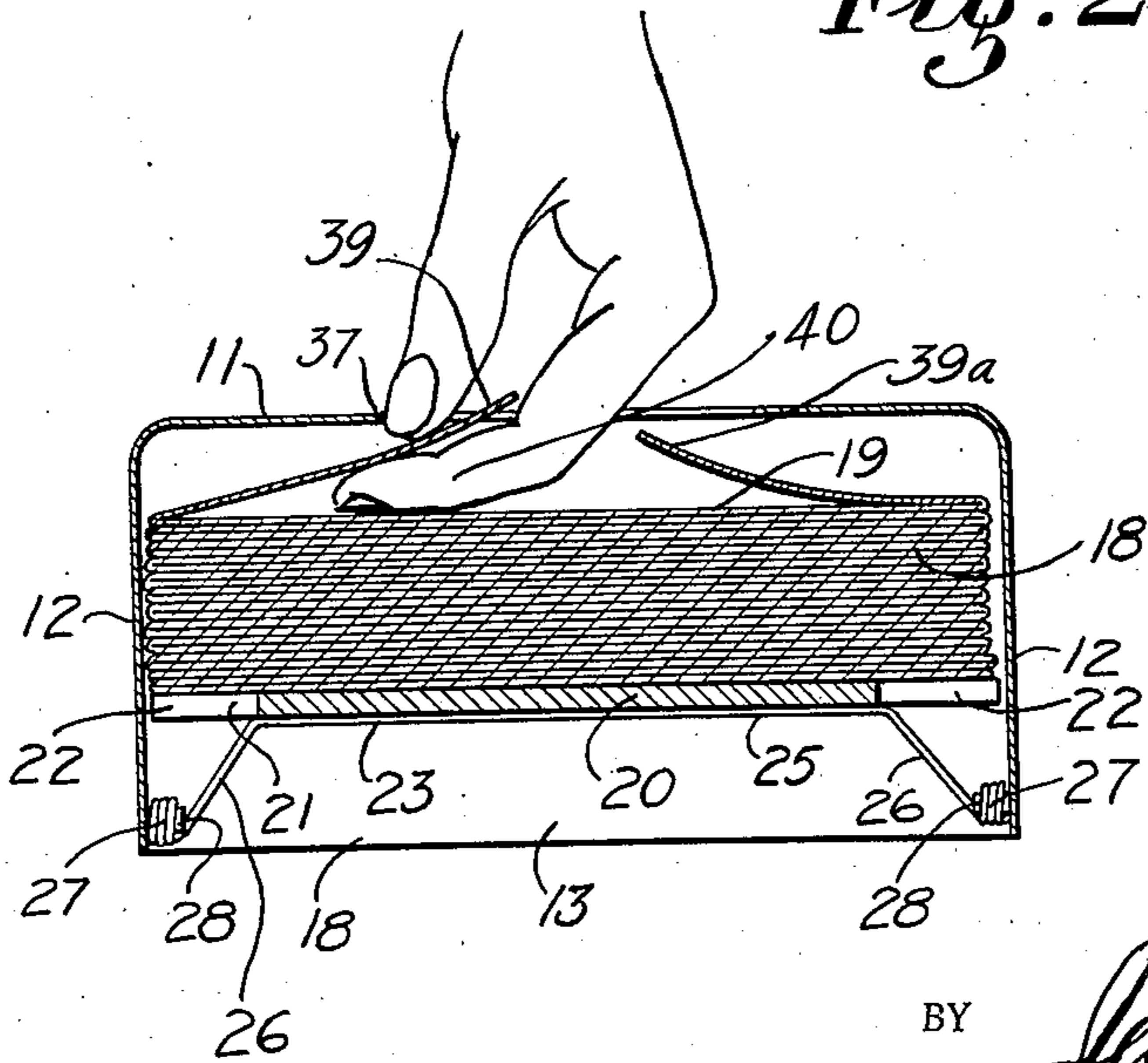
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2 Sheets-Sheet 1

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



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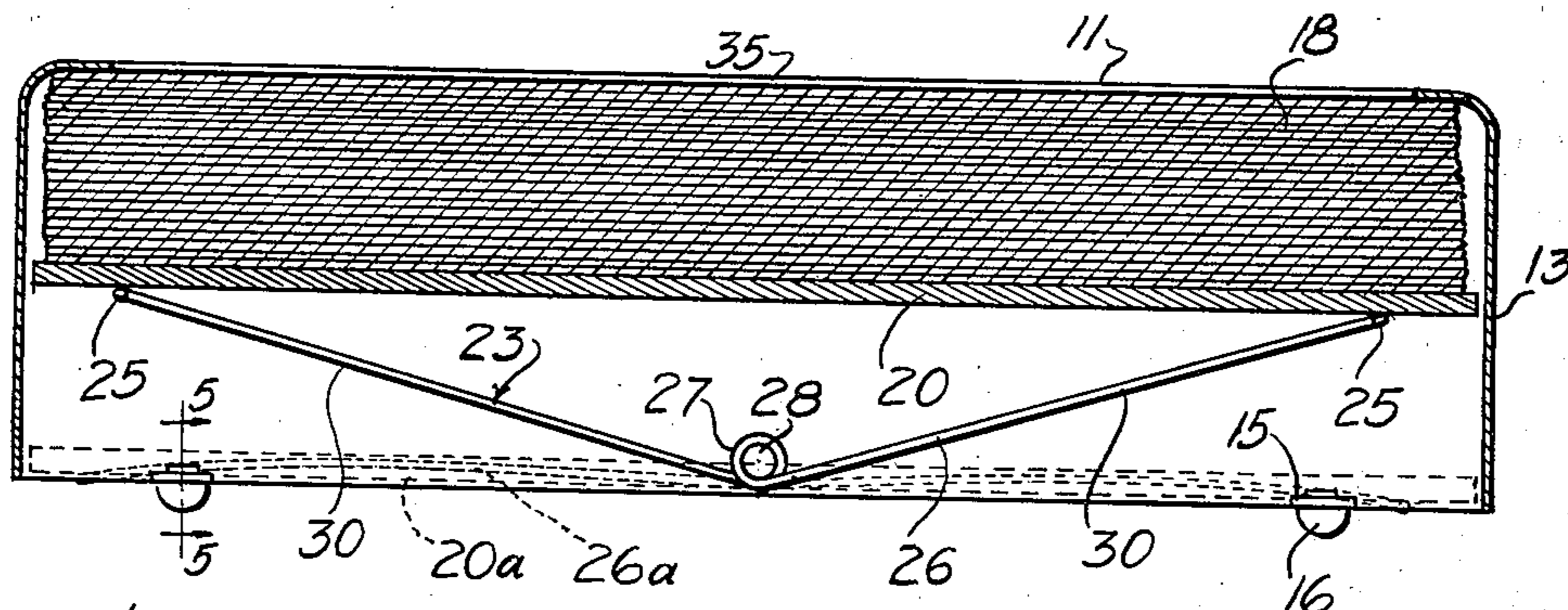
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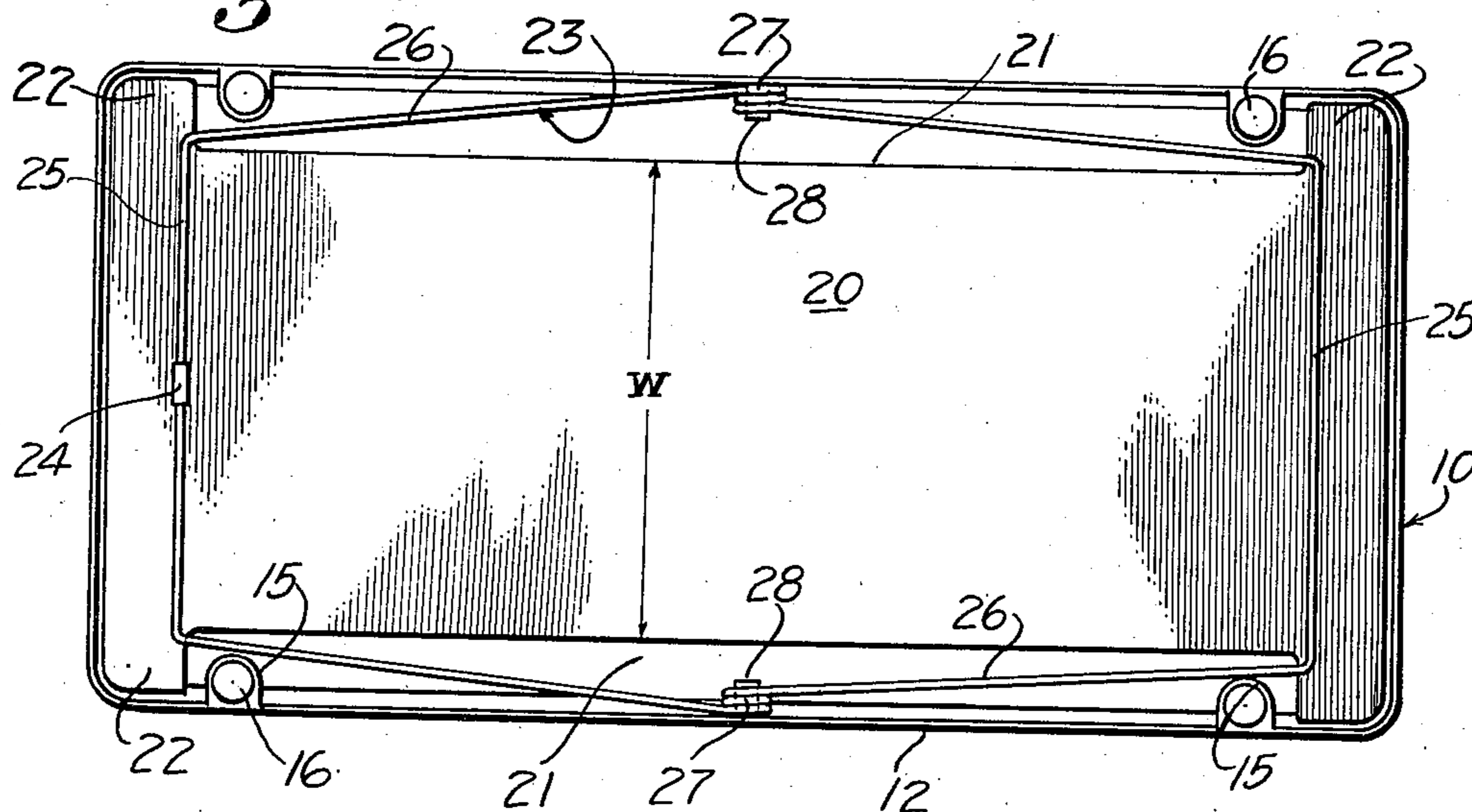
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

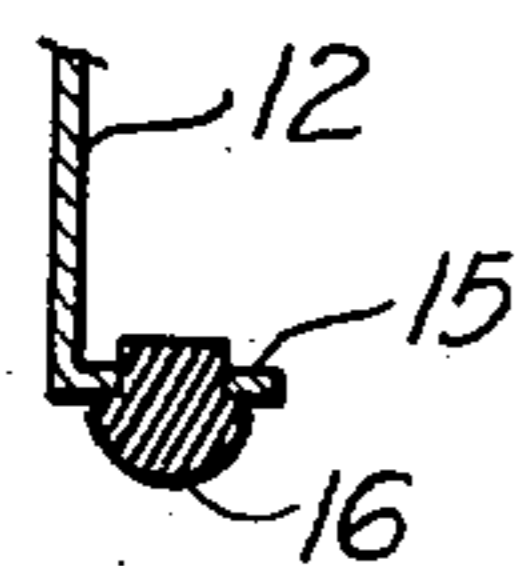
*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 5.*



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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## CONTAINER FOR TISSUE KERCHIEFS

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Application May 27, 1940, Serial No. 337,456

8 Claims. (Cl. 312—62)

Our invention relates to a service container for tissue kerchiefs of the type now extensively employed as substitutes for cloth handkerchiefs or small towels and the like for human application.

Tissue kerchiefs of the type for which this container is intended are rapidly becoming an accepted part of the equipment of the dressing table of both the boudoir and the beauty parlor, owing to the fact that they provide discardable sheets of soft texture which may be used to remove cold cream and for many other purposes for which handkerchiefs and small cloths are employed.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a container of attractive appearance in which a stack of tissue kerchiefs, such as Kleenex, may be placed from the carton in which such kerchiefs are purchased, and which container will hold the kerchiefs in accessible state.

It is an object of the invention to provide a container for folded tissue kerchiefs having a top wall with an opening therein through which the kerchiefs may be singly removed, this opening being so formed that the kerchief on the top of the stack may be readily engaged by the fingers and easily removed from the container.

A further object of the invention is to provide a container of the character set forth in the preceding paragraph having means for yieldably lifting the stack of kerchiefs therein, so that the top kerchief of the stack will be held close to or in engagement with the lower face of the top wall of the container. A feature of the invention is that the stack is supported in a horizontal plane and is yieldable downwardly in response to pressure applied thereto, thereby making it possible for the user to readily pass one or more fingers under the top fold of the upper kerchief, to readily grasp the kerchief so that it may be removed from the container without tearing the same and without undue wrinkling.

A further object of the invention is to provide for the container a novel form of yieldable support for the stack of tissue kerchiefs and also to provide a simple, readily detachable and replaceable spring element to yieldably support a plate on which a stack of tissue rests, this spring being of such character that it will urge the supporting plate from a position at the bottom of the container substantially into engagement at the top wall of the container when the last sheet of tissue of the stack is removed.

A further object of the invention is to provide a simple spring member so formed that the ends thereof will engage end portions of the support-

ing plate, and to provide in conjunction with this spring member means for connecting the central portion thereof to the container, such connecting means being so formed that it will permit ready removal of the spring when it is desired to remove the supporting plate to enable refilling of the container with a new stack of tissue kerchiefs.

Further objects and advantages will be brought out in the following part of the specification.

Referring to the drawings which are for illustrative purposes only:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the preferred embodiment of my invention.

Fig. 2 is a cross section taken on a plane indicated by the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a section taken on a longitudinal plane through the container.

Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the container with the supporting plate and the spring in place therein.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary sectional view taken as indicated by the line 5—5 of Fig. 3.

In a preferred embodiment of my invention I provide a container 10 having a top wall 11, side walls 12 and end walls 13, preferably joined by rounded corners 14. Near the ends of each side wall 12 metal tongues 15 are bent inward to support rubber knobs 16 serving as feet for the container so that it may rest upon a polished surface without marring the same. It will be noted that the tongues or feet elements 15 are spaced a short distance from the end walls 13 of the container.

The container 10 has an opening 17 in the bottom thereof, which opening is preferably of a size substantially equal to the cross sectional area of the container in a horizontal plane. Into this opening a stack of folded tissue kerchiefs 19 is inserted, and in a position to engage the bottom of the stack 18 there is a supporting plate 20 having portions cut from the sides thereof so as to form longitudinally elongated notches 21, the ends of which notches are defined by lateral projections 22 at the ends of the plate 20, which engage the side walls 12 so as to serve as guides for the vertical movement of the supporting plate 20 within the container 10. It will be noted that the projections 22 lie between the tongues 15 and the end walls 13 of the container.

To urge the supporting plate 20 upward from the lower position thereof indicated by dotted lines 20a in Fig. 3, I provide a spring member 23 which, as shown in Fig. 4 is approximately of rectangular form. This spring member 23 is preferably bent from a piece of spring wire into

the form of a closed loop with the ends of the wire joined by means of a metal connector 24. The spring 23 has a pair of end portions 25 and side portions 26. The end portions 25 are shorter than the width dimension of the container 10 and preferably slightly longer than the width dimensions  $w$  of the supporting plate 20. The side portions 26 of the spring 23 are bowed outwardly and the central part of each side portion 26 is coiled so as to form a short helical spring 27 to fit over a projection or pin 28 which extends inward from the central lower portion of a side wall 12 of the container 10.

The side portions 26 of the spring 23 are bowed to such an extent that in order to place the coils 27 over the pins 28 it is necessary to spring the centers of the side portions 26 inward. Accordingly, the coils 27 are held over the pins 28 by outward pressure exerted by the side portions 26 and to remove the spring 23 from the position in which it is shown in Fig. 4 it is merely necessary to spring the side portions 26 inward from the positions in which they are shown. The spring 23 consists of two U-shaped portions 30 each including an end portion 25 and a pair of legs which consist of the adjacent halves of the side portions 26, connected by the coils 27. These portions 30 of the spring 23 slope upward from the coils 27 as shown in Fig. 3 so that the end portions 25 thereof bear against the end portions of the supporting plate 20. The spring 23 is so formed that it will raise the supporting plate 20 into or nearly into engagement with the upper wall 11 of the container 10 when the stack 18 of tissue is removed.

The notches 21 in the edges of the supporting plate 20 provide spaces between the plate 20 and the side walls 12 of the container in which the side portions 26 of the spring 23 may rest as shown in 26a when the supporting plate 20 is in its lowermost position as indicated at 20a, and at which time the interior of the container is substantially filled by a stack of tissue of from 200 to 250 sheets. It will be noted that the side portions 26 of the spring 23 converge from the coils 27 to the end portions 25 so that they lie inside the tongues 15 and will not catch on them as the ends of the spring 23 are moved downwardly or when the spring 23 is being removed from or placed in the container.

As further shown in Figs 1 and 2 the top wall 11 is provided with an opening 35 which extends along the longitudinal center line of the top 11. This opening has rounded ends 36 and longitudinal edges 37 which diverge from the ends 36 toward the center of the top wall 11 to provide a central enlargement 38 through which the fingers may be inserted to grasp the edge 39 of the top folded tissue kerchief 19. The container 10 is especially suited for use with tissue folded so that the edges 39 and 39a lie relatively close together and extend longitudinally of the opening 35. A feature of the invention resides in the provision of the means for resiliently supporting the stack 18 of tissue so that this stack 18 may be forced downward with slight pressure by the fingers 40 of a hand, as such fingers are passed under the edge 39 of the top tissue 19, and also if desired a short distance under an edge 37 of the top wall 11; thereby making it possible to easily obtain grip on a sufficient area of the tissue to avoid possibility of tearing the same as a pull is applied in upward direction to draw the tissue through the opening 35. When the stack 18 is depressed and the fingers 40 are passed

under the edge 39 of the sheet, the thumb may be brought into engagement with the exposed upper surface of the sheet substantially in the manner shown.

We have shown a simple and practical form of the invention, but it will be recognized that the invention should not be limited to the details of construction shown but should be accorded full scope of the appended claims.

We claim as our invention:

1. In a holder for tissue kerchiefs, the combination of: a container having a top wall with side and end walls depending therefrom and an open bottom, said top wall having a slot-like opening therein; a supporting plate movable into said container through said open bottom, on which a stack of said kerchiefs is supported; and spring means insertable into said container after said supporting plate, for yieldably urging said supporting plate upward toward said top wall of said container, whereby the top kerchief of said stack will be normally held against said top wall but may be displaced downward away from said opening to facilitate grasping of said top kerchief through said opening.

2. In a holder for tissue kerchiefs, the combination of: a container having a top wall with side and end walls depending therefrom and an open bottom, said top wall having a slot-like opening therein; a supporting plate movable into said container through said open bottom, on which a stack of said kerchiefs is supported; and a spring insertable into said container below said supporting plate through said open bottom, said spring having means whereby the central portion thereof is connected to the side walls of said container and having free ends engaging the end portions of said supporting plate to yieldably urge said supporting plate upward toward said top wall of said container, whereby the top kerchief of said stack will be held yieldably against said top wall.

3. In a holder for tissue kerchiefs, the combination of: a container having a top wall with side and end walls depending therefrom and an open bottom, said top wall having a slot-like opening therein; a supporting plate movable through said open bottom into said container on which a stack of said kerchiefs is supported; and spring means insertable through said open bottom into the lower part of said container, said spring means and said side walls of said container having detachable means of interengagement functioning in response to lateral expansion of said spring means to hold said spring means operatively in said container, said spring means having end portions to yieldably urge said supporting plate upward toward said top wall of said container, whereby the top kerchief of said stack will be yieldably held in a position confronting said opening.

4. In a holder for tissue kerchiefs, the combination of: a container having a top wall with side and end walls depending therefrom and an opening in the bottom thereof, said top wall having a slot-like opening therein; a supporting plate insertable into said container through said open bottom, on which a stack of said kerchiefs is supported; and spring means disposed in the lower part of said container, said spring means comprising end portions to engage the ends of said supporting plate and laterally and outwardly bowed side portions, said bowed portions and said side wall of said container having detachable means of interengagement to hold

said spring means in operative position in said container, said spring means urging said supporting plate upward toward said top wall of said container so as to yieldably hold the top kerchief of said stack in a position confronting said opening.

5. In a holder for tissue kerchiefs, the combination of: a container having a top wall with side and end walls depending therefrom, said top wall having a slot-like opening therein; a supporting plate in said container on which a stack of said kerchiefs is supported; and spring means disposed in the lower part of said container, said spring means comprising end portions to engage the ends of said supporting plate and side portions, said portions and said side wall of said container having detachable means of interengagement to hold said spring means in operative position in said container, said spring means urging said supporting plate upward toward said top wall of said container so as to yieldably hold the top kerchief of said stack in a position confronting said opening, there being spaces between the edges of said supporting plate and said side walls in which said side portions of said spring may move when said supporting plate is in lowered position in said container.

6. In a holder for tissue kerchiefs, the combination of: a container having a top wall with side and end walls depending therefrom, said top wall having a slot-like opening therein; a supporting plate in said container on which a stack of said kerchiefs is supported; lugs projecting inward from said side walls; and spring means disposed in the lower part of said container, said spring means comprising end portions to engage the ends of said supporting plate, and side portions, there being detachable means of interengagement between said side portions and said lugs to hold said spring operatively in

said container, whereby said spring will urge said supporting plate upwardly toward said top wall of said container.

7. In a holder for tissue kerchiefs, the combination of: a container having a top wall with side and end walls depending therefrom and an open bottom, said top wall having a slot-like opening therein; a supporting plate insertable into said container through said open bottom, on which a stack of said kerchiefs is supported; lugs projecting inward from said side walls; and spring means disposed in the lower part of said container, said spring means comprising a strip bent to the form of a closed loop having end portions to engage the ends of said supporting plate, and side portions, there being detachable means of interengagement between said side portions and said lugs to hold said spring operatively in said container, whereby said spring will urge said supporting plate upwardly toward said top wall of said container.

8. In a holder for tissue kerchiefs, the combination of: a container having a top wall with side and end walls depending therefrom and an open bottom, said top wall having a slot-like opening therein; a supporting plate insertable into said container through said open bottom, on which a stack of said kerchiefs is supported; lugs projecting inward from the lower portions of said side walls; and spring means disposed in the lower part of said container, said spring means comprising a strip bent to the form of a closed loop having end portions to engage the ends of said supporting plate, and side portions, there being spiral coils formed in said side portions to detachably engage said lugs to hold said spring operatively in said container, whereby said spring will urge said supporting plate upwardly toward said top wall of said container.

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