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(54) Storage and dispensing apparatus for plastic bags.

(57) A cylindrical tubular member (16 or 18) is adapted to be positioned in an upright position on the upper surface of a grocery store checkout counter and is adapted to receive a package (P or P') of wound flexible plastic bags which are joined along transverse severance lines. The tubular member (16 or 18) has an elongate slot (30,31) which includes a dispensing slot portion (32,42) of zigzag configuration and a thread-up slot portion (34,44) which communicates with the upper open end of the tubular member. Thus the free end of the leading bag of a package of bags (P,P') which is disposed within the tubular member (16 or 18) may be manually threaded along the thread-up slot portion (34,44) and into the dispensing slot portion (32,42), the zigzag configuration of the latter permitting the bags to be serially withdrawn therethrough, while offering resistance thereto so as to facilitate the severance of the withdrawn bag from the immediately following bag along the severance line.

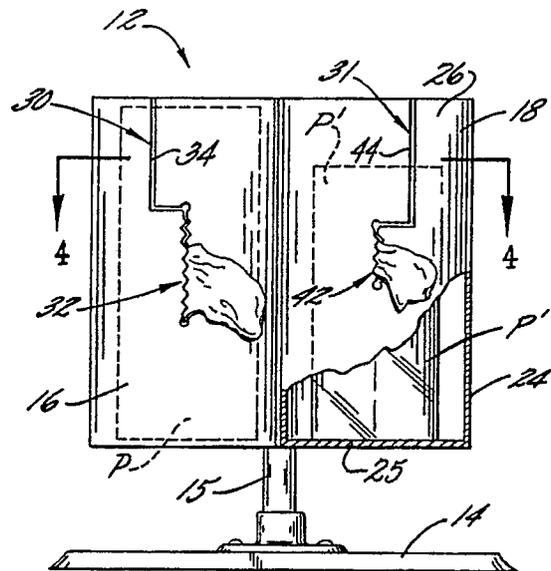


FIG.3.

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
A,D	US-A-4 793 539 (HAENNI, WILKES) * the whole document * -----	1	B 65 H 35/00
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			B 65 H B 65 B A 47 K A 47 F B 65 D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of search	Examiner
The Hague		02 May 91	EVANS A.J.
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document T: theory or principle underlying the invention</p> <p>E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons</p> <p>----- &: member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			