April 4, 1967 A. R. FALLY 3,312,336

COIN TUBE

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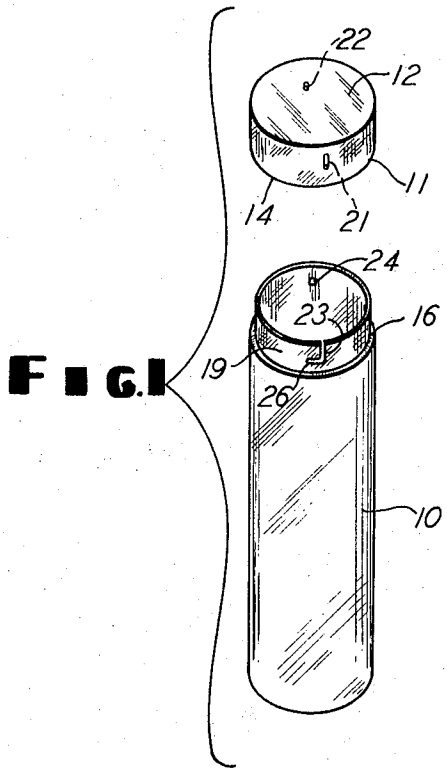


FIG. 1

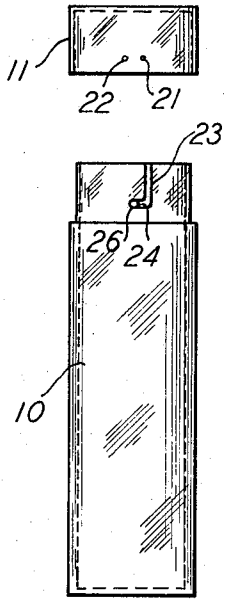


FIG. 2



FIG. 3

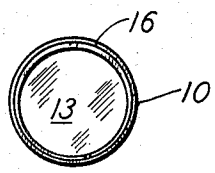


FIG. 4

INVENTOR:

ANTHONY R. FALLY

BY: Arthur J. Hansmann

ATTORNEY

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COIN TUBE

Anthony R. Fally, Chicago, Ill., assignor to Whitman Publishing Company, Racine, Wis., a corporation of Wisconsin

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This invention relates to a coin tube.

It is an object of this invention to provide a coin tube for the storage of coins and wherein the tube is provided with a removable cap which is substantially air tight with the body portion of the tube.

Still another object of this invention is to provide a coin tube with a removable cap which has special means for retaining the cap on the body portion of the tube such that the cap cannot be accidentally or inadvertently dislodged in its seated position on the body portion.

Still a further object of this invention is to provide a coin tube which has a removable cap and a simulated locking means for securing the cap to the tube, and with the additional feature of the tube being transparent for observation of the coins therewithin though the tube has the features mentioned above.

Still a further object of this invention is to provide a coin tube with a removable cap wherein the cap and body portion are relatively inexpensive and easily manufactured but nevertheless sturdy in their construction and extremely effective in tightly securing the cap to the body portion to protect the coins from the outside elements such as air and the like.

Other objects and advantages become apparent upon reading the following description in light of the accompanying drawing wherein:

FIG. 1 is an exploded perspective view of a preferred embodiment of this invention.

FIG. 2 is an exploded side elevational view of FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is a bottom plan view of the tube cap portion shown in FIGS. 1 and 2.

FIG. 4 is the top plan view of the tube body portion shown in FIGS. 1 and 2.

The drawings show the tube container to consist of a tubular body portion **10** and a tubular cap portion **11** with the latter having a top **12**. Likewise the body portion **10** has a bottom indicated **13** in FIG. 4. The material for this coin tube is of a transparent material preferably plastic and thus the coins which would be disposed therein would be seen through the tube to determine the contents of the tube.

It is desired that the cap portion **11** be releasably retained with respect to the body portion **10** to keep the air and like outside elements out of the coin tube. Thus the cap portion **11** is telescopically and snugly assembled with the body portion **10** when the two portions are arranged together in the obvious manner of assembly. It will therefore be further understood that the lower edge **14** of the cap portion **11** rests upon the shoulder **16** of the body portion **10** in the assembled position. Still further the thickness of the cap sidewall **17** is equal to the width of the shoulder portion **16** so that the entire exterior of the coin tube is of a uniform diameter throughout the body portion **10** and the cap portion **11** as the two portions align in their outer surfaces. Of course likewise the inner wall **18** of the cap portion **11** is snug with respect to the outer wall **19** of the body portion **10** so that the two are air tight as desired.

An important feature of the invention is the provision of two pins or projections **21** and **22** on the cap portion **11** and two holes **23** and **24** on the body portion **10**. Of course the purpose is to have the pins received within the respective holes when the cap is assembled with the body portion. The accomplishment of this of course permits the cap to be snug with the body portion **10** and to have the cap tightly secured thereto so that it will not become accidentally loosened or removed. Thus it will be noted that the cap pin **21** is longer than the pin **22**, and of course the pin **21** is received in the slot **23** to form a bayonet connection with the slot **23** in the obvious manner of having the pin **21** slide along the slot or hole **23** during the assembly and disassembly of the cap **11** with respect to the body portion **10**.

Still further it will be noted that the respective pins and holes described are shown to be diametrically opposite each other, and therefore when the pin **21** is fully seated in the inward end **26** of the slot **23**, then the pin **22** is seated within the hole **24**. Thus FIG. 2 shows that the hole **24** is diametrically opposite the inward end **26** of the hole **23** so that with the pins **21** and **22** diametrically oppositely disposed, then the pins are in the holes when the cap is fully seated on the body portion. The pin **22** being received in the hole **24** provides a lock means for the bayonet connection of the pin **21** in its slot **23** and therefore the cap cannot be readily or inadvertently removed from the body portion.

Of course the pin **21** being disposed in the inner end **26** of the slot **23** prevents direct axial movement of the cap **11** from the body portion **10**. Also the pin **22** then being disposed within the hole **24** resists rotational movement of the cap with respect to the body portion **10** and therefore in both of these features the cap is maintained tight with the body portion.

Of course there is a preferred lead angle between the cap wall **18** and the body wall **19** so that the two are initially easily telescoped together and then upon approach of the edge **14** with respect to the shoulder **16**, the two walls become tighter together for the air tightness desired. Also it will be understood that the tube material is of a plastic material which is inherently flexible or resilient and therefore the pin or button **22** sliding along the body wall **19** will tend to force inwardly on the latter but the entire end of the tube body portion can contract because of the slot **23** and thus the pin **21** in the slot **23** in the assembly and disassembly operation does not prevent the slight contraction of the tube upper end. Therefore, the pin **22** can readily slide over the wall **19** to seat in the hole **24** when the pin **21** seats in the inward end **26** of the hole **23**. Of course neither of the pins **21** or **22** projects into the interior of the body portion **10** to interfere with the coins therein. Also, it will be now obvious that the body portion wall **19** and the interior cylindrical wall of the cap **11** are tapered or at least fitted so that the two can be mated together with the projection or pin **22** readily sliding over the wall **19** in the initial placement of the cap on the body portion. The taper is therefore such that upon continued seating of the cap **11** the cap becomes air tight with the wall **19** of the body portion and in fact the end length of the body portion defined by the wall **19** can flex inwardly as the bayonet type of slot **23** closes through the inward force exerted by the pin **22** and the cap **11**. This therefore permits the placement of the cap on the body portion and results in the air-tight relationship therebetween.

While a specific embodiment of this invention has been shown and described, it should be obvious that certain changes can be made, and the invention should, therefore, be determined only by the scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

A coin tube comprising a tubular body portion and a tubular cap portion air-tightly telescopically mated over the open end of said body portion and said portions being releasably secured together through a connection

therebetween, said body portion being flexible in the length thereof covered by said cap portion for flexing to adjust to fitting with said cap portion in the placement and removal of the latter, said connection including two pins and two openings for receiving said pins in mated pairs on diametrically opposite sides of said portions, one of said openings being a slot extending from the edge of said body portion and with said one being adapted to slidably receive one of said pins on said cap portion and arranged therewith in the nature of a bayonet connection upon assembly and disassembly of said cap portion with said body portion, and the other of said openings being a pin hole fully spaced from said edge and adapted and located to snugly receive the other of said pins when said

one of said pins is disposed in the inward end of said slot and thereby releasably secure said bayonet connection.

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THERON E. CONDON, *Primary Examiner.*

GEORGE E. LOWRANCE, *Examiner.*