Oct. 17, 1933. T. W. SMITH, JR 1,931,398

COIN MAT

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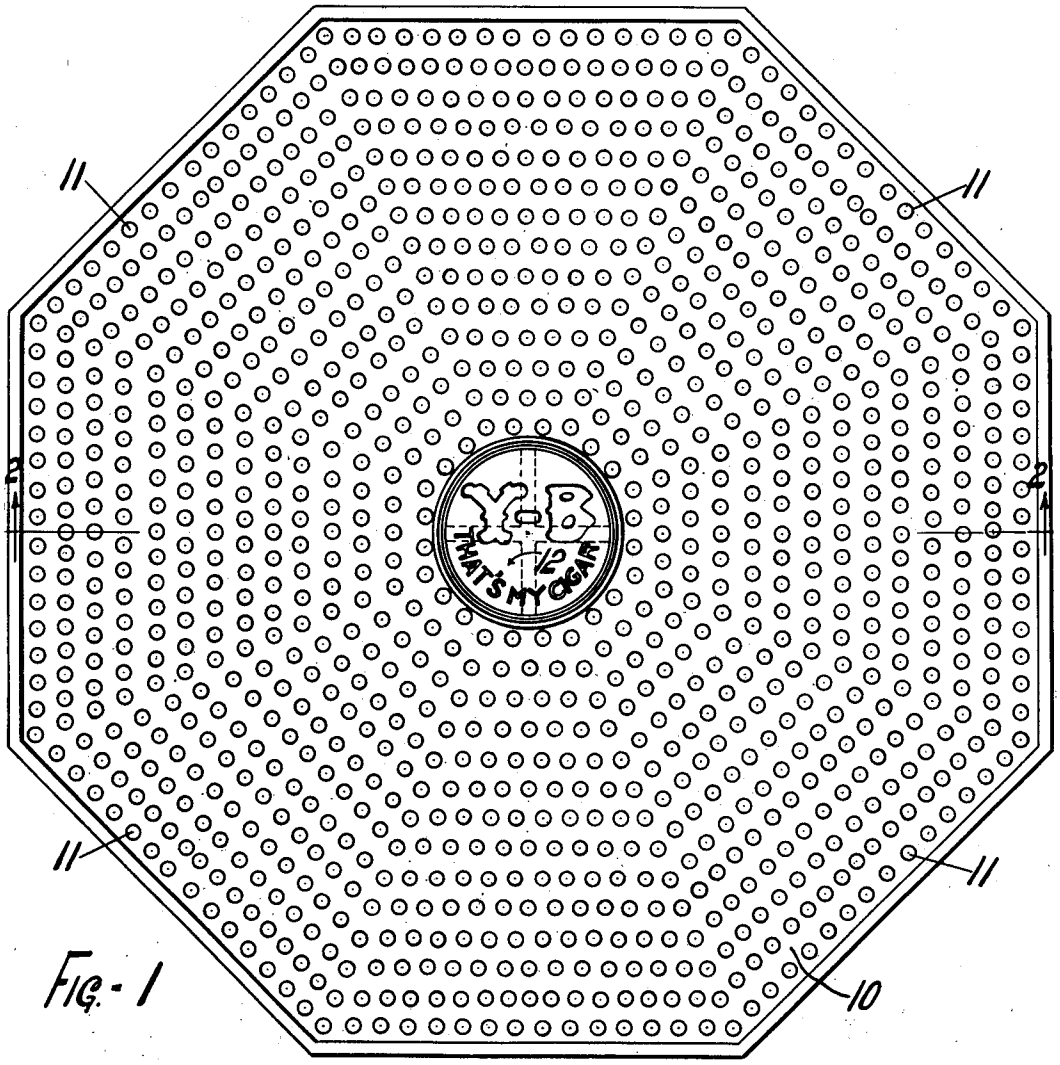


FIG. - 1

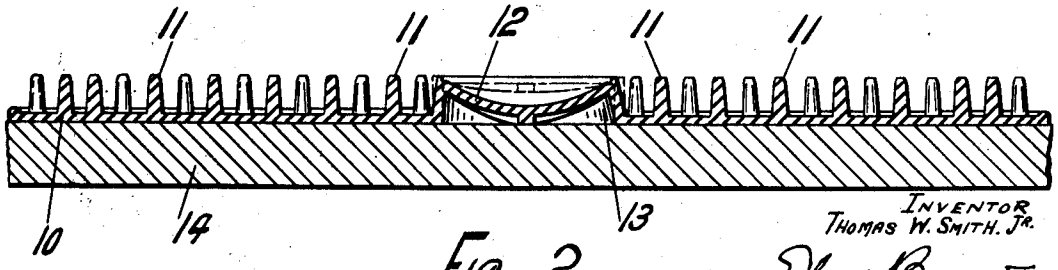


FIG. - 2

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COIN MAT

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2 Claims. (Cl. 133—12)

This invention relates to coin mats.

Coin mats of molded, vulcanized rubber with upstanding, flexible bristles closely arranged on the face thereof have been made for a great many years for use on counters in stores and other establishments where small change is handled, to facilitate the picking up of coins by the customer or clerk, and the principle of the operation of this type of coin mat is quite well known and understood.

The general purpose of the present invention is to provide an improved coin mat of this type which is particularly suitable for distribution as a premium along with other merchandise and having suitable advertising value in connection with the sale of such merchandise without appreciably affecting the normal function of the coin mat in the handling of coins.

A further object of the invention is to provide a construction of this type which will tend to adhere without slippage on the surface of the counter.

The foregoing and other purposes of the invention are obtained in the coin mat illustrated in the accompanying drawing and described below. It is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the particular form thereof shown and described.

Of the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 is a plan view of a coin mat embodying the invention; and

Figure 2 is a section along the line 2—2 of Figure 1 showing the coin mat as preferably placed on a counter or the like for use.

Referring to the drawing, the mat preferably comprises an integral molded and vulcanized structure of rubber or like flexible material having a backing sheet 10 on the face of which are the usual flexible pins or projections 11—11 closely arranged for their normal functioning in coin mat constructions of this type.

The improved features of the present invention consists in the provision of a raised portion 12 on the face of the mat substantially the same height as the pins or projections 11 and preferably arranged in some symmetrical way on the face of the mat. In the particular mat shown, the raised portion 12 is at center of the mat, but it will be understood that it can be placed elsewhere on the face of the mat. This raised portion is also of more or less depressible material and the pins or projections 11 are closely arranged about the raised portion 12 so that a coin, even though it falls on or near this raised portion of the mat, can be easily removed from the mat with the fingers. By this arrangement there are no pockets or depressions in the mat into which a coin could fall and from which it would be difficult to remove a coin.

The raised portion 12 presents a raised surface of sufficient extent to bear an advertising or other legend thereon, and because of its being raised substantially to the height of the pins or projections, this legend is effectively displayed.

The raised portion 12 of the mat preferably is hollow and provides a pocket 13 opening at the under surface of the mat whereby when the flexible top wall of the raised portion 12 is depressed from the dotted line position shown in Figure 2 to the full line position thereof shown in said figure while the mat is resting on the surface of a counter 14, the pocket acts as a suction cup, tending to prevent slippage of the mat on a smooth surface.

An advertising or other legend on the raised portion 12 of the mat may be molded into the rubber of the mat and suitably decorated with contrasting colors, or a separate transfer label of a known type may be secured on the raised surface of the mat in a known manner to provide the display feature.

It will be seen that the improved mat provides an item of especial value for use as a premium in connection with the sale of merchandise. The distributor of the merchandise can furnish such a mat along with a certain amount of goods sold to a retailer, as a premium to aid in making the sale and it also acts as an effective advertising device in aiding the retailer to dispose of such merchandise.

Modifications of the invention may be resorted to without departing from the spirit thereof or the scope of the appended claims. The term "legend", as used in the claims, is intended to cover any form of writings or symbols by which an idea or thought such as an advertising idea is conveyed to one viewing the coin mat.

What is claimed is:

1. In a coin mat comprising a backing sheet having upstanding flexible projections or pins closely arranged on the upper face thereof, a raised portion of substantial extent about which said pins or projections are closely arranged, said raised portion being substantially the height of said projections and adapted to bear a legend.

2. In a coin mat comprising a backing sheet having upstanding flexible projections or pins closely arranged on the upper face thereof, a raised portion of substantial extent about which said pins or projections are closely arranged, said raised portion being substantially the height of said projections, adapted to bear a legend and being of soft depressible material.

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