This invention relates to a dispenser for marbles and the like, and more particularly to a device for receiving marbles within a chamber and for discharging the marbles successively upon manual operation of the device.

An object of the invention is to provide a container for marbles from which the marbles may be successively removed upon manual operation. Another object is to provide a dispenser wherein marbles and the like may be withdrawn from the device by gravity operation. Still another object is to provide a container which is closed to securely retain the marbles therein, except when the marbles are removed through the dispensing member of the container, and yet at the same time to provide means for inserting additional marbles into the container when desired.

Another object of the invention is to provide a dispensing member which will close the chamber with which the marbles are received in the device, and which is adapted at the same time to operate to successively remove marbles from the chamber. Yet another object is to provide in a dispenser for marbles and the like, a channel for delivering the marbles to a recess or pocket in the dispensing member, the member having a partition for closing the channel when the member is not in position to receive marbles from the chamber. A further object is to provide in a dispenser for marbles and the like, a pair of chambers for receiving and dispensing marbles of different sizes.

Other features and advantages will appear from the following specification and drawing, in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the device embodying the invention; Fig. 2 is a plan view, partly broken away, of the same device; Fig. 3 is a rear elevation of the device with the rear cover removed; Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view taken along the line 4—4 of Fig. 2; and Fig. 5 is a fragmentary detail sectional view taken along the line 5—5 of Fig. 4, showing the dispensing member in elevated position.

In the embodiment of the device described herein, a casing 10 of glass, plastic, or other suitable material is provided with an open side and receives as a closure member for that side a sheet 11 of flat material, such as cardboard or the like. The casing is provided with a pair of flanges 12 and 13 extending rearwardly along the sides thereof, the flanges preferably being apertured at 14 to provide an opening through which a strap or belt 15 (Fig. 4) may be inserted to support the casing. Preferably, the casing is also provided with upper and lower flanges 16 and 17 extending rearwardly of the main body of the casing and providing with the side flanges a base at the rear of the casing.

The upper surface of the casing 10 is provided with a pair of openings 18 and 19 which are preferably disposed in horizontal grooves 20 and 21 in the casing. The openings are preferably of different sizes. Each of the openings is adapted to receive and provide a tight passage for a particular size of marble which is to be used in the dispenser.

Within the casing 10, and referring particularly to Fig. 3, is a vertical partition 22 which separates the inside of the casing into a pair of chambers 23 and 24. Transverse partitions 25 and 26 extend outwardly in opposite directions from the central partition 22 toward the sides of the casing. Preferably, the transverse partitions 25 and 26 are centrally disposed vertically within the casing. At the ends of the transverse partitions 25 and 26 are downwardly-extending vertical partitions 27 and 28 which provide, with the transverse partitions 25 and 26, the inner walls of the chambers 23 and 24. The vertical partitions 27 and 28 also provide with the side walls 29 and 30 of the casing 10, a pair of channels 31 and 32 within which the marbles 33 and 34 are received from the chambers 23 and 24 respectively.

The casing 10 is provided with a pair of openings 35 and 36 in the lower portion or bottom wall thereof. Within these openings are received respectively, a pair of dispensing members 37 and 38. The member 37 is equipped with a lateral recess 39 extending into the member from one side thereof to form a pocket for receiving marbles. As seen particularly in Fig. 5, the recess 39 may be of a size slightly larger than that of the marble 33 which is to be received therein. The member 31 is vertically slidable within the opening 35 in the bottom wall of the casing and is movable between a position shown in Figs. 3 and 4, wherein the recess is disposed outside the casing, and a position shown in Fig. 5, wherein the recess is within the casing and communicates with the channel 31 so that marbles may pass from the channel 31 into the recess 39 in the member 37. The member 37 is preferably equipped with a lug 40 which is adapted to engage a stop lug 41 on the partition 21 to limit the downward movement of the member 37. The dispensing member 37 is preferably equipped with an arcuate lower front surface...
2 42 and with a projection 43 therebelow, so as to be readily engaged by the fingers of the operator of the dispensing device and readily moved upwardly to the position shown in Fig. 5. When the dispensing member 37 reaches the position shown in Fig. 5, the marble 33 will pass into the recess, and upon the release of the member 37 by the operator of the device, the member 37 will fall, by reason of the force of gravity, to the position shown in Fig. 3, wherein the marble 33 will be discharged from the recess 39 in the dispensing member 37.

The lower wall of the casing is preferably equipped with an inclined portion 44 immediately adjacent the dispensing member 37, the portion being inclined downwardly toward the member 37 so that marbles resting on the bottom wall of the casing will pass along this bottom wall into the recess 39 in the member 37. The dispensing member is preferably equipped with a pair of laterally-spaced vertical partitions 45 and 46 which engage respectively the central partition 22 and the vertical partition 21 to provide a guide for the vertical reciprocation of the dispensing member. The partition 45 also provides a closure for the channel 31 when the dispensing member 37 is in the lower position shown in Fig. 3. The dispensing member may also be equipped with a vertical partition 47 connecting the side partitions 45 and 46 and engaging the rear wall 11 of the casing 10.

The dispensing member 38 is of a construction corresponding to that of the dispensing member 37 and the vertical partition 28 is provided with a lug 48 corresponding to the lug 41 of the partition 27. Similarly, the construction of the portion 49 of the bottom wall adjacent the dispensing member 38 is similar to that of the portion 48 and the dispensing member 47 in the lower portion.

In operation, the marbles are placed in the casing 10 by inserting them through the openings 18 and 19 in the upper surface of the casing. Preferably, the marbles are of a size such that they are tightly received within these openings and pass through them only under slight pressure. In this way, marbles which pass through the openings 18 and 19 into the chambers 23 and 25 respectively may not be removed from the casing by inverting the casing, but must be removed through the dispensing members 37 and 38.

The marbles 33 are received within the chamber 23 and pass into the channel 31 where they are successively received. When the dispensing member 37 is in the position shown in Fig. 3, the partition 45 closes the channel 31 and prevents the removal of the marbles 33 from the channel 31 or chamber 23. The stop lug 41 limits the downward movement of the dispensing member 37 to hold it in the position shown in Fig. 3.

When the dispensing member 37 is lifted by the operator to the elevated position shown in Fig. 5, the recess 39 is brought into alignment with the lower end of the channel 31, and the foremost marble 33 resting on the inclined portion 44 of the lower wall of the casing advances into the recess 39, as seen in Fig. 5. When the marble 33 is received within the recess 39, the dispensing member 37 may be released and will fall by gravity to the position shown in Fig. 3, the marble in the recess 39 being discharged from the dispensing member 37.

As the dispensing member passes downwardly, carrying within the recess 39 the foremost mar-

ble 33, the partition 45 serves to close the channel 31 and prevent additional marbles from passing forwardly toward the dispensing member 37. Similarly, in the chamber 24, the marbles 34 pass into order into the channel 32 and thence, upon operation of the dispensing member 38, are discharged from the device.

In use, the device may be carried on a belt which extends about the body of the user. The belt may be passed through the openings 14 in the flanges 12 and 13 and may then extend about the body of the user and be secured in this position.

Although the device has been described in connection with a particular embodiment, it will be understood that this is for the purpose of illustration only, and changes and modifications may readily be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

I claim:

1. A dispenser for marbles and the like, comprising a casing providing a chamber for receiving a plurality of marbles, said casing being provided with an opening in the lower portion thereof, a member slidable for vertical movement within said opening and equipped with a recess for receiving marbles, the member being moveable between a position wherein the recess is within the chamber and may receive marbles therefrom and a position wherein the recess is outside the chamber and the marbles therein may be discharged, and a wall in the lower portion of the chamber for supporting said marbles, said wall being inclined downwardly from a vertical side wall of the chamber toward the recess whereby, when the member is in said first-mentioned position, marbles will pass along the wall from the chamber into the recess, said opening being closed by the member for all positions thereof.

2. A dispenser for marbles and the like, comprising a casing providing a chamber for receiving a plurality of marbles, said casing being provided with an opening in the lower portion thereof, a member received within said opening for vertical slidable movement therein and equipped with a recess for receiving marbles from the chamber, said member being movable in the opening between a position wherein the recess is within the chamber and may receive marbles therefrom and a position wherein the recess is outside the chamber and the marbles therein may be discharged, and a wall in the lower portion of said chamber for supporting said marbles, said wall being inclined downwardly from a vertical side wall of the chamber toward the recess whereby, when the member is in said first-mentioned position, marbles will pass along the wall from the chamber into the recess, said member being provided with a transverse wall extending across the opening to prevent the escape of marbles therethrough when the member is in the first-mentioned position and with a vertical wall for preventing the passage of marbles beyond the inclined wall of the casing when the member is in the last-mentioned position.

3. A dispenser for marbles and the like, comprising a casing providing a chamber for receiving a plurality of marbles, said casing being provided with an opening in the lower portion thereof, a member slidably received for vertical movement within said opening and equipped with a recess for receiving marbles therein, said member being moveable in the opening between a position wherein the recess is inside the casing and is adapted to receive marbles from the chamber and...
a position wherein the recess is outside the casing and the marbles may be discharged therefrom, partition means within said casing providing with a vertical wall of the chamber a channel for the passage of marbles from the chamber to the recess when the member is in said first-mentioned position, the width of the channel being only slightly greater than the width of the marbles whereby the marbles pass successively therethrough said member providing a closure for the opening in the casing when the recess is within the casing, and a wall carried by said member for closing said channel when the recess is outside the casing.

4. A dispenser for marbles and the like, comprising a casing providing a channel for receiving a plurality of marbles, said casing being provided with an opening in the bottom wall thereof, a member slidably received within said opening for vertical movement therein, said member being equipped with a lateral recess for receiving a single marble therein and being movable in the opening between a position wherein the recess is inside the casing and is adapted to receive a marble from the chamber and a position wherein the recess is outside the casing and is adapted to discharge the marble, partition means within said casing providing with a vertical wall of the chamber a channel for the passage of marbles one by one from the chamber to the recess when the member is in said first-mentioned position, and an inclined upper surface of said bottom wall for supporting marbles, said wall being inclined downwardly from a vertical side wall of the chamber toward said recess whereby, when the member is in said first-mentioned position, the marbles will pass along the wall from the chamber into the recess, said member providing a closure for the bottom opening in the casing when the recess is within the casing and being equipped with a vertical wall extending upwardly from the recess along the side of the member adjacent the channel for closing said channel when the recess is outside the casing.

5. A dispenser for marbles and the like, comprising a casing providing a chamber for receiving a plurality of marbles, said casing being provided with an opening in the upper portion thereof for admitting marbles to the chamber and being provided with an opening in the bottom wall thereof, a member slidably received within said bottom wall opening for vertical movement therein, said member being equipped with a lateral recess for receiving a single marble therein and being movable in the opening between a position wherein the recess is inside the casing and is adapted to receive a marble from the chamber and a position wherein the recess is outside the casing and is adapted to discharge the marble, partition means within said casing providing with a vertical wall of the chamber a channel for the passage of marbles one by one from the chamber to the recess when the member is in said first-mentioned position, and an inclined upper surface of said bottom wall for supporting marbles, said wall being inclined downwardly from a vertical side wall of the chamber toward said recess whereby, when the member is in said first-mentioned position, the marbles will pass along the wall from the chamber into the recess, said member providing a closure for the bottom opening in the casing when the recess is within the casing and being equipped with a vertical wall extending upwardly from the recess along the side of the member adjacent the channel for closing said channel when the recess is outside the casing.

6. A dispenser for marbles and the like, comprising a casing providing a pair of separated chambers, each of said chambers being adapted to receive a plurality of marbles therein, a pair of openings of different sizes in the upper portion of the casing communicating respectively with said chambers, each of said openings being adapted to permit tight passage therethrough of a marble of predetermined size, a pair of openings in the lower portion of the casing, a member slidably received within each of said last-mentioned openings and equipped with a recess for receiving marbles of predetermined size, each of said members being movable between a position wherein the recess is within the casing and may receive a marble from one of the chambers and a position wherein the recess is outside the casing and the marble therein may be discharged, each recess being adapted to receive a marble from a different chamber and being of a size corresponding to the opening in the upper portion of the casing communicating with such chamber.

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