

May 9, 1933.

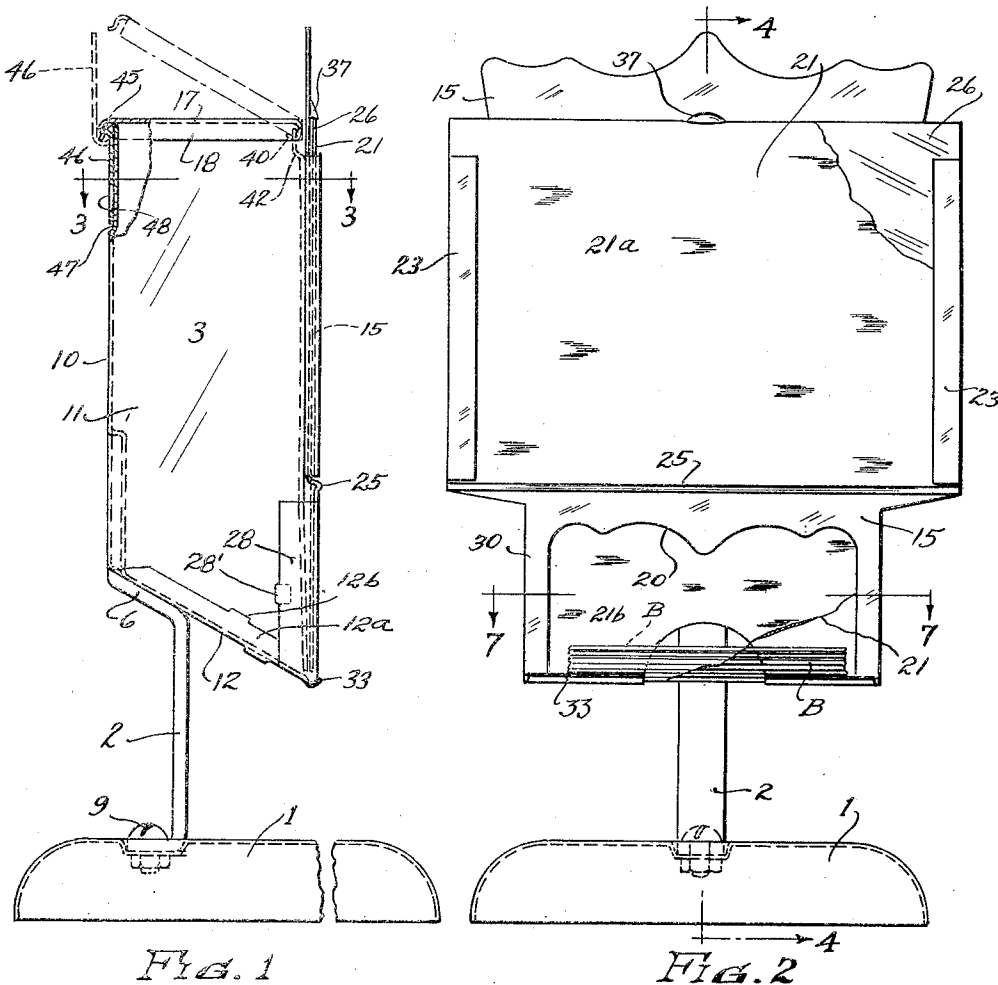
C. L. RINEHART

**1,908,185**

SERVICE DEVICE FOR TOOTHPICKS AND THE LIKE

Filed May 13, 1930

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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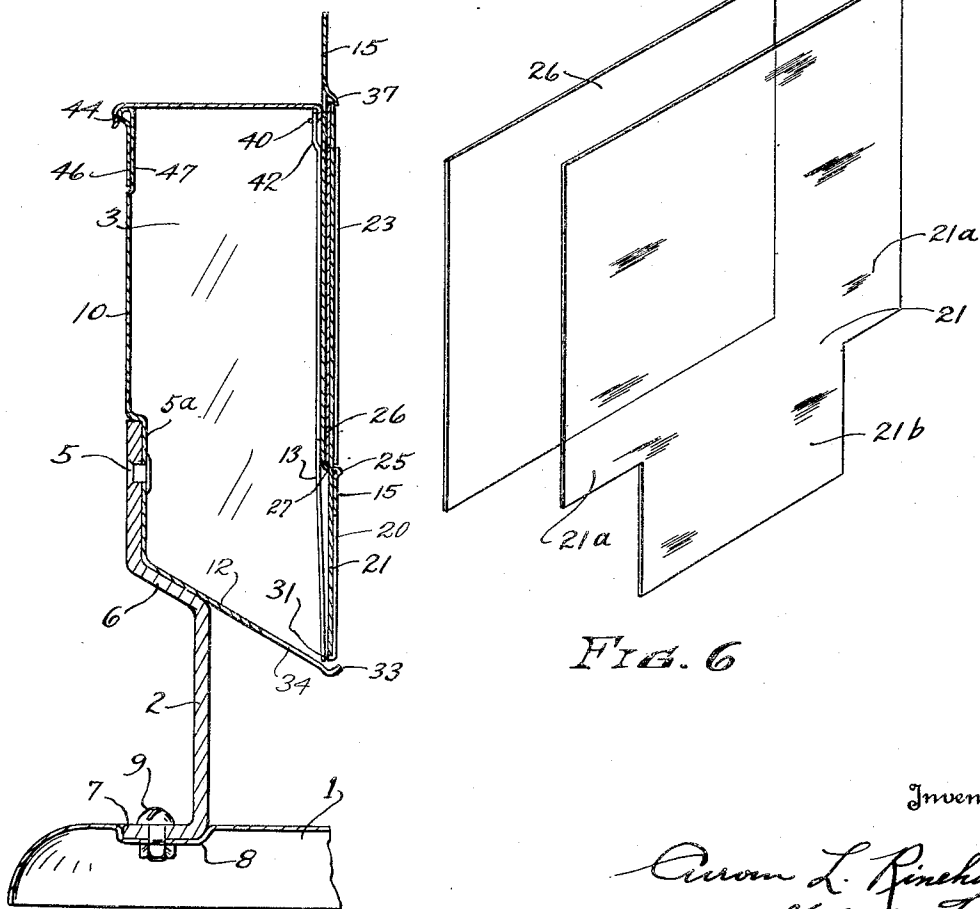
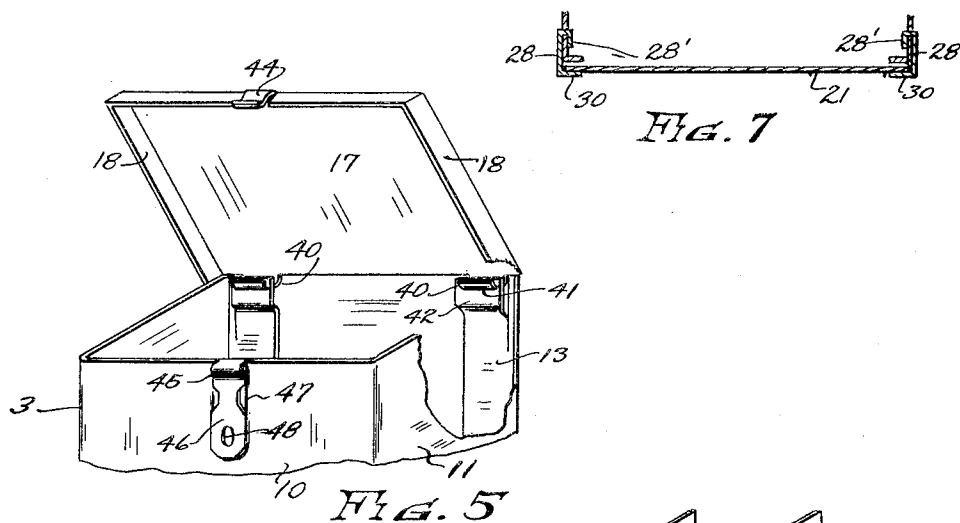
C. L. RINEHART

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SERVICE DEVICE FOR TOOTHPICKS AND THE LIKE

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



Inventor

*Carson L. Rinehart*  
 By *Bates, Golick & Peare*  
 Attorney

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CURVIN L. RINEHART, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO JOAN PRODUCTS, INC., OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, A CORPORATION OF OHIO

## SERVICE DEVICE FOR TOOTHPICKS AND THE LIKE

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The primary object of this invention is to provide an improved and more generally efficient service apparatus or device for articles, such as toothpicks, matches and the like.

5 A further object is to provide a novel arrangement in a service apparatus for prominently displaying the articles to be served while maintaining the articles in sanitary condition and easily available to the intended user.

10 A specific object is to provide a device which will support a quantity of articles, such as toothpicks, and permit the articles to be removed, one only at a time.

15 Further objects include the provision of a novel and effective arrangement for displaying a card for advertising descriptive or other matter, in connection with a service apparatus such as mentioned above.

20 Another object is to provide a simple and effective arrangement for supporting such a service apparatus in suspended position as well as on, for example, a table or counter.

25 Other objects and features of the invention will become apparent from the following description relating to the accompanying drawings, wherein I have shown my preferred form. The essential characteristics will be summarized in the claims.

30 In the drawings, Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the entire arrangement; Fig. 2 is a front elevation thereof; Fig. 3 is a substantially horizontal cross sectional view, taken along the line 3—3 on Fig. 1; Fig. 4 is a substantially central cross sectional view in a vertical plane; Fig. 5 is a fragmentary perspective view of the top portion of the apparatus, showing the cover thereof in open position; Fig. 6 is a perspective view showing two removable parts of the device including the advertising or like card display arrangement; and Fig. 7 is a detail view taken substantially along the line 7—7 on Fig. 2.

45 Referring in detail to the drawings, these show a suitable pedestal 1 and a supporting column 2 attached to the pedestal for sustaining a main cabinet or receptacle indicated generally at 3 for holding the articles to be served. The articles or blanks shown may be, for example, toothpicks indicated at B.

The supporting column 2 is preferably fastened to the back wall of the receptacle as by a single rivet or equivalent device, shown at 5. The column, as shown, rests in a recess 5a at the back of the receptacle and closely 55 embraces the bottom wall, as at 6, to prevent the column from shifting out of place, and then extending downwardly and may be turned rearwardly at 7 for an adequate support on the pedestal. Preferably the pedestal 1 is a single metal stamping and is depressed as at 8 to allow the upper surface of the rearwardly turned portion 7 of the column to set flush with the general top surface of the pedestal. Any suitable fastening 60 device, such as a bolt 9, may be used to secure the rearwardly turned portion 7 of the column in rigid position.

The construction of the receptacle is preferably as follows. There is a main back wall 10 integrally formed with side walls 11 and a downwardly and forwardly inclined bottom wall 12. The side walls 11 preferably have flanges extending toward each other as at 13 for suitable attachment to a front wall 75 member indicated generally at 15 and which is especially arranged to support an advertising card or the like, as will be hereinafter shown.

The side edges of the bottom wall 12 of 80 the receptacle may be bent upwardly into flanges as at 12a to provide a complete closure at the bottom. One edge of each flange may have a lug 12b adapted to be turned in through suitable openings in the side walls 85 11 to secure these flanges in place.

The receptacle may be closed at the top by a swingable cover member 17, the latter having depending flanges 18 overlapping the upper edges of the rear and side wall members 90 to form a complete and substantially dust proof closure and through which the articles may be put into the receptacle. At the front of the receptacle the wall member 15 is cut out as at 20 forming a window effect, and this 95 cutout portion is closed by an insert wall member 21 which is also a protector or guard for an advertising card. The guard is preferably formed of transparent material, such as sheet celluloid, mica or the like. The pre- 100

ferred shape of the guard member 21 is shown in Fig. 6. This may be in one or two sections as desired. The member 21 has a widened part 21a at the top and a narrow part 21b at the bottom. If desired, in order to save the cost of blanking out this member 21, the widened portion may be made separately from the narrow portion.

The wall member 15, as shown, is extended outwardly beyond the side edges of the container, that is, beyond the side walls 11, and has its side edges turned inwardly to form holding flanges 23 for the widened portion of the guard 21 and the advertising card 26. At the lower ends of these flanges the member 15 is struck outwardly as at 25, to provide a ledge or abutment for the advertising card, which is retained by the flanges 23 in cooperation with the guard member 21, the latter lying flat over the card, preferably throughout its entire extent. The narrowed end 21b of the guard extends through a slot 27 cut out of the ledge 25. Side flanges 28 on the member 15 extend rearwardly near the bottom of this member 15 into overlying relation to the sides 11 of the container and which may be fastened to the side walls 11 by any suitable device, such as inturned lugs 28' entering registering openings in the side walls. These flanges 28 are extended downwardly to the bottom of the receptacle to form side closures to prevent the endwise removal of the blanks.

A suitable stop for the guard member 21, to determine the proper position of its lower edge to hold back the blanks, may be provided by reason of inwardly projecting side portions 30 of the member 15, these forming part of the frame for the window effect at 20 and which at their lower ends may be turned rearwardly as at 31 to engage the lower edge of the guard.

The blanks are adapted to be withdrawn from the container by the device shown particularly in Figs. 2 and 4, wherein the inclined bottom member 12 of the container is shown as having an upwardly turned lip at 33, this, in conjunction with the flexible lower edge of the guard 21, preventing the blanks, such as toothpicks or the like, from falling out or being removed, several at a time. The lip 33 and bottom member 12 of the container is sheared out circularly as at 34 to provide an entrance for one or more of the fingers of the user, who simply grasps the foremost blank and pulls it out, slightly flexing the guard member 21 in doing so. The guard member 21 does not need any special formation at its bottom edge, in fact, it should be straight along its bottom edge to adequately guard the blanks against collecting dust while permitting easy removal of one blank at a time. The feature of providing visibility of the blanks, to show the character thereof as well as to indicate when the supply of

articles is nearly exhausted is also a distinctive advantage, afforded by the transparent member 21.

It will be understood that the flanges 13 of the side members 11 of the container are suitably secured to the member 15, for example, by inturned lugs 35 of the sheet metal forming the member 15. Obviously, all the flanges may be secured by solder instead, if desired.

It is desirable to hold the guard 21 and the display card 26 in place against upward movement, and for this purpose, I may provide an overhanging ledge device by means of striking out a small portion of the material of the member 15 as at 37, the upper surfaces of this struckout portion being generally smooth and inclining downwardly to allow the card and guard to enter easily into the embrace of the flanges 23. When the guard and card are in place they underlie the abrupt edge at the bottom of the out-struck portion 37.

A feature of the invention is the arrangement of hinges for the cover. This comprises the formation of hooklike extensions 40, see Fig. 5, at the foremost edge of the cover member 17, which are adapted to slidably engage slotted openings 41 in rearwardly struck portions 42 of the member 15, particularly the flanges 13 thereof. This, as will be seen, provides a very suitable hinge without the addition of any special parts.

To hold the cover in closed position, I preferably provide the arrangement shown particularly in Figs. 1, 4 and 5. This includes the provision of a socketed lip formation 44 on the rear depending flange of the cover and the socket is designed to spring over a projection 45 on the rear wall. As shown, this projection is provided on a tab 46 made as an extension of the material forming the back wall of the receptacle. If desired, this tab may comprise a separate piece soldered or otherwise fastened to the back wall, as will be obvious.

The tab extends below the projection 45 and lies closely adjacent the rear wall of the container, preferably in a depressed portion thereof at 47, shaped to just receive the tab. The tab has a suitable opening as at 48 and a further feature of the device is that with the cover in closed position, this tab may be easily bent up over the cover as indicated at 46 in broken lines in Fig. 1, and the opening 48 slipped over a suspending nail or the like on the wall. This manner of bending up the tab will prevent the tab from interfering with subsequent opening and closing the cover.

I claim:

Service apparatus of the class described, comprising, a container member formed of sheet material, and having a cut out portion at its front wall, an advertising card support-

ing device fixed to the container above the  
cut out portion, and comprising a channeled  
sheet metal member formed with a horizontal  
abutment, there being an advertising card in  
the channel engaging the abutment, and a  
5 protecting device of transparent material  
adapted to overlie the card, said abutment  
ledge having an opening therein arranged to  
receive a portion of the card protecting de-  
vice, whereby said portion of the card pro-  
10 tecting device may overlie the cut out por-  
tion of the front wall and form a display  
window for the articles in the container.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my  
15 signature.

CURVIN L. RINEHART.

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