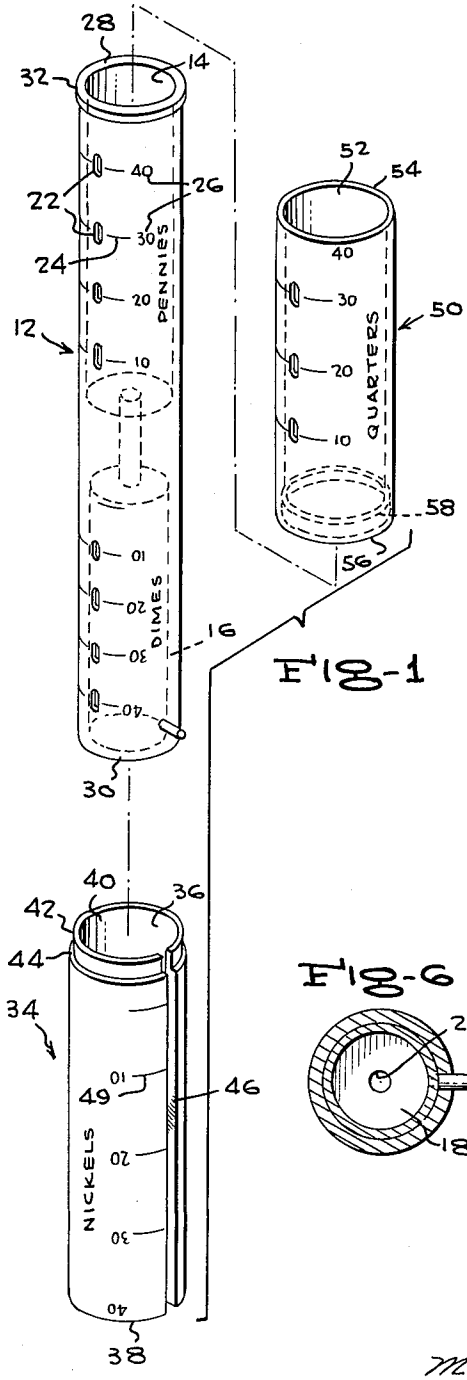
June 11, 1963 G. A. MESTHOS 3,093,148

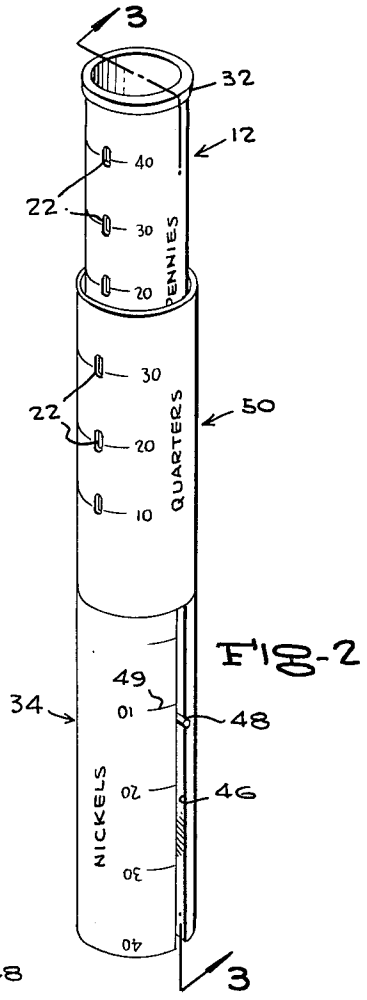
PORTABLE COIN COUNTER

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F'IG-1

F'IG-6



F'IG-2

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PORTABLE COIN COUNTER

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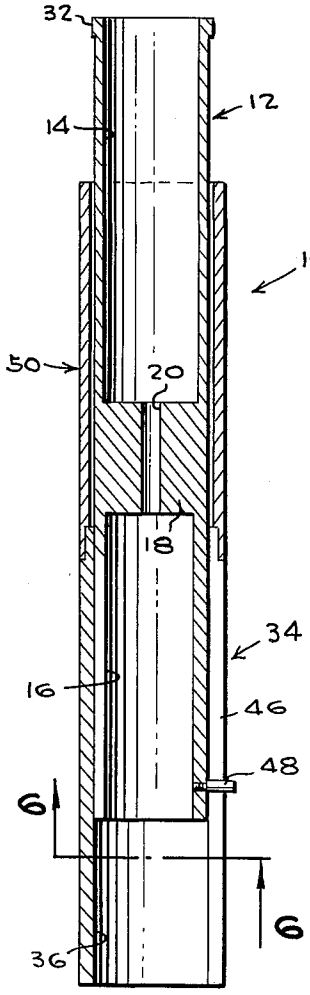


FIG-3

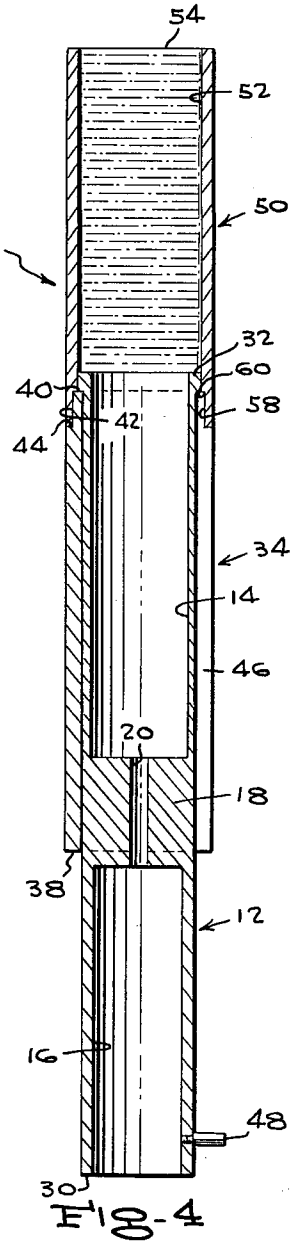


FIG-4

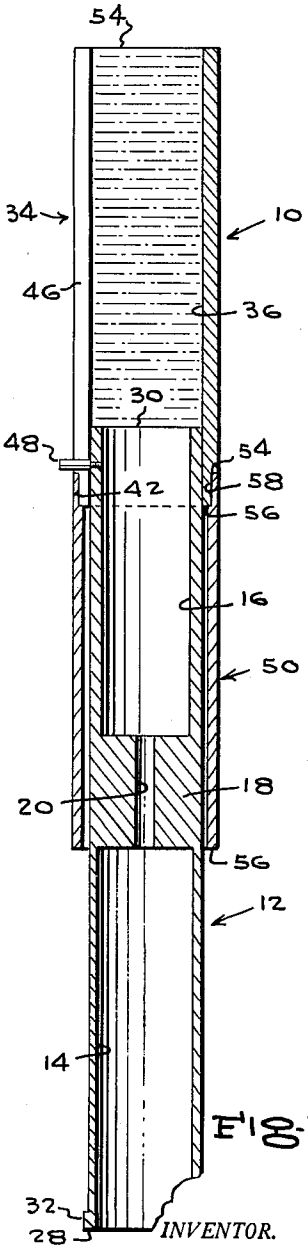


FIG-5

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PORTABLE COIN COUNTER

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Filed Feb. 24, 1961, Ser. No. 91,399
4 Claims. (Cl. 133—8)

This invention relates to a novel portable coin counter.

The primary object of the invention is the provision of a more efficient, more versatile, and more easily used device of the kind indicated, which accommodates coins of different diameters and thicknesses, such as pennies, dimes, nickels, and quarters, and which eliminates the necessity for undivided attention on the part of the user during coin counting, and which eliminates the need for recounting coins already present in the device, following an interruption in inserting coins into the device.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a simple, uncomplex, and inexpensive device of the character indicated above, which readily discloses the presence of any bent coins inserted therein, so as to eliminate the possibility of inaccurate counts due to bent coins.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a device of the character indicated above which facilitates easy and accurate filling of coin wrappers.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of an extremely practical and time and work-saving device of the character indicated above, which is especially useful to persons engaged in the collection and segregation of large quantities of coins, such as persons who service juke boxes, vending machines, and the like.

Other important objects and advantageous features of the invention will be apparent from the following description and the accompanying drawings, wherein, for purposes of illustration only, a specific form of the invention is set forth in detail.

In the drawings:

FIGURE 1 is an exploded perspective view of a device of the present invention;

FIGURE 2 is a side elevation of the assembled device;

FIGURE 3 is a longitudinal section taken on the line 3—3 of FIGURE 2, showing the device adjusted for coining service;

FIGURE 4 is a view like FIGURE 3, showing the device adjusted for counting quarters;

FIGURE 5 is a view like FIGURE 3, showing the device adjusted for counting nickels; and,

FIGURE 6 is a transverse section taken on the line 6—6 of FIGURE 3.

Referring in detail to the drawings, wherein like numerals designate like parts throughout the several views, the illustrated device, generally designated **10**, comprises a dual inner tubular cylinder **12**, involving a penny-receiving chamber **14** of a length to accommodate a stack of 50 pennies, and a smaller diameter chamber **16** to accommodate a stack of 50 dimes, the chambers being separated by a thick partition wall **18** having an axial air passage **20** extending therethrough. The sidewalls of chambers **14** and **16** are formed with longitudinally spaced sight openings **22**, accompanied by external graduation marks **24** and numerals **26**, by means of which amounts of coins less than the full capacities of the chambers are readily ascertained. Full stacks of coins are indicated by the end coin being flush with or slightly above the open ends **28** and **30** of the chambers **14** and **16**, respectively. The same indications apply to the other chambers of the device.

The chamber **14** is surrounded, at its open end, by an external annular stop flange **32**, for stop engagement by one end of an open-ended nickel accommodating cylinder **34**, which slides on the cylinder **12**. The single

chamber **36** of the cylinder **34** has an unmutilated end **38**, and its other end **40** is formed with an external annular recess **42** which defines an external stop shoulder **44**. The cylinder **34** is devoid of sight openings and has instead, a longitudinal slot **46** extending to the ends thereof which receives a radial pin **48** on the cylinder **12**, which is located near to the open end of the device-receiving chamber **16**. Numbered graduation marks **49** extend along the slot **46**.

The device **10** further comprises a quarter-receiving cylinder **50** which has a chamber **52** having an unmutilated end **54** and an end **56** which is formed with an internal recess **58** which opens to the end **56** and defines an annular stop shoulder **60**. The depth of the recess **58** corresponds to the width and depth of the external recess **42** of the cylinder **34**, so that, as shown in FIGURE 4, when the quarter cylinder **50** is set up for counting 40 quarters, the recesses are interengaged, with the external stop shoulder **32** of the tube **12** defining the inner end of the quarter-receiving chamber **52**, the cylinder **12** having been moved endwise in the cylinder **46**, so as to put the stop **32** against the adjacent end **40** of the cylinder **34**.

For counting nickels, the device **10** is reversed and the cylinder **34** is slid endwise off the cylinder **12**, with the pin **48** of the cylinder **12** engaged in the slot **46** of the cylinder **34**, and the recesses **42** and **58** are interengaged, so that the end **30** of the cylinder **12** constitutes the bottom of the chamber **36** of the cylinder **34**, accommodating forty nickels, as shown in FIGURE 5.

It will be understood from the foregoing that predetermined stacks of coins can be accurately counted, even while blind-folded, and with minimal attention to the operation, simply by stacking coins in the proper chamber until the stack is flush with the open end of the chamber, and that less than a full stack of coins can be readily counted through the sight openings **22** and the slot **46**.

Although there has been shown and described herein a preferred form of the invention, it is to be understood that the invention is not necessarily confined thereto, and that any change or changes in the structure of and in the relative arrangements of components thereof are contemplated as being within the scope of the invention as defined by the claims appended hereto.

What is claimed is:

1. A coin counter comprising an inner tubular cylinder, a partition wall intermediate the ends of and dividing said cylinder into first and second chambers having open ends, said chambers being of differing diameters and depths, a first outer tubular cylinder circumposed about said inner cylinder and connected to said inner cylinder for sliding movement relative thereto, said first outer cylinder having a single chamber opening to its ends and differing in diameter from said first and second chambers, and a second outer tubular cylinder having a single chamber differing in diameter from the other chambers and slidably engaged on said inner cylinder, said first and second outer cylinders being interengaged at adjacent ends thereof so as to define a chamber of pre-determined length in said second outer cylinder.

2. A coin counter comprising an inner tubular cylinder, a partition wall intermediate the ends of and dividing said cylinder into first and second chambers having open ends, said chambers being of differing diameters and depths, a first outer tubular cylinder slidably engaged on said inner cylinder, said first outer cylinder having a single chamber opening to its ends and differing in diameter from said first and second chambers, said first outer cylinder having a longitudinal slot in its sidewall opening to its ends, said inner cylinder having a radial pin on its sidewall adjacent one end thereof slidable in said slot,

and a second outer tubular cylinder having a single chamber differing in diameter from the other chamber and being slidably engaged on said inner cylinder, said first and second outer cylinders being interengaged at adjacent ends thereof so as to define a chamber of predetermined length in said second outer cylinder.

3. A coin counter comprising an inner tubular cylinder, a partition wall intermediate the ends of and dividing said cylinder into first and second chambers having open ends, said chambers being of differing dameters and depths, a first outer tubular cylinder slidably engaged on said inner cylinder, said first outer cylinder having a single chamber opening to its ends and differing in diameter from said first and second chambers, said first outer cylinder having a longitudinal slot in its sidewall opening to its ends, said inner cylinder having a radial pin on its sidewall adjacent one end thereof sliding in said slot, said inner cylinder having an external stop shoulder on the end thereof remote from said pin, a second outer tubular cylinder having a single chamber differing in diameter from the other chambers and receiving said external stop shoulder, said first and second outer cylinders having external and internal annular recesses, respectively, at adjacent ends thereof, said recesses being interengaged and said external stop shoulder being engageable with the adjacent end of the first outer cylinder so as to define a chamber of predetermined length in said second outer cylinder.

4. A coin counter comprising an inner tubular cylinder, a partition wall intermediate the ends of and dividing said cylinder into first and second chambers having open ends, said chambers being of differing diameters and depths, a first outer tubular cylinder slidably engaged on said inner cylinder, said first outer cylinder having a single chamber opening to its ends and differing in diameter from said first and second chambers, said first outer cylinder having a longitudinal slot in its sidewall opening to its ends, said inner cylinder having a radial pin on its sidewall adjacent one end thereof sliding in said slot, said inner cylinder having an external stop shoulder on the end thereof remote from said pin, a second outer tubular cylinder having a single chamber differing in diameter from the other chambers and receiving said external stop shoulder, said first and second outer cylinders having external and internal annular recesses, respectively, at adjacent ends thereof, said recesses being interengaged and said external stop shoulder being engageable with the adjacent end of the first outer cylinder so as to define a chamber of predetermined length in said second outer cylinder, said first and second outer cylinders being removable endwise from the inner cylinder and engageable on the inner cylinder in reversed positions, with said recesses interengaged and with said pin engaged with an end of said second outer cylinder so as to define a recess of predetermined length in said first outer cylinder.

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