Feb. 4, 1936. J. M. BENNETT 2,029,696

KEY HOLDER

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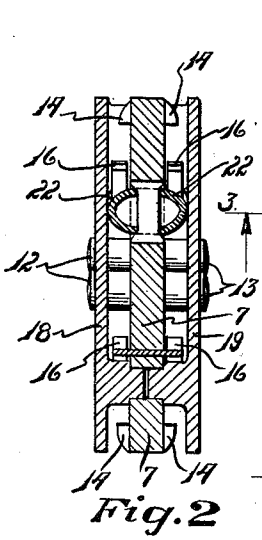


Fig. 2

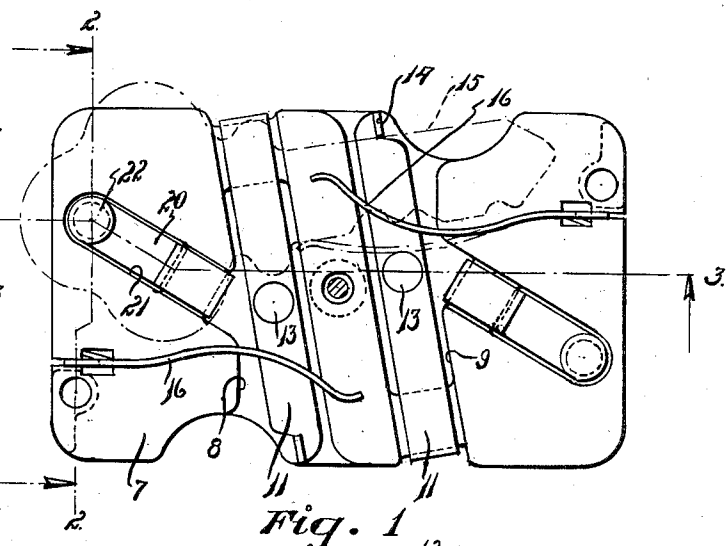


Fig. 1

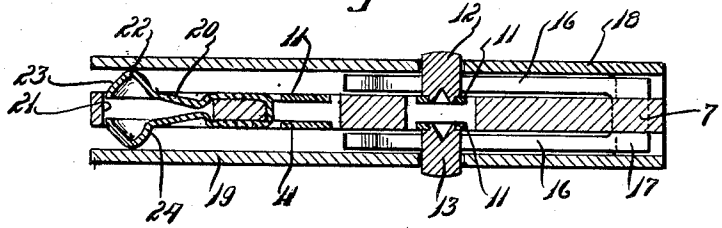


Fig. 3.

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KEY HOLDER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 59—96)

My invention relates to a new, useful improvement in a key holder, having a pair of spaced members between which the key may be inserted and relates particularly to the key engaging means whereby the key is swivelly mounted between the spaced members. It is an object of the present invention to provide a key engaging member which will serve to swivelly mount the key between a pair of spaced members and which will permit an easy and ready insertion of the key into position between the spaced members and its removal therefrom.

It is another object of the present invention to provide in a key holder of this class a movable retaining means constructed and arranged so as to move into inoperative position upon excessive strain or thrust being delivered thereto.

Another object of the present invention is the provision of a spring retaining member having a retaining portion thereon provided with inclined engagement sides so as to cause a flexing of the same upon pressure being inserted upon the engagement sides.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

The invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention will be best understood by reference to the accompanying drawing which forms a part of this specification and in which,

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of the invention with parts removed.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

In the drawing I have shown a key holder comprising a centrally positioned supporting plate or body 7, cut away at the portions 8 and 9, and at each of which is positioned U-shaped latch members 11, each carrying on its legs a presser button 12 or 13, whereby the same may be flexed inwardly to disengage the latch nose 14 from a key 15, which is adapted to be swung into position between the plate 7 and the side plates 18 and 19, which are mounted on opposite sides thereof in spaced relation thereto.

Flexible springs 16 are adapted to engage the key 15, so as to force the same outwardly from between the supporting plate 7 and the side plate 18, upon release of the latch 14. This key is swivelly mounted between the supporting plate 7 and one of the side or cover plates 19, and the means for mounting the key swivelly in such position forms the present invention. In the present embodiment of my invention, I have indicated a key holder adapted for support for four keys, but the number of keys used or supported on the device may be varied as is obvious from a consideration of the drawing. The key retainer illustrated comprises a spring shank 20 which is secured to the supporting body and projected so as to overlie an opening 21 formed therein. The free end of the spring member is provided with a head 22, having an inclined outer surface 23 and an inclined peripheral surface on its inner end, which is more abrupt than the surface 23. The construction is such that as the key is forced inwardly between the body 7 and the plate 18, the end of the key will ride over the surface 23, thus causing the shank 20 to flex inwardly into the opening 21, and permitting the head 22 to snap into the opening formed in the end of the key. When an outward thrust is delivered to the key after the head 22 is engaged in the opening, the key will ride over the surface 24, again flexing the shank 20 inwardly into the opening 21. On account of the sharp incline of the surface 24, however, a greater strain will be necessary to detach the key than to attach it.

I have provided a means for easily and quickly mounting the key swivelly between one of the side plates and the supporting plate, while at the same time, permitting easy removal of the key. Thus, it is obvious that no removal of the side plates 18 or 19 is necessary in order to insert a key or remove it.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred form of construction, I do not wish to limit myself to the precise details of structure shown, but desire to avail myself of such variations and modifications as come within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a key holder of the class described a supporting body; a pair of side plates each mounted in spaced relation to one of the side faces of said supporting body, said supporting body having an opening formed therein; a resilient member mounted, adjacent one end, on said supporting body and extended to overlie, at its opposite end, said opening and having at said opening a head for providing a support for mounting a key swingably between said supporting body and said plates and projectable at the head bearing end into said opening for permitting the movement of said head to inoperative position.

2. In a key holder of the class described a sup-

porting body having an opening formed therein; side plates mounted on opposite sides of said supporting body in spaced relation thereto; a resilient member mounted, adjacent one end, on said supporting body and projected over said opening and having a head bearing portion projecting outwardly toward the inner face of each of said side plates to provide a swivel support for a key, and projectable at the head bearing portion into said opening for permitting the movement of said head into inoperative position.

3. In a key holder of the class described, a supporting body having an opening formed therein; side plates mounted on opposite sides of said supporting body in spaced relation thereto; a resilient member doubled upon itself to provide a U-shaped structure and mounted adjacent its bight on said supporting member, the legs thereof being projected over said opening and inwardly offset to normally engage in said opening; a head projecting outwardly from the free end of each of said legs towards the inner face of each of said side plates to provide a swivel support for a key, the swinging of said legs inwardly of said openings effecting a movement of the head to inoperative position.

JOHN M. BENNETT.