Dec. 29, 1925. 1,567,643

A. O. HEARNE

COMBINATION MENU AND ORDER SLIP HOLDER

Filed Nov. 18, 1922

Fig. 1.

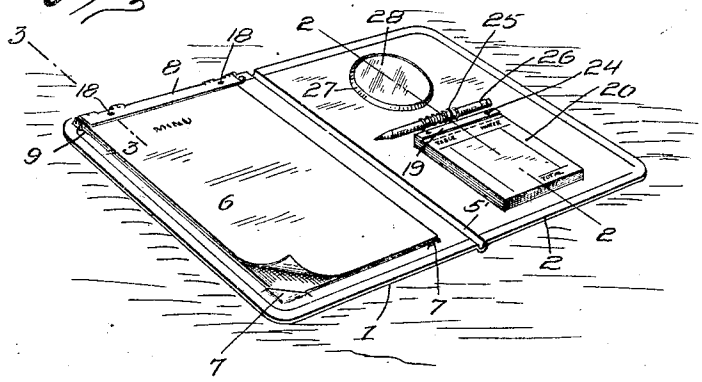


Fig. 2.

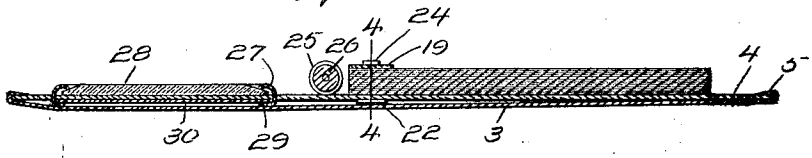


Fig. 3.

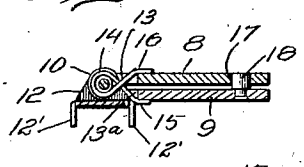


Fig. 4.

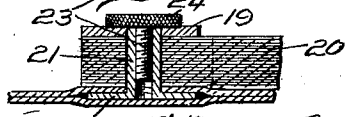


Fig. 5.

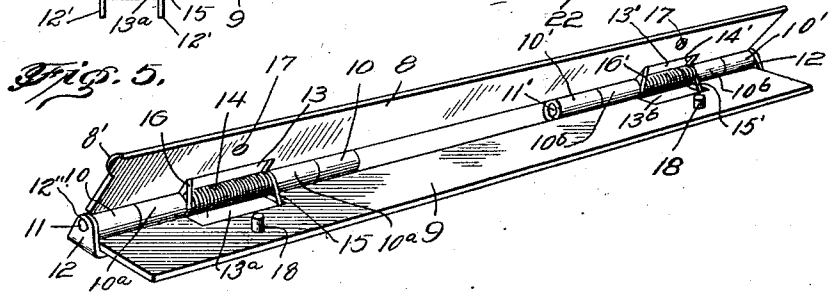
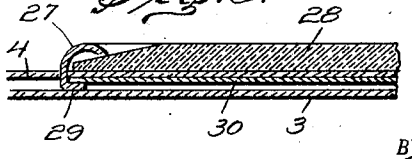


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALVA O. HEARNE, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

COMBINATION MENU AND ORDER-SLIP HOLDER.

Application filed November 18, 1922. Serial No. 601,873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALVA O. HEARNE, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combination Menu and Order-Slip Holders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an accessory for hotels, restaurants, cafés and the like, more particularly to a combination menu and order pad or slip holder, and has for its object to provide in a manner as hereinafter set forth, a holder with means to enable the convenient removal of an old and the substitution of a new menu card when desired, as well as with means for the convenient attaching thereto of a pad of order slips when a pad has become exhausted.

A further object of the invention is to provide a combination menu and order pad or slip holder, not only including means for detachably connecting a menu card and a pad of order slips therewith, but also means for detachably connecting therewith a writing instrument, so that the menu card, order slips and writing instrument will be conveniently accessible to a guest thus enabling a guest to write an order of food independent of a waiter, so as to overcome the objection of a waiter hovering around to verbally receive the order.

A further object of the invention is to provide a foldable combination menu and order pad or slip holder including means for detachably connecting the menu card to one side thereof and further including means for detachably connecting the pad or order slips and writing instrument to the other side thereof so that when the holder is operated, a guest can employ his left hand for use in connection with the menu card and has right hand for grasping the writing instrument and using the latter on the order slip without inconvenience to write the order.

Further objects of the invention are to provide a combination menu and order pad or slip holder which is simple in its construction and arrangement, durable, compact, strong, provided with a mirror for use by a guest, efficient and convenient in its use, readily assembled, and comparatively inexpensive.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention consists of the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter more specifically described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein is shown an embodiment of the invention, but it is to be understood that changes, variations and modifications can be resorted to which come within the scope of the claims hereunto appended.

In the drawings wherein like reference characters denote corresponding parts throughout the several views:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a combined menu and order pad or slip holder, in accordance with this invention, the holder being extended,

Figure 2 is a section on line 2—2, Figure 1,

Figure 3 is a section on line 3—3, Figure 1, through the clamping element for the menu card.

Figure 4 is a section on line 4—4, Figure 2,

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the menu clamp extended,

Figure 6 is a fragmentary section of the mirror.

Referring to the drawings in detail, the holder comprises a body portion formed of a pair of superposed rectangular sections 3, 4 of flexible material, and the section 3 is of greater width and length than the section 4. The section 3 overlaps the edges of the section 4, as at 5, and the said overlapping portion 5 is secured to the section 4 in any suitable manner, by way of example, through a cementitious substance or stitching whereby said sections 3 and 4 are connected together in opposed relation. The body portion is bent upon itself, centrally thereof, at the point indicated at 5′ to form a pair of folds 1, 2. When the folds are extended, the section 4 is exposed in the manner as shown in Figure 1.

Positioned against that part of the section 2 which forms the inner side of the fold 1 when the body portion is folded, is a menu card 6, and the section 4, at the outer and inner lower corners thereof, is slitted at an inclination, as indicated at 7, and extended through the slits 7 are the lower corners of the menu card 6 for the purpose of holding the lower portion of the latter against the lower part of the inner face of the fold 1. The upper portion of the menu card 6 is removably connected with the upper portion of the fold 1, and for such purpose a clamping element is employed which is connected

to the section 4 and arranged against the outer face thereof.

The clamping element more clearly shown in Figures 3 and 5, comprises a pair of opposed narrow clamping plates 8, 9, extending transversely with respect to the fold 1 and of a length less than the width of the latter. The outer side edge of the plate 8 is formed with two spaced pairs of barrels 10, 10′, and with the barrels of each pair spaced from each other. The outer side edge of the plate 9 is formed with two spaced pairs of barrels 10^a, 10^b, and with the barrels of each pair spaced from each other. The pair of barrels 10^a is arranged between and abuts against the pair of barrels 10. The pair of barrels 10^b is arranged between and abuts against the pair of barrels 10′. The barrels 10^a align with the barrels 10, and the barrels 10^b align with the barrels 10′. Extending through the aligning barrels 10 and 10^a is a pintle 11, and extending through the aligning barrels 10′ and 10^b is a pintle 11′. Secured to the fold 1 is a pair of spaced supporting brackets 12 and each of which is provided with a pair of bendable tongues 12′ employed for connecting the bracket to the fold. Each of the brackets 12 is formed with an opening 12″ and into the openings 12″ extend the outer ends of the pintles.

The outer side of the plate 8 is cut away to form a pair of spaced openings 13, 13′ and the outer side of the plate 9 is cut away to form a pair of spaced openings 13^a, 13^b, which oppose respectively the openings 13, 13′.

Mounted on the pintle 11, between the barrels 10^a, is a coiled spring 14′, having one end thereof, indicated at 15, extended through the opening 13^a and engaging the lower face of the plate 9. The other end 16 of the spring 14 extends through the opening 13 and engages the outer face of the plate 8. Mounted on the pintle 11′ between the barrels 10^b, is a coiled spring 14′ having one end thereof, as indicated at 15′, extended through the opening 13^b and engaging the lower face of the plate 9. The other end 16′ of the spring 14′ extends through the opening 13′ and engages the outer face of the plate 8. The plate 9 is arranged below the plate 8 and owing to the arrangement of the springs 14, 14′, the normal tendency thereof is to maintain the plates 8 and 9 in abutting engagement. The plate 8, at one corner thereof, is formed with an outwardly extended ear 8′ to facilitate the shifting of the plate 8 from superposed position with respect to the plate 9.

The plate 8 is formed with a pair of spaced openings 17 into which is adapted to extend a pair of spaced lugs 18, which project from the upper face of the plate 9. The lugs 18 are provided for detachably connecting the menu card 6 to the plate 9, the latter being suitably apertured for the passage of the lugs 18. When the menu card 6 is connected by the lugs 18 to the plate 9, the plate 8 is then shifted to a position in superposed relation with respect to the plate 9, and when the plate 8 has been so shifted, the lugs 18 extend into the opening 17 whereby the card 6 is detachably coupled to the plates 8, 9 and maintained in such position through the action of the springs 14 and 14′ retaining the plate 8 in superposed relation with respect to the plate 9.

Carried by the fold 2, is a plurality of clamping devices for the purpose of securing a holding bar 19 in position against a pad of order slips 20, and each of said clamping devices consists of a hollow tubular post 21 provided with internal threads and further provided with a head 22 at its inner end which is interposed between the opposed faces of the sections 3 and 4. The posts 21 extend through the pad 20, and also through the bar 19, and threadably engaging with the posts 21 is a securing member consisting of a threaded shank 23, and a head 24, the latter bearing against the bar 19. By this arrangement a pad of order slips is detachably connected with the fold 2.

Arranged above the pad 20 is a resilient clamp 25 for detachably connecting a writing instrument 26 to the fold 2. The clamp 25 is secured in any suitable manner to the section 4.

Connected to the fold 2, above the clamp 25, is a mirror 28 and which is secured in position by a frame 27, which overlaps the mirror 28, as shown in Figure 6, and said frame 27 is formed with bendable flanges 29, which extend through the section 4 and are bent to the position shown in Figure 6. Positioned against the inner face of the section 4, is a rigid backing for the mirror 28. The backing 30 is secured against the inner face of the section 4 by the bent portions of the flanges 29.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, a combination holder is set up whereby the menu card is positioned so that one can employ his left hand to shift the card and use his right hand to remove the instrument 26, for the purpose of writing an order on one of the slips of the pad, and the arrangement of the clamping or securing elements for the menu card, pad and writing instrument is such that the menu card can be conveniently removed and a new one substituted, that if the pad has become exhausted the stub end can be removed and a new pad substituted, that when it is desired a new writing instrument can also be substituted. By the arrangement shown and described, a holder is set up which enables a guest to conveniently write his order after the menu card has been considered, and owing to the

manner in which the menu card is set up, it is positioned so that it can be conveniently examined or perused. Although the preferred construction is as described and illustrated, yet it is to be understood that changes in the details of construction can be had without departing from the spirit of the invention as claimed.

What I claim is:—

1. A holder for the purpose set forth comprising a body portion formed of a pair of folds, a pair of spaced apertured brackets secured to the upper end of the inner face of one of said folds, a pair of clamping plates normally arranged in superposed relation and having their outer sides provided with aligning barrels, a pair of pintles mounted in said barrels, each of said pintles mounted in one of said brackets, one of said plates provided with openings, the other of said plates provided with a pair of lugs for connecting an article therewith, a pair of springs carried by said pintles and bearing against said plates for maintaining them in superposed relation and with the lugs of one plate extending through the openings of the other plate.

2. A holder comprising a body portion formed of a pair of folds, a pair of apertured spaced brackets secured to one of said folds and projecting from the inner face thereof, a pair of clamping plates arranged between said brackets and carrying means engaging in said brackets for hinging the plates together, a pair of springs carried by said means and engaging the plates for maintaining them in superposed relation, one of said plates provided with lugs and the other with openings for the reception of the lugs and providing means for detachably connecting an article to the plates when these latter are in superposed relation.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature hereto.

ALVA O. HEARNE.