W. C. CUTLER.

CARD RECEPTACLE.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 11, 1918.

1,328,035. Patented Jan. 13, 1920.

FIG. 1.

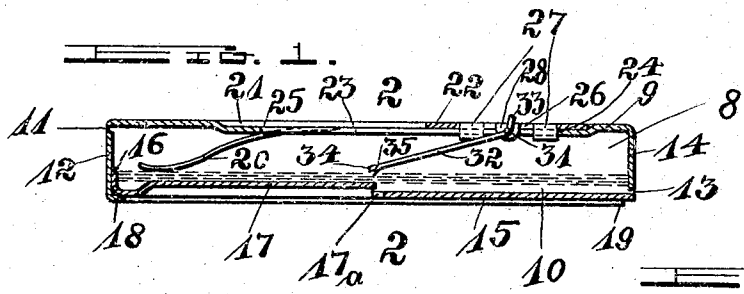


FIG. 2.

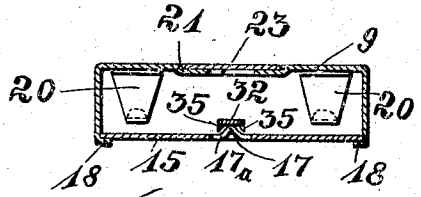


FIG. 3.

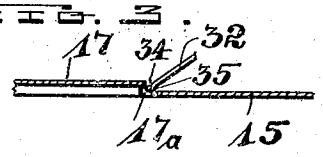


FIG. 4.

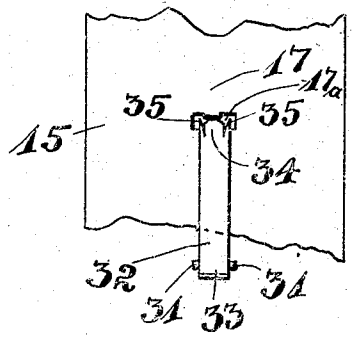


FIG. 5.

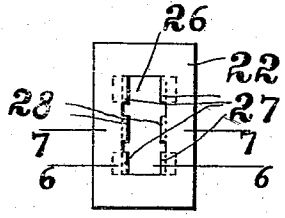


FIG. 6.

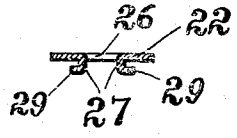
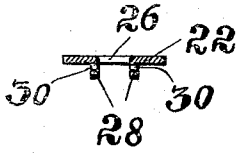


FIG. 7.



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CARD-RECEPTACLE.

1,328,035. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 13, 1920.

Application filed December 11, 1918. Serial No. 266,324.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM C. CUTLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at North Glendale, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented a new and useful Card-Receptacle, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to card cases or receptacles for holding cards, tickets, or packages to be shifted and delivered out of the case, one by one, by suitable mechanism with which the case is provided.

One object of this invention is to provide a bottom which is locked within the case by the cards as long as cards are in the case, and which is locked within the case by the operating mechanism when no cards are in the case, (cards, tickets, packages, or any other objects, which may be stored in such case, as will be understood).

Another object is to provide means by which the case may easily be refilled.

Another object is to provide simple operating means which can easily be stamped out of thin sheet metal.

Another object is to provide simple operating means which will easily tip and engage with the objects stored in the case when so shifted, and which will easily disengage from such objects when shifted in the opposite direction.

Another object is to hold the cards or objects in the case tightly packed.

Another object is to provide means by which the objects in the case can easily be moved into discharging position.

Another object is to provide means by which the operating mechanism indicate a locked effect when no cards are in the case.

Another object is to provide means by which the engaging part of the operating mechanism is prevented from becoming ruined, by operations when no cards are in the case.

Other objects will appear from the following description and appended claims as well as from the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal vertical section through the case.

Fig. 2 is a cross section through the case on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary longitudinal sectional view of the protecting and engaging means in the bottom of the case, illustrating the locking position of the operating mechanism when no cards are in the case.

Fig. 4 is a top plan view of a portion of the bottom with the operating mechanism in a similar position as in Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a top plan view of the shifting plate of the operating mechanism.

Fig. 6 is a cross section through the shifting plate on line 6—6 of Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 is a cross section through the shifting plate on line 7—7 of Fig. 5.

In Fig. 1, 8 designates the case, having a closed top 9 and an open bottom 10. The four sides are practically closed except for the discharging slot or opening 11 in the front end 12, and for the slot or opening 13, near the bottom in the rear end 14, for taking out the bottom plate 15 when refilling the case. The bottom plate 15 is a plain plate with an upwardly bent edge or bead 16 on the front edge and with a raised lip or bead 17 in its middle over a suitable distance from near the front end toward the middle, a perforation 17_a being provided near the termination of the bead 17 midway in the bottom, as will be described more fully later on. The case is provided with an inwardly projecting flange 18 in the bottom side of the case, see Figs. 1 and 2, forming the rest for the loose bottom plate 15. The bent end 16 of the bottom plate 15 is inserted through the opening 13 in the bottom side of the case, this being so to say not through any slot, but into the opening between the end-plate 14 and the shortened end 19 of the flanges 18. Having the end flange 16 thus placed behind the end plate 14 on the inner side of this end plate above the flanges 18, the bottom-plate 15 may then easily be pushed into the case, any cards or articles disposed into the case will drop between the end plate 14 and the end flange 16 of the bottom as soon as the bottom has reached the end plate 12 of the case, as will easily be understood, from the illustration in Fig. 1. A spring 20 is provided on the top on either or both sides of the operating means in the top of the case for holding the inserted articles down, pressed to the bottom.

The flange 16 is naturally only high enough to so engage over a few cards as to prevent the bottom plate from falling out of the case while not high or large enough to hold against any action of the card discharg-

ing mechanism. Even the engaging of the flange 16 against the edge of one card in the case is sufficient to prevent the bottom plate 15 from falling out of the case 8, while such slight engaging can easily be overcome by the force used on the shifting bar 32 whereby the cards will easily slip off the edge 16 and discharge out of the slot 11 until no card remains in the case when the shifting bar engages against the rib 17 in the bottom, indicating that no card is in the case to be refilled. The bottom plate 15 is naturally never pressed high enough to prevent the cards from discharging out of the slot, partly on account of the spring, and, on the other hand, a slight lifting brings the cards to such an inclined position that they easily slip off the edge 16 and along the end plate 12 toward the slot 11 after they did so easily disengage from the edge 16. The upper cards, then, naturally never are behind the edge 16. In the drawing, only a few cards are shown in the case, but, of course, it will easily be understood without further explanation or illustration that more cards can be and normally are in the case.

A pressing against the bottom naturally brings the uppermost article in the case, while compressing the spring 20, into a position to be discharged out of the slot 11 in the front plate 12 of the case, while the rear end of the bottom plate 15 remains in its position below the lower edge of the rear end plate 14. A releasing of the bottom naturally brings the inserted articles with the bottom back to the normal position, illustrated in Fig. 1, by the action of the springs 20.

The top 9 of the case is provided with the rectangular recess 21, forming the guideways for the shifting plate 22. Within the recess, the bottom of the recessed part so to say, of the top, there is a slot 23, see Fig. 2. This slot extends from near the rear end of the case as indicated at 24, see Fig. 1, to a point near the front end of the case as indicated at 25. The shifting plate 22, illustrated in Fig. 5, is stamped out or pressed so as to form the opening 26, and within the opening 26, by the stamping of the shifting plate, engaging lugs 27 and bearing lugs 28 are formed. The free ends 29 of the engaging lugs 27 are bent over the edge of the top of the case after the shifting plate is disposed in the recess 21 of the case for holding the shifting plate 22 slidingly engaged with the top 9 of the case, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 6. The bearing or journal lugs 28 are provided with holes 30 for the pins 31 on the operating bar 32. The operating bar 32, illustrated in top plan view in Fig. 4 and illustrated in side elevation in Fig. 1, is disposed between the bearing lugs 28 within the slot or opening 26 in the shifting plate 22, swingably on its pins 31 in relation to the shifting plate and case. The short extension 33 on the operating bar 32, projects out of the case, forming the thumb piece of the operating mechanism. The lower free end of the operating bar 32 is provided with the middle guide lip 34 and the engaging points 35. The engaging points 35 project downwardly from the bar 32 so as to easily engage with the articles in the case when so operated, as will easily be understood from the illustration in Fig. 1. The middle guide lip 34 on the bar 32 forms the protecting member for the sharp points 35 whenever the case is empty, since this lip 34 slides along the bead 17 formed or provided in the bottom plate 15, allowing the sharp points 35 to pass over the bottom without touching the bottom by hanging or projecting downwardly from the bar 32 sidewise of the bead 17 in the bottom, as will easily be understood from the illustration in Fig. 2.

When drawn back to its rearmost position in the top of the case at any time when the case is empty, the guide or protecting lip 34 of the operating bar 32 is in a position to drop behind the end of the bead 17 in the bottom plate 15 with the sharp points projecting into the hole 17_a, see Figs. 2 and 3, in Fig. 3 the bar being shown in such locking position and in Fig. 2 the bar 32 is shown in a position to easily make it understood that the bar may drop behind the bead 17 so as to bring the sharp points into the hole 17_a. Such interlocking of the shifting or operating bar 32 will then naturally indicate that the case is empty.

As long as articles are disposed in the case, by a pushing against the outwardly extending end 33, the bar 32 is naturally tilting downwardly, swinging on its pins 31, so as to bring the sharp points 35 into engagement with the articles in the case, and, by a further pushing or pressing against the end 33, the uppermost article in the case is naturally shifted in a forwardly direction. If, at such a moment, the bottom in its front part is lifted as described above, the uppermost article in the case is naturally discharged out of the slot 11 in the front end of the case. The bar and the whole shifting mechanism, shifting plate 22 and bar 32, may then be withdrawn to the starting position, by pressing against the end 33 and shifting plate 22 in such a direction, thereby lifting and tilting the bar with the sharp points 35 free from the articles in the case.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. In a card case, a casing comprising a top having a rectangular recess along about the middle of the top and a slot within the recess, two sides projecting downwardly from the top having each a flange along the lower edge projecting inwardly practically parallel to the top, an end plate projecting down from the top at the rear end of the top

to a point spaced from the lower flanges of the side plates at about the distance of the thickness of the bottom plate to be inserted between the lower edge of the rear end and the side flanges, and a front plate extending downwardly from the top at the front end of the case having a slot along the upper edge below the top.

2. In a card case, a bottom plate having a raised bead along about its middle from near one end of the plate to about the middle forming the supporting edge for operating means, the inner termination of the bead forming an engaging and stopping shoulder for the operating means.

3. In a card case, a bottom plate having a raised bead along about its middle extending from near one end of the plate to about the middle forming the supporting means for operating mechanism, the bottom having an opening at the termination of the bead at about the middle of the bottom plate.

4. In a card case, operating mechanism comprising a shifting plate, and a shifting bar tiltingly engaged with the plate having a bent end forming a thumb piece projecting out of the case and having a pointed engaging end on the opposite end in relation to the first-named end projecting into the case, the bar having side projections forming tilting pins near the bent end on the opposite sides of the bar.

5. In a card case, a shifting bar having pins near one end projecting sidewise forming pivot-support for the bar, a short extension extending from the pivot-support upwardly, a supporting and protecting lip at the free end of the downwardly extending main portion of the bar, and two sharp points projecting sidewise from the protecting lip downwardly from the free end of the bar forming the engaging means of the bar.

6. A card case having an open flanged bottom, a bottom plate inserted into the case resting on the flanges in the bottom side of the case having a front flange projecting upwardly and into the case so as to hold the bottom in its position in the case when articles are disposed in the case so as to rest between the rear side of the case and the front flange of the bottom.

7. In a card case having an open flanged bottom, a bottom plate inserted into the case resting on the flanges in the bottom side of the case having a raised bead along about its middle extending to a point at about the middle of the bottom forming a shoulder at this point, and operating means slidingly disposed in the top side of the case having a thumb piece projecting outwardly and having an engaging end projecting inwardly so as to come behind the shoulder formed by the bead in the bottom when no articles are disposed in the case.

8. In a card case, operating means slidingly mounted in the top having engaging points at its innermost end and a protecting lip between the engaging points, a raised bead in the bottom of the case for supporting the protecting lip so as to keep the engaging points free from the bottom of the case.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM C. CUTLER.

Witnesses:
J. F. LILLY,
H. I. HOBBS.