Nov. 18, 1930. W. P. SCULLY 1,782,213

COIN SAVINGS BANK

Filed Feb. 6, 1928

Fig. 1

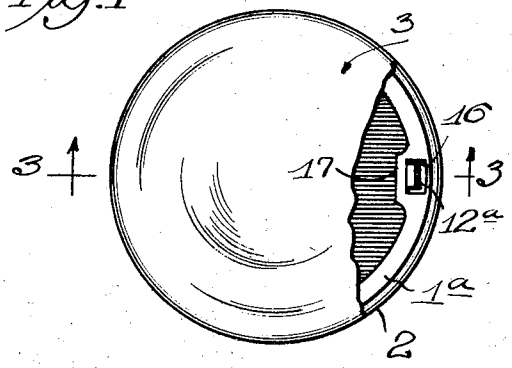


Fig. 2

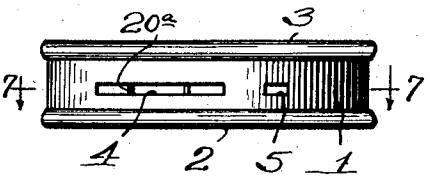
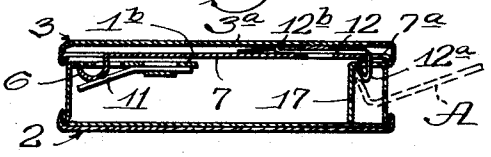


Fig. 3



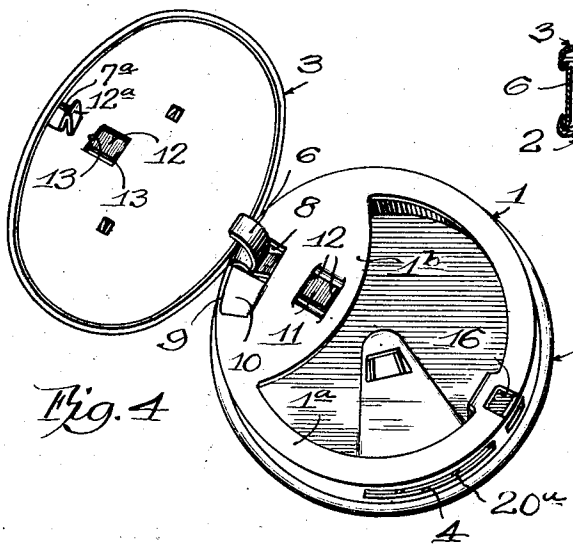


Fig. 4



Fig. 5

Fig. 6

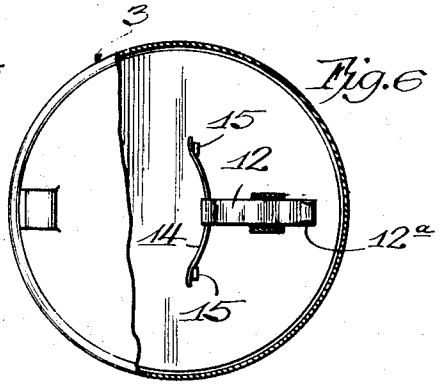
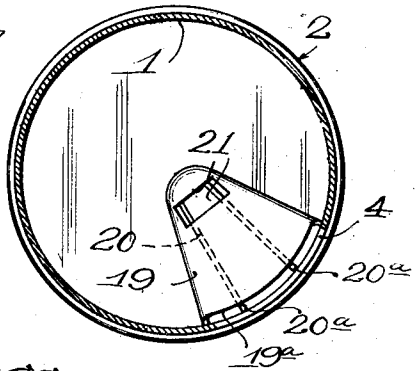


Fig. 7



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Patented Nov. 18, 1930 1,782,213

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COIN SAVINGS BANK

Application filed February 6, 1928. Serial No. 252,153.

This invention relates to improvements in coin savings banks, and more particularly to a small container of pocket size into which coins may be inserted from time to time and to be delivered when filled, to a banking institution to be opened by means of a key, and the contents deposited.

The object of the invention is to provide an improved construction for saving banks of the character above identified and embodying features of construction calculated to facilitate the opening of the bank and the handling of the coins by the teller or other person authorized to do so. These improved features have to do chiefly with the mounting of the cover of the bank and the key locking mechanism. A further feature of the bank is an improved coin guard designed to permit coins to be inserted through the coin slot but preventing them from passing outwardly therethrough.

The bank hereinafter to be described differs essentially from banks now generally used for the same purpose in that the cover is hinged to the body portion, whereas other banks have a top which must be unlocked and then rotated in order to be separated from the body portion. This latter construction has been found objectionable by bank tellers designated to receive deposits, owing to the fact that considerable time and effort are required to open the banks and to replace the cover after the coins have been emptied. In the present construction, the cover is connected to the body by means of a novel form of hinge having a spring associated therewith in such manner that upon releasing a latch by means of the key, the cover flies open permitting the coins to be readily emptied.

Further features of the hinge, as well as of the bank in general will now be described more in detail in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the bank in closed position.

Figure 2 is a view in side elevation of the bank.

Figure 3 is a view in vertical section of the bank in closed position as taken on line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the bank in open position.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the key.

Figure 6 is a view of the underside of the cover with a portion broken away; and

Figure 7 is a view in horizontal section taken on line 7—7 of Figure 2.

As shown in Figure 1, a bank embodying the features of my invention is preferably cylindric in shape and relatively shallow in depth, and consists in general of a narrow cylindric body portion 1 and two circular wall portions 2 and 3 on each side of the body portion and of a slightly increased diameter. One of the circular wall portions 2 is permanently fixed to the body portion 1 and forms the bottom wall of the bank. The other wall portion 3 is hinged to the body portion and forms the cover or lid. The body portion preferably has the form of a thin metal ring while the bottom 2 and cover 3, as they now may be designated, are preferably of a double wall construction consisting of inner metal disks and outer disks with their edges crimped over the edges of the inner disks and forming the foundation for celluloid coverings bearing suitable advertising matter or ornamental design. About the circumference of the body portion 1 is a coin slot 4 and a key slot 5. The coin slot is of the proper length and width to receive a coin of the largest denomination intended to be received by the bank, such for instance, as a 25¢ piece. The key slot 5, on the other hand, is considerably smaller than the coin slot and is rectangular in shape, its dimensions being just sufficient to admit the latch releasing end of the key, later to be described in more detail.

Referring now to the details of construction including the hinge and latch connecting the cover and the body portion, it will be observed that the edge of the body portion immediately below the cover 3 is turned inwardly which provides an annular flange 1^a surrounding the opening to the space within the bank. Throughout a portion of the circumference of the body portion diametrically opposite the key slot 5, the flange 1^a is extended inwardly toward the center in the form of a curved wall sector 1^b which pro-

vides a mounting for the parts of the hinge. The hinge members consist of a U-shaped strip of metal 6 which is punched out of the circular disk 7 forming the base or inner wall of the cover 3, and thence bent downwardly and outwardly in a radial direction into U-shape, with its free edge adjacent the periphery of the disk 7 and spaced a short distance from the face thereof. Punched in the flange 1^a of the body portion and its inward extension 1^b is a slot 8 likewise arranged symmetrically with respect to a radial line, with its outer end spaced a short distance inwardly from the periphery of the body portion. Just at one side of the slot 8 is a L-shaped kerf 9 in the flange 1^a extending a short distance along the periphery and then inwardly a short distance. The purpose of this kerf is to provide a tongue 10 which may be depressed to permit the free end of the U-shaped hinge member 6 to be inserted sidewise into the slot 8 with its free end extending outwardly beneath the peripheral portion of the flange and beyond the outer end of the slot and then forced back into the plane of the flange, thus locking the parts together, as shown in Figure 3. Located radially inward with respect to the slot 8 is a leaf spring 11 of about three-quarters of an inch in length, which is fixed at its inner end to the flange 1^b by passing it through a pair of parallel slits 12—12. The outer end of this leaf spring extends beneath the slot 8 and is adapted to bear upwardly on a U-shaped hinge member 6 to hold the same in place and exert a pressure tending to force the cover into open position. Thus when the cover is in closed position, the U-shaped hinge member extends downwardly through the slot 8 with the free end of the spring 11 bearing upwardly against the same and distorted to exert a spring tension thereon. Similarly, when the cover is released or unlocked from closed position, the spring acts to throw the cover into open position and to hold it therein.

The key operated latch member is located in the cover 3 at a point diametrically opposite the hinge 6 and consists of a short strip of metal 12 mounted for endwise sliding movement in the space between the inner disk 7 of the cover and the outer layer 3^a thereof, and held by guide slots 13—13 arranged transversely of the latch member. The latch member has its outer or forward end portion bent downwardly and doubled upon itself to form the latch or locking detent 12^a, the same projecting through a slot 7^a punched in the disk 7 adjacent its periphery. The means for holding the latch member in retracted or locking position consists of a short length of spring wire 14 arranged crosswise of the latch member adjacent its inner end and supported at its ends by two lugs 15—15 punched from the disk 7 and bent upwardly. The central portion of the spring wire 14 engages a lug 12^b on the upper side at the inner end of the latch member. The action of the spring wire is to yieldably hold the latch member against sliding movement in a radial direction toward the outer edge of the cover. Corresponding to the location of the detent 12^a of the latch member is a keeper slot 16 in the flange 1^a of the body portion 1, the same being slightly enlarged at this point to provide sufficient metal in which to form the slot. In order to prevent the coins from blocking the entrance of the key into the key slot, a guard tongue 17 is formed integral with the flange 1^a just inwardly from the keeper slot 15, this tongue being bent downwardly and inwardly in front of the key slot 5.

Figure 5 shows a simple form of key A having at its end a tongue *a* bent at right angles. Assuming that the bank is locked with the latch member engaging the keeper slot (Figure 3) the key is inserted with its tongue uppermost, and by pressing downwardly on the key, the edge of the tongue engages the locking detent 12^a of the latch member forcing it forward, thus releasing the cover whereupon it flies open by the action of the hinge spring.

The advantage of a hinge constructed as herein shown, is chiefly the fact that it is entirely concealed within the interior of the bank and no portion is accessible from the exterior which might be removed or otherwise tampered with in such a way as to open the bank without the use of a key. Furthermore, this particular hinge construction occupies but little space within the bank and is free to operate regardless of the number of coins which may be inserted in the bank. And finally, it provides a simple and satisfactory form of hinge from a manufacturing and assembly standpoint, both of which are important.

Referring now to the coin guard, it will be observed that the bottom wall of the bank has an inner disk 18 of thin metal. Pressed into this inner disk is a radially disposed V-shaped recess 19 facing downwardly and providing a space between the two disks forming the bottom. Within this space is mounted a U-shaped spring 20 consisting of a length of wire bent to shape and having upwardly projecting ends or prongs 20^a—20^a extending transversely of the inner surface of the body portion 1 and in front of the coin slot 4 inwardly from each end thereof. This U-shape spring is fixed to the disk 18 by means of small slits 21—21 punched in the disk near the apex of the depressed portion of the disk 18, through which the end of the spring is inserted and held. The prongs or fingers 20^a—20^a extend through a slot 19^a at the edge of the depression 19 and are free to be spread apart by a coin

being inserted through the coin slot, the resiliency of the arms bringing the prongs together after the coin has passed between them, and effectually closing the slot against the coins passing outwardly therethrough. The advantage of this type of coin guard is the fact that the prongs are not pressed inwardly into the space occupied by the coins but rather are spread apart adjacent the plane of the coin slot and therefore do not crowd the coins already in the bank and interfere with the insertion of coins, particularly when the same is substantially filled.

Having set forth a preferred embodiment of the invention, I claim:

1. A coin savings bank comprising a body portion having an inwardly extending marginal flange about its open edge, a flanged cover member adapted to close the open side of said body and having an integral hook-shaped hinge member adjacent its periphery and projecting from its under side with its free end spaced therefrom, there being a slot in said flange adapted to receive said hinge member with its free end extended outwardly beyond one end of said slot, said flange being slit adjacent said opening to permit the material of said flange to be yieldingly depressed to effect the insertion of said hinge member into said opening, and a leaf spring mounted on said flange and bearing at its free end against said hinge member.

2. A coin savings bank comprising a body portion having an inwardly extending marginal flange about its open edge, a cover adapted to close the open side of said body and having an inner wall from which a U-shaped hinge member is punched and bent downwardly and outwardly adjacent its periphery, there being a slot in said flange and a yielding portion of the flange adjacent said slot whereby said hinge member is insertable in said slot with its free end extended beyond the outer end thereof, and a leaf spring mounted on an inwardly extended portion of said flange and bearing at its free end against the under side of said hinge member.

3. A coin savings bank comprising a body having an opening in one side partially closed by an inwardly extending wall sector lying in the plane of said opening, a cover member adapted to fit over the open side of said body and having a hook member depending from its under side with its free end directed toward the edge of said cover, said wall sector having a slot through which said hook member is inserted with its free end directed upwardly toward said wall sector and a leaf spring secured at one end to said wall sector and bearing at its free end against said hook member.

4. A coin savings bank comprising a body member open on one side and a flanged cover member adapted to be hinged to said body member, the latter having an inwardly extending wall sector in the plane of its open side and said cover having a hook-shaped hinge member depending from its under side and adapted to be inserted through an opening in said wall sector with its free end portion extending radially beyond the outer edge of said opening, and a leaf spring supported at one end in said wall sector with its free end extending below the same and in bearing contact with said hinge member.

5. A coin savings bank comprising a circular body member having an open side and a cover member hinged to said body member and normally closing said open side thereof, said body member having a wall sector extending inwardly in the plane of its open side, and said cover having a hook-shaped hinge member depending from its under side adjacent its edge and adapted to be inserted through an opening cut in said wall portion, with its free end extending radially beyond the outer edge of said slot, and directed toward the under side of said wall sector, and a leaf spring supported at one end on said wall portion and bearing at its free end against said hinge member below said opening.

Signed at Chicago, this 2nd day of Feb. 1928.

WALTER P. SCULLY.