

A. F. COOK.
CHECK DISPENSER.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 11, 1921.

1,405,495.

Patented Feb. 7, 1922.

Fig.1

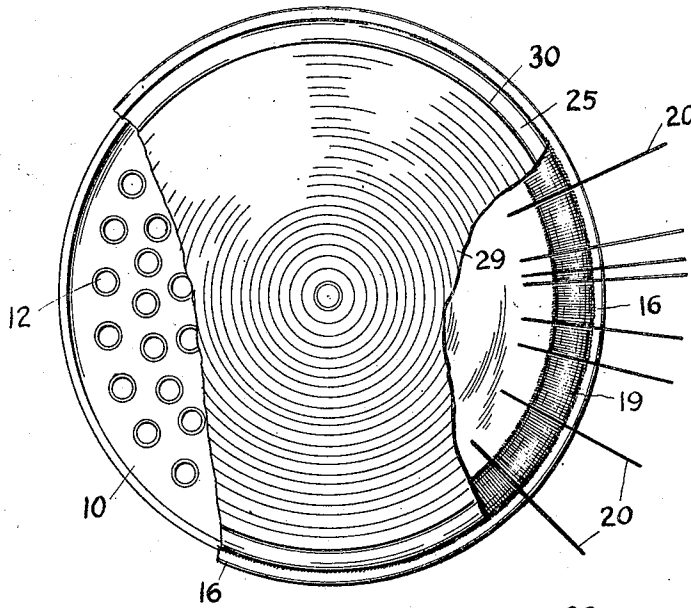


Fig.2

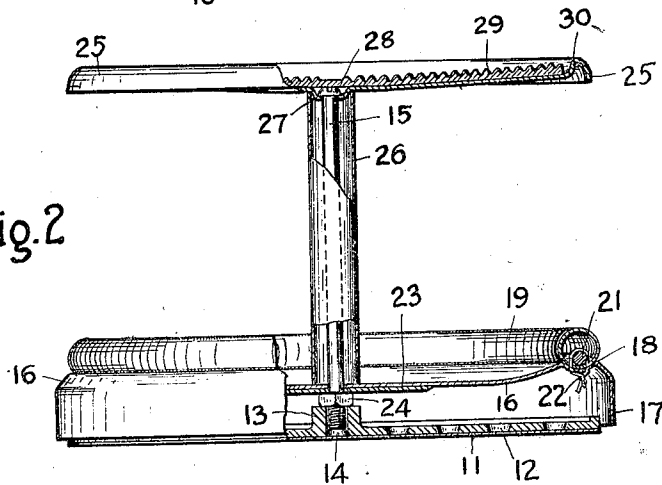
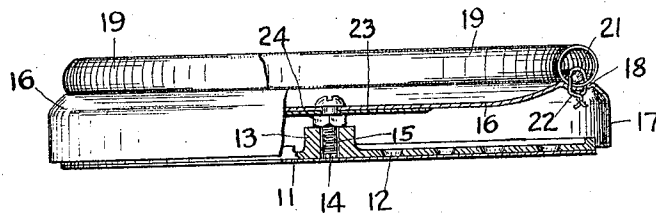


Fig.3



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CHECK DISPENSER.

1,405,495.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 7, 1922.

Application filed February 11, 1921. Serial No. 444,083.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ADOLF F. COOK, a citizen of the United States, and resident of the city of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Check Dispensers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to devices for displaying paper checks, and is especially adapted for use in that type of restaurant known as a self-service restaurant.

It is customary, in such restaurants, to display on or near the cashier's counter, where they may be watched, a number of checks having figures printed thereon. The patron is requested to take a check, the figure indicating the amount to be paid to the cashier for the food bought being afterwards punched therein by an attendant.

It is essential, in order to prevent fraud, that the checks should always be under the control of the cashier. However, there being usually no device for holding said checks in place, they are frequently blown about by air currents, are soiled by coffee being spilt thereon, and are otherwise subject to loss and damage.

One of the objects of this invention is the provision of means for holding a number of checks firmly, while allowing the ready removal thereof one at a time when desired, said means being adapted to have other checks quickly inserted therein.

A further object of this invention is the provision of a device, ornamental in appearance, and designed to attract attention, for the display of checks, and, in combination with such a checkholding device, the provision of a plate suitable for receiving coins when change is made.

A still further object of this invention is the provision of a check dispenser in which the checks may be replaced at the same time that other checks are being removed therefrom.

Other objects will appear as the description progresses, for which reference is had to the accompanying drawings, in which,

Figure 1 is a top plan view of my invention, certain of the upper parts being broken away to show the lower parts more clearly. Fig. 2 is an elevational view of the same, partly in section, and Fig. 3 is a similar view of a modified form of my invention, in which the change plate is omitted.

In the illustrated embodiment of my invention, the base stand 10 is preferably made of cast iron, and is covered on its under side with felt 11 or similar soft material to prevent the surface on which my device rests from being scratched or otherwise marred. Holes as 12 are preferably made in the base 10 for economy of material and for lightness of construction. An up-standing bearing 13 is arranged centrally of said base and has a hole 14 therein for receiving the lower end of the axially arranged screw 15, said screw connecting all of the revoluble parts of my device, as will be more fully described hereinafter.

For supporting the check holding member, a light dish-like member 16 is provided, preferably made of sheet metal nickel plated and polished on the outside to present an attractive appearance. The said dish-like member 16 has a rim 17 at the periphery thereof extending downwardly to a point close to the under surface of the base 10, to hide the larger part of said base and of the interior members, and is suitably shaped near the outer part of its upper surface, as at 18, to receive the endless helical spring 19. Said spring 19 is bent into circular form and is made preferably of round brass spring wire, the coils being wound closely together for the purpose of holding firmly any object of little thickness which may be inserted between them, such as the paper checks 20 above described.

In order to prevent displacement of the spring 19 and of the individual coils thereof, a rod 21 is inserted therein, said rod being fastened down to the member 16 by means of short wire strands as 22, which are passed through the member 16 and are twisted thereunder. In that form of my device shown in Fig. 3, the screw 15 is comparatively short and passes through a central opening in the member 16 and through a washer 23 arranged on the under side of said member 16. A nut 24 is threaded on to the end of the screw 15, the under surface of said nut being preferably rounded somewhat to minimize the wear on said nut and on the upper surface of the bearing 13 on which said nut rests.

In that form of my invention shown in Figs. 1 and 2, a change plate 25 is arranged above the spring carrying member 16, and is spaced therefrom by means of the distance piece 26, both the plate 25 and the

piece 26 being preferably nickel plated and polished on the outside to present an attractive appearance. The central part of the change plate 25 is preferably depressed at 5 27 to receive the head 28 of the screw 15. When the nut 24 is tightened in this form of my device, the parts are secured firmly together, and may be readily rotated about the axis of the base to present a check to a pa- 10 tron or to allow the convenient replacement of those which have been withdrawn. A mat 29, preferably of rubber, may be arranged inside of the circumferential lip 30 of the change plate 25, to cover the head of 15 the screw 15, and to prevent the coins placed on said mat from slipping or rolling when change is made.

It will be seen that a check may be inserted radially into my device by a simple down- 20 ward movement, since the check, on striking the upper rounded part of one of the coils of the spring 19, readily slips into the spring, forcing the coils apart if necessary to do this, and resulting in the check being 25 firmly gripped by the spring action of the adjacent coils. It will also be seen that all parts of the device excepting the stationary base may be readily rotated about the com- 30 mon axis, whereby a check held in any part of the spring may be brought around for the convenient withdrawal thereof, while at the same time, other checks are being placed in other parts of the spring. In my improved 35 device the individual checks are conspicuously displayed, but they remain, nevertheless, under complete control. It will of course be understood that the change plate may be put into use at the same time that 40 the check dispensing arrangement is in use, the plate being rotated as may be necessary. The various checks being held apart, any one of the checks which is most conveniently placed, may be withdrawn from the device 45 without affecting the disposition of the remaining checks.

I claim:

1. In a device of the character described, a circular plate-like base, a spring holding 50 member revolubly mounted on said base, a

stantially concealing said base, and a helical spring carried by said member and adapted to have thin checks inserted between the coils thereof.

2. In a device of the character described, 55 means for removably holding thin checks radially of said device and out of contact with each other comprising a closely wound helical wire spring having a circular axis, a circular member for carrying said spring, 60 and a rod passing through said spring and secured to said member for holding said spring to said member.

3. In a device of the character described, 65 a circular plate-like base, a dish-like member revolubly mounted on said base, a downwardly extending flange on said member for concealing said base, a reinforcing washer on the under side of said member, and means 70 carried by said member for removably holding checks therein in spaced relation to, and out of contact with, each other.

4. In a device of the character described, a stationary disc-like base, a bearing up- 75 standing from and integral with said base, a dish-like member, a downwardly extending flange on said member for concealing said base, a reinforcing washer on the under side of said member, a screw passing through 80 said washer and said member and adapted to enter said bearing, a nut on said screw adapted to be tightened against said washer and adapted to rest on said bearing for al- 85 lowing the removal of said member from said bearing, and means adapted to removably hold a number of checks mounted on said member.

5. In a device of the character described, a closely wound helical wire spring for re- 90 movably holding a number of thin checks independently of and out of contact with each other, spring supporting means, a rod passing through said spring for securing said spring to said supporting means, and a stationary base on which said spring sup- 95 porting means is revolubly mounted.

Signed at New York, in the county of New York, and State of New York, this 9th day of February, A. D. 1921.

ADOLF F. COOK.