

April 2, 1963

R. GIUNTINI
 DEVICE FOR CONVERTING VALUES OF ONE UNIT SYSTEM INTO
 EQUIVALENT VALUES IN ANOTHER SYSTEM

3,083,906

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2 Sheets-Sheet 1

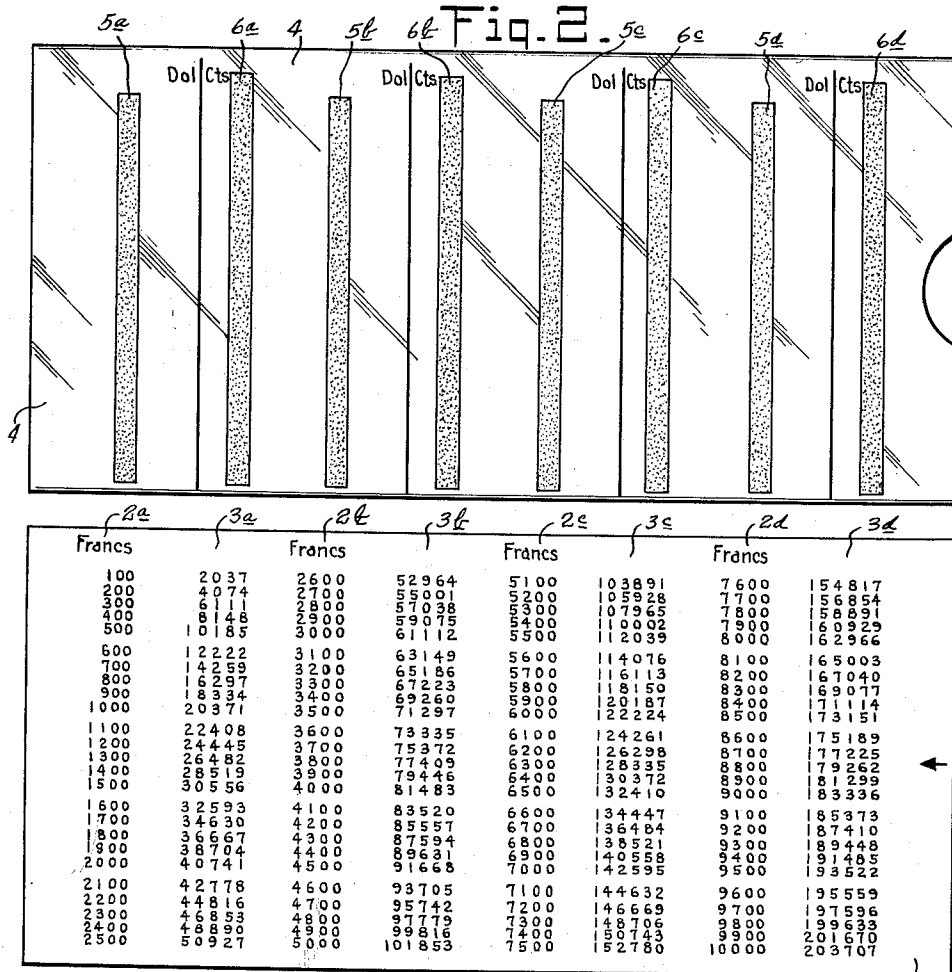


Fig. 1.

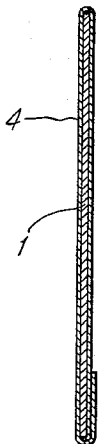


Fig. 3.

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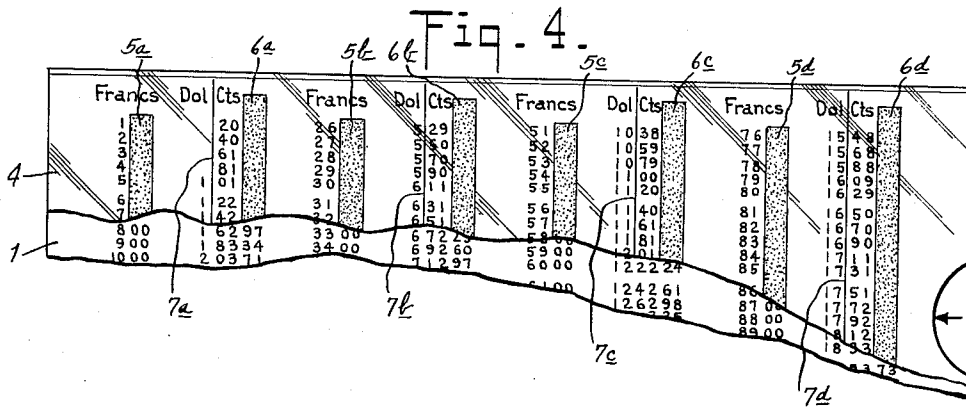
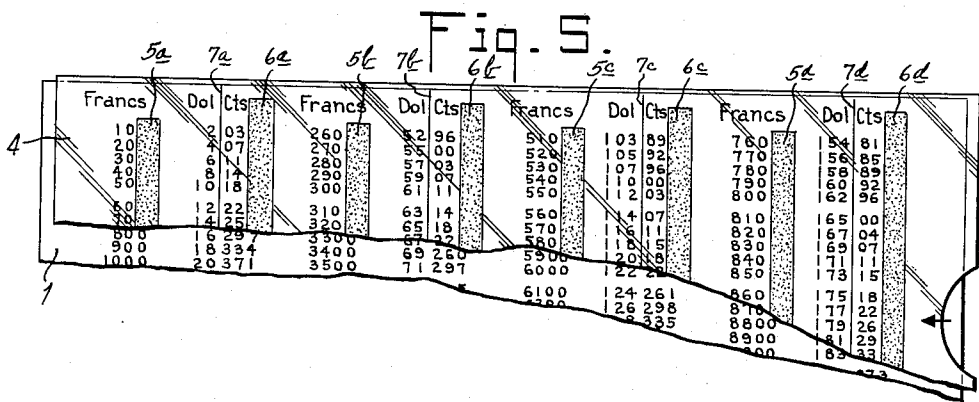
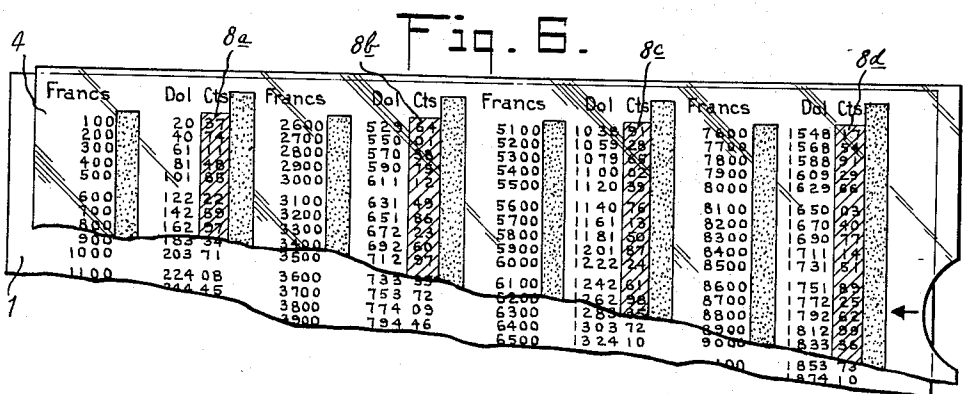
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DEVICE FOR CONVERTING VALUES OF ONE UNIT SYSTEM INTO EQUIVALENT VALUES IN ANOTHER SYSTEM

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2 Claims. (Cl. 235-89)

This invention relates to a device for converting a value of one unit system into an equivalent value in another system. For example, the device may be used to convert a sum of money of one nation into an equivalent sum of money of another nation. Another example is the conversion of capital sums of money into the amount of interest obtained at a specified interest rate. Other uses will suggest themselves from the very nature of the device.

The present inventor's Patent 2,689,685, dated September 21, 1954, discloses such a device. When of convenient size the device of this patent has a range of value coverage limited to a degree making its extension desirable.

One object of the present invention is to provide a new device of the character described, but having a value range that is extended beyond that which is practical in the case of the above patented device. In other words, the new device is intended to permit the conversion of a wider range of values than is possible in the case of the patented device when both devices are of fairly comparable sizes.

Briefly summarized, the device of the present invention includes a support marked with a vertical table comprising a mathematical progression of vertically aligned numbers starting with a multiple digit number. Each number is horizontally followed by the product of the number multiplied by the conversion factor and these product numbers are vertically aligned. The support may comprise a card which may be substituted by others relating to different systems or conversion factors. A cover is provided for this support and this cover is slidably connected with the support carrying the table so that the cover and support are relatively shiftable in the horizontal direction of the table. This support has means for obscuring visibility of at least one and preferably more of the vertical rows of the vertically aligned digits of the first-named numbers, and means for simultaneously obscuring the vertically aligned digits of the product numbers which are in excess of the products of the unobscured portions of the first-named numbers multiplied by the conversion factor.

The above has the advantage over the patented device that by shifting the support and cover to obscure the last vertical row of numbers their values are reduced. Shifting to obscure the last two vertical rows further reduces their values, and so on. Each shift causes the product numbers to be correspondingly reduced as required to obtain correct results. Thus the range of any table is substantially extended without comparably enlarging the physical size of the support and cover. Opposite shifting effects number value increases, of course.

A specific example of the new device is illustrated by the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a plan view of the support carrying the table and the product numbers multiplied by the conversion factor, the support being in the form of a card;

FIG. 2 is a plan view of the cover for the table, this being in the form of a flat sleeve;

FIG. 3 is an end view of the device with the card inserted slidably in the sleeve;

FIG. 4 is a plan view showing the card inserted in the sleeve and with the two elements shifted relative to each other to indicate the lowest values provided by the device;

FIG. 5 corresponds to FIG. 4 but shows the device

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with the two parts so shifted as to indicate the next higher range of values accommodated by the device; and

FIG. 6 corresponds to FIGS. 4 and 5 but shows a modification with the parts arranged to indicate a still higher range of values.

Referring to these drawings, in FIG. 1 the table is carried by a card 1. This may be a flat sheet of relatively rigid paper, plastic or other material suitable for carrying printed matter. The table is printed on this card and is broken to form four horizontally interspaced columns 2a, 2b, 2c and 2d. In this case the table is in the form of a mathematical progression of French francs, starting with the multiple digit value of 100 francs in the column 2a and terminating at the bottom of the column 2d with 10,000 francs. Horizontally following each number of francs is the equivalent in U.S. cents, obtained by multiplying the number in the francs column by the current exchange rate. Thus each of the columns previously mentioned is followed by the product numbers also forming horizontally interspaced columns 3a, 3b, 3c and 3d.

It can be seen that the numbers in the columns 2a through 2d form the vertical table starting with the multiple digit number and that each number is horizontally followed by the product of this number multiplied by the conversion factor. The numbers in all columns are vertically aligned in a mathematical manner. That is to say, the extreme right-hand digits are vertically aligned.

The cover for this card 1 and its table, is provided by a flat sleeve 4. Both horizontal ends of this sleeve are open and the sleeve is shaped and dimensioned so that the card may be slidably inserted inside of the sleeve with the ends of the two parts flush with each other. The sleeve 4 is shown as being made from transparent material, such as cellulose, acetate or any other suitable substance such as might be used to make a transparent envelope, for example.

When the card 1 is inserted in the sleeve 4 the entire table would be visible were it not that the sleeve 4 has vertically extending bars 5a, 5b, 5c and 5d applied to it by the use of opaque material. This material may be printed on the sleeve, applied to it as strips of material, or otherwise formed.

Each of the bars 5a through 5d is located on the sleeve 4 so as to obscure visibility of one or more vertical rows of the vertically aligned digits of the columns 2a through 2d, there being one bar for each column of the table representing the francs. As shown, the bars 5a through 5d are wide enough to obscure visibility of two of the digits of each number, as required to reduce the first number to its minimum value of one. To provide this obscuring effect the card 1 must be slid to proper position relative to the sleeve 4 which acts as the cover for the table.

The sleeve 4 carries a corresponding series of horizontally interspaced vertical bars 6a through 6d which, in each instance, provides a means for obscuring the vertically aligned digits of the product numbers, or in this case cents, which are in excess of the products of the unobscured portions of the horizontally aligned numbers, here representing francs. These bars 6a through 6d are located relative to the bars 5a through 5d so that when the card and sleeve are slid relative to each other to obscure one or more of the digits of the numbers of the columns of francs, the properly corresponding numbers of cents in the horizontally following numbers, are correspondingly obscured.

To provide greater convenience, the cover 4 at locations properly spaced to the left of each of the bars 6a through 6d, carries vertical decimal point indicating lines 7a through 7d, one for each of the bars 6a through 6d. These lines may be printed or impressed or otherwise applied to the material of the sleeve 4. In this fashion

the decimal point is indicated as required to separate dollars from cents. Correspondingly, the decimal point for any system of values may be indicated.

In the modification shown by FIG. 6 the decimal point is indicated by the use of transparent coloring material applied to the sleeve 4 in the form of bars 8a, 8b, 8c and 8d of suitable width one for each of the bars 6a through 6d. The coloring material may be applied to the transparent material of the cover in any suitable fashion.

It is apparent from the above that other forms of covers might be used for the columns for the table and product numbers, and it need not be transparent providing it forms what are, in effect, windows revealing the various numbers in the same manner as is done by the transparency of the cover or sleeve shown.

In operation, as shown by FIG. 4, to obtain the lowest possible values, the sleeve and the card are horizontally shifted relative to each other so as to obscure all but the first digit of the first of the numbers of the system to be converted, this being one franc in the illustrated example. With the table shown this provides a range of from 1 to 100 francs together with the corresponding dollars and cents values in U.S. currency. Shifting the parts one step further, as shown by FIG. 5, jumps the range from 10 to 1000 francs and, as shown by FIG. 6, a one digit further shift extends the range from 100 francs to 10,000 francs.

Thus it can be seen that the device embraces the very large range or extent of values of from 1 franc to 10,000 francs. It can obviously handle a correspondingly large range when the values are other than money. At the same time, with the card 1 located with its edges flush with those of the cover or sleeve 4, the illustrated device is only about 5½ inches long horizontally and 2½ inches high vertically, thus permitting it to be contained easily in the pocket or average wallet. The card itself need not be in folded form to provide the great range described. A comparable form is possible in the case of other systems of units such as capital sums to be translated into equivalent amounts of interest and the like.

The various vertical columns can each relate to a separate system or to the use of a separate conversion factor such as different rates of interest. Dimensions may be changed and other variations made, such as the use of opaque material having windows as previously indicated, all as best suits the use for which the device is intended.

Often, devices of this character are given away by airlines and the like. This is done for good will and advertising purposes. With this in mind, it is appropriate to mention that the device of the present invention may carry advertising on the reverse side of the card 1 which, when

the cover or sleeve is made of transparent material, is plainly visible. Correspondingly, advertising may be applied to the back side of the cover, this being particularly so if this is made of opaque material provided with windows as previously suggested.

It is possible to provide the device in a form comprising the cover or sleeve portion and a plurality of cards, each bearing tables concerning different systems. For example, when the device is used to translate sums of currencies, each card may relate to a different country. It is even possible to extend the table concerning any one system and conversion factor beyond the very large values inherent to the present invention, by continuing the table on other cards, although this would ordinarily be unnecessary.

I claim:

1. A device for converting a value of one system of units into an equivalent value in another system of units requiring the use of a conversion factor, said device including a card marked with a vertical table comprising a mathematical progression of vertically aligned numbers starting with a multiple digit number and with each number horizontally followed by the product of the number multiplied by the conversion factor and with these product numbers vertically aligned, said table further continued as columns which are each horizontally displaced with respect to the preceding column, and a cover for said table comprising a transparent flat sleeve in which said card is slidable and removably inserted and which is slidably connected with said support so as to be shiftable in the horizontal direction of the table, said cover having means formed by substantially opaque vertical strips on said sleeve for obscuring visibility of at least one vertical row of the vertically aligned digits of the first named numbers and means for simultaneously obscuring the vertically aligned digits of the product numbers which are in excess of the products of the unobscured portions of the first-named numbers multiplied by said conversion factor, said support having said means for each of said selections.

2. The device of claim 1 in which said sleeve has means thereon for visually indicating the decimals of said product numbers.

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