This invention relates to an illuminable offering box construction commonly known as a votive device.

The chief object of the invention is to provide a plurality of lights, lamps or candles each of which is controlled by a switch and a plurality of coin receiving openings, one for each lamp, etc. and arranged such that a coin deposited therethrough is adapted to close a circuit to the lamp through the switch corresponding thereto.

Another object of the invention is to provide such a device with a money drawer into which the several coins are deposited when released from the switch control position.

One feature of the invention consists in the formation of the switch mechanism such that it forms part of the coin chute and another feature consists in arranging the coin trapping member thereof as another part of the switch mechanism.

Another feature of the invention consists in associating all of the parallel coin trapping members together and simultaneously releasing the same to simultaneously release the coins to the money box or drawer.

The full nature of the invention will be understood from the accompanying drawings and the following description and claim.

In the drawings, Fig. 1 is a front elevational view of an illuminated votive device or offering box construction embodying the invention—parts being broken away to avoid duplication of drawing.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the complete device.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged transverse sectional view through the coin and switch contact box and is taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1 and in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 3 and in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 5 is a top plan view of one end of a pair of parallel compartments or coin chutes and is taken approximately at right angles to Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is an enlarged transverse sectional view of one coin slot construction shown in Fig. 3.

In the drawings 10 indicates a frame or base construction which by a brace construction 11 supports a coin and control box 12 having the forwardly and upwardly inclined panel or face 13, the front 14 provided with an opening 15 in its lower portion normally closed by a drawer construction 16.

Positioned above the base 10 and supported thereby in horizontally and vertically aligned rows, the tiers being progressively set back and elevated, are a plurality of lamp sockets 20 each of which supports a candle type lamp bulb 21 forming a candelabra construction.

In the number of rows and the number of lamps per row may be of any desired number. One form of the invention illustrated includes five rows of 20 candles forming a candelabra arrangement of rectangular pattern provided with 100 individually controlled lights. Any other pattern or number may be employed.

The front and upper panel 13 is provided with a like number of openings 23 each of which has a predetermined size, all openings being alike. Preferably the length of the opening is sufficient to accommodate quarters and the width of the opening is just wide enough to permit the passage of dimes and quarters only. The size of the opening 23, however, may be of any desired area.

Interposed between each horizontal series of openings is a backboard 24, the same extending from the panel 13 downwardly an appreciable distance. Suitably secured to the forward face of each of the depending backboards 24 and in spaced relation are insulated partition members 25, two adjacent partition members forming an included slot which registers with the superposed opening 23 thereabove.

The back board 24 in each of the slots thus provided is provided with an elongated strap or metallic member 26, secured as at 27 and 28. The anchorage 28 is elongated as at 29.
and associated therewith is a circuit wire 130 that leads to the cable 131. One end of each of the wires is connected to adjacent contact strips 26 supported by the back board 24 while the other ends are connected to lamp sockets.

Positioned forwardly of each back board 24 is a front plate 30 which extends the full width of the construction. Its upper forward edge is provided with a clamp type fitting 31 which terminates in a lateral pivot 32 which is pivotally supported in recess 33 provided in the side wall 34 of the coin chute construction.

Mounted upon the rear face of front plate 30 and in longitudinal alignment with each of the slots, as shown clearly in Fig. 5, is a contact member 35 secured as at 36 to said plate. The anchorage 36 extends through the panel and simultaneously secures the clip 37 thereto. Clip 37 is connected to a wire or current supplying member 38. While the plurality of said strips are herein shown one for each coin slot, it is to be understood that a single metallic plate may extend across the rear face of the front plate and a single wire connected thereto and to the source of energy will be sufficient. In this construction the wires in the cable 31 must be connected to one terminal of each of the several lights and the other terminal of each of the several lights must be connected to the source of energy.

Deposition of the coin of predetermined size and smaller than that of the slot 28 will bridge the contacts 35 and 26 and complete the circuit from the current conductor 38 to the respective wire 130 and to the light thereby permitting current to flow to and through the light thus illuminating the same. The light will remain illuminated as long as the coin remains in the slot. The tiltable mounted front plate 30 is normally constrained toward coin retaining position by a spring 40 connected at one end to the back 41 of the device and at its opposite end by a cable or link 42 to the plate.

Each plate construction is provided with a laterally projecting pin 42 clampingly mounted as at 43, see Fig. 4, upon the plate 30 near its bottom and side edge. Said pin 43 rests in an arcuate slot 44 formed in the member 34. The projecting end of the pin supports a handle 45 which when engaged, retracted or moved forwardly releases all of the coins dropped in the tier controlled by the front plate 30, whereupon all of the coins fall into the drawer 16 and are retained therein. On release of the coins the circuit to each of the lamps theretofore illuminated is broken.

The invention claimed is:

In an illuminable votive device the combination of a plurality of individual electric lights having a predetermined arrangement,