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Prepaid charge counting apparatus.

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A prepaid charge counting apparatus (10) to be employed, for example, in a particular parking system in which the parking period of time is limited. In such a case, the driver has to purchase the apparatus in advance such that a count corresponding to the prepaid amount is assigned to the apparatus.

When parking a car in the parking place, the user first operates the ON/OFF operation unit (12) to initiate the respective sections of the apparatus (10), and then the remaining amount of the count and the consumption state of the time are appropriately dis-

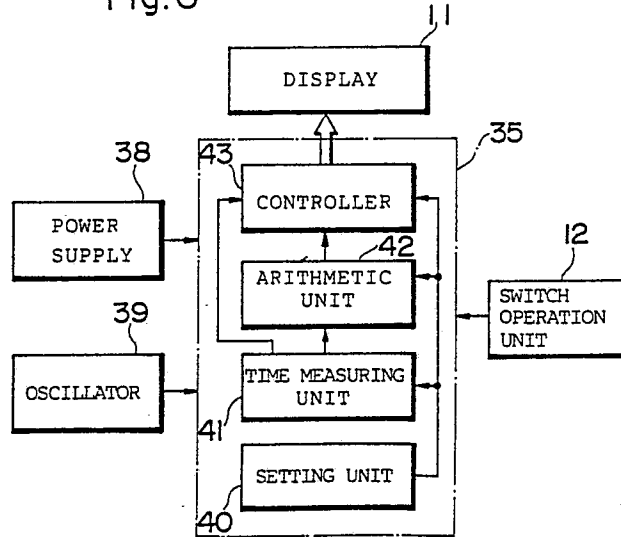
played on the display (11).

This apparatus (10) is placed at a position in a car visible from the outside thereof such that the time measuring unit (41) continuously measures the consumed period of time and that the arithmetic unit (42) converts the measurement result of the time measuring section (41) into a count so as to compute the remaining amount of the count. The control unit (43) updates the display contents on the display section (11) based on the measurement result of the time measuring section (41) and the computation

result of the arithmetic unit (42).

The manager of the parking place monitors the display contents to appropriately check the consumption state of the time. In consequence, in order to construct a prepayment system in the parking place, when the apparatus is employed, the investment for the special facility and the management cost can be unnecessitated. Furthermore, the user is relieved from the annoying operation of the prepayment of the parking charge for each parking operation.

Fig.6





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)	
X	WO-A-8601922 (LIE) * abstract; figures * * page 3, line 9 - page 5, line 5 * * page 6, line 3 - page 8, line 8 *	1, 2, 4, 7, 9	G07C1/30	
A	---	3, 5, 8		
X	EP-A-176465 (TOMER) * page 4, line 13 - page 6, line 30 * * page 9, line 21 - page 11, line 28 * * page 16, line 13 - page 19, line 35; figures *	1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9 10		
X	FR-A-2594985 (AUBERT) * page 2, line 26 - page 3, line 29 * * page 5, line 35 - page 7, line 34 * * page 9, line 8 - page 11, line 7; figures *	1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9 10		
Y	---	3, 6, 8, 11		
X	FR-A-2581222 (FAGES) * page 2, line 34 - page 6, line 22; figures *	1, 3, 8		
X	GB-A-2158628 (S Z E) * abstract; claims 1-3; figures * * page 1, line 52 - page 2, line 77 *	1		TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
A	---	1-11		G07C G07B G07F
Y	DE-A-3143047 (SCHRÖDER) * page 4, line 17 - page 6, line 25 *	3, 8		
A	---	1, 5, 6, 11		
Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 8, no. 60 (P-262)(1497) 22 March 1984, & JP-A-58 208882 (NIPPON DENSHIN) * the whole document *	6, 11		
A	EP-A-0159539 (SIEMENS)			
A	US-A-4277837 (STUCKERT)			
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims				
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 11 JANUARY 1990	Examiner MEYL D.	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document		
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document				

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