Aug. 27, 1940. J. J. DEER 2,212,635

GIFT EXCHANGE PLAN DEVICE

Filed July 28, 1938

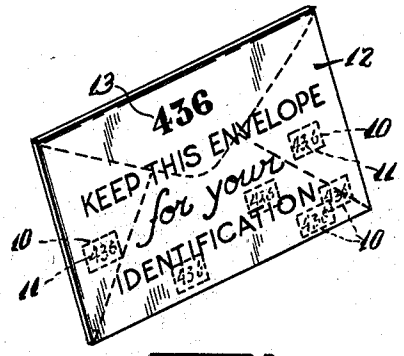


Fig. 1.

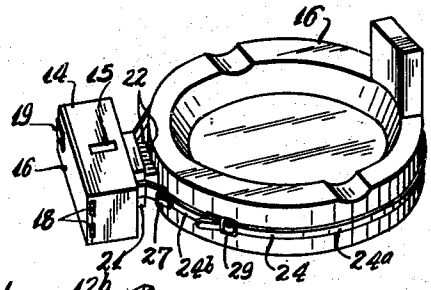


Fig. 3.

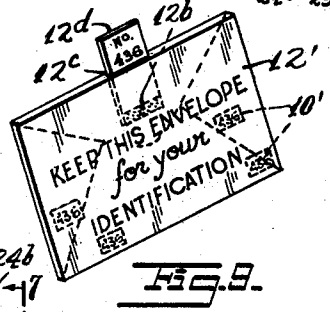


Fig. 9.

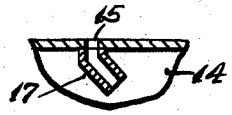


Fig. 5.

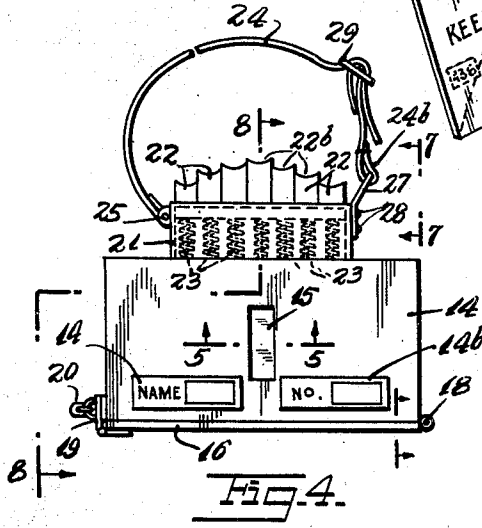


Fig. 4.

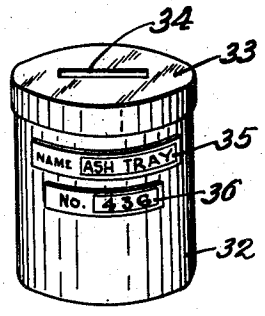


Fig. 10.



Fig. 2.

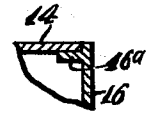


Fig. 6.

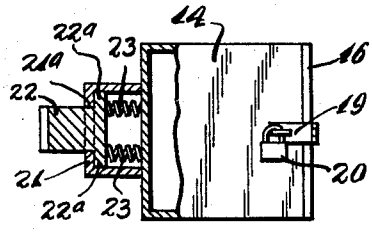


Fig. 8.

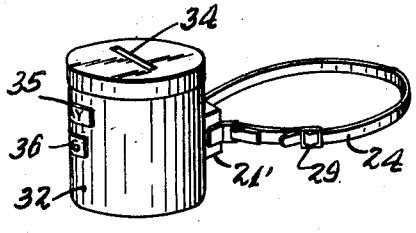


Fig. 11.

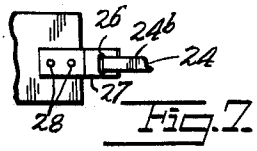


Fig. 7.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,212,635

GIFT EXCHANGE PLAN DEVICE

John J. Deer, New York, N. Y.

Application July 28, 1938, Serial No. 221,861

1 Claim. (Cl. 248—231)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in a gift exchange plan device.

More specifically, the invention proposes a gift exchange plan device characterized by a container having a slot formed in one side thereof through which a numbered ticket is adapted to be passed.

Still further it is proposed that the container be provided with a means permitting it to be mounted upon an article to be raffled off at the end of the hour, day, week, or other designated period.

Still further it is proposed that the container have a locked door which may be opened when the tickets are to be removed at the end of the designated period to permit selection of a lucky ticket from the deposited tickets for declaring one customer the winner of the article.

Still further it is proposed to provide the container with a novel means for permitting it to be attached to the article which is to be given as a prize.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, and to the appended claim in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawing forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of an envelope into which a supply of identically numbered tickets are adapted to be placed.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one of the tickets per se.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the container as attached to an article to be given as a prize.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the device per se.

Fig. 5 is a sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a sectional view on the line 6—6 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 7 is a view looking in the direction of the line 7—7 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 8 is a sectional view substantially on the line 8—8 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of an envelope for the numbers, constructed according to another embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 10 is a perspective view of a container constructed according to another embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 11 is a perspective view of still another container embodying another form of the invention.

The gift exchange plan device, according to this invention, consists in the distribution of a supply of identically numbered tickets 10 for one customer and bearing a different number from the tickets distributed to other customers. The tickets 10 are imprinted upon their faces with a number 11, as shown in Fig. 2. An envelope 12 is supplied and all of the tickets bearing the same number are positioned within the envelope. The envelope is imprinted upon its face with a number 13 identical to the numbers 11 imprinted upon the tickets 10. It is proposed that the envelope be sold to customers to have an equal chance at winning various articles to be raffled off at the end of the designated period.

A container 14 is attached to various articles. The container has an opening 15 through which the tickets may be deposited, and also has a locked door 16. As shown in Fig. 3 the container 14 is positioned upon an article 16. A customer after receiving a supply of identically numbered tickets may distribute the tickets within the containers positioned on the various articles At the end of a designated period a ticket is withdrawn from the container positioned on each article and the number thereon signifies that the person originally holding the said number is the winner of the article.

The container 14 has several labels 14a and 14b mounted thereon which are adapted to receive writing to identify an article to which the container is attached. The label 14a is intended to bear the name of the article, while the label 14b is the identification number.

It is proposed that the customer keep the envelope in order to identify himself as the holder of the winning number. For this reason it is proposed that the envelopes may be imprinted with numbers corresponding with the number imprinted on the tickets. The opening 15 has a chute 17 extending therearound and attached to the wall of the container around the opening for permitting the tickets to be dropped therein. This chute 17 prevents the customers from looking into the container to determine the number of tickets already deposited therein.

The door 16 is provided with a hinge 18 supporting the same upon one edge of the container 14 and the other end is provided with a conventional hasp 19 permitting a lock 20 to be positioned thereon for maintaining the door 16 in its closed position. The three free edges of the door 16, not attached to the container 14, are formed with inwardly extended flanges 16a which are adapted to extend into the opening of the container as shown in Fig. 6. These flanges 16a prevent prying tools from being inserted into the

space between the adjacent edges of the container and door for prying the door open.

At the end of a designated period, which may be a day, week, or month, the locked door 16 is adapted to be opened for permitting one of the tickets to be removed therefrom for declaring the winner of the article. The number of the ticket withdrawn from the container corresponds with an envelope bearing the identical number, and the holder of the envelope is the winner of the article upon which the container is positioned.

A means is provided for attaching the container to the said article. This means is so constructed that it may be used for attaching the container to articles having various contours and of different sizes. This means comprises a hollow casing 21 attached upon one side of the container 14 and which is provided with an open side 21a. A plurality of gripping elements 22 of different lengths have one of their ends located within the casing 21. Each of the gripping elements 22 is formed with oppositely disposed flanges 22a which are adapted to strike against the material of the casing 21 on either side of the opening 21a for preventing the gripping elements from being disengaged from the casing 21. Each of the gripping elements 22 is formed with a curved outer face 22b for adding to the gripping qualities thereof.

A means is provided for selectively urging each of the gripping elements 22 into an extended position with relation to the casing 21. This means comprises a pair of expansion springs 23 mounted within the casing 21 and normally operating between the back wall thereof and the inner end of the gripping elements 22 for extending the same.

A strap 24 is attached to the casing 21 and is adapted to encircle the said article and force the gripping elements against the side thereof for maintaining the container 14 in fixed position upon the article. This strap 24 is constructed of separate sections 24a and 24b. The section 24a has one of its ends attached to a pin 25 mounted upon one side of the container 21. The section 24b has one of its ends extended through an opening 26 formed in a metallic member 27 attached to the other side of the casing 21 by means of rivets 28. The free end of the section 24b has a buckle 29 mounted thereon and the free end of the section 24a is adapted to be associated with the buckle for holding the container on the article 16.

The operation of this device is as follows:

The strap 14 is opened by disengaging the end of the section 24a from the buckle 29 to permit the strap 24 to be engaged around the article which is to be raffled off by means of the tickets distributed to the customers. After the strap 24 has been passed around the article the end of the section 24a is re-engaged with respect to the buckle 29 to cause the gripping elements 22 to engage and conform with the side of the article for preventing vertical and lateral movement of the container thereon.

In Fig. 9 an envelope 12' is illustrated which is adapted to hold a plurality of the tickets 10'. This envelope 12' has a flap 12a provided with adhesive material 12b. A slot 12c is formed in the envelope at the junction of the body portion with the flap. A label 12d extends out from the slot 12c and is removably secured in position by reason of having its inner end attached to the adhesive 12b. This label 12d is adapted to be imprinted with a number corresponding with the numbers of the tickets in the envelope.

In Fig. 10 another embodiment of the invention has been disclosed, in which a cylindrical container 32 is shown, provided with a removable cover 33 and having a slot 34 through which the tickets may be deposited. Labels 35 and 36 are mounted on the side of the container and are adapted to be imprinted or inscribed with the name and number of the article.

In Fig. 11 another modified form of the invention is shown in which the container 32 is provided with an attaching means characterized by a casing 21' attached on the side of the container and associated with a strap 24 and holding mechanism similar to the mechanism disposed within the container 21 shown in Figs. 3 and 4. The strap 24 is provided with a buckle 29. Other parts of the strap and the device which are identical to corresponding parts in the previous forms of the invention are indicated by the same reference numerals.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise constructions herein disclosed and the right is reserved to all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claim.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

In a device of the class described, a hollow casing having one of its sides mounted on a member and its opposite side formed with an opening, a belt having one of its ends attached to one end of said casing and passed in front of said opening and the other of its ends attached to the other end of said casing, said belt being adjustable to engage around articles of different sizes with the open side of said casing immediately adjacent said article, gripping elements slidably mounted within said casing and projecting through said opening, and compressible means for extending said elements to conform with the contour of said article for preventing vertical and lateral movement of said member on said article.

JOHN J. DEER.