Oct. 17, 1944. T. MUNGEN 2,360,815

IDENTIFICATION HOLDER

Filed March 12, 1941

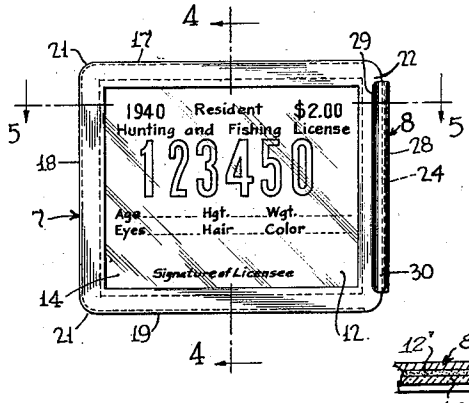


FIG. 1

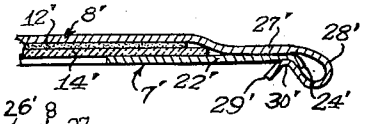


FIG. 7

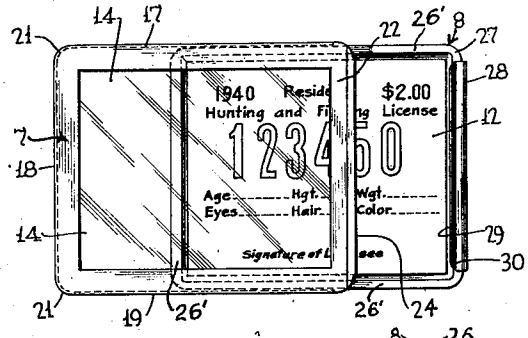


FIG. 2

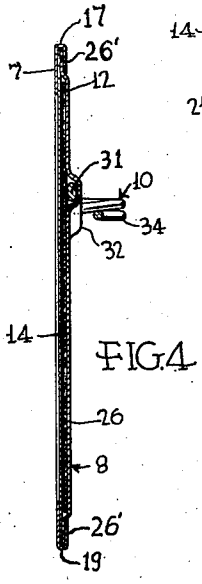


FIG. 4

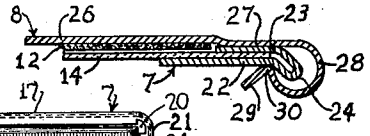


FIG. 6

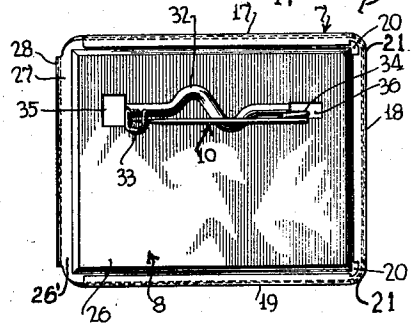


FIG. 3

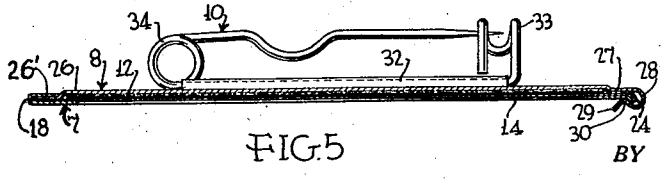


FIG. 5

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IDENTIFICATION HOLDER

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7 Claims. (Cl. 40—1.5)

This invention relates to a device constituting a combined badge and holder, and particularly to such device associated with license papers and the like.

In certain endeavors, such as hunting and fishing at certain places, it is required that a license be had, and that a badge be worn as an indication of such license.

Where a separate license paper and identifying badge are employed, it is easy to lose or misplace one or the other, so that absence of the badge would likely attract attention and cause delay and inconvenience in numerous instances, and failure to have possession of the license paper, even where the badge is carried, while probably causing fewer interruptions, would likely render them of greater extent and trouble.

The use of separate license papers and identifying badges also entails a double record of the same grant, so that unnecessary personnel, work and material are required by the issuing authorities.

To meet these problems, the practice has been established whereby the licensee wears an element having a window and forming also a holder or container for the license paper, in which the device is completed as a badge by portions of the paper showing through the window.

The papers usually being of greater area than any single ply card which might be encased in any holder of desirable badge size, it has also been the practice to provide foldable papers each with a special area such that, when the paper is folded in a certain way, this area can be employed as the face of the badge.

Particularly during hunting and fishing, the badges are subjected to possible damage by water, so that a license-holder of the type indicated should be effectively protected against damage to the license paper from this cause.

Since it is not ordinarily desirable to hermetically seal a badge in a manner whereby the seal or badge must be destroyed to release the paper, badges removably holding the papers have been devised which, in certain cases, protect the papers reasonably well, but are more complicated and difficult to manufacture and assemble than the device of the invention hereof.

Among the adverse features of the former devices are: difficult manipulation in inserting and withdrawing the papers, the necessity for bending certain parts of the holders, undue thickness, the easy distortion of parts, shapes that are unsightly or hard to form, the necessity for using implements to aid or effect the removal operation, and other annoyance, expense or delay.

Accordingly, it is among the objects of the invention hereof to overcome all of the above-mentioned and other adverse features of former devices, and to do so in a manner that not only renders the device an improvement in features of construction and manipulation, but also renders it more economical and desirable in other ways.

Another object of the invention is to simplify the form of the parts for ease and economy of manufacture, and to reduce the holder to substantially minimum thickness.

Another object of the invention is to facilitate placing a license element in, and removing it from, a badge-holder, wherein the parts of the latter are locked against accidental separation, but when so locked, are at all times directly automatically responsive solely to simple sliding relative movement between the parts for separating or conditioning thereof for removing or receiving a license element.

Another object of the invention is to eliminate difficult and annoying hand-manipulations delaying the placing together and separation of the holder elements, to avoid accidents possibly causing minor hurt to the operator and disfigurement of the holder or card, and to render the device more ornate, compact and durable.

Another object of the invention is to provide a holder of the above-indicated character that shall be substantially water- and weather-proof, and protected against injury in other ways.

A further object of the invention is to provide a combined badge and holder that shall be simple and durable in construction, economical to manufacture, and effective in its operation.

With such objects in view, as well as other advantages which may be incident to a utilization of the improvements, the invention comprises the elements and combinations thereof hereinafter set forth in the drawing, specification and claims, with the understanding that the several necessary elements constituting the same may be varied in proportion, arrangement, texture and operation, without departing from the nature and scope of the invention.

To make the invention more clearly understood, means are shown in the accompanying drawing for carrying the same into practical effect, without limiting the improvements in the useful applications thereof to the particular constructions and operations which, for the purpose of explanation, are made the subject of illustration.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a front-face view of a combined badge and holder constructed in accordance with one

example of the invention, showing the parts in finally assembled position, with a license element therein;

Fig. 2 is a similar view, showing the license element in place in a back member of the device, and the front and back members partially assembled during an intermediate stage of inserting or removing the license element;

Fig. 3 is a rear view of the device as shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a view, in enlarged section, taken along the line 4—4 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is a view, also in enlarged section, taken along the line 5—5 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 6 is the same section as the right-hand portion of Fig. 5 but on a still larger scale; and

Fig. 7 is a section similar to Fig. 6 of a modified embodiment.

The device comprises, in general, a front window frame element 7, a rear or window-backing element 8, a safety pin 10 secured to the rear element 8 for attaching the device to the clothing of a user, a card or folded license paper 12 or the like next to the rear element 8, a transparent sheet window panel or pane 14 next to the frame element 7. Means constituting a salient feature of the structure, for automatically locking the members 7 and 8 to, and releasing the same from, each other, will be described later on.

The frame 7 is constructed of thin resilient sheet material, such as sheet metal, of substantially flat plane rectangular shape having three margins or edge portions 17, 18 and 19 of channel section facing inwardly of the frame in the direction of its plane.

The corner portions 21, at the intersections of the channel 18 with the channels 17 and 19 constitute continuations of said side channels and are rounded in the plane of the frame to avoid exposing pointed corners and sharp edges of the thin sheet.

The rear channel sides are narrower than the front channel sides and have cut-outs 20 of their inner margins at the corner portions 21, to permit these corner portions to be more readily and smoothly formed.

The fourth margin 22 of the front or frame member 7, has a portion 23 folded rearwardly back on itself about a bend 24, see Figures 2, 5 and 6 whereby to clamp the transparent panel 14 at its adjacent margin against the rear side of the frame margin 22. The bend 24 is extended forwardly, or out of the plane of the frame, to act as a detent or catch for the rear member 8, as will further appear. As a modification, the portion 23 may be omitted, and a simple single ply forwardly extending portion of the sheet material of the frame provided in the place of the bend 24; this is shown in Figure 7 and described later on.

The backing element 8 is of substantially flat plane rectangular shape having a rearwardly-extending flat depression 26 of a depth and outline corresponding closely to the thickness and edge contour of the card 12. Three of the margins of the element 8—the margins 26'—are substantially exclusively in a common plane to slidably fit into the channels 17, 18 and 19. The fourth margin 27 has its main body likewise arranged in about the same plane but has in addition a forwardly return bent portion 28 of substantially half-circular section, said portion being continued by an angle- or V-section portion having a free arm 29 and an apex 30. As best seen in Fig. 6, the portions 28, 29, 30 act as a latch for the detent or catch 24. The portion 29 may be used as a handle for releasing the latch from the detent.

The cross-sectional rounding of the cooperating bend 24 and apex portion 30, enables these elements to be gradually led into, and removed from, locking relation to each other, by lateral resilient flexure of the latch 27, which flexure is automatically responsive to sliding the members 7 and 8 relative to each other.

The detent or bend 24 and latch 28, 29, 30 therefore constitute a slip release lock against accidental sliding relative movement of the members 7 and 8, but enable both the locking and releasing actions to occur easily and automatically solely in response to such sliding action. The license paper, being completely surrounded by close-fitting water-impervious parts resiliently biased together, is thereby very effectively protected against damage by moisture.

In the modification illustrated in Figure 7, where 7' designates the frame, 8' the rear element, 12' the card, folded license paper or the like and 14' the transparent panel, the frame margin 22' has a forwardly extended detent or catch 24'. The margin 27' has, as in the first embodiment, a forwardly return bent portion 28' of substantially part-circular section continued by an angle- or V-section portion with a free arm 29' and an apex 30'.

In former devices, any known loc kfor the corresponding purpose either requires flexing of certain of the parts laterally of the plane of the device prior to, and necessary for, effecting the sliding release, or entails damaging distortive bending of elements, and is not automatically responsive solely and directly to sliding movement for unlocking the members.

The depressed portion 26 has, in a construction heretofore known, a further rearwardly depressed front opening channel portion 32 of tortuous plan for the reception of a correspondingly tortuous rear leg 31 of the pin 10, to prevent turning of the latter about a lengthwise axis. A guard 33, and a coil 34, of the pin 10, protrude rearwardly from the back member through openings 35 and 36, respectively, in the member, in substantially snap-fastener relation to edges of the openings 35 and 36 for holding the pin in position.

What is claimed is:

1. A holder of the class described having front and back members of substantially rectangular flat plane shape, the front member having a window opening and including marginal channels on three sides facing inwardly of the plane thereof and a fourth side having a rearwardly return bent marginal portion, a transparent panel having three margins thereof seated in said channels and the fourth margin clamped between the fourth side and its said return bent portion, the back member having a main body depressed below the margins thereof to receive a flat member, three margins of said back member being in the same plane and arranged to be slid from the fourth end of the front member into the marginal channels thereof, the fourth side of each of said back and front members being provided with a marginal locking portion cooperating with the locking portion of the other to lock the members together when assembled.

2. A holder of the class described having front and back members of substantially flat plane rectangular shape, the front member constituting a frame having a window opening and marginal channels facing inwardly of the frame in

the plane of the member at three sides thereof and a fourth side having a marginal bend projecting forwardly beyond its front face, a transparent panel having three margins thereof nested in said channels and a fourth margin underlying the fourth side of the front member, the margins of said back member being in about the same plane for sliding three of them in the marginal channels and the fourth margin behind the fourth side of the front member, the fourth margin having a forwardly extending return bend, said marginal portion and said bend of the fourth side of the frame being adapted for slip release locking relation,

3. In a holder of the class described, a front member of substantially rectangular flat plane shape having three edge channels facing inwardly of its plane and a fourth edge area bent forwardly, a rectangular back member having a card receptacle depressed rearwardly from the margins thereof with three of said margins slidably fitting said edge channels and the fourth margin having a portion return bent such that, when the back member is slid into the front member from the fourth edge thereof to operative position, said return bent portion is interlocked in slip release relation to said forwardly bent area.

4. In a relatively thin flat holder of the class described, a front window frame member of resilient thin sheet material of substantially rectangular shape having three edge channels facing inwardly of the frame in the plane of the holder, said channels having front side walls wider than the back side walls and joined by corner portions of the sheet rounded in the plane thereof and turned rearwardly at the outer edges, said corner portions constituting continuations of the front channel sides, the rear channel sides having cut-outs at the corresponding corners, the fourth margin of said member including a rearwardly return bent portion having its bend forwardly extended and constituting a detent, a rear member of thin sheet resilient material of substantially flat plane rectangular shape depressed rearwardly within its margins to accommodate a card between the front and rear members and having three coplanar margins for closely slidably fitting said channels and a fourth margin forwardly return bent of substantially S-section to constitute both a latch for said detent and a handle for releasing the latch from the detent at the front side of the holder, and a transparent panel having three margins for seating in said channels and a fourth margin clamped under said return bent margin of the front member.

5. A holder of the class described having front and back members of substantially flat plane shape, the front member having a window opening and including marginal channels on three sides facing toward the middle of the opening and a fourth side arranged substantially in front of the plane defined by the inner surface of the front walls of said channels, a transparent panel having three margins thereof seated in said channels and its fourth margin covered by said fourth side of the front member, the back member having a main body depressed below the margins thereof to receive a flat member, the margins of said back member being in about the same plane and arranged to be slid from the fourth end of the front member into the marginal channels thereof, the width of said channels being about equal to the combined thickness of the transparent panel and the marginal portions of the back member so as to permit sliding but firmly hold the margins of the transparent panel and of the back member in said channels of the front member.

6. In a relatively thin flat holder of the class described, a front window frame member having three edge channels facing toward the center of the frame, and fourth generally flat side arranged substantially in front of the plane defined by the rear face of the front walls of said channels, a substantially flat rear member of a shape in plane view corresponding to the outlines of the front member, said rear member being depressed rearwardly within all its margins to accommodate a card between the front and rear members and having three coplanar margins for closely slidably fitting said channels and a fourth margin forwardly return bend constituting a channel adapted to receive slidingly said fourth side of the front member.

7. In a relatively thin flat holder of the class described, a transparent panel, a front window frame member having three edge channels facing inwardly of the frame in the plane of the holder, the fourth side of said front member being generally flat, a substantially flat rear member of thin sheet material of a shape corresponding to the shape of said front member being depressed rearwardly within its margins to accommodate a card between the front and rear members and having three coplanar narrow margins, the width of said channels being about equal to the combined thickness of one of said three margins of the rear member and of said transparent panel for closely slidably fitting said channels, a fourth margin of said rear member being forwardly return bent so as to slidably receive the said fourth side of said front member and the adjacent margin of the transparent panel.

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