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COIN HOLDER

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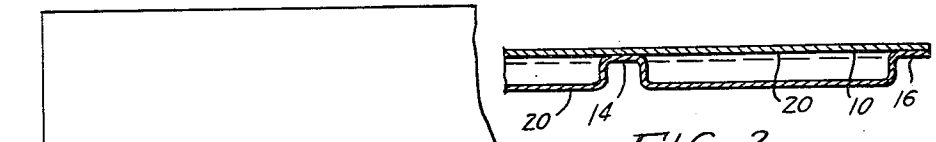


FIG. 2

FIG. 1

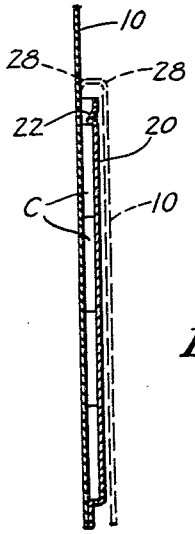


FIG. 3

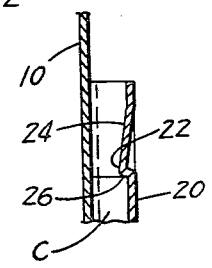


FIG. 4

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COIN HOLDER

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1 Claim. (Cl. 206—.83)

This invention relates to a coin holder, and more particularly has reference to a disposable, inexpensive coin holder so designed as to hold a given number of coins in such a manner that said coins will be held in a flat, divided receptacle, and will be visible within said receptacle.

Heretofore, single use coin holders or wrappers, such as those used by banks, have generally taken the form of paper tubes being crimped against opposite ends of the stacked coins. These have been relatively inconvenient to handle, and in addition the stack of coins is not visible. Further, the paper tubes generally have not permitted the more or less automatic totalling of the coins held thereby, that is, one must count the coins before inserting them in the paper tube and, after the coins have been placed in the tube, it is not possible to know whether the exact number of coins that are supposed to be in the tube are, in actuality, held thereby, unless, perhaps, relatively expensive weighing devices are used.

The main object of the present invention is to provide a coin holder which can be used in substitution of the paper tubes or other conventional wrappers presently employed, through the provision of a design of coin holders that will be so inexpensive as to permit its manufacture at little or no increase in cost above that required for the wrappers presently in use.

Another object is to provide a coin holder which, though capable of manufacture at a very low cost, will still permit full visibility of the coins, so that by a single glance at the holder one can immediately determine whether the proper number of coins totalling a given sum, is supported by the holder.

Another object is to provide a coin wrapper or holder which will be not only designed to permit full visibility of the coins for the purpose given above, but also, will be designed to permit insertion of the coins up to a given number thereof, that is up to a given total of money, without requiring the counting of the coins.

Still another object of importance is to provide a holder of the type referred to which, merely by insertion of the coins, will automatically insure against the coins accidentally falling from the holder, until such time as they are to be removed.

Still another object is to provide a coin holder which will permit removal of the coins merely by tearing of one component of the holder away from another component, in a single movement that will permit all the coins to be released. In this way, it is proposed that the holder be readily adapted for use in situations where large numbers of the holders must be opened for release of the coins, this being true, for example, in large banks or other financial institutions.

Another object of importance is to provide a coin holder of the type referred to that will be particularly adapted for mailing of coins, the holder being so designed as to support all the coins in a flat array, with

the holder being shaped to be inserted in a conventional envelope and being so designed as to be little thicker than the thickness of any one of the coins.

Other objects will appear from the following description, the claim appended thereto, and from the annexed drawing, in which like reference characters designate like parts throughout the several views, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a front elevational view of a coin holder formed according to the present invention, a portion of the holder being broken away, the holder being in open position;

Figure 2 is an enlarged sectional view on line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view on line 3—3 of Figure 1, the dotted lines showing the backing piece folded over the receptacle portion of the holder; and

Figure 4 is an enlarged, detail sectional view, on a scale larger than that used in Figure 3, taken on line 4—4 of Figure 1.

Designated at 10 is a rectangular backing piece, which can be formed of paper in a preferred embodiment of the invention. Secured to the backing piece and overlying an area slightly less than half the total area of the backing piece is a receptacle member 12, in the form of a single sheet of very thin plastic, such as an acetate plastic, said sheet being transparent over its entire area to permit full visibility of coins C confined between the receptacle member and the backing piece 10.

The receptacle member is of a width equal to that of the backing piece, and has its side edges in registration with those of the backing piece, with the bottom edge of the receptacle member being in registration with the bottom edge of the backing piece. The sheet of plastic used in forming the receptacle member is pressed in a manner to form a plurality of elongated, closely spaced pocket members, closed at their lower ends. The lower ends of the pocket members are spaced closely from the bottom edge of the receptacle member, so that the receptacle member is wholly flat through its full width along its bottom edge as shown at 12. Said flat bottom edge of the receptacle member is adhesively secured to the bottom edge portion of the backing piece 10.

As shown to particular advantage in Figures 1 and 2, at uniformly spaced intervals along the length of the receptacle member, the receptacle member has narrow, elongated indented portions 14, bearing against the backing piece, and at opposite ends of the receptacle member there are flange portions 16 coplanar with the indented or inwardly offset portions 14. The flange portions 16, accordingly, are also in contact with the backing piece, and if desired, the inwardly offset portions 14 and the flange portions 16 may under some circumstances be left free of direct connections to the backing piece. Under other circumstances, and in the illustrated embodiment, the adhesive is employed to connect the flange portions 16 and the inwardly offset portions 14 lightly to the backing piece.

The bottom edge portion 18 of the receptacle member, as shown, merges into the inwardly offset portions 14 and the side flange portion 16, and is coplanar therewith, in contact with the flat backing piece 10, and thus there are provided pocket members 20 each of a length to hold a given number of coins C of a particular denomination, said pocket members having rounded, closed lower ends in a preferred embodiment, although the rounding of the lower ends of the pocket members is not critical to the successful operation of the invention.

At their upper ends, the pocket members are formed, intermediate opposite side edges thereof, with inwardly

struck lugs **22** each of which may be approximately semicircular in outer configuration as shown in Figure 1, said lugs having sloping surfaces inclined slightly relative to the plane of the backing piece as shown at **24**, said sloping surfaces merging at their inner ends into steep abutment surfaces **26** approximately normal to the plane of the backing piece so as to engage the uppermost one of the row of coins C confined in the pocket defined between the pocket member and the backing piece.

At the inner end of the sloping wall **24** of the lug **22**, the distance between the lug and the backing piece **10** is slightly less than the normal thickness of a coin C (see Figures 3 and 4) and accordingly, when a coin is inserted, it will cause the pocket member to be biased outwardly from the backing piece **10** to an extent sufficient to permit the coin to pass the lug, the pocket member being possessed of an inherent resiliency which will cause it to swing back into its normal position with the abutment **26** standing in the way of reverse movement of the coin. As the coin is inserted, it exerts a cam action against the sloping surface **24**, which is disposed obliquely to the path of movement of the coin into the pocket.

It will be seen that a given number of coins of a particular denomination are insertable in each pocket, and it will further be noted that after all the pockets are filled, the total number of coins is determined at a glance, so that not only is it unnecessary to count the coins before insertion in the holder, but also, after the holder is filled, the sum of money represented by the several coins is immediately determined. For example, in the illustrated holder, it may be assumed that the coins C are quarters, and that the holder is to hold six dollars in quarters. When the six pockets are filled with quarters, the holder will be supporting six dollars in quarters, and verification of the total is made merely by visual observation of the holder with the backing piece in its open position shown in Figure 1.

When the holder is completely filled, the backing piece is folded along lines **28**, over the pocket member, so as to completely cover the pocket member as shown in dotted lines in Figure 3.

With the backing piece folded over the pocket member, the entire holder can be mailed in a conventionally sized envelope. Further, a number of the holders can be placed one upon another in a flat stack.

The holder is designed for a single use, and accordingly, when the coins are to be removed, one need merely grasp one or more of the pocket members at the upper end thereof, and exert a pulling force in a direction away from the backing piece, thus tearing the pocket member away from the backing piece, as a result of which all the coins are released. Thus, the holder is not particularly intended for use as a coin bank or the like, and is intended, rather, for use in situations in which the ordinary paper tube type of holder is presently employed.

It is believed clear that the invention is not necessarily confined to the specific use or uses thereof described above, since it may be utilized for any purpose to which it may be suited. Nor is the invention to be necessarily limited to the specific construction illustrated and described, since such construction is only intended to be illustrative of the principles of operation and the means presently devised to carry out said principles, it being considered that the invention comprehends any minor changes in construction that may be permitted within the scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

A coin holder comprising a thin, flexible backing sheet; and a receptacle member overlying said backing sheet and having a connection to the backing sheet adapted to permit full separation of the receptacle member from the backing sheet, said receptacle member being formed with a plurality of outwardly offset, elongated pocket members cooperating with the backing sheet in defining a plurality of side by side pockets, said pockets being closed at one end and being formed open at their other ends for insertion of a plurality of coins, the pocket members adjacent the open ends thereof having inwardly struck lugs forming abutments limiting the coins against movement out of the pocket members, whereby to effect release of the coins responsive primarily to full separation of the receptacle member from the backing sheet, said lugs including elongated, sloping surfaces disposed obliquely to the plane of the backing sheet to provide cam surfaces against which the coins will bear when inserted in the pockets, the pocket members being of a resilient material so as to be biased outwardly to permit passage of the coins past the lugs, said sloped surfaces merging into short abutment surfaces disposed approximately normally to the plane of the backing piece to prevent retrograde movement of the coins out of the pocket members.

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