Jan. 3, 1967 D. GOLD 3,295,755

COIN COLLECTION BOX

Filed May 24, 1965 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

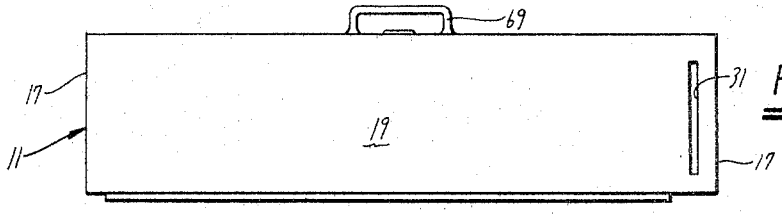
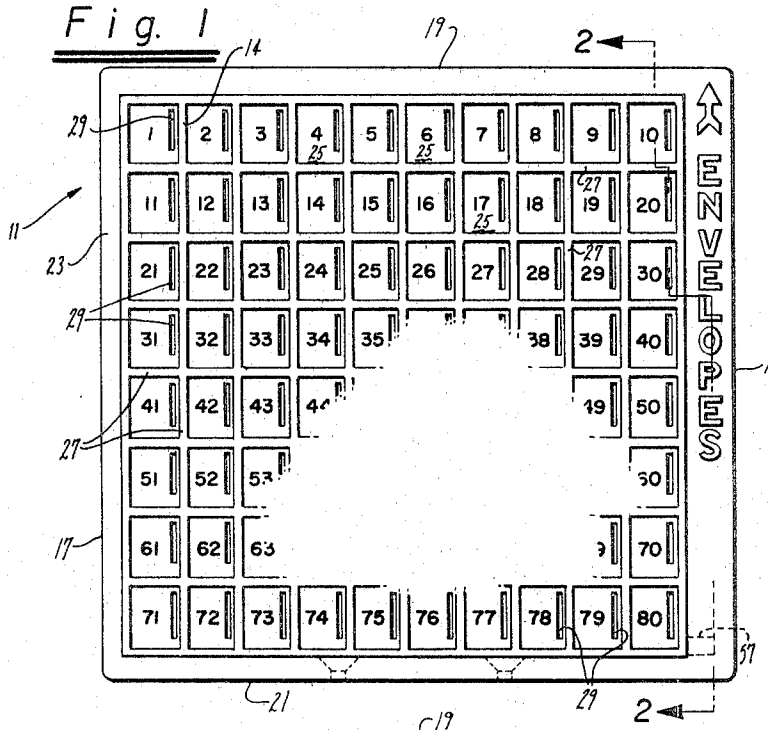


Fig. 3

Fig. 1



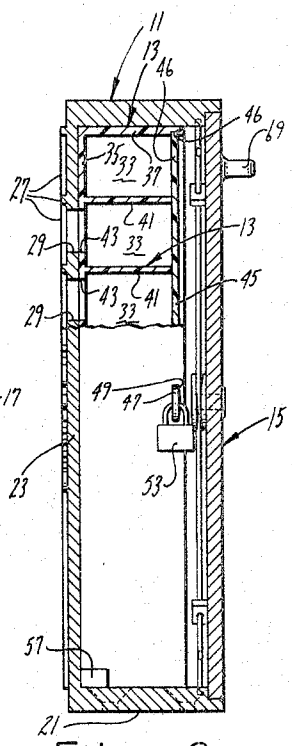


Fig. 2

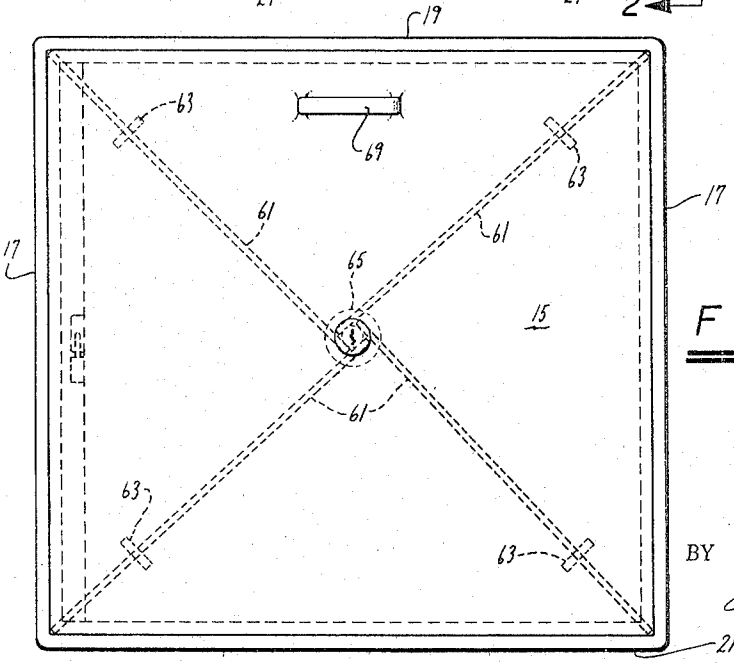


Fig. 4

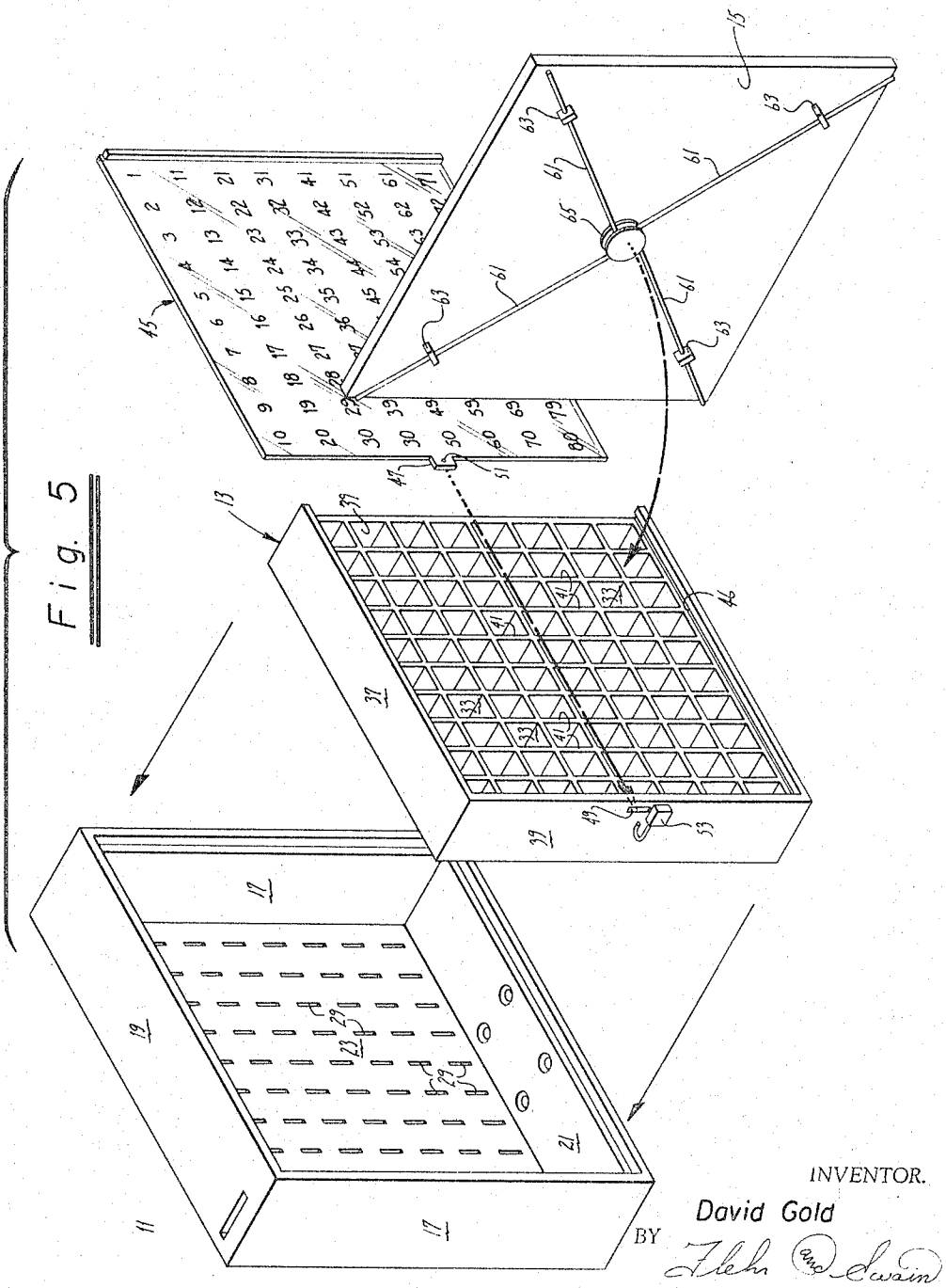
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Jan. 3, 1967 D. GOLD 3,295,755

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Filed May 24, 1965 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 5



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COIN COLLECTION BOX

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2 Claims. (Cl. 232—1)

This invention relates to a coin collection box and particularly to such a box adapted for use in self-service parking lots.

Heretofore, it has been customary to utilize self-service coin receiving boxes which dispense a tag noticed as a parking permit. The patron is required to place the permit in the interior of his vehicle so that it can be seen from the outside. In checking for vehicles parked without permits, the attendant must pass by each vehicle in the lot and ascertain whether there is a permit displayed therein. This is not only time consuming but often leads to difficulties with patrons who have not displayed their permits properly.

In general, it is an object of the invention to provide an improved coin collection box which overcomes the above mentioned difficulties.

It is another object of the invention to provide a coin collection box of the above character which is adapted to receive coin deposits and to maintain the deposits in an ordered array which will identify each deposit with a particular parking stall.

Another object of the invention is to provide a coin collection box of the above character which can be easily checked to determine whether all the patrons have made deposits without the need for inspecting the parked vehicles.

Another object of the invention is to provide a coin collection box of the above character which does not require a tag parking permit and thereby eliminates the need for patrons to display such a tag.

These and other objects and features of the invention will be apparent from the following description of the invention and from the accompanying drawing of which:

FIGURE 1 is a front elevational view of a coin collection box constructed according to the invention.

FIGURE 2 is a cross-sectional view taken along the lines 2—2 of FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 3 is a top plan view of the coin collection box shown in FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 4 is a rear elevational view of the coin collection box of FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 5 is an exploded isometric view of the coin collection box of FIGURE 1.

Referring to the figures, the collection box of the invention includes an outer box or shell **11**, an inner partitioning member **13** adapted to fit within the outer box **11**, and a removable back cover **15** for securing the partitioning member with the box **11**.

The outer shell or box **11** is constructed with sidewalls **17**, a top wall **19**, a bottom wall **21**, and a front wall **23**. The walls forming the box are joined to form an integral unit, which can be in one piece as by casting.

One portion of the front wall **23** is divided into an array of spaces **25** by a grid of ridges **27** running vertically and horizontally on the front face of the wall. The spaces **25** are designated, such as by alphameric notation, so as to correspond with designations of the stalls in the parking lot. At each space **25** there is provided a slot **29** for permitting coins to pass into the box. The other portion of the front wall designates a space within the box **11** for receiving envelopes and is so marked. An envelope slot **31** is formed in the top wall **19** for permitting such envelopes to be deposited within the box.

The interior of the box is subdivided by the partitioning member **13** into a plurality of cells **33** which are arranged in an array to correspond with the array of spaces **25** in the front wall of the box. The partitioning member **13** comprises a front wall **35**, top wall **37**, bottom, and side walls **39**, and a plurality of interior walls **41** which divide the member into the cells **33**. The walls **41** are dimensioned to lie behind the ridges **27** in the front wall of the box. The front wall **35** of the partitioning member is constructed with a plurality of slots **43** which are arranged to lie in registry with the slots **29** in the front wall of the box so that coins passed through the latter are deposited into the corresponding cell **33** within the partitioning member.

The partitioning member is closed with a removable back plate **45** constructed of a transparent material such as clear plastic and interfitting with the back of the partitioning member by sliding in grooves **46** formed in the top and bottom walls of the member **13**. The back plate **45** is provided with a tab **47** at one side thereof which is adapted to pass into a slot **49** in the sidewall of the partitioning member. The tab **47** has a hole **51** through which a padlock **53** may be passed to lockably retain the back plate **45** to the partitioning member **31**. Alphameric indicia are printed on the back plate **45** (FIGURE 5) in reverse sequence to the alphameric indicia on the front wall of the box.

The partitioning member **31** is made narrower than the interior of the box so that when inserted therein there is a space **56** at its side to accommodate the lock **53** and any envelopes deposited through slot **31**. A spacer **57** is mounted to the inner side of the bottom wall of the box for maintaining the partitioning member **13** in correct alignment with the box **11**.

The back cover **15** of the box **11** is provided with rods **61** for locking the cover **15** to the box **11**. Each of the rods **61** is supported intermediate its ends on a guide **63** mounted to the inside of the cover. Lockable post means **65** is mounted for rotation at the center of the cover. One end of each of the rods **61** is pivoted to the post **65** at points spaced from the post's axis so that rotation of the latter is converted into axial linear motion of the rods **61** toward or away from the center of the cover **15**. The sidewalls of the box are provided with recesses **67** each of which is positioned and dimensioned to receive a locking rod when the same is moved radially outward by the turning of the post means **65**. A handle **69** is attached to the cover so that it can easily be removed from or installed into the shell **11**.

The operation of the coin collection box of the invention is as follows. Let it be assumed that all the members of the box are positioned together and that the attendant is about to check the deposits. A suitable key is provided to open the back wall of the box by turning the post means and decoupling the locking rods from the shell, after which the back cover can easily be removed. The attendant merely compares the occupied stalls in the parking lot with the deposits in the partitioning member which deposits he can easily view through the clear plastic back wall. If a stall is found occupied and no deposit lies in the corresponding cell for that stall, it is instantly evident by inspection of the respective cell at the collection box.

The partitioning member **13**, together with its contents, can then be removed from the box and a replacement partitioning member inserted. Alternatively, the same partitioning member can be emptied and repositioned.

From the foregoing, it will be apparent that my new coin collection box will save much time and effort on the part of parking lot attendants and patrons. Attendants will be able to check deposits against parked vehicles

easily and without inspecting each vehicle for tags; and patrons will be able to use a variety of coinage (instead of the fixed set of coins required by push-slide devices heretofore known). Furthermore, the patron can park first and pay on the way out, heretofore not possible, without going back to his vehicle to mount a parking permit.

To those skilled in the art to which this invention relates, many changes and different embodiments of the invention will suggest themselves without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. For example, although the description and drawings herein relate primarily to a construction in which both the outer box and the inner partitioning member have front walls, it is contemplated that the outer box could be provided with only a grid or only a shoulder to retain the partitioning member, the latter being opaque and designated by suitable alphameric notation. Accordingly, it should be understood that the disclosures and description herein are illustrative of the preferred embodiment and use of the invention and are not intended to be limited thereby.

I claim:

1. A collection box for receiving coins comprising an outer box having front, top, bottom and side walls, the front wall being divided into an array of vertically and horizontally extending alphamerically identified spaces by a grid network running vertically and horizontally on the front face of the wall, said front wall having a plurality of slots therethrough, one slot for each alphamerically identified space, a second inner box adapted to be removably disposed within the interior of said outer box, said second box having front, top, bottom and side walls and a plurality of interior walls therein ranged to provide coin receiving cells in registry with the spaces on the front wall of the outer box, the front wall of said inner box having a plurality of slots therethrough, one slot provided for each cell and so arranged that when the inner box is disposed within the outer box, the cells in the front walls of each respective box are in alignment so that a coin may be passed therethrough and into the cell within said inner box, the back wall of said inner box being adapted for movement between open and closed positions for permitting access to the interior of said inner box, and including means for locking said back wall to said inner box, and a back wall or cover adapted to close the back of the outer box and including means for lockably securing the cover to the outer box.

2. A collection box as in claim **1** in which said back plate is constructed of a clear transparent material, and said back plate being provided with alphameric indicia thereon arranged in reverse sequence to that of the alphameric indicia on the front wall of the outer box so that coin receiving cells are identifiable and their interiors visible from the rear of the collection box when the cover is removed.

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