

E. F. STONE.
INDICATING COIN HOLDER FOR TELEPHONE USERS.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 14, 1909.

941,824.

Patented Nov. 30, 1909.

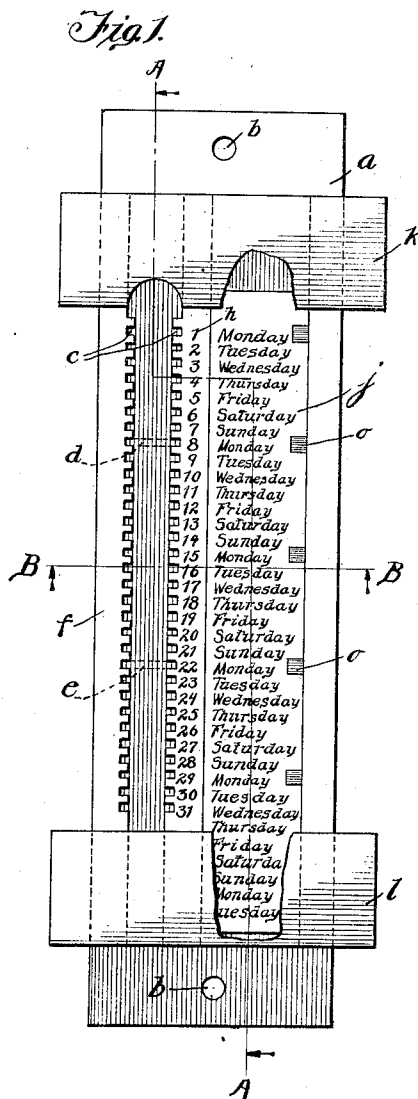


Fig. 2.

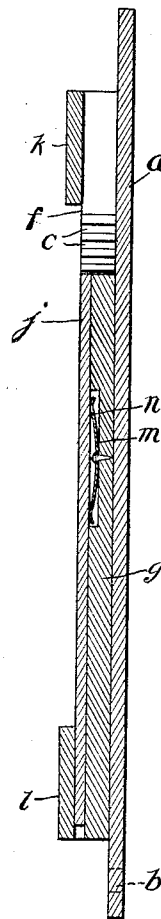
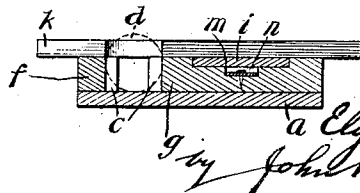


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
D. D. Perry
W. P. Kilroy

Inventor:
Elijah Jordan Stone,
by John Howard McElroy
his atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELIJAH FORDYCE STONE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

INDICATING COIN-HOLDER FOR TELEPHONE-USERS.

941,824.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 30, 1909.

Application filed January 14, 1909. Serial No. 472,180.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELIJAH FORDYCE STONE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Indicating Coin-Holders for Telephone-Users, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact specification.

My invention is concerned with a novel coin or token holder adapted to be used with coin in the slot telephones where said telephones are contracted for on the basis of so many calls within a certain period of time, and if the user is behind when the collector calls he has to pay the deficit, for which payment he gets no service. It is therefore of value to the user to have some coin or token holder to be used in connection therewith that will enable him to tell at a glance how his account stands so that if he sees he is running behind about the time the collector is to be expected he may make some extra calls so as to balance his account and prevent the likelihood of having to pay for calls which he has not had. A very common form of such contract is where the contractor deposits a nickel or token in the slot for each call and guarantees a call a day and the collection is made once a month, and accordingly, I have shown my holder as arranged especially for such a contract, although it will be understood that it might be modified for any similar contract with either a definite coin to be deposited, or with a definite number of calls guaranteed, or with the collections made at longer or shorter intervals.

To illustrate my invention, I annex hereto a sheet of drawings, in which the same reference characters are used to designate identical parts in all the figures, of which,

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my holder in its preferred form; Fig. 2 is a vertical section on the line A-A of Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 is a horizontal section on the line B-B, of Fig. 1.

In carrying out my invention, I provide some suitable base *a* which supports the holders proper, and which is preferably provided with one or more apertures *b*, by which it can be suspended or secured in a vertical position at some convenient place adjacent the telephone. I preferably employ an individual holder for each fractional period of the time between collections, as, for in-

stance, a holder for each day of the month in the ordinary contract above described. These holders are preferably formed by the pairs of opposed recesses *c*, which are adapted to have a coin inserted therein, as indicated in dotted lines at *d* and at *e*. These recesses are conveniently formed in the strips *f* and *g*, which are secured to, or might be made integral with the base *a*. On one of the strips, preferably *g*, I place the numerals *h*, which indicate the days of the month, and there is one numeral opposite each of the holders, and there are 31 of the holders to correspond with the longest months of the year.

It is convenient to employ in connection with the numeral index, a calendar index, which preferably consists of the strip *j* mounted to slide in the correspondingly shaped groove formed in the surface of the strip *g*, and held therein by any suitable means, such as the cross-pieces *k* and *l*, to the strips *f* and *g*. In order to make this calendar index suitable for a perpetual calendar, it is provided with the names of the days of the week repeated five or more times and spaced apart a distance equal to the distance between the numerals *h*. A leaf spring *m*, located in a recess *n* in the strip *g*, or some other suitable retaining means, is employed to produce a friction on the strip *j* and hold it in any position to which it may be adjusted. This strip may be provided with the indicating marks *o* opposite each of some of the days of the week, such as Monday, in order to conveniently divide the calendar strip into weeks. The whole construction may be gotten up in any artistic and ornamental manner that may be desired. The method of operating the same will be readily apparent.

Supposing the collector has made a call on the 8th of the month, the user may insert a coin in the holder opposite the numeral 8, and place another conveniently beneath and then move it down one step for every call that he makes. The calendar strip, if it is employed, will, of course, be adjusted so that the days of the week correspond to the days of the month for that particular month. As the month advances, the indicating token at *e* will be moved down, and if a call a day is made, on the 22d it should be at the position shown. If the user gets behind, it will be noticed by

the position of this coin *e*, and likewise, it will be apparent if he gets ahead of the required number of calls. When the 8th of the next month approaches, if the token *e* is not well up toward the token *d*, the user will know that he should make some extra calls if he desires to take no chances of the collector coming before he has brought his number of calls up to the number contracted for. Of course, it will be understood that instead of using a single token *e*, the user might, after each call by the collector, fill up the entire set of holders with coins, and then the number of coins remaining will indicate how many calls should be made before the expected arrival of the collector.

While I have shown and described my invention as embodied in the form which I consider best adapted to carry out its purposes, it will be understood that it is capable of modifications, and that I do not desire to be limited in the interpretation of the following claims; except as may be necessitated by the state of the prior art.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is:

1. In a device for the purposes described, the combination with a base adapted to be supported in a vertical position and having a column of token holder recesses therein, each adapted to hold a single coin or token by its edge in a horizontal position so that it can be withdrawn at any time without disturbing the others, of an index associated therewith consisting of consecutive arranged numerals for each recess together with the days of the week associated with said numerals.

2. In a device for the purpose described, the combination with a base, of a plurality of token holders thereon each adapted to hold coins or tokens to a fixed amount representing the number to be used during a fractional period, the combined capacity of the token holders representing an amount to be paid at each collection covering a unit period, and an index associated therewith

consisting of a stationary member carrying numerals for the days of the month with a numeral corresponding to each holder, and a movable member carrying the days of the week repeated a plurality of times and adjustable relative to the days of the month.

3. In a device for the purpose described, the combination with a base, of a pair of recessed strips associated therewith having their recesses opposed to receive coins or tokens, each pair of recesses adapted to hold coins or tokens to a fixed amount representing the number to be used during a fractional period, the combined capacity of the recesses representing an amount to be paid at each collection covering a unit period, said strips being provided with numerals for the days of the month corresponding to each pair of opposed recesses, and a member movable adjacent the numerals and having marked thereon the days of the week.

4. In a device for the purpose described, the combination with a base, of a pair of recessed strips associated therewith having their recesses opposed to receive coins or tokens, each pair of recesses adapted to hold coins or tokens to a fixed amount representing the number to be used during a fractional period, the combined capacity of the recesses representing an amount to be paid at each collection covering a unit period, said strips being provided with numerals for the days of the month corresponding to each pair of opposed recesses, a member movable adjacent the numerals and having marked thereon the days of the week, and means for retaining said member in any position of adjustment.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal, this 8th day of January, A. D. 1909.

ELIJAH FORDYCE STONE. [L.s.]

Witnesses:

JOHN HOWARD McELROY,
F. E. BROM.