Dec. 1, 1959 R. W. WOLKE 2,915,178

TICKET HOLDING APPARATUS

Filed March 10, 1953

Fig. 1.

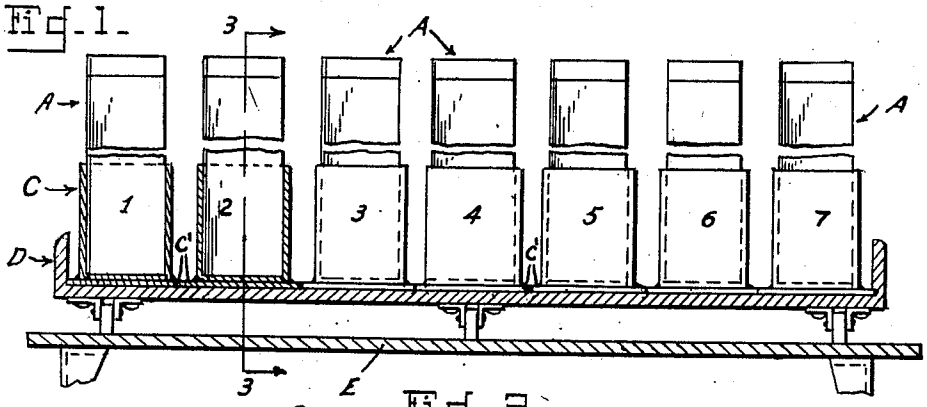
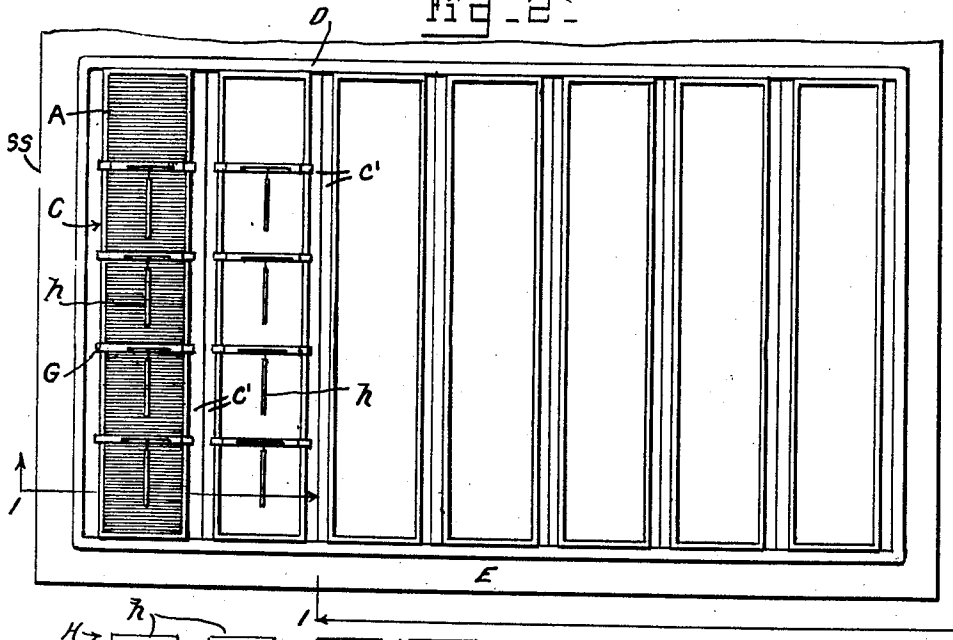


Fig. 2.



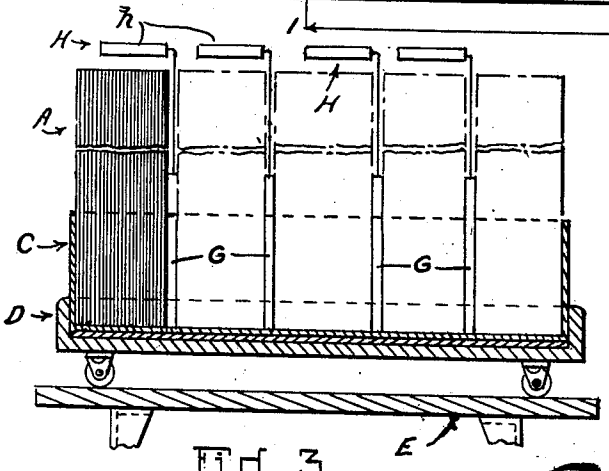


Fig. 3.

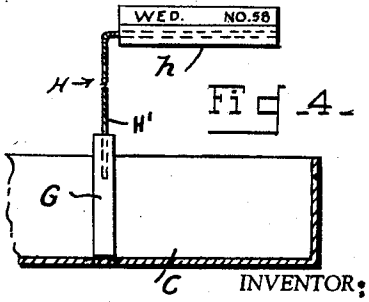


Fig. 4.

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TICKET HOLDING APPARATUS

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5 Claims. (Cl. 206—73)

This invention relates to a ticket holding apparatus designed for use in storing and dispensing space reservation tickets for issuance by railroads and other passenger transport concerns giving to their passengers, for a stipulated consideration, the right to travel in reserved spaces in a railroad car or other vehicle between travel points.

An object of this invention is to provide apparatus for holding large numbers of tickets of several different kinds, that is, corresponding to different space reservations, respectively, maintained separated having sign devices mounted thereon indicating the kind of tickets contained adjacent the separator and which sign devices are liftable, pivoted, or bendable to allow ready access to the tickets.

A further object of this invention is to provide containers of the above type which can be used together on a flat surface and are provided with means for maintaining a fixed minimum spacing between the containers proper.

In the accompanying drawing exemplificately showing certain means for carrying my invention into practical effect,

Fig. 1 is a front end elevation, partly in longitudinal section taken on line 1—1 of Fig. 2, of a ticket holding and dispensing apparatus and tickets stacked therein in accordance with my invention;

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the same;

Fig. 3 is a transverse section of the same taken substantially on line 3—3 of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 4 is a detail fragmentary section through one of the containers, showing one of the dividers and an associated indicating arm.

The ticket containers C, of which seven in number are shown in the present instance, may be of any suitable form, but are herein shown as narrow, elongated, drawer-like receptacles having each a bottom wall, shallow side walls and front and rear end walls and open at the top to allow the coupon portions of the tickets A to project upward therefrom for ready inspection, insertion and removal of the tickets. These containers which may be similar to card index file holders or drawers, and which are numbered from 1 to 7, inclusive, are mounted side by side on the rack in regular order from left to right or right to left with their forward ends facing the ticket seller's side of the table or counter E, and are intended to respectively hold groups or stacks of tickets A dated and valid for use on successive days. For facilitating, observing and handling of the tickets it is desirable that the containers or holders C arranged in racks D be maintained in laterally spaced relation and for this purpose the containers are provided with laterally extending spacing projections which in the embodiment represented are in the form of flanges C'. The seven holders 1—7, arranged as shown in the drawings, are designed to hold tickets dated to successively cover days for a period of one week, although any number of them may be used to cover any desired longer period. Each container may

hold a stack or row of groups of tickets amounting in all to 600 or 700 tickets, more or less, to cover all space accommodations of a vehicle or trains departing from a starting terminal or station on a given day. The containers and/or indicators used in connection therewith may bear dates corresponding to the dates of the tickets stored therein. The arrangement is thus such that the containers serve as a movable calendar, so that at the close of any working day the first container positioned adjacent to and parallel with the front side of the table and movable by the rack relative to the sales point SS and from which the tickets dated that day have been sold, may be removed from the rack and the remaining containers on the rack shifted forward to bring the next succeeding container into selling position. Another container stacked with tickets may be fitted in the rack to take the place of No. 7 of the series which has been moved forwardly in the described shift of the containers. By this means "today's" tickets will always be in the same position (the selling point) on the table.

The groups of tickets A held in a container C and applying to the cars of different trains are or may be separated in appropriate order by metal dividers G. Each of these dividers supports a pivoted or bendable sign device H comprising a staff H' carrying a sign element or plate *h* having the time of departure and number of the train covered by the underlying group of tickets. The sign plate *h* is normally arranged to extend longitudinally of the container a short distance above the group of tickets and the staff H is so constructed and mounted as to adapt the plate *h* to be lifted to a higher level if desired and to a non-interfering position laterally of the container out of overhanging position relative to the group of tickets to allow the ticket seller to conveniently inspect and remove tickets from and apply tickets to the group in conducting sales transactions. The construction of the container and signal device to adapt it to be supported and operated in the manner described may vary but, as shown in the present instance, the staff H' is L-shaped and includes a vertical portion and a horizontal portion to which the sign plate *h* is suitably secured. The normally horizontal part of the staff is pivotable about a vertical axis or bendable, allowing the sign device to be moved from its normal indicating position out of the way of the hands of the ticket seller when employed to manipulate the tickets. A simple upward sliding movement of the signal device may be all that is necessary at times to allow the ticket seller to inspect and apply or remove a ticket, but, if not, the ticket seller may move the indicator outward to a more or less non-interfering position by swinging the device outwardly on its pivot and/or bending the pliable staff outward to a required degree. When the inspection or sales operation is completed the ticket seller moves the signal device back to its normal indicating position. It will be understood that this type of signal device or indicator permits access to and manipulation of tickets from a side of a container forming sales station SS, but that in order to inspect tickets and to remove a ticket for sale and return the detached stub to the container file, the ticket seller must mave the indicator to a non-interfering position, which can be done with facility by the use of a container of the type described. This construction of signal or sign device further allows quick location and manipulation of a desired group of tickets and minimizes mis-filing.

While the construction of means disclosed is one well adapted for the purpose, it is to be understood that it is merely exemplificative of means for the purpose which may be used, and that any equivalent means, coming within the scope of the appended claims may be em-

ployed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim:

1. A railway or other vehicle space reservation ticket holding apparatus for use in dispensing tickets in the selling thereof comprising, in combination an elongated channeled ticket container having vertically arranged longitudinally extending side walls spaced apart at a width to accommodate closely the tickets to be dispensed when disposed sidewise in said container, dividers extending transversely across said container in longitudinally spaced positions forming separate spaces for individual groups of the tickets, said dividers having sign-carrying devices removably mounted in said dividers, said devices carrying signs overhanging the position of the groups of tickets to which they correspond, respectively, in superposed relation, said sign-carrying devices being mounted in said dividers for movement of the signs out of position above said tickets to provide free access to the tickets and back into superposed relation to their respective groups of tickets for indicating purposes.

2. Apparatus according to claim 1 and in which said containers are provided with laterally extending projections serving to space containers apart when disposed side by side to provide ample room for observing and manipulating tickets disposed in the containers.

3. Apparatus according to claim 1, and in which said sign-carrying devices are bendable.

4. Apparatus according to claim 1, in which said sign-carrying devices are pivoted pivotable about a vertical axis.

5. Apparatus according to claim 1, and in which said sign-carrying devices are liftable out of the dividers.

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