Dec. 26, 1944. R. I. PARTRIDGE 2,365,836

CHIP HOLDER

Filed March 10, 1944

Fig. 2

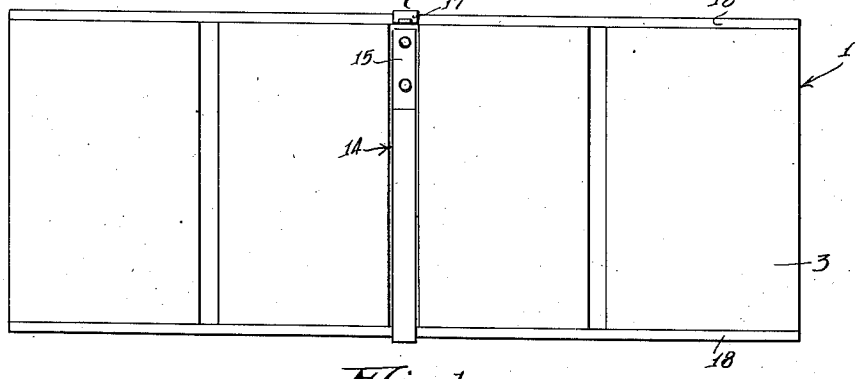


Fig. 1

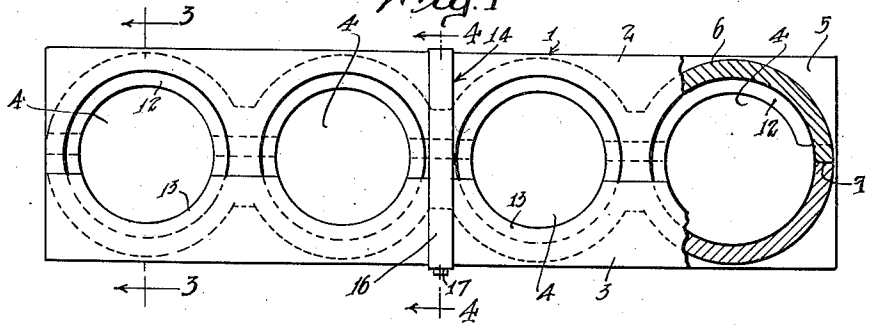


Fig. 3

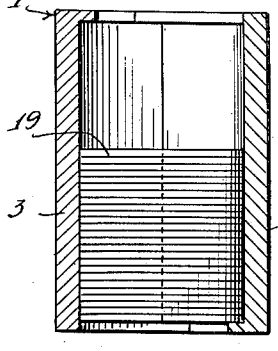


Fig. 4

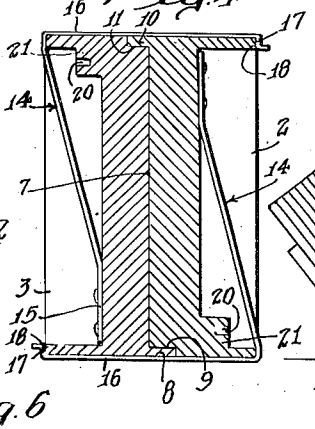


Fig. 5

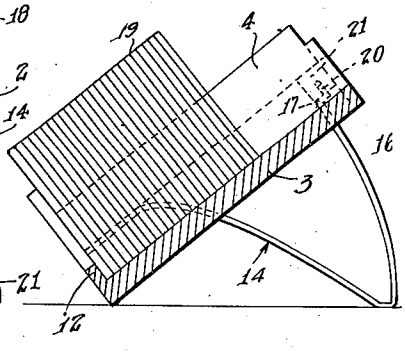
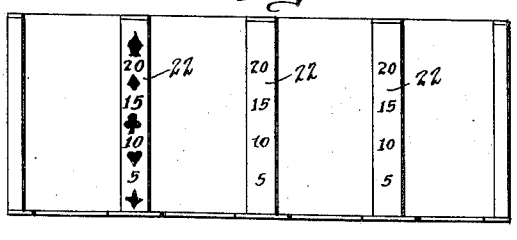


Fig. 6



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CHIP HOLDER

Robert I. Partridge, Arcadia, Calif.

Application March 10, 1944, Serial No. 525,835

6 Claims. (Cl. 211—49)

This invention relates to a holder for chips, coins or similar articles, and the invention is particularly useful when embodied in a holder for carrying chips such as poker chips, or similar chips, used in playing any game.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a holder in which stacks of chips of different colors or denominations can be conveniently carried, and to construct the holder of separate sections so constructed that when desired, the sections can be separated from each other, and set up in a convenient manner to hold the chips in accessible stacks.

A further object of the invention is to produce a holder of this kind, composed of two substantially identical sections having a correlated construction on their adjacent faces, enabling them to interlock with each other to form compartments for carrying the chips, to provide the same with simple detachable means for latching the sections together to form the complete holder; also to construct latching means in such a way as to enable the same to assume a set position in which it will operate as a foot or rest to support each section independently, and in a position to hold the chips readily accessible in recesses on the face of the section.

Further objects of the invention will appear hereinafter.

The invention consists in the novel parts and combination of parts to be described hereinafter, all of which contribute to produce an efficient chip holder.

A preferred embodiment of the invention is described in the following specification, while the broad scope of the invention is pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a plan of a holder embodying the invention, one end of the figure being broken away and shown in cross-section.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the holder.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section taken through the holder on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a vertical section through the holder taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a vertical section through one of the separable sections, showing the same set up and holding a stack of chips in an accessible position.

Fig. 6 is an elevation showing one of the inside or adjacent faces of one of the separable sections.

In practicing the invention, I provide a holder 1 (see Fig. 1) which comprises two separable sections 2 and 3. These sections are preferably substantially identical in construction. The holder is formed with a plurality of chip compartments 4 which, in the present instance, are four in number. The complete holder is of block-form, but the outer or remote sides of the sections 2 and 3 are cut away to form deep grooves 5 to save material, and reduce the weight of the holder. In this way, the holder is made to present cylindrical walls 6 (see Fig. 1) at the different compartments.

These sections 2 and 3 are constructed to be separable from each other so as to be set up to hold chips independently of each other (see Fig. 5). In order to enable the sections to be locked together to form a closed holder and, at the same time, to render them readily separable in this way, I prefer to form the adjacent vertical faces 7 of the sections (see Fig. 4) with interlocking means to limit the relative movement of the sections on each other. In order to accomplish this and, at the same time, to provide supporting means for the chips in the separated sections, I provide the lower face of the section 3 with projecting tongues 8 located between the chip chambers 4, and these tongues are countersunk in corresponding grooves 9 in the lower face of the section 2. At the upper side of the holder a similar construction is employed as indicated in Fig. 4, in which 10 indicates one of the projecting tongues, and 11 indicates the countersunk groove to receive the same. The material of the sections that form the upper and lower faces of the complete holder, extends outwardly to provide projecting means such as flanges 12 and 13 that project inwardly around the bore of the compartments 4. These flanges operate as shelves to support the chips, and prevent their falling out of the compartments 4 when the holder is being carried full of chips.

I provide readily detachable means for securing the holder sections together in the relation indicated in Fig. 4. For this purpose I prefer to employ light bands or latch bars 14 of spring material. Each of these latch bars 14 is preferably formed with a foot 15 that is secured to the remote or outer face of its corresponding section (see Fig. 4), and the attachment is preferably made at the bottom of one of the grooves 5. In the present construction I illustrate two of these latch bars 14 that are attached at the middle of the body. Each latch bar has a substantially straight extension 16 that extends across the upper face or the lower face of the body, as illustrated in Fig. 4, and is provided at its end with a tongue or snap shoulder 17, which is adapted

to snap over the adjacent edge 18 of the opposite section. When these shoulders 17 are snapped over the edges 18, the holder sections are securely held together.

When it is desired to open up the holder and set up the sections so as to enable the chips to be used in play, the ends of the extensions 16 are pressed outwardly by exerting force upon them adjacent the shoulder 17. This will release them and enable the sections to be separated. This latching means is so constructed that after it has been released to enable the holder sections to be separated, it will cooperate with its corresponding holder section to hold the same in a more or less upright position, but preferably tilted back with the axes of the recesses inclined from a vertical line as indicated in Fig. 5, to hold a stack of chips 19 in an exposed accessible position. This can be accomplished by pulling the bodies of latch bars 14 rearwardly in the manner indicated in Fig. 5, and seating the tongue 17 in a socket 20 on the back of the section. Each socket 20 is preferably formed in the under face of a boss 21 (see Figs. 4 and 5).

The intermediate adjacent faces 7 of the sections may, if desired, be provided with scales 22 respectively, which number progressively from the bottom of each section when set up independently. These scales enable the chips to be counted at a glance.

The use of the flanges 12 and 13, instead of making the upper and lower faces of the sections solid heads, is advantageous because it provides clearance for the thumb or finger of a player in removing an entire stack of chips from one compartment to another, or in taking a stack of chips from a compartment.

The holder may be made of any desired material, for example, any of the well-known compositions now on the market employed for making small articles.

It is understood that the embodiment of the invention described herein is only one of the many embodiments this invention may take, and I do not wish to be limited in the practice of the invention, nor in the claims, to the particular embodiment set forth.

What I claim is:

1. A holder for chips or the like, comprising two separable sections, said sections having adjacent faces with registering recesses therein cooperating to form compartments for the chips, said sections having interlocking means for limiting the said sections against relative movement, said sections having means movably mounted thereon respectively for securing the two separable sections together and capable of supporting the sections in a separated condition to render the chips in the said recesses readily accessible.

2. A holder for chips or the like, comprising two separable sections, said sections having adjacent faces with registering recesses therein cooperating to form compartments for the chips, said sections having interlocking means for limiting the said sections against relative movement, said sections having means movably mounted thereon respectively, for securing the two separable sections together and capable of supporting the sections separated from each other and tilted rearwardly to render the chips in the said recesses readily accessible, each section having means projecting inwardly toward the axis of its recess to form a support for a bank of chips held in the recess and facilitating the removal of the bank of chips bodily from the recess.

3. A holder for chips or the like, comprising two separable sections, said sections having adjacent faces with registering recesses therein cooperating to form compartments for the chips, said sections having interlocking means for limiting the said sections against relative movement, latch bars carried respectively by the sections extending across the upper and lower faces of the holder, and having means for engaging the sections to maintain the same latched together.

4. A holder for chips or the like, comprising two saparable sections, said sections having adjacent faces with registering recesses therein cooperating to form compartments for the chips, said sections having interlocking means for limiting the said sections against relative movement, latch bars secured respectively to the remote faces of the said sections, each latch bar having an extension to project across both sections, and having a yielding snap shoulder for engaging the opposite section to hold the sections together, said latch bars being capable of holding each section in an inclined position when the sections are separated to expose chips held in the recesses of the section.

5. A holder for chips or the like, comprising two substantially identical separable sections, said sections having adjacent faces with registering recesses therein cooperating to form compartments for the chips, said adjacent faces having interlocking tongues and grooves for limiting the sections against movement with respect to each other, said sections having sockets, respectively, and having resilient latch bars secured respectively at the remote faces of the sections, said latch bars having extensions respectively extending across the upper and lower faces of the holder, and having tongues for engaging the outer sides of the sections to hold the same together, said latch bars capable of assuming a set position when the sections are separated, in which the said tongues engage the sockets of the corresponding sections to support the sections separated and in a tilted position to present chips held in the recesses in an accessible position.

6. A holder for chips or the like, comprising two separable sections, said sections having adjacent faces with a plurality of half-round registering recesses therein cooperating to form compartments for the chips, a resilient latch bar secured to the remote side of each section, said latch bars having extensions projecting respectively across the bottom face and upper face of the holder, and having yielding means at the ends of said extensions for snapping over the opposite section to hold the sections latched together.

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