This invention relates to holding devices and, more particularly, to a new and improved holder for fare tokens such as are commonly used by public transportation systems. The present application is a continuation-in-part of my co-pending application Serial No. 484,789, filed April 26, 1943, entitled “Holder for car fare tokens,” and now abandoned.

One of the principal objects of the present invention is the provision of a novel and improved multiple token holder which may be generally sold by public utilities, both by mail and at convenient merchandising points, and even in factories and offices when circumstances warrant.

Another object is the provision of a device of the character referred to which will firmly and securely hold the tokens in place at all desired times and from which tokens may be readily removed, one at a time, without disturbing adjacent tokens.

A still further object is the provision of a token holder of the character referred to which may readily be transported, as for example, by being carried in a vest pocket or pocketbook.

Another object is the provision of a holder of the character referred to which is readily susceptible to quantity production.

These and other objects made apparent during the further progress of this specification are accomplished by any of my improved holding devices, a full and complete understanding of which is facilitated by reference to the drawings herein, in which:

Fig. 1 is a view in perspective of a token holder embodying the present invention, one token holding fold or pleat-like member being shown in unsealed position in order to more clearly disclose the structure involved;

Fig. 2 is an end view of the holder shown in Fig. 1, with the top cover of the holder in closed position; and

Figs. 3 and 4 are views in perspective of token holders similar to the token holder shown in Fig. 1, but of modified construction.

Generally speaking, the present invention contemplates a member, preferably a folder member, provided with a plurality of elongated fold or pleat-like token holding members connected thereto with their free edges movable with respect to the member proper and provided with a plurality of spaced notches, the maximum outer edge dimensions of which are slightly less than the diameter of the disks or tokens to be retained therein. Portions of the tokens normally project from the notches and the edge portions of the folds intermediate the notches are so constructed that they rupture upon the application of a pulling force to the tokens retained thereby, and the notches are so spaced with respect to each other that the entire portion of the folded edge intermediate any two adjacent notches is not ruptured upon removal of a token retained thereby.

Three preferred embodiments of the invention are shown in the drawings and herein described in considerable detail, however, the invention is not limited to the particular construction shown and may be otherwise embodied. Each of the three embodiments shown comprises a folder proper, designated generally by the reference characters A, A' and A'' in Figs. 1, 3 and 4, respectively, comprising back and cover sections and having therein token-retaining fold or pleat-like members B, B' and B'', respectively.

In the embodiment shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the fold or pleat-like members B are formed separate from the folder proper and glued or otherwise attached to the back section thereof. In the embodiments shown in Figs. 3 and 4, the fold or pleat-like members B' and B'', respectively, are constructed from the same pieces of material from which the folders proper are made by folding the material in the manner shown and securing the various parts together as indicated.

It will be observed that the three embodiments are the same in that each comprises a folder having token-holding fold or pleat-like members secured therein. The portions or channels of the fold or pleat-like members within which the tokens or disks are retained are alike and are all rotatable or movable with reference to their respective folders. The differences between the various folders shown reside merely in the specific construction employed, which differences affect the cost, etc., rather than the utility of the devices.

Referring specifically to Figs. 1 and 2, the fold or pleat-like members B, as shown, are a part of strips or sections 10 preferably formed in continuous lengths scored or creased along a medial fold line 11 and punched in the manner shown so as to form notches 12 when the strips are folded along the fold line 11. After being cut to desired lengths, the cut sections 10 are anchored to the back section 12 of the folder proper as by gluing the same thereto along the glue line 14. Before the upper parts of the strips or sections 10 are secured to the bottom parts thereof, the tokens 15 are placed on the lower parts and secured in ultimate operative position.
3 by folding the top parts over the tokens and sealing the same to the lower parts by the glue surfaces or lines 16. The ends of the strips or sections 10 are also preferably glued together as along the glue lines 11 and 18. The corners of the tokens are held therein with their lower or front edges projecting outwardly through the notches 12. Other means of attaching the strips or sections 10 to the folder proper will occur to one skilled in the art, as, for example, by stapling, the object being to firmly hold these members within the folder and to unite their edges over a sufficiently wide area to insure the tokens being held firmly in position against accidental displacement and loss. If desired, the sections or strips 10 may have the tokens inserted therein, before being anchored in the folder, or long strips of combined folders and token-holding members may be fabricated and then cut to desired size.

For the purpose of facilitating the removal of the tokens, the strips or sections 10 are preferably scored adjacent the anchored portions therein, as along lines 20, this making possible a semi-hinge movement of the fold or pleat-like members at this point, and expediting the withdrawal of tokens. At the same time, this feature should not be accentuated to too great a degree as otherwise there would be a tendency for the outer parts of the folds B to assume a position approaching a right angle to the back section 13 of the folder, and thus hinder the complete and effective closing of the folder. In some cases only one score line to a section or member 10 is preferable. The ideal situation prevails when the strips or sections 10 are sufficiently pliable to permit the ready insertion of a finger beneath a token preparatory to its withdrawal, yet at the same time not to have the unsecured parts flopping about or projecting, at an appreciable angle from the back section 13 of the folder.

The notches 12 of the folds or pleat-like members B are preferably formed in a shape approximating a V in order that a maximum frictional surface on the token proper may be exposed to the thumb and finger of the person withdrawing the same from the holder. Some advertising advantages may accrue from utilization of a V aperture or notch, although it is apparent that any other construction, permitting effective removal of the tokens is acceptable, for example, the semi-circular notches shown in Figs. 3 and 4, and no limitation is intended from the forms shown.

Special attention is now directed to the manner in which the notches 12 are formed, and the positioning of the disk members or tokens 15 therein. It is apparent that in order to secure the most effective device of the instant type, the tokens must be firmly and securely held at all times, yet be subject to removal with a minimum of effort and inconvenience. The notches 12 are separated by a series of closed points 42, of a width sufficient to afford the necessary projection for the accidental displacement of the tokens, or other objects, yet sufficiently weak to permit rupture thereof when a pulling force is exerted on the tokens. Preferably the points 42 are of such width that the entire point is not broken when a single token is removed. When the second of two adjacent tokens is withdrawn, only the point adjacent to the vacant space will normally be broken upon such withdrawal because the forces set up tend to concentrate towards the place of greatest weakness, and this normally is the point adjacent to the vacant space. For example, in Fig. 1, it will be seen that starting at the bottom of the inside or left-hand member B, three tokens have been successively withdrawn and the lower three points 22 ruptured. The fourth point remains intact and with the surrounding structure holds the lower token firmly in place up to the time of its withdrawal, at which time the fourth point will be torn, but the next adjacent point will remain intact and continue to perform its function. This simple and ingenious arrangement makes possible a superior device of the instant type, efficient and fool-proof in its operation, and susceptible to large scale use by public utilities everywhere.

In order to effect a better closing of the folder, score lines 23 and 24 may be provided to perform an aback-like portion 25 intermediate the back section 13 of the folder, previously referred to, and the cover proper, designated generally in the drawings as 26.

As previously stated, the three embodiments shown are alike except for the manner in which the fold or pleat-like members are held; the tokens are formed. Like parts of the various embodiments are designated and referred to by the same reference characters and corresponding parts by the same reference characters but with a prime mark added in the case of the embodiment shown in Fig. 3 and with a double prime mark added in the case of the embodiment shown in Fig. 4.

Referring to Fig. 3, it will be seen that the fold or pleat-like members B' are formed by folding the material of the folder along the lines 27 in addition to the notched fold lines 16. After the disks or tokens are positioned in the folds B', the respective parts of the folds are maintained or fixed in folded position by a strip 30 glued to the rear of the back section 13 of the folder proper. The construction is such that the token holding fold or pleat-like members B' are connected to the back section 13 and movable relative thereto so as to permit the ready insertion of a finger beneath the token preparatory to its withdrawal. While two folds B' are shown, one or more may be employed as desired.

The construction shown in Fig. 4 is similar to that shown in Fig. 3 except that the folds which form the pleat-like members B" extend to the rear or top of the back section 13". The folder is preferably stapled or otherwise bound along the upper or rear edge, as by the staples 31, and in the event the tokens are appreciably wider than the diameter of the tokens, as is the case with the bottom fold shown, the respective parts of the folds are secured together as by the staples 32 to form a channel with the folded edge 11' of suitable width to retain the tokens.

Unobscured portions of the folders may be used for advertising or informational purposes as desired.

While there has been illustrated and described herein three preferred forms of the instant invention, it will be understood that no limitation is intended or implied thereby, that all the appended claims are to be accorded an interpretation and scope fairly in keeping with the contribution to the art. Further, while use of the invention in connection with car tokens and the
like has been mentioned, it is obvious that the invention may have a very wide variety of uses, including, but not limited to, tokens and change, money alone, buttons, medicine tablets, and in fact any article, the contour, shape or other characteristics of which makes such susceptible to handling in the manner described heretofore. Finally, it is apparent that in some instances, individual folds or pleat-like members in the nature of strips of greater or lesser length may be employed to advantage without associating such with a folder.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

A one-piece holder and dispenser for disk-like articles comprising, a single sheet of material reversely folded a plurality of times intermediate its ends to provide a plurality of fold portions of different widths adapted to lie upon each other in staggered relationship and integral front and back portions adapted to cover said fold portions thereby forming a substantially book-like folder, the said fold portions each being adapted to receive disk-like articles between the two sides thereof, the staggered folded edges of the said fold portions having apertures spaced longitudinally thereof, the dimensions of said apertures longitudinally of said folded edges being less than the diameter of the disk-like articles so that the articles placed within the fold portions are held therein with portions of their edges exposed through said apertures, the said folded edges being constructed to rupture adjacent the said apertures on the application of force to the exposed portions of the disk-like articles, and means for securing the two sides of each of the fold portions together adjacent the unexposed edges of the articles therein thereby preventing accidental displacement of the articles.

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REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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