

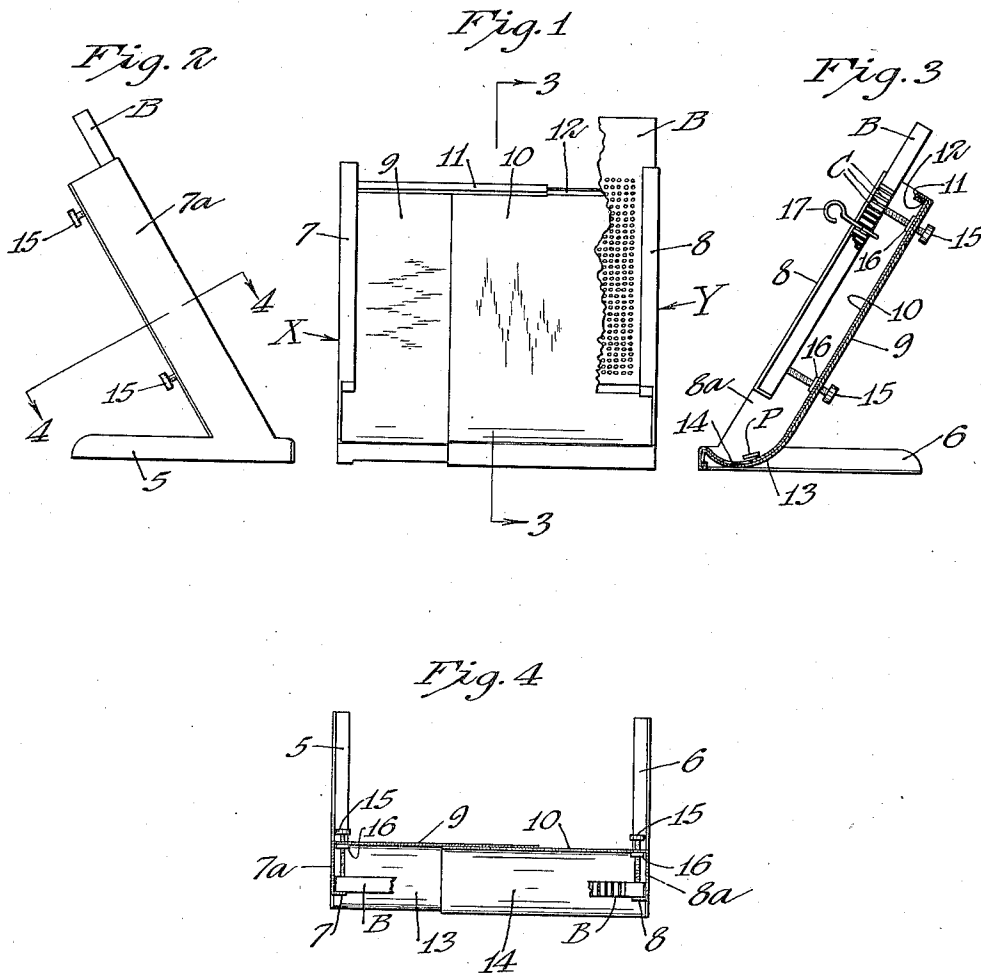
June 3, 1941.

K. E. REBSTOCK

2,244,080

MERCHANDISE PUNCHBOARD DEVICE

Filed March 13, 1939



Inventor
Kenneth E. Relstock
By Williamson & Williamson
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,244,080

MERCHANDISE PUNCHBOARD DEVICE

Kenneth E. Rebstock, Mankato, Minn.

Application March 13, 1939, Serial No. 261,544

4 Claims. (Cl. 273-139)

This invention relates to merchandising devices of the punch board type where small merchandise or compacted pellets are disposed in a multiplicity of small chambers formed in a board and may be selectively punched through the board by a person making use of the device. Such devices have been used for fortune telling where the individual compacted pellets have information printed thereon when unfolded after being punched. They have also been used extensively as trade stimulators where the customer of the shop who makes the purchase is entitled to participate in a price contest by punching a number from the board. Such devices have also been utilized in vending small articles such as candy, gum, marbles and the like, where the user pays for one of the articles and then punches out the contents of one of the recesses or chambers in the board.

It is an object of my invention to provide a merchandising device of the punch board type which may be either built into the construction of the board itself or manufactured as an attachment by which the board may be held in an attractive display position, as well as providing certain advantages from the standpoint of the proprietor as well as the convenience of the customer using the board.

More specifically it is an object to provide in a device of the class described a support and holder having wide adjustability to receive and display punch boards of various widths, heights and thicknesses.

It is a further object in a device of the class described to provide a means for guiding the merchandise or punch ejected from the board whereby the same will be collected in the front of the board, cannot become lost when ejected from a chamber of the board and cannot be mixed with merchandise or pellets punched from an adjacent device.

Still a further object is the provision of a partition or guard covering the back of the board which receives and guides merchandise or pellets punched from the chambers of the board to a collection trough disposed at the front of the device.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention will be more fully set forth in the following description made in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which like reference characters refer to the same parts throughout the several views, and in which—

Fig. 1 is a front elevation with a considerable portion of the punch board broken away, showing one embodiment of my invention;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same;

Fig. 3 is a vertical section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, and

Fig. 4 is a cross section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

In the embodiment of my invention illustrated in the accompanying drawing the invention constitutes an auxiliary device for receiving, displaying and assisting in the operation of conventional types of merchandising boards now extensively used. It will, of course, be understood that the novel features of my invention may be embodied in the construction of the board itself as well as in an attachment or auxiliary device.

Merchandise board B of conventional type is shown having the usual cylindrical chambers C formed by aperturing the body of the board from one side to the other and which chambers contain merchandise or compacted pellets P which may carry printed indicia having information concerning the supposed future or fortune of a person using the device. As is usual, the front face of the board is covered with a sheet of paper or other frangible material which indicates the punch chambers while covering the outer ends thereof.

My device as shown comprises a stand or support composed of two slidably adjustable sections indicated as entireties by the letters X and Y. The sections X and Y have the supporting legs 5 and 6 respectively integrally formed and are rigidly secured to the respective side channels 7 and 8 which extend upwardly from the legs or base members at an acute angle as shown of approximately 60 degrees. Overlapping back members 9 and 10, which may be integrally formed with or independently constructed and rigidly secured to channels 7 and 8, are disposed rearwardly of and beneath the board B and have slidably engaged top rails 11 and 12 respectively which connect the sections X and Y at the top of the device. As shown, the back member 10 carries the channel member 12 which may be bent from the construction of the back member, and the back member 9 of section X has its upper edge bent inwardly and upon itself to form a flange slidably engaging said channel member 10.

The back members 9 and 10 extend downwardly to the legs 5 and 6 of the respective sections and then are bent forwardly and upwardly, as shown, along curved lines to constitute a trough, said trough being formed by the portions 13 and 14 respectively of the two sections X and Y.

To secure a merchandise board in operative position I provide suitable retaining means which,

as shown, are in the form of a series of clamping bolts 15, two of which threadedly engage internally threaded burrs 16 soldered to the back member 9 and two of which similarly threadedly engage similar bolts 16 soldered to the forward side of the back member 10. The bolts 15 may obviously be adjusted so that their ends may clamp against portions of board B to retain the same tightly against the outer flanges of channel members 7 and 8, and wide adjustment for boards varying considerably in thickness is thus provided.

Likewise, it will be seen that the two sections X and Y having telescopic or slidable relationship may be overlapped for various distances to dispose the receiving channels 7 and 8 in proper position to hold boards varying widely in width, and since of course the top of the holding device is open, boards varying considerably in length may likewise be accommodated.

In use with the board operatively positioned within sections X and Y, as shown in the drawing a user utilizes a pin or punch device 17 to penetrate the frangible sheet material on the face of the board and eject one of the articles or pellets from the chamber. The pin 19 should be of such length that the shank thereof will pass through the entire chamber causing the article of merchandise or pellet to drop from the rear side of the board into the space between the board and the chute formed by back sections 9 and 10. This chute guides the article or pellet downwardly to the trough formed by sections 13 and 14 at the front of the board where the customer may pick up the article. By the construction of the trough so formed, and slide, and the sides 7a and 8a of the channel members which extend to the trough itself, the article cannot leave the device when dispensed and loss or mixing of pellets punched with pellets of an adjacent board is thus eliminated.

The complete covering of the back of the board protects the customer from others taking the merchandise as it is ejected, as well as assures the direction and collection of the merchandise and pellets, as has been herein set forth.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that I have provided a very simple, but highly efficient merchandise board device which prominently displays such boards for use; which prevents loss or confusion of articles ejected from the board and which is adjustable within a wide range for boards varying considerably in thickness, length and width.

It will, of course, be understood that various changes may be made in the form, details, proportions and arrangement of the parts without departing from the scope of my invention, which, generally stated, consists in a device capable of carrying out the objects above set forth and in the novel parts and combinations of parts disclosed and defined in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A holder and article collector for merchandise punch boards comprising, a pair of slidably telescoped and horizontally adjustable frame sections adapted to hold punch boards varying in width in upright position for display and use, means for securing a board to said frame, a combination back member and chute comprising slidable overlapping sections secured to said respective frame sections, said chute being disposed rearwardly of and in spaced relation to the rear surface of said board and extending below the lower edge of said board, and a collection trough connected with said frame for receiving punch-ejected articles from said chute, said trough being accessible from the front of said board.

2. A holder and article collector for merchandise punch boards comprising, a pair of frame sections telescopically connected together for extension or retraction to vary the width of said device, said frame sections having means for engaging the side edges of a board, means on each of said sections for rigidly securing a punch board thereto, said frame sections being open at their upper end to receive a board from above, a combination back member and chute comprising overlapping sections secured to said respective frame sections, said chute being disposed rearwardly of and in spaced relation to the rear surface of said board, and a collection trough comprising overlapping sections connected respectively with said chute and disposed below the lower edge of said board, said trough being accessible from the front of said board.

3. A support and collector for punch boards comprising, an upstanding back and chute member, said member comprising telescoping overlapping sections adapted to be adjusted to vary the width of said member, means for securing the edges of a punch board to said member in spaced relation to the overlapping portions of said sections and with the lower edge of said punch board disposed above the bottom of said member.

4. A support and collector for punch boards comprising, a pair of telescoping sections, slidably and horizontally adjustable to hold punch boards varying in width, said sections including flat, slidably overlapping back portions extending upwardly at an angle to the horizontal, said sections further including base members each connected with one of said telescoping sections, said sections further having forwardly turned, overlapping portions mounted for slidable adjustment, each rigidly secured to one of said sections and extending substantially horizontally, and means associated with each of said sections for clamping a punch board adjacent the upwardly extending edges thereof to hold the same in forwardly spaced relationship to said back sections.

KENNETH E. REBSTOCK.