Oct. 6, 1931. D. G. ALLEN 1,826,037

CHECK HOLDER AND SERVING TRAY

Filed March 17, 1930



Fig. 1

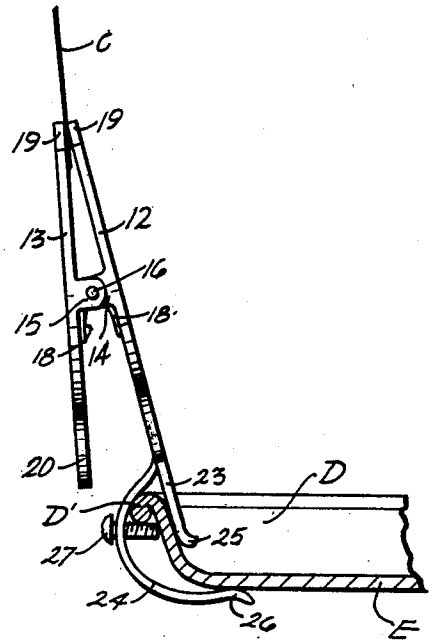


Fig. 3

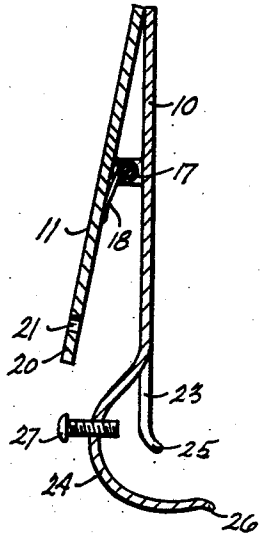


Fig. 4

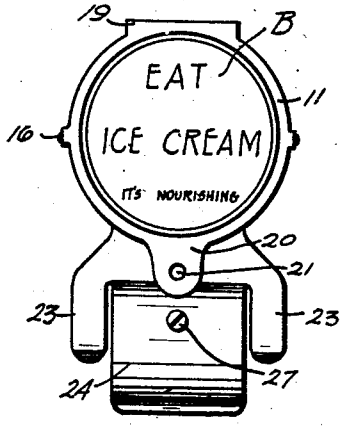


Fig. 2

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Patented Oct. 6, 1931 1,826,037

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CHECK HOLDER AND SERVING TRAY

Application filed March 17, 1930. Serial No. 436,362.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in check holders and serving trays.

The invention has particularly to do with serving trays used out of doors as for instance curb service for automobiles outside of drug stores, cold drink stands and the like and where it is the practice to support the tray in the window of an automobile.

One object of the invention is to provide means which may be securely and firmly attached to the edge of a tray for holding the purchase check and which means may be easily removed when desired.

Another object of the invention is to provide a check holder for a tray which includes a spring clamp for securely holding the check and for supporting it in an upright position so that the check is clearly visible to the purchaser, will not blow away or become wet or soiled by liquids spilled in the tray.

A further object of the invention is to provide a holder having one or more panels thereon for the display of information, advertising or pictorial representations.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a check holder which may be fastened on the tray in such a position as to permit service trays so equipped to be nested one within the other without interference from the check holder.

A construction designed to carry out the invention will be hereinafter described together with other features of the invention.

The invention will be more readily understood from a reading of the following specification and by reference to the accompanying drawings in which an example of the invention is shown, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a check holder constructed in accordance with the invention.

Figure 2 is an elevation of the same.

Figure 3 is an enlarged side elevation of the holder in position on a serving tray which latter is shown in section, and

Figure 4 is a transverse, vertical, sectional view of the holder.

In the drawings the numeral 10 designates a front member and 11 a rear member. The front member includes a rounded plate or medallion portion 12 and the member 11 has a corresponding plate or medallion portion 13. These portions may vary in shape but are preferably made of sufficient area to contain display panels A and B within which information, advertising or pictorial representations may be placed, either by printing directly on the metal parts, painting thereon, pasting a label thereon or otherwise depositing on the surface or treating the same as may be desired.

The member 10 has opposite ears 14 bent rearwardly therefrom and projecting between ears 15 bent forwardly from the rear member 11. A headed pin 16 is confined in the ears and a coiled spring 17 mounted on the pin between the parts 12 and 13 has its ends 18 projecting below the ears thus spreading the lower portions of the members apart.

Each member has at its upper end a transverse lip 19 having its top edge substantially horizontal and in contact with the edge of the other member. A finger 20 depends from the bottom of the member 11 and by depressing this finger the member is rocked so as to spread the lips 19 to permit a purchase check C to be inserted therebetween. When the member 11 is released the check will be grasped between the lips 19 and securely held in an upright position whereby it may be clearly observed by the purchaser. The finger 20 may have an aperture 21 tending to assure a better grip on said finger when it is operated.

The member 10 has a reduced neck or shank 22 below its medallion 12 from which is supported a clamping element including wings or lugs 23 on opposite sides of a central tongue 24. It is to be understood that the front member 10 may be made of a metal having some resiliency and for this purpose sheet steel, sheet brass or any other suitable metal may be used.

The lugs 23 may extend in the same vertical plane as the upper portion of the member 10 but their lower ends or tips 25 are preferably bent outward or forwardly so as to facilitate mounting the holder on the rim D

of a serving tray E. However, the tongue 24 is curved rearwardly from the shank 22 and directed forwardly at its lower end so as to extend beyond the lugs. The tip of the tongue is provided with a transverse rounded boss 26 adapted to engage under the bottom of the tray while the lugs rest upon the inner face of the rim D.

When the holder is applied to the tray the lugs and tongue are forced downwardly until they assume the position shown in Fig. 3 where the bead D' rests in the crotch between the tongue and said lugs. A retaining screw 27 is threaded thru the tongue 24 so as to pass immediately under the bead and engage the outer face of the rim D. When the screw is tightened the holder will be pulled into the position shown in Fig. 3 or by the member 10 will assume substantially the same inclination as the rim D. This will cant the holder sufficiently to permit another tray to be nested in the tray D.

It will be seen that the holder may be clamped in any desired location around the rim D. By employing the retaining screw 27 the holder is not only rigidly secured on the tray but is securely held against displacement therefrom. It will be seen that serving trays are given rough treatment and unless the holder was firmly fastened it would be a constant source of annoyance and would soon be lost. When the tray is ready to carry to the customer the server merely has to depress the finger 20 to spread the lips 19 and then insert the lower edge portion of the check C, between said lips. When the finger is released the spring 17 will swing the lips together and firmly clamp the check.

By this arrangement the check will be supported in an upright position and cannot be mislaid or blown away. It is also held in plain view of the purchaser who can readily observe the amount of the purchase. The check is also prevented from being soiled or becoming wet by immersion in liquids spilled in the tray. The medallions 12 and 13, particularly the former, offer excellent display mediums as is obvious.

Various changes in the size and shape of the different parts, as well as modifications and alterations, may be made within the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim, is:

1. A check holder for serving trays comprising a pair of members hinged together for clamping a check therebetween, a spring for urging the members into clamping relation, clamp means on the lower end of one of the members for engaging the rim of a service tray and retaining means carried by the clamp means and engaging under the bead of the rim of a tray to retain the clamp against upward displacement from the tray.

2. A check holder for serving trays comprising, a pair of members hinged together for clamping a check therebetween, a spring for urging the members into clamping relation, clamp means on the lower end of one of the members for engaging the rim of a service tray and a retaining screw carried by the clamp means for extending under the bead of the rim of a tray to prevent withdrawal of the holder from said rim.

3. A check holder comprising, a pair of upright members hinged together and having co-acting check-engaging lips at their upper ends, one of said members having a display medallion intermediate its ends, spaced clamping lugs depending from the lower end of one of said members, a clamping tongue intermediate the lugs curved forwardly thereof for engaging under a tray and a retaining screw mounted in the clamp for engaging under the rim of a tray.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

DONALD G. ALLEN.