April 5, 1927. 1,623,224

C. E. YALE

KEY HOLDING DEVICE

Filed April 23, 1926

Fig. 1.

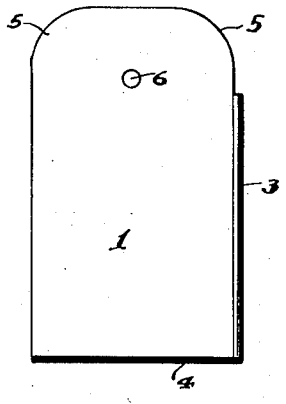


Fig. 2.

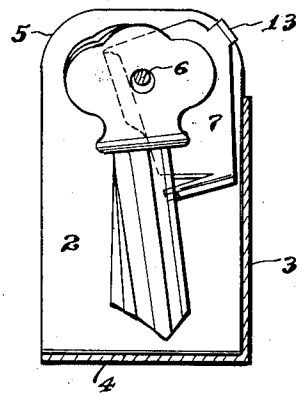


Fig. 3.

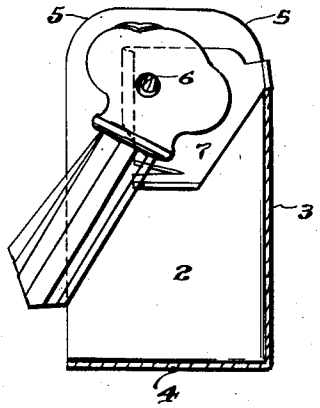


Fig. 4.

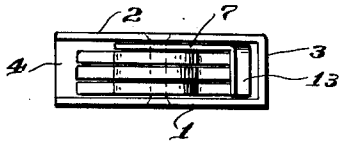


Fig. 5.

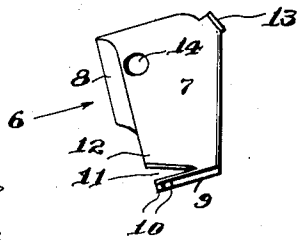


Fig. 6.

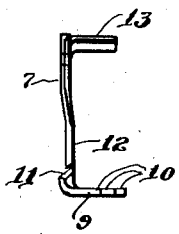
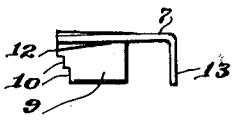


Fig. 7



Inventor,

Charles E. Yale

By Jas. L. Skidmore

His Attorney.

Patented Apr. 5, 1927. 1,623,224

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES E. YALE, OF SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA.

KEY-HOLDING DEVICE.

Application filed April 23, 1926. Serial No. 104,045.

This invention pertains to an improved and novel key case or holder, especially designed for the purpose of retaining a plurality of keys within the case.

The prime object of the invention is to provide a novel, simple, economical, durable and practical key holder or case which eliminates all knobs or projections of any kind to catch in the clothing, and may be readily manufactured at a minimum cost.

Another object of the invention is to so construct the novel device that a plurality of keys may be secured and retained within a casing, said casing having means for projecting the keys so that the particular one desired may be conveniently selected for use.

Further objects of the invention are to so construct the improved casing that all of the keys are retained therein when not in use; so that the key holder can be readily carried within the vest pocket, or any other pocket of apparel; so that means is connected therewith for projecting all of the keys outwardly from within the case in advance of each other in order to easily select the key desired; so that the said key holder will have a smooth, pleasing and neat appearance, and of such material that it possesses the maximum of longevity.

The foregoing and such other objects as may appear from the ensuing description are attained by the construction, arrangement, location and combination of the several parts hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and more particularly pointed out in the claims appended hereto, it being understood that slight changes in the precise form, proportions and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specificatior it will be seen that:—

Figure 1 is an elevation of the novel key holding means embodying my invention.

Figure 2 is a sectional elevation of the same.

Figure 3 is a sectional elevation showing the keys projected beyond one edge of the case with one key slightly in advance of another.

Figure 4 is a top plan view looking into the case, and

Figures 5, 6 and 7 are details of the key projecting and retaining means removed from the case.

In the embodiment of my invention it will be seen that the numeral 1 designates the front portion, 2 the rear portion, and 3 the side portion of a key holding case, composed of any suitable or desirable metal, preferably formed with a rectangular shaped bottom portion 4, and preferably with a rounded upper end portion 5, said case being closed at one side 3 thereof the major portion of its length, and entirely open at its opposite side 4.

Loosely pivoted within the case by a pivot pin 6, are a plurality of keys, three being shown in the drawings, and also suitably pivoted to said pin 6, is a member 7 adapted to retain the keys within the case and to project said keys from the open side of the casing.

It will be perceived that the member 7 formed from any suitable spring sheet metal is formed with a beveled portion 8 at one edge thereof, a laterally extended flange 9 at its lower end provided with a plurality of steps or notches 10 adapted to receive the rear edge of each of the said keys, each key normally resting in contact with one of the notches or steps when the keys are within the case in the position substantially as shown in Fig. 2, and slightly above the lower end of the member 7 it is slitted transversely at 11 forming an inwardly extended leaf spring portion 12 which is adapted to resiliently contact with the outer face of the rear key within the casing and by the tension against the keys to always retain the keys within the case, and prevent their accidental movement beyond the casing from any cause whatever, while at the upper right hand side of the member 7 is formed a laterally extended bent portion 13 which rests in alignment with the outer edge of the front and rear portion of the casing so that there is no knob or projection extending at any point beyond the casing to have a tendency to wear or tear the clothing or to catch or hang in the pocket of the apparel, said bent portion being so disposed between the front and rear of the casing that by simply pressing it downwardly by the use of one of the fingers or the thumb until the said bent portion 13 is caused to contact with the upper end of the side portion 3 of the casing, which latter constitutes a stop to limit the downward movement of said portion, such downward

pressure will cause the member 7 to swing sidewise outwardly on its pivotal point 14, thereby forcing the keys to assume the position shown in Fig. 3 beyond the casing, with one key in advance of another, so that the key desired may be easily and readily selected and used, after which the keys are pressed inwardly by the hand or fingers and caused to assume the position shown in Fig. 2 within the casing, and retained therein by the means hereinbefore described, at the same time imparting an inwardly sidewise swinging movement to the member 7, thus causing the bent portion 13 to return to its upper and normal operative position, such as clearly shown in Fig. 2.

It will be readily obvious that by this construction of key holding means the keys may be easily and readily manipulated; that the device is inexpensive to manufacture; that it may be made of any suitable material and so ornamented as to possess an attractive and pleasing appearance and that it will possess unusual durability and longevity.

Having thus described my invention what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A key holding device comprising a casing, a plurality of keys disposed within the casing, and swinging means for projecting all of the keys sidewise beyond the casing and to retain the keys under tension within the casing.

2. A key holding device comprising a casing, a plurality of keys pivotally disposed within the casing, and a pivoted swinging member adapted to force all of the keys sidewise beyond the casing and to retain all the keys under tension within the casing.

3. A key holder of the character described, comprising a casing, a plurality of keys pivotally disposed within said casing, and means transversely disposed within the casing for forcing all of the keys sidewise beyond the casing and to retain the keys within the casing under tension.

4. A key holder of the character described, comprising a casing, a plurality of keys pivotally disposed within the casing, a pivoted swinging member for forcing all the keys sidewise beyond the casing, and means disposed transversely within the casing for operating the swinging member by downward pressure of a finger.

5. A key holding device of the character described, comprising a casing open at one side, a plurality of keys pivotally disposed within said casing, a swinging member resting in contact with each of said keys and adapted to force the keys sidewise beyond the open side of the casing by downward pressure upon a portion of said member.

6. A key holding device of the character described, comprising a casing having a plurality of keys pivotally disposed therein, a pivoted swinging member having a lateral notched extension at its lower end against which each key is seated, and a lateral extension forming a part of said member disposed within the casing adapted to swing said member and keys outwardly by the downward pressure of a finger.

7. A key holding device of the character described, comprising a casing having a plurality of keys pivotally disposed therein, a pivoted swinging member adapted to move all of the keys sidewise beyond the casing, said member being formed with a lateral notched extension at its lower end, a lateral extension at its upper end portion, and an inwardly extended resilient portion, intermediate its upper and lower ends.

8. A key holding device of the character described, comprising a casing, a plurality of keys pivotally disposed within the casing, a pivoted swinging member for forcing the keys sidewise from the casing, said swinging member being formed with a lateral notched extension at its lower end, an intermediate resilient portion, a beveled portion near its upper end, a transversely disposed portion at its upper end within the casing adapted to swing said member sidewise and outwardly by downward pressure of a finger, and a stop formed by one side of the casing for limiting the downward movement of said transverse portion.

CHARLES E. YALE.