May 4, 1954 L. SZEL 2,677,548

PLAYING CARD DISPENSER AND HOLDER

Filed Oct. 9, 1951

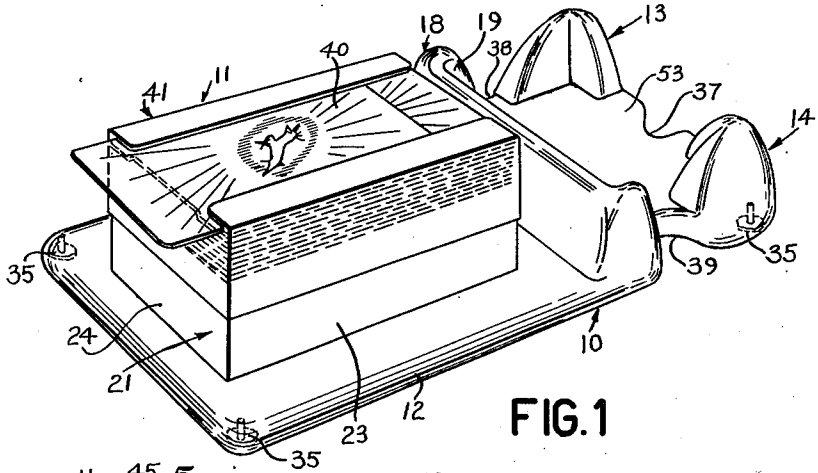


FIG. 1

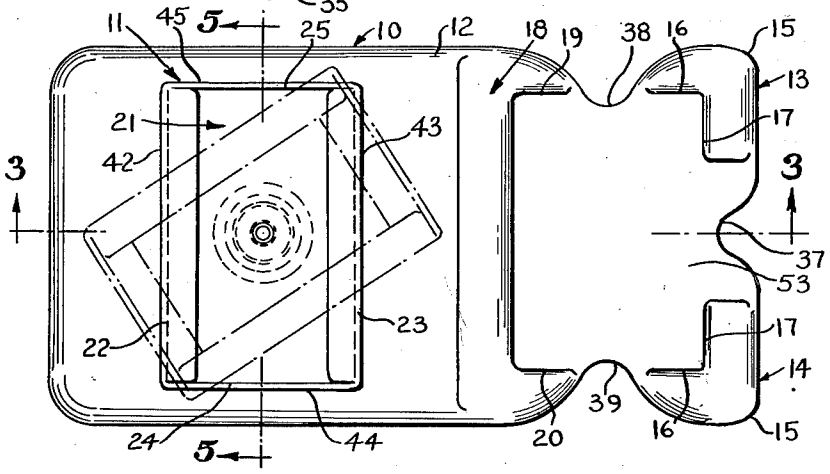


FIG. 2

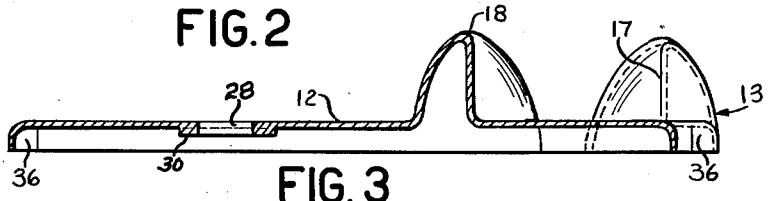


FIG. 3

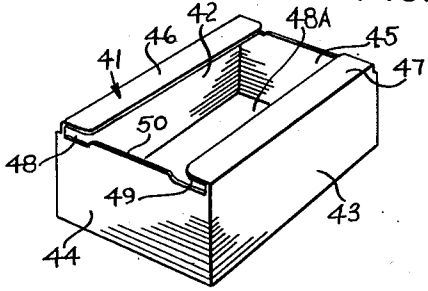


FIG. 4

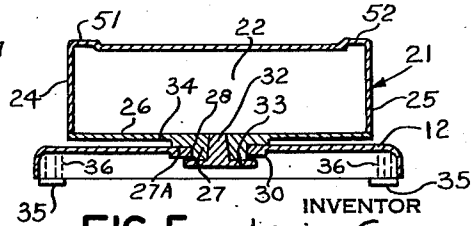


FIG. 5

INVENTOR
Louis Szel
BY
Arthur P. Cyr
ATTORNEY

Patented May 4, 1954 2,677,548

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,677,548

PLAYING CARD DISPENSER AND HOLDER

Louis Szel, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, assignor to Noma Lites, Inc., New York, N. Y., a corporation of Delaware

Application October 9, 1951, Serial No. 250,444

2 Claims. (Cl. 273—148)

1

This invention relates to improvements in a playing card dispenser and holder for use in such card games as canasta, rummy and the like.

The objects of the invention are to devise a card dispenser and holder for placement on a card table and which will retain a pack of cards in their shuffled order yet enable the topmost card to be withdrawn; to make a playing card holder and dispenser with which the entire pack of cards is held in order for play and which may be rotated or turned towards individual players for the dispensing of a card to that player; to facilitate the playing of such card games as canasta; to construct a playing card dispenser and holder consisting of few and simple parts, easy and inexpensive to manufacture; and generally to provide a dispenser and holder for playing cards that is attractive in appearance and sufficient for its purpose.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the dispensing and holding device, showing a pack of playing cards mounted thereon with the top card partly withdrawn.

Figure 2 is a plan view of the device showing the card mounting as turned to a position across the base in contrast to the longitudinal position shown in Figure 1, the turning movement being shown in dotted lines.

Figure 3 is a longitudinal sectional view through the device as taken on the line 3—3 in Figure 2, but with the rotatable card mounting unit removed.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the card holding cover and dispenser.

Figure 5 is a sectional view through the device as taken on the line 5—5 in Figure 2, with the card holder cover removed.

Like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in the various figures.

Referring to the drawings, the card dispenser and holder, as indicated by the numeral 10, which may be of any suitable material, consists of a card mounting and dispensing unit 11 mounted to a base 12, and being rotatable thereon.

The base 12 is in this instance of a rectangular shape, but of course might be otherwise shaped if desired. One end of the base is provided with a pair of corner posts or members, 13 and 14 respectively, each projecting upwardly from the top face of the base at a corner thereof. These corner posts are formed rigid with respect to the base 12, each post or member 13 and 14 being of any desired shape, but that illustrated in the drawings is an acceptable type, the posts having an arcuate

2

outer surface 15 forming into angularly disposed side sections 16 and 17 respectively.

A raised partition or wall 18, extends across the width of the base, being set back a predetermined distance from the corner posts 13 and 14, this wall extending upwardly from the top surface of the base, which in this case is perfectly flat. Each end of the wall 18 terminates in a turned portion, directed towards the corner posts 13 and 14, these side sections 19 and 20 of the wall forming corners in alignment with the corners of the corner posts, the height of the corner posts and of the wall 18 and its members 19 and 20 being approximately the same, and lower than the top of the card mounting or platform 21.

The card mounting and dispensing unit 11 consists of the card mounting or platform 21 which is an individual member separate from the base 12, being connected thereto and adapted to be rotated or turned thereon. While this card mounting could be of various shapes and formations for the mounting of a pack of playing cards above the top of the base, the form illustrated in an acceptable type of such mounting, which consists of a somewhat block formation having side walls 22 and 23, and walls 24 and 25, and a bottom wall or plate 26, the latter being a separate member fixedly secured in position, such as by being glued.

The bottom plate 26 of the mounting member 21 is provided with a centrally located circular boss 27 extending downwardly therefrom, the boss having a shoulder or collar 27A extending therearound forming a bearing surface for the mounting of the member 21 to the base. The boss has a circular aperture extending upward therein and centrally located.

The mounting member 21 is approximately the size of a playing card, the base 12 being of a width somewhat greater than the length of the mounting member 21, enabling that member to be positioned longitudinally of the base, as shown in Figure 1, or laterally, as shown in Figure 2.

The member 21 is located behind the wall or partition 18, adjacent the other end of the base from the corner posts, and is mounted on the base to be turnable thereon. The base 12 has an aperture or cut out portion 28 through its top surface, the underside of the base around this hole being thickened or formed with a boss-like portion 30. The base is formed with its edges turned down, raising the top surface above any supporting surface, and the mounting member 21 is movably secured to the base by means of a tapered pin 32 having a head 33 extending from

under the base and up into the aperture in the boss 27, the pin extending through the hole 23 in the base to be movable therein. The card mounting platform or member 21 is mounted on this pin 32, which extends up into the aperture in the boss 27 to form a tight fit therewith, thereby making the mounting member rigid with respect to the pin. As positioned, the head of the tapered pin is slightly below the bottom surface of the boss-like section 30, providing a clearance therebetween. The boss 27 fits down over the pin, to have the shoulder 27A resting on the base, this shoulder causing a clearance to be made between the base and the bottom of the mounting member 21, this clearance, as indicated by the number 34, permitting free movement of the mounting member 21, that is, reducing friction between the member and the base.

The base is provided with feet of any suitable non-slip material, such as rubber, these feet 35 being each in a corner and being insertable in a boss 36, and being removable therefrom, this being an acceptable method of mounting feet or supporting surfaces of the base.

As illustrated, the base is formed with a recess in its edge between the corner posts, this recess 37 being in the outer end edge, while a recess is located in each side edge between the corner post and the wall 18, these recesses 38 and 39 respectively together with the recess 37 providing finger grip portions for the lifting of the base as well as means of conveniently picking up cards contained in the area between the corner posts and the wall.

The platform or mounting member 21 acts as a seat upon which a pack of playing cards, 40, is placed.

A card holder or holding cover 41 forms a separate part of the dispensing and holding unit 11, being an individual member detachably connectable to the mounting platform or member 21, being used in conjunction with the positioned pack of cards and with the platform. The retaining member or holding cover is in the form of a box-like casing consisting of the side walls 42 and 43, end walls 44 and 45 and being bottomless. The top of the cover is made up of a solid section extending the length of the member along each side edge, these top sections 46 and 47 being comparatively narrow and providing an opening 48A extending the full length of the top.

The end walls terminate slightly below the top portions 46 and 47, forming a space between the top edge of the end wall and the top portions of the casing. In the present instance, as shown in Figure 4, the top edge of each of the end walls is cut out at each end directly beneath the top sections 46 and 47, these cut outs 48 and 49 respectively being separated by the slightly raised central portion 50 of the top edge of the wall, this portion being slightly below the level of the top strips 46 and 47 of the casing.

The top of the mounting member is preferably formed with a slightly raised strip or ledge at each end, these raised sections 51 and 52 being narrow and extending the full length or width of the member 21, and act to hold cards placed thereon slightly above the remaining portion of the top surface of the mounting member.

In the operation of the device, a pack of cards, having been previously shuffled, is placed on the mounting member 21, the bottom card resting on the raised sections 51 and 52. The card holding casing 41 is then placed down over the positioned pack of cards, as shown in Figure 1, and being of a depth somewhat greater than that of the pack of cards, fits over the deck and below the same to engage with the mounting member, thus retaining and holding the stacked deck of cards in position on the member 21.

The top one of the cards is dispensed from the card holder 41 by a person simply pressing down thereon and drawing it forward, the card moving out from under the top strips or flanges through the egress or opening between the same and the top edge of either of the end walls, the space being sufficient for but a single card at a time to pass. As the pack of cards diminishes, the casing is simply pressed down to always be in contact with the uppermost card. Those cards which have been dealt and which are not retained in the players' hands or are otherwise not in play, are deposited in the tray portion 53, or area between the wall and the corner posts, this being a repository for dealt and unwanted cards.

The device may be placed on a card table and left in the one position, the mounting member being manually rotated or turned by a player to turn the same, with its mounted pack of cards, in whatever direction the player to whom the card is to be dealt is seated. The holding and turning of the mounting member rotates the pin in the base, thereby permitting the member 21 to be turned in any direction on the base, facilitating the dealing of the cards. In some cases, each player in turn may wish to take a card from within the casing or cover, in which case a person may turn the pack in that direction so the player may draw the card towards him.

It is of course understood that modifications may be made without in any way departing from the spirit of the invention as set out in the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. In a playing card dispenser, the combination of a base member, a rectangular platform rotatably mounted on said base member to receive and support a pack of playing cards and having horizontal top and bottom walls vertically spaced from one another a distance substantially equal to the thickness of the pack of playing cards to be dispensed and having vertical side walls spaced from one another a distance substantially equal to the width of the playing cards and having vertical end walls spaced from one another a distance substantially equal to the length of the playing cards, and a rectangular cover member open at the bottom and slidably mounted on said platform for vertical movement, said cover member cooperating with said platform to provide a housing for the pack of playing cards, said cover member having a central opening at the top thereof to expose the uppermost card in the pack, and having an opening in each of its end walls constructed and arranged to permit the withdrawal of said uppermost card from either end of said housing.

2. In a playing card dispenser, the combination of a base member having an opening, a rectangular platform rotatably mounted on said base member to receive and support a pack of playing cards and having horizontal top and bottom walls spaced from one another a distance substantially equal to the thickness of the pack of playing cards to be dispensed and vertical side walls spaced from one another a distance substantially equal to the width of the playing cards and vertical end walls spaced from one another a distance substantially equal to the length of the playing cards, said bottom wall having a central boss,

said boss having a reduced outer portion and an enlarged inner portion, said reduced outer portion cooperating with said opening to provide a pivot for said platform and said enlarged inner portion forming an annular shoulder to support said platform in spaced relationship with respect to said base member, and a rectangular cover member slidably mounted on said platform for vertical movement and cooperating therewith to provide a housing for the pack of playing cards, said cover member having a central opening in the top thereof to expose the uppermost card

in the pack and having an opening in each of its end walls constructed and arranged to permit the withdrawal of said uppermost card of the pack from either end of said housing.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
1,246,297	Michell	Nov. 13, 1917
1,344,547	Maier	June 22, 1920
2,307,726	Holstein	Jan. 5, 1943