March 17, 1959 K. H. SEVERSON 2,877,892

TOOTHPICK HOLDERS

Filed Jan. 20, 1958

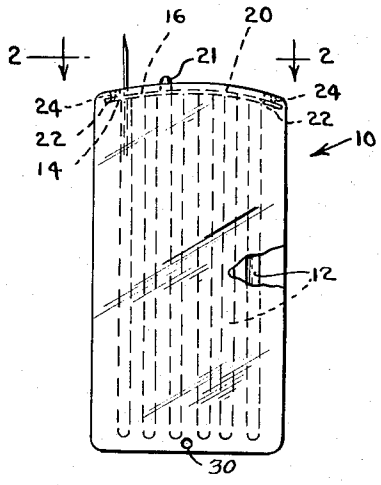


FIG. 1

FIG. 2

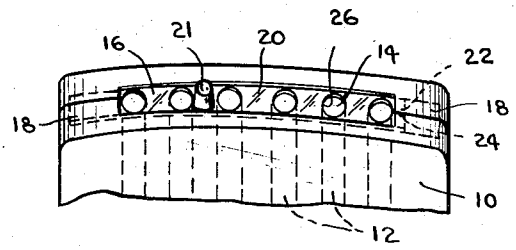


FIG. 3

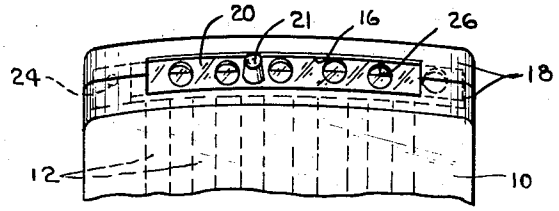


FIG. 4

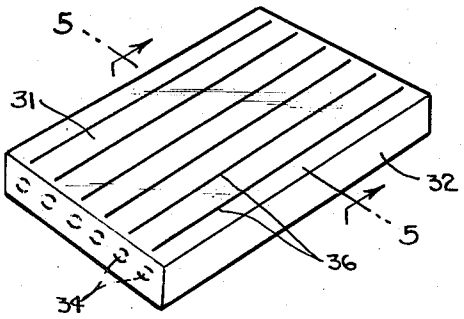
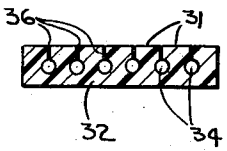


FIG. 5



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TOOTHPICK HOLDERS

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5 Claims. (Cl. 206—37)

This invention relates to containers which are adapted to be carried upon the person and has particular reference to a toothpick or the like holder.

Heretofore all of the toothpick holders held all the toothpicks in one chamber where they would bunch together and be difficult to dispense.

It is an object of this invention to provide in a toothpick holder a casing having a plurality of spaced apart chambers.

It is another object of this invention to provide in a toothpick holder of a closure means which is securely held in its adjusted positions.

It is a still further object of this invention to provide a toothpick holder which houses each toothpick in a separate chamber and which provides means so that the contents of the chambers can be viewed without opening the chambers.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear from the detailed description, taken in connection with the annexed drawing in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improved holder.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the top of the holder disclosing the closure means for the holder in open position.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the top of the holder disclosing the closure in closed position.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of a modified holder.

Figure 5 is a sectional view of the modified holder.

Referring in detail to the drawing, **10** is a rectangular holder or casing which is not relatively thick. The holder **10** is made of a transparent plastic material. Six spaced elongated chambers **12** are formed in the casing **10** and each chamber **12** is provided with an opening **14** in the top of the casing **10**. Any even number of chambers may be formed in the casing **10**.

An arcuate track **16** is formed across the top of the casing **10**. The track **16** is open except for a small cover portion **18** at each end of the track **16**. A very thin and resilient elongated metal rectangular slide or valve **20** which is normally flat, is slidably mounted in the track **16**. The inherent tendency of the slide **20** to straighten out to its normal flat position will cause the slide to engage in tight frictional contact in the arcuate track **16** thereby assuring that the slide is retained in its adjusted positions in the track **16**.

The slide **20** is provided with a small depression or dent **22** at each end thereof. The under side of the covers **18** is provided with a nib or teat **24** which registers with the dent **22** in the slide **20** for aiding in holding the slide **20** in the ends of the track **16**. The slide **20** is provided with a plurality of spaced apertures **26**. A knob **21** is provided for the slide **20**. When the slide **20** is moved to one end of the track **16**, see Figure 2, the apertures **26** automatically register with the openings **14** for the chambers **12** in casing **10**. The slide **20** upon engagement with the other end of the track **16** covers all the openings **14** for the chambers **12**, see Figure 3.

Since the casing **10** is made of a transparent plastic material, it is possible to see if there are toothpicks in the chambers **12**.

Each chamber **12** is of a size to hold a single toothpick. Where a single toothpick is housed in a chamber **12** of a holder **10**, it is easy to remove a toothpick without touching another toothpick. This holder **10** provides a sanitary device for holding toothpicks.

The casing **10** is provided with an aperture **30** adjacent its bottom so that a key chain may be attached to the casing **10**.

The present holder **10** is adapted to be either carried in a pocket of a suit or in a purse.

Casing **32** sets forth a modified type of toothpick holder. The casing **32** is rectangular in shape and relatively thin so that it may be carried on a person. The casing **32** is made of a rubberized plastic material and is provided with six spaced apart longitudinal chambers **34**. Slits **36** in the side **31** communicate with each of the chambers **34**. Since the casing **32** is made of an elastic material, the slits **36** for the chambers **34** are normally closed. To insert a toothpick into the chambers **34** in casing **32**, the slits are pulled apart with the fingers. To remove a toothpick from a chamber **34**, its slit **36** is pulled apart.

Certain variations from the precise forms illustrated will suggest themselves to anyone skilled in the art. It is not, therefore, intended to limit this invention to the precise disclosure, but only as set forth in the subjoined claims which are to be broadly construed.

I claim:

1. In a device of the character described comprising a container having a top, a plurality of longitudinally spaced chambers in the container, each of the chambers provided with an outlet in the top of the container, an arcuate track formed in the top of the container, a very thin and resilient elongated rectangular slide normally flat over its full length and breadth and held throughout its entire length and breadth in full surface contact with the said arcuate track against its inherent tendency to flatten out, the slide provided with a plurality of spaced apertures, the slide movable in the track for registering the apertures in the slide with the openings for the spaced chambers, and for covering the openings for said chambers, the sprung slide being positively held in its positions of adjustment.

2. In a device as set forth in claim 1 wherein when the slide is moved to one end of the track, the apertures in the slide register with the openings for the spaced chambers, and when the slide is moved to the other end of the track the slide covers the openings for the spaced chambers in the container.

3. In a device as set forth in claim 1 wherein lock means aids in holding the slide in its adjusted positions in the track.

4. In a device as set forth in claim 1 wherein the container is rectangular in shape and relatively thin in thickness.

5. In a device as set forth in claim 1 wherein the container is formed of a transparent plastic material.

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