Feb. 22, 1927. 1,618,390

P. C. SMITH

COIN COUNTER AND STACKER

Filed July 23, 1926

Fig. 1

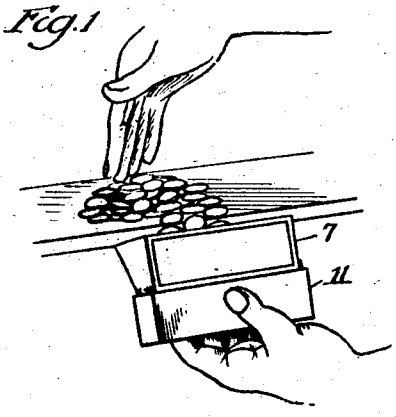


Fig. 4

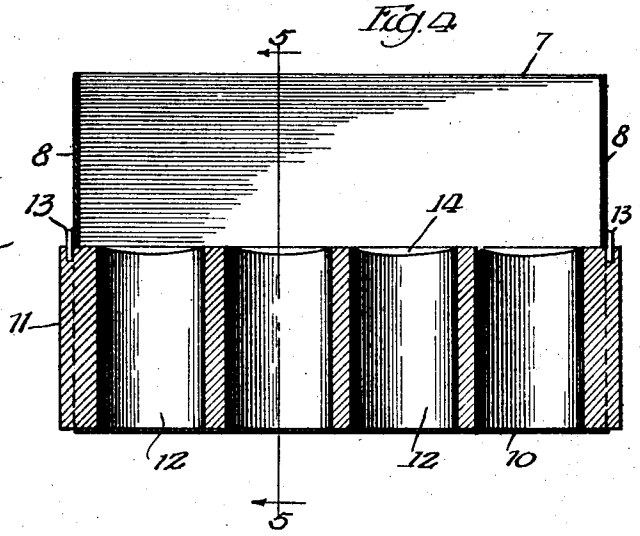


Fig. 2

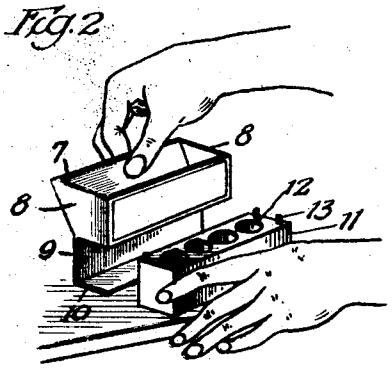


Fig. 5

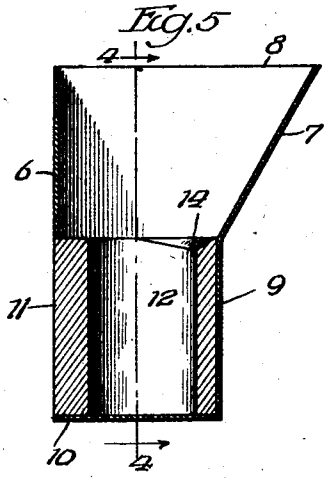
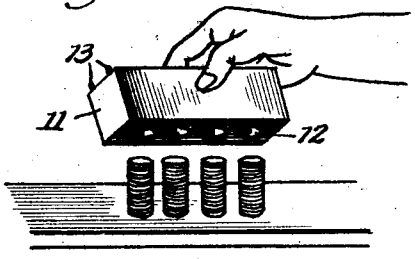


Fig. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PERCY C. SMITH, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

COIN COUNTER AND STACKER.

Application filed July 23, 1926. Serial No. 124,310.

This invention relates to coin counters and stackers and its object is to provide an inexpensive device of simple construction, which can be easily operated to count and stack coins of the same kind without handling the coins individually.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel device of simple construction for arranging a quantity of loose coins of the same kind in one or more stacks containing a predetermined number of the coins.

And a further object of the invention is to provide a handy device of simple construction, which can be manufactured at low cost, for use by persons who handle coins in large quantities so that light coins may be quickly and automatically counted and stacked in piles containing a predetermined number of coins ready for wrapping to be deposited in bank or stored for future use.

In the accompanying drawings I have illustrated the invention in a selected embodiment and referring thereto:

Figs. 1, 2 and 3 are perspective views showing successive steps in the use of the invention for counting and stacking a quantity of coins.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view on the line 4—4 of Fig 5.

Fig. 5 is a sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Referring to the drawings, the invention comprises a frame which consists essentially of an upper hopper part and a lower L-shaped part to receive and hold the block. The frame is preferably made of sheet metal and the hopper has a straight front 6, an inclined back 7 and ends 8, being open at top and bottom. The block holding part of the frame comprises a back 9 and a bottom 10, the back being integral with the inclined back 7 of the hopper part. The block holding part is open at the top, front and ends. The block 11 is preferably made of hard wood, but other hard materials may be used if desired. The block is provided with a plurality of cylindrical chambers 12 of a size adapted to receive coins of a particular denomination. Thus one block will have chambers for pennies, another for nickels, another for dimes, and so on, as many blocks being provided for one frame as the user may require. The block is of a size to slide easily in and out of the holding part of the frame at the open front thereof and it is provided at its ends with guide pins 13 which engage the ends of the hopper part of the frame (Fig. 4) to hold the block in proper position in the frame. The chambers may be located closer to the back of the block than to the front thereof, but this is not essential and they may be located mid-way between the front and back of the block, or even closer to the front than to the back, as desired. But I prefer to bevel the upper edge of the wall of each chamber at the back thereof, as shown at 14. I have found it convenient to embody the invention in a frame and block adapted for coins of a particular denomination, such as pennies, and the parts are proportioned so that each chamber will receive twenty-five pennies so that in each operation of the device one-hundred pennies will be counted and arranged in four stacks of twenty-five each. The same block may be used for nickels, each chamber counting and stacking twenty nickels. I prefer to provide separate blocks for coins of different denominations although it is possible to count and stack different coins in one block at different times. In practice, the coins of the same denomination will be arranged in a pile on a desk or table, the device is arranged with the inclined back of the frame at the edge of the desk or table and a quantity of the coins are swept into the hopper. The coins will find their place in the chambers, automatically stacking themselves. If all of the coins do not enter the chambers the device may be shaken until the coins are in the chambers. If there are not enough coins to fill the chambers, more coins may be swept into the hopper. No effort need be made to sweep into the hopper the desired number of coins to be counted and generally more coins than the block will hold will be swept into the hopper. After the device is shaken until the chambers are full of the coins, the device is placed with its bottom on the desk or table, preferably adjacent to coins remaining on the desk or table, and the block is pulled forward and out of the frame. In so doing the surplus coins are swept off of the block by engagement with the lower edge of the front 6 of the hopper, and these coins are assembled with the pile remaining on the desk or table. The block can be slid to any position on the desk or table, with the coins therein, and then the block is raised, leaving the stacks intact. These stacks may be wrapped separately or they may be assembled in larger stacks for wrapping. Since the block

is proportioned so that a stack of a predetermined number of coins of a certain denomination will fill each chamber, it is apparent that in the use of the device as described the coins will be automatically counted as well as stacked.

The device is simple in construction, it can be manufactured in substantial form and sold at a reasonable price so that it will be available for universal use for the purpose intended. The beveled back edge at the top of each chamber facilitates the removal of surplus coins on the block by the front of the hopper when the block is withdrawn from the frame.

It will be noted that it is not necessary for the operator to count the coins before they are dropped into the receptacle. The coins are simply swept into the hopper until it is filled and then the act of pulling out the block automatically counts the predetermined number of coins; the surplus are scraped off the top of the block as it is moved from beneath the bottom of the hopper.

I have shown the invention in a simple embodiment in the drawings; I am aware that changes in the form and construction thereof may be made without departing from the invention, and I reserve the right to make all such changes as fairly fall within the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. A coin counter and stacker comprising a block having a coin chamber therein open at the top and at the bottom of the block, a frame having a hopper part to fit on the top of the block and a holding part to support the block beneath the hopper part, said holding part being open at one side to permit bodily lateral separation of the block from the frame with a stack of coins in the chamber.

2. A coin counter and stacker comprising a rectangular block having a coin chamber therein open at the top and bottom of the block, a frame comprising a hopper part open at top and bottom and having a front, ends and an inclined back, and a holding part comprising a back and a bottom integral with the hopper part and adapted to receive and hold the block in position beneath the hopper part, said block being bodily laterally movable out of contact with said bottom, the bottom walls of the hopper serving to sweep off surplus coins.

3. A coin counter and stacker comprising a rectangular block having a plurality of coin chambers therein open at top and bottom and a frame comprising a hopper portion open at top and bottom and a support and guide for said block depending from said hopper to removably support said block while it receives promiscuously coins from the hopper, said block being bodily laterally movable from beneath the hopper, the walls of the hopper serving to automatically sweep off surplus coins there being guide means on the one part for engagement with the ends of the other part to hold the block in proper position beneath the hopper.

PERCY C. SMITH.