

L. N. SINGLEY.  
INTERCHANGE OF TRADE COUPON SYSTEM.  
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NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

INTERCHANGE OF TRADE COUPONS		
ISSUED BY		
John Doe & Co.,		
— Grocers —		
COUPON RECEIVED AT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING STORES		
DRUGGIST	This Coupon will be received as <b>5 Cents</b> In Cash with One Dollar's worth of goods purchased.	DEPT. STORE
TAILOR		HARDWARE
LIVERY		FURNITURE
CIGARS		JEWELER

Fig. 2.

Coupon issued by <i>A</i> Redeemed at a cash value of 5¢ by BCDEFGHIJKLMNO	Coupon issued by <i>B</i> Redeemed at a cash value of 5¢ by ACDEFGHIJKLMNO	Coupon issued by <i>C</i> Redeemed at a cash value of 5¢ by ABDEFGHIJKLMNO	Coupon issued by <i>D</i> Redeemed at a cash value of 5¢ by ABCEFGHIJKLMNO
Coupon issued by <i>E</i> Redeemed at a cash value of 5¢ by ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO	Coupon issued by <i>F</i> Redeemed at a cash value of 5¢ by ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO	Coupon issued by <i>G</i> Redeemed at a cash value of 5¢ by ABCDEFHIJKLMNO	Coupon issued by <i>H</i> Redeemed at a cash value of 5¢ by ABCDEFGIJKLMNO
Coupon issued by <i>I</i> Redeemed at a cash value of 5¢ by ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO	Coupon issued by <i>J</i> Redeemed at a cash value of 5¢ by ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO	Coupon issued by <i>K</i> Redeemed at a cash value of 5¢ by ABCDEFGHIJLMNO	Coupon issued by <i>L</i> Redeemed at a cash value of 5¢ by ABCDEFGHIJKMNO
	Coupon issued by <i>M</i> Redeemed at a cash value of 5¢ by ABCDEFGHIJKLNO	Coupon issued by <i>N</i> Redeemed at a cash value of 5¢ by ABCDEFGHIJLMNO	

Witnesses:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAISEUR N. SINGLEY, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

## INTERCHANGE-OF-TRADE-COUPON SYSTEM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 774,538, dated November 8, 1904.

Application filed February 12, 1904. Serial No. 193,319. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LAISEUR N. SINGLEY, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Interchange-of-Trade-Coupon Systems, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in an interchange-of-trade-coupon system, and has for its object the provision of novel means whereby an interchangeable-coupon system is formed in which each merchant who is a party to the arrangement will receive as cash coupons issued by any of the other parties to the arrangement and will issue coupons receivable in the same manner by all the other parties to such arrangement.

Another object of my improved coupon system is to provide novel means that will entirely dispense with the keeping of records, accounts, and the like, a still further object of the invention being to devise a coupon that will have a certain cash value and purchase power in every line of merchandise.

Briefly described, my system comprises an association of merchants in a town or city, each merchant dealing in a certain line of merchandise. For example, the merchants A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N form an association, each merchant being provided with a large number of coupons bearing his own name and address and the names, addresses, and business of all the other members of the association, together with a statement that the coupon will be redeemed at a certain cash valuation by any of the said members.

The invention further consists in the novel form of interchangeable coupons to be hereinafter more fully described, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

In describing the invention in detail reference is had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this application, and wherein like numerals of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of a single coupon as

used by me, which shows a novel form of arrangement. Fig. 2 comprises a number of coupons, which form a set and merely represent diagrammatically the series of coupons which constitute a complete set, it being understood that all the coupons shown in Fig. 2 are substantially the same as the single coupon, Fig. 1, each coupon, however, differing from all the others in that it contains a statement that it is issued by a certain member of the association and that it is redeemable by all the other members.

The coupon preferably bears upon its face the words "Interchange-of-trade coupons," together with the name of the merchant and the particular line of merchandise sold and a statement that it is receivable as cash with a certain amount purchased from any of the other members of the association whose names are printed thereon, together with the names, businesses, and addresses of all other merchants belonging to the association.

To fully illustrate my improved interchange-of-trade-coupon system, let A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N represent the stores using the coupons. The coupon issued by A has the names of all the others on it as redeemers of said coupon at a cash value proportionate to a certain amount that the holder of the coupon purchases, which is equivalent to said amount in discount. The coupon issued by B has A and all the others on it as redeemers at the same terms. That issued by C has A, B, and all the others upon it as redeemers, and so on through the entire list completing the system. Any system or set of coupons is complete when every line of merchandise is represented; but it is the intention to only place one merchant dealing in each kind of merchandise upon the coupons, and thus the entire set of coupons becomes a vehicle by which the association interchanges trade with an advantage of certain per cent. discount to their patrons and the benefit of this new trade sent to each member. This system is not coöperative, and it is not an association for profit. There are no earnings for the association. A coupon and the entire system of coupons will do the work and accomplish a result which is entirely automatic. It will also be noted, by



way of further illustrating my improved interchange-of-trade-coupon system, that X, a customer, when purchasing a bill of goods of ten dollars at A's store will receive from A  
5 ten coupons representing a cash value of fifty cents, or five cents each. Each coupon is redeemable at the stores of B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N when purchasing goods, and we will presume that X makes a purchase of  
10 five dollars from F. He will then pay F four dollars and seventy-five cents, together with five coupons obtained from A, and F in turn gives X five coupons which are redeemable at all the other stores with the exception of F's  
15 place of business. In this manner the interchange of trade is established between merchants of a town, which, by this system, forming a chain, will send their customers one to the other.

20 The many advantages disclosed by my improved system will be readily appreciated from the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings.

It will also be noted that various changes  
25 may be made as to the several features of the

coupon without departing from the general spirit of the invention.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters  
Patent, is— 30

1. An interchange-of-trade coupon containing the name and business of the merchant issuing it, the names and business of a plurality of other merchants and a statement that it will be received as cash by such other merchants on purchases made from them. 35

2. A series of sets of coupons for interchange of trade each coupon of each set containing a statement that it is issued by a certain party, that it will be received at a given  
cash value with a certain amount purchased, and each coupon containing a list of all the parties issuing the coupons excluding the party issuing the same. 40

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in  
the presence of two witnesses. 45

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Witnesses:

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