

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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POSTAL-CARD HOLDER.

No. 917,170.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ORLANDO W. SHORT, citizen of the United States, residing at Seaford, in the county of Sussex and State of Delaware, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Postal-Card Holders, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to an improved device for holding and displaying postal cards and similar articles, and the object of the invention is to provide a holder of this character which is simple and inexpensive in its construction and can be readily formed from a single length of wire.

The invention further contemplates a holder which embodies a novel construction whereby a number or pack of cards is held in such a manner as to be readily removed from position, the outermost card of the pack being always exposed to view.

For a full understanding of the invention and the merits thereof and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction and the means for effecting the result, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a holder for retaining and displaying postal cards and similar articles. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view through a pair of holders as linked together. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of one of the improved holders.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The holder embodying the present invention is designed to be formed from a single length of wire, the middle portion of the wire constituting a cross bar 1 which has a length slightly less than that of the cards to be supported and is formed at its central point with a crimped portion 2 designed to engage a nail or other supporting member. Pendent from the opposite ends of the cross bar 1 are the hanger arms 3 intermediate portions of which are offset outwardly whereby the lower portions 3^a of the hanger arms are disposed in a plane parallel to and in front of the plane of the upper portions 3^b of the said hanger arms.

The offset portions 4 are in the nature of horizontally disposed and laterally projecting U-shaped loops which open inwardly toward each other and constitute end stops

for the postal cards or like members placed upon the rack. The lower ends of the portions 3^b of the hanger arms are extended rearwardly at 5 to form rests for the bottom edges of the postal cards, and are then extended upwardly at 6 in alinement with the upper portions 3^b of the hanger arms. Attention is directed to the fact that these extensions 6 have a spring engagement with the portions 3^b of the hanger arms but can be swung away therefrom when it is desired to link two of the holders together, the cross bar 1 of one of the hangers being inserted between the upward extensions 6 and the upper portions 3^b of the hanger arms of the opposite holder so as to rest upon the portions 5 of the said holder. In this manner any desired number of the holders may be linked together, each of the holders being adapted to receive a pack of cards and the outermost card of each pack being clearly exposed to view. When the cards are in position they rest upon the rearward extensions 5 and have their ends received within the U-shaped offset portions 4 which form end stops and also embrace the cards so as to cooperate with the lower portions 3^a of the hanger arms and the upward extensions 6 to properly position the front and rear of the cards.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

A holder for cards or similar articles, the said holder being formed of a single length of wire and comprising a cross bar and hanger arms at the ends of the cross bar, the said hanger arms being offset forwardly at an intermediate point in their length by laterally projecting and oppositely facing U-shaped loops which receive the ends of the cards and form stops therefor, the lower ends of the hanger arms being extended rearwardly to engage the bottom of the cards and then upwardly along the back of the cards where they have a spring engagement with the offset portions to admit of a series of the holders being readily linked together.

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

ORLANDO W. SHORT. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

JOHN P. DULANEY,

EDWARD F. PRETTYMAN.