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M. GREENE ET AL

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MOUNTING FOR TELEPHONE COIN COLLECTORS

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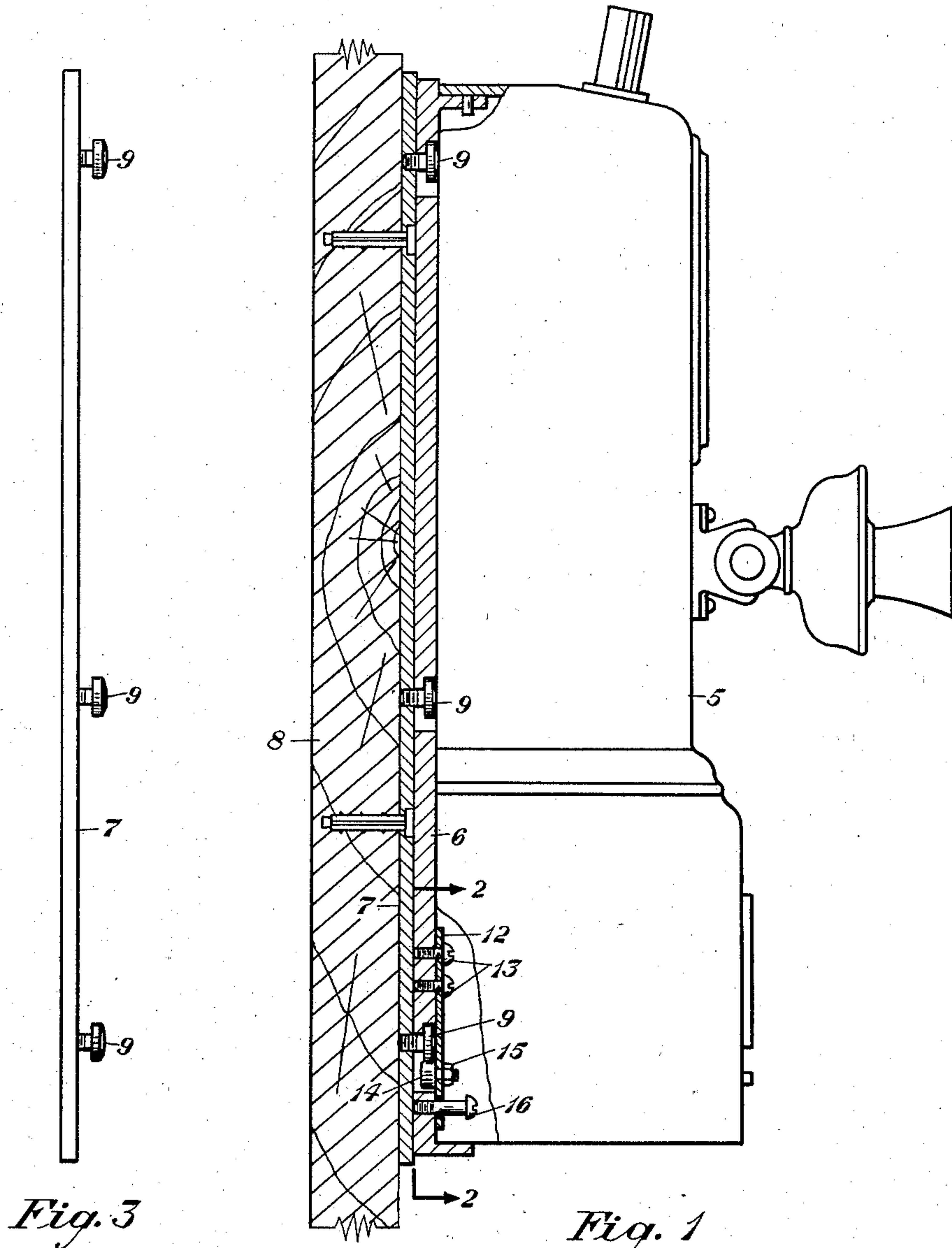


Fig. 3

Fig. 1

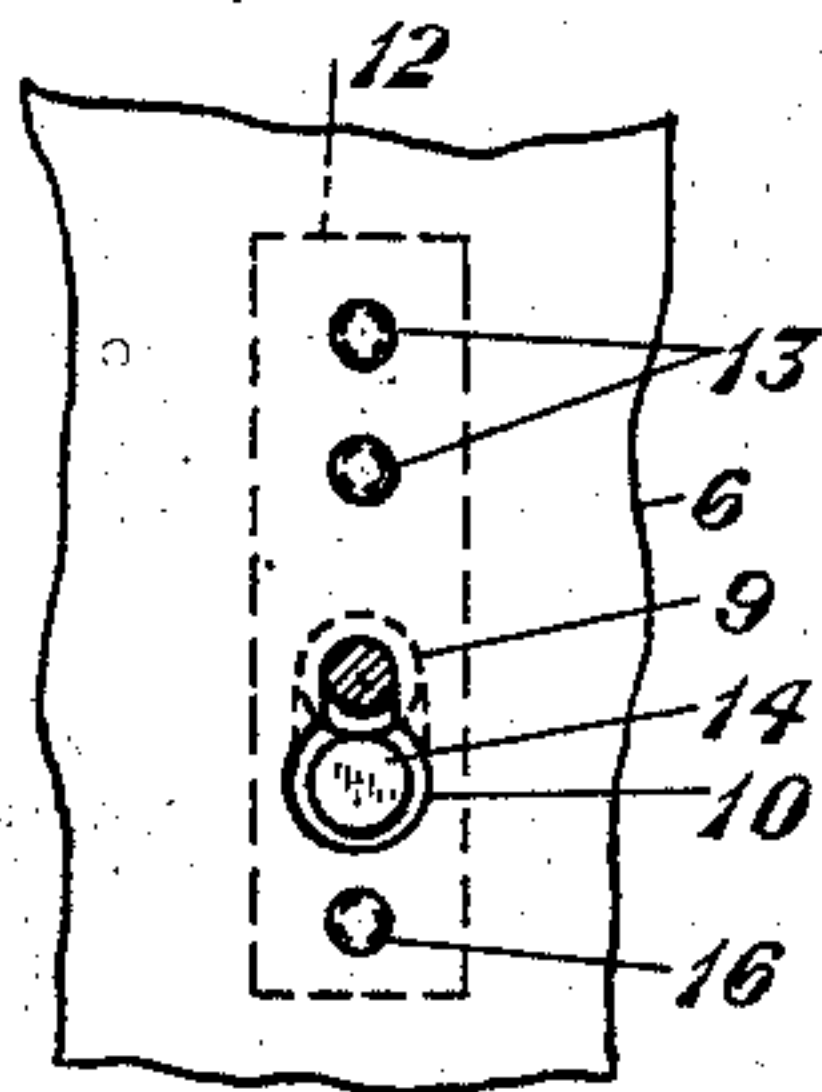


Fig. 2

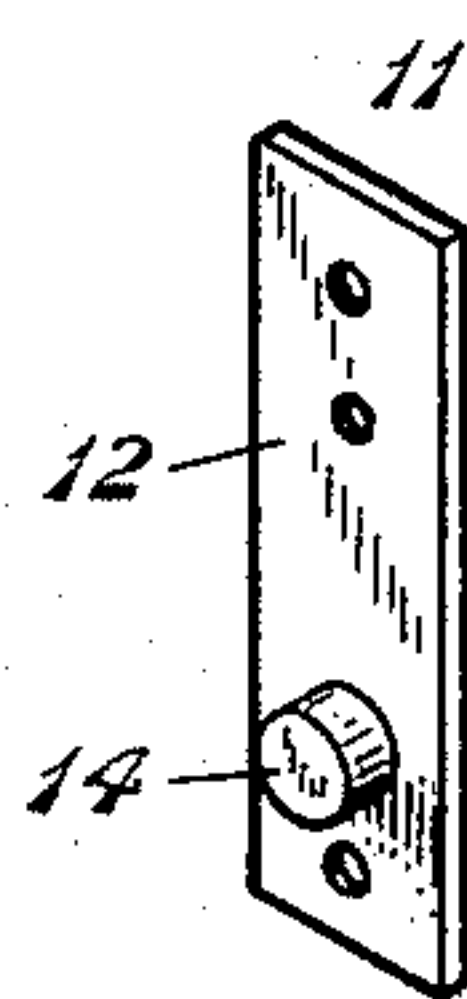


Fig. 4

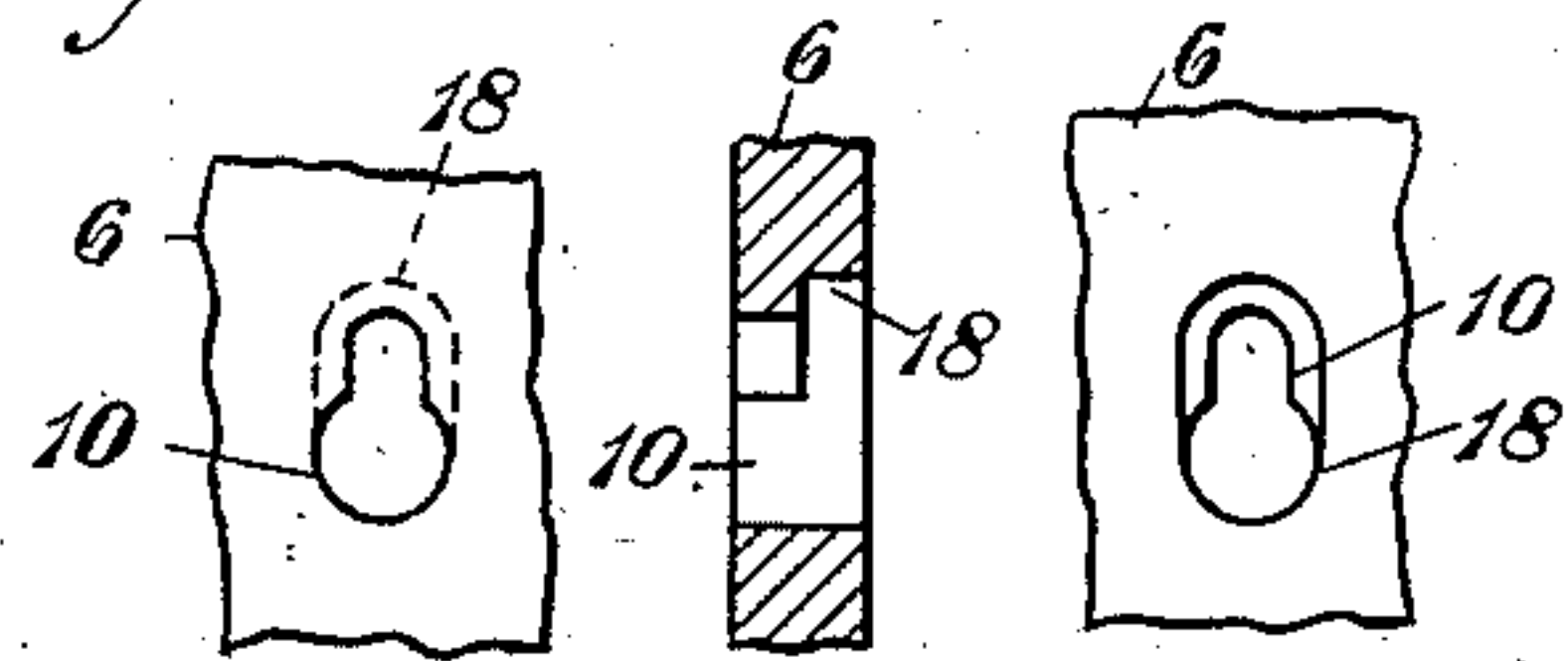


Fig. 5 Fig. 6 Fig. 7

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MOUNTING FOR TELEPHONE COIN
COLLECTORS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 248—311)

This invention relates to coin collecting apparatus for use at telephone pay stations, and more particularly to locking mechanism to prevent the unauthorized removal of such apparatus from its mounting.

It is an object of this invention to provide locking mechanism for use in connection with the mounting of telephone coin collecting apparatus, whereby such apparatus will be automatically and securely locked in permanent position at the time of installation.

This, and further objects, will be apparent from the following description, when considered in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which one embodiment of the invention is illustrated.

Referring to the drawing, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a telephone coin collector showing the backplate thereof and its mounting plate in section, and with the improved locking mechanism applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a view, taken on a line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the supporting plate upon which the coin collector is mounted, and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the spring and pawl elements of the locking mechanism. Fig. 5 is a fragmentary view of the rear surface of the backplate, showing openings in the form of key-slots through which the mounting studs of the supporting plate are preliminarily introduced. Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional view of Fig. 5 showing a key-slot opening which extends from the rear surface and part way through the backplate and connects with a substantially oval-shaped opening which extends to the front surface of the backplate, and Fig. 7 is a fragmentary view of the front surface of the backplate showing the oval opening and a connecting key-slot opening appearing in the rear thereof.

The locking mechanism of this invention is particularly adapted for use with such mountings for coin collecting apparatus as is disclosed in O. N. Giertsen, U. S. application for patent, Serial No. 729,778, filed June 9, 1934.

In the drawing, the main portion 5 of the coin collector housing is shown as being provided with a rear wall or backplate 6. The collector is adapted to be mounted by means of this backplate upon a supporting plate 7 which in turn is carried upon a vertical wall 8 of a room or booth. In the mounting operation, the plate 7, of course, is first securely fastened to the supporting wall 8, and the backplate 6, on which the housing 5 is assembled, and which forms an integral unit therewith, is then secured to the plate. A cash compartment having a door is provided in the

housing 5 through which access may be had to locking mechanism for securing the housing to the supporting wall as will be presently described.

As shown in Fig. 3, the supporting plate 7 is provided with a series of extensions or button-head studs 9 having their shanks integral with or suitably affixed to said supporting plate. The plate 7 is rectangular in shape, similarly to the backplate 6, and the studs 9 extend forwardly from its front surface, and may be suitably spaced from each other and of any number desired. The backplate 6 is provided with a corresponding number of spaced holes 10 which are preferably of inverted key-slot type, as more clearly shown in Fig. 2, and are adapted to register with said studs. The lower openings of said slots are larger than the upper openings. The key-slots 10 extend from the rear surface and part way through the backplate 6 and are of a depth slightly less than the length of the shank portions of the studs 9. These slots connect with depressed or counter-sunk openings 12 of somewhat oval shape (Figs. 6 and 7) which extend forwardly from the key-slots 10 to the front surface of the backplate 6, and said counter-sunk openings are of a depth substantially that of a thickness of the button-head portions of the studs 9. The lower portions of the counter-sunk holes lie in coincident relation with the lower or larger openings in the key-slots 10, and permit the initial entrance of the button-head portions of the studs 9 through the backplate when the collector is mounted on the supporting plate 7. The upper openings of said counter-sunk holes, extend above the top edge of the restricted or upper openings of the key-slots and provide a seat for said button-head portions of the studs 9, while their shank portions register in the restricted openings in the key-slots 10.

In the mounting operation of the coin collector housing backplate on the supporting plate 7, the button-head portions of the studs are first introduced through the lower portions in the key-slots and counter-sunk openings. As the collector is lowered to its seated or mounted position the button-head portions of the studs pass into the upper portions of the counter-sunk holes and the shanks of the studs pass into the restricted openings of the slots, and the button-head portions of said studs register in the upper portion of the counter-sunk opening. In this position, the backs of the button-head portions of the studs are held snugly against the front surfaces of the upper portions of the counter-

sunk openings 18, and thus secure said backplate and supporting plate in rigid interengaged relation. When the button-head portions of the studs are in position their outermost surfaces lie flush with the front surface of the backplate 6. The lower portions of the counter-sunk openings 18 are vacant under this condition, and locking mechanism is associated therewith to fortify against the unauthorized removal of the collector from its mounting, as will be presently described. Additional means such as flat-headed screws may be provided, if desired, to hold the backplate and supporting plate together.

A latching device, as more clearly shown in Fig. 4, is provided for at least one of the counter-sunk openings associated with the key-slots. This latching device, in the present instance, is positioned upon the lower portion of the backplate 6, and preferably back of a return chute (not shown) which is ordinarily located at the left side of the coin collector. The latching device includes a spring member 12 which lies flatly against the face of the backplate 6, and is shown as having openings through which screws 13 pass and engage said back member. A lug or pawl 14 is carried by the spring 12 and may be integral or attached thereto by means of a nut and bolt 15, as shown in Fig. 1. The spring normally holds the pawl seated within the vacant lower part of the recessed hole. The lower end of the spring member may be provided with an aperture through which a screw 16 passes loosely into the backplate 6. The head of this screw provides a stop to prevent excessive back movement of the pawl 14 which might result in the distortion of the spring member 12.

In the mounting operation of the coin collector upon the supporting plate 7, as previously described, the insertion of the button-head stud through the lower opening in the key-slot 10 will result in the pawl 14 being pushed out of this opening and out of the lower portion of the recess 18. When the collector is lowered to its seated or mounted position, the shank of the stud registers in the upper or restricted opening of the key-slot 10, and the button-head portion of the stud lies in the upper part of recess 18 with its lowermost part extending even with or very

slightly below the intersection of the lower larger opening and the upper restricted opening of the key-slot 10. The pawl 14 is of sufficient size to occupy the vacant space provided in the lower portion of the counter-sunk opening, and when in position, it abuts the lowermost part of the button-head portion of the stud 9. The pawl automatically enters this opening when the stud is in the position described, and is resiliently held therein by means of the spring 12. The backplate and supporting plate are thus automatically locked in interengaged relation to maintain the coin collector in mounted position. It will be apparent from the foregoing that said collector will be fortified against unauthorized removal when in the locked position described.

If desired, the coin collector may be removed from its mounting by authorized persons by unlocking and removing or opening the cash compartment door (not shown) of the collector. When the compartment door has been removed or opened access may be had to the interior of the coin collector, and the pawl 14 may be disengaged from its position in the space under the button-head of the stud. The collector may be then lifted and released from engagement with the studs 9.

What is claimed is:

A mounting for telephone coin collectors including a supporting plate having inverted key-slots therethrough, a backplate having button-head extensions thereon adapted to pass through and into the smaller and upper portions of said slots to hold the supporting plate and backplate in interengaged relation, and latching means for automatically locking the supporting plate and backplate in their interengaged positions said latching means including a spring plate carried by the backplate and having a projection therefrom adapted to be engaged in the larger and lower portion of at least one of the key-slots to prevent the dislodgment of the button-head extension from the upper slot and automatically lock the supporting plate and backplate in interengaged relation.

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