No. 721,132. PATENTED FEB. 17, 1903.

E. S. BROOKS.

COMMERCIAL DIRECTORY.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 19, 1902.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

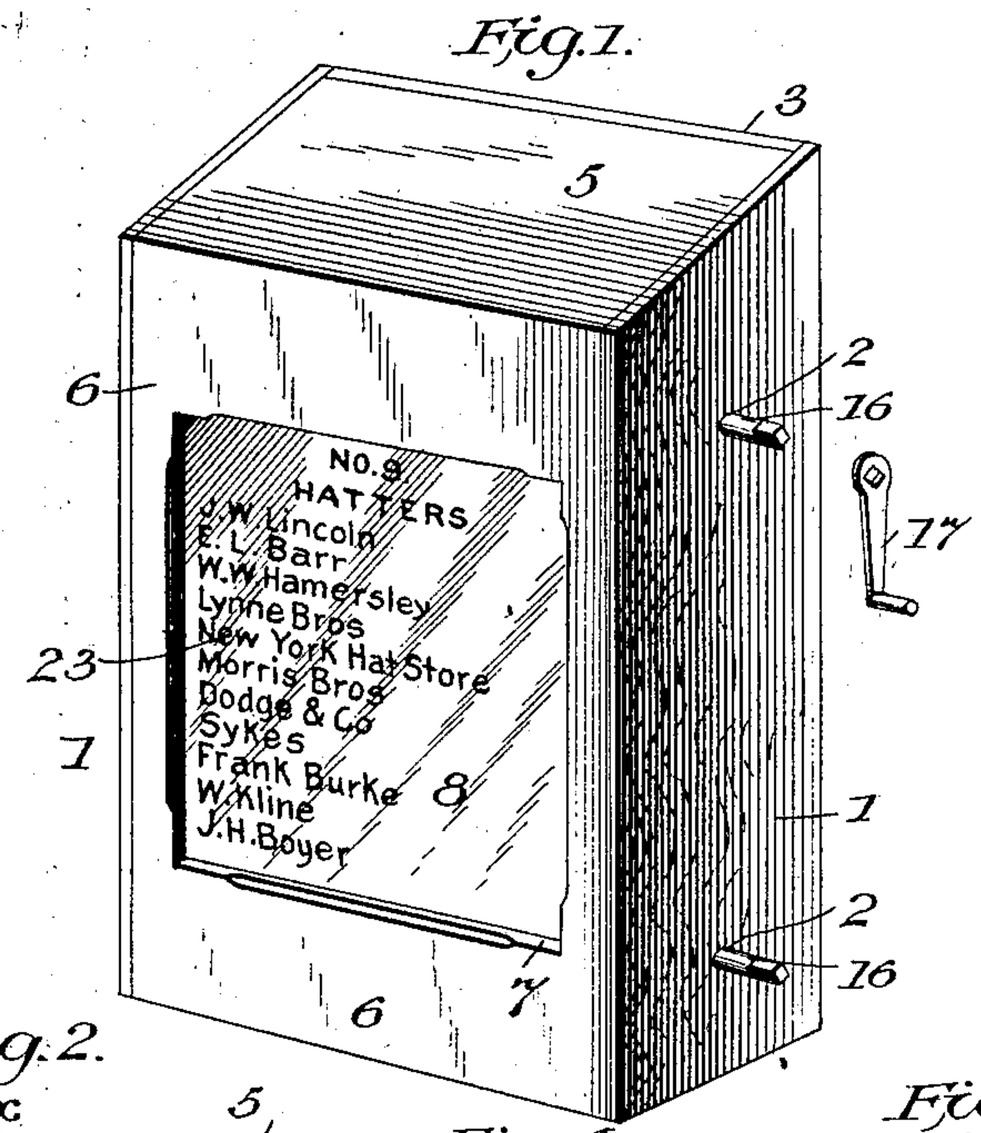


Fig. 2.

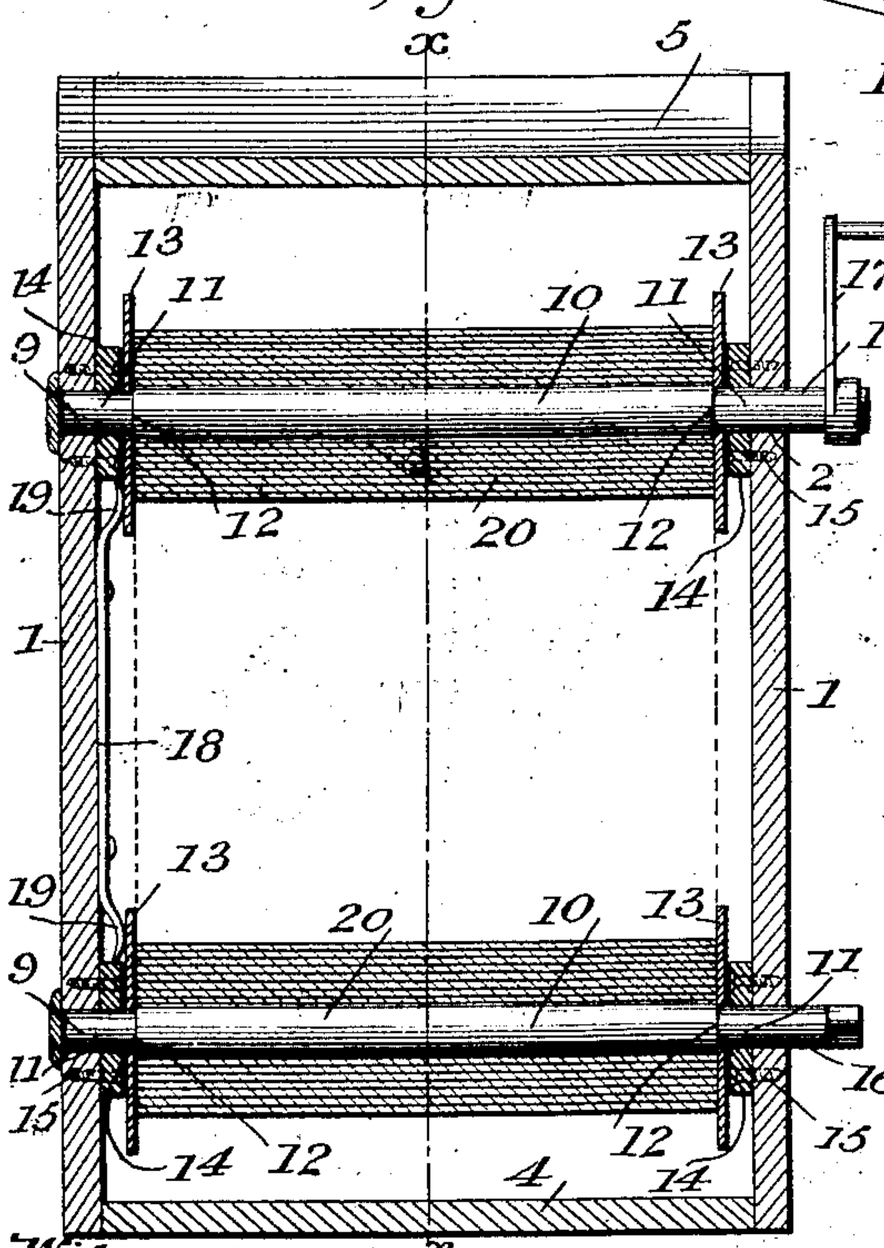


Fig. 4.

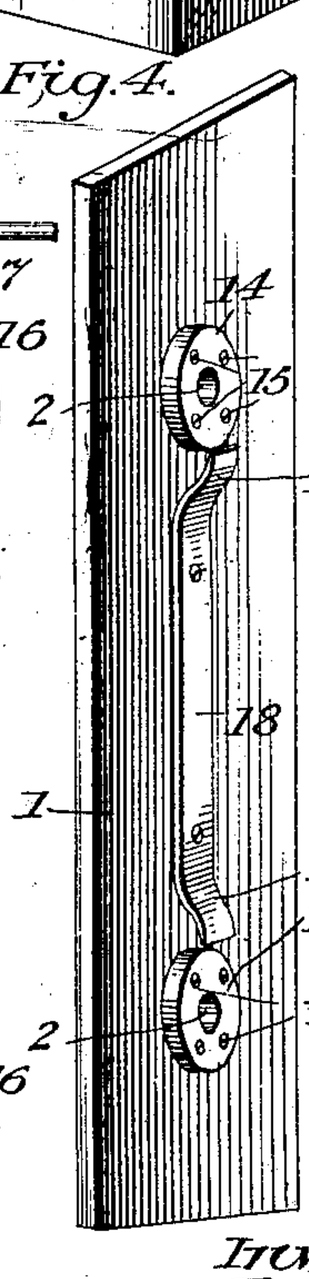
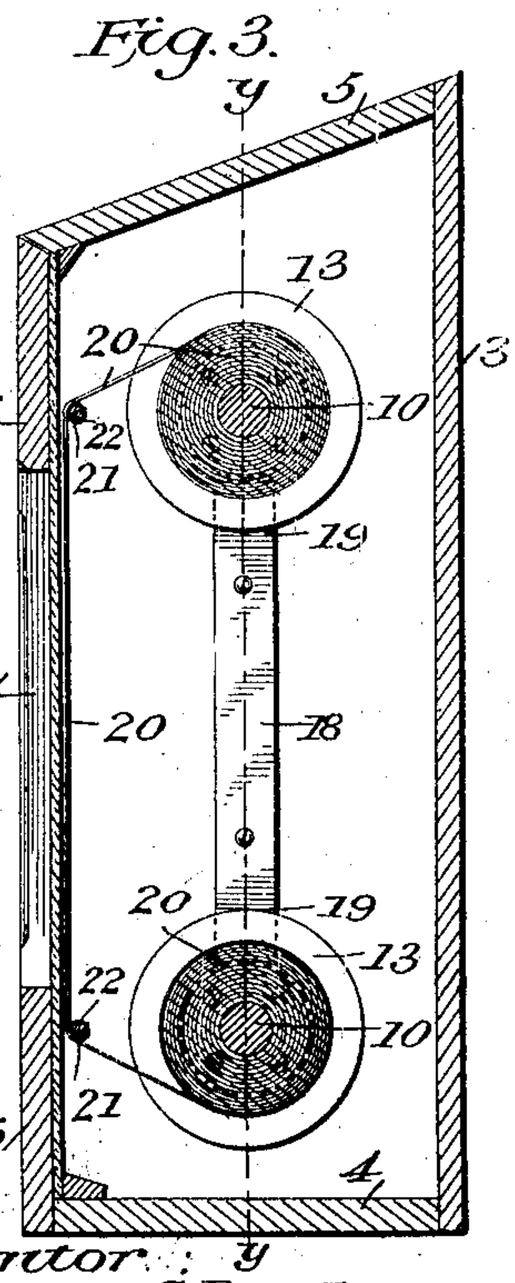


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
Geo. C. Fuller
F. E. McCarten

Inventor:
Emerson S. Brooks
by
F. E. Stebbins
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMERSON S. BROOKS, OF FRANKFORT, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO HOWARD L. HIX, OF FRANKFORT, INDIANA.

COMMERCIAL DIRECTORY

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 721,132, dated February 17, 1903.

Application filed November 10, 1902. Serial No. 131,933. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EMERSON S. BROOKS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Frankfort, in the county of Clinton and State of Indiana, have invented new and useful Improvements in Commercial Directories, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is the provision of a commercial directory containing in classified form advertisements, the names of persons engaged in the several professions; the names of business firms, &c., duplicates of which shall especially be adapted for distribution among small towns adjacent large cities and displayed in conspicuous positions therein and also located within railroad-cars, where they can readily be consulted by the public.

My invention consists in certain novelties of construction and arrangements and combinations of parts hereinafter set forth and claimed.

The accompanying drawings illustrate an example of the physical embodiment of my invention constructed according to the best mode I have so far devised for the practical application of the principle.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the directory as a whole. Fig. 2 is a perpendicular section in elevation of Fig. 1, the section being taken on line *y y* through the sides of the directory. Fig. 3 is a section on line *x x* of Fig. 3. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one side of the directory, showing the interior surface and attachments.

Referring to the several figures, the numeral 1 designates the sides of the closure, which are substantially identical and of the shape shown; 2, holes through the sides, which receive and support shafts or journals; 3, the back of the closure; 4, the bottom; 5, the top; 6, the front; 7, an opening made in the front piece and of any suitable shape and dimensions; 8, a glass secured to the rear surface of the front piece and covering the opening therein; 9, shafts located within the holes 2 in the sides; 10, the bodies of the shafts; 11, the journals of the shafts, made of less diameter than the shafts themselves; 12, bearing-shoulders at the terminations of the journals; 13, circular guide-disks located upon the journals and engaging the shoulders; 14, perforated washers or spacing-blocks located upon the journals and secured to the inner surfaces of the side pieces, the said blocks being preferably made of suitable metal and serving as bearings for the shafts, thus preventing the enlargement by frictional wear of the holes in the side pieces; 15, screws which fasten the blocks to the sides; 16, the heads of the shafts projecting outside the closure, each shaft having an end angular in cross-section; 17, a crank-handle; 18, a plate-spring secured to the inner surface of a side piece; 19, the free flexible ends of the spring which frictionally bear against the outer surfaces of two of the disks on the same side of the closure and force the disks on the opposite side into frictional engagements with the blocks, said spring thus acting as a brake for both shafts and insuring uniformity of velocity in the rotary motion of the shafts; 20, a flexible ribbon having its ends secured to the shafts and wound thereupon, the arrangement being such that as the ribbon is wound upon one shaft it unwinds from the other, and vice versa; 21, wire-guides for the ribbon located above and below the opening in the front panel and over which the ribbon is passed to bring a portion of the same into a perpendicular plane at the rear of the glass. 22 represents antifriction-rollers on the wires to prevent the wear of the ribbon, and 23 is a specimen of an advertisement located upon the ribbon.

The advertisements, such as business-cards or lists of names, &c., may be entitled, classified, and arranged alphabetically upon the ribbon—for instance, commencing with the letter A and ending with Z—and they may also be numbered. An index-card (not shown) should accompany each directory and on which will be printed the titles in numerical order. To consult any particular list—for example, that of hatters—the number affixed to this title is first ascertained from the index and then the crank is revolved until the particular number and list are brought into view at the opening in the front of the directory.

It is of course to be understood that any desirable advertisements may be located upon the ribbon and arranged in any desirable

way and that the mechanism constituting the directory may be used for any analogous purpose for which it is adapted.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings, it is obvious that I have produced a directory which fulfils all the conditions set forth as the end and object of my invention.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—.

The combination in a commercial directory, of a closure having an opening in the front panel backed by a glass plate; two parallel horizontally-disposed shafts 10, 10, with journals 11, one shaft being located above the other and supported in the side panels of the closure, and having projecting ends 16, 16, formed angular in cross-section to receive a crank-handle 17; disks 13 upon each end of each shaft and bearing against the shoulders 12 formed on the shafts; perforated metallic spacing-washers 14 secured to the inner surfaces of the sides of the closure and serving as bearings for the journals of the shafts; a ribbon having its ends secured to the shafts and wound thereupon; wire-guides 21 with friction rollers or tubes 22 on the wires located above and below the opening in the front panel and over which rollers and wires the ribbon is passed; and a plate-spring 18 secured to the inner surface of a side panel, said spring having free flexible ends 19 frictionally bearing against the surfaces of the two disks 13 on the same side of the closure and forcing the two disks 13 at the opposite and adjacent ends of the shafts against the washers 14 which are secured to the inner surface of the opposite side panel of the closure; the ribbon being adapted to receive and display advertisements, and the like, as the shafts are revolved and the ribbon wound and unwound upon the shafts.

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

EMERSON S. BROOKS.

Witnesses:

CHAS. G. GUENTHER,

H. L. HIX.