

No. 753,827.

PATENTED MAR. 1, 1904.

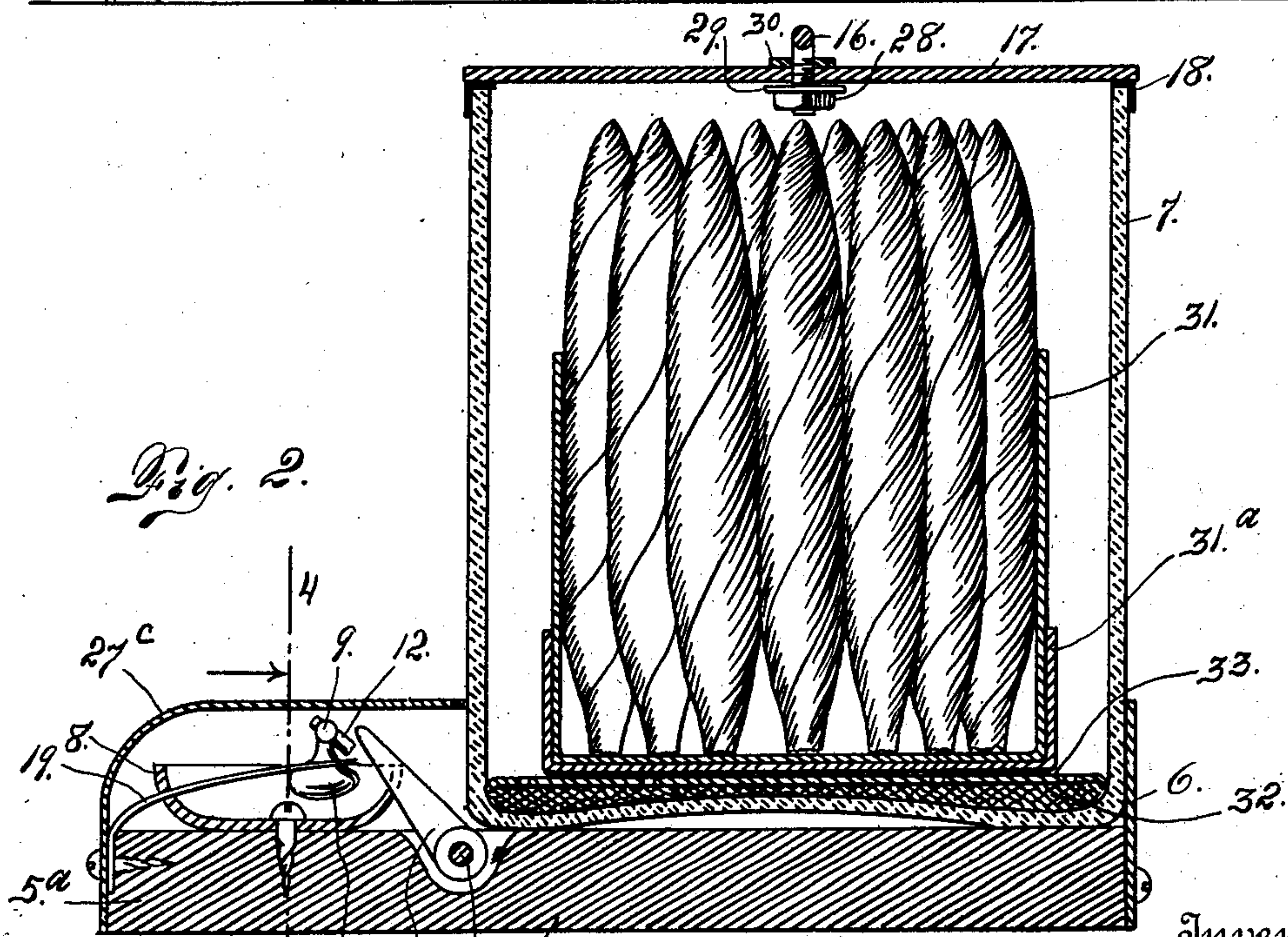
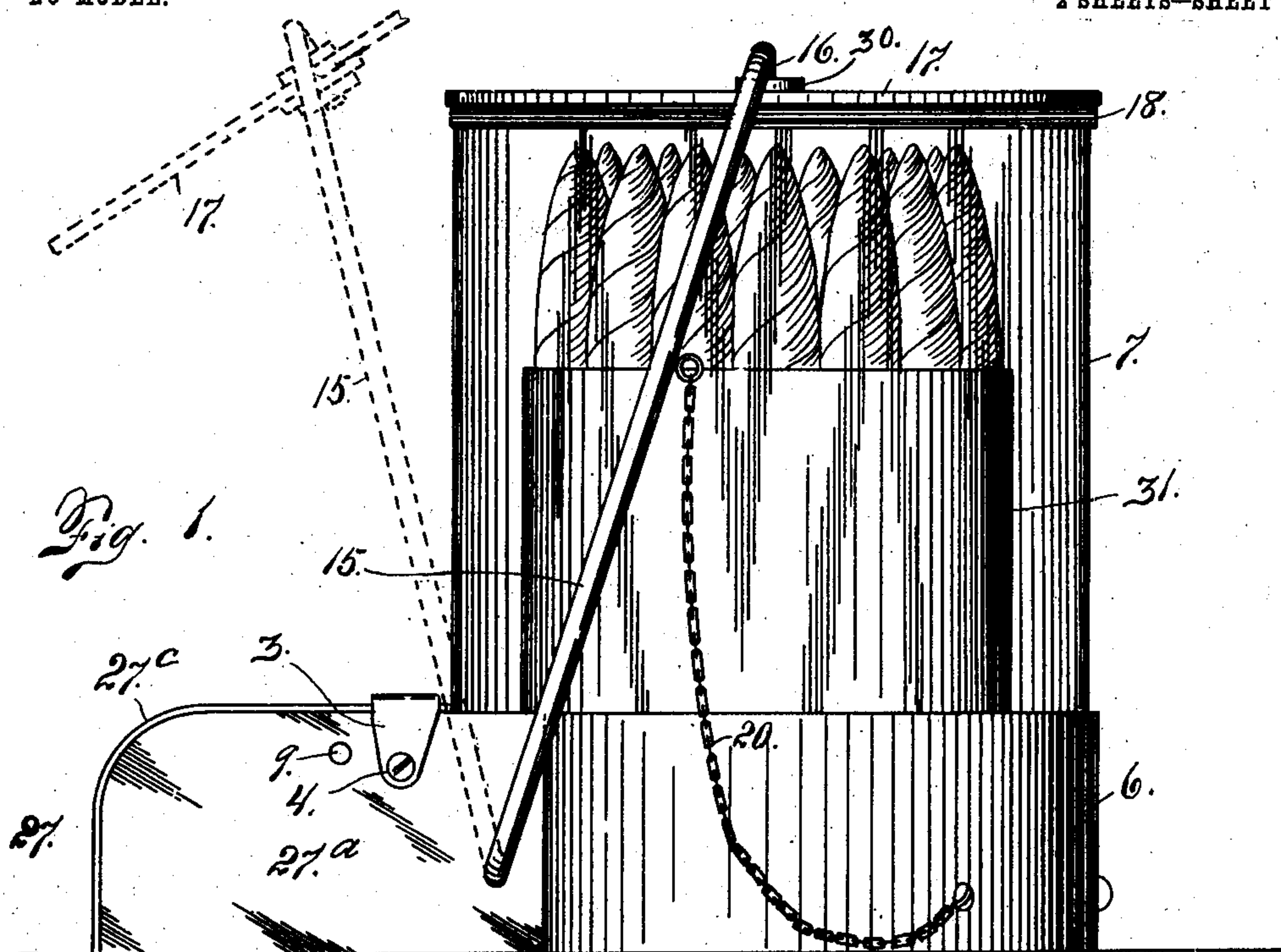
G. H. HAGAR.

DEVICE FOR DISPLAYING AND VENDING CIGARS.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 14, 1903.

NO MODEL.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses:  
Otto C. Haddock.  
Dena Nelson.

Inventor  
G. H. Hagar.  
By *[Signature]*  
Attorney

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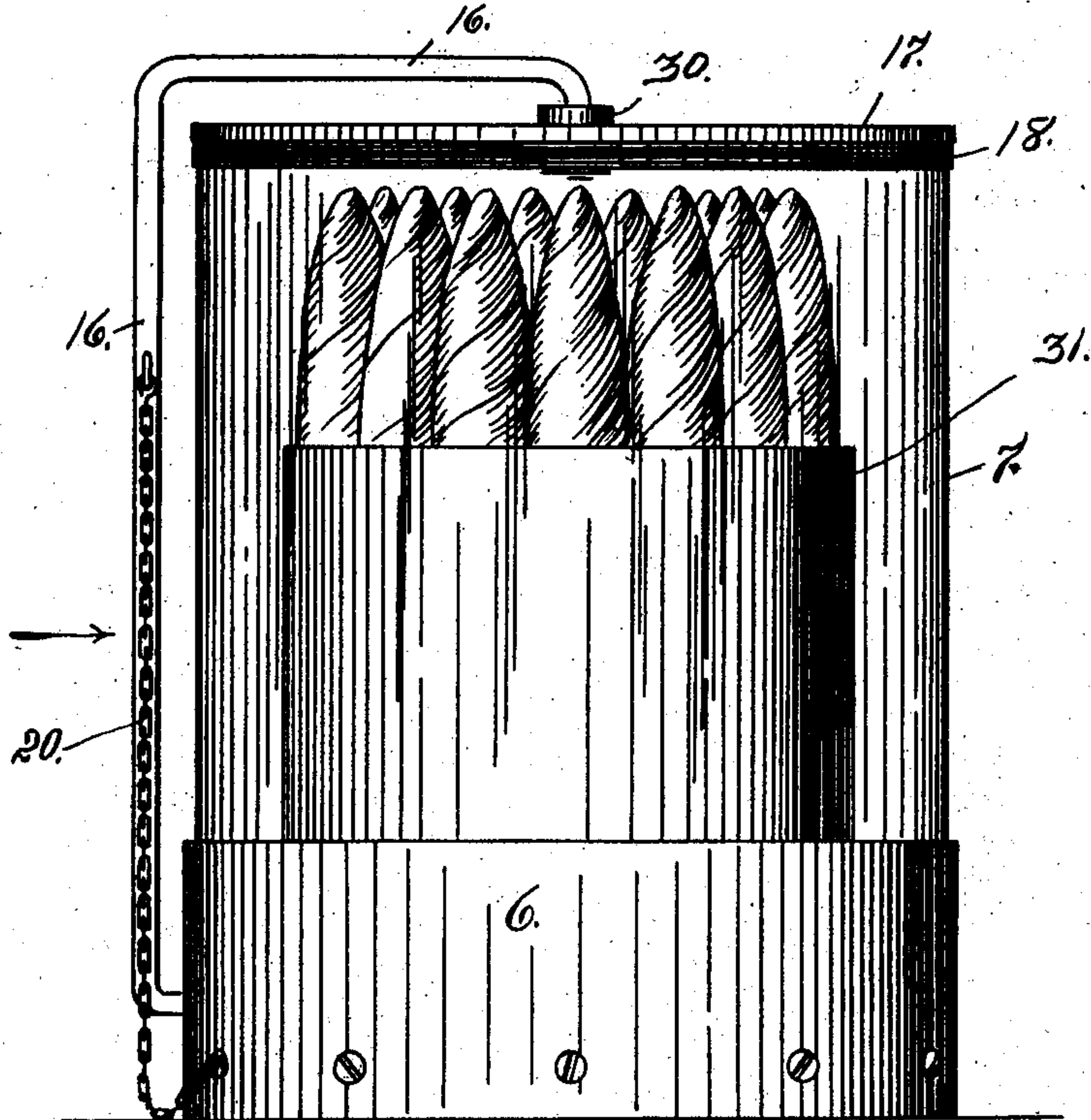


Fig. 3.

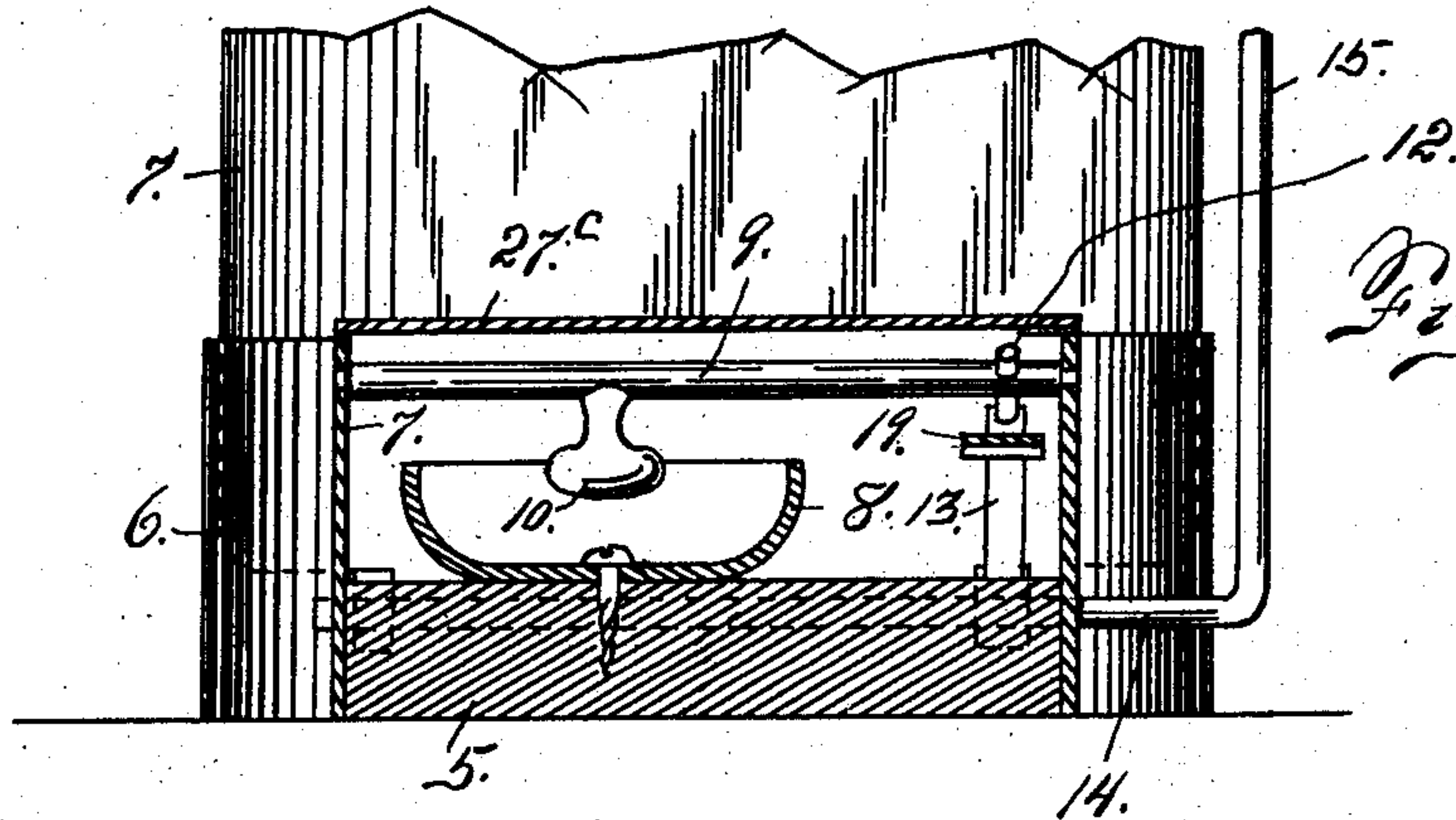


Fig. 4.

Witnesses  
Otto C. Haddock.  
Dena Nelson.

Inventor  
G. H. Hagar.  
By *[Signature]*  
Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE H. HAGAR, OF DENVER, COLORADO.

## DEVICE FOR DISPLAYING AND VENDING CIGARS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 753,827, dated March 1, 1904.

Application filed August 14, 1903. Serial No. 169,530. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE H. HAGAR, a citizen of the United States of America, residing in the city and county of Denver, State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Displaying and Vending Cigars; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in devices for displaying and vending cigars, my object being to provide a device of this class in which the cigars shall be conspicuously and attractively exhibited or brought to the notice of the customer, which device may be opened by the customer and is adapted to close automatically, and which at the time of opening gives the signal to notify the person in charge of the store that there is a customer present.

A further object of my device is to keep the cigars in a properly-moistened condition while conspicuously displayed.

The mechanism whereby I accomplish these objects and through whose instrumentality the functions outlined are performed will now be described in detail, reference being made to the accompanying drawings, in which is illustrated an embodiment thereof.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved device. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the same. Fig. 3 is a front view of the device. Fig. 4 is a section taken on the line 4-4, Fig. 2.

The same reference characters indicate the same parts in all the views.

Let the numeral 5 designate a base, preferably composed of wood, and to which is applied a metal plate or band 6, which projects above the base and forms a holder for a glass jar 7, which rests on the base 5, as shown. The base 5 extends rearwardly from the jar, as shown at 5<sup>a</sup>, and this extension is inclosed by a casing 27, whose vertical sides consist of rearward extensions of the plate 6 and whose

top portion is detachable by the removal of screws 4, which engage lugs 3, projecting downwardly from the top part on the outside of the vertical casing parts 27<sup>a</sup>. The top 27<sup>c</sup> of this casing is rounded at its forward extremity to conform to the curve of the jar 7.

Secured to the base extension 5<sup>a</sup> and inclosed by the casing 27 is a gong 8. Journaled in the casing 27 above this gong is a spindle 9, upon which is mounted a tongue or striker 10. Upon this spindle is also secured a pin 12, which lies in the path of a lever-arm 13, made fast to a rock-shaft 14, journaled in the casing sides 27<sup>a</sup>. Connected with this shaft and extending upwardly from the same is an arm 15, whose upper extremity is bent inwardly at right angles to the body of the arm, as shown at 16. The extremity of this part 16 is then bent downwardly and enters a central opening formed in a disk 17, which forms a cover for the jar 7, the upper edge of the latter being provided with a rubber gasket 18, which encircles the top of the jar and covers the upper edge of the glass, so that when the disk 17 is in place a tight joint is formed to prevent the cigars from drying out. The cover 17 is loosely connected with the arm part 16, whereby it may adjust itself automatically to fit the upper edge of the jar when the arm 15 occupies the position shown by full lines in Fig. 1 and by dotted lines in Fig. 2.

A leaf-spring 19 is secured to the casing 27 at one end, and its opposite end projects under the spindle 9, occupying a position in the path of the crank-arm 13 when the lid-holding arm 16 is moved rearwardly or to the dotted-line position in Fig. 1. A chain 20, connected with the arm 16 at one extremity and with the casing 6 at the opposite extremity, limits the rearward movement of the lid-holding arm. The downwardly-bent extremity of the arm part 16 is threaded where it passes through the disk-lid 17, and a nut 28 is screwed thereon below the lid. Above this nut is a washer 29, while a washer 30 is also applied to the arm extremity above the lid. It is preferable to leave a space between the washer 29 and the top of the lid in order that the latter may have a loose connection with its sup-



porting arm or holder to permit the automatic adjustment of the lid to fit the top of the jar, as heretofore explained.

When the device is in use, a box or other suitable receptacle containing cigars is placed in the jar 7 of the device. Previous to placing the cigars in the jar a moistened pad 32 is placed in the bottom of the jar, and above this pad is placed a perforated plate 33, which prevents the cigar-receptacle 31 from coming in direct contact with the moisture of the pad. This pad keeps the cigars within the jar moistened to the desired degree. By resaturating the pad at intervals this moistening function may be continuously maintained.

The jar is preferably composed entirely of glass, though it is evident that it may be made of other material, glass being simply employed on the front side in order to render the cigars visible.

When the device is in use, the cigars contained in a suitable box or case 31 are placed in the jar. The top 31<sup>a</sup> of this case is removed and placed on the bottom thereof, as shown in Fig. 2, in order to expose the tops of the cigars through the glass case. A person who desires to purchase a cigar simply moves the lid-holding arm 16 rearwardly to the dotted-line position in Fig. 1. As he does this the rock-shaft 14 is actuated and the arm 13 moved to engage the pin 12, whereby the tongue 10 is actuated or moved in one direction to such an extent that when released it will fall back and strike the gong. This sound signals the person in charge of the store that a person has taken a cigar. The spring 19 is acted on by the arm 13 at the same time, and as the power or pressure which moves the arm 16 and its lid rearwardly, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1, ceases to act the recoil of the spring 19 will return the arm 16 to its normal position, or to a position forward of a vertical plane passed through the axis or center of motion of the arm 16, after which the gravity of the lid will carry it to its closed position.

Attention is called to the fact that while my improved device is more especially intended for exhibiting, displaying, and vending cigars it may be employed for the same purpose in connection with any other suitable articles of merchandise.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The combination with a suitable base, of a receptacle mounted thereon and having a transparent portion, a rock-shaft journaled in the base, an arm connected with the rock-shaft, a lid adapted to close the top of the receptacle and liftably removable bodily therefrom, said lid being connected with the upper extremity of the arm, the rock-shaft being located to allow the lid to be opened or removed from the receptacle as the rock-shaft is actuated in one direction.

2. The combination with a suitable base, of a transparent receptacle mounted thereon, a rock-shaft journaled in the base and located to one side of the center of the receptacle, an arm connected with the rock-shaft, a lid adapted to close the top of the receptacle but not otherwise connected therewith, said lid being liftably removable bodily from the receptacle and connected with the upper extremity of the arm, and means connected with the arm for limiting the rearward movement of the latter as the rock-shaft is turned.

3. The combination with a suitable base, of a transparent receptacle mounted thereon, a rock-shaft journaled in the base, an arm connected with the rock-shaft, a lid connected with the arm adapted to close the receptacle at the top and being liftably removable bodily therefrom, and a signal device actuated from the rock-shaft as the latter is turned to open the lid through the instrumentality of the arm connecting the rock-shaft and lid.

4. The combination with a suitable frame or base, of a transparent receptacle mounted thereon, a lid for the receptacle, an arm connected with the lid, said arm being journaled in the base at a suitable point whereby as the arm is actuated in one direction the lid may be moved from the top of the receptacle, means connected with the arm for limiting its rearward movement, a signal device actuated by the movement of the rock-shaft, and a spring placed under tension by the movement of the rock-shaft in opening the receptacle, and arranged to return the lid automatically to the closed position.

5. The combination with a suitable frame or base, of a transparent receptacle mounted thereon, a rock-shaft suitably journaled, an arm connected with the rock-shaft and extending upwardly, a lid connected with the upper extremity of the arm, a crank-arm connected with the rock-shaft, a signal actuated by the arm as the rock-shaft is operated, and a spring also engaging the crank-arm as the rock-shaft is actuated whereby the spring is placed under tension as the lid is opened, and acts on the crank-arm to return the lid to the closed position, substantially as described.

6. In a device for displaying and vending cigars, the combination of a transparent receptacle, a lid adapted to close the receptacle but not otherwise connected therewith, said lid being liftably removable bodily from the receptacle, an arm connected with the lid and journaled at a suitable point below, a signal actuated from the journal portion of the arm as the latter is operated, and means acting on the arm to return it to its normal position after it has been moved rearwardly to open the lid.

7. The combination with a suitable base, of a plate surrounding the base and projecting above the same, a transparent receptacle mounted on the base and held in position by the plate, a lid movably mounted on said re-



ceptacle, a gasket surrounding the top of the lid and extending over its upper edge to make a tight joint between the lid and the body of the receptacle, an arm whose upper extremity is connected with the lid, a rock-shaft suitably journaled and with which the lower extremity of the arm is connected, a crank-arm mounted on the rock-shaft, a signaling device operated by the crank-arm as the rock-shaft is moved to open the lid, and a spring acting to return the rock-shaft and its connections to their normal position after each lid-opening operation.

8. In a device for exhibiting and vending cigars, the combination of a suitable base, a transparent receptacle, a moistening device located in the bottom of said receptacle, a perforated plate located above the moistening device and forming a support for the cigars, a lid adapted to close the top of the receptacle, said lid consisting of a flat disk, and suitable

means connected with the lid whereby it may be swung to the open or closed position as desired.

9. The combination of a receptacle adapted to display articles of merchandise, a lid adapted to close said receptacle at the top but not otherwise connected therewith and being liftably removable bodily therefrom, a swinging arm connected with said lid for opening and closing the latter, and a spring placed under tension by the opening movement of the arm and having a tendency to close the lid as soon as the force applied for opening purposes, ceases to act.

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

GEORGE H. HAGAR.

Witnesses:

DENA NELSON,

OTTO E. HODDICK.