

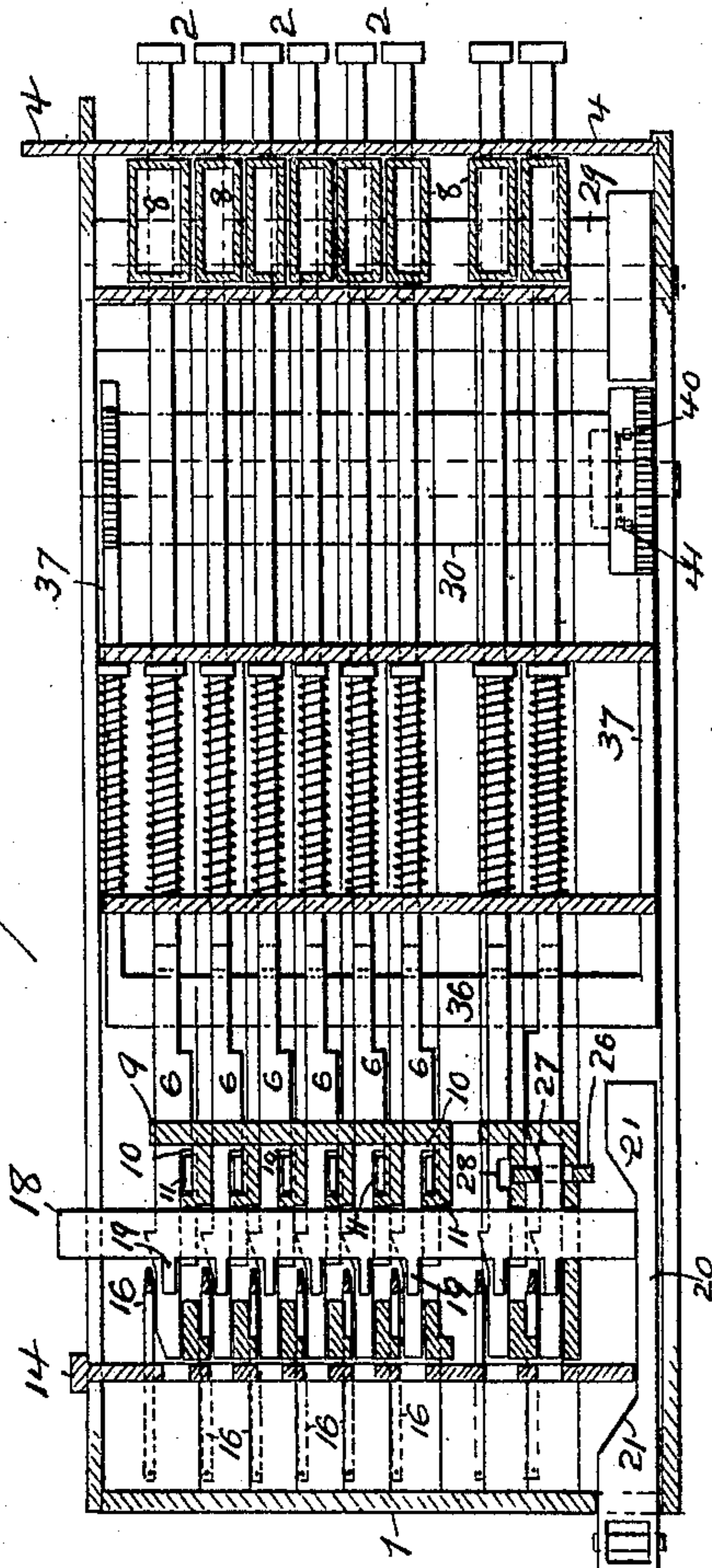
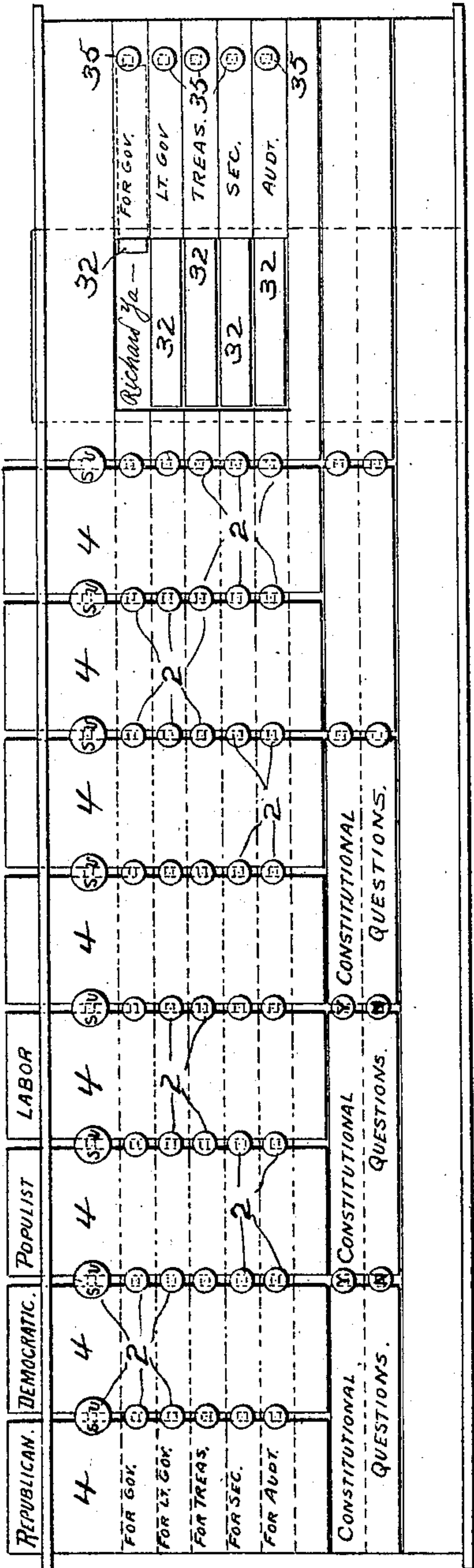
No. 796,115.

PATENTED AUG. 1, 1905.

W. H. DAILY.  
VOTING MACHINE.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 19, 1903.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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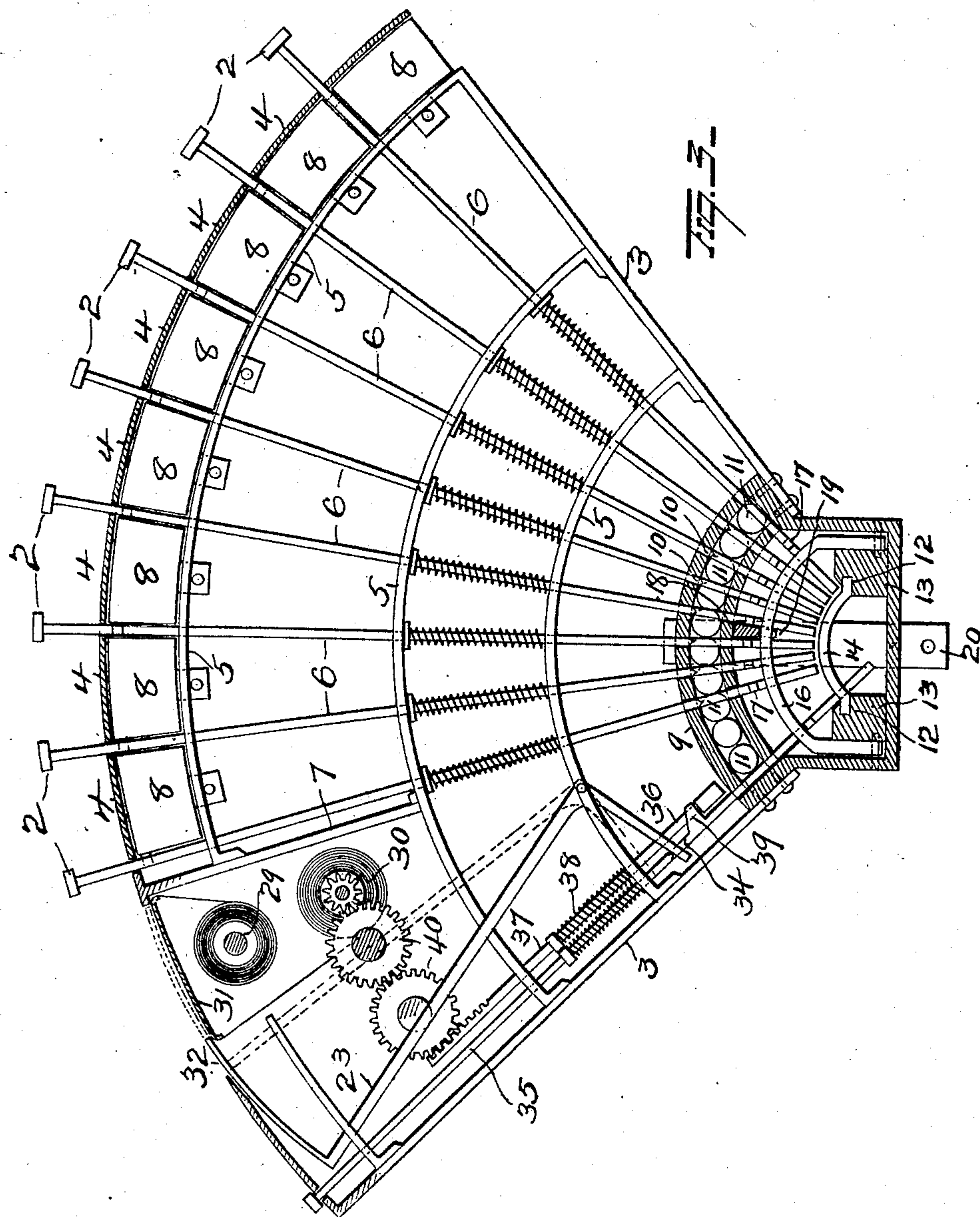
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 4.

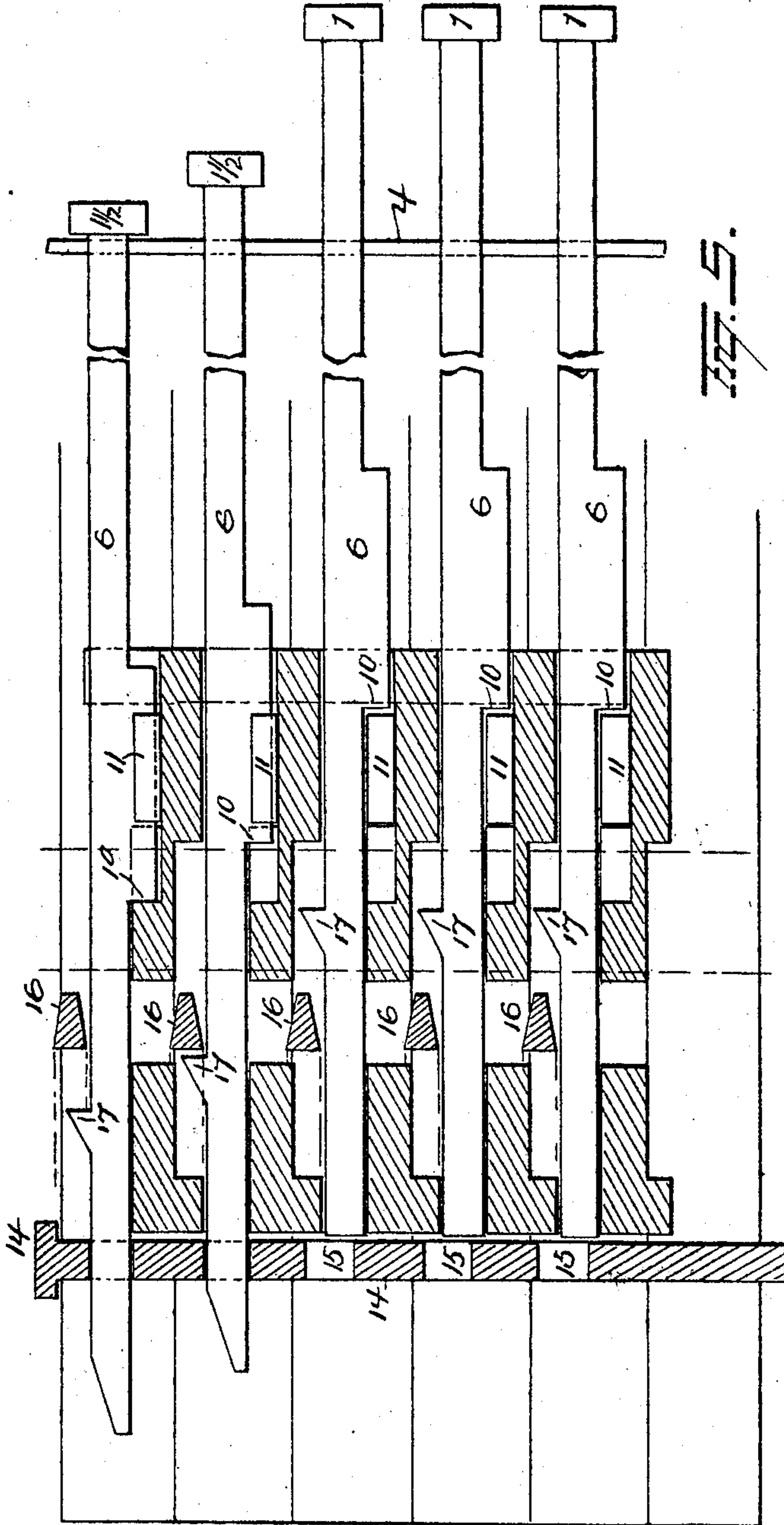
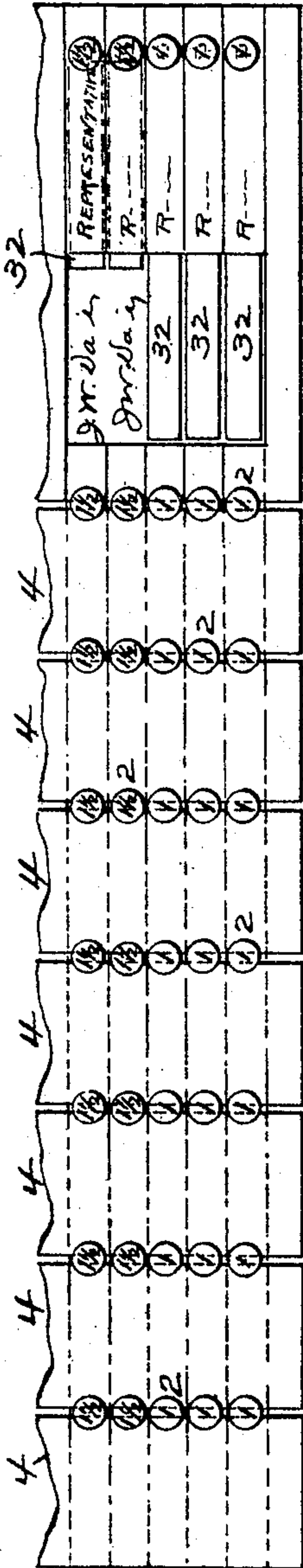


Fig. 5.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. DAILY, OF CARTHAGE, ILLINOIS.

## VOTING-MACHINE.

No. 796,115.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 1, 1905.

Application filed June 19, 1903. Serial No. 162,276.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. DAILY, a resident of Carthage, in the county of Hancock and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Voting-Machines; and I do hereby 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.

My invention relates to an improved voting-machine; and it consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations and arrangements of parts, as will be more fully hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation illustrating my improvements. Fig. 2 is a view in vertical longitudinal section. Fig. 3 is a view in horizontal section. Fig. 4 is a view in front elevation, illustrating my improvements designed for recording votes for Illinois State representatives, and Fig. 5 is a view in vertical longitudinal section thereof.

1 represents an approximately rectangular frame forming the rear inclosure of my machine and having flaring extensions at its open side to which the radial side plates 3 of the casing are secured. The front of the casing is closed by a series of slates 4, on which are written or printed the political parties, names of candidates, and offices for which they are running, and between the slates the keys 2 are located, which will be more fully hereinafter described.

The side plates 3 are connected at intermediate points by curved plates 5, which are made with alined openings forming guides for the key-bars 6, the front curved bar only extending as far as a radial partition 7, between which latter and the side plate a chamber is formed for the independent-voting mechanism, and suitable registers are located in chambers 8, between the slates and the forward partition-plate, and are operated by the several keys, and registers are provided for each and every key-bar of the several series except the independent-voting key-bars. All of the key-bars are provided with coiled springs to return them to their projected position and hold them in such position until operated.

At the rear of the machine a circular horizontal chamber 9 is provided for every horizontal series of key-bars, and the key-bars

pass through these chambers and are provided on their lower edges with sharpened enlargements 10, which displace a horizontal series of disks 11 in said chambers. These disks are of just the proper size and number to permit but one enlargement 10 to pass between them, so that when one key-bar is pushed in all of the other key-bars in that horizontal series are effectually locked by the disks 11 against inward movement and no two keys can be pushed in at the same time, as there is not sufficient room between the disks to permit it.

Mounted in grooves 12 in blocks or guide-bars 13 at the rear of the casing is a vertical locking-plate 14, curved as shown, and this plate is provided with several series of openings 15, which when the plate is in its normal or lower position aline with all of the key-bars of the machine and permit them to pass through the plate, and the upper horizontal series of key-bars (which are straight-vote key-bars) are made with beveled ends, so that when said straight-vote bars are pushed in their beveled ends will in passing through plate 14 elevate the same to dispose the openings therein out of alinement with the other key-bars and prevent the operation of any of the lower series of keys, which are individual-voting keys, and as the disks 11 will prevent the pushing in of any other straight-vote key the voter can vote no more and must make way for the next voter, the machine being in the meantime operated to release the pushed-in key, as will hereinafter appear.

To the guide-bars or blocks 13 locking-bails 16 are pivoted, and the key-bars are all provided on their upper faces with beveled catches 17, which when the bars are pushed inward serve to first raise the locking-bail 16, and the latter falls in front of the catch and locks the bar in its inward position, preventing the return of the bar until the bail is elevated, and this is done by a vertical trip-bar 18, which latter is mounted about the center of the rear portion of the casing and has a series of fingers 19 projecting beneath the several bails, so that when the trip-bar is elevated it will elevate all of the bails and permit the key-bars to spring outward to their set position.

Beneath bar 18 and plate 14 a slide-block 20 is located, is recessed at its center, on which the plate 14 and bar 18 rest, and made with beveled shoulders at its ends, so that when the block is moved in one direction the bey-



eled shoulder 21 will elevate bar 18 to release the key-bars, and when the block is moved in the opposite direction the other beveled shoulder 22 will elevate plate 14 and move all of the openings therein out of alinement with the key-bars except such as may be desired to be left free to be voted—as, for instance, in some States women are allowed to vote on certain questions and for certain offices, and this movement of plate 14 is especially adapted for this purpose of locking all other key-bars. The operation of block 20 is under the entire control of the election judges, and hence the key-bars are only released after a voter leaves the booth and before another enters.

At the bottom of the machine I provide a series of "Yes" and "No" keys for voting on constitutional questions and the like and locate beside the keys slates on which the questions appear. It is such questions as these upon which women are permitted to vote, and it becomes necessary to lock the other keys when a woman enters the booth. These "Yes" and "No" keys operate precisely like the others described, save that separate locking-bars 26 are provided therefor, and the openings in plate 14 through which they pass are larger than the other openings, so that these keys are not locked when the plate is raised to lock the others. The bars 26 have openings therein through which the "No" key-bars pass, and said bars are made with beveled shoulders 27 to raise or elevate the bars 26 in passing therethrough and move the bar 26 up into a notch 28 in the "Yes" key-bar, preventing the operation of the latter, and when the "Yes" key-bar is operated first its notch 28 will be moved from above bar 26 and prevent the elevation of the latter, and consequently prevent the "No" key-bar from being pushed in.

The independent-voting section of the machine is at one end and comprises two vertically-mounted rollers or drums 29 and 30, the former a blank-paper-supply roller and the latter a roller on which the voted paper is wound. The paper from roller 29 passes around a plate 31, which forms a backing therefor and permits the same to be written upon. The paper across plate 31 is normally inclosed by curved shutters 32, carried by the forward ends of L-shaped levers 33, fulcrumed at the angle of the levers, and the short members of said levers 33 rest in openings 34 in the independent key-bars 35, so that when the independent key-bars are pushed inward the shutters 32 will be swung back from in front of the paper and present it to be written upon by the voter. A frame 36 is mounted to slide back and forward and made with forwardly-projecting arms 37, on which springs 38 are located to normally hold the frame in its forward position and return it to such position, and lugs 39 are provided on the independent key-bars to engage the frame 38 and

force it rearward when a key-bar is operated. The arms 37 have toothed racks thereon to engage a chain of gearing 40 to turn roller 30 and wind the paper thereon, and suitable ratchet mechanism 41 is provided at the roller 30 to compel the roller to turn in one direction only and not be operated on the forward movement of the frame.

The independent key-bars pass between the disks 11 and through openings in locking-plate 14 and are locked by the bails 16 in precisely the same manner as the other key-bars, so that when the independent-key in any horizontal series is operated no other key in that series can be operated, but the independent-keys in the other horizontal series can be operated or an independent-key in any horizontal series can be operated; but in no case can two keys in any horizontal series be operated by the same voter.

The mechanism shown in Figs. 4 and 5 is especially designed for recording the votes for Illinois representatives. In the State of Illinois there is a law allowing every voter three votes for State representatives, and he can divide his votes as he pleases. For instance, he can cast all three votes for one candidate, one and one-half votes for any two candidates, or one each for three candidates, and my improved machine is shown in these Figs. 4 and 5 as designed for this character of voting. Each candidate has a slate, beside which five keys are located in a vertical series, and these keys are secured upon key-bars operating in precisely the same manner as the other key-bars, except that both the upper key-bars will elevate the plate 14 to prevent the operation of the lower three, as will hereinafter appear. The upper two keys are designated "1½" keys, and the lower three are "1" vote keys. When either of the "1½" key-bars is pushed in, it will, owing to its beveled inner ends, elevate plate 14 and prevent the operation of any of the "1" vote keys, but permit the other "1½" vote key to be operated to cast three votes for the same man, if desired, or these votes may be cast for another. When a "1" vote key-bar is pushed in, it will pass through plate 14 and prevent its elevation, thus preventing the "1½" key-bars being pushed in, but permit the other two remaining votes to be voted for the same or other candidates, as desired. These key-bars are also provided with the disks 11, so that no two key-bars can be operated in the same horizontal series, and the independent-keys at one end are operated in precisely the same manner as above described in connection with the other form of my improvements.

The operation of my improvements is as follows: The machine is located in a booth in which but one voter is permitted to enter at a time, so that no one knows how he votes. When he enters the booth, if he desires to vote a straight party vote he pushes in the proper



straight-key at the top. When this key is pushed in, the key-bar will operate the register to record the vote. It will also displace the disks 11, so that no other straight-key can be pushed it. It will elevate locking-plate 14 to prevent any of the individual-keys being operated, and it will be caught and held by the bail 16 and prevent the same key being operated again. When the voter leaves the booth, the election judge will operate block 20 to raise trip-bar 18 to raise bail 16 from the catch on the key-bar and permit the latter to spring to its outer position, when the machine will be ready for the next voter. If the next voter does not desire to vote a straight ticket, he can push in any of the keys in any of the vertical series, and as soon as he does so he effectually locks the plate 14 against upward movement, and thereby prevents the operation of any of the straight-keys, and he cannot vote two votes in any horizontal series, as the disks 11 will prevent his so doing. If he desires to vote for independent candidates, he pushes in the proper independent-key. The movement of the independent key-bar would move lever 33 to swing shutter 32 to one side and expose the paper, and at the same time the inward movement of the key-bar will force the frame 36 inward and through the medium of rack and gearing 40 turn roller 30 to wind the voted paper thereon and expose a blank space to the voter, on which he writes the name of the man he votes for. He can vote for all the offices the same way, or he can vote an individual-key in any series, providing, of course, it is not in the same horizontal plane as the independent-keys he votes. The constitutional or other questions can be voted "Yes" or "No," as above explained, and all of the keys will be locked in their inward position by the bails 16 and all be released when the trip-bar 18 is raised by block 20, and all of the key-bars can be locked against operation, except a few, by raising plate 14 through the medium of block 20, as has hereinbefore been pointed out. With my improvements, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, the voter can divide his three votes for State representatives as he pleases, but he cannot vote more than three votes for any one candidate nor more than three votes in all.

A great many slight changes might be made in the general form and arrangement of the parts described without departing from my invention, and hence I do not restrict myself to the precise details set forth, but consider myself at liberty to make such slight changes and alterations as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention.

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

1. In a voting-machine, the combination with a series of straight and individual voting key-bars, of a vertically-movable plate having openings through which all of said key-bars pass, the straight-voting key-bars constructed to move the plate to prevent the operation of any of the individual key-bars, means for preventing the operation of but one key-bar in any horizontal series, hinged bails to engage catches on the key-bars and lock them when moved inward, a vertically-movable trip-bar to raise all of said bails and release the bars, springs to return the bars to their projected position, a sliding block having beveled shoulders at both ends, one to engage the plate and move it to lock all but certain key-bars against movement, and the other beveled shoulder to engage the trip-bar and release the key-bars, the operation of said block being under the control of the election judge.

2. In a voting-machine, the combination with a series of straight and individual voting key-bars, of a vertically-movable plate having openings through which all of said key-bars pass, means on the straight-voting keys for moving the plate to prevent the operation of any of the other key-bars, pivoted bails to engage catches on the keys when pushed inward and lock them in such position, and means for simultaneously lifting all of said bails to release the key-bars.

3. In a voting-machine, the combination with a series of straight and individual voting key-bars, of pivoted bails to engage catches on the key-bars and lock them in their inward-thrust position, a vertical trip-bar, fingers on the trip-bar projecting beneath the bails, and means for raising said trip-bar to simultaneously raise all of the bails and release all of the key-bars locked thereby.

4. In a voting-machine, a plurality of groups of individual-candidate-voting keys, the keys of each group being of a single unitary value and different from those in another group, and means operative to lock the keys in one group when the keys in another group are operated.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM H. DAILY.

Witnesses:

CLARENCE V. DONOVAN,  
JAMES J. CALLAHAN.