

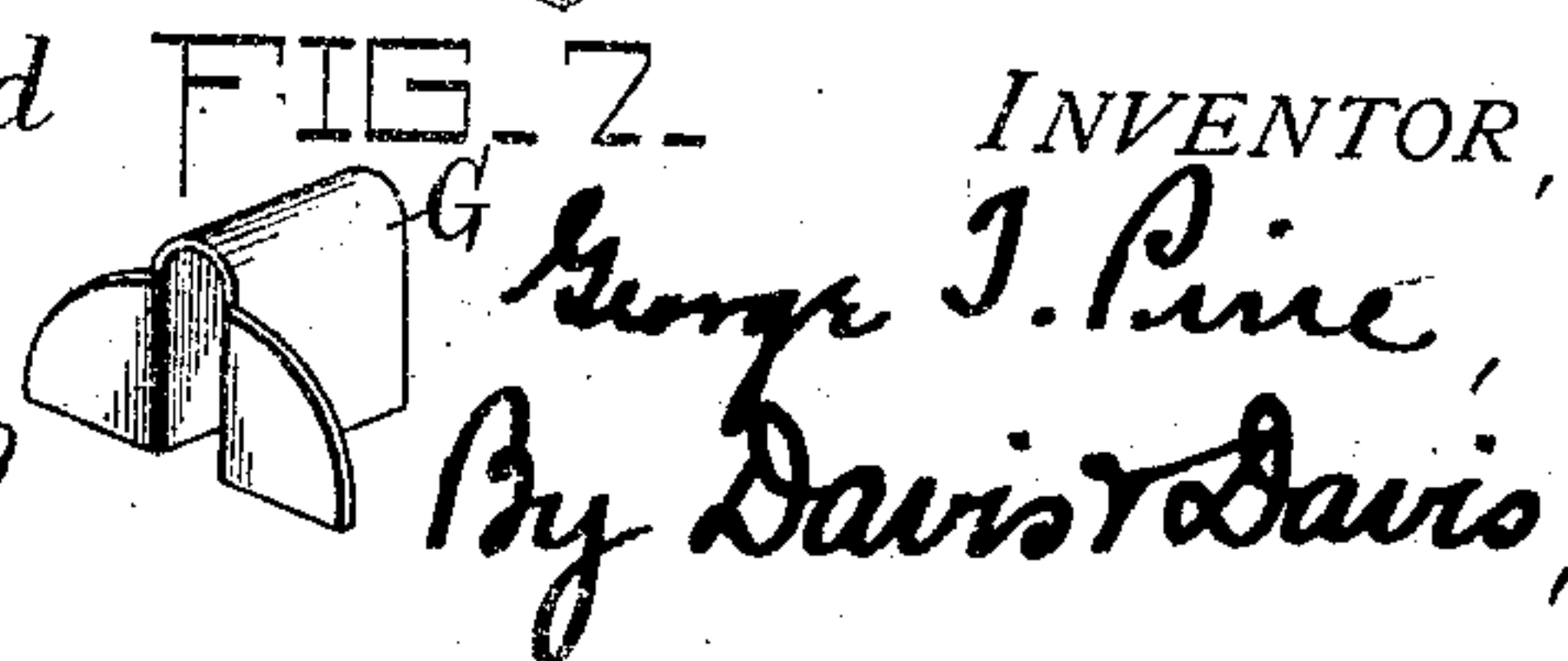
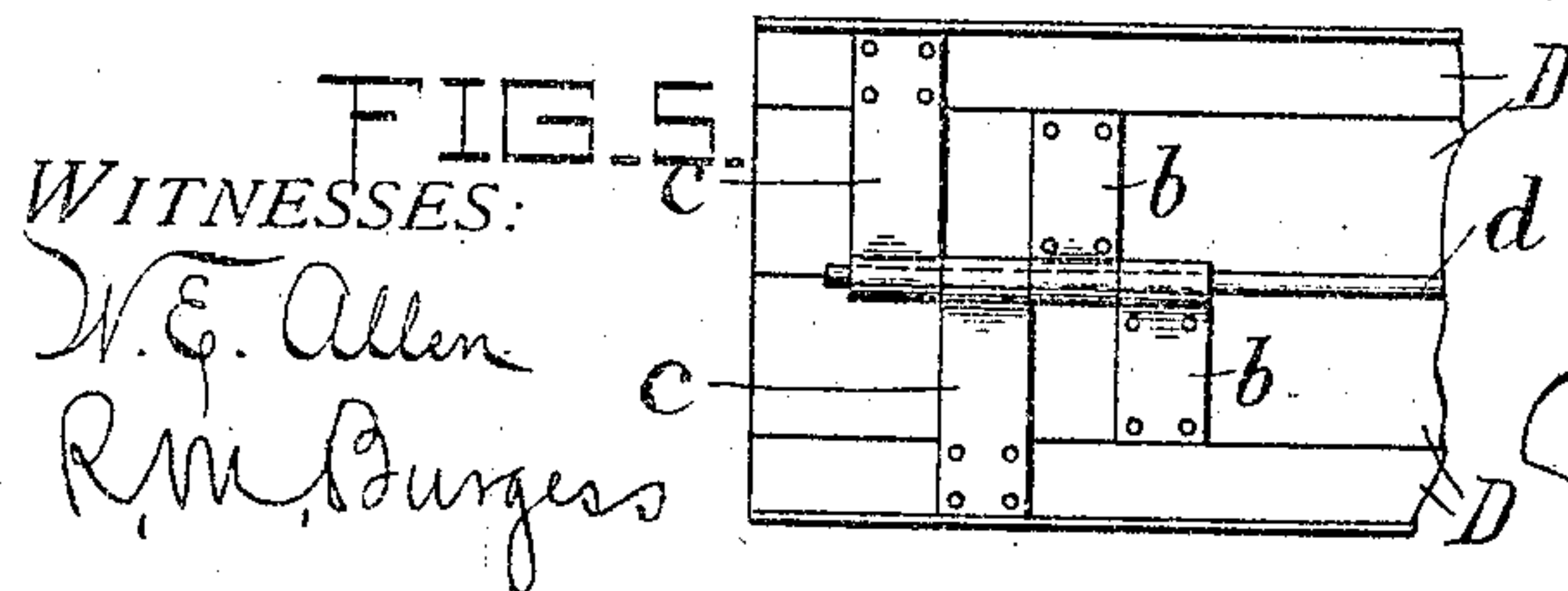
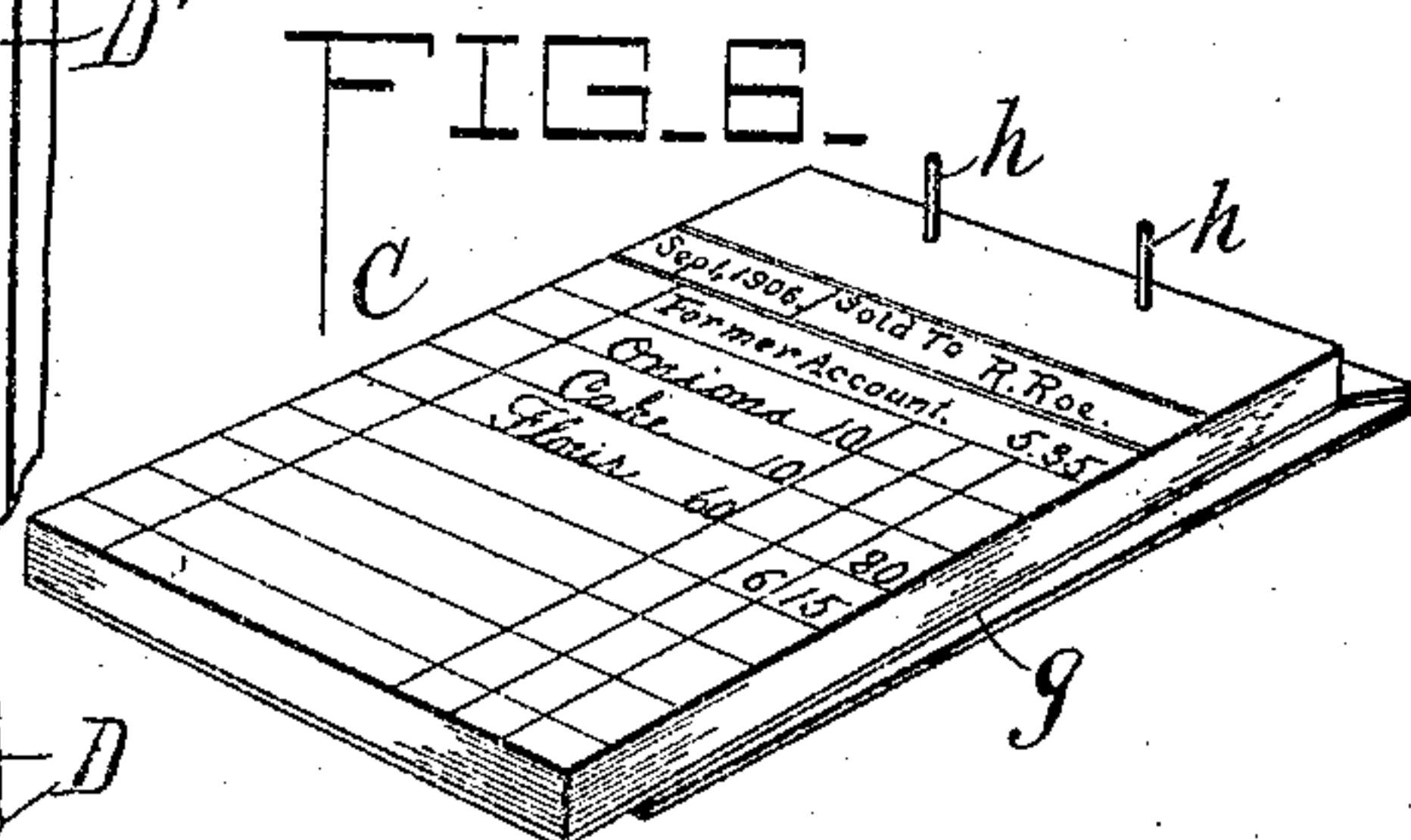
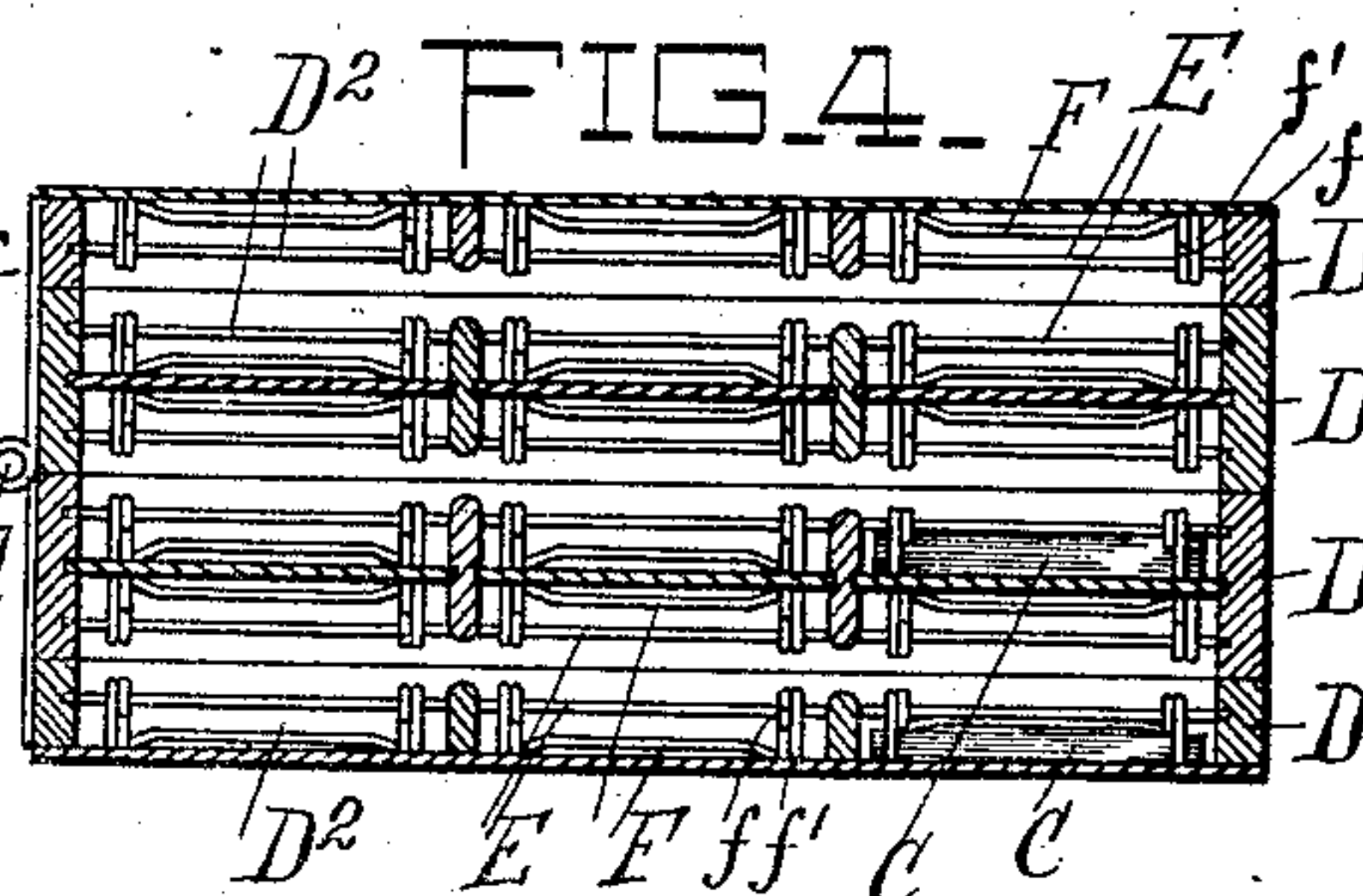
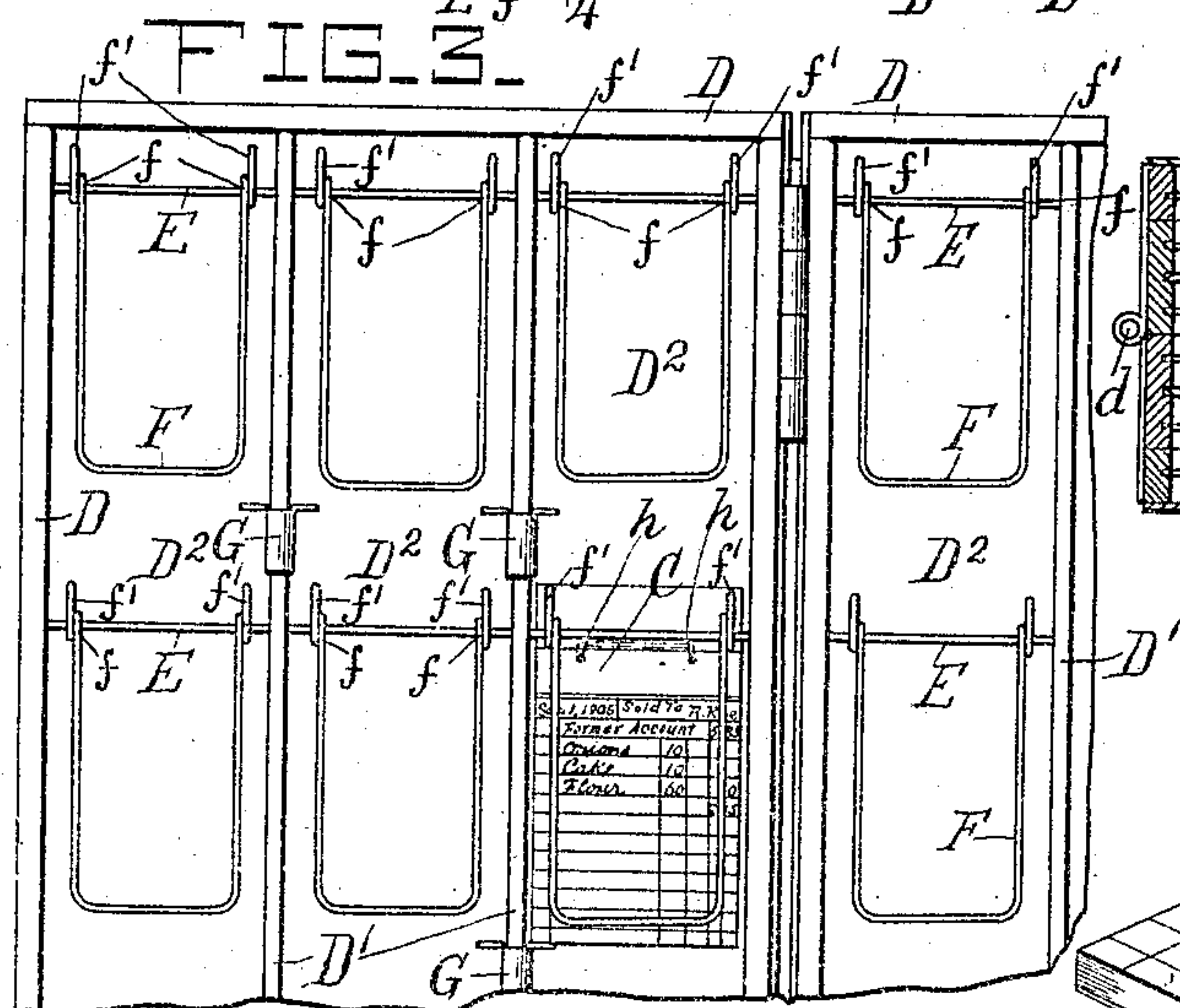
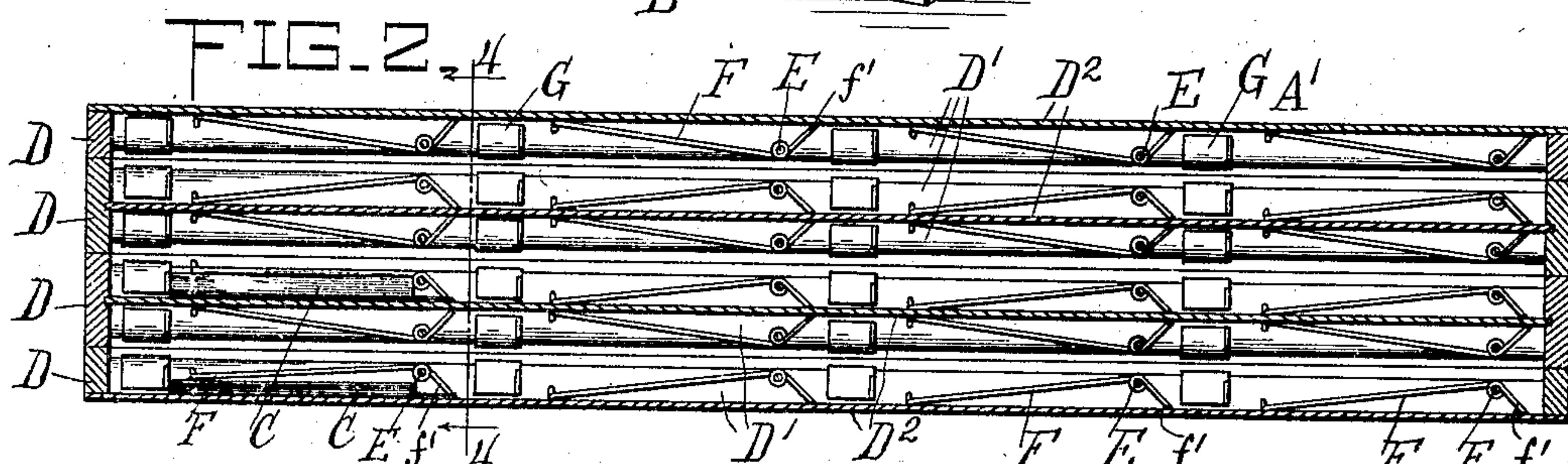
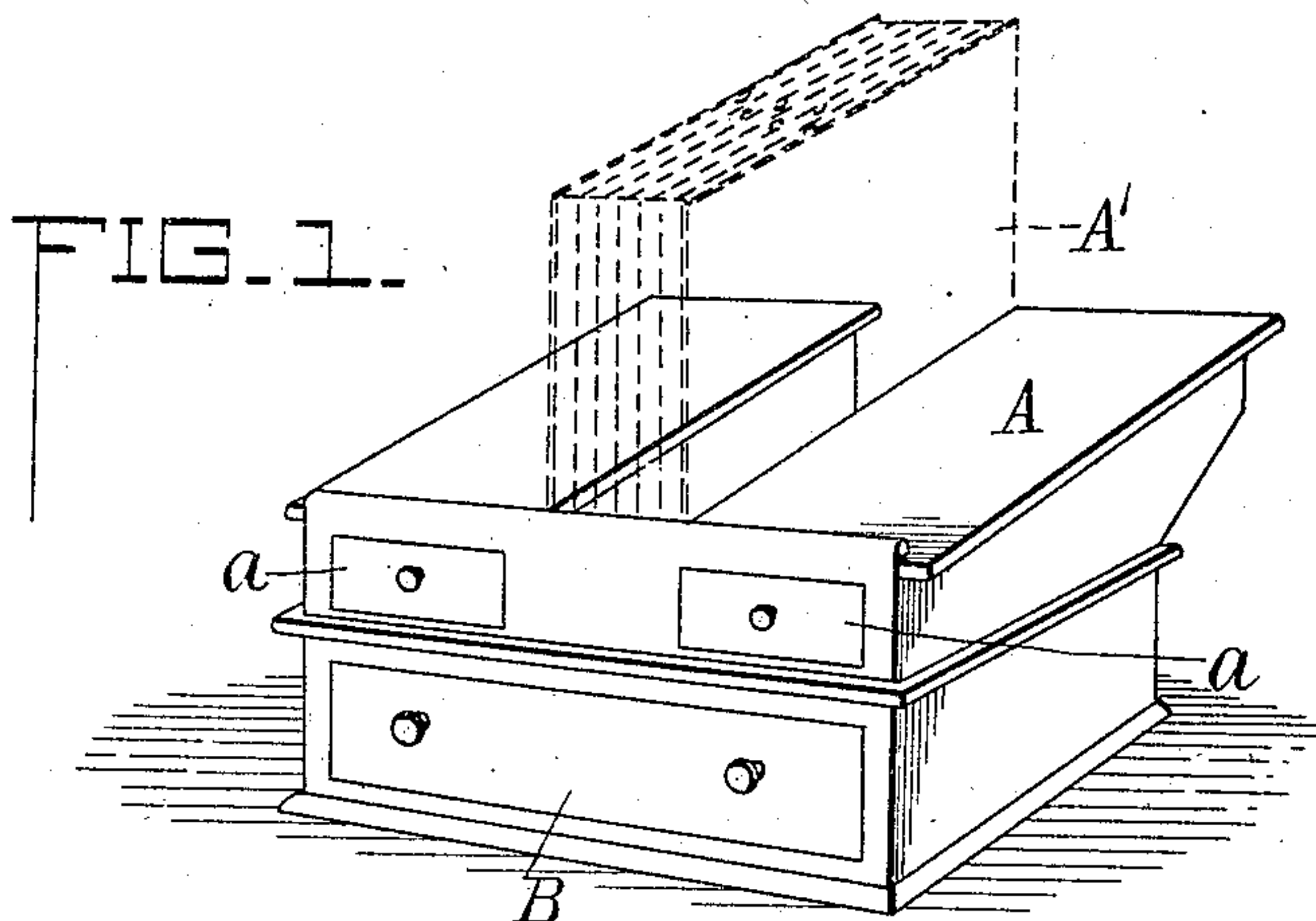
No. 842,421.

PATENTED JAN. 29, 1907.

G. T. PINE.

## EASY ACCOUNT KEEPER.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 12, 1906.



*Attorneys.*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE T. PINE, OF HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA.

## EASY ACCOUNT-KEEPER.

No. 842,421.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 29, 1907.

Application filed October 12, 1906. Serial No. 338,675.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE T. PINE, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Huntington, county of Cabell, State of West Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Easy Account-Keepers, of which the following is a full and clear specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the cabinet I employ in carrying out my method of bookkeeping; Fig. 2, a longitudinal sectional view of the account-holders; Fig. 3, a face view of a portion of one of the pages of the book; Fig. 4, a transverse section of the book; Fig. 5, a detail view of one end of the back of the book, showing the arrangement of hinges; Fig. 6, a detail perspective view of one of the individual accounts, and Fig. 7 a detail view of a slidable stop or clamp for holding the individual accounts in place.

The object of this invention is to provide means whereby ordinary store accounts may be kept without employing the usual account-books, thereby resulting in great saving of expense in the matter of books and also a great saving in labor, as more fully hereinafter set forth.

Referring to the drawings annexed by reference characters, A designates the top of the cabinet or desk, which is provided centrally with a depression for the reception of a book-like account-holder A'. At each side of the depression or division-channel is arranged a small drawer *a*, which may be used for general purposes, and below these drawers is a large drawer B for the reception of an extra account-holder or the detachable individual-account books C.

The account-holder consists of a series of leaf-like frames D, hinged together at their back edges by means of hinges *b* and *c* and a long pintle-rod *d*, all the leaves being preferably hinged to a single rod, as shown, whereby the account-holder can be opened out in the manner of a book after it is lifted out of the depression in the desk.

Each leaf is an open frame provided with longitudinal wood or metal strips D', in which are supported sheet-metal or bristol-board plates D<sup>2</sup>, the strips D' forming a sort of framework for the plates D<sup>2</sup>. Extending across each face of each leaf is a series of rods E, which are supported in the side

strips of the frame and also in the intermediate strips D'. Mounted on these rods is a series of spring-clamps F, each being preferably constructed of a single piece of wire bent into U form and having its extremities coiled around the rod at F, the ends *f'* being extended upward beyond the rod a short distance and caused to bear upon the adjacent face of the plate. With this construction, the wire being of course of a resilient nature, the U part of the wire forms a broad spring-clamp, which serves to detachably clamp the individual-account books C in place. Additional means for holding the accounts in place being provided in the shape of stops G, which are made of spring-metal and are detachably and frictionally held upon the intermediate strips D', so as to be capable of being pushed upward against the lower end of the cover of the account-book to thereby hold the same in place. As shown in Fig. 3, the upper edge of the cover of the account-book bears against the fingers *f'*, so that the book or package is removably held in place on the face of the leaf-like frame between the ribs D'.

It is obvious that the frames as well as the plates of the leaf-like members may be made of any suitable material without departing from my invention, and it is obvious also that one or more of these books may be kept on hand, according to the size of the business they are to be used in. The leaves of the book may of course be indexed in any suitable manner.

The individual accounts consist each of a cover *g*, carrying a pair of filing-pins *h*, and when the cover is put in place, as previously described, the front part of the cover is folded back and around underneath the back cover-piece, as shown in Fig. 6, the filing-pins extending upwardly at a point just below the rod E. When a sufficient number of account-slips has accumulated in one account, (the slips being of course filed on the pins *h* in succession,) the book thus formed is removed, the front cover brought over upon the pins, the pins then bent down upon the cover, thereby fastening all the slips of that one account together. If desirable, the pins *h* may be formed of a single piece of wire, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 3, the looped portion lying on the face of the back cover-piece. It is desirable that there shall be a surplus of wire in the looped portion, so that when the account is complete the pins may



lengthened by simply pulling them forward until the loop comes tight against the back cover. This will give sufficient length of pins to be folded down upon the outer cover and  
5 securely fasten it in place. The account-slips and the covers are to be provided with suitable spaces for names and dates.

In using my apparatus the simplest method is to have the store clerks and solicitors employ order books or tablets in which the account-slips are bound or clamped, any suitable form being serviceable if the leaves be readily removable. The clerk or solicitor takes the order in duplicate by means of a  
15 carbon-sheet, and then the customer's individual account is examined with a view of ascertaining whether he is delinquent. If the customer owes anything on account, the amount of the debt is taken from the last slip  
20 placed on his file and entered on the slip containing the new order for goods, and then the amount of the new order is added to the balance due on the former slip. Then one of these duplicate order-slips is sent out with  
25 the goods and the other is placed on file on the customer's individual account. This is all the bookkeeping that is necessary where my system is used in an ordinary retail business, and the advantages are that the state  
30 of each customer's account is shown from day to day and the customer himself is kept informed as to the condition of his account by his receiving a duplicate of every account-slip filed away in his account.

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

1. A bookkeeping apparatus consisting of a series of frames hinged together at their  
40 backs and adapted to open out book-like fashion, each frame carrying a series of transverse rods and a series of longitudinal ribs on

its opposite faces, and a series of clamping devices on each rod whereby individual-account books may be clamped in place between the ribs on the face of each frame and  
45 means adjacent each clamping device adjustably engaging the upper and lower ends of the book to hold it against endwise movement with respect to the clamping device. 50

2. A book-like account-holder consisting of a series of frames hinged together at their back edges and adapted to open out in book fashion, each frame carrying a series of  
55 spring-wire clamping-arms on each of its faces adapted to temporarily hold a book-like package of account-slips, and adjustable means on the frame for engaging the lower end of the book to assist in holding the book  
60 of account-slips in place.

3. In a bookkeeping apparatus, a series of hinged frames adapted to open out book fashion, each frame being divided longitudinally by a series of strips or ribs, a series of  
65 transverse rods mounted in these strips or ribs above the surface of the frame, wire clamping devices on each of these rods and lying in the spaces between the ribs, each clamping device being provided with a stop  
70 at its upper end extending toward the face of the frame and against which the upper end of the account book or pad abuts when it is slipped up under the rod, and adjustable sliding stops on the ribs to engage the lower ends  
75 of the books or pads, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature, in the presence of two witnesses, this 6th day of October, 1906.

GEORGE T. PINE.

Witnesses:

L. R. NEVILLE.  
DAN SAYRE.