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DRAFTSMAN.

No. 846,741. PATENTED MAR. 12, 1907.

# R. G. FRASER.

## CIRCULAR DISTRIBUTER.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 11, 1906.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1

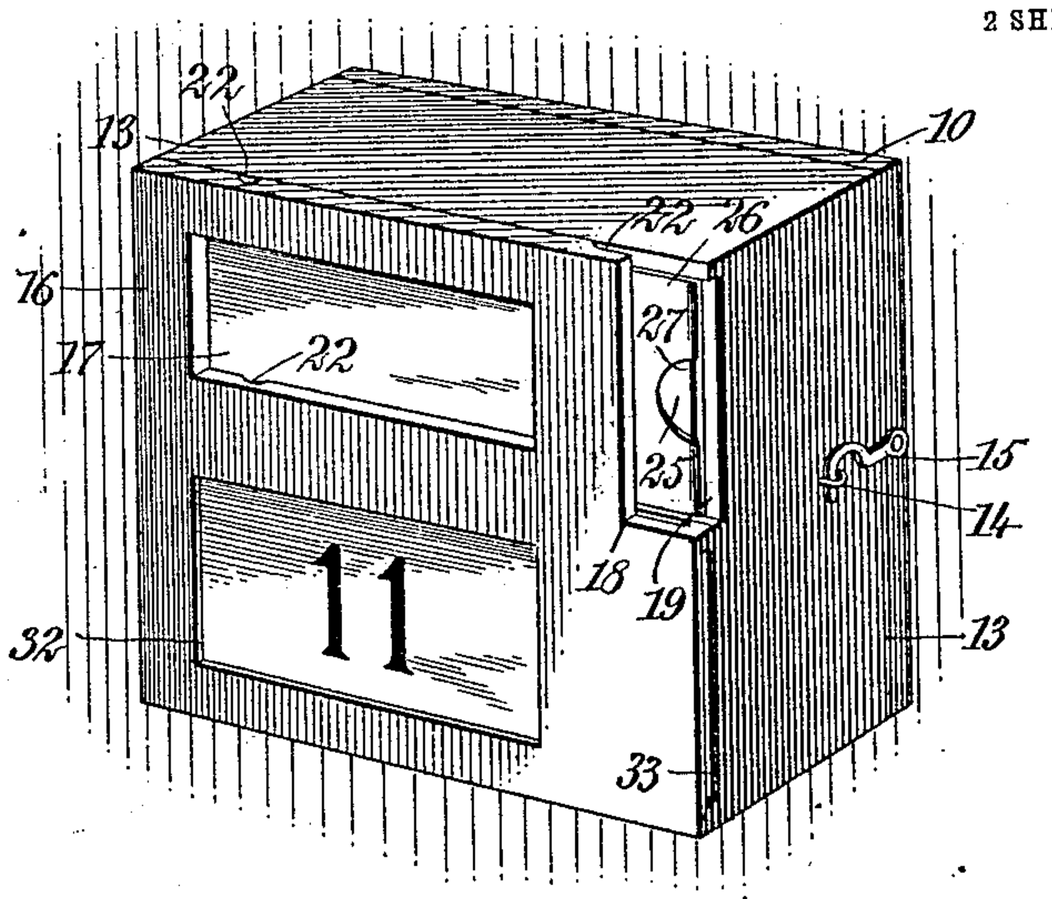





Fig. 2




Fig. 3

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Fig. 4

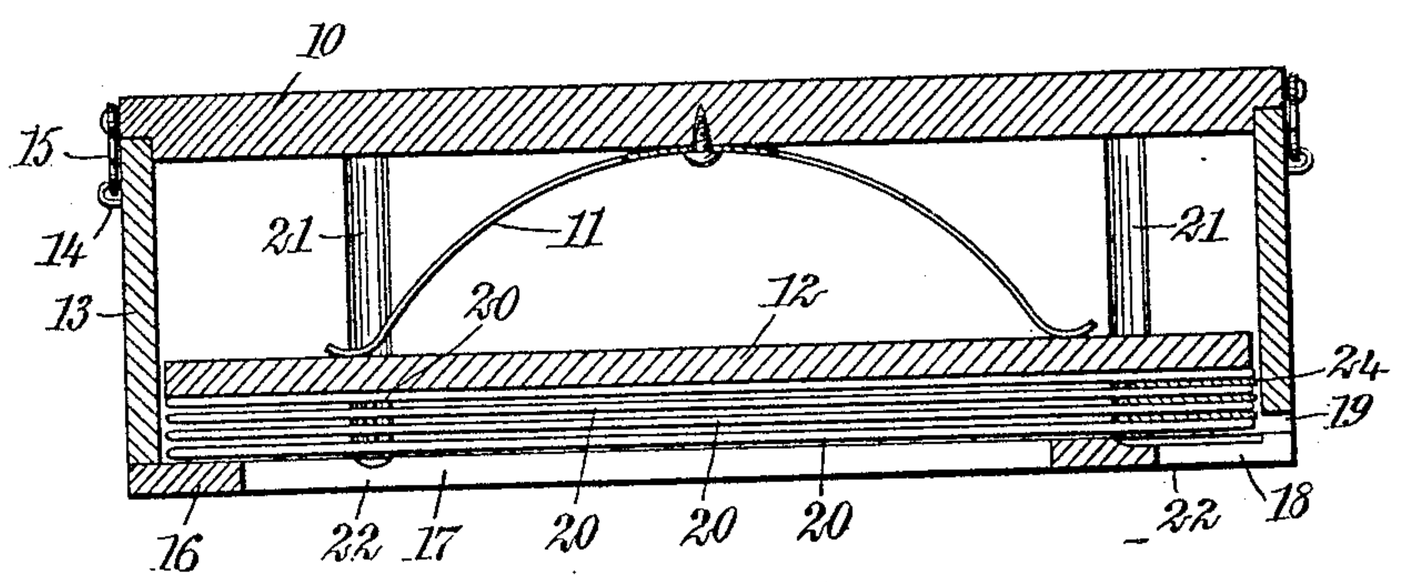



Fig. 5

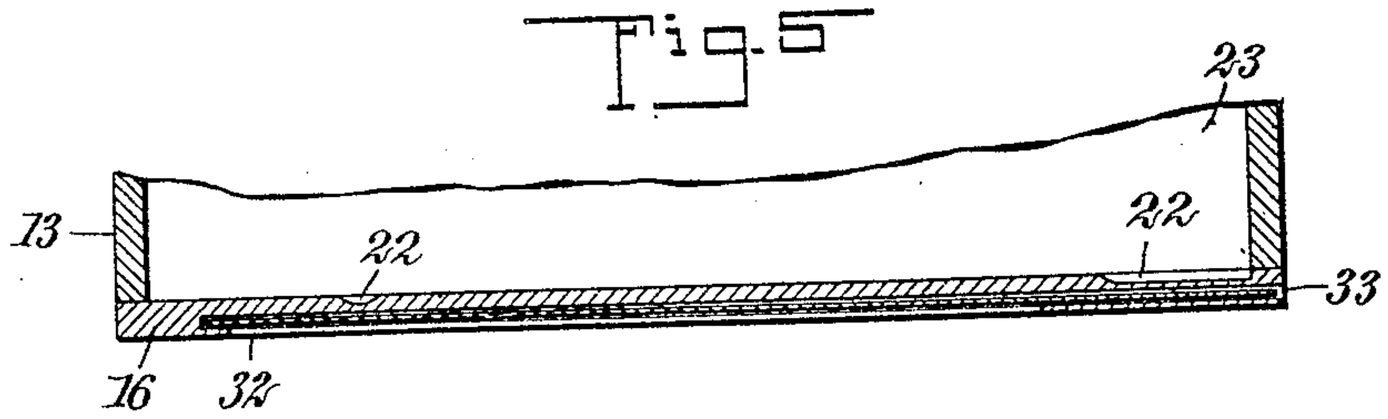



Fig. 6

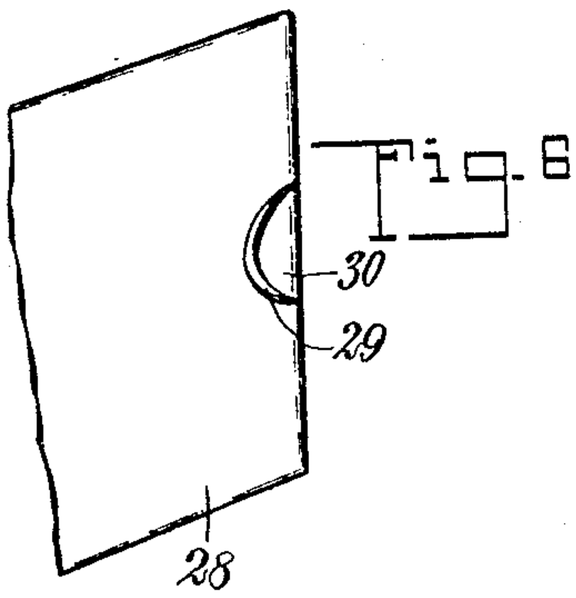
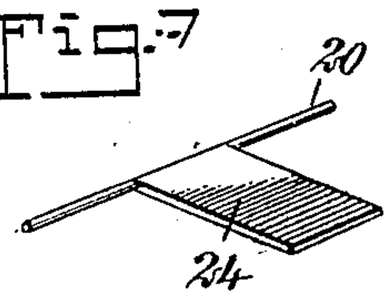



Fig. 7

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT G. FRASER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## CIRCULAR-DISTRIBUTER.

No. 846,741. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented March 12, 1907.

Application filed January 11, 1906. Serial No. 295,588.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT G. FRASER, a subject of the King of Great Britain, and a resident of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and Improved Circular-Distributer, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to a device for holding circulars and the like in such a position that they can be readily withdrawn by the public; and the principal objects thereof are to provide means whereby only one can be withdrawn at a time and means for always holding a circular or similar article in a position where it can be readily abstracted from the holder.

Further objects of the invention will appear below.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a device constructed in accordance with the principle of my invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same on the line 2 2 of Fig. 3. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of the rear portion of the distributer. Fig. 4 is a sectional view on the line 4 4 of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a sectional view on the line 5 5 of Fig. 2. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of an envelop containing circulars which can be employed as a portion of my invention, and Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a separating-piece which I also usually employ.

The device may be set up in many ways; but for convenience I have illustrated it as applied to a plate or board 10, which is secured to a wall and which is provided with a spring 11 for holding a follower 12 toward the front of the distributer. The main portion of the distributer is in the form of a box 13, which is provided with eyes 14 for the engagement of hooks 15 on the plate 10 to hold the box part of the distributer in position on said plate. The front wall 16 of the box is provided with an opening 17, which may be provided with glass, if desired, and through which the character of the circulars or other articles may be observed from the outside. This front wall is cut away at a point 18, and the side wall is also slightly cut away at a point 19 adjacent thereto, so as to provide for allowing the end of the front circular to project into view and permit it to be withdrawn readily from the distributer.

In order to guard against the abstraction of a plurality of circulars at once, I locate a series of separating-pieces 20 between them. I have shown these separators as in the form of wires located vertically between the circulars and projecting into grooves 21 at the top and bottom of the distributer, so as to provide for guiding the separators in their forward motion in the distributer. These separators will obviously move toward the front of the box as the circulars are withdrawn, and for the purpose of permitting them to drop into the same I have provided the front wall with grooves 22. It will be obvious that the forcing of the separators to the front and the removal of the circular which is in front of them will leave them in such a position that they will have no support, and consequently they will drop down through the grooves 22 into a receptacle 23, located below it. In order to further guard against the abstraction of a plurality of circulars, I have located a flat plate 24 on each of the separators which is at the end of the box adjacent to the opening 18. These plates extend behind each circular far enough to prevent any one from grasping more than one circular when the finger is passed into an opening 25 in the circular to draw it out.

The circulars may be of any ordinary form having openings, as indicated at 25, which come in front of the plates 24; but I prefer to employ a series of envelops 26 in which these openings are placed, the outer edge of each opening being preferably bounded by a wire 27, which is inserted in the end of the envelop and forms a part thereof. The envelops contain the circulars or other matter which is to be distributed and are preferably open on the end opposite to that at which the wire is contained. The outside of the envelop also preferably contains matter designating the character of the contents and observable through the opening 17. In Fig. 6 I have represented another form of envelop which is simpler in some ways than that above described. This form of envelop 28 is provided with an opening 29 through the front wall only. The flap 30, which is produced when this opening is made, extends outwardly. Obviously when this form is employed the plates 24 will not be necessary, as the back wall of each envelop prevents the removal of a plurality at once.

In my description as so far given I have referred to a distributer comprising a box, which is shown in the upper part of Figs. 2 and 3 and in Fig. 4. I preferably construct this as a portion of a box, which comprises this compartment and the receptacle or compartment 23, which is placed below for the reception of the separators. The bottom of the distributer proper is therefore a partition 31, located between the two receptacles. The bottom receptacle can conveniently be provided with an opening 32 in the front side thereof, which can receive a permanent or a temporary card or the like of any desired character. In the drawings I have indicated a calendar-card inserted through a slit 33 in the end of the wall 16 below the opening 18.

In filling the device the box 13 is removed from the plate 10 and preferably placed on its face, the separators and circulars being inserted in the proper order, as will be readily understood. It is then placed over the plate 10 and secured in position in an obvious manner and is ready for use.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. A circular-distributer comprising a box having a front plate provided with an opening at one end through which the circulars can project, a follower, means for forcing the follower toward the front plate, and a series of separating-strips located between the several circulars in the box.

2. A circular-distributer comprising a box having a front plate provided with an opening at one end through which the circulars can project, a follower, means for forcing the follower toward the front plate, and a series of separating-strips located between the several circulars in the box, said separating-strips which are located adjacent to said opening being provided with plates projecting toward the ends of the circulars for further separating them from each other.

3. A circular-distributer comprising a box having an opening near one corner thereof, and a series of separators adapted for the circulars located within the box, said box being provided with grooves for guiding said separators.

4. A circular-distributer comprising a box having an opening near one corner thereof, a series of separators for the circulars located within the box, said box being provided with grooves for guiding said separators, and the box having a front plate provided with grooves for permitting the separators to drop from the distributer.

5. In a circular-distributer the combination of a box, means in the box for forcing circulars toward the front thereof, and a series of separators located within the box, said box having grooves for guiding said separators toward the front thereof and grooves through which the separators are adapted to drop from the box.

6. In a circular-distributer the combination of a box, means in the box for forcing circulars toward the front thereof, grooves through which the separators are adapted to drop from the box, and a receptacle located in position to receive said separators.

7. The combination of a receptacle for circulars with a separator for the circulars, said separator comprising a wire having a plate extending therefrom.

8. The combination of a receptacle, a series of envelops for receiving circulars located in said receptacle, means for separating said envelops from each other, and means for constantly forcing said envelops to one side of the receptacle, said separating means comprising a plurality of series of wires, the wires of one series each having a separating-plate extending therefrom.

9. The combination with a receptacle of a series of envelops contained in said receptacle for receiving circulars and the like, each envelop having an opening in one edge, and means for separating said envelops from each other, said receptacle having an opening for permitting the normal projection of the edges of the envelops.

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

ROBERT G. FRASER.

Witnesses:
GEORGE W. DADING,
EDW. O'HARA.