No. 860,428. PATENTED JULY 16, 1907.

J. C. WILSON.

COIN CONTROLLED VENDING MACHINE.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 4, 1907.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

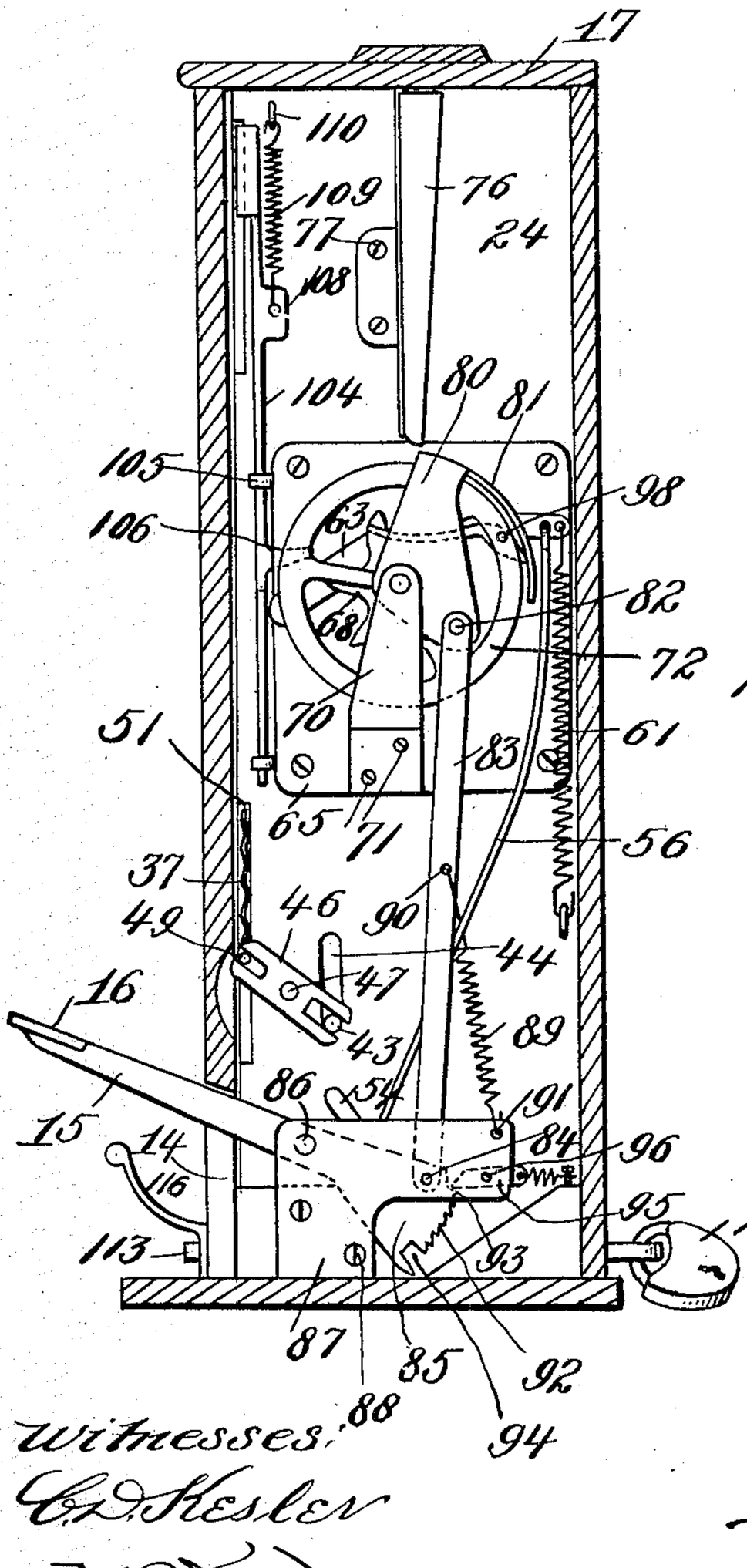
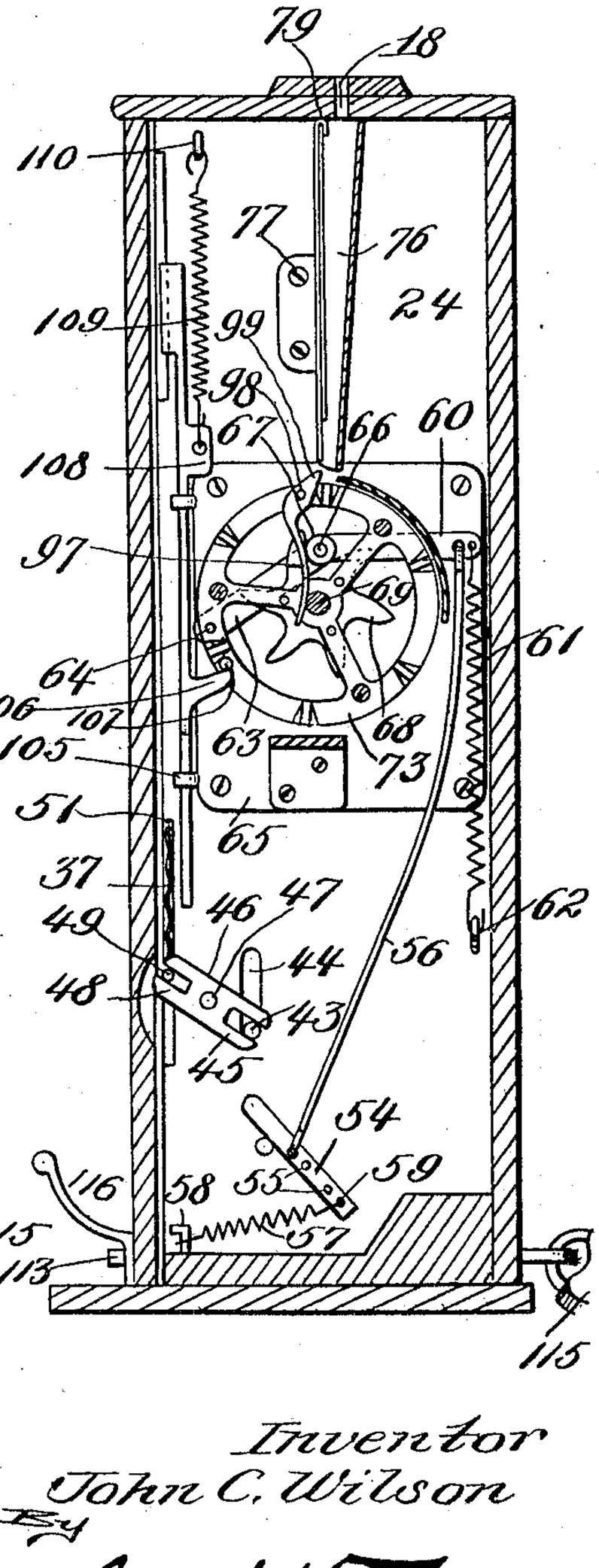


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

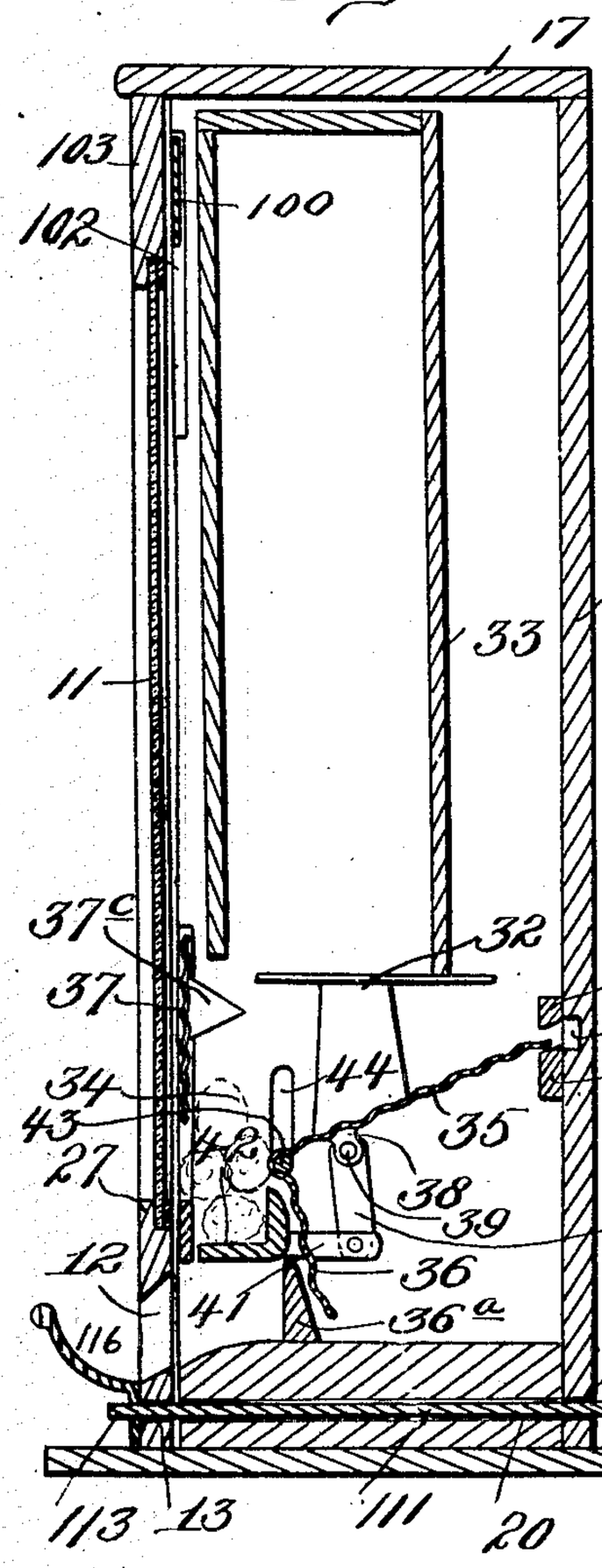
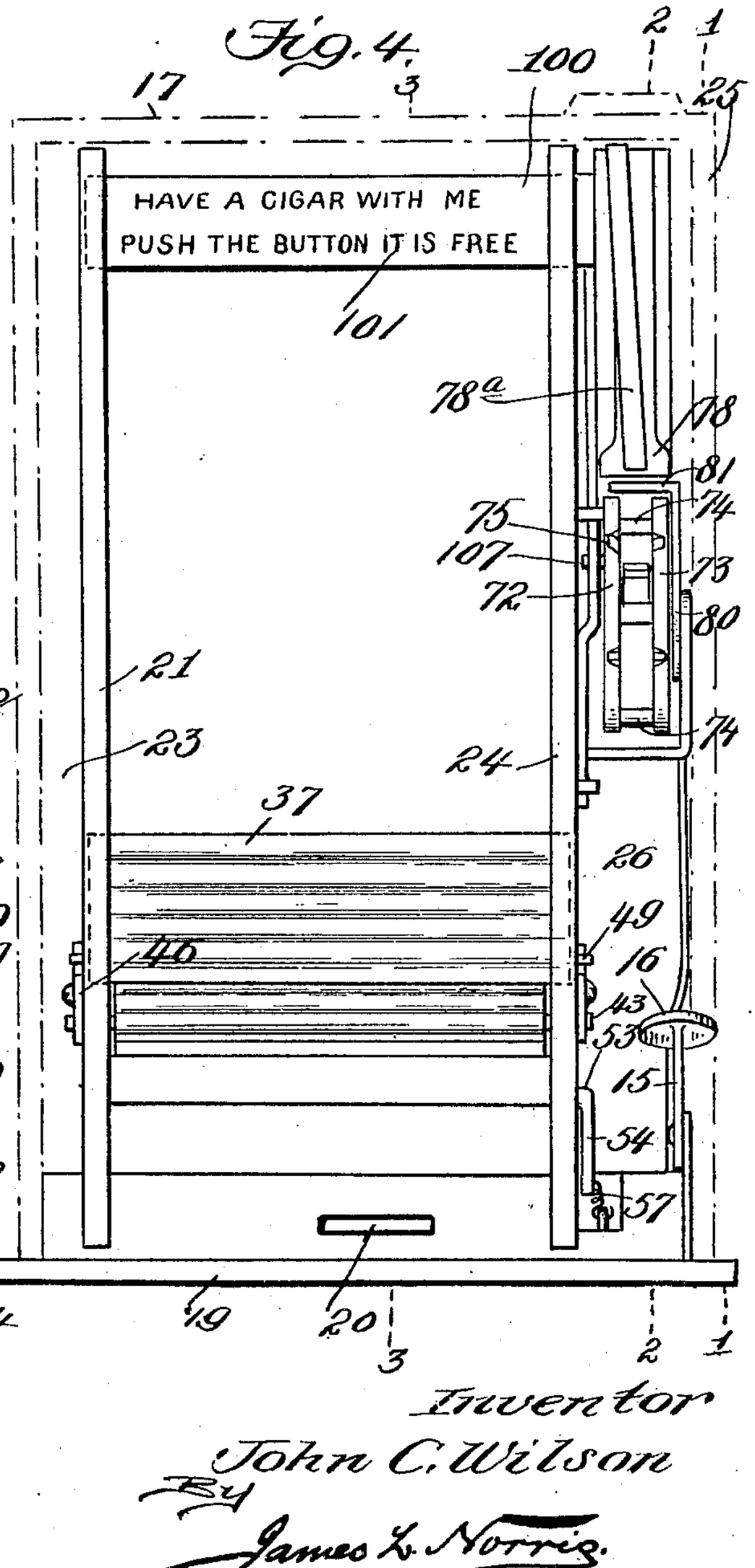


Fig. 4.



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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 5.

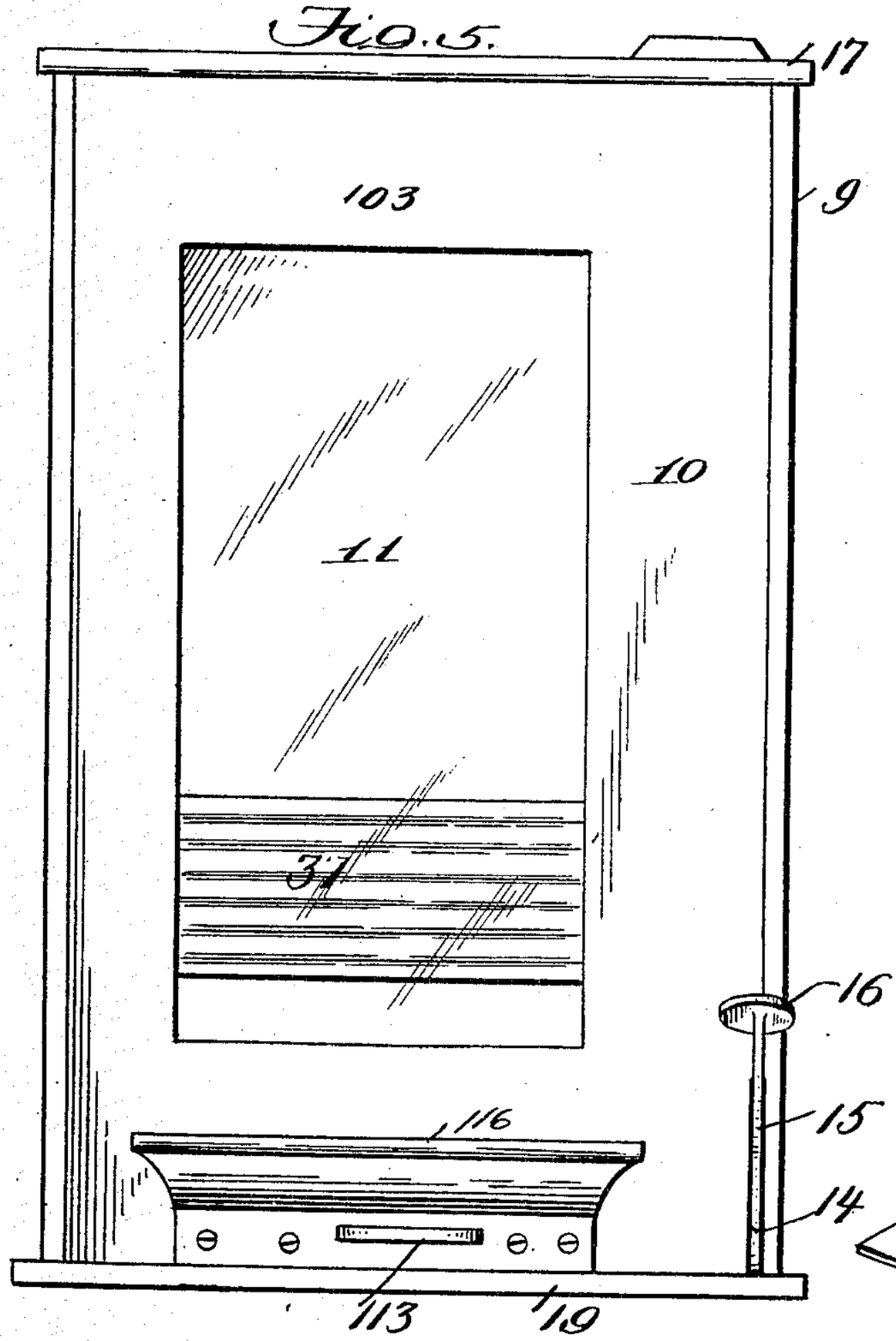


Fig. 6.

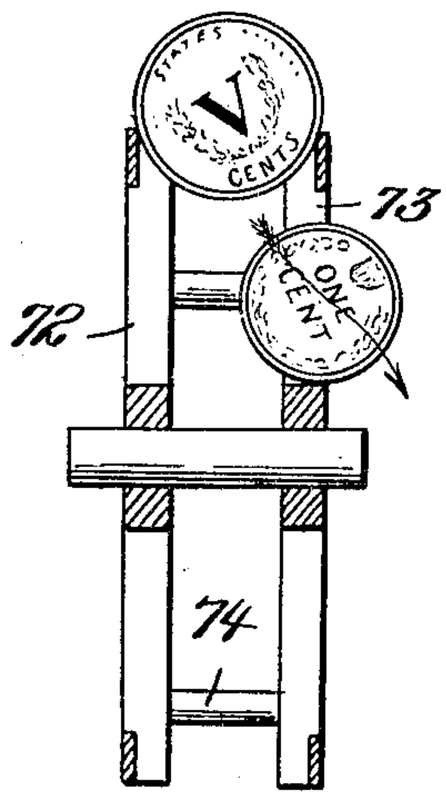


Fig. 7.

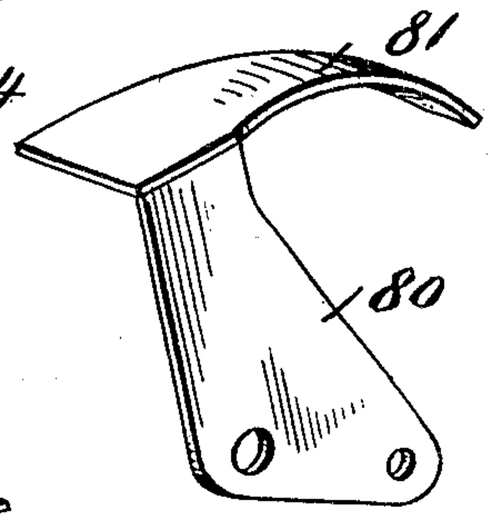
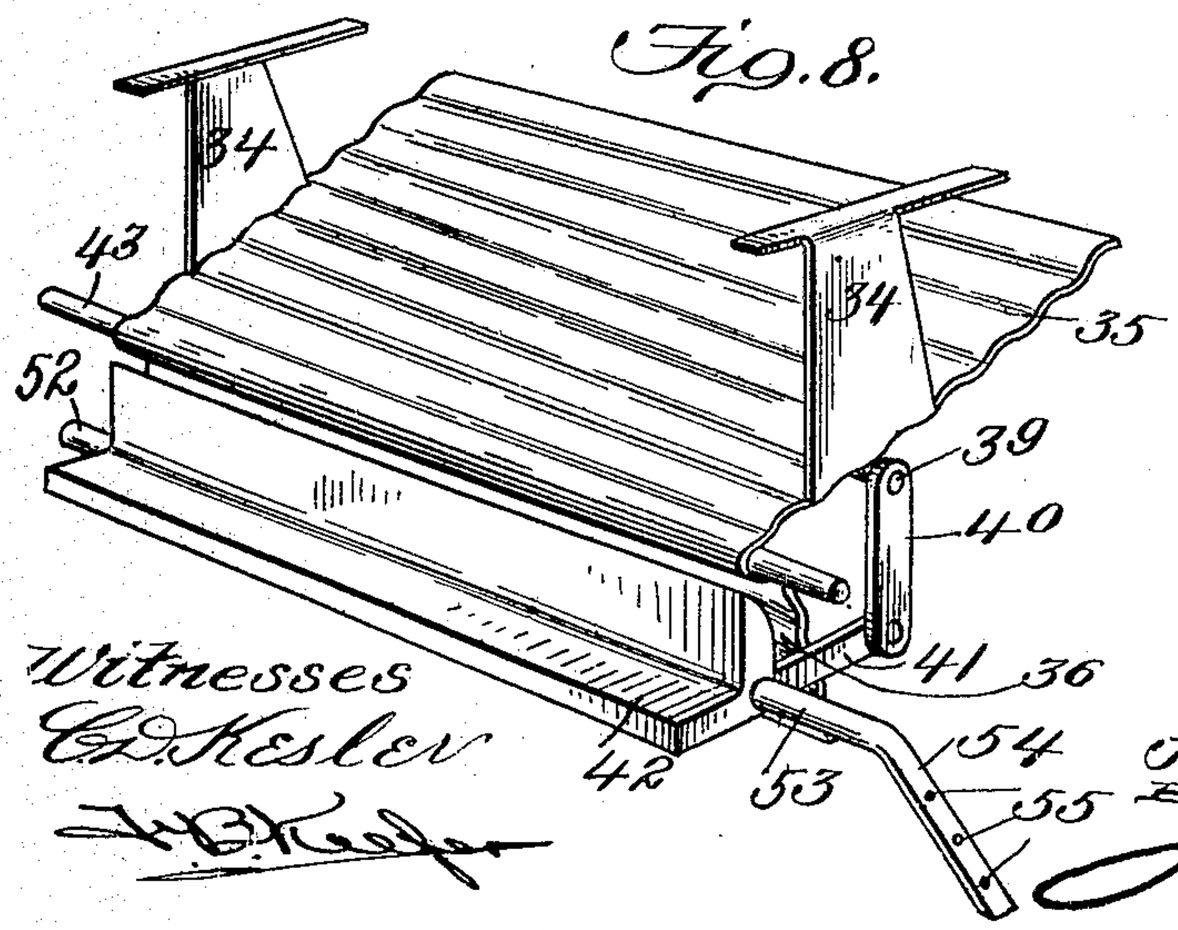


Fig. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. WILSON, OF HOUSTON, TEXAS.

COIN-CONTROLLED VENDING-MACHINE.

No. 860,428. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 16, 1907.

Application filed January 4, 1907. Serial No. 350,784.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. WILSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Houston, in the county of Harris and State of Texas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Coin-Controlled Vending-Machines, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to coin controlled vending machines in which the insertion is required of a coin of proper denomination to adapt the delivery mechanism to be actuated to perform its function, and it relates more particularly, though not exclusively, to improvement in the variety of such machines used for vending articles from a magazine, for example, cigars and various kinds of merchandise packed in round or square packages.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a coin operated vending machine whereby the successive operation of the machine a predetermined number of times is had through the insertion of a predetermined number of coins to cause the delivery of articles from the machine, and which will set the parts of the machine in such a manner as to enable the machine to be operated so as to deliver an article free of cost; that is to say, without the insertion of a coin, and, by way of example in this connection, it will be assumed that the machine is vending cigars at a cost of six for a quarter. The insertion of five nickels will enable the machine to be operated so as to deliver five cigars, and, after the insertion of the fifth nickel and delivery of the fifth cigar, the parts of the machine will be so set as to enable the operator to cause the delivery of the sixth cigar without the insertion of another coin.

A further object of the invention is to provide a greatly simplified construction of coin operated vending machine wherein the operative parts will keep in order irrespective of the extent to which the machine is used, and in which the operating parts shall be comparatively few and adapted to be made cheaply and to be readily assembled and held together at a single point so that they may be quickly and conveniently taken apart and fastened together, and whereby the device shall take up comparatively little room.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement of parts hereinafter more specifically described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein is shown the preferred embodiment of the invention, but it is to be understood that changes, variations, and modifications can be resorted to which come within the scope of the claims hereunto appended.

In describing the invention in detail, reference is had to the accompanying drawings, wherein like reference characters denote corresponding parts throughout the several views, and in which

Figure 1 is a section on line 1—1, Fig. 4. Fig. 2 is a section on line 2—2, Fig. 4. Fig. 3 is a section on line 3—3, Fig. 4. Fig. 4 is a front elevation with the front plate of the machine removed. Fig. 5 is a front view of the machine. Fig. 6 is a detail of the coin receiving wheel. Fig. 7 is a detail of the coin engaging shifting member for intermittently rotating the coin receiving wheel; and Fig 8 is a perspective view showing the article delivery means and the tilting bottom for the magazine.

In the drawings a machine is shown for vending cigars, but, as before stated, it can be used for vending any articles for which it is found applicable.

Referring to the drawings by reference characters, 9 indicates the casing of the machine which is formed with a removable front wall 10 having a transparent portion 11, a transversely extending discharge opening 12 at its lower end, a transversely extending slot 13 below said outlet opening 12, and the lower portion of one side edge cut away so as to form in connection with one side wall of the casing 9 a vertically extending slot 14 through which projects an operating lever 15 having a finger piece 16. The top 17 of the casing 9 at one side thereof is formed with a coin slot 18 through which coins are inserted in the machine.

Within the casing 9 is arranged a supporting frame for the various mechanisms, and said frame consists of a bottom 19 having a slot 20 which registers with the slot 13 in the front wall 10 of the casing 9, and to the bottom 19 at a point removed from one side thereof is secured a vertically extending member 21 which, when the supporting frame is positioned within the casing, in connection with the side wall 22 of the casing forms a space 23 so as to allow of the operation of a part of the mechanism to be hereinafter referred to. The supporting frame further comprises a vertically extending member 24 which is secured at its lower end to the bottom 19 at a point removed from one side thereof, and the said member 24 in connection with the side wall 25 of the casing 9 forms a space 26 of greater width than the space 22, the said space 26 enabling the operation of certain parts of the mechanism to be hereinafter referred to. The supporting frame further comprises a front brace bar 27 and a pair of rear brace bars 28, 29. These latter bars are suitably spaced apart, and the space formed between them is arranged in front of a recess 30 formed in the forward face of the back wall 31.

A receptacle 33 containing the articles is positioned within the supporting frame; as shown, the receptacle 33 is a cigar box and contains cigars 34. The lower end of the receptacle 33 opens into a magazine which is formed by a portion of the members 21 and 24, a corrugated tilting bottom or support 35, a corrugated depending plate 36 which extends at the rear of a beveled upright 36ª, and a vertically movable corrugated slide 37 having an inwardly extending V-shaped lug 37ª

adapted to straighten the articles to be vended and prevent them from getting into the deliverer endwise; for example, if a cigar should assume a vertical position, the lug 37ᵉ, as the same moves down, would engage and straighten the cigar. The rear end of the tilting bottom 35 extends in the space formed between the brace bars 28 and 29 and, when the bottom is elevated, the rear end projects back into the recess 30. The space between the bars 28 and 29 and the recesses 30 allows for a rearward movement of the tilting bottom 35 when the latter is elevated. The bottom 35 is provided with a pair of upwardly extending arms 32 which constitute a support for the receptacle 33, the object being to keep the receptacle 33 the same distance from the bottom 35 at all times and furthermore, as the supports 32 are carried by the bottom 35, it will cause the receptacle 33 to reciprocate during the movement of the bottom 35, and by such an arrangement the merchandise will be agitated, consequently prevent the same from hanging or clogging. At the forward end of the tilting bottom 35 the depending plate 36 is connected. Said plate 36 is shown as a continuation of the bottom 35. Depending from the lower face of the tilting bottom 35 at each side and near the forward end thereof is an apertured lug 38, and in the said lugs 38 is mounted a shaft 39 which projects from each side of the plate and carries on each end a depending link 40. These links 40 at their lower ends are connected to the arms 41 which project rearwardly from the angle-shaped delivery member 42. To the forward end of the tilting bottom 35 and against the lower face thereof is secured a shaft 43 which has its ends extending through vertical slots 44 formed in the members 21 and 24, and each of the ends of the shaft 43 engages in a bifurcated end 45 of a lever 46. These levers 46 are pivoted, respectively, as at 47, to the outer face of the members 21 and 24. Each of the levers 46 has its other end bifurcated, as at 48, and engaging in the said bifurcated end 48 of each of the levers 46 is a rod 49 carried by the vertically movable slide 37 which operates in the guideway 51 formed at the front of the members 21 and 24. The member 42 is positioned forwardly of the bottom 35 as well as below the same and is supported at one end by a trunnion 52 journaled in the member 21 and the opposite end of said member 42 is supported by a trunnion 53 which extends through and is journaled in the member 24 and terminates in a rearwardly extending inclined arm 54 provided with a plurality of openings 55 to enable the adjustable connecting of the inclined arm 54 to an operating mechanism for the delivery means. From the foregoing construction, it is evident that, when the arm 54 is pulled upwardly, it will cause the delivery means to oscillate in one direction and discharge an article through the outlet opening 12 into a receiving trough 116 secured to the casing 9 and positioned in front of said outlet opening 12. When the member 42 is oscillated to deliver an article, the bottom 35 will be tilted owing to a vertical movement being imparted to the links 40 through the movement of the rearwardly extending arms 41. When the bottom 35 is tilted, the shaft 43 will be carried thereby, thereby rocking the levers 46, the movement of the levers being such that the rear ends thereof will be elevated and the forward ends lowered. When the forward ends of the levers 46 are lowered, the slide 37 will be carried downwardly to a position in close proximity to the brace bar 27 thereby preventing the articles from being shifted over the brace bar 27. When the bottom 35 is tilted, the plate 36 will be carried thereby, and consequently close the space between the member 42 and the forward end of the bottom so as to prevent any articles other than those delivered by the member 42 from dropping out of the magazine. When the member 42 is oscillated to deliver an article from the magazine through the opening 12, the delivery movement of said member 42 is limited by the beveled upright 36ᵃ which is positioned in the path of the longitudinally extending arm of the angle-shaped delivery member.

The rearwardly extending inclined arm 54 is shifted through the medium of a curved link 56 which is adjustably connected at its lower end in one of the openings 55, and the shifting movement of said arm 54 is had against the pull of an extensible and contractible spring 57 connected at one end to a lug 58 secured to the bottom 19 and at its other end, as at 59, to the arm 54. The spring 57 also acts as a means for returning the delivery member 42 to its normal position when the link 56 has been released. The upper end of the curved link 56 is loosely connected to one of the arms 60 of an angle-shaped lever. The arm 60 of the angle-shaped lever is also connected to one end of an extensible and contractible coiled spring 61 which has its other end attached to an eye 62 secured to the member 24. The other arm of said angle-shaped lever is indicated by the reference character 63 and is pivoted, as at 64, to a plate 65 fixed to the outer face of the member 24. At the junction of the arm 60 with the arm 63 the angle-shaped lever is provided with a stud 66 carrying a roller 67 which is engaged and operated by the teeth of a star wheel 68 mounted upon a shaft 69 secured at one end in the plate 65 and at its other end in a support 70 attached to the plate 65, as at 71. When the star-wheel 68 is rotated, one of the teeth thereof will ride against the roller 66 causing the arm 60 of the angle-shaped lever to raise against the pull of the spring 61. The elevating of the arm 60 will carry the curved link 56 therewith, and the latter will shift the arm 54 causing thereby the oscillating of the delivery member 42. When the roller 67 has passed clear of the tooth of the star wheel 68, the spring 61 will contract and in connection with the spring 57 will cause the angle-shaped lever, link 56, and arm 54, as well as the member 42, to assume their normal or inoperative positions.

The coin receiving wheel consists of two circular skeleton members 72, 73 which are suitably spaced apart and secured together by the cross pieces 74, and the inner face of each of the members 72, 73 is provided with a beveled notch 75, the notches upon one member opposing the notches upon the other member, and the opposing notches of each pair from a pocket which is adapted to receive and support the lower portion of a coin between the members 72 and 73, the coin, when in engagement with the coin receiving wheel, projecting from the periphery thereof so that it can be engaged by a shifting mechanism to be hereinafter referred to, and thereby cause an intermittent rotation of the wheel. After the wheel has been shifted a certain distance, the coin falls out of the opposing pair of notches. The coin receiving wheel is loosely mounted upon the shaft

69 and fixed to the star-wheel 68 so that, when the coin-receiving wheel is intermittently rotated, it will cause an intermittent rotation of the star wheel 68. The pairs of notches are so disposed throughout the coin receiving wheel as to cause each pair of notches, during the rotation of the wheel, to successively be positioned below the outlet of a coin delivery chute 76 secured to the outer face of the member 24 by the holdfast device 77 and having its upper end positioned below the coin slot 18. The lower portion of the forward face of the coin delivery chute 76 is cut away, as at 78. so as to allow of the removal of the coins therefrom after the lower portion of the coin has engaged in a pair of notches 75 and at the beginning of the shifting of the coin receiving wheel. Means is provided to prevent a coin falling from the chute before the coin receiving wheel is operated, and such means consists of a flat leaf spring 78ª connected at its upper end, as at 79, to the chute 76, and having its lower end projecting in front of the cut-away portion 78. The members 72 and 73 of the wheel are spaced a sufficient distance apart so that the notches 75 will receive a coin of a certain diameter. If the coin be a smaller diameter it will drop down between the members 72 and 73, thereby preventing the fraudulent operation of the machine. By way of example, the members 72, 73 are so spaced apart as to receive a nickel, as shown in Fig. 6. If a penny should be inserted in the machine, it would pass down between the members, and consequently the machine could not be operated.

The coin receiving wheel is intermittently rotated by a shifting member 80 having its upper end formed with a segment shaped portion 81 which overlaps the periphery of the coin receiving wheel. The segment-shaped portion 81 is adapted to have its forward end, when the member 80 is shifted, engage the coin held in the notches of the coin receiving wheel, and the said segment-shaped portion 81, by such engagement with the coin when the member 80 is shifted, will impart movement to the coin receiving wheel. Such action will rotate the star wheel 68 and operate the delivery mechanism in a manner as hereinbefore set forth. The shifting member 80 is loosely mounted upon the shaft 69 and is also pivotally connected at its lower end, as at 82, to the upper end of an elongated link 83, the latter at its lower end being pivotally connected, as at 84, to the quadrant-shaped inner end 85 of the operating lever 15, the latter being pivoted, as at 86, to a supporting plate 87 secured, as at 88, to the bottom 19. When the lever 15 is depressed, the link 83 will be elevated, thereby oscillating the member 81 in one direction upon the shaft 69 and cause the forward end of the segment-shaped portion 81 to engage the coin and shift the coin receiving wheel in a manner as stated. The upward movement of the link 83 is had against the pull of an extensible and contractible coiled spring 89, the latter being connected at its upper end, as at 90, to the link 83, and at its lower end, as at 91, to the rear end of the plate 87. The quadrant-shaped rear end 85 of the lever 15 is toothed, as at 92, shouldered, as at 93, and notched, as at 94. The shoulder 93 forms a seat for the nose of a spring controlled dog 95 which is pivoted, as at 96, to the plate 87. The dog 95 is adapted to engage in the teeth 92 during the upward movement of the quadrant-shaped rear end 88 of the lever 15, so that, unless a complete stroke of the lever 15 has been had, the return movement of the quadrant-shaped portion 88 of the lever 15 will be arrested. The recess 94 receives the nose of the dog 95 when the stroke of the lever has been completed.

The means to allow of the operation of the machine when an article is to be delivered free of charge consists of a counterbalanced dog 97 pivoted upon a bar 98 secured to and between the members 72, 73 of the coin receiving wheel. The nose 99 of the dog 97, when the dog extends in a substantially vertical manner, projects in the path of the segment-shaped portion 81 of the member 80 so that, when the member 80 is shifted in the manner as hereinbefore stated, the segment-shaped portion 81 of the shifting member 80 will engage the nose of the dog 97 and thereby impart movement to the coin receiving wheel. When the dog 97 is in the position shown in Fig. 2 the inner end thereof abuts against the shaft 69, the latter acting as an abutment for the dog 97 so that the coin receiving wheel will be shifted when the segment-shaped portion 81 of the shifting member 80 engages the nose 99 of the dog. The dog 97 is so disposed upon the coin free wheel that it will assume a vertical position after the machine has been operated a predetermined number of times through the insertion of coins. As shown, the coin receiving wheel is provided with six pairs of notches, the dog being arranged in close proximity to one pair of notches. After five pairs of notches have received the coins and the coin receiving wheel operated five times, the dog 97 will then be brought to the position shown in Fig. 2 to enable the nose 99 thereof to be engaged by the segment-shaped portion 81 of the shifting member 80. The number of pairs of notches shown is by way of example, as the number can be increased or diminished if desired. The dog 97 can be dispensed with so that the pair of notches in close proximity thereto will be utilized to receive a coin thereby enabling the machine to be operated. Associating with the dog 97 is a means to indicate to the operator, after a predetermined number of coins have been inserted in the machine, that it will not be necessary to insert a coin to enable the machine to be again operated; or, in other words, a means to indicate that the next article delivered from the machine can be obtained free of charge. The said means consists of a vertically movable slide 100 having a suitable inscription 101 and traveling in the guide-way 102 formed at the front and near the top of the members 21, 24. Normally, the slide 100 is concealed behind the portion 103 of the front wall 10 of the magazine, and the slide 100 is exposed by it being drawn down to a position at the rear of the transparent portion of the front wall 10. The slide 100 is operated through the medium of a rod 104 which extends through the keepers 105 secured to the outer face of the member 24, and the said rod 104 is provided with a rearwardly extending lug 106 which is adapted to be engaged by a trip stud 107 projecting from the inner face of the member 72 of the coin freed wheel. The rod 104 is furthermore provided with a rearwardly extending apertured offset 108 to which is connected the lower end of an extensible and contractible coiled spring 109. The upper end of said spring 109 is connected to the member 24, as at 110. The position of

the trip stud 107 is such that it will engage the lug 106 during the operation of the machine when causing the discharge of the article just prior to the time when the machine is operated to allow of the free discharge of the article; that is to say, if the machine is operated five times by the insertion of five coins and the sixth operation of the machine can be had without the inserting of a coin so that the article will be delivered free, the operation of the slide 100 will be had during the operation of the machine when the fifth coin has been inserted. When the trip stud 107 engages the lug 106 it will cause the rod 104 to move downwardly carrying the slide 100 therewith and exposing the inscription on the slide through the transparent portion 11 of the front wall 10. When the stud 107 passes clear of the lug 106, the spring 109 will cause the return of the slide 100 to a position back of the upper portion 103 of the wall 10 so as to conceal the inscription 101 upon the slide 100.

The supporting frame, as well as the removable front wall 10, is removably secured in position through the medium of a rearwardly extending tie-bar 111 which extends through the slots 13, 20 and the slot 112 formed in the rear wall 31, and the said tie-bar 111 at its forward end is headed, as at 113, so as to abut against the lower portion of the removable front wall 10, and the said tie-bar 111, at its rear end, is formed with an opening 114 to receive a lock 115 so as to secure the tie-bar in position.

What I claim is:

1. A vending machine comprising a magazine having a tilting bottom and a vertically-movable front wall, connections between the bottom and the wall for reciprocating the latter when the former is operated, an oscillatory article-delivery member arranged in suitable relation with respect to said bottom and front wall, connections between said member and said wall for operating the latter when the former is operated, and means for operating said member.

2. A vending machine comprising a magazine having a tilting bottom, an oscillatory article-delivery member arranged in suitable relation with respect to said tilting bottom, connections between said member and said tilting bottom for operating the latter when the former is operated, means for operating said member, an intermittently operable indicator adapted to be exposed after a predetermined number of articles has been delivered by said member for indicating that the next article to be discharged will be delivered without cost, and means for moving said indicator to expose it in advance of the free delivery of said article and for returning said indicator to normal position during the delivery of the article.

3. A vending machine comprising a magazine having a tilting bottom and a vertically-movable front wall, connections between the bottom and the wall for reciprocating the latter when the former is operated, an oscillatory article-delivery member arranged in suitable relation with respect to said bottom and front wall, connections between said member and said wall for operating the latter when the former is operated, means for operating said member, an intermittently operable indicator adapted to be exposed after a predetermined number of articles has been delivered by said member for indicating that the next article to be discharged will be delivered without cost, and means for moving said indicator to expose it in advance of the free delivery of said article and for returning said indicator to normal position during the delivery of the article.

4. A vending machine comprising a vertically-movable slide, a delivery means for the article, a tilting support for the articles to be vended, connections between the support and slide for operating the latter when the support is tilted, connections between the delivery means and said support for operating the latter when the former is operated, and a spring-controlled operating means for said delivery means.

5. A vending machine comprising a vertically-movable slide, a delivery member for the article, a tilting support for the articles to be vended, connections between the support and slide for operating the latter when the support is tilted, connections between the delivery means and said support for operating the latter when the former is operated, a spring-controlled operating means for said delivery means, an intermittently operable indicator adapted to be exposed after a predetermined number of articles has been delivered by said member for indicating that the next article to be discharged will be delivered without cost, and means for moving said indicator to expose it in advance of the free delivery of said article and for returning said indicator to normal position during the delivery of the article.

6. A vending machine comprising a magazine having a corrugated tilting bottom, an article-delivery member arranged below and forward of said bottom, a reciprocatory front wall for the magazine, connections between said member and said bottom for operating the latter when the former is operated, connections between the said bottom and said wall for reciprocating the latter when the former is operated, and means for operating said member.

7. A vending machine comprising a magazine having a corrugated tilting bottom, an oscillatory article-delivery member arranged forwardly and below said bottom, connections between said member and said bottom for operating the latter when the former is operated, means for operating the member, an intermittently operable indicator adapted to be exposed after a predetermined number of articles has been delivered by said member for indicating that the next article to be discharged will be delivered without cost, and means for moving said indicator to expose it in advance of the free delivery of said article and for returning said indicator to normal position during the delivery of the article.

8. A vending machine comprising a magazine having a corrugated tilting bottom, an article-delivery member arranged below and forward of said bottom, a reciprocatory front wall for the magazine, connections between said member and said bottom for operating the latter when the former is operated, connections between the said bottom and said wall for reciprocating the latter when the former is operated, means for operating said member, an intermittently operable indicator adapted to be exposed after a predetermined number of articles has been delivered by said member for indicating that the next article to be discharged will be delivered without cost, and means for moving said indicator to expose it in advance of the free delivery of said article and for returning said indicator to normal position during the delivery of the article.

9. A vending machine comprising a magazine having a tilting bottom, means carried by said bottom for supporting a receptacle containing a supply of articles adapted to be discharged into the magazine, said bottom having a depending portion at the front thereof, an article delivery member arranged forwardly of said depending portion, connections between said member and said tilting bottom for operating the latter when the former is operated, and means for operating said member.

10. A vending machine comprising a magazine having a tilting bottom, means carried by said bottom for supporting a receptacle containing a supply of articles adapted to be discharged into the magazine, said bottom having a depending portion at the front thereof, an article-delivery member arranged forwardly of said depending portion, connections between said member and said tilting bottom for operating the latter when the former is operated, means for operating said member, an intermittently operable indicator adapted to be exposed after a predetermined number of articles has been delivered by said member for indicating that the next article to be discharged will be delivered without cost, and means for moving said indicator to expose it in advance of the free delivery of said article and for returning said indicator to normal position during the delivery of the article.

11. A vending machine comprising a tilting bottom pro-

vided with means for supporting a receptacle containing articles adapted to be supplied to the magazine, a reciprocatory front wall for the magazine, connections between said wall and said bottom for reciprocating the former when the latter is operated, an article delivery member arranged forwardly of said tilting bottom, connections between said member and said bottom for operating the latter when the former is operated, and means for operating the member.

12. A vending machine comprising a tilting bottom provided with means for supporting a receptacle containing articles adapted to be supplied to the magazine, a reciprocatory front wall for the magazine, connections between said wall and said bottom for reciprocating the former when the latter is operated, an article delivery member arranged forwardly of said tilting bottom, connections between said member and said bottom for operating the latter when the former is operated, means for operating the member, an intermittently operable indicator adapted to be exposed after a predetermined number of articles has been delivered by said member for indicating that the next article to be discharged will be delivered without cost, and means for moving said indicator to expose it in advance of the free delivery of said article and for returning said indicator to normal position during the delivery of the article.

13. A vending machine comprising a magazine having a tilting bottom provided with means for supporting a receptacle containing articles adapted to be supplied to the magazine, a reciprocatory front wall for the magazine, connections between said wall and said bottom for reciprocating the former when the latter is operated, an article delivery member arranged forwardly of said tilting bottom, connections between said member and said bottom for operating the latter when the former is operated, means for operating the member, an indicator adapted to be exposed after a predetermined number of articles has been delivered by said member, and means for limiting the movement in one direction of said member.

14. A vending machine comprising a magazine having a corrugated bottom, an oscillatory article delivery member arranged forwardly of said bottom below the front thereof, connections between said member and said bottom for actuating the latter during the operation of the former, a reciprocatory front wall for said magazine, and connections between said front wall and the forward end of the bottom for reciprocating the former when the latter is actuated.

15. A vending machine comprising a magazine having a corrugated bottom, an oscillatory article delivery member arranged forwardly of said bottom below the front thereof, connections between said member and said bottom for actuating the latter during the operation of the former, a reciprocatory front wall for said magazine, connections between said front wall and the forward end of the bottom for reciprocating the former when the latter is actuated, an intermittently operable indicator adapted to be exposed after a predetermined number of articles has been delivered by said member for indicating that the next article to be discharged will be delivered without cost, and means for moving said indicator to expose it in advance of the free delivery of said article and for returning said indicator to normal position during the delivery of the article.

16. A vending machine comprising a magazine having a corrugated bottom, an oscillatory article delivery member arranged forwardly of said bottom and below the front thereof, connections between said member and said bottom for actuating the latter during the operation of the former, a reciprocatory front wall for said magazine, connections between said front wall and the forward end of the bottom for reciprocating the former when the latter is actuated, and a spring-controlled means for operating said member.

17. A vending machine comprising a magazine having a corrugated bottom, an oscillatory article delivery member arranged forwardly of said bottom and below the front thereof, connections between said member and said bottom for actuating the latter during the operation of the former, a reciprocatory front wall for said magazine, connections between said front wall and the forward end of the bottom for reciprocating the former when the latter is actuated, a spring-controlled means for operating said member, an intermittently operable indicator adapted to be exposed after a predetermined number of articles has been delivered by said member for indicating that the next article to be discharged will be delivered without cost, and means for moving said indicator to expose it in advance of the free delivery of said article and for returning said indicator to normal position during the delivery of the article.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN C. WILSON.

Witnesses:
C. W. BOCOCK,
D. F. ROWE.