No. 879,139. PATENTED FEB. 18, 1908.

W. R. BENJAMIN.

CHECK CONTROLLED DISPLAY MECHANISM.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 15, 1906.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

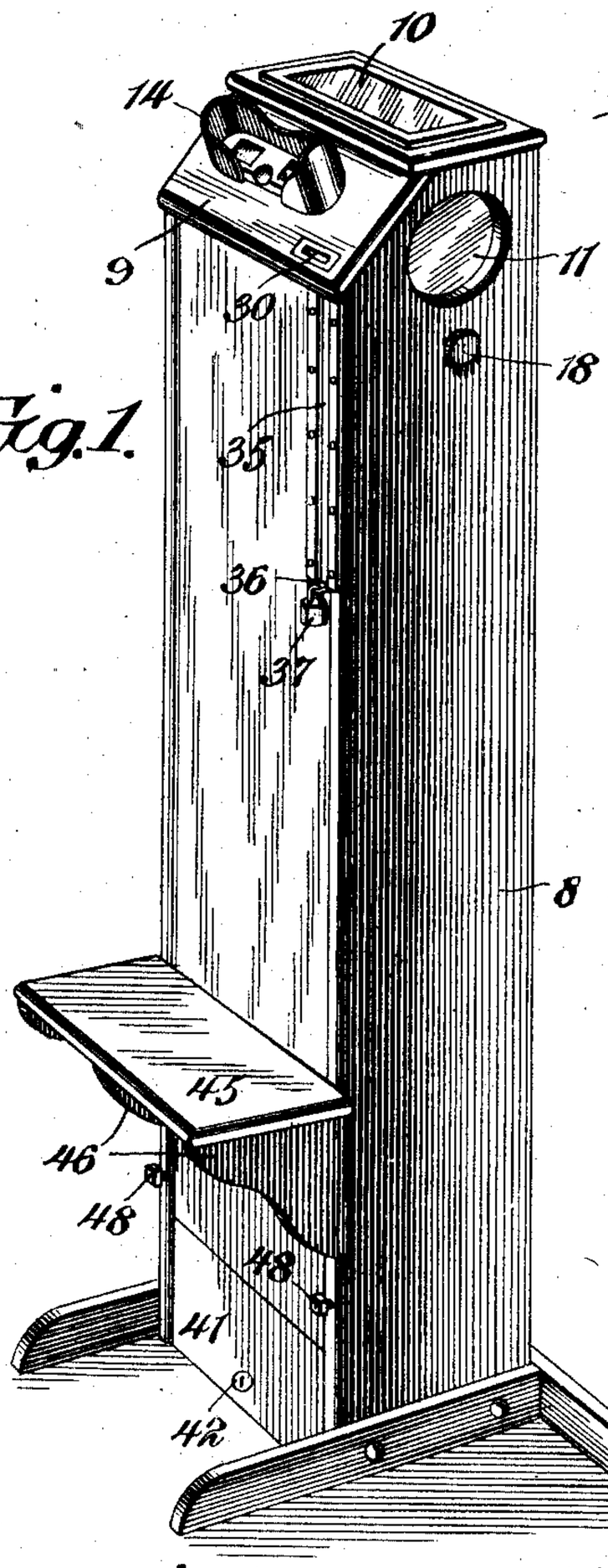


Fig. 4.

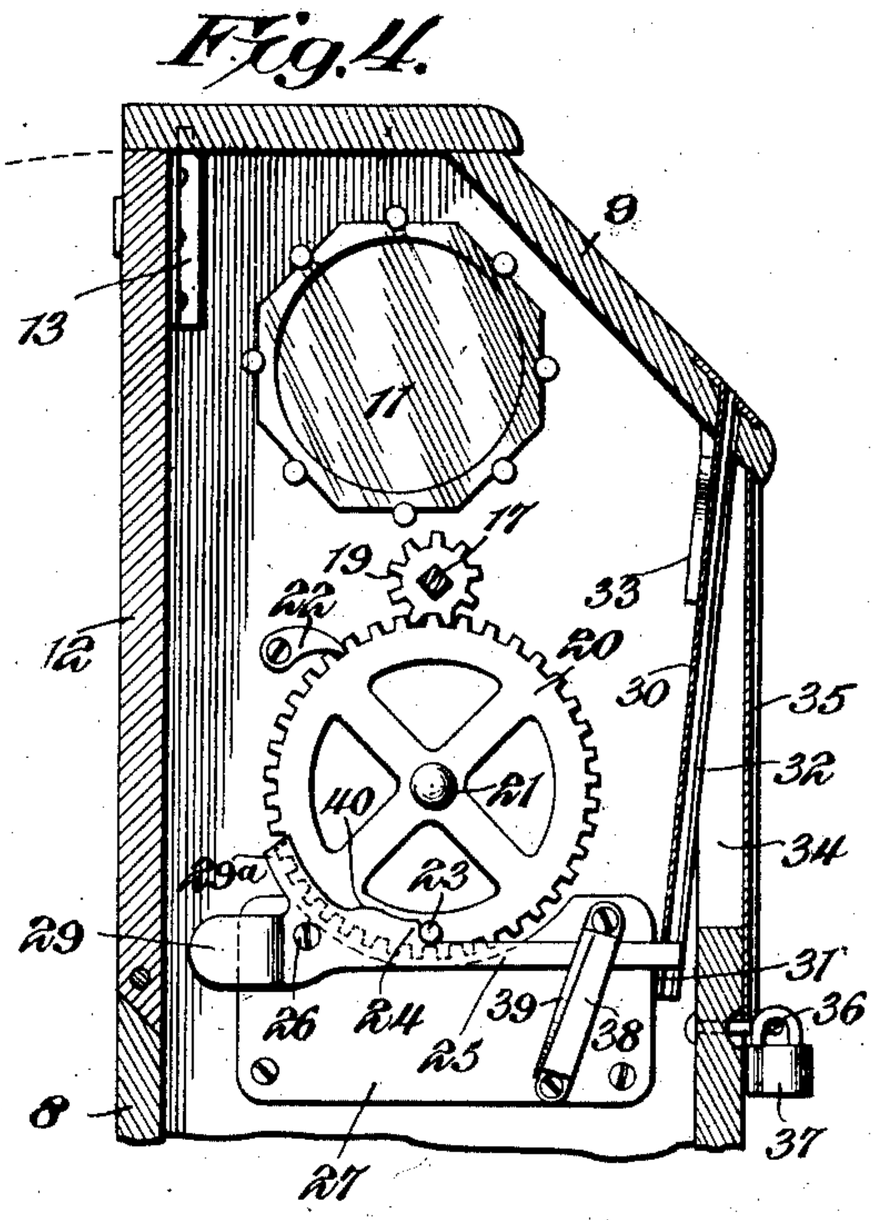


Fig. 5.

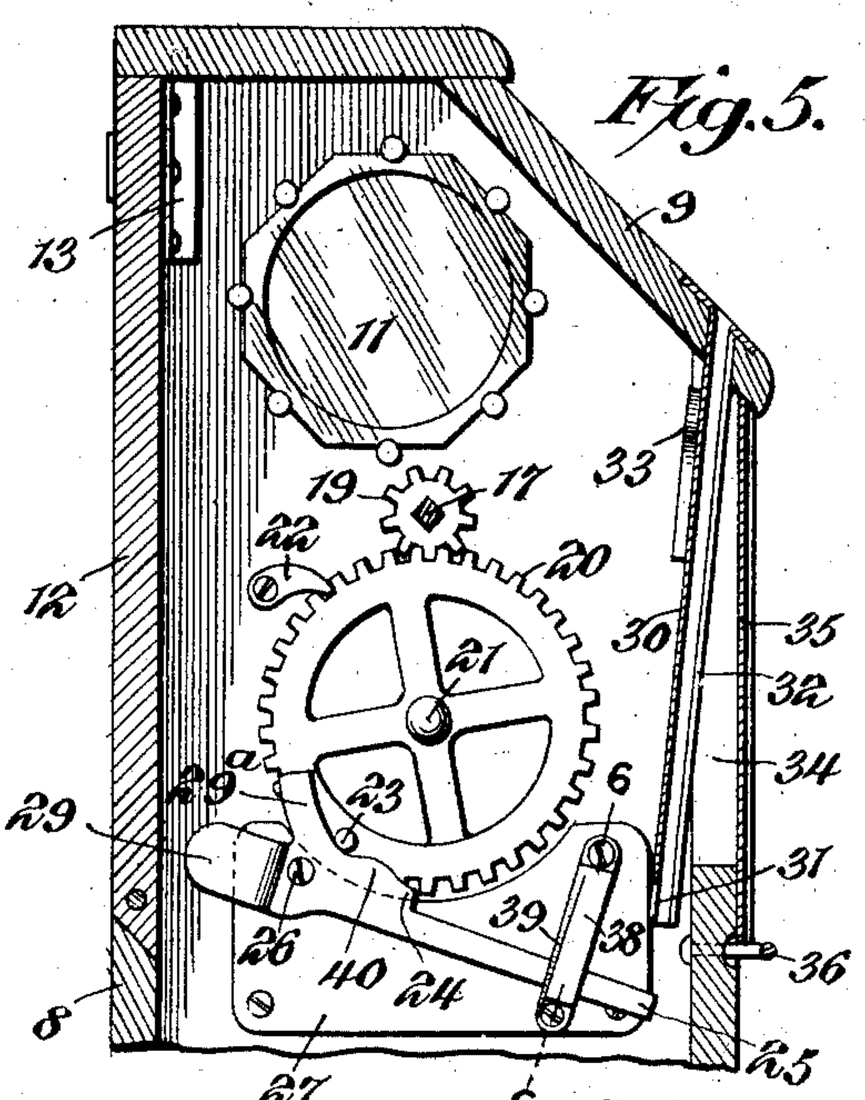
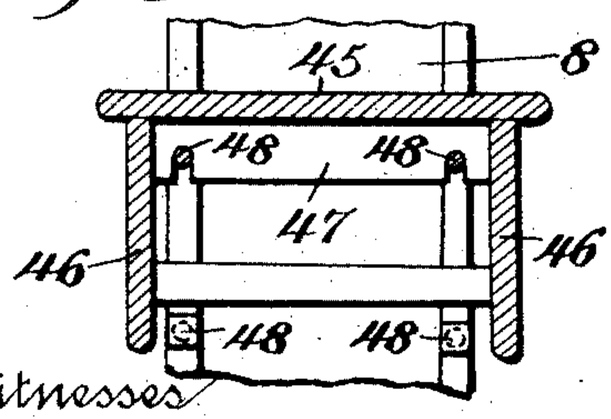


Fig. 7.



Witnesses

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

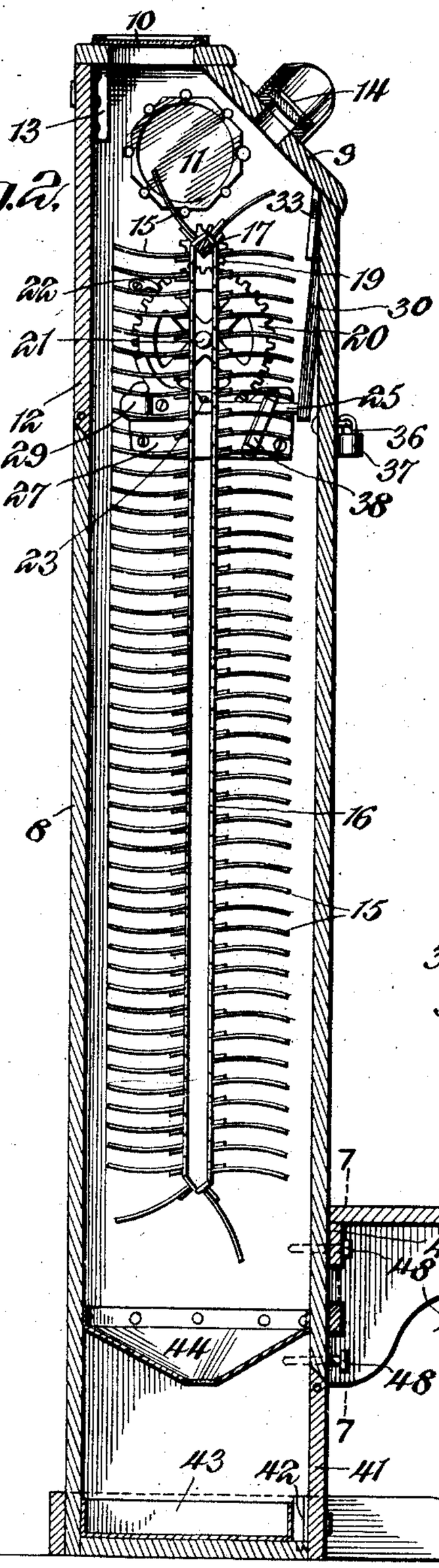


Fig. 3.

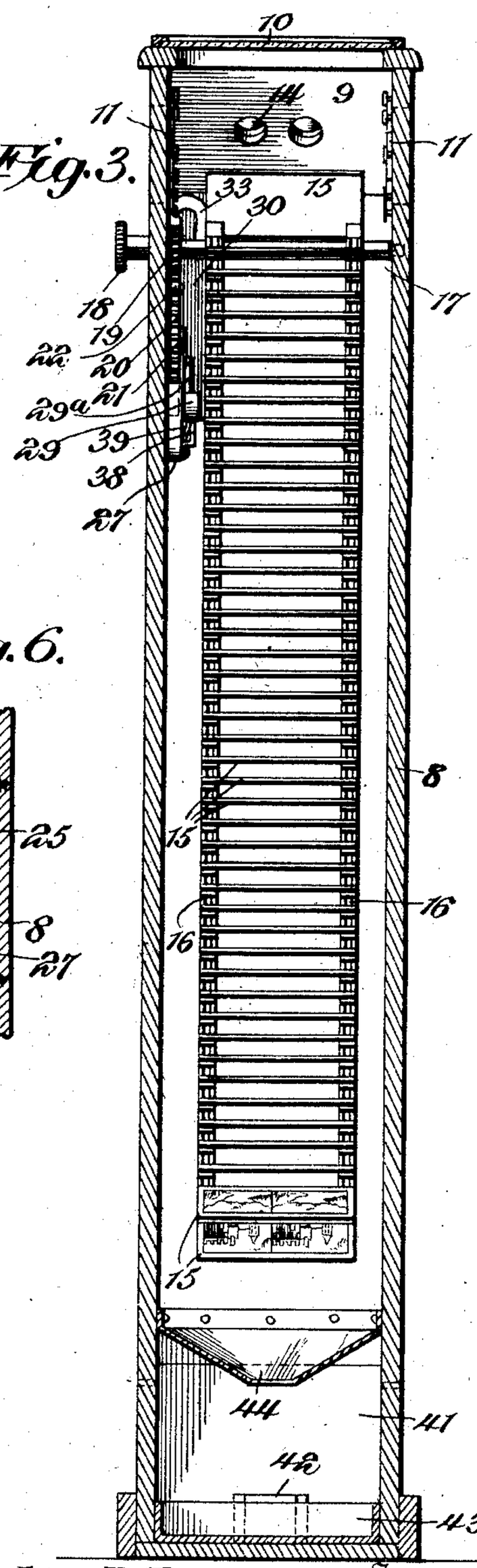
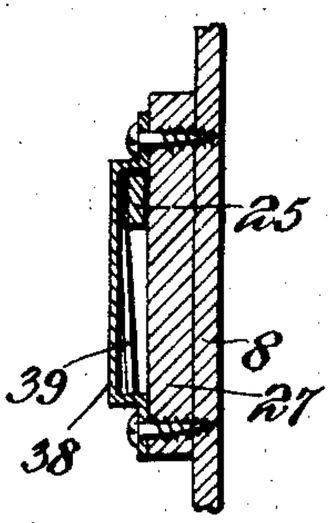


Fig. 6.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER R. BENJAMIN, OF GRANITE CITY, ILLINOIS.

CHECK-CONTROLLED DISPLAY MECHANISM.

No. 879,139. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 18, 1908.

Application filed November 15, 1906. Serial No. 343,627.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER R. BENJAMIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Granite City, in the county of Madison and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Check-Controlled Display Mechanism, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates more particularly to means for displaying pictures, such as stereoscopic views and the like, or other articles.

The primary object is to provide a novel and simple machine, by means of which articles to be displayed can be brought successively to view, and to employ in connection therewith, check or coin controlled mechanism of a simple and effective character that will, upon the introduction of a check or coin, permit the display of a predetermined number of pictures or articles, and the examination of each as long as desired.

The preferred form of construction is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the machine. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view therethrough. Fig. 3 is a sectional view at right angles to Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view on an enlarged scale, illustrating the check controlled mechanism in detail. Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4, but illustrating the relation of the parts during the operation of the machine. Fig. 6 is a detail sectional view on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5. Fig. 7 is a detail sectional view on the line 7—7 of Fig. 2.

Similar reference numerals designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In the embodiment illustrated, a suitable upright casing 8 is employed having a top provided with an inclined portion 9, said top being also provided with a window 10. The upper ends of the side walls are likewise provided with windows 11. These various windows are preferably of ground glass or other material that will permit the passage of light, while preventing a view of the interior of the casing. A door 12 is located in the upper portion of the rear wall, and is normally held closed by a suitable lock 13. A stereoscope 14 is mounted on the inclined portion 9 of the top.

In the present embodiment, a series of pictures 15 are carried by spaced chains 16, and are loosely hung upon an annular shaft 17 journaled in the upper portion of the casing, and having an exposed operating knob 18 at one end. The shaft is so disposed that as the pictures pass thereover, they will be in proper position to be seen through the stereoscope 14, as will be evident from Fig. 2. It will of course be understood that other means than that shown for mounting the views may be employed.

The shaft 17 is provided within the casing and contiguous to one of the side walls with a pinion 19, and a gear wheel 20, journaled as shown at 21 upon the adjacent side wall, meshes with the pinion. A dog 22, coöperating with the teeth of the wheel 20, permits its rotation in one direction, but prevents its retrograde movement. The wheel 20, as clearly shown in Figs. 4 and 5, is provided on one side with a projection 23, and this projection is normally engaged by a shoulder 24, formed upon a detent lever 25 pivoted between its ends as shown at 26 to a plate 27 that is secured to the side wall on which the wheel 20 is journaled. The detent 25 is counterweighted, as shown at 29 in order to normally maintain the shoulder 24 behind the projection 23. A finger 29ª is carried by the detent lever on the opposite side of its pivot or fulcrum to the shoulder 24, and is normally out of the path of movement of the projection 23, but if the detent is moved downwardly, so as to disengage the shoulder 24 from the projection 23 then the finger 29ª moves into the path of movement of the projection 23, as illustrated in Fig. 5.

A rearwardly and downwardly inclined check or coin chute 30 extends from the inclined portion 9 of the top to a point below the front or free end of the detent 25, the lower end of said chute being bifurcated as shown at 31 to receive the said end of the detent, which projects across the same. The front side of the chute is open, but is provided with inwardly extending flanges 32 to retain checks or coins of a proper diameter, but permitting those of less diameter to drop from the chute. A magnet 33 is preferably located against the rear side of the chute between its ends. The front wall of the casing is slotted, as shown at 34, and is closed by a vertically sliding plate 35, held elevated by an inwardly sliding staple 36 that normally receives the lock 37, said staple projecting below the lower end of the slide 35, but being movable to a position in rear of the same when the lock is detached.

A keeper guide 38 is secured to the plate 27

and extends over the free portion of the detent 25. This guide is provided with an inwardly extending spring 39, the lower portion of which is disposed in the path of movement of the detent. Said detent is furthermore provided between the shoulder 24 and the finger 29[a] with a cam portion 40 that is located in the path of movement of the projection 23 of the wheel, after the shoulder 24 has moved downwardly a sufficient distance to release said shoulder.

A door 41 is located in the lower front wall of the casing, and is held in closed position by a suitable lock 42. Through this door access can be gained to the lower part of the casing, for the purpose of securing the checks or coins dropped in the machine, and a detachable receptacle 43 may be employed for receiving such checks or coins. A funnel 44 is preferably located in the lower portion of the casing below the views and above the receptacle, and in order that small children may readily view the pictures, a shelf 45 is preferably mounted on the front wall of the casing, being supported by brackets 46 and a cleat 47 having notches that receive sets of supporting pins 48 carried by the front wall of the receptacle.

The operation of the structure may be briefly described as follows. Under normal conditions, and as shown in Fig. 4, the shoulder of the detent 24 is engaged with the pin 23. Consequently, the wheel 20 is held against rotation, and said wheel being geared to the operating and supporting shaft 17, the pictures cannot be moved. If however, a proper check or coin is deposited in the coin chute, the same will gravitate to the detent and lower said detent sufficiently to disengage the shoulder 24 from the projection 23. At the same time, said detent will be carried into frictional engagement with the spring 39, which will prevent its return movement, the wheel 20 being thus free, the shaft can be revolved. Upon its revolution, the pin 42 will rotate over the cam portion 40, forcing the detent still farther down so as to insure the release of the check or coin, which check or coin will fall to the bottom of the casing, passing through the funnel 44. The finger 29[a], however, is now in the path of movement of the projection 23, and as said projection revolves, it will engage the finger, returning the detent from its frictional engagement with the holding spring 39 to its original position. Consequently, when the projection 23 completes its revolution, it will again strike the shoulder 24. Thus, it will be seen that a predetermined number of pictures or other articles will be successively brought to a position to be seen through the stereoscope or other view device, and each of these pictures can be examined as long as desired. In case a check or coin of too small diameter is placed in the coin chute, it will gravitate through the open side thereof, and if a magnetic slug is placed therein, it will be stopped by the magnet 33. When so stopped, or if the chute becomes choked from any cause, access can be readily obtained thereto through the slot 34, by lowering the slide 35.

From the foregoing, it is thought that the construction, operation, and many advantages of the herein described invention, will be apparent to those skilled in the art, without further description, and it will be understood that various changes in the size, shape, proportion, and minor details of construction, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

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

1. In mechanism of the class described, the combination with a movable actuating member having a projection, of a detent pivotally mounted between its ends, said detent having a shoulder located on one side of the pivot and normally engaging the projection to prevent movement of the actuating member, and said detent having a finger located on the opposite side of its pivot and movable into the path of movement of the projection when the shoulder is disengaged therefrom, said projection on its movement engaging the finger to return the detent and shoulder to a position to again engage said projection, and means for directing a check against the detent to move it and thereby move the shoulder out of coaction with the projection.

2. In mechanism of the class described, the combination with a rotatable actuating member having a projection, of a detent pivotally mounted between its ends alongside the member, said detent having a shoulder located on one side of the pivot and normally engaging the projection to prevent movement of the member, said detent furthermore having a finger located on the opposite side of the pivot and movable into the path of movement of the projection when the shoulder is disengaged therefrom, said projection engaging the finger to return the detent and shoulder to a position to again engage said projection, and means for directing a check against the arm of the detent that has the shoulder in order to move the same out of coaction with the projection.

3. In mechanism of the class described, the combination with a movable actuating member having a projection, of a detent pivotally mounted between its ends, said detent having a shoulder located on one side of the pivot and normally engaging the projection to prevent movement of the actuating member, and furthermore having a finger located on the opposite side of the pivot and

movable into the path of movement of the projection when the shoulder is disengaged therefrom to return the detent and shoulder to a position to again engage said projection, said detent furthermore having a cam portion between the shoulder and pivot, said cam portion being disposed in the path of movement of the projection when the shoulder is disengaged therefrom, and means for directing a check against the detent to move it and thereby move the shoulder out of coaction with the projection.

4. In mechanism of the character described, the combination with a rotary wheel having a projection on one side, of a detent lever fulcrumed between its ends and located alongside the wheel, said lever having a shoulder on one arm that normally engages the projection of the wheel and having a cam portion disposed between the shoulder and the lever, a finger projecting from the lever on the opposite side of the pivot and movable into the path of movement of the projection when the shoulder moves out of said path, and means for directing a check against the arm of the lever having the shoulder and the cam portion.

5. In mechanism of the class described, the combination with movable article displaying means, of mechanism for moving the same, a movable detent for normally preventing the movement of the displaying means, and movable to an inoperative position with respect thereto, a friction device located in the path of movement of the detent to hold it in its inoperative position, means movable with the displaying mechanism to disengage the detent from said friction device and return it to its operative position, and means for directing a check against the detent to cause it to move into engagement with said holding device.

6. In mechanism of the class described, the combination with article displaying means, of mechanism for operating the same, including a projection having a rotatable path of movement, a swinging detent having a shoulder that normally engages the projection to prevent its rotation, said detent also having a finger that is movable into the path of movement of the projection when the shoulder disengages therefrom, a friction spring having a portion located in the path of movement of the detent to hold it with the shoulder in inoperative position with respect to the projection, and a check chute for directing a check against the detent to cause it to move into engagement with the spring.

7. In mechanism of the class described, the combination with article displaying means, of operating means therefor, including a shaft, a wheel geared to the shaft and having a projection, a detent pivotally mounted adjacent to the wheel and having a shoulder that normally engages the projection to prevent the rotation of said wheel, said detent swinging to a position to disengage the shoulder from the projection, a finger carried by the detent and movable into the path of movement of the projection when the shoulder disengages therefrom, a friction holding spring having a portion disposed in the path of movement of the detent to hold said detent with the shoulder disengaged from the projection, and a check chute for directing a check against the detent.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WALTER R. BENJAMIN.

Witnesses:

G. E. WHITTEN,

LOVE E. ERWIN.