

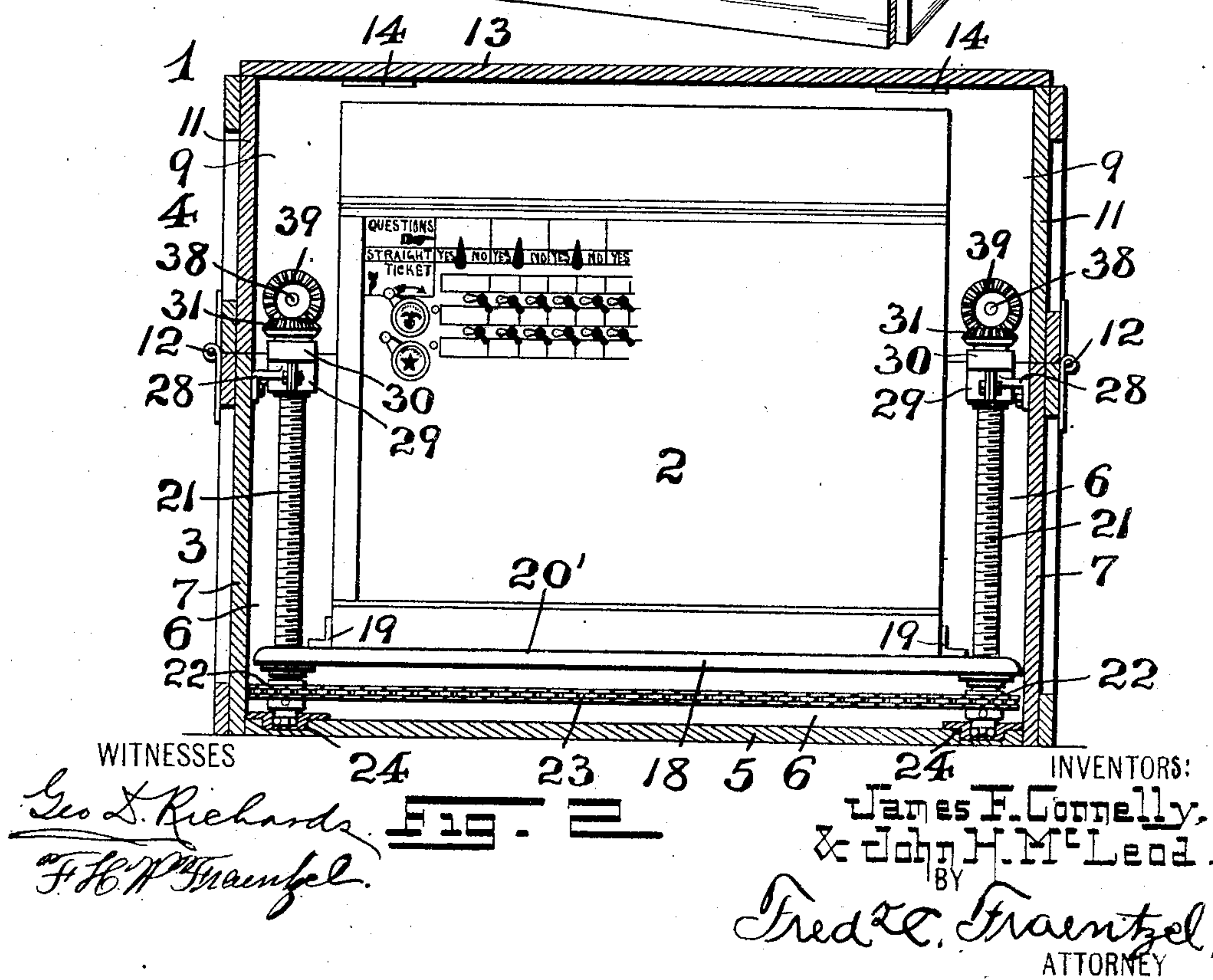
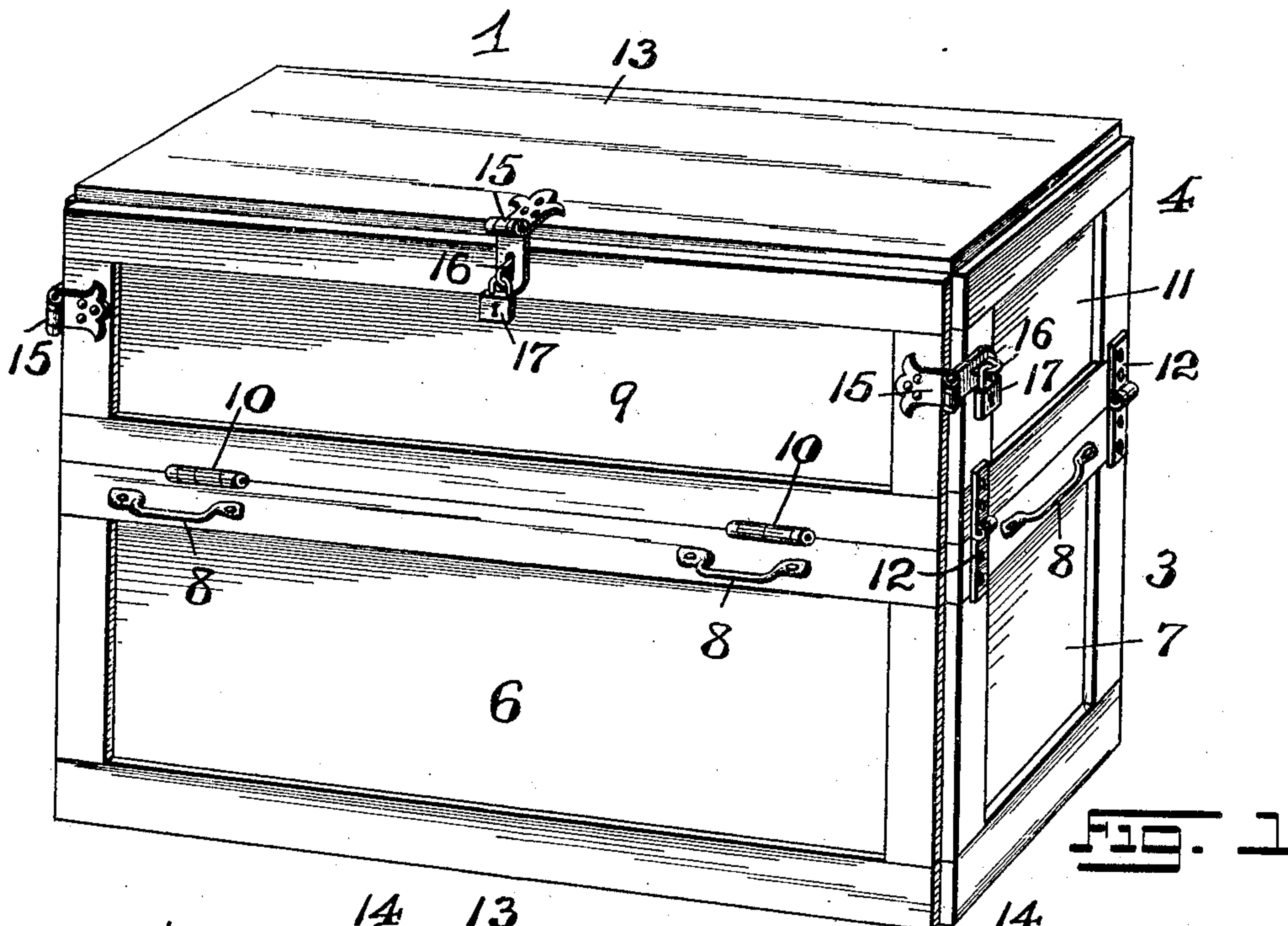
No. 896,896.

PATENTED AUG. 25, 1908.

J. F. CONNELLY & J. H. McLEOD.
COMBINED CASE AND VOTING MACHINE.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 2, 1905.

4 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES

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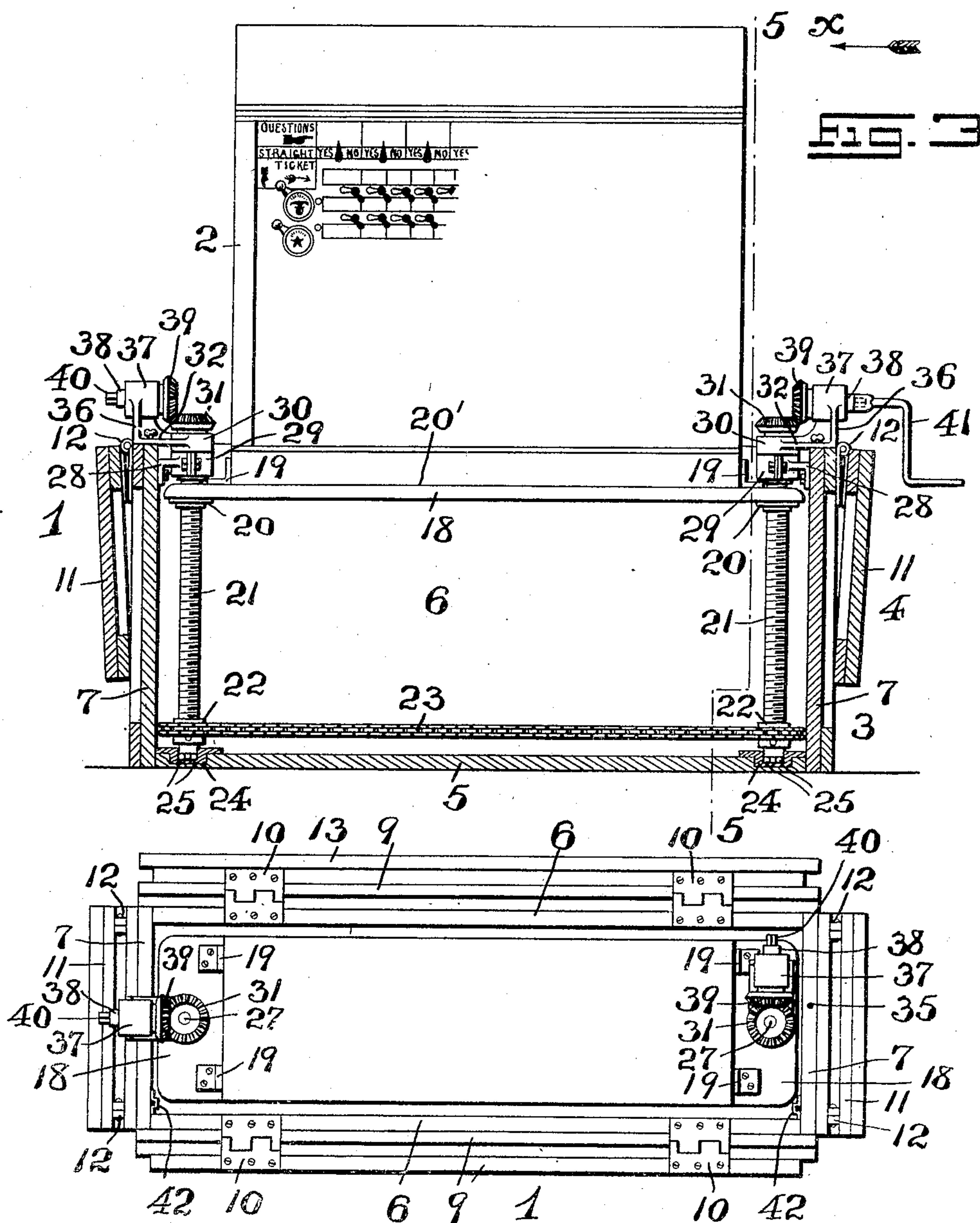
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4 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



WITNESSES

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FIG. 4

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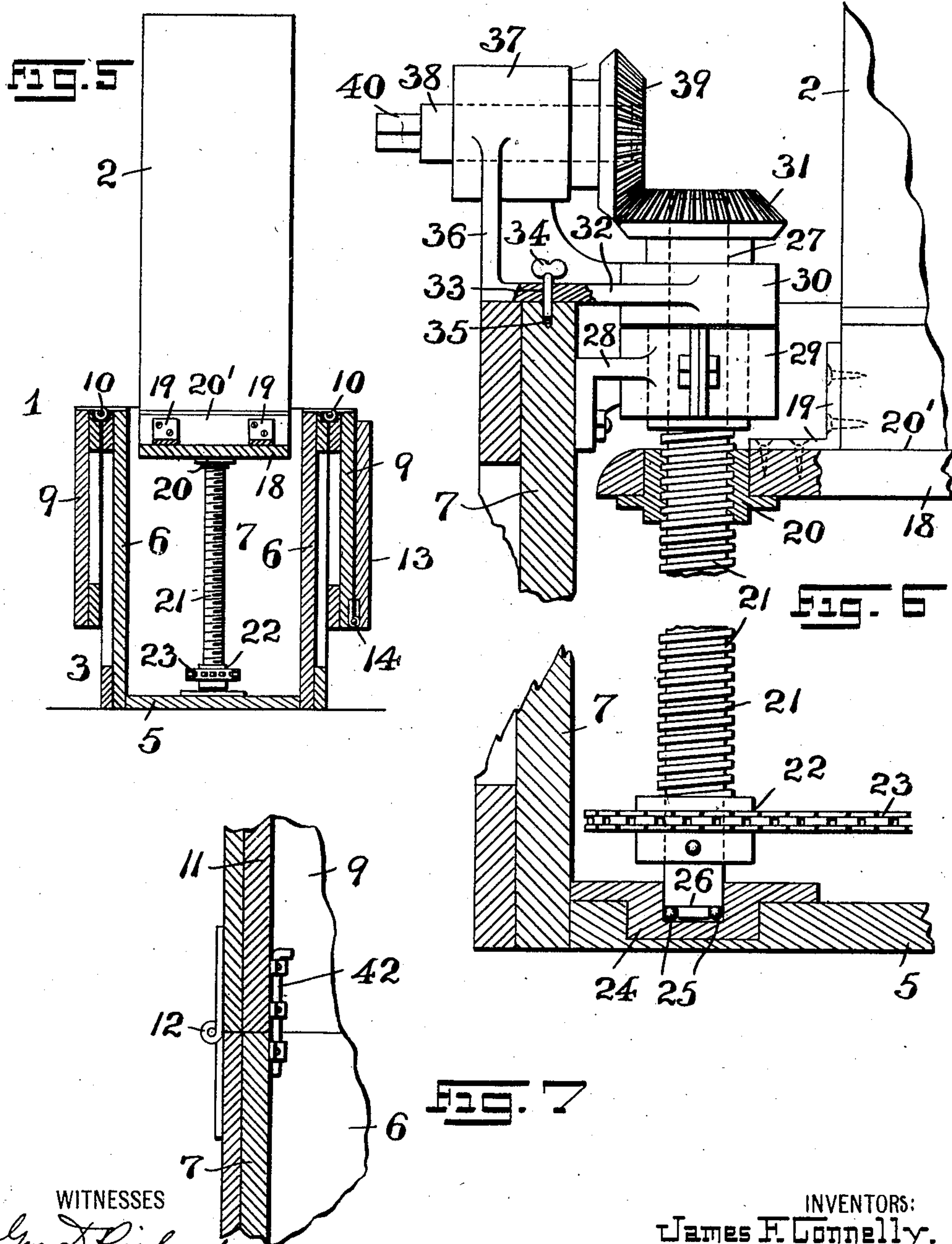
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4 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



WITNESSES

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4 SHEETS—SHEET 4.

FIG. 8

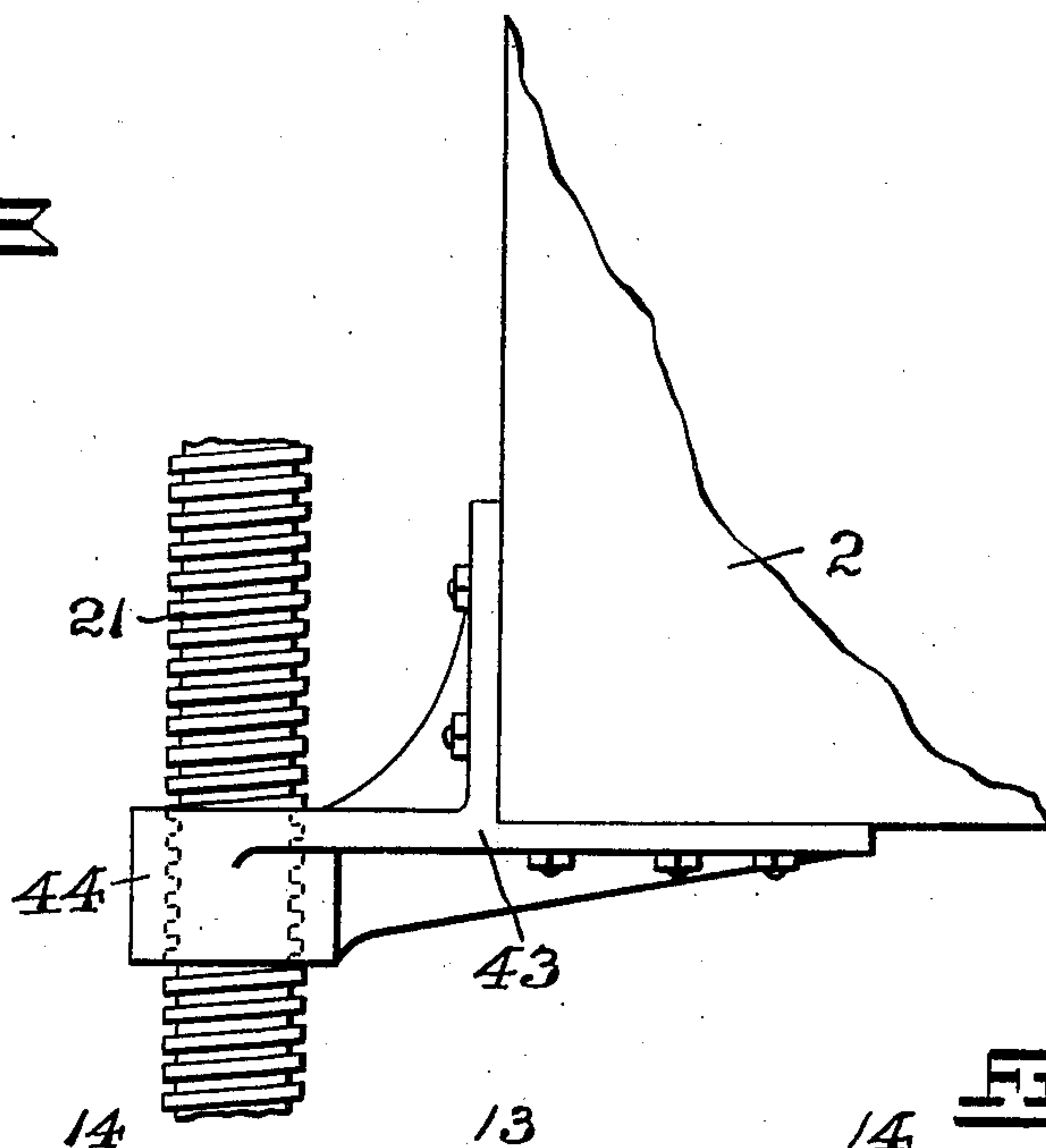
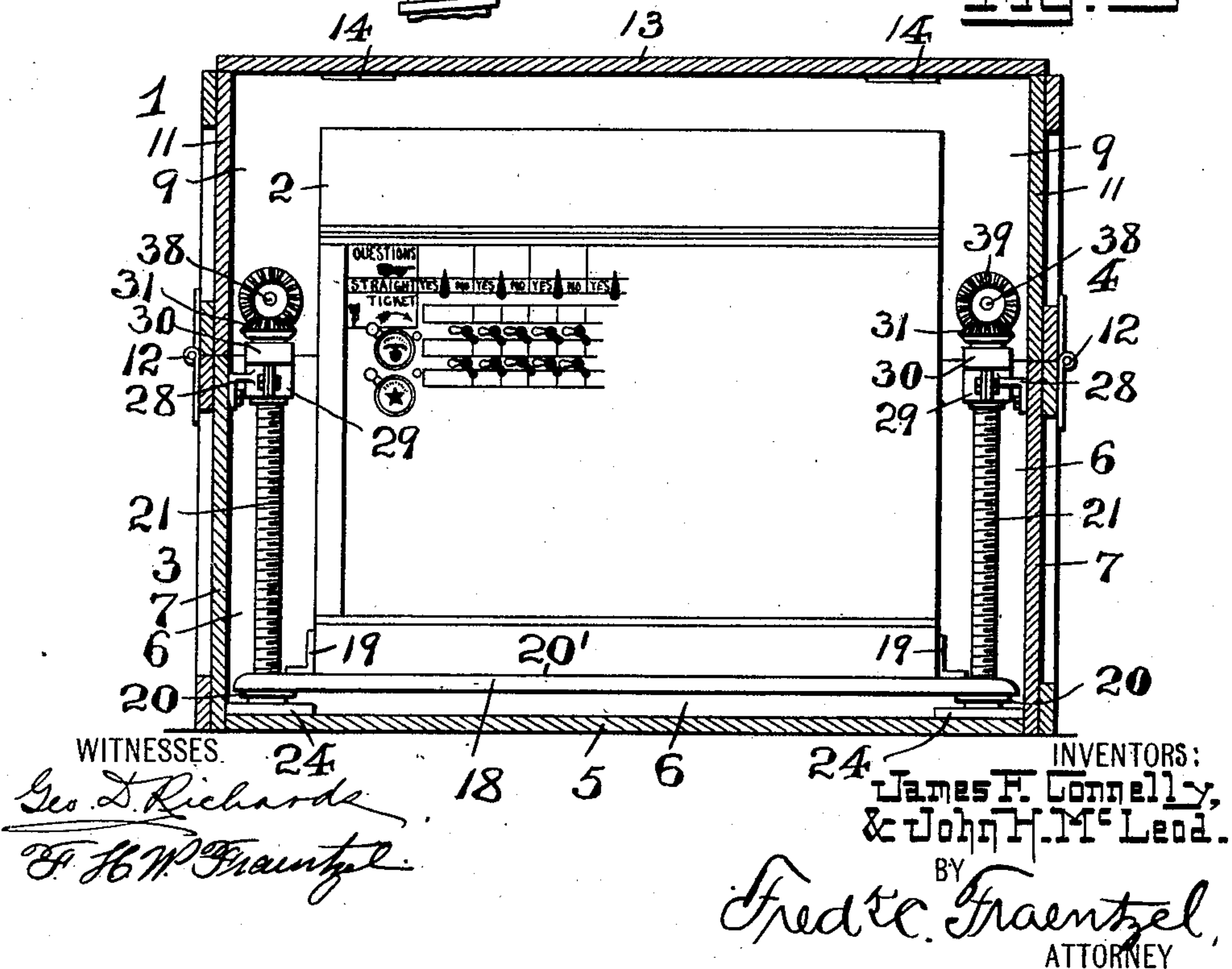


FIG. 9



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES F. CONNELLY AND JOHN H. McLEOD, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNORS TO U. S. STANDARD VOTING MACHINE COMPANY, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

COMBINED CASE AND VOTING-MACHINE.

No. 896,896.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 25, 1908.

Application filed February 2, 1905. Serial No. 243,789.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JAMES F. CONNELLY and JOHN H. McLEOD, citizens of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Case and Voting-Machine; and we 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The present invention relates, generally, to improvements in voting machines; and, our present invention has reference, more particularly, to a novel device or means which is employed with a case or box and with the voting machine permanently arranged and secured therein, so as to practically form a part of the same, the device or means being designed to elevate the voting machine relatively into its operative or voting position to the said case or box, and when in its normal and inactive position within the case or box having certain movable parts or sections of the case or box inclosed about the machine, and preferably locked.

It is a well known fact, that the laws of the various States in which voting machines are used, require that the voting machines, before and after an election, be stored and securely locked within stout and heavy cases or boxes, to prevent tampering with the machines, and for other protection of the machine in carting the same from one place to another. When it is desired to use the voting machine at a polling precinct, as now arranged and stored in the case or box, it becomes necessary to remove the voting machine entirely from the case or box and attach to the body of the voting machine suitable legs or standards, that the machine may be set up in its operative position for voting. In doing this, the main difficulty presented is, that, on account of the weight and size of the voting machine, together with the delicate nature of the mechanism, the machines are exceedingly troublesome things for the officials to handle, requiring two and often more men to handle the machine in removing it from its case and in setting it up for voting

purposes, all at a considerable time and great expense. The same number of men, and the same amount of time and cost are necessary to take down the voting machine, repack and load it, and return the same for storage subsequent to the election.

Realizing that the packing and repacking of the voting machine in its case or box, together with the time consumed in setting up the machine, with the accompanying danger of improperly handling and hence the possibility of destroying the utility of the machine, it is the principal purpose of our invention to devise a means to lessen the existing difficulties in the way of the expeditious handling of the cumbersome machines, to greatly reduce the time and cost of manipulation of the voting machine at the voting precinct, and to reduce to a minimum the danger of breaking or otherwise damaging any part or parts of the voting machine, due to dropping or improperly affixing the legs or standards to the body of the voting machine.

The principal object of this invention, therefore, is to provide a cheap, simple and efficiently operating means or device, which can be readily and safely manipulated by one person, for bringing the voting machine into its proper position for voting thereon.

To accomplish the various objects and purposes of our present invention, the machine is practically made part of the case or box, although movably connected therewith, or vice versa; the arrangements and combinations of the various parts being extremely simple.

With our novel arrangement and combination of the voting machine proper and its inclosing case or box, the legs or standards of the machines now employed are done away with altogether, and the case or box practically provides the base or standard of the voting machine proper, when used for voting purposes; and when not in use, the machine sits within and at the base of the stout wooden or other case or box, secure against all damage and tampering therewith. When the voting machine is to be used, a suitable portion or portions of the case or box are opened, preferably by means of an arrangement of hinged flaps or sections, which may be folded back compactly, so as to rest closely to the lower portions of the outer sides of the case, and thus form no obstruc-

tions to the use of the machine. Then, by any suitable contrivance, either by the movements of the parts of the case or box, or by the use of a screw, worm, or other mechanism, or other device, the voting machine may be raised to a height equal to that now attained, when the detachable legs or standards are used. It will thus be evident, that when the voting machine is in its elevated position, the lower part of the case forms a suitable substitute for the usual legs or standards of the machine.

When the election is over and it is desired to pack and store the machine, which under the law must be done immediately, the mechanism is readily reversed by those in charge of the election precinct, the voting machine being slipped back to the bottom of the case or box, and the movable portions or sections of the case or box folded about the machine and then securely locked.

The trouble at present experienced in preparing the voting machines, in taking them out of the cases to arrange the ballots within the machines, packing them again in the cases, unpacking them again at the polling places, the use of several men in setting up the machines, and then, finally, the reversing of all of these steps after the election, has thus, by our present invention, been most successfully overcome.

Other objects of our present invention not at this time more especially mentioned will be clearly understood from the following detailed description of the same.

With the various objects of our present invention in view, the invention consists in the novel arrangements and combinations of the various devices and parts of the same, with a view of combining the voting machine and its case in one apparatus, as well as in the various details of the construction of the said various devices and parts, all of which will be hereinafter more fully described, and then finally embodied in the clauses of the claim which are appended to and which form an essential part of this specification.

One embodiment of our present invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of one form of case or box in which the voting machine is packed for shipping or storing purposes, when not in use. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section of the box or case, with the movable or separable parts or sections of the case shown in their inclosing relation, and a front view of one form of voting machine and raising mechanism, represented in their inclosed positions within the closed parts of the case or box. Fig. 3 is a similar view of the various devices and parts represented in said Fig. 2, but showing the movable or separable parts or sections of the case or box in their opened and folded positions, with the

voting machine in its elevated or raised position ready for voting. Fig. 4 is a top view of the case or box, with its movable or separable parts or sections opened or folded back, and a top or plan view of the voting machine and raising mechanism. Fig. 5 is a transverse vertical section, taken on line 5—5 in said Fig. 3, looking in the direction of the arrow *x*. Fig. 6 is a detail view, partly in section and partly in elevation, and upon an enlarged scale, of parts of the case or box and a portion of the voting machine, with one of the lifting or raising devices in operative relation with the said case or box and voting machine; and Fig. 7 is a detailed sectional representation of a portion of the body of the case or box, and a portion of one of its flaps or movable sections, showing in connection therewith, a sliding bolt for locking the parts upon the inside of the case or box. Fig. 8 is a detail modification of a part of the lower portion of a voting machine, a part of a vertical screw, and a bracket provided with a screw-threaded receiving device or socket arranged upon said screw for raising and lowering the voting machine; and Fig. 9 is a view similar to Fig. 2 of the drawings, illustrating a slightly modified arrangement of the parts of the lifting or raising mechanism.

Similar characters of reference are employed in all of the said above described views to indicate corresponding parts.

Referring now to the several figures of the drawings, the reference character 1 indicates one complete form of case or box, and 2 is any suitable form of voting machine, showing one arrangement of the voting machine within the case or box, with an idea of producing and making the voting machine and case one apparatus which is practical for all purposes, especially those of storing, shipping, and voting, as well as locking to prevent tampering with the machine when not in use.

The preferred form of case or box, as shown herein, comprises two separable portions 3 and 4, as will be seen more particularly from an inspection of Figs. 1, 2 and 9 of the drawings. The lower portion 3 consists, essentially, of a suitable base or bottom 5, a pair of longitudinally extending sides 6, and ends 7, all suitably secured together in a solid and fixed relation, and suitably disposed handles 8 may also be provided, as shown in Fig. 1. The said upper portion 4 consists, essentially, of an arrangement of flaps or longitudinal sides or members 9 secured to the said sides 6 by means of hinges 10, an arrangement of flaps or ends 11, secured to the ends 7 by means of hinges 12, and a cover 13 secured by means of hinges 14 to one of said sides or members 9. Hasps 15 and staples 16 provided with locks, as 17, may be secured in various positions to the several members or flaps, to retain and secure them in their

closed relation upon the said lower portion 3 of the case or box 1, as clearly illustrated in said Fig. 1 of the drawings. Of course, it will be understood, that this arrangement of the said parts hereinabove described is but one of the many combinations and arrangements of which they are capable, and we may employ any other suitably constructed main box or case 1; or, the lower and upper portions of the said case or box may be constructed and arranged in any other desired and suitable manner, as will be clearly evident.

One preferred form of device or mechanism for raising and lowering the voting machine 2 is represented in Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the drawings; and, the same consists, essentially, of a base or platform 18 upon which the said machine 2 rests and has its base or lower portion 20' suitably secured by means of angle-irons 19, or any other suitable fastening devices. The said base or platform 18 is suitably fitted in the box-shaped lower portion 3 of the case or box 1, and is provided at its respective ends with screw-threaded nuts or other suitably shaped screw-receiving members or devices 20, in each of which is rotatably arranged a portion of a screw 21. The lower end-portions of the said screws 21 are provided with suitable sprocket wheels 22 over which is placed a link-chain 23, substantially as shown. Suitably secured upon the said bottom 5 of the lower portion 3 of the case or box 1 are suitably constructed bearings 24, preferably provided with suitably disposed anti-friction balls or rollers 25, upon which the lower ends of said screws 21 rest, by having their annular shoulders 26 placed upon the said balls or rollers, as more particularly illustrated in Fig. 6 of the drawings. The upper end-portion of each screw 21 is made cylindrical, as at 27, the screw-threads being omitted, and each cylindrical portion 27 is rotatively arranged in a bearing 29 of a suitable bracket 28, secured one against the inner face of each end 7 of the said lower portion 3 of the case or box 1. Loosely and rotatably arranged upon the upper portion of each screw 21, which extends beyond the upper surface of the said bearing 29 on each bracket 28, and resting upon each bearing 29, is a sleeve or collar 30, and affixed upon the extreme free end of the cylindrical portion 27 of each screw 21, above each sleeve or collar 30, is a miter or bevel gear 31. Extending from one side of each sleeve or collar 30 is a plate or arm 32 which is provided with a perforation 33 and a pin 34 adapted to be passed through the perforation 33 and into a receiving socket 35 connected with each end 7 of the lower portion 3, whereby each plate or arm 32 can be moved over the upper edge of an end 7 to affix the same, and the parts connected therewith, rigidly in their operative positions, for the purposes to be pres-

ently described. Each arm or plate 32, as will be seen, is also provided with an upwardly extending post 36, each post 36 carrying a bearing 37 and a short spindle 38. One end of each spindle 38 is provided with a miter or bevel wheel 39 in mesh with a bevel wheel or gear 31, previously mentioned, and at its opposite end each spindle 38 is made with a wrench or crank-receiving end 40.

From an inspection of Figs. 2 and 4 of the drawings, it will be clearly seen, that when the voting machine 2 and its supporting platform 18 are in their normally lowered relation within the case or box 1, the said arms or plates 32, with the corresponding posts 36 and bearings 37 are arranged in vertical planes at right angles to the central vertical plane passing through the central vertical axes of the two screws 21 and longitudinally through the body of the voting machine. Now, when it is desired to use the voting machine 2 for the placing of the ballots therein, or for voting purposes, the various flaps or sections of the upper portion 4 of the case or box 1 are opened or folded back, and each arm or plate 32, with its corresponding parts, is turned into longitudinal alinement with the vertical plane passing through the central axes of the said screws 21, that each plate or arm 32 will rest directly upon the upper edge of an end 7, as clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 6, and then fixed in position by means of the pins 34 in the manner hereinabove mentioned. A crank 41, or other suitable device, is then placed upon one of the ends 40 of one of the said spindles 38, and a rotary movement thus produced of the one screw 21, which is conveyed to the other screw 21 by means of the sprocket-wheels 22 and the link-chain 23, as will be clearly understood from an inspection of the several figures of the drawings, and resulting in the raising or elevating of the voting machine, with the greatest ease, from its lowered position represented in Fig. 2 of the drawings, to its raised and voting position, shown in said Fig. 3 of the drawings, the lower portion 3 of the case or box 1 serving as a base or standard for the voting machine, as will be clearly evident. By reversing the motion of the crank, the platform 18 and the voting machine 2 may again be lowered into the lower portion 3 of the case or box 1, with rapidity and ease, and the various flaps or sections of the upper portion 4 of the case or box 1 then again brought into their inclosing positions about the voting machine, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and locked. If desired, suitable bolts 42 may be used upon the inside and in connection with some of the flaps or sections of the upper portion 4 and the members of the lower portion 3 of the case or box 1, as shown in the detail in Fig. 7 of the drawings.

In Fig. 9 of the drawings, we have shown a slightly modified arrangement of the mechanism for raising and lowering the voting machine and the platform 18. The general arrangement of the screws 21 and the gearing and operating mechanism connected with the upper end-portion of each screw is the same as that just described in the foregoing specification, but the sprocket-wheels upon the lower end-portions of the said screws 21 and the connecting sprocket or link-chain 23 are dispensed with. With this arrangement and construction of the parts, a crank has to be applied upon each spindle 38, as will be clearly understood, thus requiring two men to work the device instead of one man, as in the device, where the screws 21 are connected by means of the link-chain and sprocket wheels. The said base or platform 18, in some instances, may also be dispensed with, if desired, in which case, we secure to the lower edge-portions, at each end of the voting machine 2, substantially in the manner illustrated in Fig. 8 of the drawings, suitable brackets 43 which are provided with the screw-threaded receiving portions 44 arranged one upon each screw 21. The mechanism for turning the said screws 21, and the consequent upward and downward movements of the said brackets 43 and the voting machine 2 supported thereby, is the same as that hereinabove described, and need not, therefore, be further described at this time.

35 We claim

1. In an apparatus of the character specified, the combination with an auxiliary case, said case having a portion adapted to be opened, of a vertically movable support in said case, a voting machine carried by said support, mechanism for raising and lowering said support, and means adapted to be rotatively moved over the edge of the lower unopened part of the case for engagement with said raising and lowering mechanism to raise said support and the voting machine so as to present the same for use when the case is opened.

2. In an apparatus of the character specified, the combination with an auxiliary case, said case having a portion adapted to be opened, of a pair of screws in said case, a voting machine, means movably connected with said screws and carrying the said voting machine, and means adapted to be rotatively moved over the edge of the lower unopened part of the case for engagement with said screws for rotating the said screws and raising the voting machine so as to present the same for use when the case is opened.

3. In an apparatus of the character specified, the combination with an auxiliary case, said case having a portion adapted to be opened, of a pair of screws in said case, a voting machine, means movably connected

with said screws and carrying the said voting machine, and means adapted to be rotatively moved over the edge of the lower unopened part of the case for engagement with said screws for rotating the said screws, consisting of a bevel-gear upon the upper portion of a screw, a spindle, a second bevel-gear on said spindle and in mesh with the bevel gear of said screw, said spindle and second bevel gear being adapted to be rotatively moved over the edge of the lower unopened part of the case while retaining engagement with the first named bevel-gear, means connected with said spindle for actuating the same, bevel-gears and screws, and means connecting the said screws for simultaneous rotation.

4. In a machine of the character specified, a case having a portion adapted to be opened, a pair of screws in said case, a voting machine, means movably connected with said screws and carrying the said voting machine, and means for rotating said screws, consisting of a bevel gear upon the upper portion of a screw, a swinging frame provided with a collar movably arranged upon the screw, means for securing said swinging frame in a fixed position to a portion of the said case, a bearing on said swinging frame, a spindle in said bearing, a second bevel gear on said spindle and in mesh with the bevel gear of said screw, means connected with said spindle for actuating said spindle, bevel gears and screws, and means connecting the said screws for simultaneous rotation, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

5. In an apparatus of the character specified, a case comprising a lower body-portion consisting of a base, longitudinally extending sides and ends, said sides and ends being permanently fixed to said base so as to provide a box, flaps hinged to said sides and ends, so as to be adapted to be folded down upon the surfaces of said sides and ends, a cover hinged to one of said flaps and adapted to be folded downwardly with said flaps, locking devices connected with the various flaps and said cover, a voting machine within said box, and means for raising said voting machine above said box when the flaps and said cover have been opened and folded downwardly, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

6. In an apparatus of the character specified, a case comprising a lower body-portion consisting of a base, longitudinally extending sides and ends, said sides and ends being permanently fixed to said base so as to provide a box, flaps hinged to said sides and ends, so as to be adapted to be folded down upon the surfaces of said sides and ends, a cover hinged to one of said flaps and adapted to be folded downwardly with said flaps, locking devices connected with the various

flaps and said cover, a platform movably arranged within said box, a voting machine upon said platform, and means for raising said platform and the voting machine above
5 said box when the flaps and said cover have been opened and folded downwardly, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.
In testimony, that we claim the invention

set forth above we have hereunto set our hands this 30th day of January, 1905.

JAS. F. CONNELLY.

JOHN H. McLEOD.

Witnesses:

MARTIN G. BROSS, Jr.,

GEORGE FORMAN.