

W. SCHNITZSPAN.

INDICATOR.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 1, 1906.

917,495.

Patented Apr. 6, 1909.

Fig 1

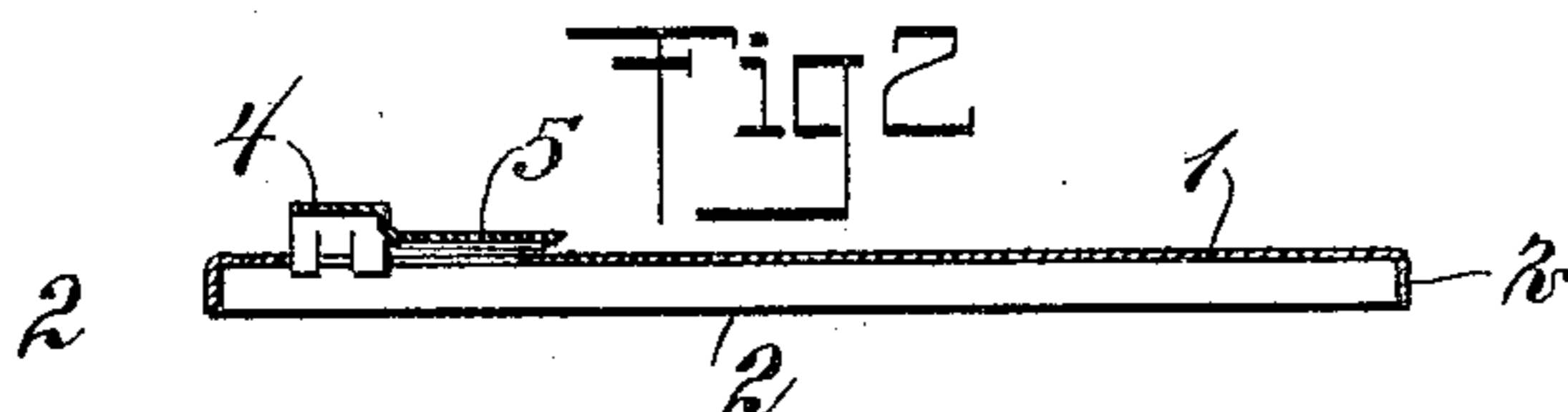
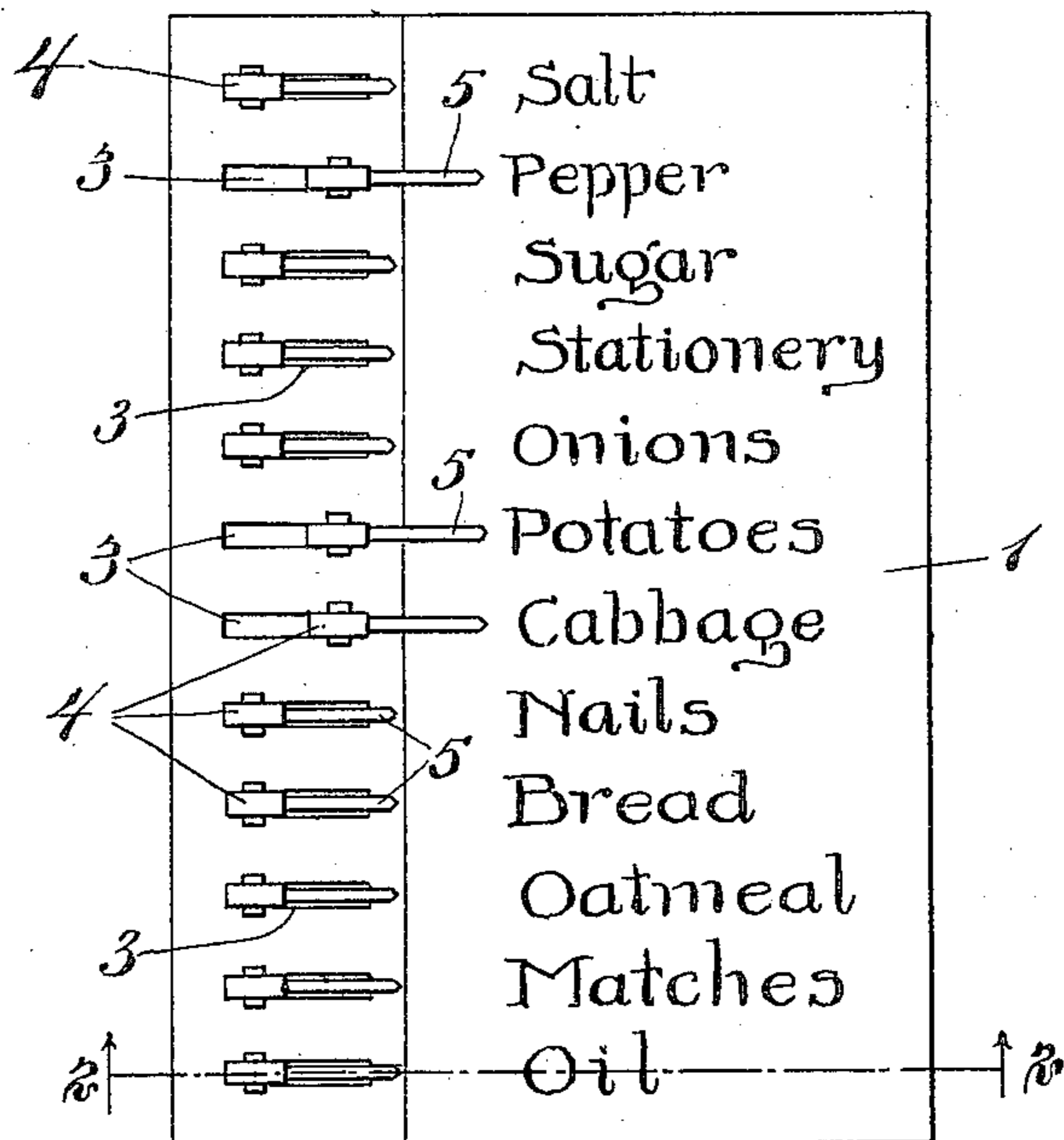


Fig 3

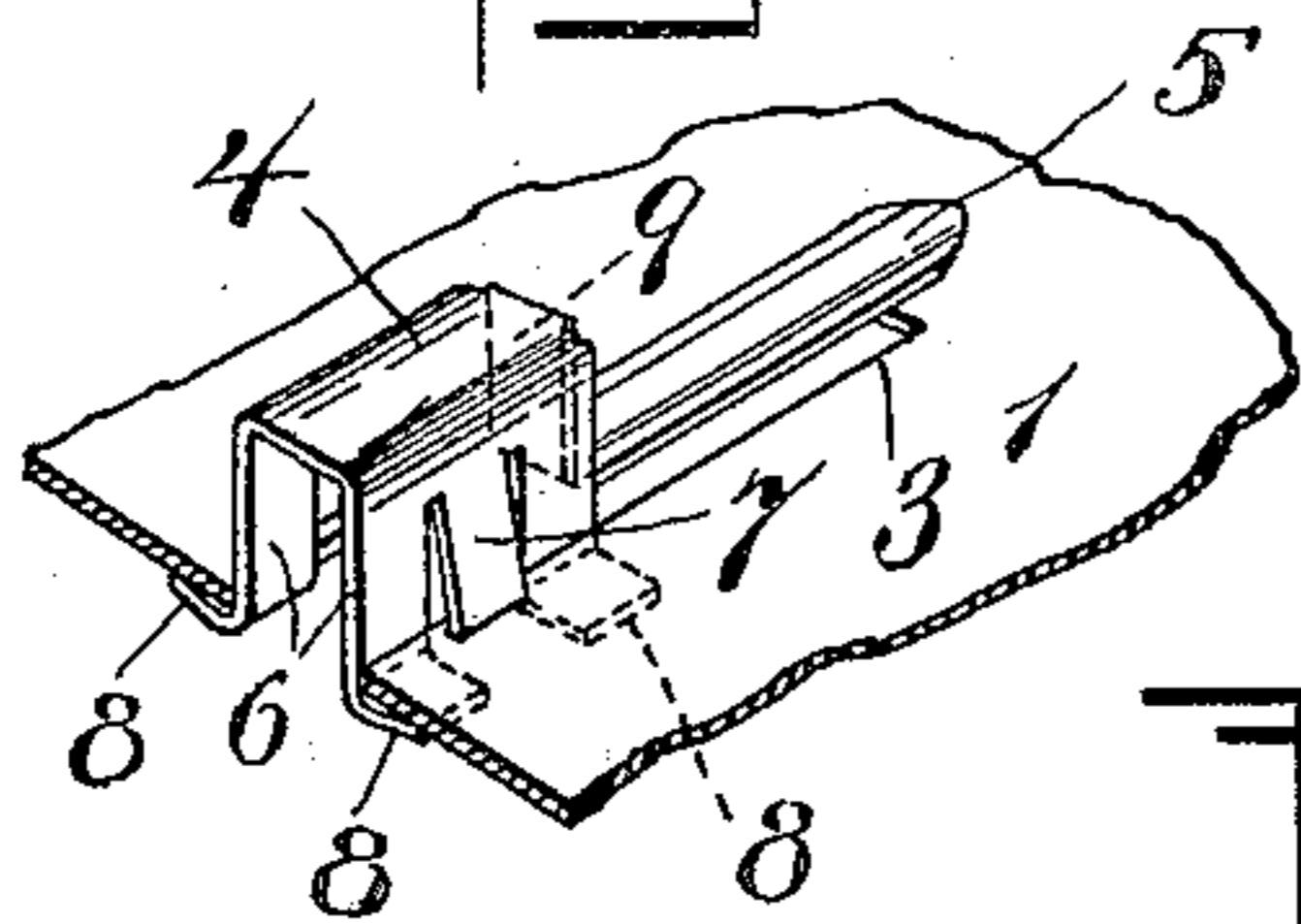


Fig 4

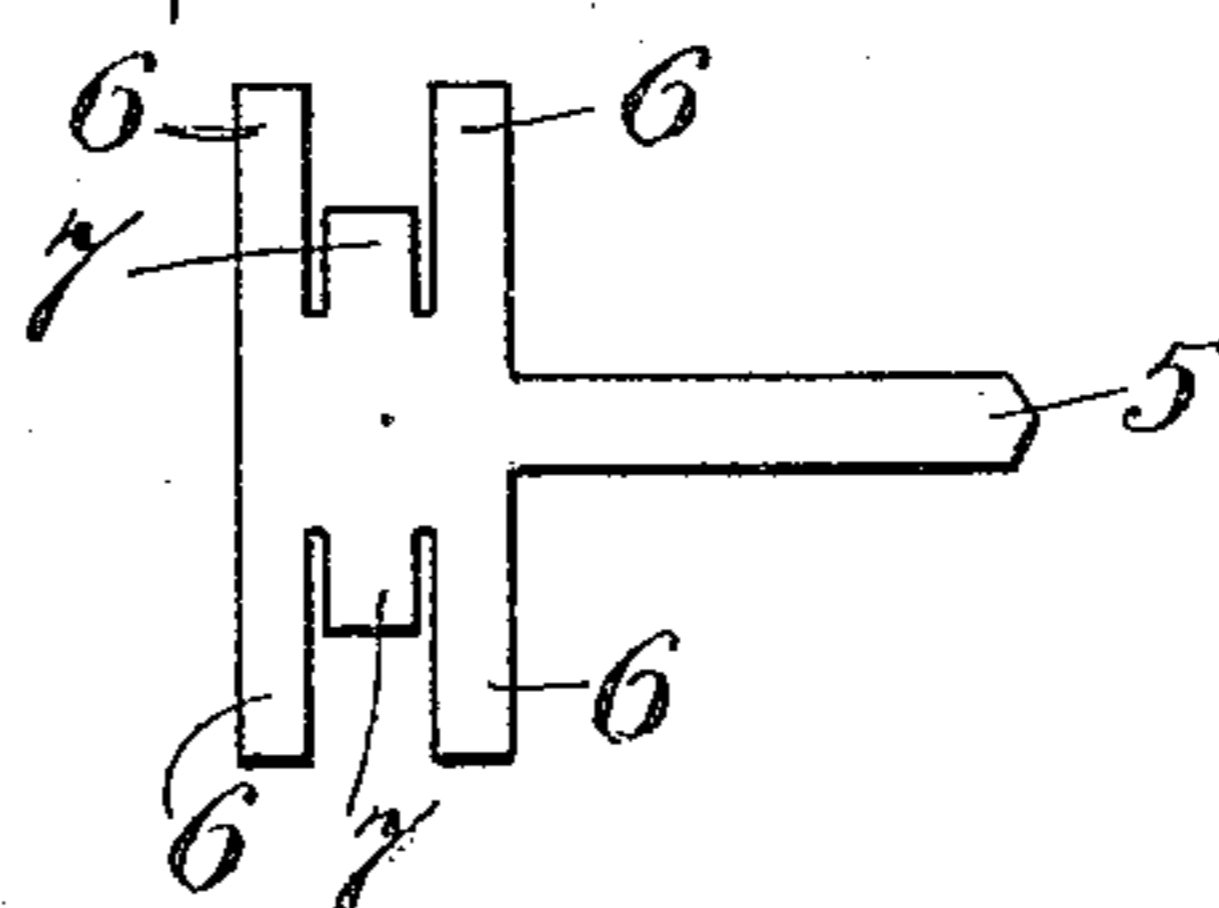
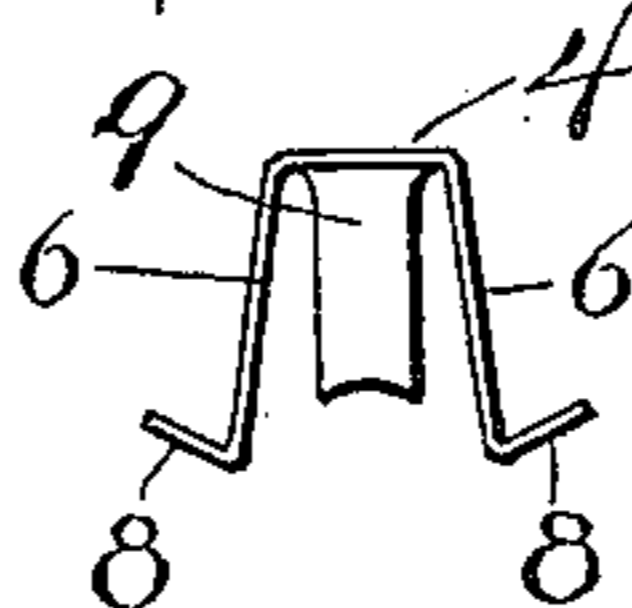


Fig 5



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM SCHNITZSPAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

INDICATOR.

No. 917,495.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 6, 1909.

Application filed September 1, 1906. Serial No. 333,032.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM SCHNITZSPAN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Indicator, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention is an improved indicator, especially adapted for household use to show when any article named thereon has become exhausted, although it is not limited to this use as it is evident that a device of this character may be employed with advantage in numerous other relations.

The object of the invention primarily is to improve and simplify the construction of this form of indicator, especially the hands or pointers employed, which are made of springy sheet metal and bent into a novel shape insuring against any accidental displacement from looseness when assembled.

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 front side elevation of one embodiment of my improved indicator, showing the names of various household articles printed thereon, some of the pointers of the indicator being in position to indicate the articles exhausted; Fig. 2 is a transverse section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows; Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the pointers showing the manner in which it is attached to the plate, a fragment of the latter being shown for the purpose of illustration; Fig. 4 is a plan view of a blank from which the pointer is made; and Fig. 5 is an end elevation of the pointer removed from the plate, disclosing the shape in which it is bent.

The numeral 1 indicates a plate forming the body of the indicator, preferably of metal, with down-turned edges forming flanges 2 and a series of parallel slots 3 arranged at one side thereof. At the opposite side of the plate is printed or otherwise affixed the name of some article, those shown being the names of common household articles, each one being disposed opposite a slot 3. In each of the slots 3 is slidably mounted a pointer 4 having a finger 5, which is to be slipped in the slot to an inward position

pointing to an article printed on the plate when attention is to be directed to it, the pointers normally occupying a position at the opposite end of the slots. As shown in Figs. 1 and 3 the ends of the fingers at all times overlap the inner ends of the slots, thereby preventing their extremities engaging therewith should they accidentally be bent downward. The pointers are constructed from an improved sheet metal blank of substantially H-shape, as shown in Fig. 4, comprising arms 6 extending at each side thereof, with intermediate tabs 7 and the finger 5 projecting from one end, preferably slightly pointed at its extremity. The H portion of the blank is bent down at each side of its longitudinal center into substantially U form, as disclosed in Fig. 5, the sides of the U inclining outwardly, making the U somewhat wider at its open end. The arms 6 are bent at their extremities in opposite directions to form spring feet 8 and the finger 5 is downwardly turned at its inner end to provide it with an inset 9, bringing the finger 5 closer to the plate when assembled therewith, and affording means at this side of the pointer by which it may be pushed in the slot. The finger is also curved longitudinally, as shown in Fig. 3, making its upper face convex and thereby materially adding to its strength.

In assembling the pointers with the plate after they have been thus bent, they are pressed through the slots 3 from the under side thereof until the tabs spring outwardly and over the top face of the plate, thereby forming stops. The arms are compressed by the edges of the slot and the spring feet 8 engage the bottom face of the plate and exert a pressure thereon, tending to keep the tabs 7 forming the stops in contact with the plate at its opposite side. A pointer thus constructed binds on both faces of the plate and on the edges of the slot and will spring to compensate for wear, and cannot be accidentally displaced but can be readily shifted in the slot by pushing it at either end of its U portion. When it is desired to separate the pointers from the plate, the tabs 7 are sprung inward and the U member pushed through the slot.

Although I have described the invention in detail in order that the construction and operation might be fully understood, it is evident that various immaterial changes

might be made; and I consider that I am entitled to such modifications as fall within the scope of the annexed claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A pointer for an indicator made of sheet metal and bent to form spring feet with opposing stops, and a finger projecting from one end thereof.

2. A pointer for an indicator made from a sheet metal blank substantially H-shaped, with intermediate tabs, and a finger at right angles to one end thereof.

3. A pointer for an indicator bent to form a spring of a substantially inverted U-shape with outwardly extending spring feet, tabs forming stops opposed to said feet, and a finger curved longitudinally, forming it with an upper convex face, said finger projecting from one end of the U.

4. A pointer for an indicator comprising a substantially inverted U portion having an inset finger at one end thereof, said finger being curved longitudinally, and formed with an upper convex face, and stop members and feet carried by the U portion, for the purpose specified.

5. An indicator comprising a plate having a slot therein, a sheet metal pointer slidingly mounted in the slot and laterally binding against the edges thereof, said pointer having spring feet pressing on one face of the plate and opposed stops engaging the opposite face of the plate.

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

WM. SCHNITZSPAN.

Witnesses:

W. W. HOLT,
E. C. NELSON.