

G. W. PETER.  
COIN CHUTE.  
APPLICATION FILED JULY 31, 1908.

929,165.

Patented July 27, 1909.

Fig. 1.

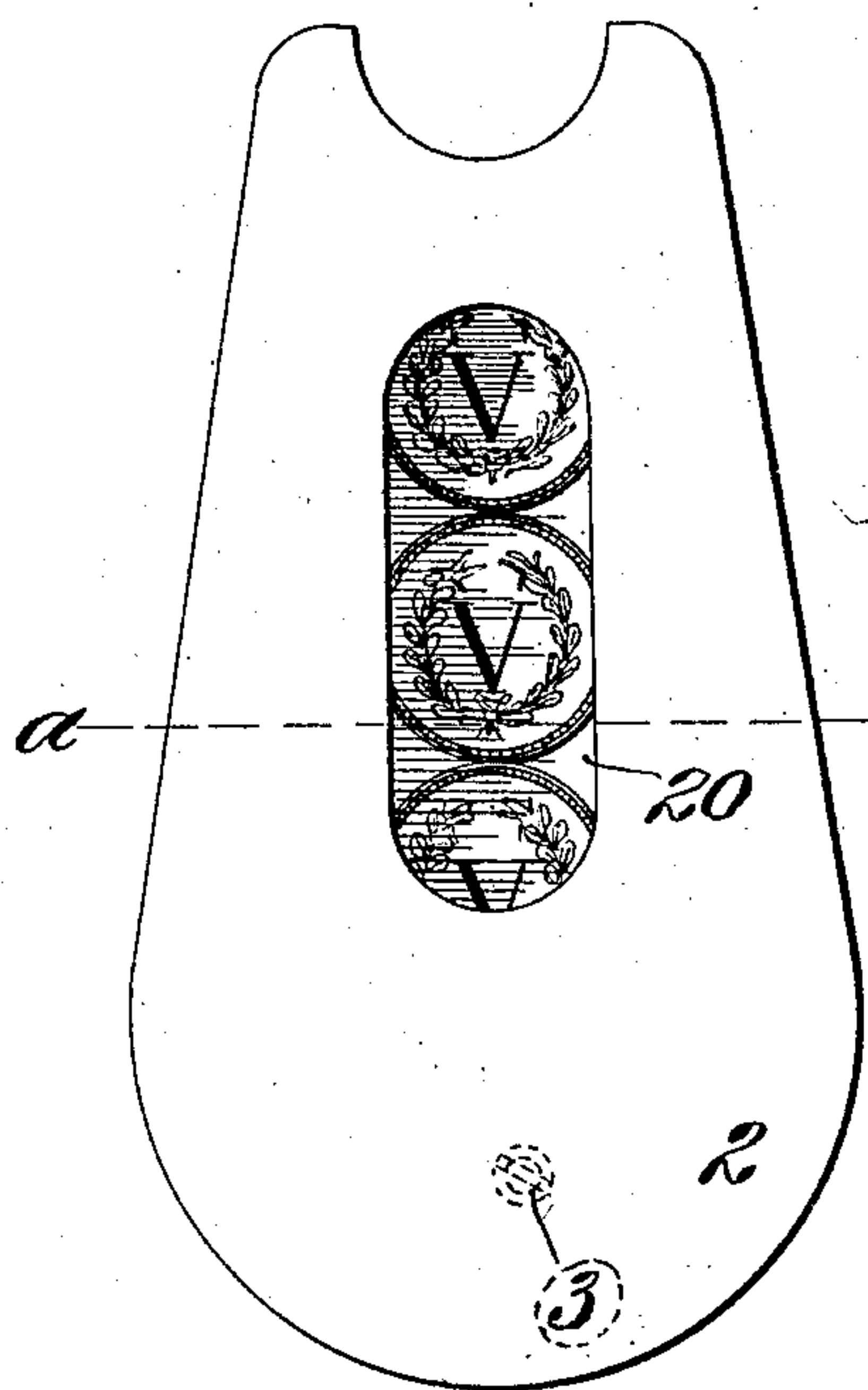


Fig. 2.

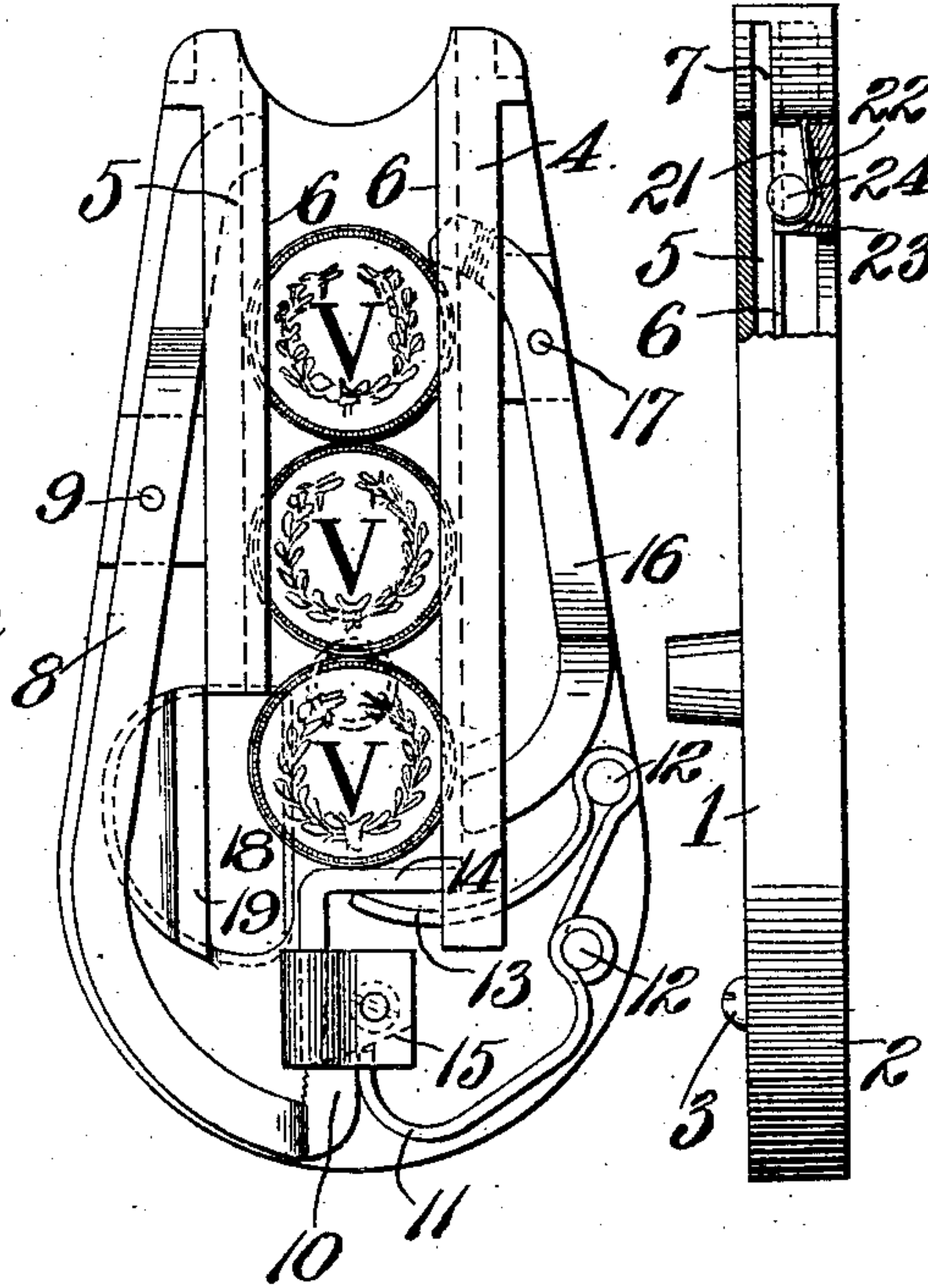


Fig. 3.

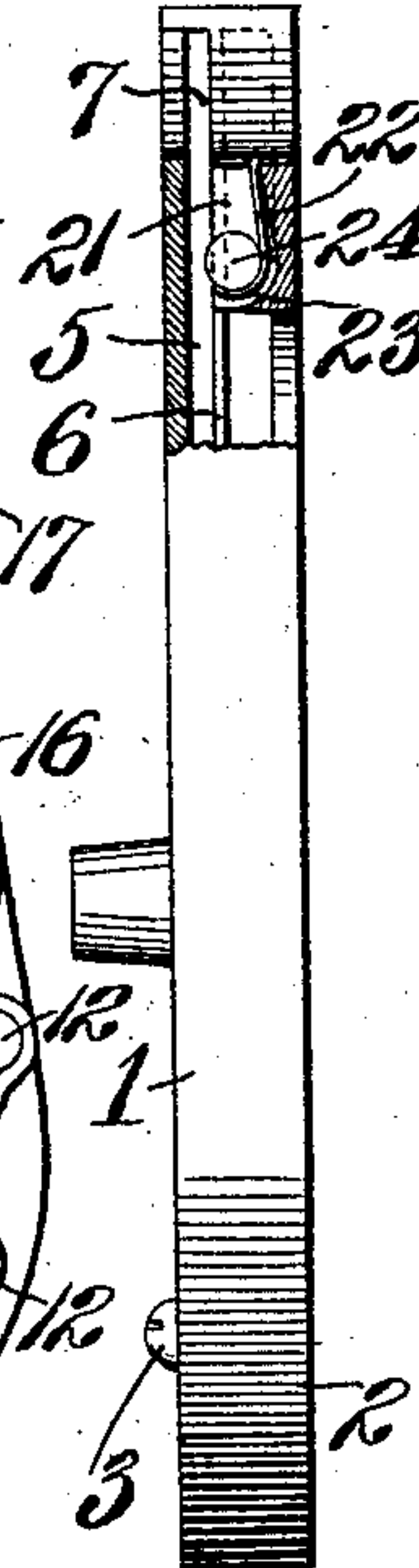


Fig. 4.

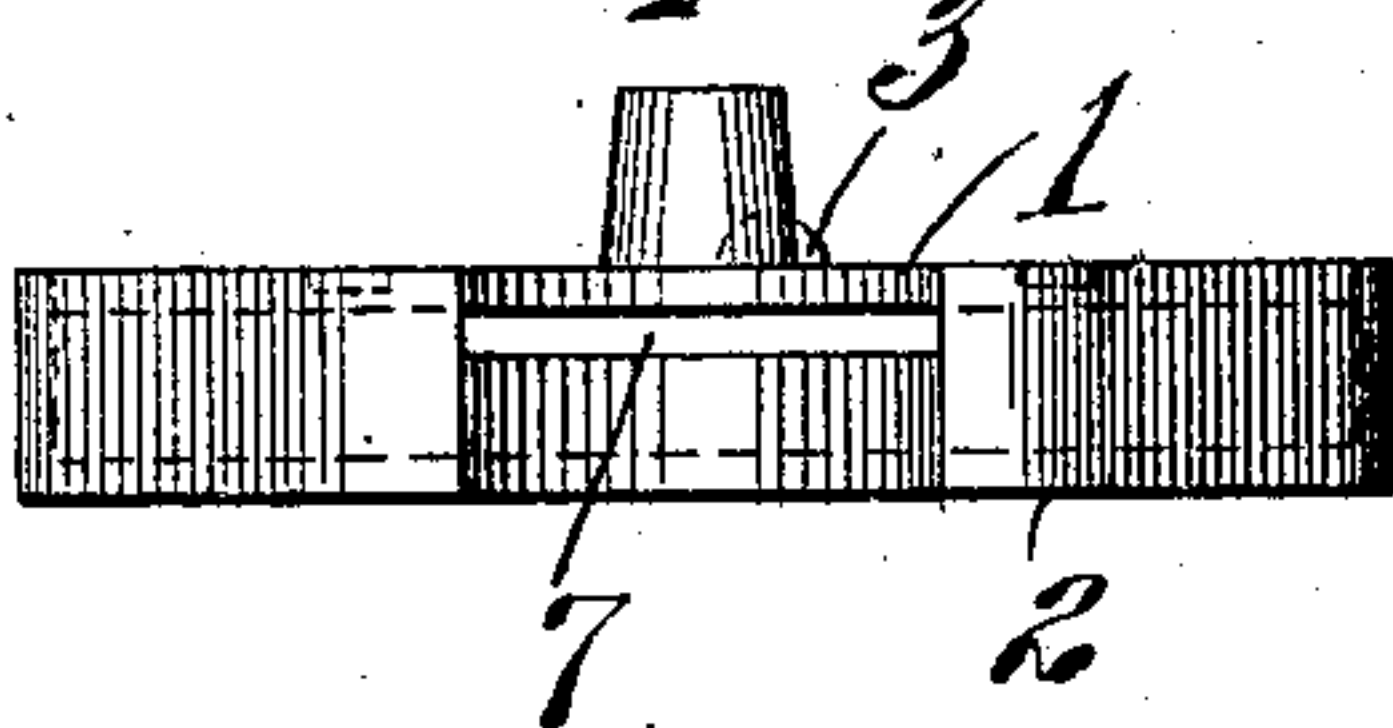
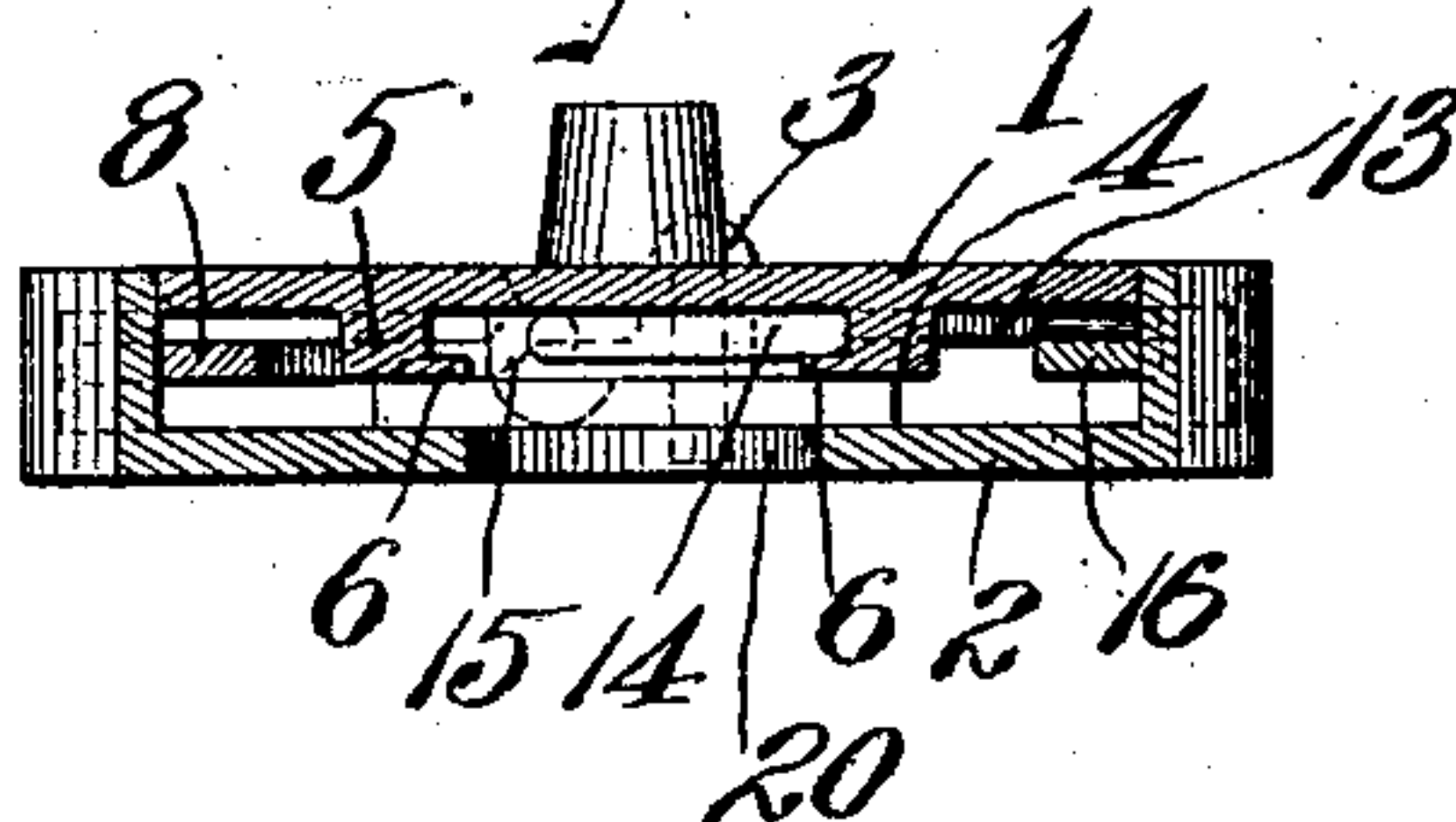


Fig. 5.



Attest

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. PETER, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

## COIN-CHUTE.

No. 929,165.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 27, 1909.

Application filed July 31, 1908. Serial No. 446,227.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. PETER, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, Missouri, have invented a new and useful Coin-Chute, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to coin chutes for use in connection with various kinds of coin controlled devices; and has for its object to produce an improved coin chute in which the coins, as inserted in the chute, will be held in plain sight, thereby preventing the use of slugs and other dishonest devices for cheating the machine.

Other objects will appear from the detailed description, reference being made to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the coin chute showing a number of coins therein exposed to view. Fig. 2 is a view of the mechanism in the chute, the front of the chute being removed to disclose the mechanism. Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the upper or entering end of the chute showing a catch device whereby removal of a coin is prevented after being started into the chute. Fig. 4 is a top view of the chute. Fig. 5 is a cross sectional view taken approximately on the line *a-a* of Fig. 1.

The case of the chute comprises a back portion 1 and a front portion 2, fastened and held together in any suitable manner, such, for instance, as by one or more screws 3 passing through the back and into threaded holes in the front portion. The case is to be attached and supported in any suitable manner in connection with the machine with which it is to be used. A chute is formed between the back and front portions by means of two ribs 4 and 5, the rib 5 being the shorter of the two. Each of said ribs has a flange 6, said flanges extending toward each other, and constituting the confining means whereby the coins are held between the ribs. In the top of the case a slot 7 is formed, said slot opening into the space between the ribs 4 and 5 and being the entrance thereto. The slot 7 is of proper size to admit the coins intended to be used with the machine. In the construction shown the mechanism is arranged for five cent pieces, but, of course, it is merely a question of proportions and chutes of similar construction may be provided for use with various other coins.

A lever 8, pivoted at 9, has one end pro-

jecting through a slot in the rib 5 into the chute formed by the ribs 4 and 5; and the opposite or lower end of said lever is provided with an upturned extension 10 which is actuated outwardly by one arm 11 of a wire spring which is wound around and held on studs 12. The other end 13 of said spring extends under the horizontal arm of an angular member 14, thereby supporting said member in such position that a coin inserted into the chute will be stopped and supported thereby. The vertical arm of the member 14 operates through a hole in a block 15 and rests upon the end of the upturned portion 10 of the lever 8. A lever 16 is pivoted at 17 and has its upper end extending through a slot in the rib 4 at a somewhat lower altitude than the upper end of the lever 8, and its lower end extending into a slot in the rib 4 just above the horizontal arm of the member 14. There is sufficient space between the lower end of the rib 4 and the member 14 when the latter is in its depressed position to permit the passage of a coin under said rib 4, and thence outwardly through a slot 18 in the back part 1, a flange 19 being provided to deflect the coins through said slot.

The chute is of sufficient length to contain a number of coins, which, when in the chute are supported one upon the other as shown, the lowermost coin resting on the horizontal arm of the member 14. In the embodiment shown the chute is arranged of a size to contain three five cent pieces. If another coin be forced into the chute it will, at the same time, oscillate the lever 8 moving the end thereof from under the members 14 and force the other coins downward thereby pushing the member 14 downward in opposition to the spring arm 13. The coin entering the chute has, by this time, oscillated the lever 16 causing the lower end thereof to force the lowermost coin laterally into the slot 18 behind the deflecting flange 19. By this time the entering coin will have passed below the upper end of the lever 8 which will be pushed back to its idle position by the spring 11 as soon as the member 14 is raised by the spring 13. All the coins in the chute are visible through a slot 20 in the front of the case so that the presence of slugs and other devices for cheating the machine may readily be detected and guarded against.

In the upper end of the front portion 2 a



space 21 is formed at the side of the chute. In this space a spring 22 is supported, the upper end of the spring being attached to the upper wall of the space 21 and the lower end having an arcuate extension curving inwardly toward the chute, as indicated at 23 (Fig. 3). Upon this arcuate portion of the spring a spherical body or ball 24 is carried, said ball extending into the chute. When a coin is started into the chute the entering edge thereof pushes against the ball and forces it and the spring farther into the space 21. When the rim of the coin passes below the ball the latter is forced against the coin above the rim. Attempt to withdraw the coin will cause the ball to bind in the narrower upper portion of the space 21, the rim of the coin lifting the ball and thereby holding the coin to prevent its withdrawal.

I am aware that there may be variations from the arrangement and construction shown and described without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. I do not restrict myself to the exact arrangement or construction but

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. Mechanism of the character described comprising a visible chute having an outlet opening, a spring-held member, means for locking said member in position to prevent coins from passing through the outlet opening of the chute, and means for releasing said spring-held member, substantially as specified.

2. A coin chute comprising a chute arranged to hold a coin and having an outlet, a member adjacent to said outlet, a spring holding said member, a lever locking said member, and an extension on said lever projecting into the chute adjacent to the entrance to the chute whereby a coin entering

the chute will operate the lever and release the aforesaid member.

3. The combination with a coin chute having entering and outlet openings, of a lever having one end projecting into the chute near the entering opening and the other end terminating adjacent to the outlet opening whereby a coin entering the chute will oscillate the lever and swing the latter end thereof toward the outlet opening, a locked member partially closing said outlet opening, and means for unlocking said locked member to permit egress of the coins, substantially as specified.

4. The combination with a coin chute having entering and outlet openings, of a spring, a locked member supported thereby partially to close the outlet opening, said member being actuated by the coins in the chute to permit said coins to pass, respectively, through the outlet opening, means for unlocking said locked member and a lever operable to push the coins through the outlet opening, substantially as specified.

5. In a coin chute having an entering and an outlet opening, a lever having one end in the chute near the inlet opening whereby said lever will be oscillated by the coin entering the chute and the other end projecting toward the outlet opening, a locked element partially closing the outlet opening, and means for unlocking said element and thereby release one coin from the chute each time a coin is inserted into the chute.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my signature to this specification this 27th day of July, 1908, in the presence of two witnesses:

GEORGE W. PETER. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

D. T. MASON,  
EDWIN MASSA.