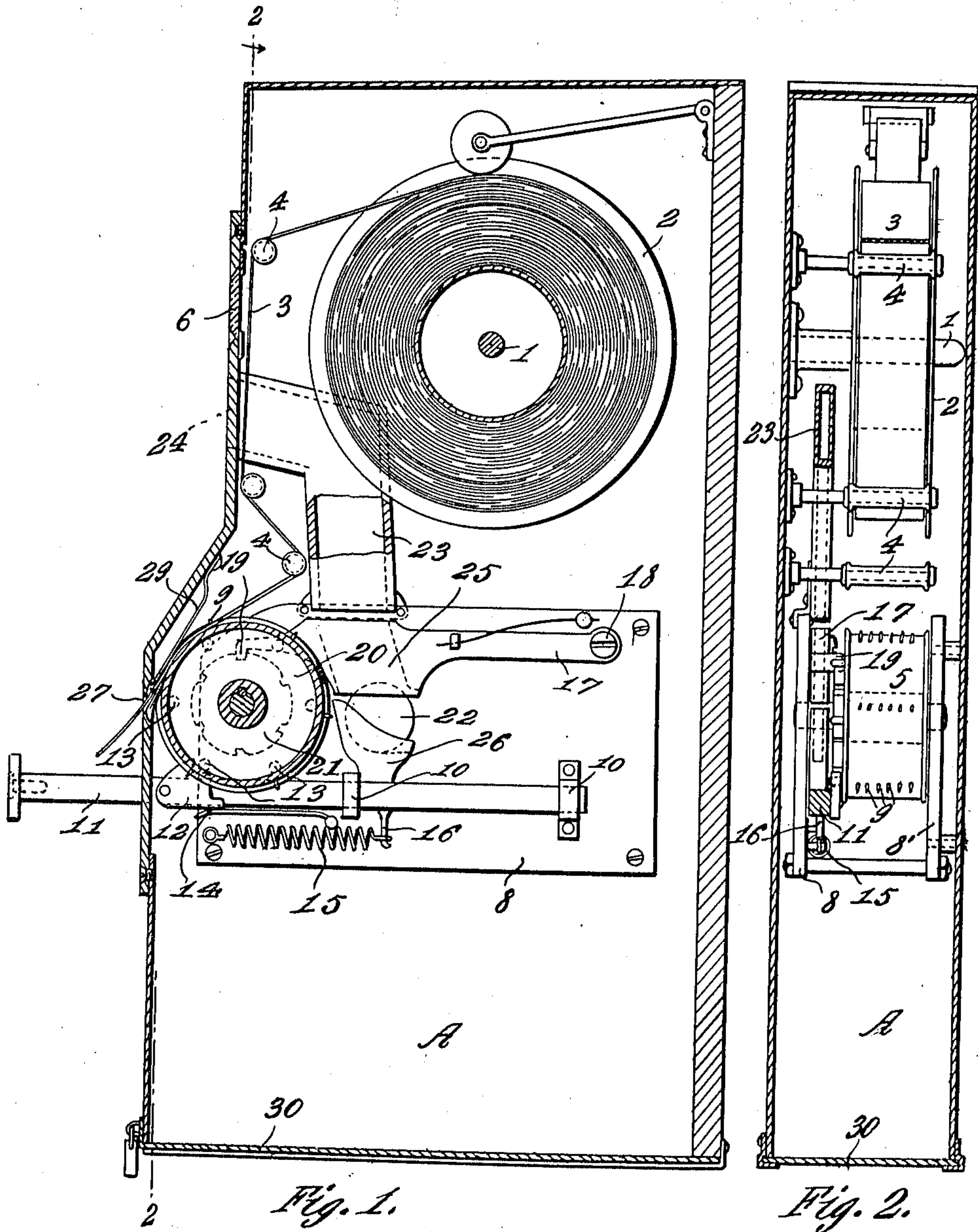


E. A. NIELSEN & F. C. PETERSEN.
STAMP VENDING MACHINE.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 24, 1909.

969,973.

Patented Sept. 13, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses

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S. E. Dodge

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By

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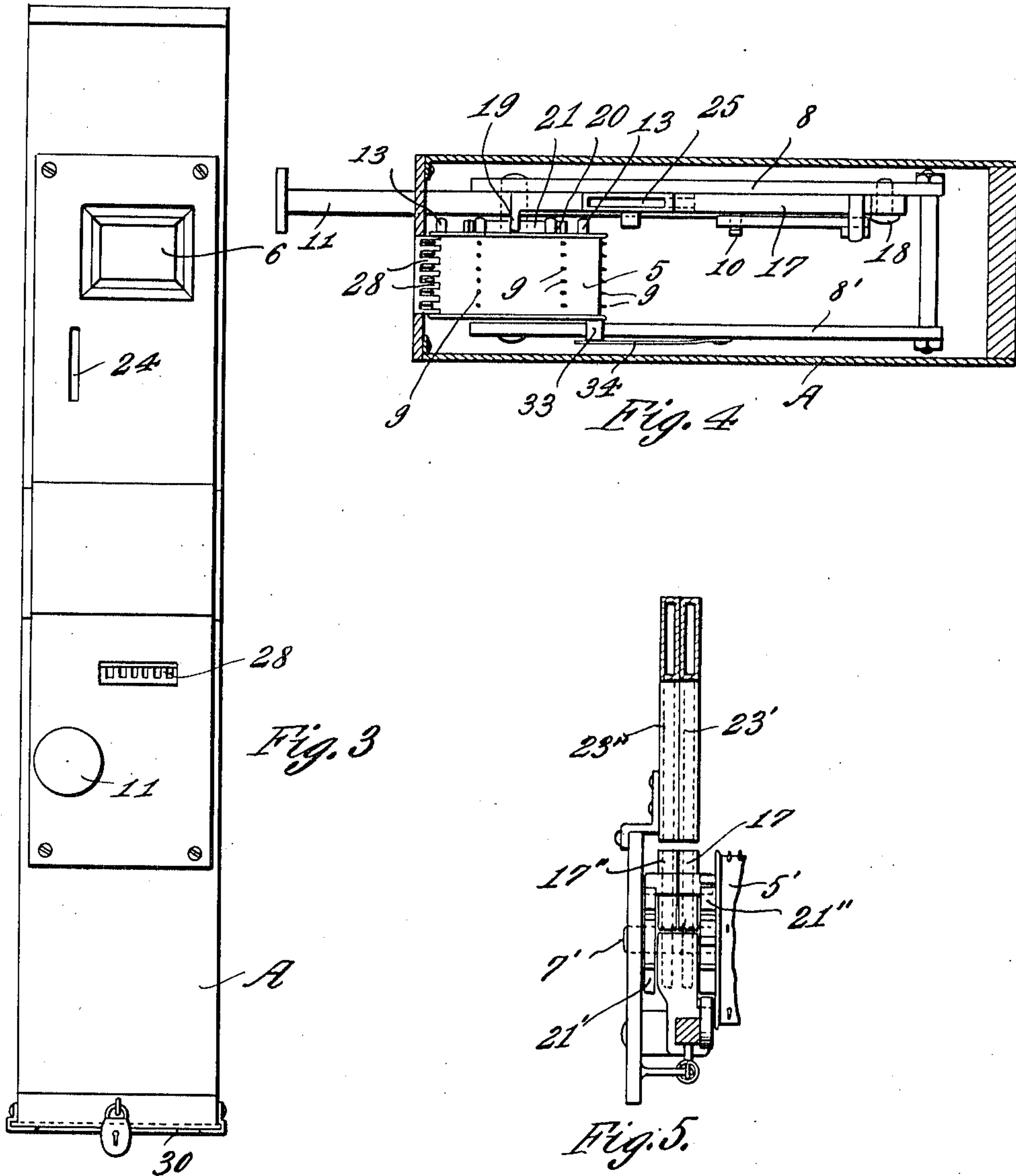
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ERNEST A. NIELSEN AND FREDERICK C. PETERSEN, OF EAST BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

STAMP-VENDING MACHINE.

969,973.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 13, 1910.

Application filed May 24, 1909. Serial No. 498,019.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ERNEST A. NIELSEN and FREDERICK C. PETERSEN, both subjects of the King of Denmark, residing at East Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stamp-Vending Machines, of which the following is a specification.

10 The object of this invention is to provide an improved form of machine readily adapted for the purpose of vending postage stamps, tickets or the like.

15 The invention resides particularly in the peculiar mechanism employed to control and effect vendition of the articles to be delivered by the machine, the mechanism utilized being possessed of especially desirable simplicity with reference to operation and arrangement of the parts.

20 For a full comprehension of the working of the invention, including the advantages thereof, reference is to be had to the following detail description and to the accompanying drawings, in which:

25 Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view of a machine embodying the invention and designed to vend stamps, tickets, or similar articles; Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section; Fig. 3 is a front elevation; Fig. 4 is a horizontal section; and Fig. 5 is a fragmentary view bringing out more clearly a modified form of delivery mechanism particularly designed for vendition of two-cent stamps.

35 Similar reference characters refer to similar parts throughout the drawings and description.

40 Specifically describing the invention and referring to the drawings particularly, A denotes the casing of the machine and which incloses the various parts of the mechanism comprising the essential feature of the invention. In the upper portion of the casing A is mounted on a suitable shaft 1 a roll holder 2 designed to support a roll of stamps in strip form, the strip being shown at 3 as it is fed downwardly to the delivery mechanism. When stamps or tickets are being used in the machine for the purposes of vendition, it is contemplated that they be supplied in continuous strip form, the strip being wound about the roll 2 and said roll 2 being readily removable to permit of a new roll or strip of stamps being placed upon the shaft 1. From the roll 2 the strip

3 passes over a plurality of small rollers 4, the lowermost of said rollers being arranged some distance inwardly beyond the upper rollers so that the strip 3 will pass from said lowermost roller 4 at a proper angle to be operated upon by the delivery drum 5. At the front portion of the casing A is provided a window 6 through which the strip of stamps 3 may be seen as it passes to the delivery mechanism, and said strip will have at its inner end the word "Empty" which, when it appears behind the window 6 will indicate that the stamps of the strip 3 have been exhausted, and prospective buyers of these stamps will thus not be deceived into depositing coins in the machines when no stamps may be procured therefrom.

The stamp delivery mechanism comprises the drum 5, before mentioned, and which is mounted upon a shaft 7, said drum being arranged between supporting plates 8 and 8', said plates also supporting certain other parts of the delivery mechanism now to be described. On its periphery, the drum 5 is provided with a series of transversely aligned pins or projections 9, each set of these projections being adapted to engage lines of perforations which separate the stamps of the strip 3 from one another. Below the drum 5 and supported on the plate 8 in suitable guides 10 is a sliding plunger 11 which projects outwardly from the front wall of the machine and this plunger has a pawl 12 pivoted to its front portion, the nose of the pawl being adapted to engage projections 13 on one side of the drum 5, whereby to turn said drum when the plunger 11 is forced inwardly. A spring 14 tends to hold the pawl 12 in a position adapted to engage the pins 13, but permitting the pawl to move downwardly on outward movement of the plunger 11 after actuation thereof, and as effected by a coiled spring 15, one end of which is connected with the plate 8 and the other to a lug 16 on the plunger 11. Normally the drum 5 is locked from rotation by a coin controlled locking-lever 17 pivoted to plate 8 at 18 and having a catch 19 adapted to engage in notches 20 of a disk 21 secured to a side of the drum 5. The locking-lever 17 is adapted to be disengaged from the disk 21 by means of a coin 22 deposited in the machine and adapted to pass through a coin chute 23 having the customary coin entrance opening 24. As the coin drops from the chute 23, it passes

through a coin slot 25 in the lever 17 and rests on a coin receiver 26 comprising a projection on the plunger 11 having a coin seat. The coin 22 resting in the receiver 26 engages a wall of the slot 25 and when the plunger 11 is forced inwardly after the coin is inserted into the machine said plunger with the coin forces the lever 17 upwardly, disengages the catch 19 from the disk 21 and permits the pawl 12 to turn drum 5 and force a stamp through the stamp delivery opening 27 in the front portion of the machine. The stamp delivery opening 27 is formed at its lower portion with an extension embodying a plurality of teeth 28 projecting inwardly into contact with the periphery of the drum 5, said teeth 28 being spaced apart sufficiently to permit the pins 9 on the drum to move between them as the drum rotates. The members 28 separate the stamp from the drum and guide the same outwardly through the opening 27 in the delivery operation. A yielding presser-plate 29 above the drum and adjacent to the delivery opening 27 holds the stamp strip in close contact with the drum preparatory to delivery therefrom and prevents curling of the stamps which might interfere with proper passage of the same through the delivery opening or slot 27 aforesaid.

In Fig. 5 of the drawings, the delivery mechanism illustrated is designed to facilitate and permit the vendition of two-cent stamps, whereas the above described mechanism is designated to vend tickets or stamps of a denomination requiring the deposit of only a single coin for operation of the machine. In Fig. 5 two locking-levers 17' and 17'' are employed in connection with two notched disks 21' and 21'' on the shaft 7' of the drum 5'. Two coin chutes 23' and 23'' are likewise employed and it will be apparent that it is necessary to drop a penny into both of the chutes 23' and 23'', but the inward movement of the plunger will elevate the two locking levers and rotates the drum. At the bottom of the casing is provided a sliding plate or closure which when removed or pulled outwardly will permit of extracting the coins deposited in the machine.

By reference to Fig. 4 of the drawings, it will be observed that a brake is employed for cooperation with the drum 5 and the same consists of a shoe 33 passing through an opening in the supporting plate 8' and normally held in contact with the drum by means of a spring 34. By using the said brake likelihood of sudden movement of the drum that might break or fracture the strip of stamps is eliminated.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:—

In a stamp vending machine, the combination of a casing having a delivery opening and an indicator opening formed on the forward side thereof, a spool mounted therein adapted to carry a series of stamps, a series of rolls supported by one side of the casing arranged to conduct the strip of stamps before the indicator opening, a delivery drum rotatably mounted adjacent to the delivery opening, rolls located in the casing between the indicator opening and the delivery opening to conduct the stamps over said delivery drum, a series of radially extending spaced spikes carried on the delivery drum, a series of pins extending horizontally from the edge of said delivery drum, a plunger carrying a pivotal spring pressed pawl adapted to operate said drum through the instrumentality of said pawl upon the positive inward position of the plunger, stripping fingers projecting inwardly over the delivery opening into contact with said drum, a pressure plate secured to the casing above the drum projecting into contact therewith and terminating just above the stripping fingers whereby the said plate holds the stamps in close contact with the drum and guides the same from above the delivery opening and stripping fingers, and a brake operating against the periphery of said drum.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

ERNEST A. NIELSEN.

FREDERICK C. PETERSEN.

Witnesses:

A. COLEMAN FISHER,
ANDREW P. FISHER.