Jan. 2, 1923.

1,440,897

H. H. SOMMER.

DEVICE FOR VENDING SANITARY TOILET SEAT PADS.

FILED FEB. 26, 1921.

2 SHEETS-SHEET 1

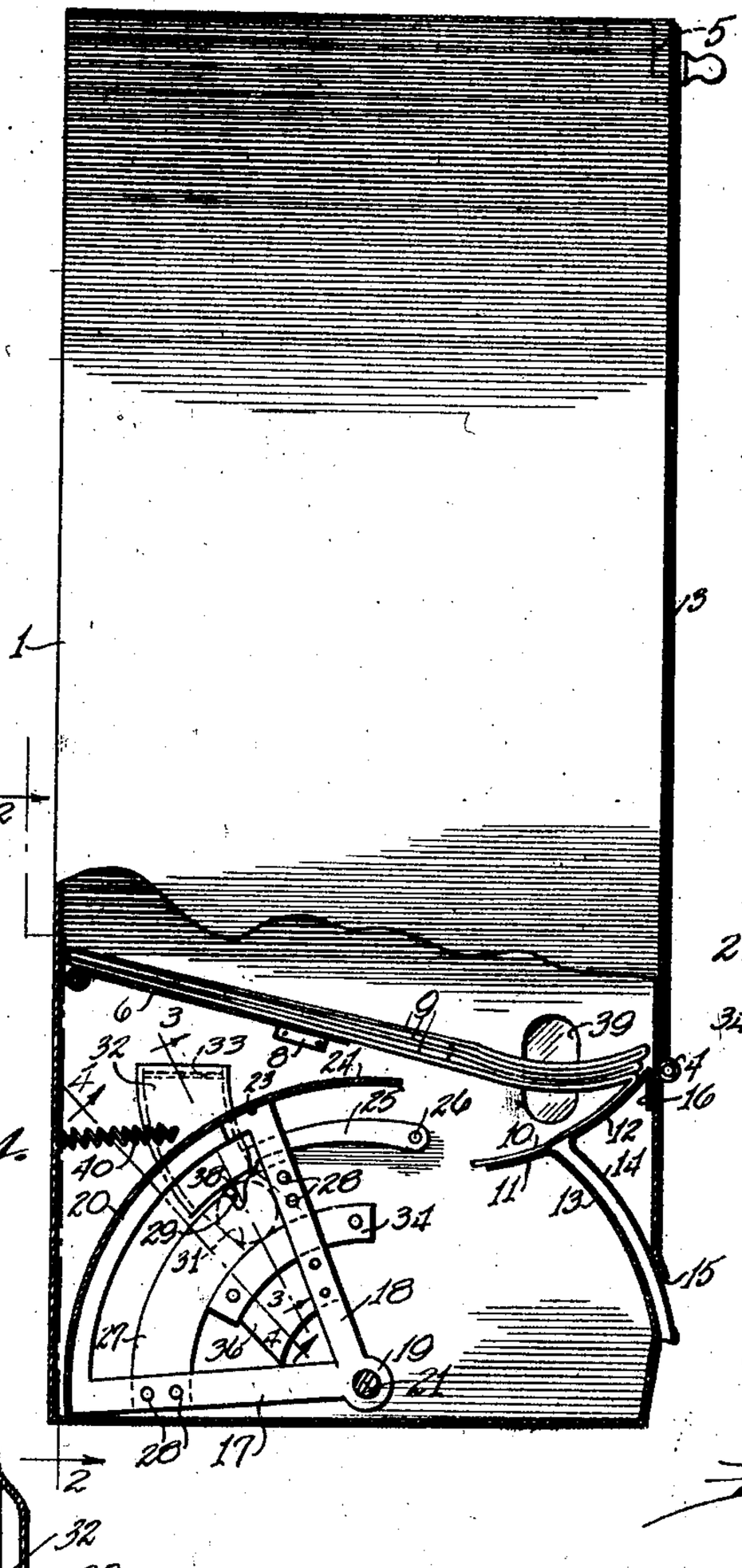

FIG. 1.

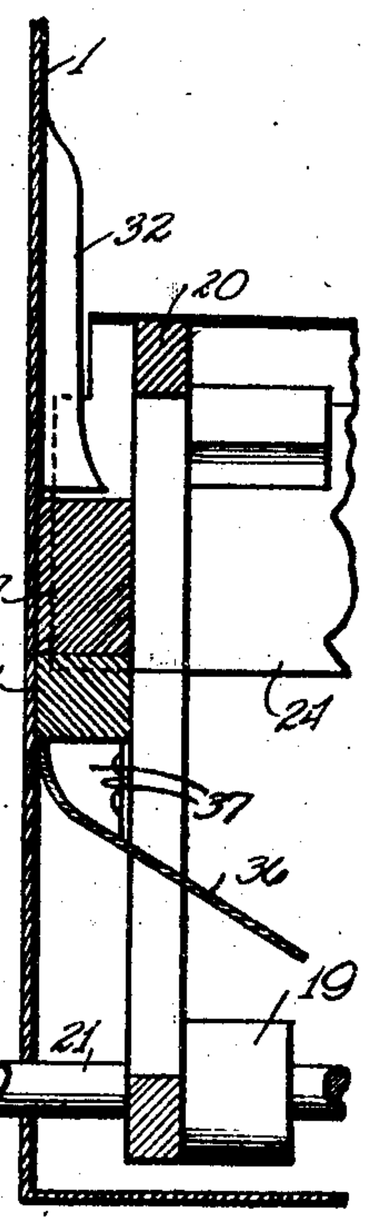

FIG. 4.

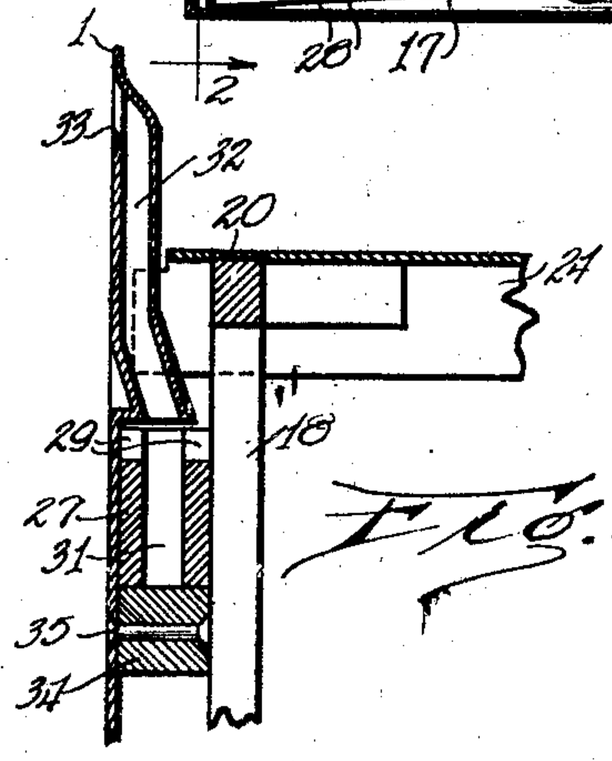

FIG. 5.

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2 SHEETS-SHEET 2

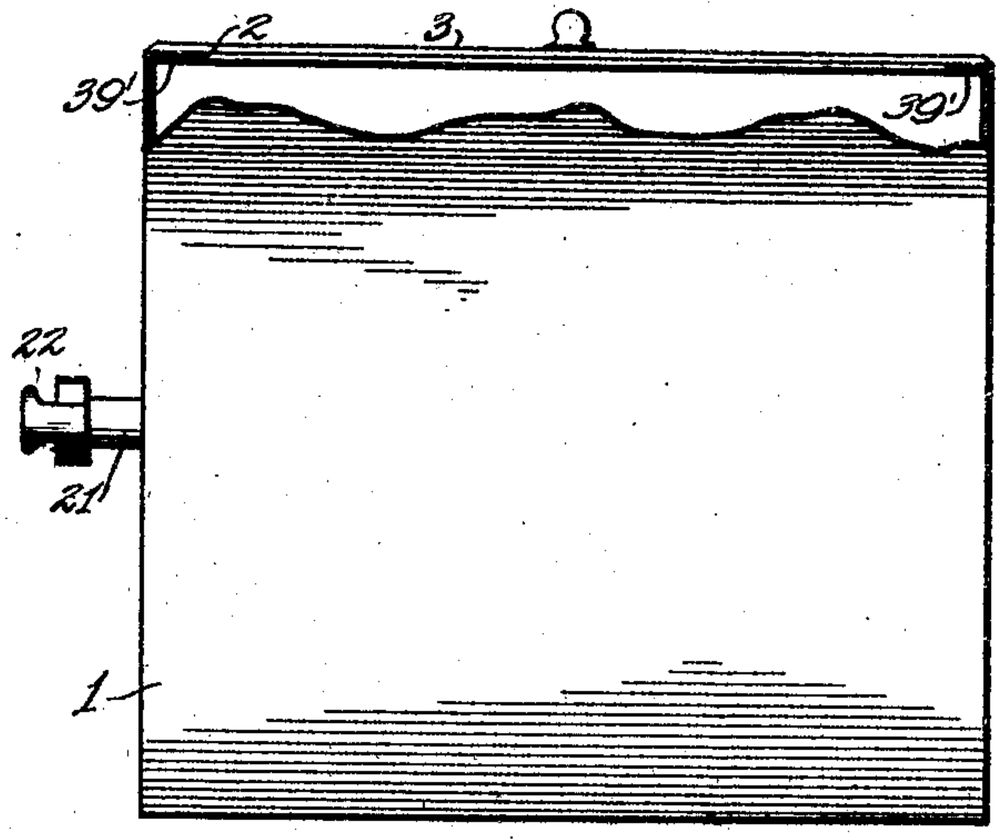

FIG. 3.

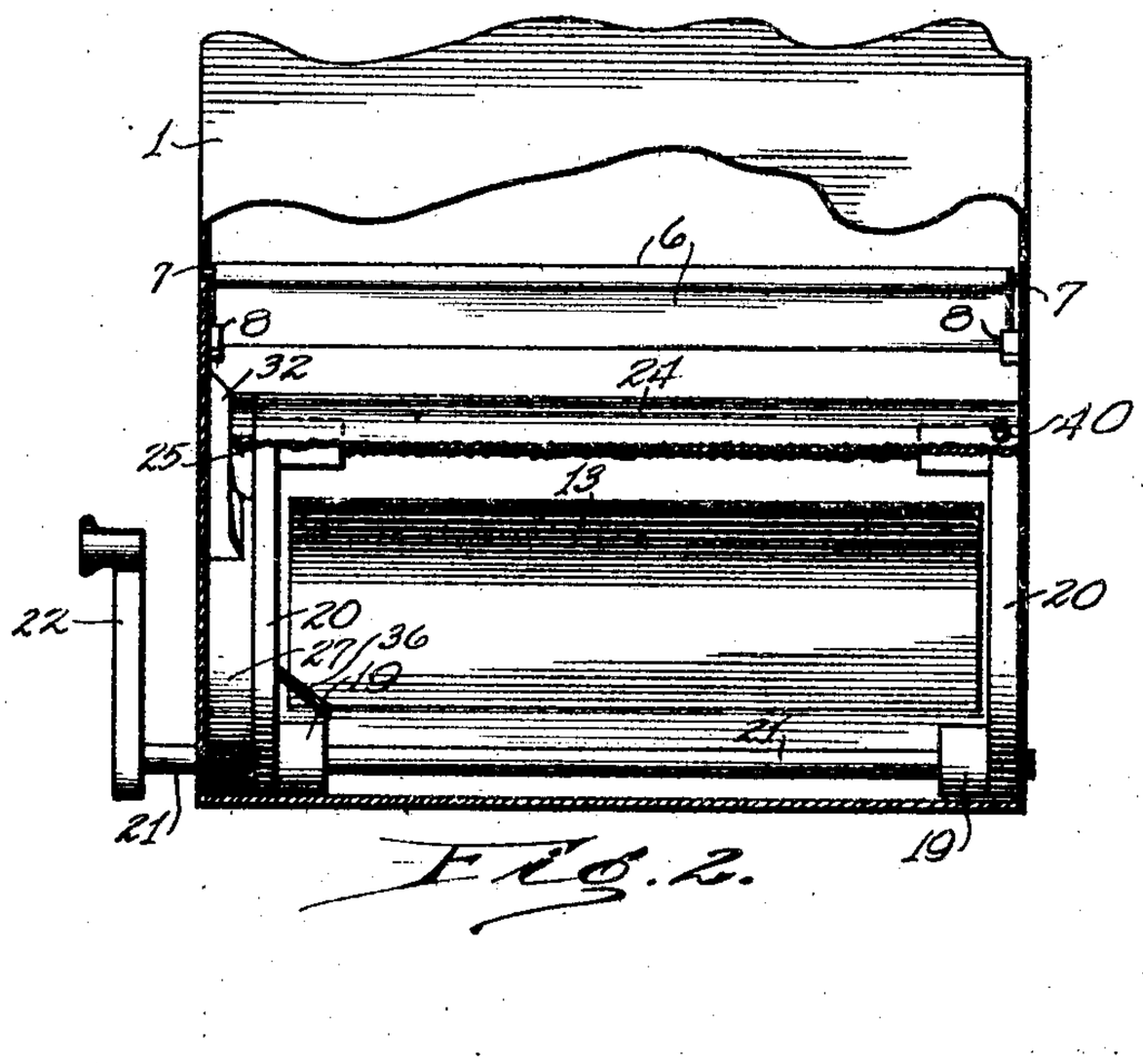

FIG. 2.

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Patented Jan. 2, 1923. 1,440,897

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HUGO HENRY SOMMER, OF MADISON, WISCONSIN.

DEVICE FOR VENDING SANITARY TOILET-SEAT PADS.

Application filed February 26, 1921. Serial No. 448,079.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HUGO H. SOMMER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Madison, in the county of Dane and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Devices for Vending Sanitary Toilet-Seat Pads, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in vending devices and it consists in the combinations, constructions and arrangements herein described and claimed:

An object of my invention is to provide a device that is adapted primarily for holding and vending pads such as is described and illustrated in my concurrent application for Letters Patent for sanitary toilet seat pad.

A further object of my invention is to provide a vending device having a compartment adapted to receive a plurality of superposed articles such as the water closet seat pads referred to above and having means operable when a coin is deposited in the device to eject the lowermost article from the compartment.

A further object of my invention is to provide a device of the character described that is relatively simple in construction and operation, thoroughly effective for the purpose intended and practical commercially.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the following specification, and the novel features of the invention will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming part of this application, in which—

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the device, a portion of the casing thereof being broken away and other portions being shown in section,

Fig. 2 is a section along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1,

Fig. 3 is a section along the line 3—3 of Fig. 1,

Fig. 4 is a section along the line 4—4 of Fig. 1,

Fig. 5 is a section through a fragmentary portion of the device.

In carrying out my invention, I provide a casing 1 that is made of any suitable material, such as a light metal. The casing is substantially rectangular in form and is provided with an opening 2 in its front side. The opening 2 is normally closed by a door 3 that is hinged to the front wall of the casing at 4 and is provided with a lock 5 of any suitable construction at its upper edge for securing the door 3 to the upper end of the casing.

An inclined shelf 6 is hingedly fastened at 7—7 to the side walls of the casing, as is shown in Figures 1 and 2 and extends forwardly and slightly downwardly midway to the front wall of the casing. Bracket members 8—8 secured to the side walls of the casing support the shelf 6 adjacent its forward end. The space above the shelf 6 within the casing 3 is adapted to receive pads 9, which are placed therein in superposed relation. The pads 9 are special in construction and have made the subject of my concurrent application for Letters Patent. These pads in their folded condition project beyond the forward end of the shelf 6 and a depending flap 10 of the lowermost pad rests upon a delivery shelf. The latter is formed by the upper portions 11 and 12 of walls 13 and 14, respectively, of a delivery or discharge chute that is arranged to project through a horizontal aperture 15 in the front wall of the casing. The walls 13 and 14 of the delivery chute are arcuate and are secured to the front wall of the casing in any suitable manner as by being welded thereto, or may be formed integral therewith. The upper portions 11 and 12 of the walls of the delivery chute are bent oppositely and the portion 12 is bent at 16 to conform with the inner surface of the front wall of the casing, being secured to the latter in any suitable manner as by welding.

To the end that the lower pad 9 may be ejected at the proper time, I provide a sector consisting of spaced apart frame members, each embodying radially extending arms 17 and 18 formed integral with a hub 19 and connected at their outer ends by a rim member 20. The hubs 19 are keyed to a horizontal shaft 21 that is journalled in the side walls of the casing 1 and has a crank 22 secured thereto exterior of the casing. The rim members 20 are arranged in alinement, and the major portion of an arcuate ejector plate 24 is secured upon the rim edges thereof to project forwardly of the sector frames and this ejector plate is arranged to enter the arcuate delivery chute at the upper end thereof when the shaft 21 is rotated forwardly. The sector is normally prevented from movement about its axis by the engage-

ment of a pawl 25 that is pivoted at 26 to the inner wall of a side member of the casing and has its free end resting upon the outer wall of an arcuate locking member 27 that is arranged concentrically with respect to the rim member 20 and is secured at 28—28 to the radially extending arms of the adjacent sector frame member. The locking member 27 is provided with a transversely extending notch 29 in its outer wall and the laterally extending end portion 30 of the pawl 25 normally engages the notch 29 to prevent further movement of the sector when an attempt is made to move the latter about its axis beneath the pawl 25. The locking member 27 is also formed with a slot 31 intersecting the notch 29 and extending radially therethrough. The slot 31 is positioned below a coin chute 32, that communicates with a slot 33 through a side wall of the casing, when the sector is in normal or initial position. An arcuate coin supporting member 34 that is concentric with the locking member 27 is arranged to underlie the latter when the sector is in initial position. The coin supporting member is secured to the adjacent side wall of the casing in any suitable manner as by means of pins or rivets 35. A deflector plate 36 is secured by an integral bracket arm 37 to the arm 18 of the adjacent sector frame and extends obliquely from the coin supporting member toward the center of the casing, as clearly shown in Fig. 4.

From the foregoing description of the various parts of the device, the operation thereof may be readily understood. The device is designed to be prepared for actuation when a coin 38 is dropped through the coin chute into the slot 31. The coin 38 will then rest upon the outer wall of the coin supporting member 34 and consequently the end portion 30 of the pawl 25 is prevented from engaging with the notch 29 when the sector is moved about its axis. This is accomplished by operating the crank 22 to rotate the shaft 21. As the sector is moved about its axis, the coin 38 is carried along with it until the sector passes beyond the end of the coin supporting member 34. The coin then falls upon the deflector plate 36 and is conducted downwardly and inwardly into a tray (not shown) that may be placed within the casing 1 to receive the coin. The ejector plate 24 will be moved between the flap 10 and the main portion of the lower pad 9 and upon further operation of the sector will, upon entering the delivery chute, push the lower pad before it along the chute. A portion of the pad 9 will thus be moved beyond the outer end of the chute and the entire pad can be pulled therethrough when the projecting portion is grasped, without injury to the pad.

I provide a window 39 in one of the end walls of the casing so that the condition of the supply of pads within the casing can be determined by inspection without opening the door 3. The marginal portions of the casing wall surrounding the opening 2 extend inwardly beyond the outer edges of the door at 39′ so that any pads within the casing 1 will be maintained therein when the door 3 is opened. A spring 40 connecting the sector with the rear wall of the casing returns the sector to initial position when the lower pad 9 has been ejected. It will be understood that the pads placed within the casing are each folded to provide a flap 10, and that the lowermost pad will assume the position in which illustrated.

It is to be noted that the wall 13 of the delivery chute is secured to the side walls of the casing 1 up to approximately one-half inch above the mouth of the chute. The remainder of the upper portion 11 is reduced in width so that space is provided at each side edge thereof to accommodate the radially extending arms 17 and 18 when the ejector plate 24 enters the chute. The wall 13 is formed of a material having spring qualities and the upper portion 11 will therefore always fit closely against the ejector plate 24 and thus aid in maintaining the pads in place. It will also be noted that the ejector plate 24 is narrowed at 23 so that interference of the same with the coin chute 32 on one side and the spring 40 on the other side is precluded.

I claim:

1. A vending device comprising a casing having an open discharge chute arranged so as to extend upwardly within the casing, said chute being formed with its walls bent oppositely at its upper end to provide a delivery shelf, means arranged within the casing relative to the delivery shelf for supporting a plurality of superposed sheets so that a portion of the lowermost sheet rests upon the two portions of the delivery shelf and extends across the open upper end of the discharge chute, said chute being of the same dimensions throughout its entire length, means adapted to enter the discharge chute at its upper end to force the article to be vended along the chute, and means for movably supporting said last named means within the casing.

2. A vending device comprising a casing having an open discharge chute arranged so as to extend upwardly within the casing, said chute being formed with its walls bent oppositely at its upper end to provide a delivery shelf, means arranged within the casing relative to the delivery shelf for supporting a plurality of superposed sheets so that a portion of the lowermost sheet rests upon the two portions of the delivery shelf and extends across the open upper end of the discharge chute, said chute being of the

same dimensions throughout its entire length, means adapted to enter the discharge chute at its upper end to force the article to be vended along the chute, means for movably supporting said last named means within the casing, and means for normally preventing an operative movement of said last named means.

3. A vending device comprising a casing having an open discharge chute arranged so as to extend upwardly within the casing, said chute being formed with its walls bent oppositely at its upper end to provide a delivery shelf, means arranged within the casing relative to the delivery shelf for supporting a plurality of superposed sheets so that a portion of the lowermost sheet rests upon the two portions of the delivery shelf and extends across the open upper end of the discharge chute, said chute being of the same dimensions throughout its entire length, a shaft journalled in the walls of said casing, a sector mounted on the shaft within the casing for movement therewith, means connecting with the shaft exterior of the casing for operating the shaft, and an ejector plate carried by said sector and adapted to be moved along the discharge chute to force the lowermost sheet therealong.

4. A vending device comprising a casing having an open discharge chute arranged to extend upwardly within the casing, said chute being formed with uniformly curved parallel walls bent oppositely at its upper end to provide a delivery shelf, means arranged within the casing relative to the delivery shelf for supporting a plurality of superposed sheets so that a portion of the lowermost sheet rests upon the delivery shelf and overlies the open upper end of the discharge chute, a shaft journalled in the walls of said casing, a sector mounted on the shaft exterior of the casing for operating the shaft, and a curved ejector plate carried by said sector and adapted to be moved along the discharge chute to force the lowermost sheet therealong.

5. In a device of the type described, a casing, a relatively narrow discharge chute, said chute being of the same dimensions throughout its entire length, and an ejector plate adapted to be moved through said chute and to project slightly beyond the exterior end thereof when in extended position, said ejector being adapted to engage with a sheet of paper and to force the paper through said chute, the walls of said chute holding the sides of said paper in engagement with said ejector.

6. In a device of the type described comprising a casing, an arcuate-shaped relatively narrow discharge chute extending upwardly into said casing, said chute being flared outwardly at its upper end to provide a sheet supporting surface, a sector rotatably disposed in said casing, an ejector plate carried by said sector and adapted to be moved through said chute, means for actuating said sector, and spring means for returning said sector to normal position.

HUGO HENRY SOMMER.