Oct. 17, 1944. P. R. MENA 2,360,573

SPARK PLUG DISPLAY AND DISPENSING CABINET

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FIG. 1.

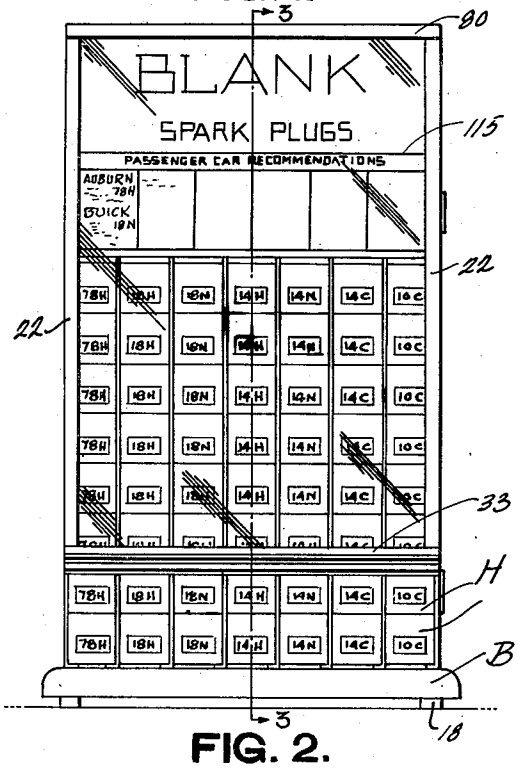


FIG. 2.

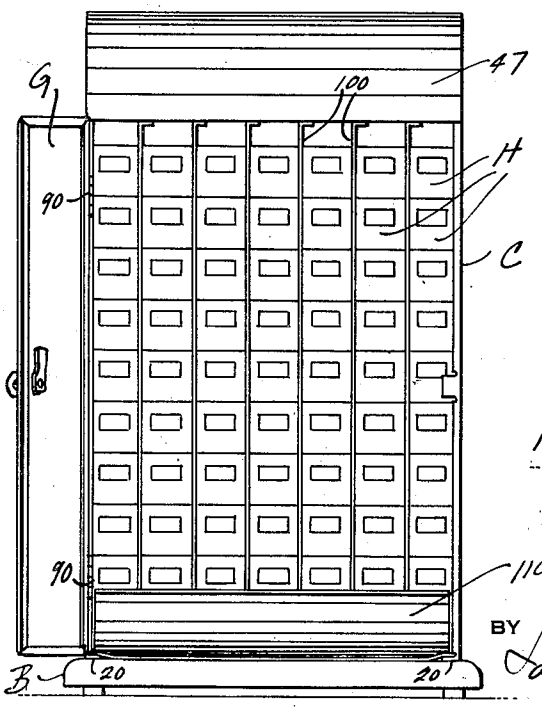
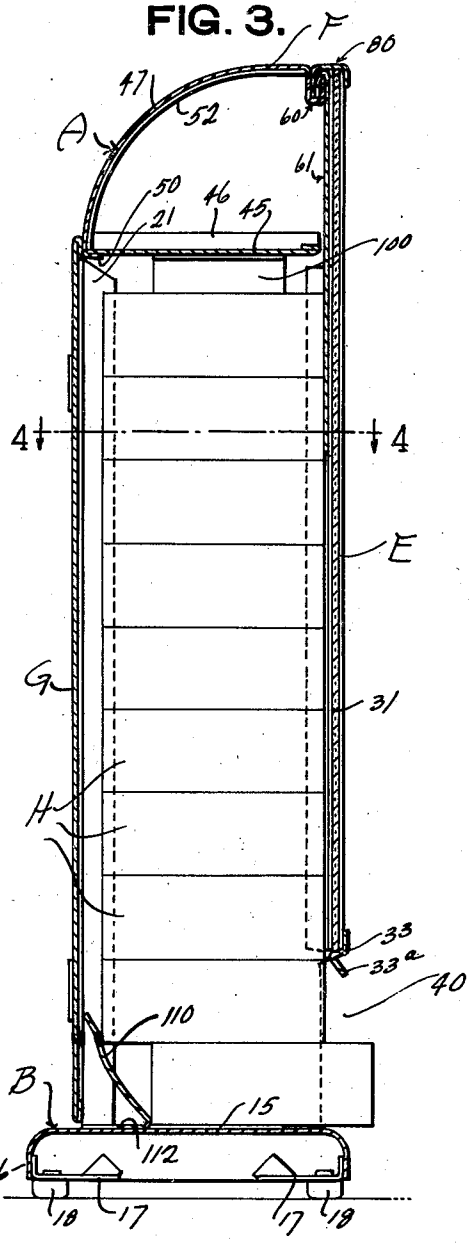


FIG. 3.



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FIG. 4.

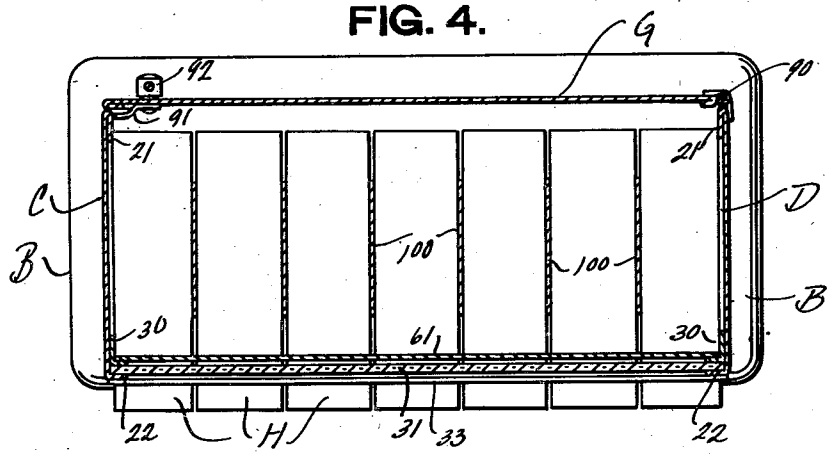


FIG. 5.

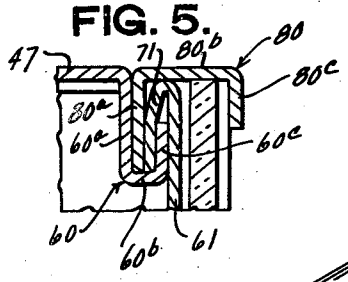


FIG. 6.

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SPARK PLUG DISPLAY AND DISPENSING CABINET

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Application March 31, 1941, Serial No. 386,172

2 Claims. (Cl. 312—42)

This invention relates to improvements in article display and dispensing cabinets.

The primary object of this invention is the provision of a cabinet adapted for the display and dispensing of articles, such as spark plugs.

A further object of this invention is the provision of a display and dispensing cabinet adapted for the display and dispensing of an article such as a spark plug, and adapted to receive in separate columns different types of spark plugs; the cabinet having associated therewith a chart which will enable the proper selection of the article or spark plug.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will be apparent during the course of the following detailed description.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and wherein similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views,

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the improved article display and dispensing cabinet.

Figure 2 is a rear view of the cabinet, with the closure opened.

Figure 3 is a vertical cross sectional view taken through the cabinet substantially on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a horizontal cross sectional view taken through the display cabinet substantially on the line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Figure 5 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view showing the manner in which an article selecting chart is supported and associated with the cabinet.

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the article selecting chart.

In the drawings, wherein for the purpose of illustration is shown only a preferred embodiment of the invention, the letter A may generally designate the improved article display and dispensing cabinet. It may include a base construction B; side walls C and D; a front display wall construction E; a top construction F, and a rear-closure G.

The base is preferably formed of stamped sheet metal, including a top wall 15, and depending front, rear and side walls 16 connected convexly with the top wall by striking the base into such shape upon a suitable die. At the bottom corners of the base suitable gusset pieces 17 are spot welded upon the front, rear and side walls and receive thereon suitable anti-scratch supporting feet 18, such as shown in Figure 3.

The side walls C and D are of identical construction. They are formed of stamped sheet metal. At the lower ends they are inwardly flanged at 20; the flanges 20 being preferably spot welded upon the top wall 15 of the base construction B. At its rear edge, each side wall C and D, is preferably doubled upon itself at 21, shown in Figures 3 and 4 of the drawings, to furnish a noncutting edge. Glass panel retaining flanges 22 are provided along the front edges of the side walls C and D, in right angled relation therewith, extending from the top ends of the side walls to points short of the lower edges thereof.

Referring at the present time to the front of the cabinet, L-shaped retaining pieces 30 are spot welded or otherwise secured on the inner surfaces of the side walls C and D, as shown in Figure 4 of the drawings, providing flanges in space parallel relation with the glass panel retaining flanges 22 of the side walls; the glass panel 31 being adapted to be slipped into position between these flanges. At its lower edge the window or glass panel 31 is supported upon a metallic retaining piece 33, which is spot welded in position upon the flange portions 22 of the side walls; extending across the entire front of the cabinet and spaced above the base B, to define a mouth 40 through which the articles may be dispensed. This retaining piece 33 is provided with a retaining flange 33a positioned at an acute angle to the vertical, and extending into the mouth 40 so as to engage the second article in each column, to prevent the removal of that article through the mouth until the lowermost article has been dispensed, as can be noted from Figure 3 of the drawings.

Referring to the top construction F, the same includes a horizontally positioned wall 45 having end flanges 46 which are spot welded to the inside of the side walls B and C, as shown in Figure 3 of the drawings. A convexly arcuate top 47 is provided, having a right angled flange 50 spot welded beneath the wall 45. The top 47 overlies suitable convex flanges 52 provided in right angled relation upon the side walls C and D, and to which it may be spot welded. At its top front edge the wall 47 has an integral channel shaped depending portion 60 adapted to be used for supporting the chart 61. The channel 60 consists of the right angle depending portion 60a; bight portion 60b and the upstanding portion 60c spaced from the portion 60a and defining the channel or groove in which the chart 61 is received. The top edge of the wall portion 60c of the channel terminates below the plane of the portion 47 to which the channel is attached.

The chart 61 includes the body portion 70 adapted to extend the width of the cabinet. It has a retaining strip 71 bent downwardly therefrom at its top edge, and to the rear, adapted to fit in the groove of the channel 60 for supporting the chart at the front of the channel in depending relation, rearwardly of the glass wall 31, as is shown in Figure 3 of the drawings. It is to be noted that the front edge of the horizontal top wall portion 45 terminates short of the front wall construction of the cabinet in order to permit the chart 61 to be slipped into position behind the glass panel wall 31 to a position below the

uppermost of the articles packed in columns in the cabinet, as shown in Figure 3.

I have provided an inverted U-shaped retaining strip **80**, shown best in Figure 5 of the drawings, which forms the border strip at the top front of the cabinet. It includes the portion **80***a* adapted to be slipped into the groove of the channel **60** rearwardly of the supporting strip portion **71** of the chart **61**, as shown in Figure 5; the top wall portion **80***b* adapted to lie contiguous with the adjacent portion of the wall **47** of the cabinet, and the depending finishing strip **80***c* adapted to overlie the front of the glass panel **31**, along the top edge of the latter. The retaining channel **80** may be removable, so that the chart **61** may be removed and another chart substituted therefor, from time to time, as desired.

The rear closure G is of sheet metal, (as are all the other portions of the cabinet except the glass panel, the chart and supporting feet); the top, bottom and side edges being doubled inwardly to properly finish the edges of the closure. The closure extends from side wall C to side wall D, and in height it extends from the bottom wall **15** of the base to a point immediately above the wall construction **45** at the top of the cabinet. It is hinged at **90** to the side wall D, and at its free edge is provided with a suitable latch **91**, pivoted by means of a handle **92**, and adapted to engage in a suitable lock flange provided upon the wall C, as shown in Figures 2 and 4 of the drawings.

Vertically disposed walls **100** are provided in the compartment of the cabinet, partitioning the cabinet into vertical magazine compartments adapted to receive the articles H in stacked relation. These walls **100** are relatively narrow, as shown in Figure 4 of the drawings, and their upper and lower ends are flanged in right angle relation and suitably spot welded to the bottom wall **15** and the top wall **45**.

Each of the compartments in the cabinet is of a width of one of the articles H, just sufficient to permit the articles H to move freely up and down in the compartments and maintain them in an orderly relation.

Upon the base B there is disposed a stationary ejecting or dispensing member **110**, preferably consisting of a downwardly and forwardly sloping wall upon which the rear lower corners of the articles H engages in order to move them forwardly through the mouth **40**, as the lowermost article of a stack is grasped and pulled from the stack. The dispensing or ejecting member **110** is forwardly concaved to permit the ready sliding of the article H. It is to be noted that the top marginal portion of the member **110** extends beyond the plane of the rear surfaces of the stacked articles H. The member **110** has a flange portion **112** spot welded or otherwise secured upon the wall **15** of the base B. It is to be noted that the dispensing member **110** forms no part of any front or rear wall construction of the cabinet, and it is fully visible and accessible upon opening of the rear closure of the cabinet.

Referring to the use of the cabinet for the purpose of dispensing spark plugs or articles which are similarly packed, the top portion **70***a* of the wall **70** of the chart **61** may be provided with the name of the manufacturer, or this portion of the chart may be blank and the glass panel **31** from its upper edge to a point in the plane of the wall **45** may be suitably provided with the name of the manufacturer and the name of the articles to be dispensed. The latter is the arrangement shown in the drawings; the glass panel **31** being opaque down to the line **115** shown in Figure 1 of the drawings, and provided with any approved advertisement or delineation thereon. Otherwise the glass wall **31** is transparent, and the front surface of the lower portion **70***b* of the chart is visible therethrough. This wall **70***b* of the chart is preferably provided with listings of cars, as shown at **120** in Figure 6 of the drawings, in case the articles to be dispensed are spark plugs, and under each car there may be listed the different models of cars and indicia **121**, designated on the chart which corresponds with a like marking or delineation **122** upon one or more of the packages of the article H facing the front wall. All spark plugs of the same size and type may be maintained in the same column. Thus, for example, in the illustration, a certain model of Buick car is designated "78–H," and if it is desired to select a spark plug for that model, the user of the cabinet merely pulls the article H out of the mouth **40** of the cabinet which has a corresponding designation "78–H" thereon. The articles of the stack will always drop into the position shown in Figure 3 of the drawings and and the lowermost article H will be ejected a short distance to permit an operator to grasp the same and readily remove the article from the cabinet.

It is of course, understood that this improved cabinet may be used for dispensing articles other than spark plugs.

Various changes in the shape, size, and arrangement of parts may be made to the form of invention herein shown and described, without departing from the spirit of the invention and the scope of the claims.

I claim:

1. In an article display and dispensing cabinet the combination of a metal base, metal side walls, a front wall comprising a transparent panel therein terminating short of the base to provide in spaced relation with the bottom edge thereof and the base an article extracting mouth, a rear wall movable closure to permit the placement of articles into the cabinet in stacked relation, and a metal piece having a flat portion secured upon the base along the rear margin thereof and extending upwardly in concaved sloping relation from a point spaced from the rear wall closure to a point at the rear wall closure to define a slide along which the lower portions of the articles will engage while moving them slightly at their front ends thru the opening in the front wall.

2. In an article display and dispensing cabinet, the combination of a metal base, metal side walls, a front wall formed to provide an article extracting mouth, a metal rear wall comprising a movable closure which opens the entire cabinet in the space between the base and top wall, a one piece metal member secured upon the base along the rear margin thereof and having a portion extending in upwardly sloping relation away from and in facing relation with the article extracting mouth and disposed in close relation to the closure at the rear of the cabinet, and partition means secured to the top and bottom walls of the cabinet and disposed entirely forwardly of said sloping member.

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