

M. HELMAN.
 STAMP VENDING MACHINE.
 APPLICATION FILED MAY 6, 1913.

1,093,409.

Patented Apr. 14, 1914.

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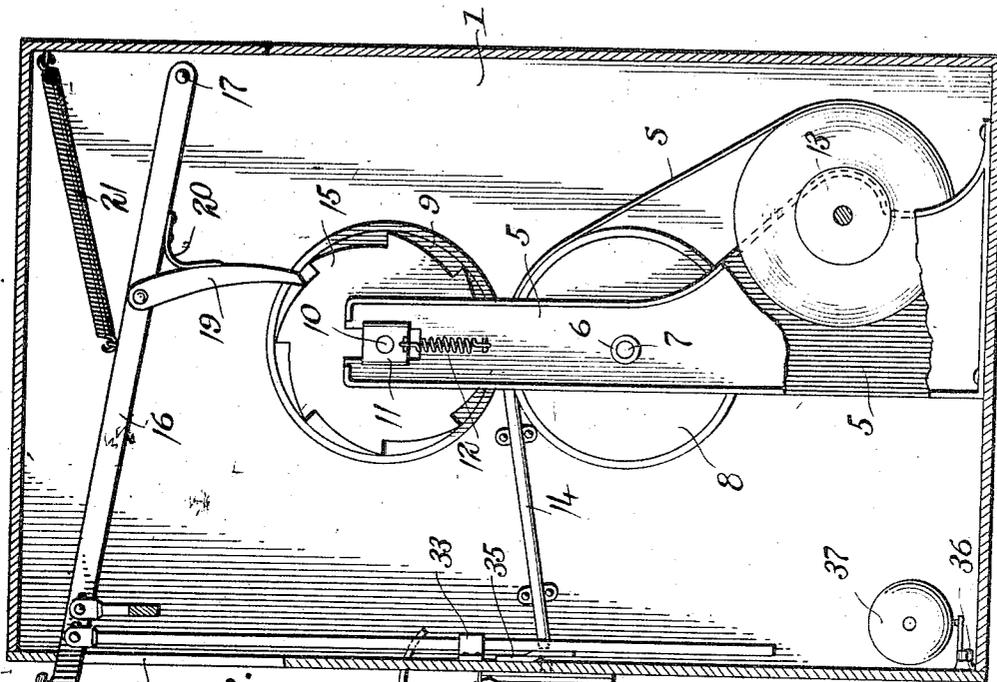


Fig. 2.

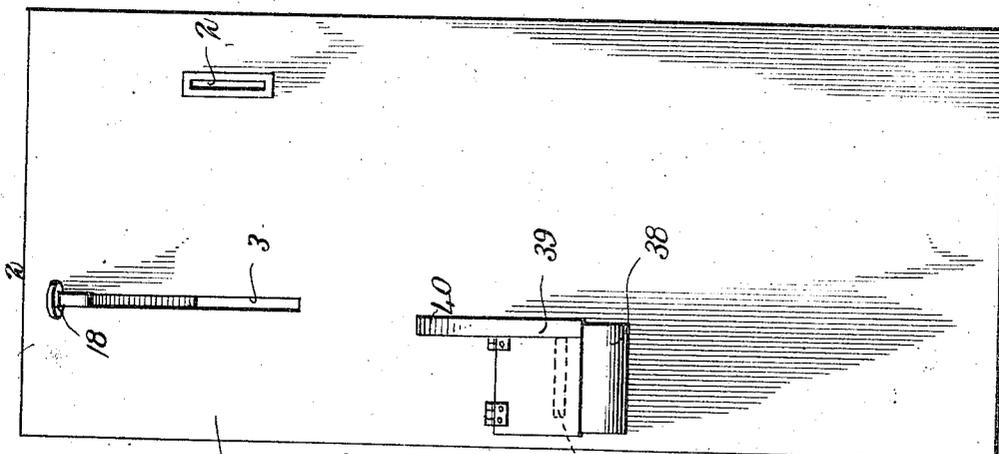


Fig. 1.

Witnesses

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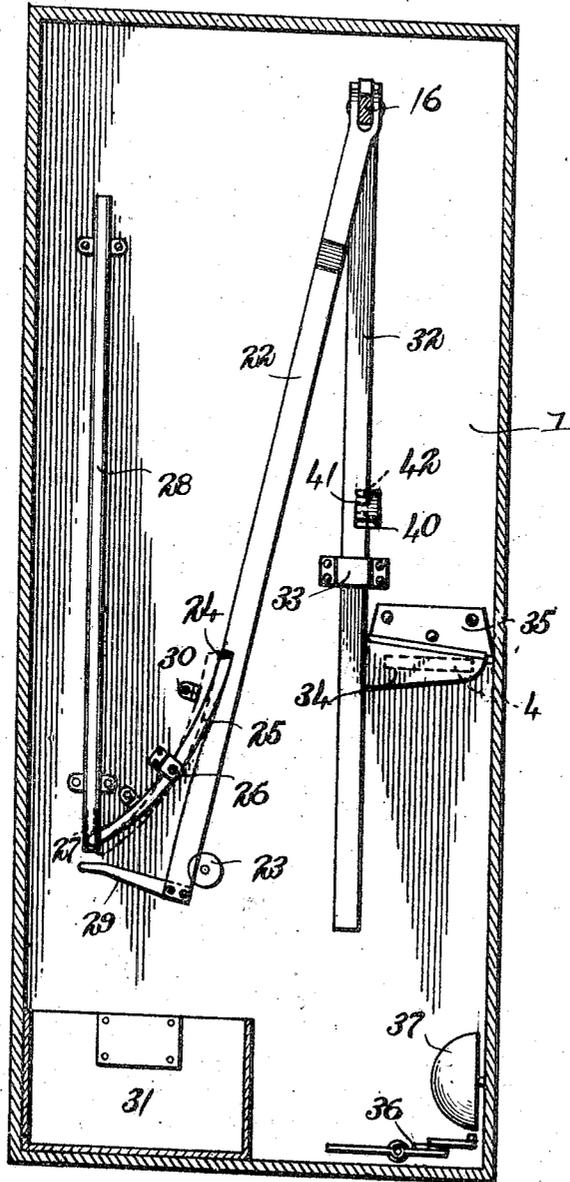
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Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MAURICE HELMAN, OF SIDNEY, OHIO.

STAMP-VENDING MACHINE.

1,093,409.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 14, 1914.

Application filed May 6, 1913. Serial No. 765,914.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MAURICE HELMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Sidney, in the county of Shelby and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Stamp-Vending Machines, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in coin controlled vending machines and has particular application to a stamp vending machine.

In carrying out the present invention, it is my purpose to provide a stamp vending machine which will embody in its construction among other features a stationary mechanism, an operating rod for such mechanism, and a stamp receiving receptacle, means being provided for locking said receptacle against access during the operation of the stationary mechanism so that the mechanism can not be tampered with by unauthorized persons, or more than the vended stamp withdrawn.

It is also my purpose to provide a vending machine of the class described which will embrace the desired features of simplicity, efficiency, durability and convenience; one which may be installed and maintained at a minimum expense and one wherein the component parts will be so correlated and arranged as to minimize the possibility of derangement.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter set forth in and falling within the scope of the claims.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of a vending machine constructed in accordance with the present invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view on the line 2-2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a view in front elevation showing the interior mechanism of the machine, the front of the casing being removed.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings in detail, the numeral 1 designates a casing or housing constructed of any suitable material and preferably, although not necessarily, of rectangular contour and having a coin slot 2, an elongated slot 3 adjacent to and parallel with the coin slot, and a stamp outlet slot 4 below the elongated

slot 3, in the front wall thereof. Mounted within the casing or housing 1 and suitably fastened to the lower wall thereof are uprights or standards 5, 5 and spaced apart in parallelism at opposite sides of the stamp discharge slot 4 in the front wall of the casing and carrying horizontally alining bearings 6 in which is journaled a shaft 7 carrying a delivery roller 8. Surmounting the delivery roller 8 is a second delivery roller 9 mounted upon a shaft 10 rotatably mounted in horizontally alining bearings 11 carried by the standards 5, 5 above the first-mentioned bearings. The peripheries of the delivery rollers 8 and 9 are preferably covered with rubber or other suitable material and are held in contact with each other through the medium of springs 12 normally urging the bearings of the rollers toward one another so as to produce a good frictional contact between the rollers. Rotatably mounted within suitable alining bearings also carried by the standards 5, 5 is a drum or reel 13 about which is wrapped a strip or tape of stamps s, such strip of stamps being carried from the drum onto the lower feed roller 8 between the latter and the top feed roller 9 and is thence projected through a guide 14 having one end communicating with the feed rollers and the opposite end with the slot 4 in the front wall of the casing, such guide being of any suitable or desired construction. In the present instance, a ratchet wheel 15 is suitably fastened to one side of the upper feed roller 9, while an operating lever or rod 16 has one end fulcrumed as at 17 to an appropriate part of the casing and the opposite end projected outwardly of the casing by way of the elongated slot 3 and terminating in a button or knob 18.

Pivotally secured to the lever 16 is a dog or pawl 19 engaging the teeth of the ratchet wheel 15 and normally held in engagement with such teeth by means of an expansion spring or other suitable form of tension device 20 carried by the lever 16 and bearing upon the dog. In the present instance, a contractile spring 21 has one end thereof connected to the rear wall of the casing and the opposite end to the lever 16 and acts normally to hold the lever in elevated or active position. By means of this construction, it will be seen that when the lever 16 is

depressed, the dog 19 will engage the adjacent tooth of the ratchet wheel 15 and so rotate the feed rollers 9 and 8 with the effect to feed the strip of stamps toward the opening 4 in the front wall of the casing a distance equal to the length of a stamp, the lever 16 moving through a path equal to the length of the stamp so as to impart to the feed rollers the desired movement.

Pivotaly connected to the lever 16 adjacent to the front wall of the casing and depending therefrom and inclined relatively to the vertical is a locking rod 22 slidably disposed within a keeper 23 and provided with a shoulder 24 normally engaged by one extremity of a trip 25 pivoted between its ends as at 26 to the front wall of the casing and having the free extremity thereof disposed within a slot 27 formed in the lower extremity of a coin chute 28 communicating with the coin slot 2 in the front wall 1 of the casing.

Extending outwardly from the locking rod 22 adjacent to the lower end thereof and disposed immediately below the chute end of the trip 25 is a stop lug 29, suitable stops 30, 30 being secured to the front walls of the casing at opposite sides of the path of movement of the trip 25 to limit the movement of said trip to locking and unlocking positions. Normally, the trip 25 is in the position shown in Fig. 3, that is in the path of movement of the shoulder 24 on the locking rod 22 so that downward movement of the operating lever 16 to operate the delivery rollers as aforesaid is prevented. When, however, the proper coin is deposited within the slot 2 and chute 28 communicating with such slot, such coin gravitates to the lower end of the chute and impacts against the respective end of the trip 25 thereby swinging the latter about its pivot 26 so that the opposite end of such trip is removed from the path of the shoulder 24. This time the chute end of the trip engages the stop 29 on the locking rod 22 and so prevents displacement of the coin from the chute thereby enabling the purchaser to manipulate the machine at his convenience. By pressing upon the button or knob 18, the lever 16 may be moved downwardly about its pivotal connection 17 thereby operating the feed rollers to deliver a stamp. A controller 31 is preferably disposed below the coin chute 28 so as to catch the coins after the same have been released by the stop lug and trip lever.

Also pivotaly connected to the operating lever 16 adjacent to the locking rod 22 and depending from such lever in a vertical plane is a cutter bar 32 slidably disposed within a keeper 33 secured to the front wall of the casing and provided with an outwardly projecting cutting blade 34 which

blade, in the normal condition of the machine, is interposed between the slot 4 and the adjacent end of the guide 14 so that tampering with the stamps in the guide by malicious persons is eliminated. This blade 34 cooperates with a second blade 35 preferably fastened to the guide 14 above the passage therein. Secured to the bottom of the casing or housing 1 is a tapper or hammer 36 pivoted between its ends and designed to sound a bell 37 having one end thereof disposed in the path of movement of the lower end of the cutter bar 32. Thus, when the shoulder 24 on the locking rod 22 is relieved of the influence of the trip 25 and the operating lever 16 swung in a downward direction to operate the delivery mechanism, the movable blade 34 is moved in a downward direction so as to permit the stamp to be fed from the guide 14 through the opening 4. When the stamp has been moved outwardly of the casing by way of the opening 4 therein the proper distance, the lower end of the cutter bar 32 engages the hammer 36 and so causes the bell 37 to sound thereby advising the purchaser to release the lever 16 at which time the spring 21 reacts to swing the lever back to normal or inactive position, the blade 34 cooperating with the blade 35, in the return movement of the lever 16 to shear the stamp from the strip.

In order to prevent tampering with the machine by way of the slot 4, I secure to the front wall of the casing a receptacle 38 inclosing the slot 4 and provided with a hinged cover 39 equipped with an upstanding segment 40 having a notch 41 therein and working through a slot in the casing and a notch 42 in the cutter bar 32, the notches 41 and 42 normally intersecting each other. From this, it will be seen that as the cutter bar 32 moves downwardly under the action of the operating lever 16, the bar will ride within the notch 41 in the segment 40 and so hold the cover 39 of the receptacle 38 against opening movement, while when the lever 16 has been returned to normal position, the notches 41 and 42 will intersect each other so that the segment 40 may be moved into the casing and through the notch 42 in the cutter bar.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction, mode of operation and manner of employing my invention will be readily apparent.

While I have herein shown and described one preferred form of my invention by way of illustration, I desire to have it understood that I do not limit or confine myself to the precise details of construction herein described and delineated, as modification and variation may be made within the

scope of the claims without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim:

1. In a stamp vending machine, a delivery mechanism, an operating lever for said mechanism, a stamp receiving receptacle, means for locking said receptacle against access in the operation of delivery mechanism.
2. In a stamp vending machine, a delivery mechanism, an operating lever for said mechanism, a stamp receiving receptacle, and means controlled by said lever for locking said receptacle against access in the operation of said delivery mechanism.
3. In a stamp vending machine, a delivery mechanism, an operating lever for

said mechanism, a stamp receiving receptacle, and means operable automatically for locking said receptacle against access in the operation of said delivery mechanism.

4. In a stamp vending machine, a delivery mechanism, an operating lever for said mechanism, a stamp receiving receptacle, a horizontal closure for said receptacle, and means for locking said closure in the operation of said delivery mechanism.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

MAURICE HELMAN.

Witnesses:

L. W. STUDEVANT,
LEAL ROBERTSON.