

Aug. 27, 1935.

E. YRISARRI
SIGNALING APPARATUS

2,012,650

Filed Feb. 13, 1934

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

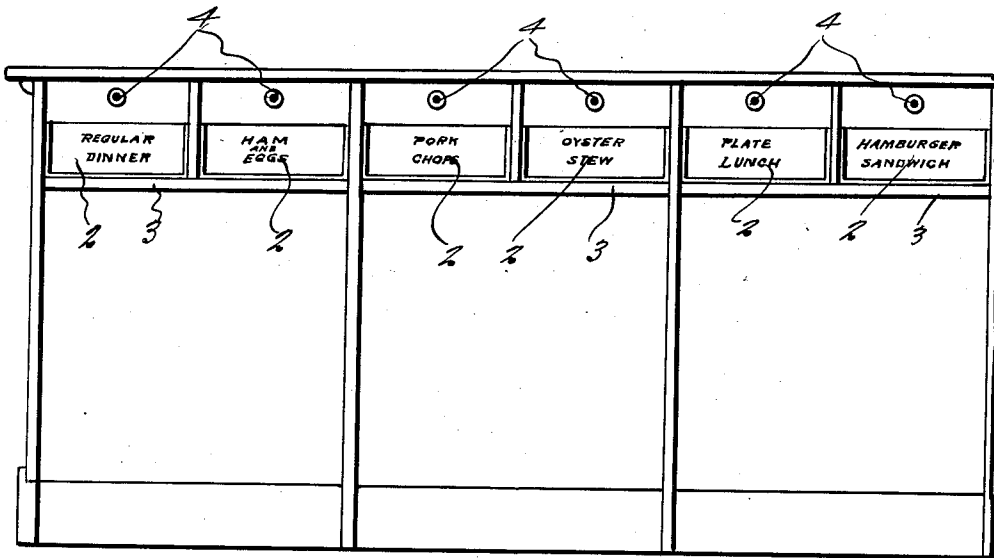


Fig. 10

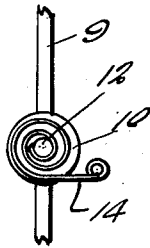


Fig. 9.

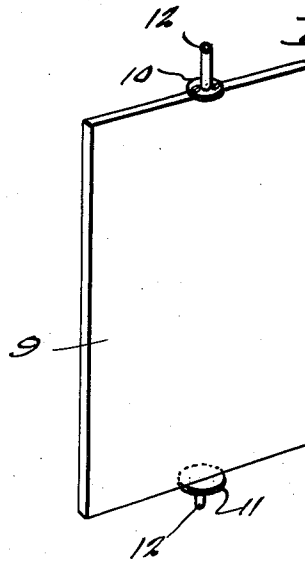
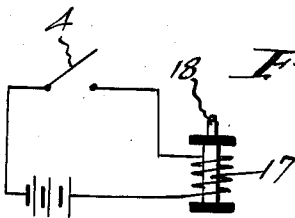


Fig. 11.



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Fig. 2.

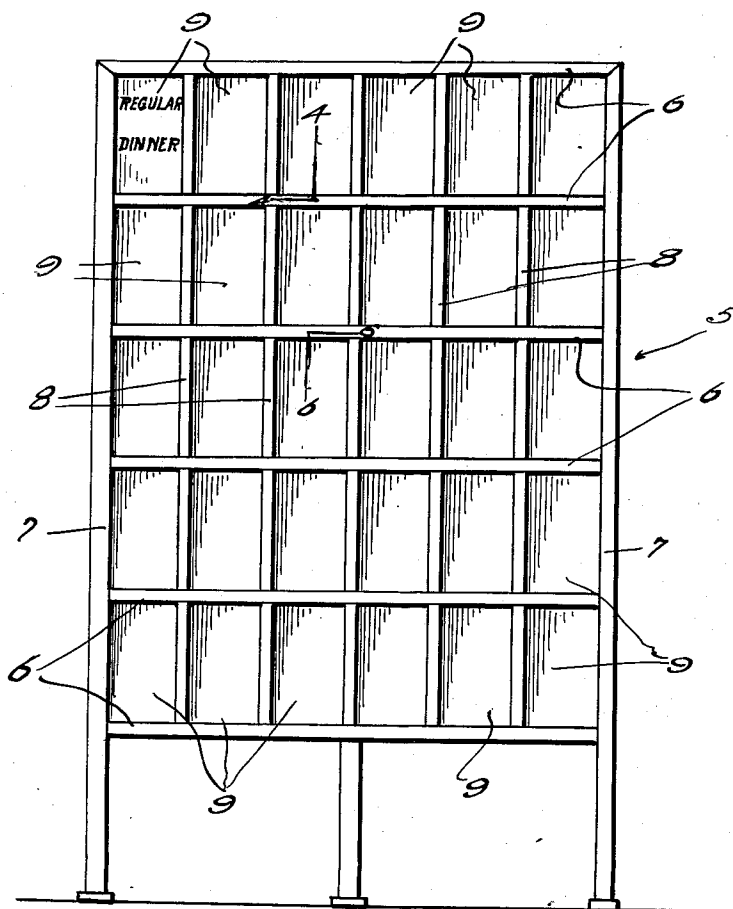


Fig. 3.

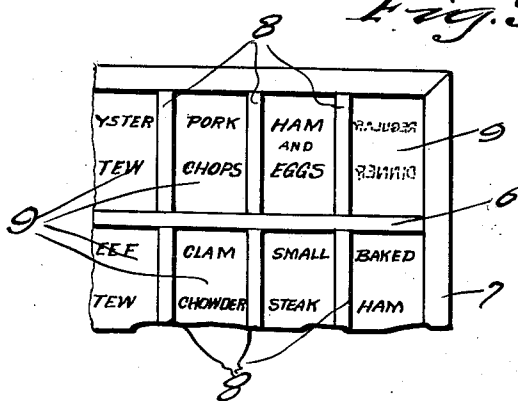
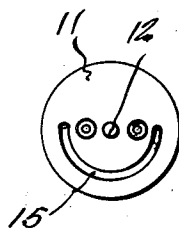


Fig. 8.



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3 Sheets-Sheet 3

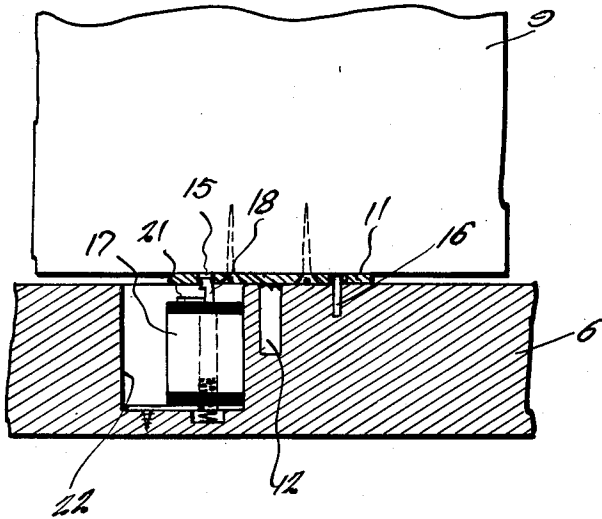


Fig. 4.

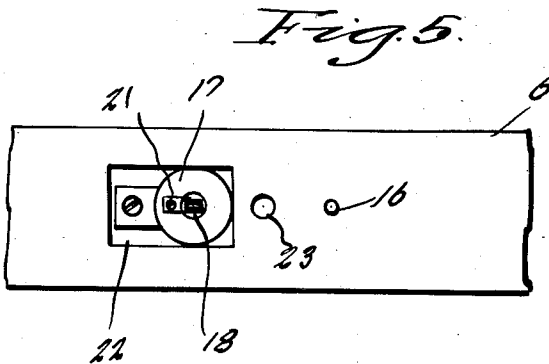


Fig. 5.

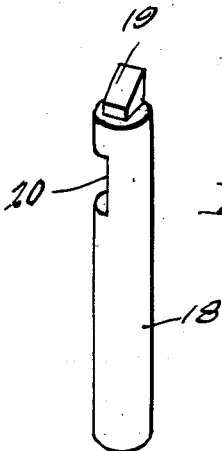


Fig. 7.

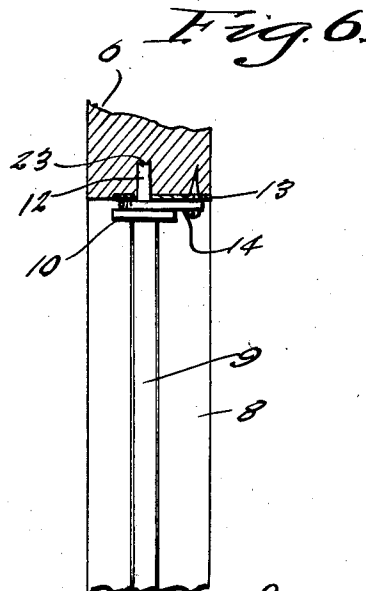


Fig. 6.

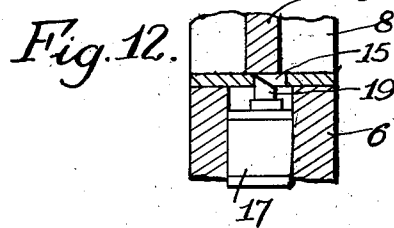


Fig. 12.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,012,650

SIGNALING APPARATUS

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Application February 13, 1934, Serial No. 711,051

1 Claim. (Cl. 177—329)

The present invention relates to a signaling apparatus for use particularly in restaurants, hotel dining rooms, etc., and has for its primary object to provide an apparatus embodying a novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts through the medium of which the service in establishments of the aforementioned character may be materially expedited.

Other objects of the invention are to provide a signaling apparatus of the character set forth which will be comparatively simple in construction, strong, durable, highly efficient and reliable in use, compact, and which may be manufactured, installed and maintained at low cost.

All of the foregoing and still further objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from a study of the following specification, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein like characters of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, and wherein:—

Figure 1 is an elevational view of a portion of the counter constituting a part of the apparatus.

Figure 2 is a view in front elevation of the signal unit.

Figure 3 is a view in rear elevation of a portion of the signal unit.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary view in horizontal section, taken substantially on the line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary view in top plan of a portion of one of the cross members of the signal unit, showing one of the magnets mounted therein.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary view in horizontal section, taken substantially on the line 6—6 of Figure 2.

Figure 7 is a detail view in perspective of one of the rotary panel locking bolts.

Figure 8 is a detail view in bottom plan of one of the lower disks upon which each of the rotary panels is mounted.

Figure 9 is a detail view in perspective of one of the rotary sign panels.

Figure 10 is a detail view in top plan, showing one of the springs which actuates the rotary sign panels.

Figure 11 is a diagrammatic view of the electric circuit.

Figure 12 is a sectional detail view showing how the latch engages the arcuate slot in the disk.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, it will be seen that the embodiment of the invention which has been illustrated comprises a counter which is designated generally by the reference

numeral 1. Slidably mounted in suitable frames provided therefor on the upper rear portion of the counter 1 are removable cards 2 having orders printed thereon. The frames which hold the cards 2 are designated by the reference numeral 3. Adjacent each card 2 is an electric push button switch 4, the purpose of which will be presently set forth.

Referring now to Figure 2 of the drawings, it will be seen that the reference numeral 5 designates generally what will be hereinafter referred to as the signal unit. The signal unit 5 includes a plurality of cross members 6 extending between uprights 7. Extending between the cross members 6 are vertical members 8. It will thus be seen that a plurality of substantially rectangular windows are provided.

Journaled between the adjacent cross members 6 for rotation in each of the aforementioned windows is a sign panel 9. Disks 10 and 11 are secured on the upper and lower ends of the panels 9 and projecting from said disks are trunnions 12 which are engaged rotatably in sockets provided therefor in the cross members 6 for mounting said panels in position. This is illustrated to advantage in Figures 4 and 6 of the drawings. The upper trunnions 12 extend through metallic wear plates 13 which are provided therefor (see Figure 6). Springs 14 are mounted between the upper disks 10 and the plates 13 and have one end anchored to said plates 13 and their other ends secured to the uppermost trunnions 12 for rotating the panels 9.

The lower disks 11 have formed concentrically therein substantially semi-circular slots 15 in which pins 16, which rise from the cross members 6, are engaged for limiting rotary movement of the panels 9 under impulsion by the springs 14. Also mounted in the cross members 6, beneath the lower disks 11, are electro-magnets 17 which are in circuit with the switches 4, as indicated diagrammatically in Figure 11 of the drawings. Operable in each electro-magnet 17 is a core in the form of a slidable, spring projected bolt 18 having a reduced, beveled upper end portion 19 engageable in the slot 15 of the adjacent lower disk 11. Each bolt 18 has formed therein a notch or recess 20 in which a stop member 21 on the adjacent magnet 17 is engaged. In addition to limiting sliding movement of the bolts 18, the members 21 also retain said bolts against rotation in the electro-magnets 17. Wells or compartments 22 are provided in the cross members 6 for the electro-magnets 17. The sockets in the cross members 6 which accommodate the trunnions 12

are designated by the reference numeral 23. The sign panels 9 have printed on one side thereof indicia corresponding to that on the cards 2 of the counter 1.

5 In operation, the counter 1 is located in the restaurant or dining room proper while the signal unit or indicator 5 is located at a convenient point in the kitchen. The counter 1 preferably comprises a plurality of sections, only one of
10 which is shown, the indicia on the cards 2 of each section corresponding to that on each horizontal row of panels 9. The panels 9 are normally secured in inoperative position against the tension of their springs 14 by the spring projected bolts
15 18 and in this position of the panels of indicia thereon is concealed. In this position of the parts the high side of the part 19 of each bolt 18 is in engagement with one end of the arcuate slot 15
20 of a disk 11 with a pin 16 occupying a position in the slot 15 adjacent the other end thereof, the spring 14 tending to move the disk 11 in a counterclockwise direction as shown in Figure 8. However, the latch prevents this movement but as soon as the latch is retracted the spring will
25 move the disk 11 in a counter-clockwise direction until the end of the slot which was previously engaged by the latch strikes the pin 16 when further movement of the parts is prevented and the panel comes to rest with the indicia thereon in
30 full view of the cook or other person in the kitchen as shown in the left upper corner of Figure 2. When the panel has finished this movement and the latch has been projected the said latch will engage the other end of the slot 15 and in this
35 position the beveled part of the portion 19 of the latch will be engaging the end wall of the slot so that the operator can by pushing upon the panel move the same back to inoperative position for the engagement of said end wall of the slot. The
40 beveled part of the latch will push the latch downwardly and cause it to ride over the unslotted part of the disk 11 until the opposite end of the slot comes opposite the part 19 when the spring of the latch will project it and thus the
45 latch will hold the panel in operative position. Thus, when one of the switches 4 is closed the electro-magnet 17 to which it is connected is energized, retracting the bolt 18 therein for releasing the adjacent panel 9 and permitting the

same to be rotated by its respective spring 14 until arrested by the stop pin 16. It will thus be seen that the panels 9 are rotated substantially one half of a revolution by the springs 14 to bring the indicia thereon into view. By the time the
5 person, such as the waiter or waitress, who has depressed or closed the switch 4 reaches the kitchen the chef will have had an opportunity to fill the order on the panel 9 which has thus been brought to operative position. After the order has
10 been filled the panels 9 are manually rotated to inoperative position against the tension of the springs 14, thereby rewinding said springs. The beveled ends 19 of the bolts 18 permit said bolts
15 to ride out of the slots 15 when the panels 9 are manually returned to inoperative position.

It is believed that the many advantages of a signaling apparatus constructed in accordance with the present invention will be readily understood, and although a preferred embodiment of the
20 invention is as illustrated and described, it is to be understood that changes in the details of construction and in the combination and arrangement of parts may be resorted to which will fall within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed is:—

In a signal device of the class described, a supporting member, a panel, a trunnion connected with the panel and the supporting member having a bearing opening receiving the trunnion, a
30 plate attached to that part of the panel carrying the trunnion and having an arcuate-shaped slot therein which is concentric to the trunnion, a pin carried by the supporting member and projecting into the slot, spring means connected with the
35 panel and with a part of the supporting member and acting to hold the panel in a position with the pin engaging one end wall of the slot, said supporting member having a recess therein, an electrical magnet located in the recess and provided with an armature, a beveled latch part carried by the armature and having its high part
40 engaging an end wall of the slot when the armature is projected for holding the panel against movement by the spring, the beveled part engaging the opposite end wall of the slot when the panel
45 has been moved by the spring.

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