

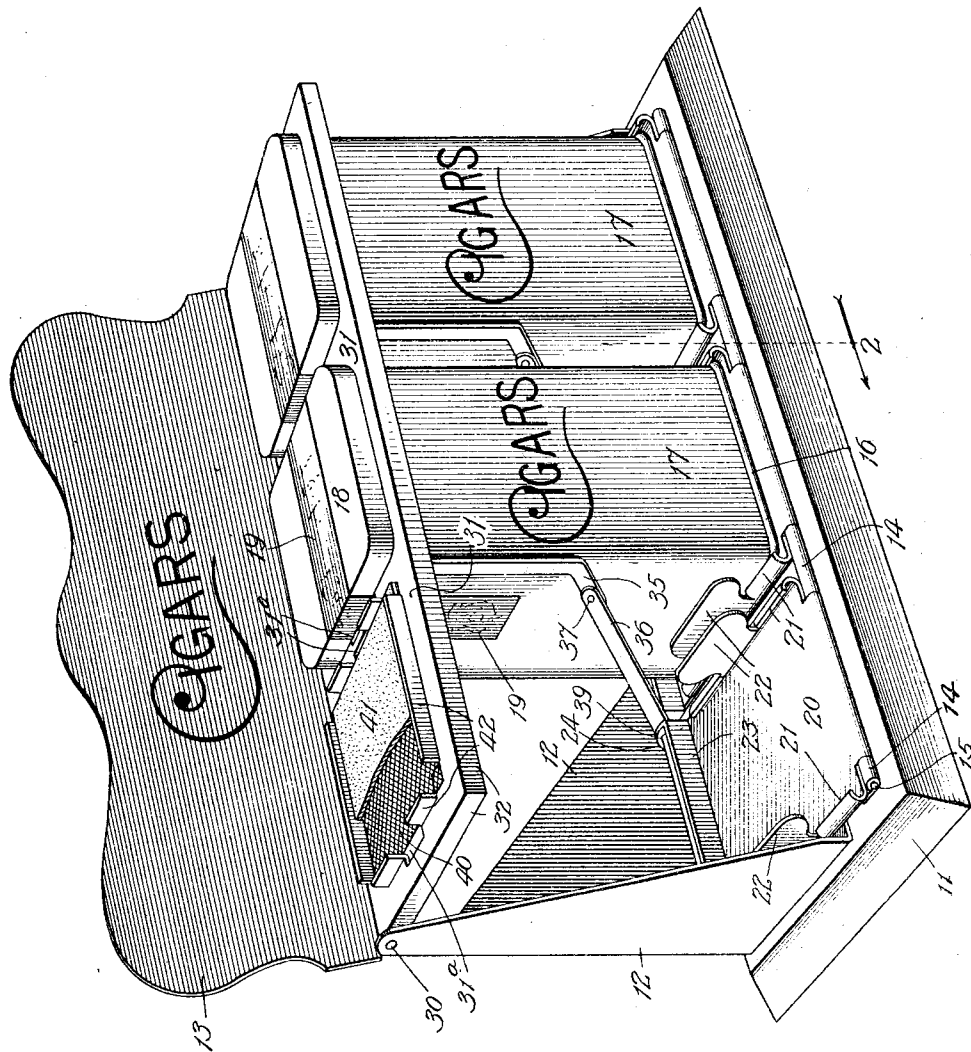


Fig. 1.

Witnesses:

E. C. Gaybird.
Chas. H. B. Smith.

Inventor:

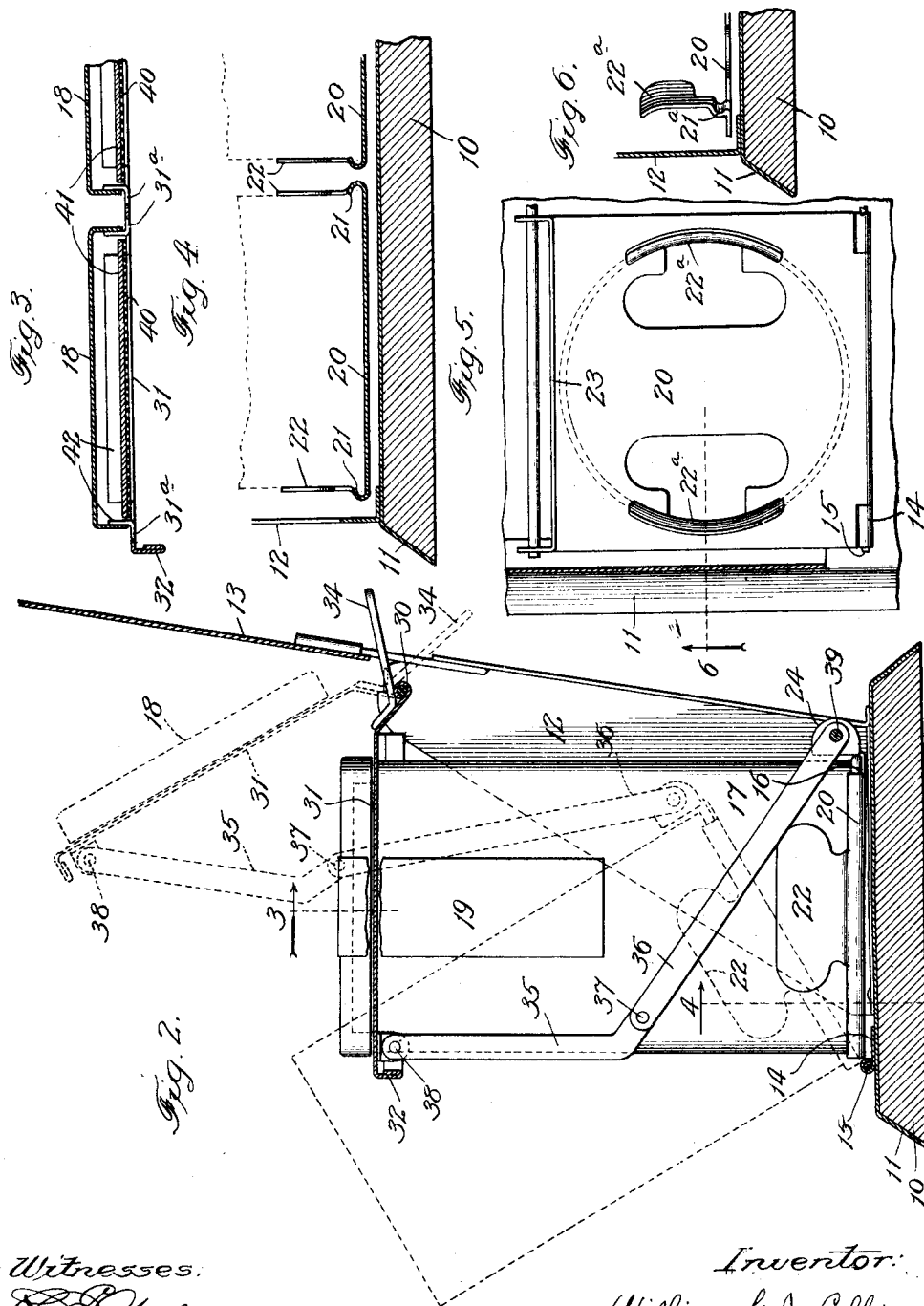
William G. J. Collins
 By *Pierce, Ficker & Clapp*
 Attys.

W. G. J. COLLINS.
 APPARATUS FOR DISPLAYING AND VENDING CIGARS AND OTHER ARTICLES.
 APPLICATION FILED FEB. 19, 1912.

1,052,798.

Patented Feb. 11, 1913.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses:
Chas. H. Bull.

Inventor:
 William G. J. Collins
 By *Pine, Fisher & Clapp*
 Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM G. J. COLLINS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

APPARATUS FOR DISPLAYING AND VENDING CIGARS AND OTHER ARTICLES.

1,052,798.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 11, 1913.

Application filed February 19, 1912. Serial No. 678,538.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM G. J. COLLINS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Apparatus for Displaying and Vending Cigars and other Articles, of which I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

The present invention while obviously applicable to other uses, is especially designed to provide an improved construction of apparatus for the convenient display and vending of cigars of the kind which are usually inclosed in tin cans or boxes.

The invention consists in the various features of novelty hereinafter described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and particularly pointed out in the claims at the end of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an apparatus embodying my invention, parts being removed for better illustration. Fig. 2 is a view in vertical cross section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a view in vertical section on line 3—3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a view in vertical section on line 4—4 of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a plan view showing a modified form of holder for retaining round cans. Fig. 6 is a detail view in vertical section on line 6—6 of Fig. 5.

In most retail cigar stores it is customary to place upon the show-case or counter boxes of rapid selling cigars where they can be conveniently reached by the salesman, and my invention is shown as applied to a case or holder adapted to set upon the top of the ordinary show-case or counter. One desideratum is, to retain the covers normally above the tin boxes or cans containing the cigars, as the internal revenue laws make such requirement. So, also, it is desirable that provision be made whereby the cigars within the boxes or cans may be kept in moist or fresh condition. A further desirable feature is to provide means whereby the boxes or cans containing the cigars may be readily uncovered and brought into convenient position for enabling the intending purchaser to make a selection therefrom. These and other objects of the invention are accomplished by my improved apparatus, as will presently appear.

My improved apparatus is shown as comprising a base 10 which may consist of wood, preferably covered with a metal plate 11. From the base rise the uprights 12 that are shown as consisting of metal plates soldered or otherwise attached to the metal base plate 11 and extending at the back and ends of the device. To the tops of the uprights 12 may be secured a vertical plate 13 for containing advertising matter of any desired character.

To the metal base plate 11 adjacent its front are secured a number of metal loops 14 that form bearings for a pivot shaft 15 that extends across the top of the plate 11. Upon this shaft 15 is mounted any desired number of supports 20, three of such supports being shown in the accompanying drawings. These supports 20 are preferably formed from sheet metal and, in order to enable them to grip the beaded bottom portions 16 of the cans 17 containing the cigars, each of the supports 20 is formed along its sides with the inturned flanges 21. Preferably, also, vertical flanges 22 rise from the supporting plates 20, these vertical flanges being adapted to bear upon the sides of the cans 17 and thus more effectively hold them in place. By preference also, the rear edge of each of the supports 20 is formed with an up-turned flange 23 to more accurately position the cans 17 upon the supports. As shown, the rear flanges 23 are formed with reverted ends 24, the purpose of which will presently appear.

The front edges of the supports 20 are secured to the pivot rod 15 by lapping around the same. A can or box 17 containing cigars to be vended will be placed on the support 20 by slipping the side portions of the bead 16 of the bottom of the box within the inwardly bent flanges 21 of the support 20 and moving the box 17 rearwardly until it abuts against the up-turned back flange 23 of the support 20. The flanges 21 and 22 will thus hold the box 17 so that, when the support 20 is tilted, as will presently appear, the box will still be firmly held upon the support.

In the upper ends of the uprights 12 are mounted the ends of a shaft 30 that extends from end to end of the apparatus, this shaft serving to pivotally support a top plate 31 that is preferably formed of sheet metal with downwardly turned flanges 32. As shown in Fig. 2, the rear edge of the top

plate 31 is preferably lapped around the pivot rod 30. To the rear portion of the top plate 31 is fastened a rearwardly projecting arm 34, which enables the salesman to readily lift the top plate by depressing the free end of the arm 34, as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

In the preferred embodiment of my invention, the top plate 31 is connected to the tilting platform or bottom plate 20, so that when the top plate 31 is raised, the bottom plate or platform 20 will be shifted so as to tilt outwardly the cans or boxes containing the cigars, in such position that they may be conveniently inspected and reached by the customer, as indicated by broken lines in Fig. 2 of the drawings. Any suitable means may be employed for connecting the top plate 31 to the tilting bottom plate or support 20, but I prefer to employ for this purpose a pair of links 35 and 36 that are pivoted together, as at 37, the upper end of the link 35 being pivoted, as at 38, to a lug depending from the under face of the top plate 31, while the lower end of the link 36 is pivoted, as at 39, to the lug or lugs 24 at the ends of the flanges 23 of the supports 20.

The top plate 31 is shown as provided with openings, in any desired number, over which are placed sheets of foraminous material 40 adapted to sustain sheets of blotting-paper, felt or like porous material 41 for holding water to moisten the cigars. The foraminous sheets 40 rest upon inwardly projecting portions of the top plate 31 below the corners of the sheets, or are otherwise conveniently sustained. Around each of the openings in the top plate are formed vertical lips or flanges 42 over which will fit the covers 18 of the cans or boxes containing the cigars. These lips or flanges 42 are preferably struck up from the top plate 31.

The internal revenue stamps 19, which are required by law to be placed upon boxes containing cigars, before the cigars are placed in my apparatus for sale, extend over the covers 18 and along the sides of the boxes 17; but when the boxes are to be placed in my apparatus, the revenue stamps will be broken and the body of each box 17 will be placed upon one of the supports 20, while the cover of the box will be placed upon the up-turned flanges 42 of the top plate 31, and immediately above the top of the box 17 from which this cover 18 was removed. The revenue stamp 19 will extend down more or less through the slots 31^a that are formed at the sides of the openings in the top plate 31. In this way each cover 18 will be immediately above the box 17 from which it was removed, and the severed portions of the revenue stamp 19 will be brought closely together.

When the parts are in the normal posi-

tion shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings, the top plate 31 will hold each of the covers 18 immediately over the box 17 to which it belongs, and the pads 41, being held normally immediately above the cigars, will serve to retain them in fresh or moist condition. When the cigars are to be sold, the salesman will depress the rear end of the bar or lever 34, thereby causing the top plate 31 to be lifted and the several boxes 17 to be tilted forward so as to enable the purchaser to readily select such kinds or colors of cigars as he may wish. When the pressure on the bar or lever 34 is released, the parts will be returned by gravity to the normal position shown by full lines in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings.

When the cigars or other articles to be vended are contained within round cans or boxes, the modified form of bottom plate or support illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6 of the drawings may be used. In such case, the platform 20 will be formed with upturned flanges 22^a adapted to grasp the sides of the round boxes, and with inwardly turned portions 21^a adapted to engage the beaded lower portions of the round cans or boxes.

It is obvious that the details of construction above set out may be varied within wide limits without departing from the spirit of my invention, and that features of the invention may be employed without its adoption as an entirety. Thus, for example, the top plate could be advantageously used without the tilting support or platform, and vice versa.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. An apparatus of the character described, comprising a base, a support for holding one or more cans or boxes, said support being pivoted at its front to said base, means for sustaining the covers of said cans or boxes independently of the bodies thereof, vertical supports to which the rear of said cover sustaining means is pivotally connected, and means for simultaneously tilting upwardly and forwardly said support and for swinging upwardly and rearwardly said cover sustaining means.

2. An apparatus of the character described, comprising a base, a support for holding one or more cans or boxes, said support being pivoted at its front to said base, means for sustaining the covers of said cans or boxes independently of the bodies thereof, vertical supports to which the rear of said cover sustaining means is pivotally connected, and means connecting the rear of said tilting support and the front of said cover sustaining means, whereby the cans or boxes may be tilted forwardly as the cover sustaining means is lifted.

3. An apparatus of the character de-

scribed, comprising a base, a support for one or more cans or boxes pivoted at its front to said base, a top plate extending at a distance above said base and pivoted at its rear, said top plate being provided with means for supporting the covers of the cans or boxes independently of the bodies thereof, and means for simultaneously tilting said support and lifting said top plate.

4. An apparatus of the character described, comprising a base, a support for sustaining one or more cans or boxes pivoted at its front to said base, means for sustaining the covers of the cans or boxes independently of the bodies thereof, said means being located at a distance above said base, suitable uprights to which said cover sustaining means is pivoted at its rear, connections between said cover sustaining device and said tilting support, whereby they may be simultaneously shifted, and a rearwardly projecting part whereby the support may be tilted and the cover sustaining means shall be lifted.

5. An apparatus of the character described, comprising a base, a tilting support provided with means for holding one or more cans or boxes, a pivoted cover sustaining means for holding the covers of the cans or boxes, suitable connections between the tilting support and the cover sustaining means and a rearwardly projecting arm connected to said cover sustaining means and whereby the tilting support and the cover sustaining means will be shifted.

6. An apparatus of the character described comprising a tilting support provided with means for holding one or more cans or boxes, a pivotally supported top plate arranged at a distance above said tilting support and adapted to sustain the covers of the cans or boxes independently of the body thereof, said top plate having openings provided with upwardly projecting flanges at their edges for engaging the covers of the cans or boxes, and said openings having inwardly projecting flanges at their edges for sustaining moisteners within the covers, and operating connections between said top plate and said tilting support.

7. An apparatus of the character described comprising a base, a support for holding one or more cans or boxes, said support being pivoted to said base, a top plate extending over said base at a distance above the same and adapted to close over the cans or boxes, an upright mounted on said base to which upright said top plate is pivotally connected at its rear, connecting means between said top plate and said pivoted base and means for simultaneously tilting said support and lifting upwardly and rearwardly said top plate.

8. An apparatus of the character de-

scribed comprising a base, a support for holding one or more cans or boxes, said support being pivoted to said base, a top plate extending at a distance above said base and substantially parallel therewith, an upright mounted on said base to which said top plate is pivotally connected at its rear, connecting means extending between the rear of said base and the front of said top plate, and a projection connected to and extending from said top plate whereby said support may be tilted and said top plate may be shifted upwardly and rearwardly.

9. An apparatus of the character described comprising a base, a support for holding one or more cans or boxes, said support being pivoted to said base, a top plate extending over said base from side to side thereof and at a distance above the same, an upright mounted upon said base to which said top plate is pivotally connected at its rear, means connecting said pivoted support to said top plate and a projection connected to said top plate and extending rearwardly beyond the pivot point thereof whereby the top plate may be shifted upwardly and rearwardly while the support connected thereto is tilted forwardly.

10. An apparatus of the character described, comprising a base, a tilting support pivoted at its front to said base and provided with inwardly turned, can engaging flanges, uprights rising from said base, means for sustaining the covers of the cans or boxes independently of the bodies thereof, the rear of said cover sustaining means being pivoted to said uprights, means connecting the rear of said tilting support and the front of said cover sustaining means, and an arm or lever projecting from said cover sustaining means and whereby it may be moved to effect the shifting of the tilting support and of said cover sustaining means.

11. An apparatus of the character described comprising a support having means for removably supporting one or more boxes, fixed uprights extending above said support, a plate pivotally connected at its rear to said uprights and adapted to extend over the box or boxes on said support, said plate having means for sustaining moisteners over the upper ends of said boxes, and an arm or lever connected to said top plate and whereby it may be lifted.

12. An apparatus of the character described, comprising a support for one or more cans or boxes, uprights extending above said support, a top plate pivoted at its rear to said support and provided with openings and with vertical projections adjacent said openings to engage the covers of the cans or boxes resting upon said support, and means for tilting said top plate to lift said covers.

13. An apparatus of the character de-

scribed, comprising a support for a plurality of cans or boxes, a top plate arranged at a distance above said support and provided with a plurality of openings adapted
5 to come opposite the tops of the cans or boxes, suitable means for pivotally sustaining said top plate at its rear, an arm or projection whereby said top plate may be turned about its pivot, said top plate being
10 provided with means for holding the individual covers of the cans or boxes, and with means for holding moisteners opposite the openings in said top plate.

14. An apparatus of the character described, comprising a tilting support provided with means for holding a plurality of cans or boxes side by side, means above said
15 tilting support for sustaining corresponding covers for said cans or boxes independently of the bodies thereof and in position above the individual cans or boxes, said cover
20 sustaining means being pivotally supported, and means for simultaneously tilting said support and said cover sustaining means.

25 15. An apparatus of the character described comprising a base, a support for one or more cans or boxes pivoted at its front to said base, a top plate extending at a distance above said base and pivoted at
30 its rear, means for supporting said top plate independently of the cans or boxes

and means for simultaneously tilting said support and lifting said top plate.

16. An apparatus of the character described comprising a base, a can support
35 pivoted at its front edge to said base, uprights extending from the rear of said base, a top plate pivoted to said uprights and provided with openings and with means for holding the can covers above said openings,
40 means connecting said top plate and said support, and means for simultaneously tilting said support and lifting said top plate.

17. An apparatus of the character described comprising a base, a tilting support
45 having means for supporting one or more cans or boxes pivotally mounted on said base in front of its rear portion, uprights fixed to said base, a top plate pivoted at its rear upon said uprights and arranged to
50 extend over the cans or boxes on said tilting support, an operating connection pivoted to said top plate in front of its pivot and to said tilting support in rear of its pivot, an operating arm or lever for simultaneously
55 tilting said support upwardly and forwardly and for lifting said top plate.

WILLIAM G. J. COLLINS.

Witnesses:

GEORGE P. FISHER,
KATHARINE GERLACH.