C. J. CASSIDY.

ELECTRIC SIGN FOR CASH REGISTERS.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 24, 1913.

1,091,810. Patented Mar. 31, 1914.

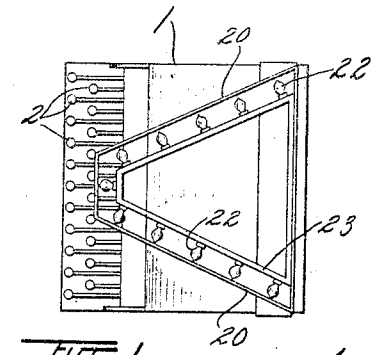


Fig. 1.

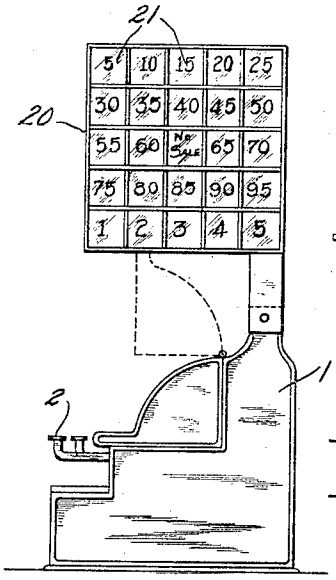
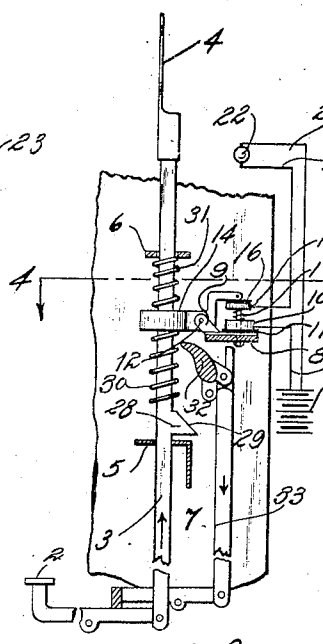


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



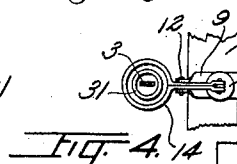
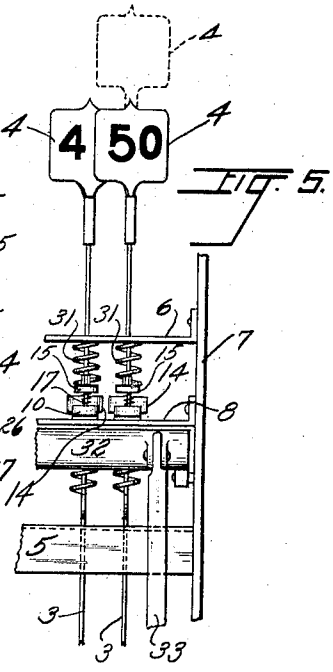


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.



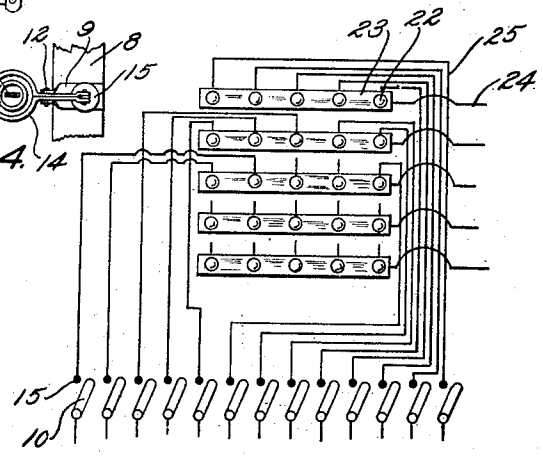


Fig. 6.

WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ELECTRIC SIGN FOR CASH-REGISTERS.

1,091,810. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 31, 1914.

Application filed July 24, 1913. Serial No. 780,856.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES J. CASSIDY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Electric Signs for Cash-Registers, of which the following is a specification.

The essential object of this invention is to provide an attachment or appliance particularly designed for use in connection with cash registers.

As is well known in the art, the ordinary cash register comprises (in addition to other mechanism) a key or keys adapted to be depressed by the cashier and an indicator controlled by each key, the indicator being ordinarily visible to persons standing in front of the cash register but not to any person or persons who are compelled to view the cash register from an oblique angle.

It is the essential object of this invention to provide an attachment which will indicate the amount of each sale, and the indicating device is so arranged that it may be seen from all parts of the room in which the cash register is placed or even in a different room.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a top plan view of a cash register embodying the invention; Fig. 2 is an elevation at right angles to Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a detailed view of the mechanism by which each key of the cash register affects or operates the proper indicator circuit; Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4, Fig. 3; Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 3 taken at right angles to the view of said Fig. 3; and Fig. 6 is a diagrammatic view of the wiring arrangement.

The cash register 1 is provided with the usual keys 2, each of said keys being adapted to be depressed by the cashier upon making a sale in the customary manner. Each key is connected to one of the vertically reciprocating standards 3, and at its upper end each standard 3 bears an indicator 4. The indicators 4 bear numerals or reading matter corresponding to the keys, all of the parts herein before described being old and well known in the art and no novelty being claimed therefor.

The standards 3 are adapted to pass through suitable slots in the brackets 5 and 6 which serve as guides and supports, being suitably fastened to the ends 7 of the register. Rigidly secured to the ends 7 of the register is a plate or bracket 8 which member 8 carries a row of ears 9 corresponding in number to the number of standards 3. Opposite each ear 9 is a contact surface 10 supported upon the bracket 8 and insulated therefrom at 11. Pivoted to each ear 9 at 12 is a lever or arm 14 which is adapted to encircle or to coöperate with a standard 3 on one side of the pivot 12. Upon the side of the arm 14 opposite that which coöperates with the upright 3, the contact surface 15 is secured, being insulated from the member 14 at 16. A helical spring 17 which is either made of some non-conducting material or which is suitably insulated keeps the contact surfaces 10 and 15 normally spaced apart from each other. The arm 14 is pivoted at 12.

The indicator 20 is formed of a transparent member divided into a plurality of squares or units, there being a square for each key 2, and each square containing a numeral or reading matter corresponding to the key for which said square is adapted to indicate. Behind each square 21 is a lamp 22, the lamps being supported in suitable rows upon arms 23, and each lamp 22 being connected by wires 24, 25, and 26 to a battery 27. Ordinarily there will be a break in the circuit between the wires 25 and 26 and the lamps will not be lighted, but when any particular lever 14 is caused to rock upon its pivot 12, the circuit will be closed and the lamp caused to flash. Depression of that particular key 2 which is designated "50" will not only raise the indicator 4 to the dotted line position as depicted in Fig. 5, but will also close the circuit of the particular lamp which is behind that square marked "50", Fig. 2. Since the indicators 20 behind which the lamps are placed are set obliquely, it will be obvious that a person need not be standing directly in front of the register in order to see what amount has been rung up by the cashier, but may be in a remote corner of the room and yet clearly

see the amount of sale registered. The indicator 20 need not even be in the same room but may be in any position or in any place desired and thus enable any person or persons within view of the indicator to see, after each sale, the exact amount that has been registered.

The parts by which each key 2 causes the appropriate lamp to light are best shown in Figs. 3, 4, and 5. Each upright 3 carries a stud 28, having a beveled edge 29, and each member 3 is encircled by a helical spring 30 which is between the lower surface of the member 14 and the projection 28, and also by a helical spring 31 which is intermediate the members 6 and 14. When the key 2, which controls any particular standard 3 is depressed, the standard 3 is moved upwardly or in the direction of the arrow, Fig. 3. The spring 30 thereupon rocks the lever 14 upon its pivot and causes the contact surfaces 10 and 15 to engage each other, thus closing the circuit and lighting the appropriate lamp 22. A spring-controlled pawl 32 rides over the beveled edge 29 as the stud 28 is elevated past the pawl and locks the standard 3 in upright position, thus not only keeping the indicater 4 elevated in the dotted line position of Fig. 5 until the next sale is registered, but also making sure that the circuit will remain closed and the lamp 22 lighted until another key 2 is depressed. The pawl 32 is released by movement of the link 33, which link, in turn, is actuated upon depression of each key, this construction also being well known in cash registers.

If the first sale to be registered be for example 50, the operator depresses the key 2 which is designated 50, such depression of the key simultaneously elevates the indicator 50 and by means of the circuit-closing arrangement lights the particular lamp 22 which is behind the square designated "50" on the transparent indicator 20. By means of the pawl 32, that standard 3 which is controlled by the "50" key remains elevated and the circuit controlled thereby kept closed until such time as the operator depresses another of the keys 2, which depression both releases the locking pawl 32, permitting the first standard 3 to return to normal position, being assisted in such return by the helical springs 30 and 31, and also elevates the second standard 3 which happens to be controlled by the particular key 2 then being depressed.

As best shown in Fig. 1, two indicators 20 are provided and a person standing on one side of the machine will naturally see one of the indicators, whereas if standing upon the opposite side of the machine the other indicator will be visible. The person who may be directly in front of the machine may or may not see the amount registered because of the lighting of the appropriat lamp 22, for such a person will naturally look at the old style indicators 4 which operate at each sale just as is customary in cash registers.

In cases where two indicators 20 are used, as shown in Fig. 1, it will be necessary, of course, to supply two lamps 22 in each circuit and if the number of indicators be increased the number of lamps in each circuit must be changed accordingly.

It will be obvious that numerous changes in the details of construction and arrangement of parts may be made without departing from the scope of the invention.

I claim as my invention:

1. An attachment for cash registers comprising a plurality of keys, a slidable arm adapted to be controlled by one of the keys, a helical spring encircling said arm, means upon the arm which one end of said spring is adapted to engage, a pivoted member adapted to be rocked upon movement of said arm, being engaged by the opposite end of said helical spring, a contact surface borne upon and insulated from said pivoted member, a second contact surface into engagement with which said first-mentioned contact surface is adapted to be carried, a circuit which is closed upon engagement of said surfaces, a lamp adapted to be lighted upon closing of said circuit, and an indicator having spaces, said lamp being adapted to illuminate one of said spaces.

2. An attachment for cash registers comprising a plurality of keys, a slidable arm adapted to be controlled by one of the keys, a pivoted member coöperating with said arm, a contact surface borne upon said pivoted member, a second contact surface into engagement with which said first-mentioned contact surface is adapted to be carried, a circuit adapted to be closed upon engagement of said surfaces, a helical spring encircling said slidable arm, a stud upon said arm engaging one end of said spring, the opposite end of said spring being adapted to engage said pivoted member, means coöperating with said arm and adapted to lock the same in elevated position, thereby to keep said circuit closed, a lamp adapted to be lighted upon closing of said circuit, and an indicator having spaces, said lamp being adapted to illuminate one of said spaces.

3. An attachment for cash registers comprising a plurality of keys, a slidable arm adapted to be controlled by each of said keys, a spring coöperating with said arm, a pivoted member adapted to be rocked upon movement of said arm, said spring being intermediate said arm and said pivoted member, and being adapted to convert the movement of said arm into movement of said piv-

oted member, a contact surface borne upon and insulated from said pivoted member, a second contact surface into engagement with which said first-mentioned contact surface is adapted to be carried, a circuit which is closed upon engagement of said surfaces, a lamp adapted to be lighted upon the closing of said circuit, and an indicator provided with spaces, said lamp being adapted to illuminate one of said spaces, said indicator being disposed obliquely to the register.

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

CHARLES J. CASSIDY.

Witnesses:
ELLIOTT R. GOLDSMITH,
ROBT. KLOTZ.