No. 809,371. PATENTED JAN. 9, 1906.

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VOTING MACHINE.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 20, 1905.

Fig. 1.

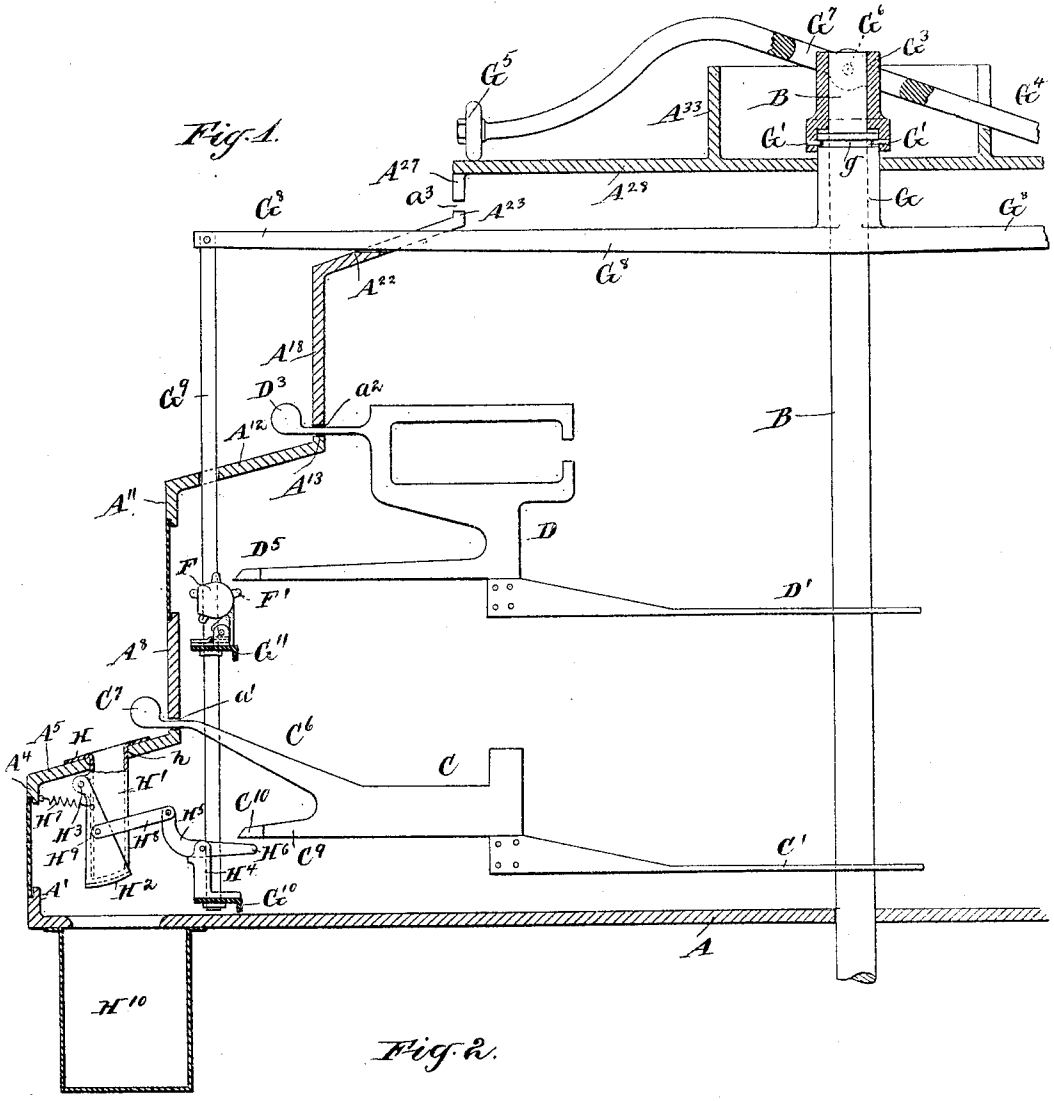


Fig. 2.

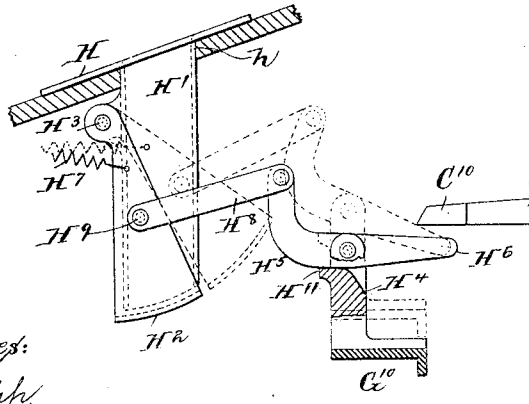
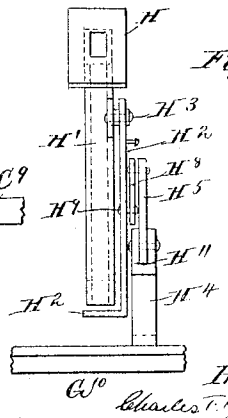


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

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by Albert R. Seese Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELIZA A. HARRINGTON, OF LYNDHURST, NEW JERSEY, EXECUTRIX OF CHARLES F. HARRINGTON, DECEASED, ASSIGNOR TO THE DIAL VOTING MACHINE COMPANY, OF LYNDHURST, NEW JERSEY, A CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY.

VOTING-MACHINE.

No. 809,371. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 9, 1906.

Application filed January 20, 1905. Serial No. 242,037.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELIZA A. HARRINGTON, a citizen of the United States, residing in Lyndhurst, in the county of Bergen and State of New Jersey, executrix of the last will and testament of CHARLES F. HARRINGTON, deceased, late a citizen of the United States, declare that the said CHARLES F. HARRINGTON did invent a certain new and useful Improvement in Voting-Machines, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to that class of voting-machines in which the registering mechanisms are operated by actuators arranged to be moved into operable relation with such mechanisms. A machine of this character is shown and described in an application for Letters Patent of the United States by the same inventor, filed October 10, 1904, Serial No. 227,800, and the present invention relates more particularly to means for registering or receiving ballots for independent candidates for office whose names do not appear on any of the party tickets as candidates for such office adapted for service with the machine described in such application.

The object of the invention is to provide simple, easily-operated, and reliable mechanism for receiving such independent ballots.

The invention consists in certain novel features and details of construction by which the above objects are attained, to be hereinafter described and claimed.

The accompanying drawings form a part of this specification and show a preferred form of the invention.

Figure 1 is a diametrical vertical section through a part of a voting-machine equipped with the invention, certain portions being shown in elevation and certain other portions of the machine being omitted for clearness of illustration. Fig. 2 is a side view, partly in vertical section, showing the independent voting mechanism on a larger scale. Fig. 3 is a corresponding elevation at a right angle to the view in the preceding figure.

Similar letters of reference indicate the same parts in all the figures.

The casing in the form of a circular turret comprises a series of rings or annular castings arranged one above the other and supported by brackets (not shown) formed on each.

A is the bottom plate, having an annular ring or flange A′ cast thereon.

A^5 is an inwardly-inclined or conical ring forming a deck having at the outer edge a depending flange or ring A^4 of the same diameter as the ring A′, and on the inner edge is an upwardly-extending short flange of less diameter, above which, but separated therefrom by a narrow annular slot a', is a cylindrical ring A^8. A second inclined deck A^{12} has a downwardly-extending flange A^{11} of the same diameter as A^8 and an upturned short flange A^{13} of less diameter separated by a second annular slot a^2 from a flange A^{18} on the third deck A^{22}, having on its inner edge a short flange A^{23}, separated by a slot a^3 from a depending flange A^{27} on the outer edge of the top plate A^{28}. The top plate carries an annular flange or fence A^{33} cast thereon.

A vertical shaft B extends axially of the casing and is supported therein by means (not shown) with liberty to partially rotate.

Through the annular slot a' projects the end of an actuator C, forming one of a series loosely mounted on the shaft and adapted to be swung horizontally. Only one of the series is shown. It is preferably of sheet metal and consists of flat horizontal portion C′, through which the shaft B extends, and a vertical outer portion having two arms C^6 and C^9, one arm C^6 extending through the slot a' and terminating in a finger-piece C^7, the other arm C^9 of less length and terminating in a widened toe C^{10}. The upper series of actuators, one of which is shown, (marked D,) is similarly mounted on the shaft at D′, and each has a finger-piece D^3 and toe D^5. The upper slot a^3 is also provided with a series of actuators. (Not shown.)

For the purposes of this description the names of the candidates may be understood to be arranged radially on the decks A^5 A^{12} in groups corresponding to the offices to be filled and that the actuators may be swung by the finger-pieces into line with any name selected.

G is a sleeve loosely encircling the upper portion of the shaft B and extending through the top plate A^{28} within the fence A^{33}. The sleeve has an annular groove g on its exterior, in which are received the ends of two pins G′ G′, extending through the skirt of a second sliding sleeve G^3, rotating with the shaft, but

free to be raised or lowered thereon by depressing or elevating the free end of an operating-lever G^4, fulcrumed on an antifriction-roller G^5 on the opposite end of the lever. The latter is engaged with the sliding sleeve G^3 by pins G^6, screwed into opposite sides of a yoke G^7, forming part of the lever encircling the upper end of the shaft and extending into corresponding holes in the sliding sleeve. The rising and sinking movements of the lever are thus communicated to the sleeve G and its radial arms G^8 without partaking in the partial rotations of the shaft due to horizontal oscillations of the lever.

From the outer end of each arm G^8 hangs a rod G^9, supporting a ring G^{10} near the bottom of the casing and a similar ring G^{11} at a higher level. The rings carry counters F, each having an operating star-wheel F', one for each name on the corresponding deck, and at suitable intervals, preferably one for each office, means for actuating an independent ballot-receiving mechanism. The latter consists of a plate H, attached to the deck, having a flattened tube or chute H' extending downwardly from a slot *h* and terminating within the casing. The lower end of the tube is normally closed by a swinging gate H^2, held in position by gravity, aided, if necessary, by a spring H^7 and supported on a pivot H^3, set in a lug on the upper portion of the tube.

H^5 is a lever fulcrumed in a support H^4, secured to the supporting-ring G^{10} and having a tail H^6 occupying the same relative position as one of the star-wheels and of about the same thickness. To the upturned opposite end of the lever H^5 is pivoted one end of a link H^8, the other end of which is pivoted to the gate H^2 at H^9.

When the sleeve G, with its arms G^8, is elevated, the rings G^{10} and G^{11} also rise and carry with them all the counters F and levers H^5. Those that find no actuators in their paths are unacted upon; but if an actuator be swung to a name to be voted the star-wheel of the counter corresponding to that name will strike that actuator and be moved to register one vote on the counter, as set forth in the above-identified application, and if an actuator be swung to the space or symbol for independent voting the tail H^6 of the corresponding lever H^5 will strike such actuator and be tilted to the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2, in which the gate uncovers the lower end of the tube H' and permits a ballot, preferably in the form of a slip of cardboard upon which the voter has written the name selected, to pass through the tube and fall into the receptacle H^{10}, from which at the close of the polls the accumulated ballots for the candidates for that office receiving independent votes may be removed, sorted, and counted. The lowering of the rings G^{10} G^{11} permits the gate to close by gravity or the force of the spring H^7, or both, ready to receive another ballot, the return movement being arrested by the lower edge of the lever H^5 striking a horizontal portion H^{11} of the support H^4.

The opening through the tube should be only sufficient to receive a single ballot, which, as above stated, may be of thick cardboard or may be of thinner material adapted to be received in any suitable carrier of a thickness to match the tube.

The mechanisms for setting all the actuators simultaneously to the names on a party ticket or to all the independent symbols or spaces and for resetting the actuators to the original or "no-vote" positions ready for the next voter are omitted from this application and form part of the subject-matter of the above-identified application for patent in which these and other features are fully shown and described.

Modifications may be made in the forms and proportions of the parts as found necessary or desirable in adapting the independent voting mechanism for service in other forms of voting-machines without departing from the principle of the invention or sacrificing its advantages.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

In a voting-machine, a cylindrical casing having an annular slot therein, actuators radially mounted in said casing and each having a portion projecting through said slot whereby it may be swung horizontally, a tube extending from the exterior of said casing to the interior and adapted to receive a ballot, a swinging gate normally closing the lower end of said tube, a support adapted to be moved vertically within said casing, a lever carried by said support, a link from one end of said lever to said gate, the other end of said lever arranged when moved vertically with said support, to contact with one of said actuators presented in its path, and thereby move said gate to open said tube.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ELIZA A. HARRINGTON,
Executrix of the last will and testament of Charles F. Harrington, deceased.

Witnesses:
HARRY C. HARRINGTON,
CHARLES R. SEARLE.