T. A. MATTHEWS.

SHEET DELIVERY CABINET.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 9, 1920.

1,357,070. **Patented Oct. 26, 1920.**

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

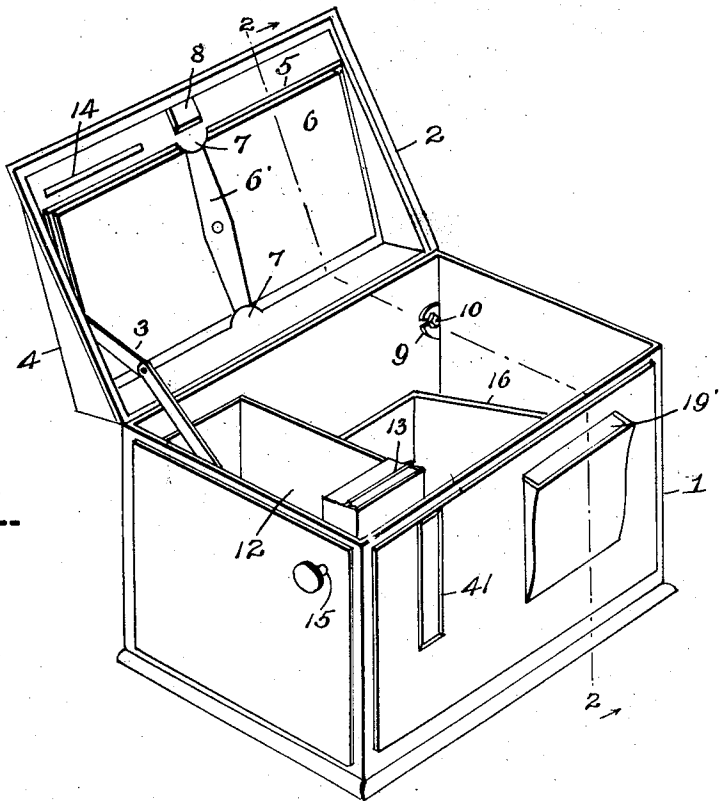


Fig. 1.

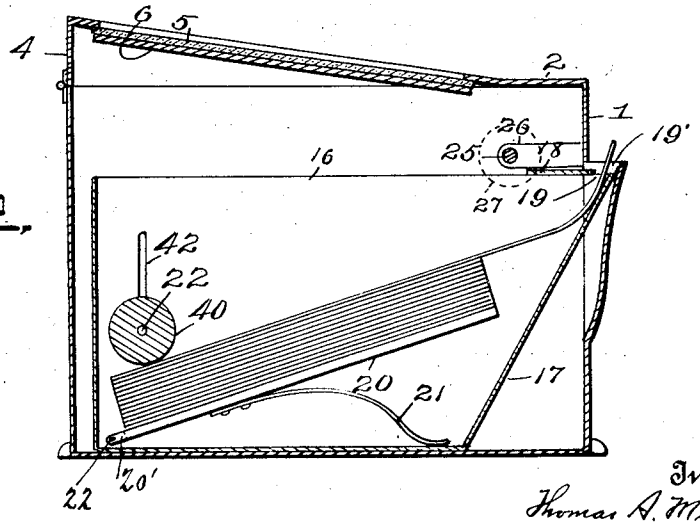


Fig. 2.

Inventor

Thomas A. Matthews

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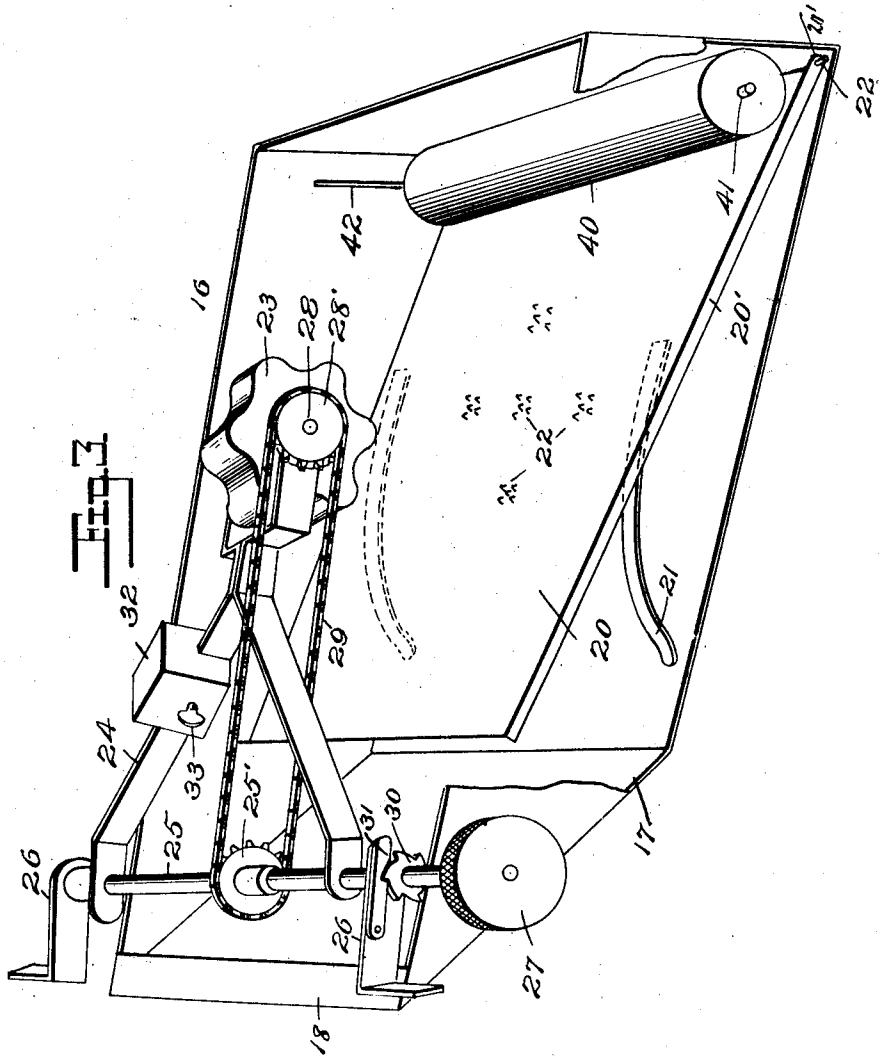


FIG. 3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS A. MATTHEWS, OF NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE.

SHEET-DELIVERY CABINET.

1,357,070. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 26, 1920.

Application filed June 9, 1920. Serial No. 387,593.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS A. MATTHEWS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Nashville, in the county of Davidson and State of Tennessee, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sheet-Delivery Cabinets, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to stationery delivery cabinets of the type shown in my Patents 748,967, January 5, 1904, and 1,028,091.

The object of the invention is to provide a simple and efficient cabinet for containing and delivering flat articles, such as sheets of paper.

This object I accomplish by the construction shown in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective of the cabinet with the lid or cover raised.

Fig. 2 is a section on line 2—2, Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged perspective of the container for the sheets, removed, provided with my improved delivery mechanism.

The cabinet or case 1 is of any suitable size and material and has a hinged lid 2 provided with a brace 3 to hold it raised. The lid is of open rectangular form and provided with a raised inclined desk-like portion 4. Within this inclined portion 4 is a glass pane 5 and a backing 6 held in place by a pivoted cross-bar 6′, the free ends of which engage the lugs 7—7 on the inner side of the lid. The lid may be locked by any suitable lock 8. If desired, the cabinet may be formed of panels held together by slotted lugs 9 and bolts 10.

The front of the cabinet has a glazed opening 41 at one side to contain printed matter, such as "Hotel stationery" or the like, and in rear of this opening is placed a container 12 for envelops, cards and the like, said container having a delivery opening 13 at the upper end of its forward side registering with an outlet opening 14 in the overlying portion of the lid. The envelop and card delivery mechanism, not shown, in container 12 and its actuating shaft 15 form the subject-matter of a separate application filed of even date herewith and need not, therefore, be further described.

Within the right hand portion of the cabinet is placed a sheet container 16, resting on and secured to the bottom of the cabinet 1. This container or box 16 is open at its top and is provided next to the front wall of the cabinet with an upwardly and outwardly inclined end 17 provided at its upper edge with a cross piece 18 and a delivery slot 19 therebelow. This delivery slot 19 registers with a like slot 19′ in the upper portion of the front wall of the cabinet so that sheets traveling up the incline will pass out through the slots 19—19′.

To the rear end of the container is pivoted the rear lower end of a sheet supporting plate 20 provided with ears 20′, through which and the sides of the container is passed a rod 22 forming the support on which the plate 20 pivots.

The forward end of the sheet supporting plate 20 is pressed upwardly by suitable springs 21, shown in the present instance as plate springs secured to the plate or support 20, and bearing at their free ends on the bottom of the box or container 16 so as to lift the plate and the pile of paper thereon. The plate or support 20 is provided with a friction surface to prevent slipping of the pile of sheets resting thereon; this surface being formed by punching up the material at 22 to form roughened surfaces. Upon the rear end of the pile of paper rests a weight in the form of a roller 40 which prevents more than a single sheet at a time being withdrawn from the pile. The roller 40 may have short axles 41 at its ends entering vertical guide slots 42 in the sides of the box or container. The sheets are fed one at a time from the top of the pile by means of a friction roll or wheel 23 mounted in the inner end of a frame 24, the forward diverging arms of which are pivotally supported on a shaft 25 mounted at its ends in brackets 26 secured to the front wall of the cabinet 1 above the delivery slots 19—19′. The shaft 25 extends through the right end of the cabinet and has an operating wheel 27 thereon. The friction roll or wheel 23 is mounted on a short shaft 28 in the inner forked end of pivoted frame 24. A sprocket wheel 28′ on shaft 28 is connected with a sprocket wheel 25′ on the operating shaft 25 by means of a sprocket belt or chain 29. Reverse movement of the shaft 25 is prevented by means of a ratchet 30 thereon, engaged by a pawl 31 on one of the brackets 26.

The friction roll or wheel 23 is held down on the paper by means of a sliding weight 32 mounted on one arm of the pivoted frame 24 and held in its adjusted position by a set-screw 33. Thus the springs 21 and

weight 32 coöperate in holding the pile of paper in proper position for feeding it sheet by sheet whenever the friction feed roller or wheel is rotated by means of the hand wheel.

A pile of the sheets to be supplied, such as writing paper, is placed on the inclined plate, which will depress the underlying springs, then the weight roll is placed upon the rear end of the pile and the feed roll or wheel is swung down on top of the pile. By now turning the hand wheel in the right direction the topmost sheet of paper will be fed forwardly, up the incline 17 and out through the registering openings 19—19′ within reach of the operator's fingers. As the pile of sheets grows smaller and lighter the springs under the supporting plate will lift the remaining sheets higher and within proper feeding action of the friction wheel or roll. This roll 23 is shown as polygonal or fluted to form ribs for the better frictional contact with the sheets.

Advertising matter may be placed under the glass 5 so that when the lid is used as a desk the person cannot fail to see the advertisement.

What I claim is:

1. In a delivery cabinet, the combination with a box or container having an upwardly inclined forward end provided at its upper edge with an outlet slot, and an inclined spring supported sheet support having its higher end next to said inclined forward end, of a swinging frame overlying the free end of said sheet support and provided at its inner end with a friction roll or wheel to engage the top sheet and feed it up the incline and out of said slot, a shaft on which said frame swings, driving connections between said shaft and friction roll or wheel, and means for manually rotating the shaft.

2. In a delivery cabinet, the combination with a container or box having an outlet slot at the upper edge of its forward end, a sheet support pivotally supported at its rear edge in the rear end of said container or box, and springs under the free ends of said sheet support to incline it toward said outlet slot, of a swinging frame overlying the free end of said sheet support, a feed roll or wheel on the inner end of said frame, means for regulating the downward pressure of the frame and roll, a shaft on which said frame swings, operative connections between the shaft and feed wheel or roll, and means for rotating the shaft manually.

3. In a delivery cabinet, the combination with a container or box having an outlet slot across its upper forward edge, a sheet supporting plate hinged at its rear lower end in the container and provided on its upper side with a sheet engaging friction surface to prevent shifting of the pile of sheets, springs raising the forward free end of the sheet supporting plate, a swinging frame overlying the free end of said supporting plate, a feed roll or wheel on the inner end of the frame, a shaft on which the outer end of said frame is mounted, operative connections between said shaft and feed roll or wheel, and means for rotating the shaft manually.

4. In a delivery cabinet, the combination with a container or box having an outlet slot across its upper forward edge, a sheet supporting plate hinged at its rear lower end in the container and provided on its upper side with a sheet engaging friction surface to prevent shifting of the pile of sheets, springs raising the forward free end of the sheet supporting plate, a swinging frame overlying the free end of said supporting plate, a feed roll or wheel on the inner end of the frame, a shaft on which the outer end of said frame is mounted, operative connections between said shaft and feed roll or wheel, means for rotating the shaft manually, and a weighted roller to rest on the rear of a pile of sheets.

5. In a delivery cabinet, the combination with a container or box having an outlet slot across its upper forward edge, a sheet supporting plate hinged at its rear end within the container or box, a spring elevating the forward edge of said supporting plate, a yoke-like frame overlying the free edge of said sheet support and there provided with a feed roll or wheel, a shaft on which said frame pivots, an adjustable weight on the frame to press the feed roll toward the supporting plate, operative connections between said shaft and feed wheel, and means for manually rotating said shaft.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

THOMAS A. MATTHEWS.