B. C. HOEFER.

COIN DELIVERING MACHINE.

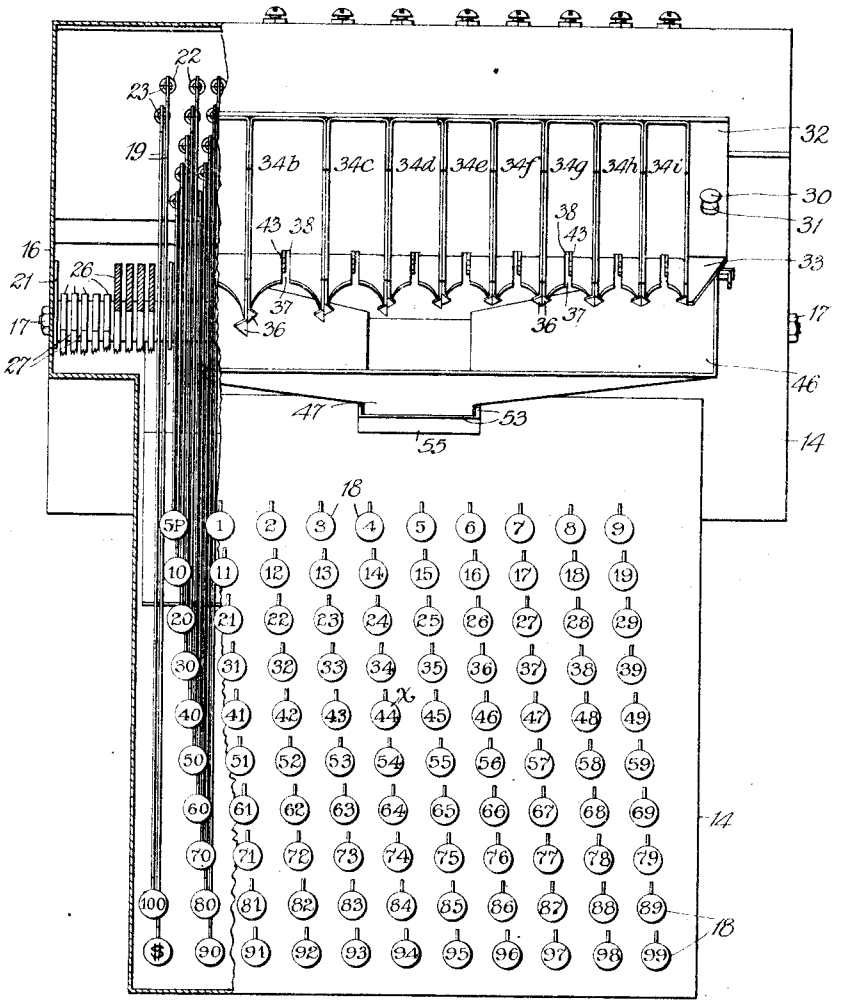
APPLICATION FILED MAY 26, 1911.

**1,105,516.**

**Patented July 28, 1914.**

6 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

*Fig. 1.*




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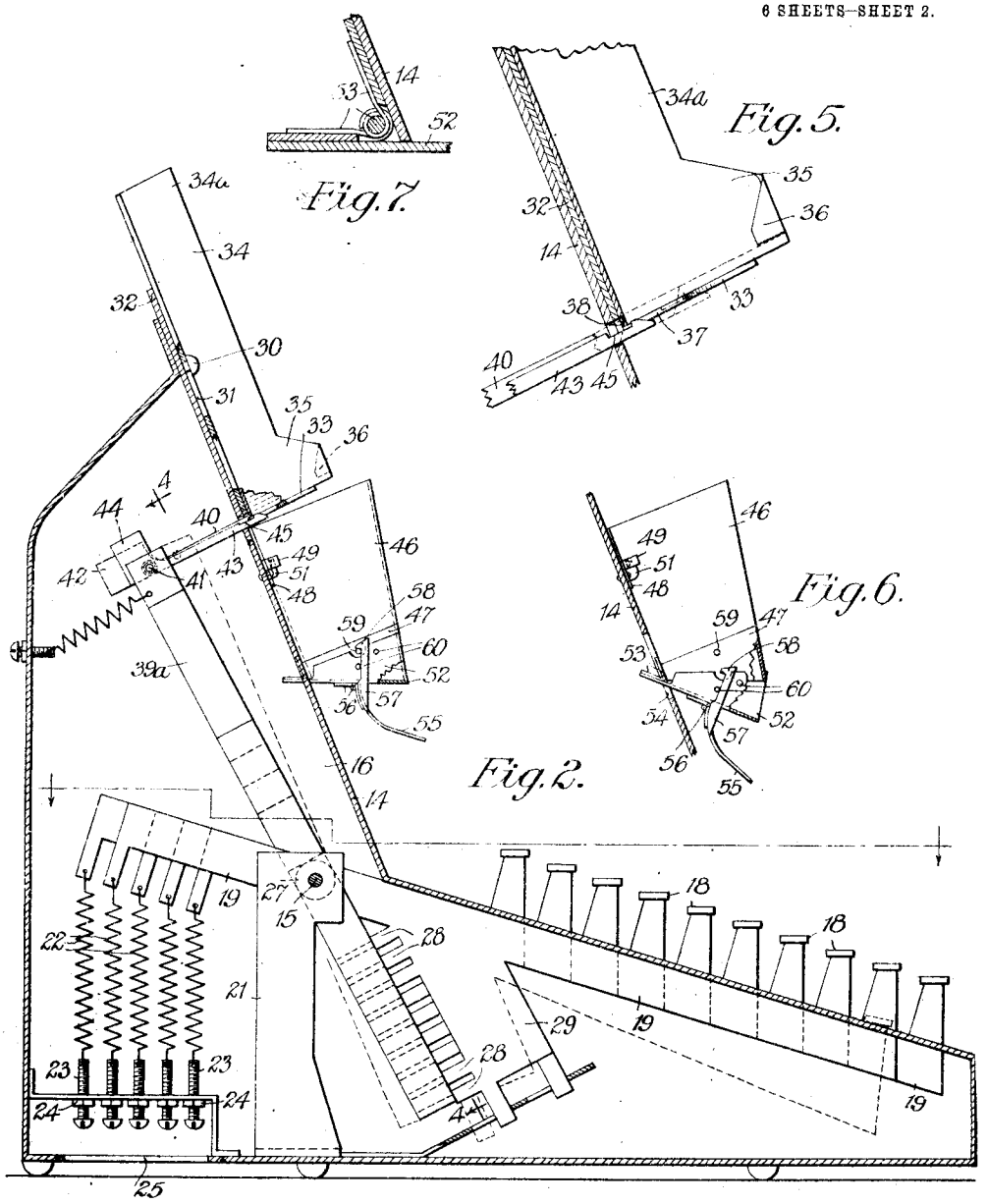
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6 SHEETS—SHEET 2.




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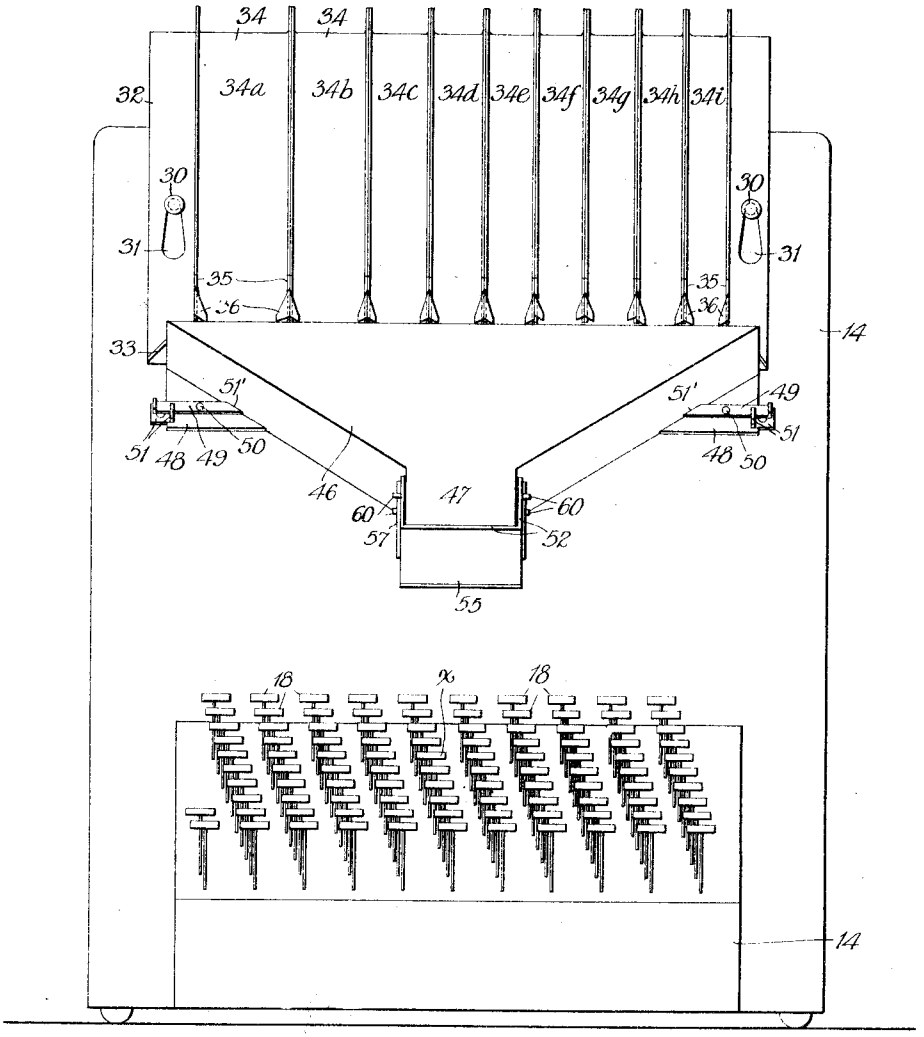
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6 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

*Fig. 3.*




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6 SHEETS—SHEET 4.

Fig. 4

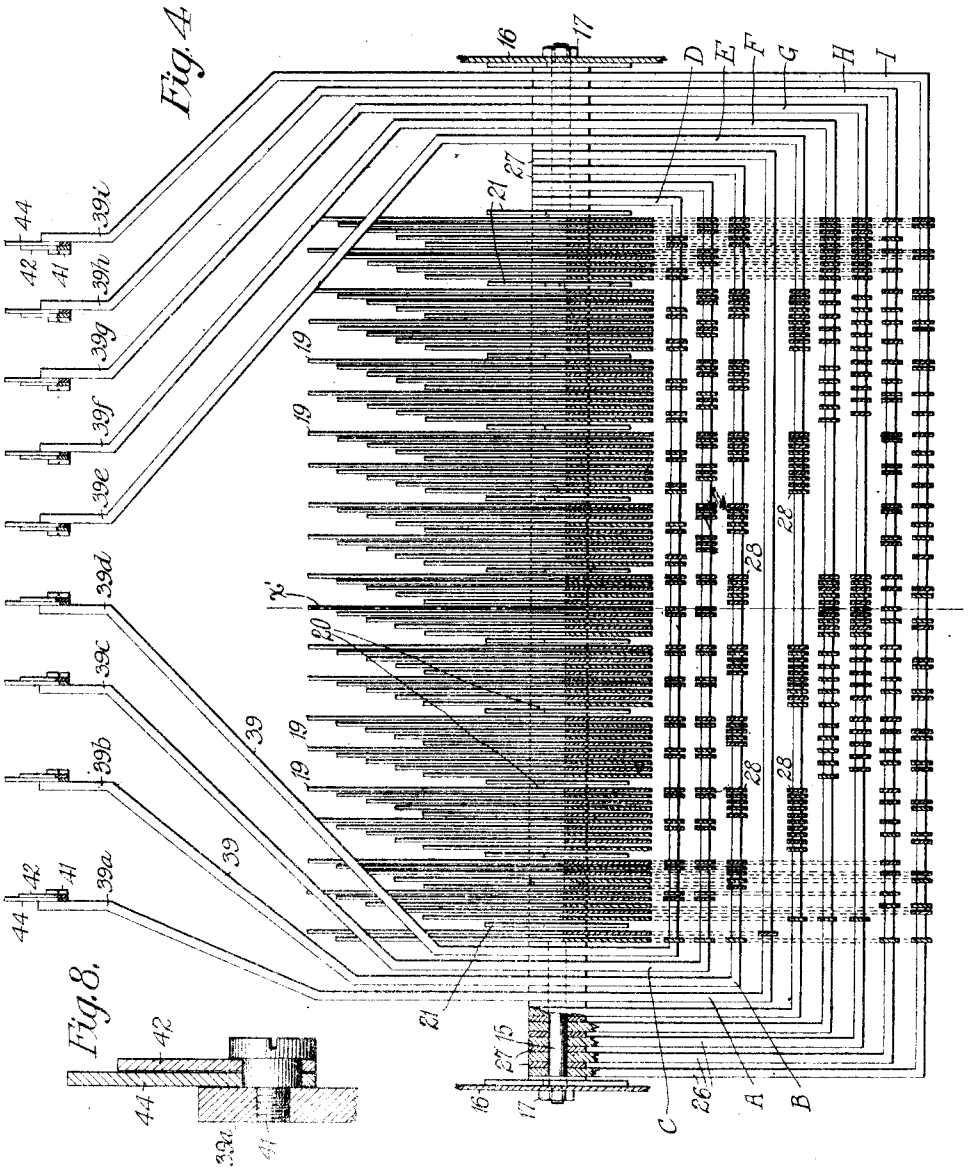



Fig. 8.




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6 SHEETS—SHEET 5.

*Fig. 9.*

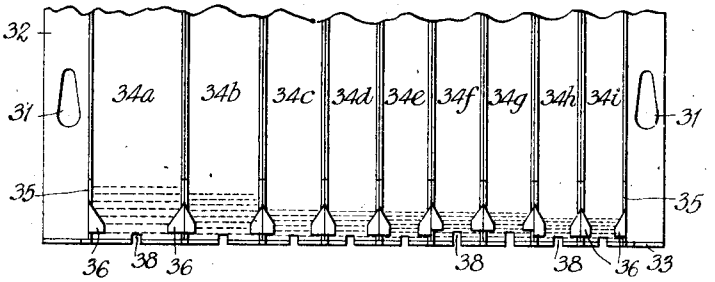
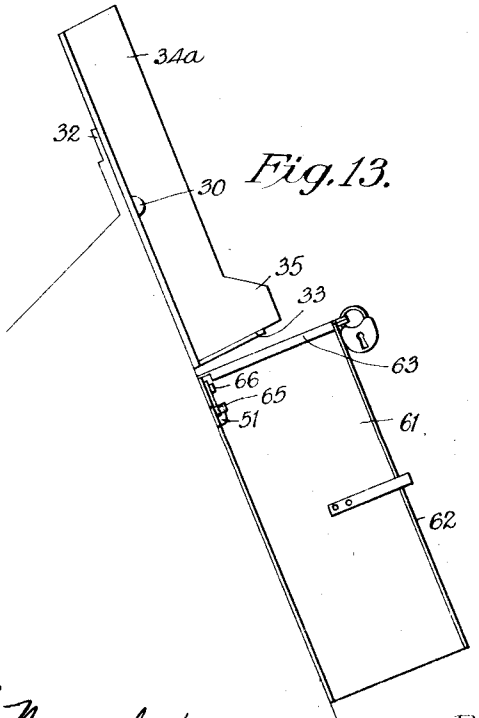



*Fig. 10.*




*Fig. 13.*




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6 SHEETS—SHEET 6.

*Fig. 11.*

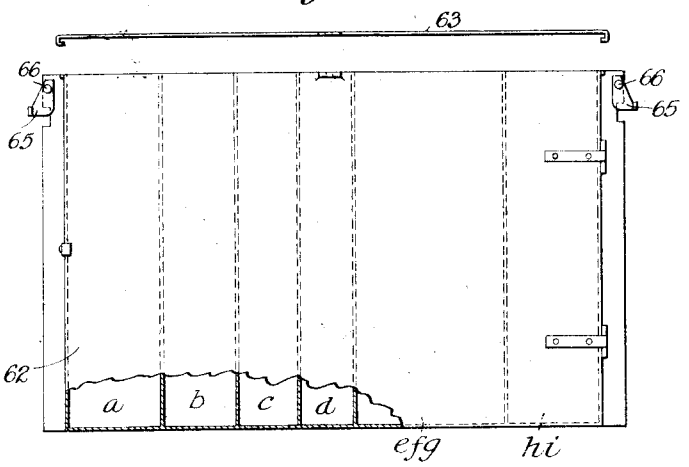
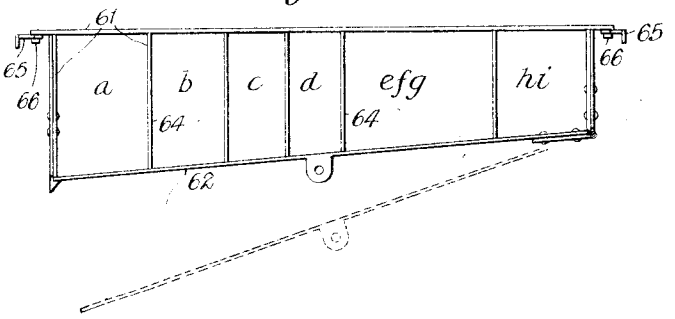



*Fig. 12.*




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN C. HOEFER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## COIN-DELIVERING MACHINE.

1,105,516. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 28, 1914.

Application filed May 26, 1911. Serial No. 629,593.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN C. HOEFER, 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 Coin-Delivering Machines, of which the following is a full, clear, concise, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

My invention relates to coin delivering machines, that is, devices of that class wherein selective ejecting mechanism is associated with a magazine for coins or other tokens. I am aware that in the prior art there are machines coming within the terms of this definition and have properly referred to my invention, therefore, as an improvement in the structure, and consequently in the operation, of such devices.

Simplicity of construction, reliability in operation, and convenience in use are the primary objects of my invention, and to these ends I provide novel structures and arrangements which are made the subject-matter of the appended claims.

The first-named object of my invention is attained by the employment of few, and so far as possible, standard or uniform parts. This is particularly desirable, since the various parts are conveniently formed by stamping operations, and when such a process is followed, the standardizing of the mechanical elements is economical.

The second-named object of my invention is secured by novel ejecting mechanism. This feature of my device involves improved means for engaging and thrusting the coins from the magazine and associated mechanism for locking the ejectors against operation should the magazine or any part thereof be emptied so that a selection could not be satisfied.

The last-mentioned object of my invention has to do with the general structural arrangement, first, so that all the parts desirably so will be plainly in evidence and so that one working upon the keyboard can take the ejected change in his hand quickly and conveniently. This general structural arrangement involves the direct association between the selector keys and the ejector mechanisms, this being particularly desirable in connection with reliability in operation. The keys are at the bottom of the machine, arranged to form a keyboard slightly inclined to horizontal, and the hopper into which the change from the magazine is deposited is directly above it. The keys are mounted to oscillate and, being of different lengths, means is provided to compensate for the difference in leverage so that substantially the same power will be required to operate all the keys.

As an auxiliary feature, my invention provides a lock box which can be quickly substituted for the hopper, below the magazine, and the magazine may be emptied into this box, to "clear" the machine, by actuating the keys. In this process of clearing the machine, the money can be counted by noting the depressions of the keys, and the box can then be locked and removed from the device to a vault or safe. Such an arrangement is desirable in banks and mercantile institutions where, at the close of business hours, the money is removed from the change-making machine to a vault for safe keeping.

I also provide means whereby the coin magazine is detachably secured to the change-making machine, and it is thus possible to remove the entire magazine itself to a safe or vault.

Other novel features of construction and arrangement will be explained as this description proceeds.

My invention is embodied in the device illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view thereof, part of the casing being broken away to reveal the interior construction; Fig. 2 is a side elevational view thereof, the casing being shown in section to reveal the inside mechanism; Fig. 3 is a front elevational view of the machine; Fig. 4 is a view of the operating mechanism, this view being taken approximately on the planes of the line 4—4 of Fig. 2 and looking in the direction indicated by the arrows; Fig. 5 is a sectional view of part of the magazine, showing the ejector mechanism, this view being drawn on a larger scale than the foregoing; Fig 6 is a special view of the hopper; Fig. 7 is a detail view showing a part of the hopper arrangement; Fig. 8 is a detail view of the ejector mechanism, drawn on an enlarged scale; Fig. 9 is a face view of the coin magazine; Fig. 10 is a sectional view at right angles to the plane of Fig. 9; Fig. 11 is a face view of the lock box; Fig.

12 is a plan view thereof; and Fig. 13 is a view showing the application of the lock box to the machine.

Like reference characters are applied to the same parts throughout the various figures.

The casing is shown at 14. It is generally fashioned into an L-shape and is conveniently constructed of sheet metal. That part thereof, which may conveniently be referred to as the horizontal portion, provides for the keyboard, while that part which may conveniently be termed the vertical portion provides the support for the coin magazine and the hopper.

It will be understood that my machine comprises essentially a set of keys, means for keeping the coins properly assorted, means for ejecting each kind of coin from the magazine, and a code arrangement whereby each key is associated with certain of the ejector mechanisms. Thus, the magazine which I provide comprises a series of channels which, respectively, correspond in diameter to the diameters of the coins of the different denominations. The coins are to be arranged in stacks or piles, and one channel, for instance, is adapted for the reception of a stack of silver dollars, another for the reception of silver half dollars, etc. An ejector is associated with each channel and each ejector is carried by a swinging frame which is adapted to be engaged by certain keys of the keyboard. It will be understood that certain keys are adapted to engage more than one swinging frame at a time and this will be clear when it is considered that the machine is capable of making any selection of change.

I shall first describe the keyboard mechanism and the associated swinging frames, and shall then proceed to a description of the ejector mechanism and the hopper.

A pivot rod 15 extends between the sides 16, 16 of the casing and is held in place by means of nuts 17, 17 threaded upon the reduced ends of the pivot rod, the side pieces of the casing being thus clamped between the nuts and the resulting shoulders. The selector keys are illustrated at 18, 18 and are arranged in rows, both ways, as illustrated in Fig. 1. The keys are staggered from front to back so that the selector bars 19, 19, from which they extend, may be disposed side by side, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 4, and may, in that way, be pivotally mounted upon the rod 15, suitable washers 20, 20 intervening so as to secure the proper spacing. At suitable intervals the pivot rod 15 is provided with the supplementary supports 21, 21 which are mounted upon the base of the casing in any suitable manner. The selector bars 19, 19 are bunched together toward the center of the pivot rod 15 and, as best illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, these bars are of different lengths so that the keys which extend from the ends of them, and through alining openings in the top of the horizontal part of the casing, may be properly distributed upon the keyboard, as shown in Fig. 1. As shown in Fig. 2, the keys are upon the forward ends of the selector bars, and it will be noted that the rear arms of the selector bars are also made of varying lengths. This construction has two purposes. Each of the selector bars is provided at its rear end with one end of a coiled spring 22 the other end of which is connected with a screw 23 extending upwardly through and threaded in an opening in a plate 24 suitably mounted in the casing. The screws 23, 23 are held in any adjusted position by means of the nuts 24, 24 and the heads of these screws are accessible through an opening 25 in the bottom of the casing. The varying lengths of the rear arms of the selector bars 19 provide for the disposition of the springs 22, 22 which, as shown in Fig. 1, are thus staggered so as not to interfere with one another. Furthermore, the selector bars having the shortest forward arms have the shortest rear arms, while those having longer forward arms have longer rear arms, etc., so that the load arms will more nearly balance the power arms and will tend to make the pressure required to operate the keys quite the same in all cases. The remaining variations are made up by the adjustment of the screws 23, 23, to change the tension of the associated springs 22, 22, so that the "touch" of the machine may be uniform. The keys are tapered so as to normally plug the slots.

Embracing the selector bars 19, 19, quite in the way of a yoke, and pivotally mounted upon the transverse rod 15, are the U-shaped frames 26 which, in the main, extend downwardly and transversely of the selector bars, while one end of each of them extends upwardly toward the rear of the magazine, as will be described. The frames 26, 26 are separated from each other, on the rod 15, by means of washers 27, 27. The arrangement described is such that all the selector bars and U-shaped frames are easily movable upon the pivot rod, and the selector bars are directly mechanically associated with the oscillating U-shaped frames, in different combinations, as will be pointed out, by means of projections 28, 28, extending from lugs 29, 29 on the selector bars. The projections 28, 28 constitute the code and they are disposed in alinement with the transverse parts of the U-shaped oscillating frames, as illustrated in Fig. 4. The number and position of the projections 28, 28 on each selector bar correspond with the amount indicated upon the associated key, as will be pointed out more fully later, and the depression of that key results in the selection and actuation of

these certain U-shaped frames to operate the corresponding ejector mechanisms associated with the magazine.

The vertical front of the casing 14 is inclined slightly away from vertical and near the top thereof it is provided with two buttons 30, 30 which coöperate with slots 31, 31 in the back piece 32 of the magazine so as to support it. This arrangement provides for the ready removal of the magazine as a whole. At the bottom of the back piece 32 a shelf 33 is provided so as to form the bottom of the magazine, the angle between this shelf and the back piece being slightly acute for a purpose which will be pointed out presently.

The coin holding means is in the form of a plurality of channel pieces 34, 34, of U-shaped cross-section, which rest upon the shelf 33 and are secured to the back piece 32, these channel pieces being disposed closely side by side as illustrated in Figs. 1, 3, 9 and 10. The channels 34, 34 are of varying sizes so as to properly accommodate coins of different denominations. It will of course be evident that a machine may be made for any set of coins or tokens and that my invention is not limited to any particular application in this respect, but for convenience in description I shall refer to its employment with the usual United States coins. Thus, the channel $34^a$ is adapted to receive silver dollars, a stack of which will fit snugly therein. The channel $34^b$ will accommodate silver half dollars. The channel $34^c$ will accommodate silver quarters. The channel $34^d$ is adapted to accommodate nickels. Channels $34^e$, $34^f$ and $34^g$ are all adapted to receive pennies and channels $34^h$ and $34^i$ are adapted to receive dimes. In accordance with this system of applying reference characters, the U-shaped frames have been provided with corresponding capital letters so as to facilitate distinction between them.

The shelf 33, as best shown in Figs. 1 and 10, is scalloped to correspond with the channel pieces 34, 34, being cut out in this way so that the ejector mechanism will not require too much movement in order to thrust the coins from the magazine, as will be clear presently. On the other hand, the remaining part of the shelf is sufficient to support the stacks of coins which are placed in the magazine as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 9. At the front of each of the channel pieces, and near the bottom thereof, a forward extension 35 is provided on each side, each of these extensions having an inwardly turned lip 36 the end of which just engages the stack of coins. Thus, as illustrated in Fig. 10, the few lowermost coins, except the bottom one, are positively held against thrusting movement, these lips being just high enough above the shelf 33 to permit the passage of one coin. I note here immediately that in the case of two of the penny channels the lips are disposed high enough above the shelf to permit the expulsion of two coins at a time, this corresponding with the associated ejector mechanisms as will be pointed out, and being necessary in order that any selection of change might be had. As before indicated, the ejector mechanism affects the lowermost coin or coins and the columns therefore move downwardly in the channels as the coins are delivered. Since the front of the casing, upon which the magazine is mounted, is disposed obliquely, the coins will rest somewhat against the back of the magazine and will thus be kept in perfect alinement. Since the angle between the shelf 33 and the back of the magazine is less than a right angle, the coins will engage the back of the magazine only at their edges, thus reducing the friction and keeping the coins properly disposed upon one another.

The shelf 33 is provided with a plurality of transverse slots 37, 37 each in an approximately central position in one of the channels, as before shown in Figs. 1, 9 and 10. In alinement with each of these slots 37, 37 is a slot 38 through the back piece 32 and through the front of the casing 14, these slots extending upwardly above the shelf 33 a distance not greater than the thickness of one coin, in all cases except in that of two of the penny channels, where these slots extend upwardly a greater distance but not more than the thickness of two coins.

Each of the U-shaped bars 26, as before pointed out, is provided with an upward extension, on one side in some cases and on the other side in other cases, and these extensions are bent into various positions so that the ends thereof will come into respective positions near the slots described in the preceding paragraph, the channels, the slots and the U-shaped bars, being equal in number. These upward extensions are illustrated at 39, 39 and it will be noted that their upward ends are disposed in respective relation to the various slots. Following the system of distinctive reference characters, which has been used herein, I have supplied the extensions 39 with letters corresponding to the letters used to individualize the channels of the coin magazine.

The ejector mechanism is shown best in Figs. 2 and 5. At the top of each of the extensions 39, an ejector piece 40 is mounted upon a pivot pin 41, this ejector piece extending forwardly into the corresponding slot 38, as illustrated in Fig. 2. This ejector piece extends rearwardly beyond the pivot and is enlarged, as illustrated at 42, to form a weight which operates to overbalance the ejector and to hold it in a raised position at the top of the slot. It will thus be seen that

when one of the U-shaped bars is rotated in a clockwise direction (Fig. 2) the ejector 40 will engage the lowermost coin of the corresponding stack in the magazine and will move it forwardly, under the lips 36, 36, until it is no longer supported by the shelf 33. The coin then drops into the hopper below, the construction of this hopper being described in detail hereafter. As before pointed out, the lips 36, 36 prevent the removal of more than one coin at a time, except in the case of two of the penny channels, where they prevent the removal of more than two coins at a time.

It will appear that if the contents of one or more of the channels should become exhausted, and if a key, requiring a selection from said channel or channels, were depressed, an erroneous delivery would result if provision were not made against it. I provide an automatic lock which comes into play when the last coin in any channel has been disposed of. This lock, as shown in Fig. 2, is in the form of a lever arm 43 which is mounted upon the pivot pin 41 independently of the ejector piece and which, normally, extends through the slots 37 and 38 so that the stack of coins may rest upon it. The arm 43 extends rearwardly beyond the pivot where it is formed into an enlargement 44, this enlargement acting as a weight for overbalancing the arm so that the forward end of the latter will always be pressed up against the under side of the stack of coins. The arm 43 is provided with a notch 45 on the upper side thereof in line with the front of the casing 14 and the directly associated back piece 32 of the coin magazine. Normally, however, this notch is out of engagement with the parts referred to since the stack of coins rests upon the outer end of the arm to force it downwardly, as illustrated in Fig. 2. The stack of coins normally overcomes the counterweight 44, even though but one coin be in the channel, the parts being made sensitive for this purpose. I build the counterweight 44 closely about the pivot 41 so that the action of the arm 43 will be sensitive. In the case of two of the penny channels, the counterweight is made of such size that two pennies will overbalance it while it will overbalance one penny. Thus, if any one of the channels should be empty, the arm 43 will rise and the notch 45 will engage with the casing wall and the back piece of the magazine. If a key, having a projection 28 engaging a U-bar carrying this particular locking bar, is depressed, actuation will be prevented and the operator will know that one or more of the channels have become depleted. Even though one or more of the ejectors be locked against actuation, keys involving selections from the other channels could be depressed without interference. Fig. 8 illustrates the manner in which the ejector piece 40 and the locking bar 43 are mounted independently and pivotally upon the end of each of the U-bars.

The hopper 46 is mounted upon the front of the casing below the magazine so that the coins delivered from the latter may drop into it. This hopper is of sufficient width to extend under the aggregate length of the channels and tapers downwardly to a restricted neck 47 with vertical sides for a purpose which will be pointed out presently. The back of the hopper is supplemented by an ear 48 on each side thereof and a small catch lever 49 is pivoted at 50 to this ear. Riveted to the front wall of the casing, in proper position as illustrated in Fig. 3, are the catch hooks 51, 51 between which the hopper is disposed and into which the catch levers 49, 49 engage. The engagement of the other end of the catch lever with the oblique under side of the hopper, as illustrated at 51′, provides for the positive support of the hopper and the pivotal mounting of the catch lever provides for the convenient removal of the hopper from the machine as an entirety. The desirability of such an arrangement has already been pointed out but I shall refer to it briefly again. The bottom of the hopper 46 is closed by a U-shaped cap 52 which is hinged to the back of the hopper by means of a spring hinge 53, as illustrated in Fig. 7, the bottom of the U-shaped piece extending through an opening 54 in the front wall of the casing 14. The spring hinge tends to close the hopper, that is, tends to hold the U-shaped piece up against the bottom as illustrated in Fig. 2. A finger piece 55 is carried on the under side of the cap 52 by means of a spring hinge 56. The finger piece 55 is provided with an upward extension 57 on each side of the cap, this extension having a hook 58 adapted to catch on a pin 59 on the hopper, when the cap is in its closing position, as illustrated in Fig. 2. Pins 60, 60 on the sides of the U-shaped cap limit the movement of the extension 57, it being understood that the spring tends to hold the finger piece and the projections in such position that the hooks will catch onto the pins 59. The tops of the projections are preferably chamfered as shown so that the hooks may automatically restore themselves to the closing position. This arrangement is provided since the weight of the money might otherwise overcome the tension of the spring hinge 53 and would drop from the hopper when the operator was not ready to receive it. In this way the positive actuation of the finger piece is required to open the hopper so that the money may be taken therefrom.

In Figs. 11, 12 and 13 I have shown the portable lock box to which I have referred, the last named figure showing its application to the front of the machine, below the

magazine, in substitution of the hopper. This box, indicated broadly by the reference character 61, is provided with the front door 62 and with the top cover 63. Internally, it is provided with partitions 64, 64 which are disposed to correspond with the channels of the coin magazine. The back of this lock box is provided with catches 65, 65 pivoted thereto at 66, 66, these catches being adapted to coöperate with the supporting hooks 51, 51, which have been described, in an obvious manner. When the hopper has been removed and the lock box has been substituted therefor, in the manner shown in Fig. 13, the front door 62 is closed and the top cover 63 is removed so that the compartment *a* will be below the dollar channel, the compartment *b* will be below the half-dollar channel, the compartment *c* will be below the quarter channel, the compartment *d* will be below the nickel channel, the compartment *e*, *f*, *g* will be below the penny channels, and the compartment *h*, *i* will be below the dime channels. The keys 18, 18 may then be operated to feed the coins from the magazine to the lock box and the depressions may be noted and aggregated so that the money may be counted in this way. As before explained, if one or more of the channels should become exhausted before the others, and a call can not be satisfied, the depression can not be made and a different selecting key is chosen. When the magazine is empty the box may be locked in any suitable manner and removed to a vault for safe keeping. When the magazine is to be filled again the coins are removed from the box and are placed in the respective channels, the hopper is replaced and the machine is ready for operation.

The operation of the code mechanism will now be given brief description, reference being made to but one of the selecting keys. It will be understood that the other selecting keys operate broadly in the same manner: Suppose that it were desired to select forty-four cents in change. The key having the numeral "44" thereon would be depressed. This key is indicated at *x* and the selector bar with which it is associated is indicated at *x'*. In Fig. 4 the dot-and-dash line passing through this selector bar *x'* also passes through the projections carried thereby and it will be noted that there are projections in alinement with the U-bars D, E, F, G, and H. A depression of this key therefore results in the swinging of these U-bars into the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2, and the actuation of the corresponding ejectors which are associated respectively with the nickel and the quarter channels, both two cent channels, and one of the dime channels. This aggregates forty-four cents. The other combinations are provided for by the arrangement of the code projections, as illustrated in Fig. 4.

It will be noted that in the actuation of the U-bars F and G two cents is delivered at a time in each case and the various parts are constructed and arranged for this purpose, as has been described. A one cent channel has also been provided and two ten cent channels are provided so that all combinations may be had. When a silver dollar is required the key bearing the inscription "$" is depressed and when a dollar's worth of change is required the key bearing the inscription "100" is depressed. When the key bearing the inscription "5P" is depressed the U-bars E, F and G are actuated and five pennies are delivered to the hopper.

I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. In a coin delivering machine, a magazine comprising a channel adapted to receive a stack of coins, actuating mechanism, a pivoted ejector connected with said mechanism and arranged to extend into said channel, and a locking member having a movement in accordance with the movement of the ejector and independently connected with said actuating mechanism and arranged to be engaged by coins in said channel to hold it in its free position.

2. In a coin delivering machine, a magazine comprising a channel adapted to receive a stack of coins, a swinging member, an ejector pivoted to the upper end of said member and arranged to extend through a slot into said channel to engage the coins, means tending to hold said ejector at the upper end of said slot, a locking member independently pivoted to said swinging member, and means tending to hold said locking member in arresting engagement with a stationary part, said locking member being arranged to be engaged by coins in said channel to be held out of such arresting engagement.

3. In a coin delivering machine, a magazine comprising a channel adapted to receive a stack of coins, a swinging member, an ejector pivoted to the upper end of said member and arranged to extend through a slot into said channel to engage the coins, means tending to hold said ejector at the upper end of said slot, a locking member independently pivoted to said swinging member, and a weight hung to swing closely about said pivot to counterbalance said locking member to hold it in arresting engagement with a stationary part, said locking member being arranged to be engaged by coins in said channel to be held out of such arresting engagement.

4. In a coin delivering machine, a magazine, ejector mechanism associated therewith, oscillating operating selecting key bars mechanically connected with said ejector

mechanism, said key bars being of different lengths, and adjustable resilient means for holding said key bars in their normal positions and arranged so that the power required to operate each key will be approximately the same.

5. In a coin delivering machine, a coin magazine, ejector mechanism associated therewith, and a plurality of keys for operating said ejector mechanism, said keys being of different lengths and being so arranged that those involving the delivery of the greatest amount of coin are the longest, and adjustable resilient devices for maintaining said keys in their normal positions and arranged so that the power required to operate each key will be approximately the same.

6. In a coin delivering machine, a casing having a slightly inclined front face, a pair of buttons on said face, and a removable coin magazine having a back having elongated openings smaller at one end than at the other for engaging with said buttons.

7. In a coin delivering machine, a casing carrying a magazine, ejector mechanism associated with said magazine, and a hopper mounted upon said casing below said magazine, ears extending from said casing, levers pivoted to said hopper and adapted to engage said ears, thereby removably securing said hopper to said casing.

8. In a coin delivering machine, a magazine, comprising a channel adapted to receive a stack of coins, a swinging member, an ejector pivoted to the upper end of said member and arranged to extend through a slot into said channels, means tending to hold said ejector at the upper end of said slot, a locking device pivoted to said swinging member adjacent to said ejector but independent thereof, and means tending to hold said locking device in arresting engagement with a stationary part, said locking device being arranged to be engaged by coins in said channel to be held out of such arresting engagement.

9. In a coin delivering machine, a magazine comprising a channel adapted to receive a stack of coins, a swinging member, an ejector pivoted to the upper end of said member and arranged to extend through a slot into said channel to engage the coins, means tending to hold said ejector at the upper end of said slot, a locking device pivoted to said swinging member adjacent to said ejector but independent thereof, and means tending to hold said locking device in arresting engagement with a stationary part, said locking device being controlled by the coins in said arrangement.

10. In a coin delivering machine, a magazine, comprising a channel adapted to receive a stack of coins, actuating mechanism, an ejector pivoted to said mechanism and arranged to extend into said channel, and a locking device pivoted to said actuating mechanism adjacent to said ejector but independent thereof, said locking device being arranged to be engaged by the coins in said channel to hold it in its free position.

11. In a coin delivering machine, a magazine comprising a channel adapted to receive a stack of coins, actuating mechanism, an ejector pivoted to said actuating mechanism and arranged to extend into said channel, and a locking device pivoted to said actuating mechanism adjacent to said ejector but independent thereof, said locking device being arranged to be held in an unlocked position by the proper number of coins in said channel.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 20th day of May, A. D., 1911.

BENJAMIN C. HOEFER.

Witnesses:

ARTHUR H. BOETTCHER,
ALBERT G. MCCALEB.