No. 762,162. PATENTED JUNE 7, 1904.

E. D. FRITCH.

TICKET CASE.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 18, 1902.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

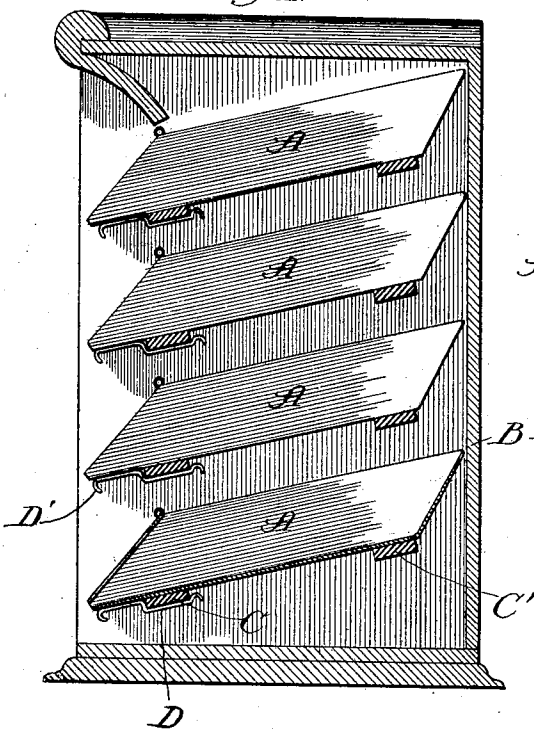



Fig. 2.

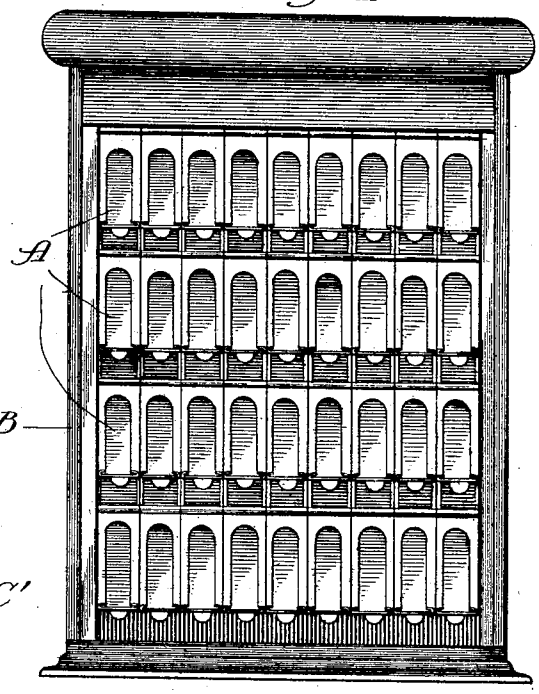
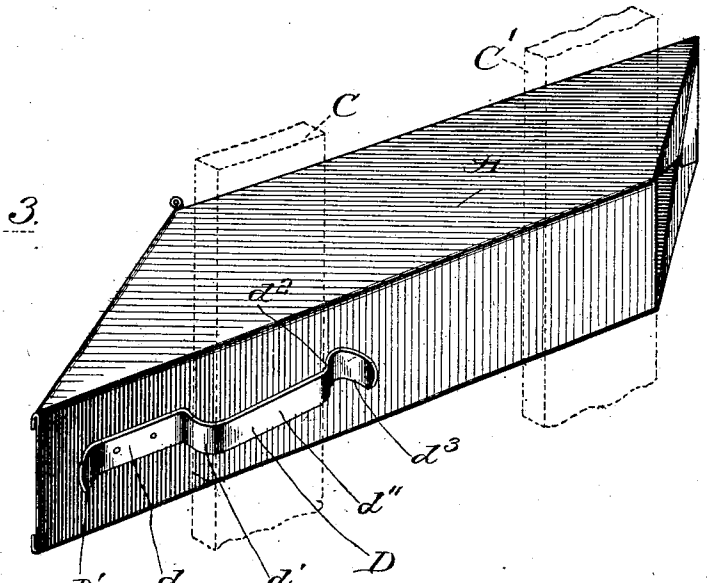



Fig. 3.

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No. 762,162. Patented June 7, 1904.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDMUND D. FRITCH, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO RAND, McNALLY & CO., OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, A CORPORATION.

## TICKET-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 762,162, dated June 7, 1904.

Application filed July 18, 1902. Serial No. 116,064. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDMUND D. FRITCH, 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 Ticket-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to that class of ticket-cases in which the tickets are contained in inclined tubes which are arranged in a suitable case and so supported therein that the tubes are independently removable from the case for the purpose of filling them. The tubes are usually supported by slats or bars, and each tube is provided on its under side with a device for engaging the slat nearest the front of the case and preventing the tube from slipping out. In the act of withdrawing the tickets (unless considerable care is exercised) the hand is apt to strike against the under side of the tube and lift it, and in actual practice this frequently happens when certain classes of holding devices are used, and the tube falls out of place.

The object of the present invention is to provide a tube-holding device of simple construction which will prevent this accidental dislodgment of the tube.

I am aware that it is old to provide a tube on its under side with a hook presented forward and adapted to engage the rear edge of the front slat. In order to allow the hook to engage the slat, the tube must be moved inward toward the back of the case until the front end of the hook passes the rear edge of the slat and then moved forward. This necessitates making the case deeper from front to back than would be necessary if the hook could engage the slat without the described backward-and-forward movement. Furthermore, it necessitates the use of a spring between the back of the case and the rear end of the tube for holding the hook in engagement with the slat, and even this spring does not prevent the accidental dislodgment of the tube, because the force which tends to dislodge it always falls precisely in the direction necessary to disengage the hook. To obviate all these objections, I secure to the tube a spring-tongue which has its free end presented rearward and is adapted to be slipped over the slat by a rearward movement, said tongue being provided with shoulders adapted to engage the front and rear sides of the slat, so as to prevent accidental movement in either direction. The end of the tongue is bent outward from the tube to provide an inclined surface adapted to engage the front side of the slat and deflect the spring outward as the tube is being forced rearward, thereby making its engagement entirely automatic. The simple act of forcing it rearward brings it to locked position, and no amount of inward or upward pressure against its outer end can possibly dislodge it.

I prefer to use a plate-spring of considerable strength, and as it will hold with considerable force I provide the tube with a downwardly-presented lip for engagement by the finger for facilitating the removal of the tube. This lip is preferably integral with the clamp.

In the accompanying drawings, which are made a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a section of a ticket-case embodying the invention, the section being taken in different vertical planes extending from front to back, line 1 1, Fig. 2, so as to show some of the tubes in elevation and some in section. Fig. 2 is a front elevation thereof. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the tubes.

A represents the ticket-tube, which, so far as the present invention is concerned, may be of any desired construction.

B is the casing, which also may be of any desired construction, and C C′ are the tube-supporting slats or bars, which may be of any desired cross-sectional shape.

To each of the tubes (to the under side, as shown in the drawings) is secured a spring-tongue D, adapted to engage the slat and hold the tube in place. This tongue is preferably made of rather stout plate-spring steel and comprises a part $d$, which is secured to the tube, (say by solder,) a part $d'$, extending outward from the tube and forming a shoulder, a part $d''$, which extends lengthwise of the tube, a part $d^2$, which forms a shoulder op-

posed to the shoulder $d'$, and a part $d^3$, which extends outward from the tube obliquely. The drawings clearly illustrate the functions and purposes of these several parts. As the tube is being put in place the oblique part $d^3$ will come in contact with the front edge of the slat C and cause the tongue to be deflected outward and automatically admit the slat between it and the tube. As the inward movement of the tube proceeds the shoulder $d^2$ will pass the rear edge of the slat C, and the elasticity of the tongue will cause it to move toward the tube and bring said shoulder $d^2$ into engagement with the rear edge of the slat C. The shoulder $d'$ will then be in engagement with the front edge of the slat, so that the tube is absolutely prevented from moving inward any farther, no matter how much pressure is exerted upon it; but even without contact between the shoulder $d'$ and the slat the further inward movement will be prevented by the contact of the rear end of the tube with the back of the case.

In any event the disengagement of the spring-tongue and slat requires an outward movement of the tube, so that in no event can inward or upward pressure on the end of the tube dislodge it.

As the spring-tongue is of considerable strength, for convenience in removing the tube I provide it with a lip D', projecting downward and suitably curved for engagement by the finger. This lip is preferably integral with the spring-tongue.

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

1. As a new article of manufacture a ticket-tube, and a spring-tongue secured thereto and presented rearward, said tongue having a shoulder presented forward and adapted to engage a suitable support, substantially as described.

2. As a new article of manufacture a ticket-tube, and a spring-tongue secured thereto and presented rearward, said tongue having a shoulder presented forward and adapted to engage the rear side of a suitable support, and having between said shoulder and its extremity an oblique portion adapted to engage the front side of said support and deflect the tongue outward, substantially as described.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a ticket-tube and a spring-tongue secured thereto and presented rearward, said tongue having a shoulder presented forward and adapted to engage the rear side of a suitable support and a shoulder presented rearward and adapted to engage the front side of said support, substantially as described.

4. As a new article of manufacture, a ticket-tube, and a spring-tongue secured thereto and presented rearward, said tongue having a shoulder presented forward and adapted to engage the rear side of a suitable support, and a lip projecting from the tube and adapted to be engaged by the finger, for withdrawing the tube, substantially as described.

5. As a new article of manufacture, a ticket-tube and a spring-tongue comprising the part $d$ secured to the tube, the part $d'$ extending outward from the tube and forming a shoulder presented rearward, the part $d''$ extending lengthwise of the tube, the part $d^2$ which forms a shoulder presented forward, and the part $d^3$ which extends outward, obliquely, substantially as described.

EDMUND D. FRITCH.

Witnesses:
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