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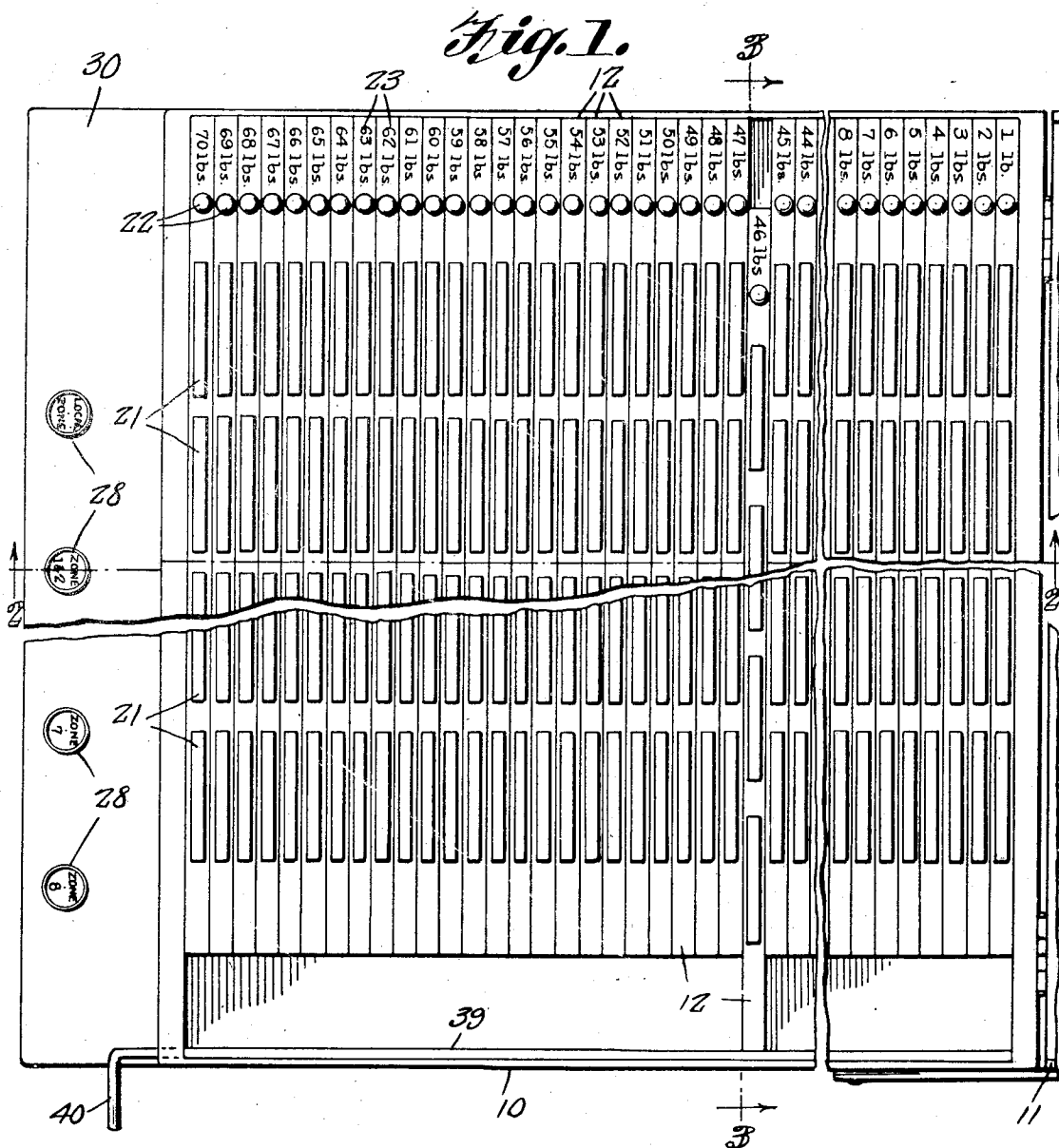
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2,148,409

CARD SELECTING, SEPARATING, AND PRESENTING DEVICE

Filed July 22, 1938

3 Sheets-Sheet 1



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Fig. 2.

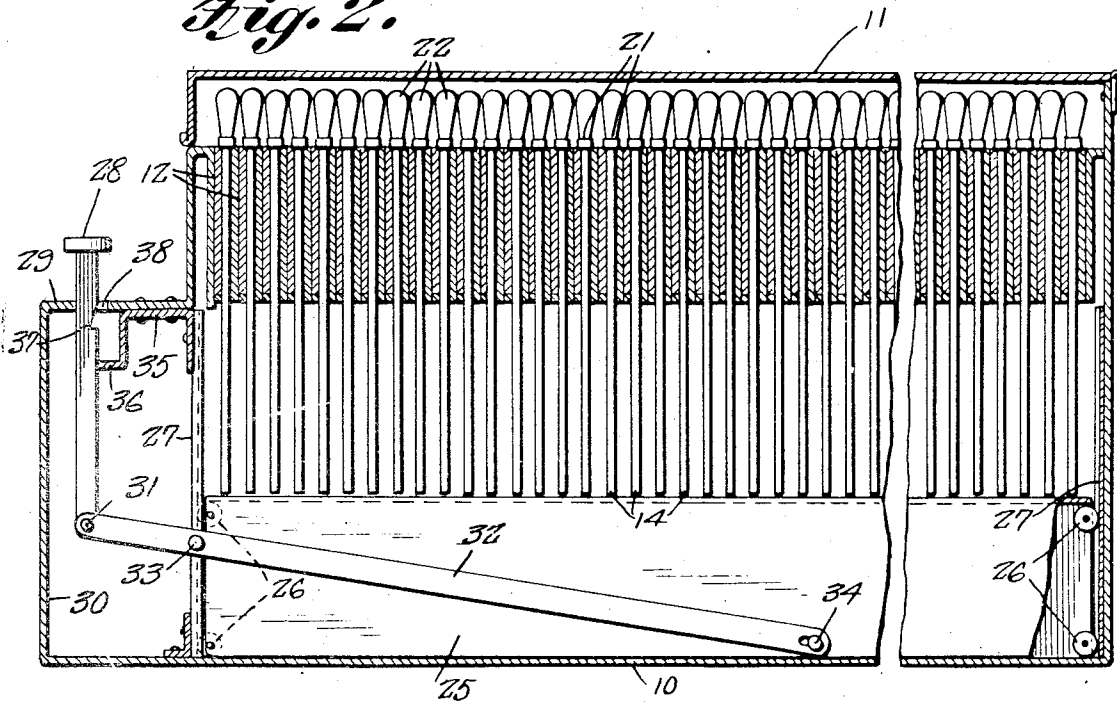
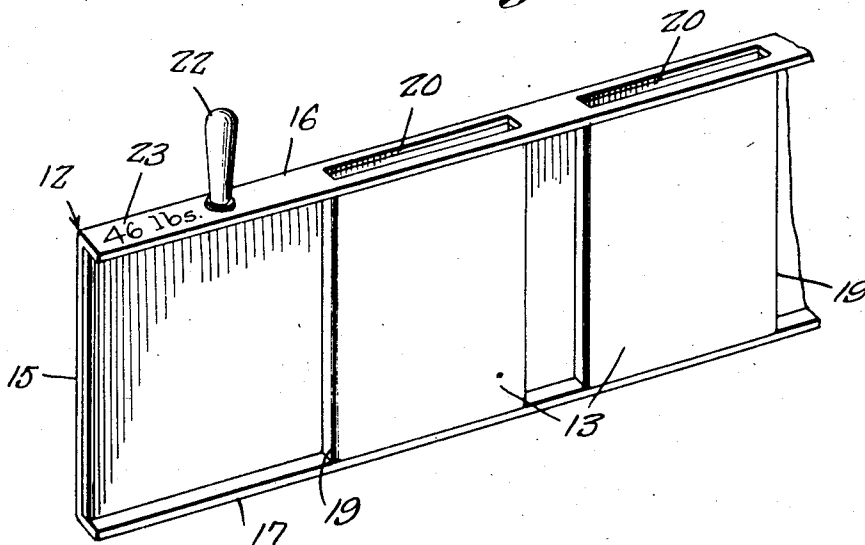


Fig. 5.



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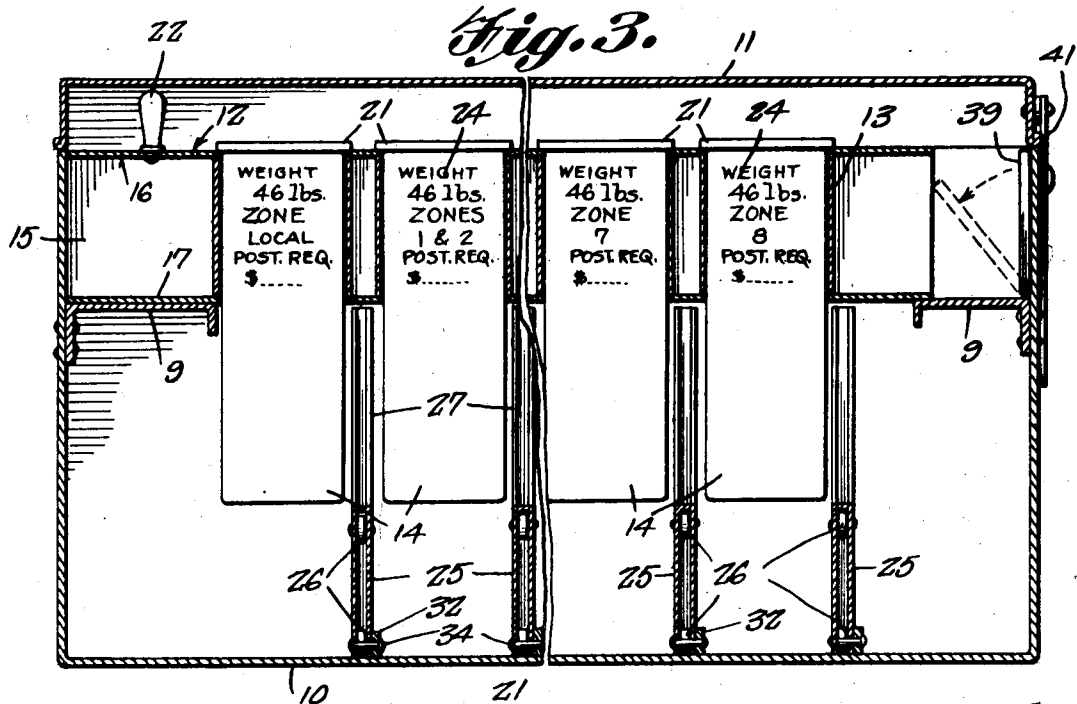
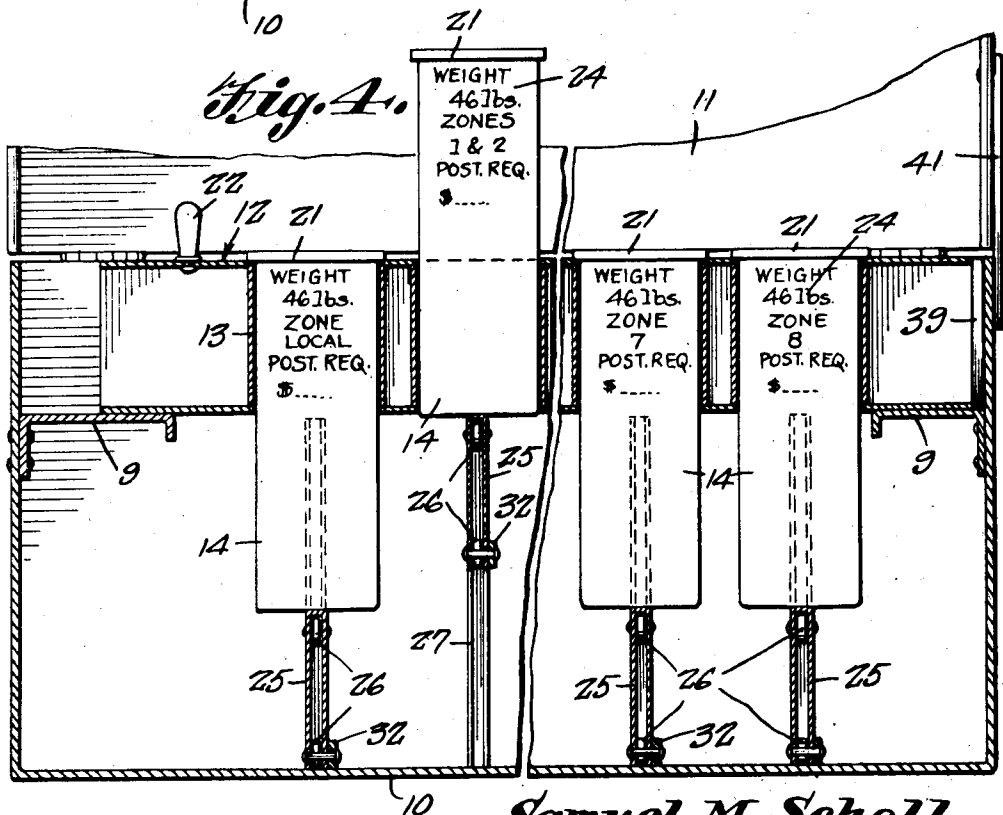
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CARD SELECTING, SEPARATING, AND PRESENTING DEVICE

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3 Sheets-Sheet 3



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CARD SELECTING, SEPARATING, AND PRESENTING DEVICE

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4 Claims. (Cl. 40—65)

This invention relates to a card selecting, separating and presenting device adapted for use in connection with all card systems where rapid inspection of a desired card is advantageous.

5 An object of the present invention is to provide a simplified compact filing cabinet having manually operable apparatus whereby it is simply necessary to press one button to position a predetermined card to be lifted above the other cards
10 and subsequently to press a second button to operate the card lifting apparatus so that inspection of a selected card may be had in minimum time and with minimum manual labor.

A further object is to provide a device of this character which will be formed of a few simple parts which will be inexpensive to manufacture, and which will not easily get out of order.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists of certain novel details of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed, it being understood that various modifications may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of
25 the advantages of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification,

Figure 1 is a plan view, with portions broken away, and with the cover open, of a card selecting, separating, and presenting device constructed in accordance with the invention and showing one of the card holders shifted laterally to card lifting position.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view, with portions broken away, taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a cross sectional view of the device taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1 with the card holders in normal position.

40 Figure 4 is a cross sectional view similar to Figure 3 but showing one of the card holders moved laterally to card lifting position and showing a predetermined card lifted above the remaining cards for inspection.

45 Figure 5 is a detail perspective view of one of the card holders for holding a row of the cards.

The device will be described in connection with the filing of cards bearing parcel post information since the two operations of the device may be illustrated by describing respective card holders for various pounds of weight of packages from one to seventy, and each holder being equipped with cards corresponding to respective
55 zones from one to eight, the problem being, by

one operation of the device, to move a holder designating a 45 pound package for example, into position to have one of its cards subsequently lifted, and through the second operation of the device to lift a card of that holder, in a
5 desired zone, for example zones 1 and 2, above the remaining cards, such selected and lifted card displaying the exact amount of postage necessary to transport the 46 pound package to zones 1 and 2 from the sender's post office. This
10 is merely illustrative of one type of card system to which the device may be applied.

Referring now to the drawings in which like characters of reference designate similar parts in the various views, 10 designates a housing or cabinet having a hinged cover 11. A plurality of card holders 12 of less length than the width of the cabinet are slidably supported at the ends upon shelves 9 which project from the end walls of the cabinet near the top, as shown in Fig-
20 ures 3 and 4.

As best shown in Figure 5 each card holder 12 is provided with a plurality of receptacles 13, open at the top and at the bottom, and adapted to hold a plurality of cards 14, one of which is
25 shown elevated in Figure 4, in spaced side by side relation. Each card holder may be formed of a metal plate 15 having a flange 16 at the top and a flange 17 at the bottom. A metal plate 18 is confined on the metal plate 15 between the
30 flanges of the latter and is provided with offset portions 19 which register with slots 20 in the top and in the bottom flanges adapted to receive the cards. Each card is provided with a flange
35 21 at the top adapted to abut the flange 16 of the holder and limit gravitating movement of the card.

In the present embodiment of the invention the card holders are provided with respective upstanding handles 22 by means of which the
40 holders may be selectively slid laterally in the casing to dispose the selected holder over a respective card elevating member as will be presently described. Each holder displays on the top flange a respective legend indicated at 23 in
45 Figure 1, these legends indicating parcel post weights from one pound to seventy pounds consecutively.

Each card holder as previously stated supports a plurality of cards corresponding to parcel post
50 zones and the card of a particular zone displays a legend, indicated at 24 in Figure 4, indicating the weight of a package, and the postage cost for transporting that package from the sender's station to that particular zone, for example. Located
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in the casing below the cards and directly beneath the spaces between the card receptacles 19 are card elevating members 25, one of which is shown in side elevation in Figure 2. The elevating members are each formed of a rectangular plate which is supported at each corner and guided in its up and down movement through the medium of suitably mounted rollers 26, which travel in channel iron guides 27 secured to the inner surfaces of the side walls of the cabinet, as best shown in Figure 3.

The elevating members are actuated by depressible keys 28, one of which is shown in Figure 2, the stem of the key being slidably mounted in a slot in the top wall 29 of a casing 30, which is secured to the front wall of the cabinet 10. The lower end of the key is pivotally connected as shown at 31 to a lever 32 which is pivoted in a support in the front wall of the casing as shown at 33 and which is pivotally connected at the ends to a respective elevating member 25 through the medium of a pivot pin 34.

Means are provided for holding any one of the keys in depressed position, the same comprising an inverted U-shaped bracket 35 which is secured to the cabinet and to the housing. The bracket is provided with a forwardly extending flange 36 which is adapted to engage in a notch 37 in the key stem when the key is depressed and swung forwardly in its slot 38 toward the cabinet and hold the key depressed. However, the keys will return to raised or normal position due to the weight of the elevating members after each actuation, after manual operation to disengage the notch 37 from the flange 36.

When any holder is shifted laterally so that the cards contained therein overlie the elevating members, any desired card may be elevated to visible position above the remaining cards by depressing the key connected to the elevating member which in the shifted position of the holder underlies that particular card.

For example, if it is desired to ascertain the postage required to send a parcel post package weighing 46 pounds to zones 1 and 2 the card holder displaying the legend 46 pounds as shown in Figure 1, is shifted laterally to overlie the elevating members. The key 28 corresponding to zones 1 and 2 is then depressed to raise the respective elevating member 25 of zones 1 and 2 and lift or present the zone card 14 of the shifted 46 pound card holder to present its information above the remaining cards as shown in Figure 4 so that the required amount of postage may be easily and quickly read.

For clearing the machine a plate 39 is pivotally connected at the ends of the bottom edge to the front and rear walls of the cabinet and normally extends substantially in vertical position against the end wall of the cabinet in the space between the card holders and end wall, as best shown in Figures 1 and 3. The plate is provided with a crank handle 40 which projects beyond the front wall of the casing and through the medium of which the plate may be rocked to the dotted line position shown in Figure 3 to engage and push back all of the card holders which have been shifted to card elevating position after the respective operating keys have been released. For holding the hinged cover 11 open a prop 41 of any desired type may be connected to the cover and to the cabinet as best shown in Figures 3 and 4.

From the above description it will be seen that the invention provides a device adapted for use

in connection with card systems, calculating and account systems, and filing cabinets, where rapid inspection of a desired card or unit is advantageous.

What is claimed is:

1. A card selecting, separating and presenting device comprising a cabinet, a plurality of laterally slidable card holders mounted in the cabinet, each card holder being adapted to hold a plurality of cards in spaced side by side relation, 10 card elevating members disposed directly below the spaces between the cards and equal in number to the number of cards held by one of the card holding members, said elevating members being substantially rectangular in shape, guides on the cabinet mounting the elevating members for vertical movement into the spaces between the cards, a key controlled lever mechanism connected to each elevating member, and handle means connected to each card holding member for shifting 20 the member laterally so that the cards thereof may overlie the elevating members, manual depressing the key corresponding to any selected card in shifted position moving the respective elevated member to elevate the selected card to visible position above the remaining cards.

2. A card selecting, separating and presenting device comprising a cabinet, a plurality of laterally slidable card holders mounted therein, receptacles on each holder adapted to hold a plurality of index cards in spaced side by side relation on the holder, elevating members disposed directly beneath the spaces between the card holding receptacles, guide means between the elevating members and the cabinet for directing 35 up and down sliding movement of the elevating members, depressible keys mounted in the front of the cabinet, lever means connecting respective keys with respective elevating members, means for holding any one of the keys in depressed position, manual depressing of a selected key corresponding to a selected card moving the respective elevating member upwardly after the respective card holding member is shifted laterally to dispose the selected card in vertical alignment 45 with the member, upward movement of the elevating member lifting the selected card into view above the remaining cards, and means for engaging the card holders to clear the device after each actuation.

3. A card selecting, separating and presenting device comprising a cabinet, a plurality of laterally slidable card holders mounted therein, a handle connected to each holder for sliding the holder laterally, means on each holder for holding a plurality of cards in spaced side by side relation, said means being aligned in parallel rows longitudinally of the cabinet, a plurality of elevating members disposed in the cabinet directly below the spaces between the card holding means for elevating a selected card into view above the remaining cards when the respective holder of the selected card is shifted laterally, key actuated means for selectively moving the elevating members to operative position, said key operated means and the elevating members returning to the inactive position due to the weight of the elevating members after each actuation, means for holding any one of the keys in depressed position, and means for clearing the machine by pressure against the card holding members after each actuation.

4. A unit locating, separating and presenting device comprising a cabinet, a plurality of later-

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ally slidable unit holders mounted in the cabinet, each unit holder being adapted to hold a plurality of units in spaced side by side relation, unit elevating members disposed directly below the spaces between the units and equal in number to the number of units held by one of the unit holding members, said elevating members being substantially rectangular in shape, guides on the cabinet mounting the elevating members for vertical movement into the spaces between the units, a key controlled lever mechanism connected to each elevating member, and handle means connected to each unit holding member for shifting laterally so that the units thereof may overlie the elevating members, manual depressing of the key corresponding to any selected unit in shifted position moving the respective elevating member to elevate the selected unit to visible position above the remaining units.

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