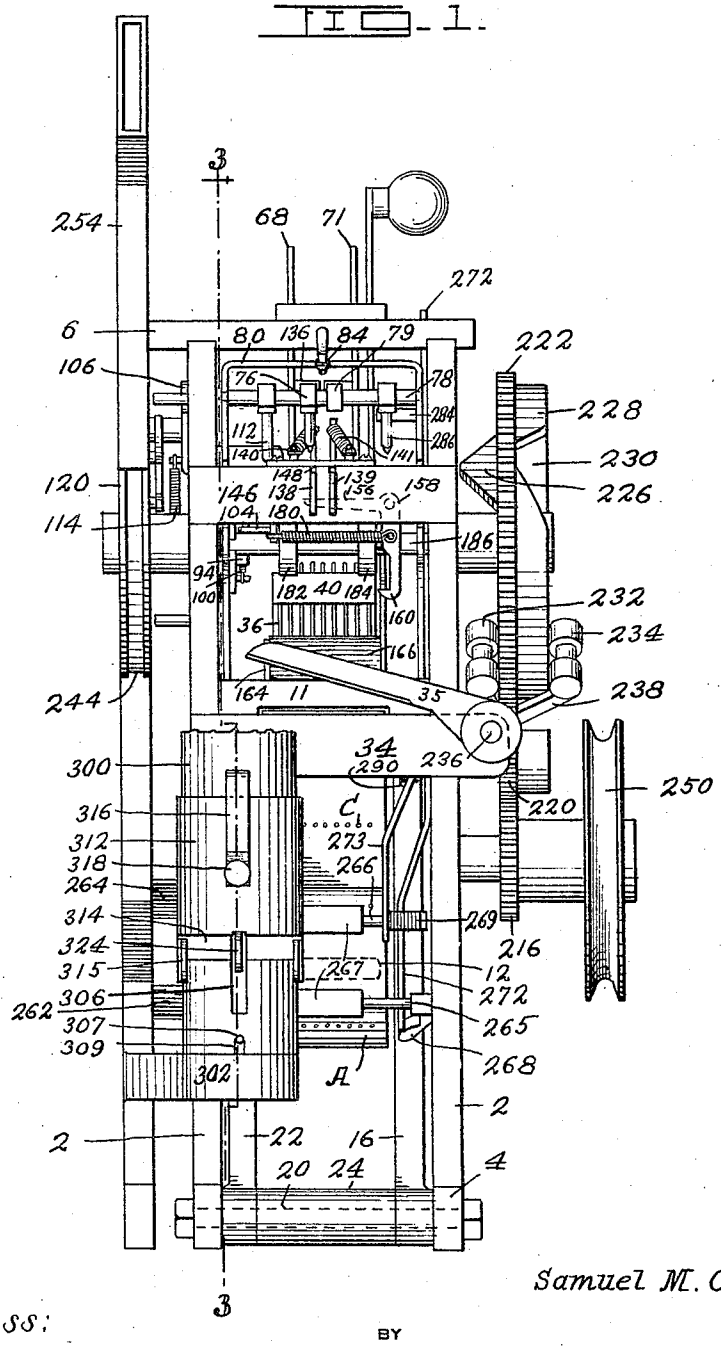
Nov. 1, 1932. S. M. COFFMAN 1,885,899

COMBINATION VENDING, CHANGE MAKING, AND COIN DISTRIBUTING MACHINE

Filed Jan. 20, 1930 6 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.



INVENTOR

Samuel M. Coffman,

Witness:

Fred C. Fischer.

BY

F. G. Fischer,

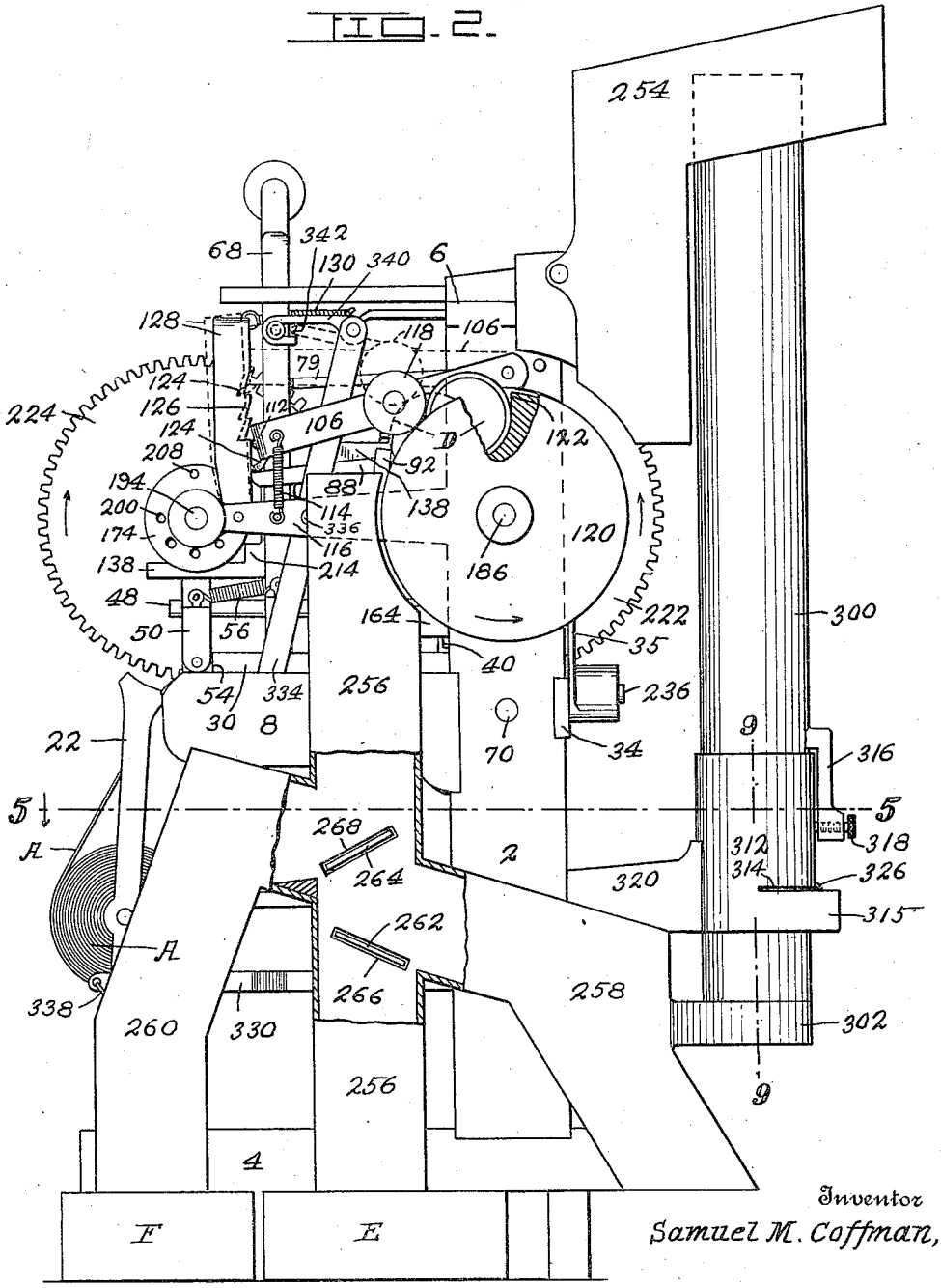
ATTORNEY.

Nov. 1, 1932. S. M. COFFMAN 1,885,899

COMBINATION VENDING, CHANGE MAKING, AND COIN DISTRIBUTING MACHINE

Filed Jan. 20, 1930 6 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 2.



Inventor
Samuel M. Coffman,

Witness:
Fred G. Fischer,

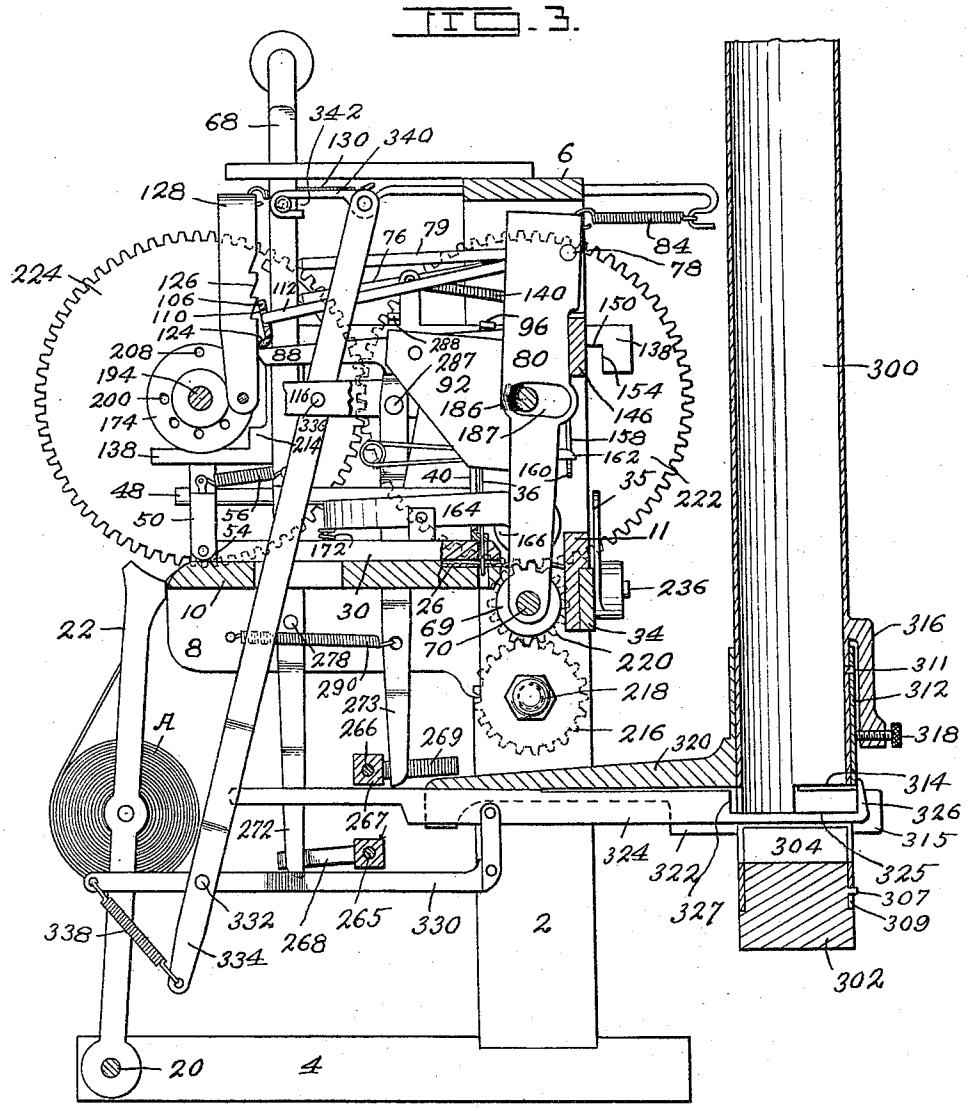
By F. G. Fischer,
Attorney

Nov. 1, 1932. S. M. COFFMAN 1,885,899

COMBINATION VENDING, CHANGE MAKING, AND COIN DISTRIBUTING MACHINE

Filed Jan. 20, 1930 6 Sheets-Sheet 3

FIG. 3.



Inventor
Samuel M. Coffman,

Witness:
Fred b. Fischer.

By F. G. Fischer,
Attorney

Nov. 1, 1932. S. M. COFFMAN 1,885,899

COMBINATION VENDING, CHANGE MAKING, AND COIN DISTRIBUTING MACHINE

Filed Jan. 20, 1930 6 Sheets-Sheet 4

FIG. 4.

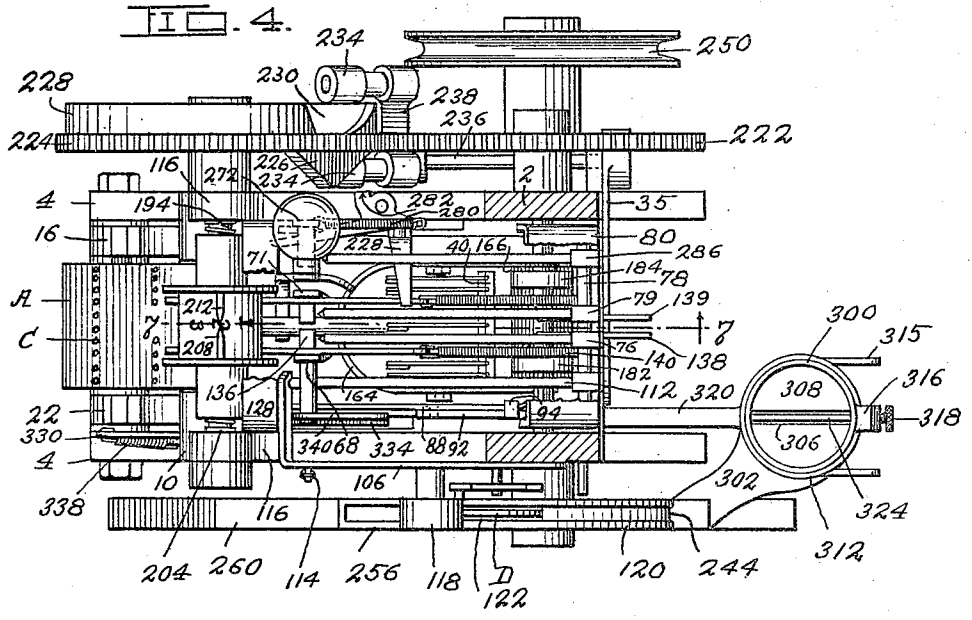
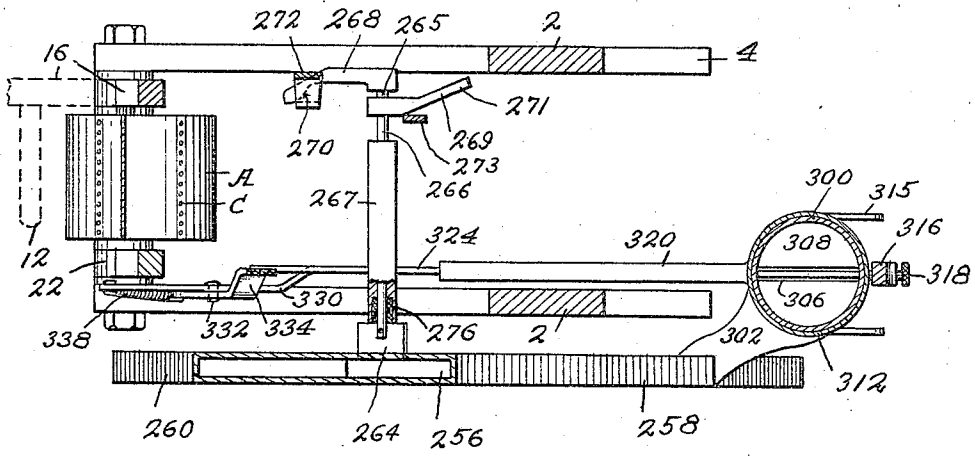


FIG. 5.



INVENTOR

Samuel M. Coffman

Witness:

Fred L. Fischer.

BY

F. G. Fischer

ATTORNEY

Nov. 1, 1932. S. M. COFFMAN 1,885,899

COMBINATION VENDING, CHANGE MAKING, AND COIN DISTRIBUTING MACHINE

Filed Jan. 20, 1930 6 Sheets-Sheet 5

FIG. 6.

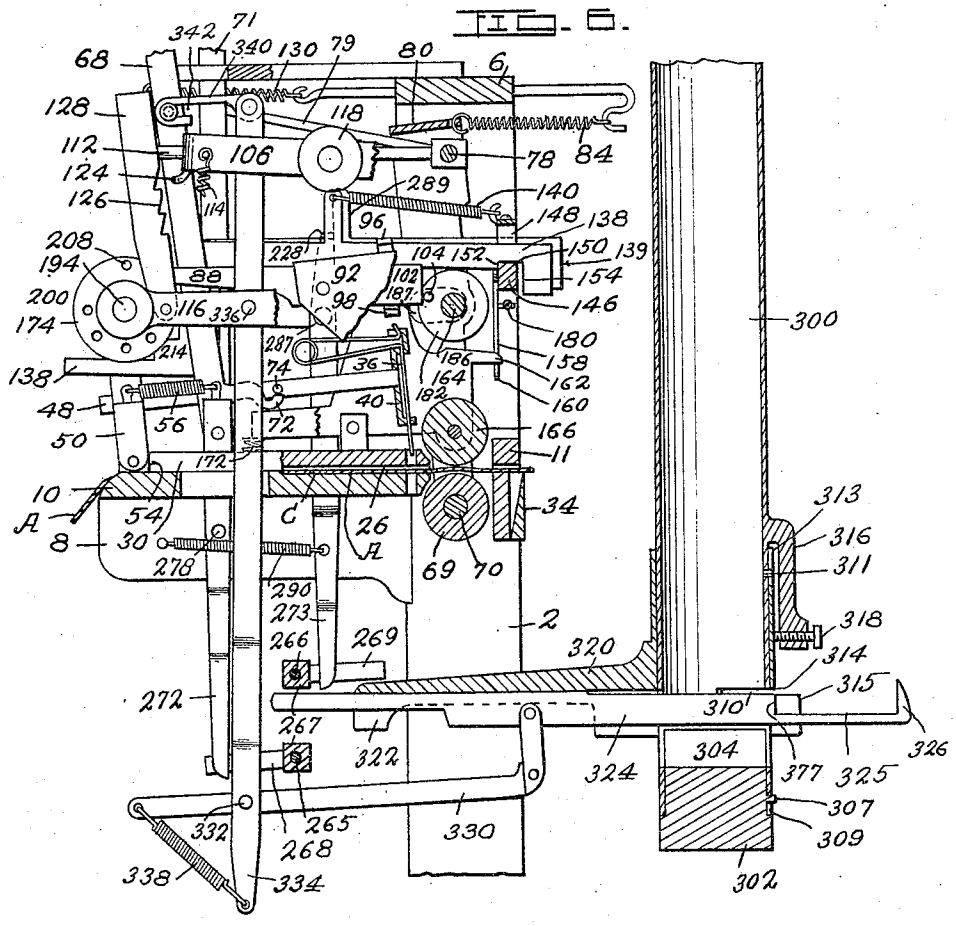
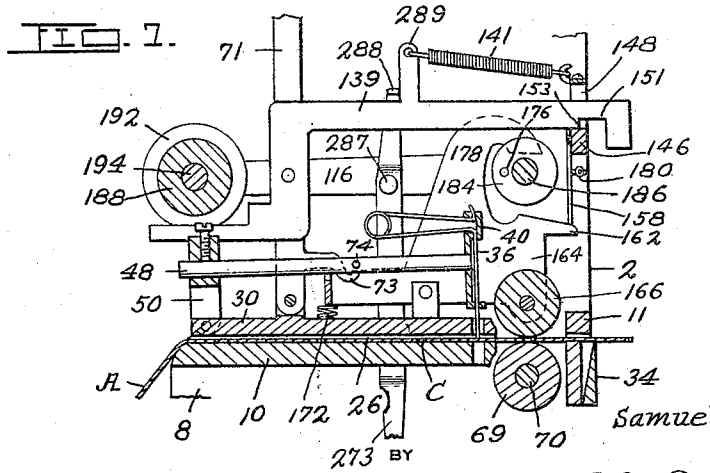


FIG. 7.



INVENTOR

Samuel M. Coffman,

BY

F. G. Fischer,

ATTORNEY.

Witness:

Fred C. Fischer.

Nov. 1, 1932. S. M. COFFMAN 1,885,899

COMBINATION VENDING, CHANGE MAKING, AND COIN DISTRIBUTING MACHINE

Filed Jan. 20, 1930 6 Sheets-Sheet 6

FIG. 8.

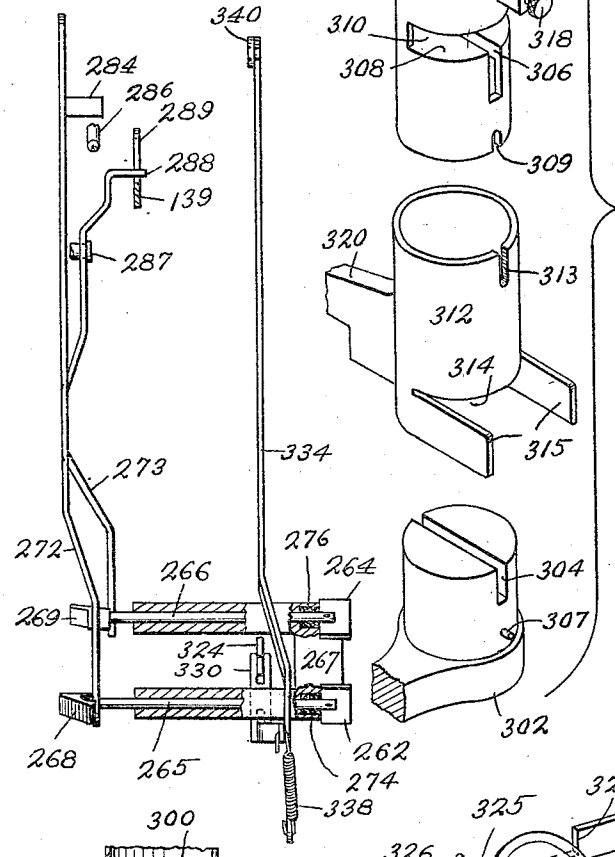


FIG. 12.

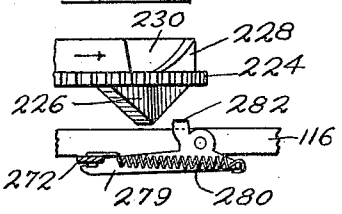


FIG. 13.

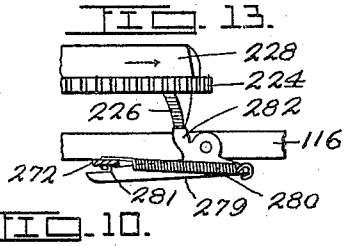


FIG. 10.

FIG. 14.

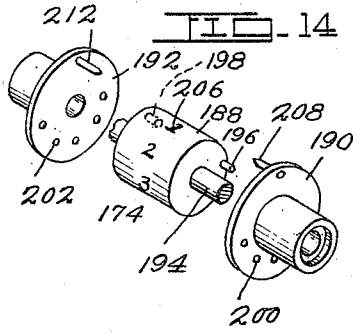


FIG. 9.

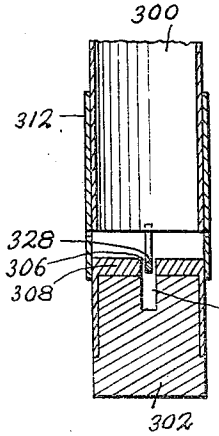


FIG. 11.

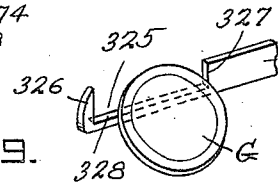
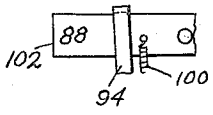


FIG. 15.



INVENTOR
Samuel M. Coffman,

BY
F. G. Fischer,
ATTORNEY

Witness:
Fred G. Fischer.

Patented Nov. 1, 1932 1,885,899

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

SAMUEL M. COFFMAN, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO NATIONAL POSTAGE MACHINES CO. LTD., OF RENO, NEVADA, A CORPORATION OF NEVADA

COMBINATION VENDING, CHANGE MAKING, AND COIN DISTRIBUTING MACHINE

Application filed January 20, 1930. Serial No. 422,043.

My invention relates in general to vending machines and more particularly to machines embodying vending, change making, coin distributing and coin returning mechanisms. The vending mechanism is arranged more particularly, in the present instance, for vending articles which must be severed from a strip comprising a series of articles attached to each other, such as stamps, tickets and the like.

The change making mechanism is designed to deliver the proper amount of change when a coin of greater value than the stamps desired is deposited in the machine.

The coin distributing mechanism is designed to distribute coins of proper denominations for effecting the delivery of stamps, into separate depositories in the machine so that coins of one denomination will be delivered into one depository and those of another denomination into a different depository.

The coin returning mechanism is designed to return a coin to the depositor when said coin is of less value than any stamp in the machine, it being understood that such coins will fail to effect the delivery of a stamp, or stamps.

In the accompanying drawings I have illustrated one embodiment of my invention applied to a machine for vending stamps, tickets or other articles which are attached one to the other in the form of strips. It will be understood, however, that this particular embodiment of the invention has been chosen for the purpose of illustration only and that the mechanism may take various forms without departing from the spirit of the invention. The invention is not limited to a device for vending articles which come in strips, but may be embodied, either in whole or in part, in a device for vending articles of various kinds, either attached or separated. The invention, in the present instance, is arranged for the use of coins to determine the number of stamps or articles to be discharged, but checks or other similar devices may be used, so it is to be understood that the word "stamp" and "coin" are used as terms of definition only and not as terms of limitation.

The vending mechanism shown in the drawings, is substantially the same in construction and operation as that shown in my copending application filed January 20, 1930, Serial No. 422,042, the main difference being that, for the sake of simplicity, provision has been made for handling but one strip of connected articles instead of two strips as in said copending application. It is to be understood, however, that the capacity of the machine may be increased to handle as many strips as desired by adding more vending units.

Referring more particularly to the drawings:—

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of the machine with the upper portion of a coin holder broken away.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the machine, with some of the parts in section.

Fig. 3 is a broken irregular vertical section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a broken plan view of the machine with some of the parts in section and the upper chute removed.

Fig. 5 is a horizontal section on line 5—5 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 6 is a broken side elevation, partly in section, showing some of the parts in an advanced position over that disclosed by Figs. 2 and 3.

Fig. 7 is a broken section on line 7—7 of Fig. 4, with some of the parts removed and others in an advanced position over that disclosed by Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is a detail rear elevation of the levers and some of the associate parts of the change making, coin distributing and coin returning mechanisms.

Fig. 9 is a broken detail section of the coin holder and associated parts on line 9—9 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 10 is a broken perspective of the coin holding tube and associated parts ready to be assembled.

Fig. 11 is a broken perspective of the front portion of the coin ejector with a coin falling therefrom.

Fig. 12 is a fragmentary view showing a latch and associated parts.

Fig. 13 is a similar view to Fig. 12 with the rotary cam shown thereby in an advanced position.

Fig. 14 is a detail of a trip mechanism with the parts in position for assembly.

Fig. 15 is a broken detail showing an abutment and associated parts.

Referring first more particularly to the vending mechanism of the machine it will be noted that the parts are carried on a frame consisting in the present instance of a pair of standards 2, a pair of sills 4 upon which said standards 2 are fixedly mounted, a transverse member 6 uniting the upper ends of the standards 2, a pair of brackets 8 rigidly secured to the rear portions of the standards 2 intermediate the ends of the latter, and a guide plate 10 fixedly mounted upon said brackets 8.

When the machine is designed for postage stamps or other articles connected in a strip as shown in the present instance, said strip, designated A, is arranged in the form of a roll removably supported upon a stub shaft 12 projecting laterally from an arm 16 rockably mounted at its lower end upon a shaft 20, so that said arm 16 may be swung backwardly to the dotted line position, Fig. 5, and permit ready placement of the roll upon the shaft 12.

After the shaft 12 has been supplied with the roll the upper end of the arm 16 is swung against the rear side of the guide plate 10 and when in the latter position the roll A is held from lateral displacement by an arm 22, which, like the arm 16, is rockably mounted upon the shaft 20. The shaft 20 is secured in the rear portions of the sills 4 and provided with a sleeve 24 for spacing the arms 16 and 22 apart.

The free end of the strip A is manually threaded through a horizontally-disposed slot 26 (Figs. 6 and 7) formed between the guide plate 10 and a guide plate 30, which latter is secured upon said plate 10. After being threaded through the guide slot 26 the strip A is advanced between feed rollers, hereinafter described, and through a slotted guide bar 11 (Figs. 1, 6 and 7) until its forward edge is flush with the upper edge of a stationary blade 34 which is secured to the front portions of the standards 2 and adapted to cooperate with an oscillatory blade 35 in severing the stamps from the strip. After having its forward edge adjusted flush with the blade 34 the strip A is held from accidental movement by a plurality of pins 36 which pass down through the front row of perforations C in said strip.

The pins 36 are operably mounted in a head 40 fixedly mounted upon the forward end of a rod 48 (Figs. 6 and 7), secured at its rear portion in a rockable member 50 mounted upon the rear end of the guide plate 30 and normally held against shoulders 54 on said guide plate by means of a retractile spring 56.

Means for automatically raising the pins 36 from the guids slot 26 is provided in the form of levers 68 and 71 operably mounted at their lower ends upon the guide plate 30. Said levers 68 and 71 are provided at their lower ends with fingers 72 and 73 which are arranged to engage the under portion of a pin 74 extending transversely through the rod 48 for lifting the same to the position disclosed by Fig. 6, when either of said levers is swung towards the rear of the machine. The lever 68 is arranged to be swung rearwardly independently of the lever 71 by a plunger 76, while the lever 71 may be swung rearwardly independently of the lever 68 by a plunger 79. The plungers 76 and 79 (best shown by Figs, 1, 3 and 4), are secured upon a rock-shaft 78 mounted in a yoke 80, which is rockably mounted at its lower ends upon a shaft 70 and normally held against a bar 146 by a coil spring 84.

The yoke 80 is arranged to be swung towards the rear of the machine by means of an abutment 88 (best shown by Figs. 6 and 15), pivotally mounted upon a bracket 92 fixed to one side of said yoke 80 and equipped with a fixedly mounted stop 94 having upper and lower shoulders 96 and 98, respectively, for limiting the pivotal movement of said abutment 88. A retractile spring 100 is attached to the bracket 92 and the abutment 88 for pulling the latter into engagement with the shoulder 98 and thereby lowering the enlarged end 102 of said abutment into the path of a wrist pin 104 at the proper time, as hereinafter more fully described.

The abutment 88 is normally held against the shoulder 96 and out of the path of the wrist pin 104 by means of a coin-controlled arm 106 pivotally secured at one end to the adjacent standard 2 and bent at its opposite end which has a hole 110 through which the free end of a rod 112 slidably extends, the other end of said rod being secured to the rock-shaft 78 for actuating the latter. The free end of the arm 106 is normally held in lowered position by a coil spring 114 attached at one end to said arm and at its opposite end to one of a pair of brackets 116 projecting rearwardly from the standards 2 of the machine frame.

The arm 106 is provided with a roller 118 (Figs. 1, 4 and 6) which is normally held in engagement with the periphery of a rotary coin carrier 120 by means of the spring 114. The coin carrier 120 consists preferably of a disk, as shown and is provided with a peripheral pocket 122 for the reception of coins of different denominations, a coin D being shown in said pocket. When the coin D is carried under the roller 118 it lifts the latter

and the arm 106 a distance dependent upon the denomination of the coin. For instance, with the parts as now proportioned, a five-cent piece will raise the arm 106 to the dotted position, Fig. 2, at which point a lug 124 at the free end of said arm, enters the upper notch 126 of a latch 128 which is yieldably held in engagement with said lug 124 by means of a retractile spring 130.

As the free end of the arm 106 moves upwardly it releases the underlying end of the abutment 88 and permits the spring 100 to pull said abutment down into engagement with the shoulder 98 of the stop 94, which operation carries the large end 102 of the abutment into the path of the wrist pin 104. When the wrist pin 104 engages the abutment 88 it moves the latter to the position disclosed by Fig. 6 and causes said abutment to swing the yoke 80 rearwardly with the plungers 76 and 79. As said plungers move rearwardly the plunger 76, which is held at the proper pitch by the arm 106 and the latch 128, engages a lateral extension 136 projecting from one side of the lever 68 and rocks the latter rearwardly so that the finger 72 will lift the pins 36 out of the initial row of perforations C in the strip A through the intermediary of the rod 48 and the head 40, which are raised against the action of the spring 56.

As the lever 68 is rocked, as stated, it carries a dog 138, pivotally connected to said lever, rearwardly against the action of a retractile spring 140. One end of the dog 138 is supported by the transverse bar 146 which is secured to the standards 2 and provided with vertical slots 148 in which the dog 138 and another like dog 139 are slidably mounted. The dog 138 is provided at its forward portion with a recess 150 located between shoulders 152 and 154, which are spaced apart a distance slightly greater than the width of the bar 146, so that as said dog 138 is carried rearwardly by the lever 68 the shoulder 152, which normally rests in the bottom of the respective slot 148, will be drawn downwardly by the spring 140 into engagement with the rear side of the bar 146 and lock the lever 68 in its rearward position (Fig. 6). The lever 68 remains locked in the last-mentioned position after the plunger 76 has been restored to normal position, and holds the pins 36 out of engagement with the strip A long enough to insure the delivery of one or more stamps, according to how a rotary trip mechanism, hereinafter described, is set to release the dog 138.

As the shoulder 152 of the dog 138 is drawn downwardly into engagement with the rear side of the bar 146, as above stated, it depresses the arm 156 of a bell-crank 158 (best shown by Fig. 1), operably mounted on the rear side of said bar 146 and provided with a depending latch 160 which is swung out of engagement with the lower arm 162 of a carriage 164. Said carriage 164 is rockably mounted upon the guide plate 10 and provided with a feed roller 166 adapted to coact with a feed roller 69, fixedly mounted upon the shaft 70, in advancing the strip A. After the arm 162 has been released by the latch 160 the carriage 164 is rocked by a spring 172 and carries the feed roller 166 down into engagement with the strip A, which latter is thereby pressed into frictional contact with the feed roller 69, whereupon said feed rollers 166 and 69 coact in advancing said strip A, as above stated.

After the feed rollers 164 and 69 start to advance the strip A the rear end of the dog 138 is depressed by the rotary trip mechanism 174, hereinbefore referred to, thereby raising the shoulder 152 above the bottom of the slot 148 and allowing the dog 138 to be restored to normal position by the spring 140. As the dog 138 returns to normal position it pulls the lever 68 therewith which in turn permits the spring 56 to force the rockable member 50, the rod 48 and the head 40 downwardly. As the head 40 moves downwardly it lowers the pins 36 upon the advancing strip A, as shown by Fig. 7, so that said pins 36 will be in position to enter one of the rows of perforations C and thereby check further forward movement of said strip A after the same has been advanced to deliver one or more stamps, according to the position in which the trip mechanism 174 has been set, as will hereinafter more fully appear.

Shortly after the pins 36 enter the perforations C and check the forward movement of the strip A, a wrist pin 176 engages the under side of an upper arm 178 on the forward portion of the carriage 164 and lifts the latter until the lower carriage arm 162 is carried above the latch 160, which latter is then immediately swung beneath said arm 162 by a retractile spring 180 and continues to support the forward end of the carriage 164 in raised position after the wrist pin 176 moves from beneath said carriage arm 178. As the carriage 164 is lifted it carries the feed roll 166 above the strip A to the position disclosed by Fig. 6, so that the adhesive under side of said strip can not adhere to the roller 69 during damp weather. The wrist pins 104 and 176 project laterally from disks 182 and 184, respectively, fixedly mounted upon a shaft 186 which extends through arcuate slots 187 in the yoke 80 and is journaled in the standards 2.

The rotary trip means 174, hereinbefore referred to, consists of a drum 188 and a pair of disks 190 and 192 (Fig. 14). Said disks 190 and 192 are arranged at opposite ends of the drum 188 which is fixedly mounted upon a driven shaft 194 journaled in the rear ends of the brackets 116. The drum 188 is pro-

vided at its ends with studs 196 and 198, the former of which is adapted to enter any one of a series of holes 200 in the disk 190, for driving the latter while the stud 198 is adapted to enter any one of a series of holes 202 in the disk 192 for causing the latter to rotate with the drum. The disks 190 and 192 are loosely mounted upon the shaft 194 and yieldably held against the adjacent ends of the drum 188 by coil springs 204, so that they may be disengaged from said drum and manually rotated to carry any one of holes 200 and 202 opposite the studs 196 and 198, respectively, for coengagement therewith.

The drum 188 is provided with a row of peripheral index numerals 206, which in the present instance run from 1 to 5, inclusive, to correspond with the number of holes in each of the disks 190 and 192. Said disks 190 and 192 are provided with trip pins 208 and 212, respectively, that project over the drum 188 and coact with the index numerals 206 in being properly positioned with respect to the dogs 138 and 139 to effect delivery of the desired number of stamps from the strip A. The trip pin 208 is arranged to contact with the upper edge of a shoulder 214 on the rear portion of the dog 138 after the latter has been carried by the lever 68 to the position disclosed by Fig. 6 and depress said rear end, thereby freeing the shoulder 152 from engagement with the rear surface of the bar 146 so that said dog 138 may be returned to normal position by the spring 140, as hereinbefore mentioned.

By constructing the rotary trip means 174 as above described, it may be set to cause any number of stamps from one to five, inclusive, to be delivered from the strip A on the insertion of a single coin in the machine. For instance, if it is desired to deliver but one stamp for one coin the disk 190 is adjusted to cause the trip pin 208 to register with the index numeral 1 on the drum 188. This operation places the pin 208 in position to trip the dog 138 in time to allow the pins 36 to enter the second row of perforations C and check the forward movement of the strip A when the foremost stamp is in position to be severed from said strip. If it is desired to deliver two stamps for one coin the disk 190 is adjusted backwardly until the trip pin 208 registers with the index numeral 2, which operation causes said trip pin to travel through a greater arc and delay the tripping of the dog 138 and the lowering of the pins 36 until two stamps have been fed into position to be severed from said strip A. Likewise three, four, or five stamps may be delivered for a single coin by adjusting the disk 190 backwardly until the trip pin 208 registers with the proper index numeral 206.

The shafts 70, 186 and 194 are driven by a train of gears (best shown by Figs. 1, 3 and 4) consisting of a pinion 216 journaled upon a stub shaft 218 secured to the adjacent standard 2, a small gear wheel 220 intermeshing with said pinion 216 and fixedly mounted upon the feed roll shaft 70, a large gear wheel 222 intermeshing with said small gear wheel 220 and fixedly mounted upon the shaft 186, and a large gear wheel 224 intermeshing with said large gear wheel 222 and fixedly mounted upon the shaft 194.

The large gear wheel 224 is provided at one side with a projection 226 and at its other side with a cam 228 having a cavity 230 opposite said projection 226.

Two rollers 232 and 234 are disposed at opposite sides of the large gear wheel 224, the roller 232 being arranged in the path of the projection 226 in order to be moved in one direction by the latter and carry the roller 234 into the cavity 230 for the purpose of rocking an oscillatory shaft 236 in one direction. As the projection 226 passes out of engagement with the roller 232 the cam 228 engages the roller 234 and moves the latter with the roller 232 in the opposite direction to reverse the movement of the shaft 236. The rollers 232 and 234 are carried by a bifurcated member 238 fixedly mounted upon the shaft 236 which is journaled in bearings 242 and provided at its forward end with the blade 35 which coacts with the stationary blade 34 in severing the stamps from the strip A. The pinion 216 may be manually driven by a crank, or it can be driven by a pulley 250 which in turn may be belted to an electric motor or other source of power, not shown.

Coins are introduced into the pocket of the coin carrier 120 through an upper chute 254 and after being carried under the roller 118 are discharged in a central chute 256 beneath which a receptacle E is located. Forwardly and rearwardly projecting branch chutes 258 and 260, respectively, communicate with opposite sides of the intermediate portion of the central chute 256, the former communicating with said central chute 256 at a lower point than the branch chute 260, as shown by Fig. 2. The branch chute 258 is designed, in the present instance, to return the coins passing therethrough to the depositor, while a receptacle F is placed beneath the branch chute 260 to receive the coins discharged from the latter.

The central and branch chutes form important features of the coin distributing mechanism which will now be described in detail, 262 designates a lower deflector for directing coins of a certain denomination into the chute 258, and 264 designates an upper deflector for deflecting coins of another denomination into the branch chute 260. As more clearly shown by Figs. 2 and 8, the deflectors 262 and 264 consist of plates which are inclined in opposite directions from each other

in order to direct the different coins into the respective chutes when said deflectors are moved to active position across the central chute 256, which latter is provided at one side with slots 266 and 268 through which the respective deflectors enter and leave said central chute 256.

The deflectors 262 and 264 are mounted upon arms 265 and 266, respectively, which are slidably mounted in a housing 267 secured to the adjacent side of the central chute 256. The arms 265 and 266 are provided with fixedly mounted cams 268 and 269 having angular portions 270 and 271 which are yieldably held in engagement with the lower ends of levers 272 and 273 by means of springs 274 and 276, respectively, mounted in counterbores within the housing 267 for forcing the respective deflectors across the central chute 256, for the purpose stated.

The lever 272 is mounted upon a fulcrum 278 and extends upwardly above a latch 279 pivotally mounted upon the adjacent bracket 116 and yieldably connected to said lever 272 by means of a retractile spring 280. The latch 279 is provided with a shoulder 281 for engagement with the lever 272 and an arm 282 for engagement with the projection 226 on the large gear wheel 222. The lever 272 is provided with a lateral projection 284 for contact by a plunger 286 fixedly mounted upon the shaft 78 and which coacts with the spring 280 in controlling said lever 272.

The lever 273 is mounted upon a fulcrum 287 and has its upper end 288 projecting into the path of an arm 289 extending upwardly from the dog 139 against which it is yieldably held by a coil spring 290, Figs. 3 and 6.

Referring now more particularly to the change making mechanism, 300 designates a vertically disposed tube for holding coins G, of suitable denomination, to be used in making change. Said tube 300 is removably mounted at its lower end upon a supporting member 302 provided at its upper portion with a transverse slot 304 which registers with a slot 306 in the bottom 308 of the tube 300. The support 302 is provided with a stud 307 for entering a notch 309 in the lower margin of the tube 300 to insure registry of the slot 306 with the slot 304. The lower portion of the tube 300 is provided with a coin outlet 310 extending upwardly a suitable distance above the slotted bottom 308 to permit a number of coins to be simultaneously ejected.

312 designates a sleeve slidably mounted upon the lower portion of the tube 300 for regulating the number of coins which may be simultaneously discharged. The sleeve 312 is provided at its lower front portion with a coin outlet 314 adapted to register with the coin outlet 310. Means for securing the sleeve 312 at any point in its vertical adjustment is provided in the form of an arm 316 secured at its upper end to the tube 300 and provided at its lower end with a set screw 318 adapted to engage the sleeve 312. The tube 300 is provided with a stud 311 (Fig. 6) for entering a slot 313 in the upper portion of the sleeve 312 to prevent the latter from turning upon said tube 300. Guides 315 project forwardly from the sleeve 312 and at opposite sides of the outlet 314, for preventing the coins from slipping sidewise off of a coin ejector 324, until said ejector has almost reached the end of its forward movement.

The sleeve 312 is provided with a rearwardly projecting guide 320 having a longitudinal groove 322 in which the coin ejector 324 is slidably mounted. Said coin ejector 324 projects through the slots 304 and 306 in the supporting member 302 and the tube 300, respectively, and is provided at its forward portion with a recess 325 for the reception of a number of the lowermost coins within the tube 300. The recess 325 is formed between front and rear shoulders 326 and 327, and the lower edge of said recess is beveled as indicated at 328 so that the coins will fall therefrom in the direction of the inclination as shown by Fig. 11, when expelled by the plunger 324.

The intermediate portion of the coin ejector 324 is pivotally mounted upon a lever 330 which extends downwardly and rearwardly and is operably connected by a pivot 332 to the lower portion of a lever 334 fulcrumed at 336 to the adjacent bracket 116. The rear end of the lever 330 and the lower end of the lever 334 are yieldably connected by a retractile spring 338 as shown by Figs. 3 and 6, in such manner as to yieldably hold the ejector 324 in the guide 320 and cause said ejector to follow the guide as the sleeve 312 is adjusted upwardly. Said spring 338 also yieldably holds the levers 330 and 334 in normal position, Fig. 3, and restores them to such position after they have been moved to the position disclosed by Fig. 6.

The lever 334 is moved to the position shown by Fig. 6 by the lever 68 to which it is operably connected by means of a link 340 having an opening 342 so that said link may be readily disconnected from the lever 68 by an authorized person whenever desired. The link 340 also permits the lever 324 to be manually operated without operating the lever 68, when it is desired to empty the tube 300 of coins.

Assuming that the strip A consists of two-cent stamps, change and different numbers of stamps may be obtained as follows:

First, the tube 300 is supplied with pennies and the sleeve 312 is raised high enough to permit three pennies to be ejected through the openings 310 and 314, after which the trip pin 208 is adjusted to register with the index numeral "1" on the drum 188 and the trip pin 212 is adjusted to register with the

index numeral "5". After the foregoing adjustments have been made a two-cent stamp and three pennies in change may be obtained by depositing a nickel in the machine. As said nickel lifts the roller 118 the arm 106 is swung upwardly until the lug 124 enters the uppermost notch 126 in the latch 128. When the arm 106 swings upwardly the plungers swing therewith until the free end of the plunger 76 is in position to swing the lever 68 rearwardly as said plungers are carried rearwardly by the yoke 80. As the lever 68 is swung rearwardly the pins 36 are lifted from the initial row of perforations C and permit the vending mechanism to deliver one stamp. The lever 68 also advances the ejector 324 through the intermediary of the levers 334 and 330, and as said ejector advances it delivers three pennies in change to the purchaser of the stamp. When the carrier 120, in its rotation, discharges the nickel into the main chute 256, said nickel is conducted by said chute to the receptacle E.

If five two-cent stamps are desired a dime is deposited in the machine and upon being carried around to the roller 118 lifts the latter until the lug 124 enters the lowermost notch 126 in the latch 128. The foregoing operation places the plunger 79 in position to operate the lever 71, which in turn effects the elevation of the pins 36 and permits the vending mechanism to deliver five stamps. The lever 71 also moves the deflector across the chute 256, so that the dime will be directed into the receptacle F by the branch chute 260, through the intermediary of the dog 139, the lever 273, the cam 269 and the arm 266.

Should a penny be deposited in the machine no stamps or change will be delivered, but it will effect the lifting of the arm 106 until the lug 124 enters the intermediate notch 126 of the latch 128. The foregoing operation places the plunger 286 in position to swing the lever 272 rearwardly, which in turn effects the return of the penny to the depositor through the intermediary of the cam 268, the arm 265, the deflector 264 and the branch chute 258. The lever 272 is held in its rearward position by the latch 279 until the latter is disengaged from said lever 272 by means of the projection 226.

While I have shown the machine equipped with only one unit for handling one roll of stamps, it is to be understood that additional units for handling more rolls may be provided. Also the number of stamps discharged for each coin may be varied if desired by proper adjustment of the rotary trip mechanism 174. A profit may also be obtained by lowering the sleeve 312 a distance equal to the thickness of one penny so that only two pennies in change instead of three will be ejected when a nickel is deposited in the machine for the purchase of a two-cent stamp.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings, it will be understood that I have provided a machine of the character described which is reliable in operation and not likely to get out or order. It is also to be understood that the mechanism may be enclosed in a case, but as the latter forms no part of the present invention it has not been shown in the drawings.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. In a machine of the character described, a coin holder, a reciprocatory ejector for ejecting coins from said holder, a guide for said ejector, an element operably connected to the intermediate portion of said ejector to actuate the latter, means whereby said element is caused to yieldably hold the ejector in operative relation with said guide, and means for operating said element.

2. In a machine of the character described, a coin holder, a reciprocatory ejector for ejecting coins from said holder, a guide for said ejector, an element operably connected to said ejector, a member for actuating said element, suitable means for actuating said member, and spring means yieldably connecting adjacent portions of the element and said member.

3. In a machine of the character described, a coin holder having a slotted bottom and a coin outlet adjacent to said bottom, a coin ejector slidable in said slotted bottom, a sleeve adjustably mounted upon said coin holder for regulating the number of coins ejected, means on said sleeve for guiding the ejector, an element operably connected to the intermediate portion of said ejector to actuate the latter, means whereby said element is caused to yieldably hold the ejector in operative relation with said guide, and means for operating said element.

4. In a machine of the character described, a coin holder, an ejector for discharging coins from said holder, a sleeve adjustably mounted upon said coin holder for regulating the number of coins ejected, a guide on said sleeve for the ejector, an element operably connected to the intermediate portion of said ejector, a lever for actuating said element, means operably connecting said element and the lever near one end of each, and spring means connecting the adjacent ends of said element and the lever.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

SAMUEL M. COFFMAN.