July 22, 1924. 1,502,185

H. GRAY

VISITOR'S INFORMATION BUREAU

Filed July 18, 1923

Fig. 1.

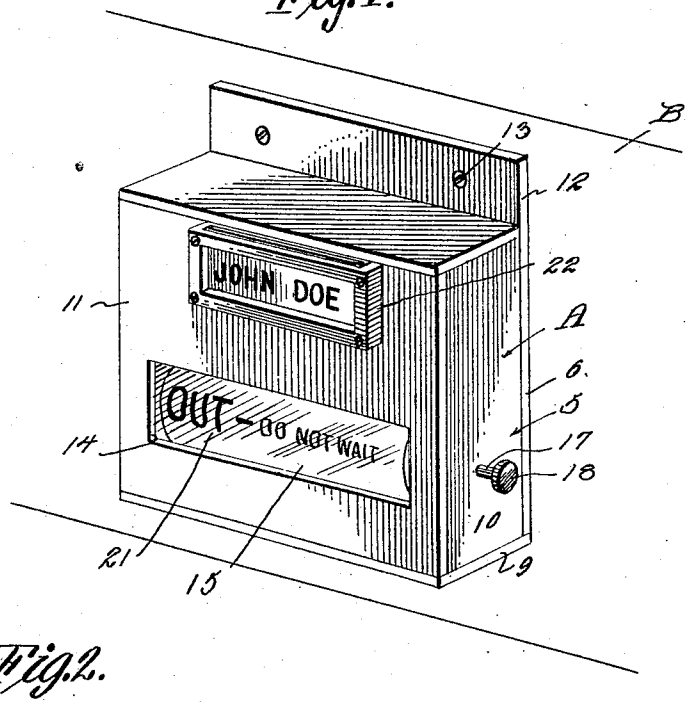


Fig. 2.

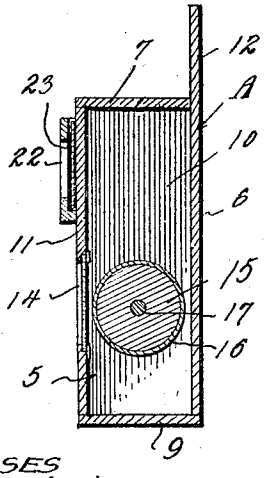
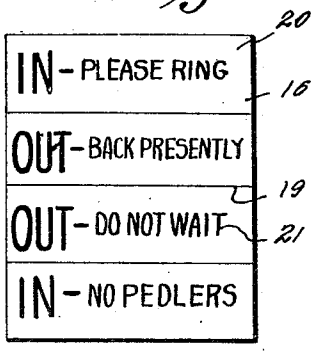


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HAROLD GRAY, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

VISITOR'S INFORMATION BUREAU.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HAROLD GRAY, a subject of the King of Great Britian, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Visitors' Information Bureaus, of which the following is a specification.

This invention comprehends vital improvements in door indicators and the like and the primary object of the invention is to provide a novel device for giving information to callers on a house relative to the inhabitants thereof, such as whether or not the inhabitants are in.

A further prime object of this invention is the provision of a casing adapted to be secured adjacent to or on a door, of a home or office, having a sight opening therein through which a roller carrying different information indicia can be seen, the casing, also carrying means for receiving a name card.

A still further object of the invention is to provide an improved device of the above character, which will be durable and efficient in use, one that will be simple and easy to manufacture and one which can be placed upon the market at a small cost.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel construction, arrangement and formation of parts, as will be hereinafter more specifically described, claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved device.

Figure 2 is a vertical central section through the same, and

Figure 3 is a plan view of the strip carrying the information indicia prior to the securing thereof to the carrying roller.

Referring to the drawings in detail, wherein similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, the letter A generally indicates the improved indicating device, which embodies a casing 5, formed of sheet metal, wood or any other material possessing the necessary qualifications. The casing 5 embodies a rear wall 6, top and bottom walls 7 and 8, end walls 10 and a front wall 11. The rear wall 6 is extended an appreciable distance above the top wall 7 to form an attaching flange 12, which receives suitable screws or the like 13, whereby the device can be secured to an office door or the like B.

The front wall 11 is provided with a horizontally disposed longitudinally extending sight slot 14 directly in rear of which is mounted the roller 15 carrying the indicating strip 16. The roller 15 is secured in any preferred way to a shaft 17, which has its terminals journaled in the end walls 10 and one end of the shaft 17 can be provided with a suitable manipulating handle 18 to permit the ready turning of the roller 15.

The indicating strip 16 is of a flexible nature and is adapted to be folded around the periphery of the roller and secured thereto in any preferred way and the ends of the strip are brought in abutting relation about the roller.

This strip 16 is diveded by a spaced longitudinally extending parallel line 19 into spaces 20, which receive the information indicia concerning the occupants of the house 21, which can reads as follows: "In—Please ring"; "Out—Back presently."; "Out—Don't wait," "In—No peddlers."

Now it can be seen that by rotating the roller 15 the desired indicia can be brought into alignment with the sight slot 15 and thus impart the desired information to persons coming to the door.

A name plate holder 21 can be secured to the front wall 11 above the sight slot 14 and any preferred type of name plate 23 is placed therein.

From the foregoing description, it can be seen that I have provided a novel and simple device for imparting information concerning the inhabitants of a house to callers thereon.

Changes in details may be made without departing from the spirit or the scope of this invention.

What I claim as new is:

As a new article of manufacture, a silent visitor's information bureau comprising a casing including front and rear walls, top and bottom walls, and end walls, the rear wall being extended above the top wall defining an attaching flange, fastening elements extending through the attaching flange for engaging a supporting device, the

front wall having a sight slot therein, a shaft extending horizontally through the casing journalled in the side walls, an operating handle carried by one end of the shaft, a roller secured to the shaft and arranged directly in rear of the sight slot, a strip bearing different indicia carried by the periphery of the roller, a name plate holder secured to the outer surface of the front wall above the slot, and a name plate in said holder.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HAROLD GRAY.

Witnesses:
THOMAS ASHCROFT,
ALEX GRAY.