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M. FERRI ET AL
ADVERTISING CASH TRAY
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FIG. 1

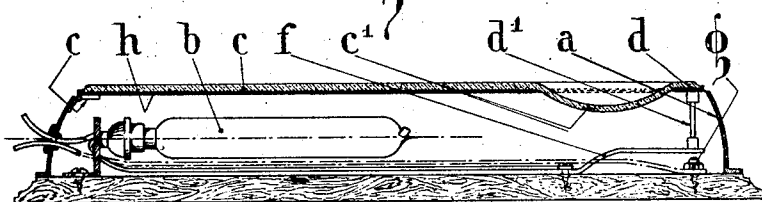
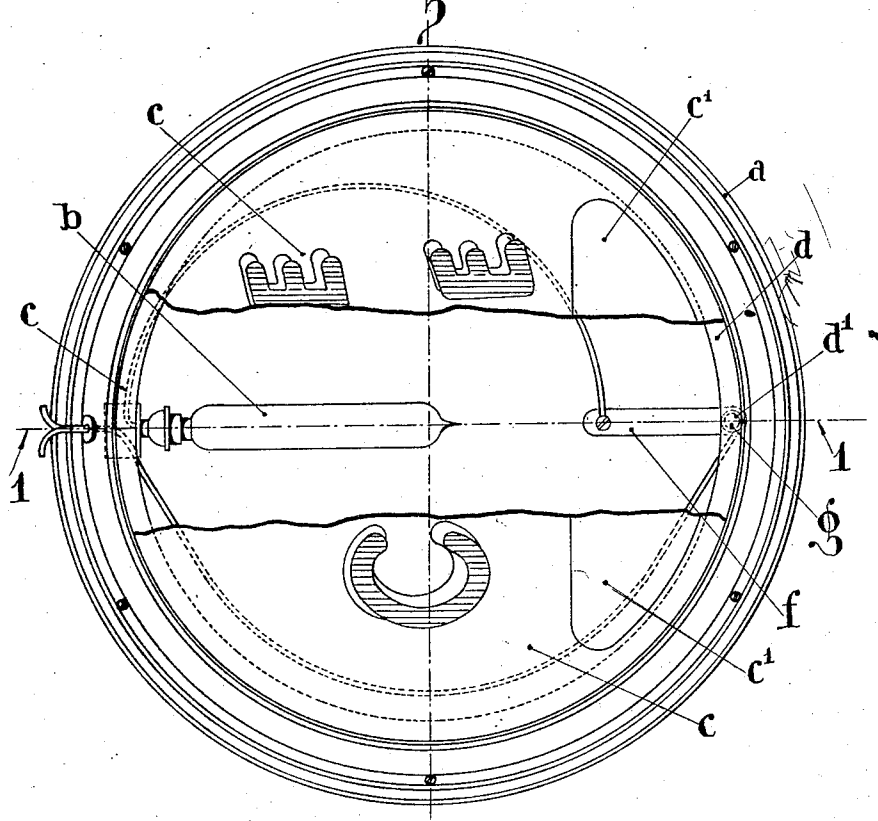


FIG. 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ADVERTISING CASH TRAY.

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This invention relates to articles bearing indications of any kind, such as inscriptions, informations, directions, drawings, etc. and more particularly, although not exclusively, to those that can be used as cash-trays.

The invention has for its purpose to call one's attention, more efficiently than done heretofore, through an action exerted upon these articles, to the indications thereon.

This object is attained by combining a luminous source with a support bearing certain indications adapted to the articles in question, in such manner that when a determined effort is exerted in a determined direction on the said support, the source of light comes into action lighting the indications, and when the action ceases, the light is extinguished; the installation being contrived in such a manner that the indications can be seen either by reflection or transparency.

The invention further comprises, besides this chief arrangement, some other appliances acting at the same time as the former and which will be described hereinafter.

The invention applies more particularly to articles adapted to be used as cash-trays and to a constructional form thereof; and still more particularly, as novel industrial products, to articles of the above mentioned type in connection with such arrangements as well as to the special elements for carrying out such products.

The accompanying drawing shows a constructional form of the invention.

Figure 1 is a section along line 1—1 of Figure 2 of a cash-tray according to the invention.

Figure 2 is a plan view thereof.

In the preferred embodiment of the invention, when the article is carried out as a cash-tray on which money is placed when paying and change is received, the article consists of a box of any suitable form and size such that its body —*a*— is able to receive one or more glow-lamps —*b*— and eventually also a source of electricity of its own for feeding the lamps; on the drawing this source of electricity is supposed to be externally of the box and its cover consists of a strong plate —*c*— of a transparent material, which can also be made of translucent material, coloured or not, as glass, bearing in any suitable manner, an indication, say an advertisement. This plate may be formed on its outer surface, as a cash-

tray and be provided with a recessed portion —*c*¹— on which coins are temporarily placed and of a frame —*d*— adapted to enclose and support by any suitable means, the plate —*c*— and hinged at —*e*— to the box body —*a*—, preferably, however, the plate simply rests on the frame, so that it can be easily changed when desired.

Such means are provided whereby the cover, when the device is not in use, keeps an almost horizontal position, so that the current does not flow from the source of electricity to the lamps —*b*— and the said cover, when the device is in use, slightly inclines and closes the circuit. Said means may be of any suitable kind, e. g. the cover may be caused to rest, with the interposition of an insulating piece —*d*¹—, on a conducting and insulated spring leaf —*f*— connected with one of the poles of the source of electricity so that, when the device is not being used said leaf supports the cover without closing the circuit in which are placed the lamps, when the device is in use the cover operates to close the circuit by causing the leaf spring to come into contact with a conducting and insulating piece —*g*— connected with the other pole of the source of electricity.

Owing to this arrangement, if the slightest pressure exerted on the cover is able to overcome the resistance of the spring —*f*—, the circuit is closed as soon as coins are placed on the said cover or withdrawn therefrom or generally when a pressure is exerted on the cover, the lamps will then be lighted and, if the system of lamps be conveniently arranged with respect to the plate —*c*—, the indication thereon will become luminous and call the observer's attention, the light extinguishing as soon as the pressure on the cover ceases.

It is obvious, that the invention may be carried out in several manners other than that described. Further, as above stated, the invention is not limited to any special use, and comprises any modified form, viz that in which the indications instead of being applied directly on the transparent plate, are applied thereto by transfer printing or any other means or printed on a sheet of transparent or translucent paper —*h*—, coloured or not, fixed under the plate adhering or not adhering thereto and held, with the plate, by the frame —*d*—;

Further the constructional form in which

the transparent plate is dispensed with being substituted by a transparent or translucent sheet bearing, as above, the desired indication, and stiff enough to be used directly as cash-tray; this stiffened sheet being made, at will, with a recess similar to the cash-tray described above.

Further the constructional form wherein the arrangement comprises a box, the walls whereof are such, that it is possible to light, by transparency or translucidity, any indications situated on the said walls or on a transparent sheet lying on the inner surface of the said walls; this effect being obtained by acting upon the cover which can at the same time bear itself other indications.

Claim:

A device of the character described comprising a casing, a glass cover therefor

hinged on one edge to the casing and having a coin receiving recess formed therein, at a point remote from and opposite the hinge, an electric lamp mounted in the casing, a current supply for the lamp, a resilient contact member consisting of a leaf spring connected with the current supply, a foot piece secured to the cover resting on said spring thereby yieldingly supporting the cover at a point adjacent the recess, and a stationary contact in the current supply circuit mounted beneath the resilient contact and co-operating with the latter to close the supply circuit when the cover is depressed.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our invention, we have signed our names.

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