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S. KUCHARSKI

OPTICAL PICTURE CABINET

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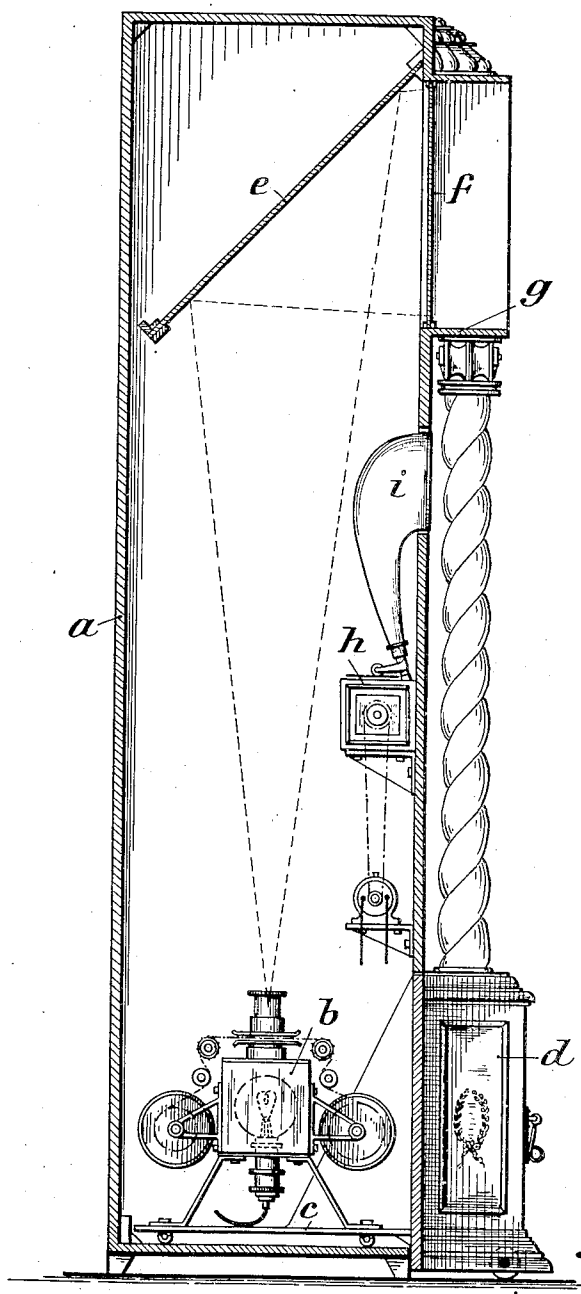

INVENTOR

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BY ATTORNEYS

Pennie, Davis, Marvin & Edmonds.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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OPTICAL PICTURE CABINET.

Application filed October 1, 1919. Serial No. 327,828.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, STANISLAUS KUCHARSKI, engineer, a citizen of Germany, residing at and whose post-office address is Charlottenburg, near Berlin, Dernburgstrasse 45, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Optical Picture Cabinets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a cabinet with a projecting or optical device arranged in its interior. The technical equipment of the known casings or boxes containing optical projecting apparatus renders them inadaptable for cabinets having the appearance of furniture for the rooms of better class dwellings or business establishments. If the optical equipment is of the kind in which the light beams pass from the lantern to the screen and then back from the screen to the spectators the casing has to have an opening in the wall or side that is next to the screen and the screen has to be elevated in some way above the casing so that it could only be folded back when the apparatus is not in use (see for example German Patent 263818). It is evident that it would be difficult, if not impossible, to fashion a contrivance of the kind in the shape of a piece of decorative furniture.

Cases containing optical projecting devices in which the beam passes from the lantern to the screen and through the screen to the spectators are also known. But to render the pictures projected onto the screen of an apparatus of this kind observable to the spectators the screen has to be arranged on a horizontal line with the projecting lantern in the wall of the casing opposite to the lantern. Thus a long horizontal body ensues which is not suitable to be placed in elegant dwellings or business establishments.

The present invention consists in an arrangement of the mechanism of the enclosed optical projecting equipment which enables the enveloping cabinet to be made in any decorative shape such as that of a tall cabinet, safe, etc., which is ready for a display of pictures at all times without any opening or closing of sides or walls. To accomplish this the projecting lantern is arranged in the lower part of the cabinet and so that it projects the beams or pictures onto an inclined mirror situated in the upper part, a screen being placed on a horizontal line with the mirror in the opposite front wall of the cabinet and the beams passing from the mirror through this screen to the spectators. By virtue of this combination it is not only possible to let the screen permanently remain in its position in its wall or side, as if it were a fixed part of the piece of furniture that the cabinet is designed to represent, but the cabinet may also be kept in an upright position whilst displaying pictures and so, if it is handsomely executed, it may be placed anywhere as an ornamental safe or the like.

A manner of carrying out the invention is illustrated in the drawing which represents a sectional side elevation of the optical picture cabinet. In the lower part of the cabinet *a*, which may be carried out in any style, an optical lantern, for example, a cinematographic apparatus *b* is arranged which, in the case illustrated, is mounted upon a floor *c* which moves on wheels and may be wheeled out of the cabinet together with the lower portion *d* of the cabinet front so as to make it accessible for the insertion of a new picture band or film.

The projecting lantern throws its light into the upper part of the cabinet and onto an inclined mirror *e* in front of which a screen *f* is inserted in the front cabinet wall. The beams pass through the screen to the spectators and the pictures displayed thereon are observable in rooms illuminated with daylight or artificial light. The screen is bordered at the front with framework *g* which may be executed in the style of a proscenium. The screen *f* may be covered, when the apparatus is not working, with a curtain, picture, door or the like that is automatically withdrawn when the motor of the projecting apparatus is started.

In the illustration a music instrument *h* is shewn in the cabinet. This instrument may be a musical box or a gramophone whose trumpet *i* emerges towards the exterior of the cabinet, but is obscured from the view of the spectators by suitable architectural ornaments or adapted to the style of the surrounding furniture. An operative relation is preferably established between the automatic musical instrument and the

projecting apparatus or optical lantern by virtue of which the animated pictures move in synchronism with the music.

I claim:

An optical picture cabinet comprising a cabinet, an inclined mirror in the upper part of the cabinet with its reflecting surface on the under side, a screen in the front wall of the said cabinet and opposite to the inclined mirror, a projecting peripheral border surrounding said screen, an optical lantern in the lower portion of the said cabinet adapted to project beams which are reflected by the said mirrow onto the said screen, and a removable wheeled platform carrying the said optical lantern, said optical lantern being attached to the platform with its optical axis vertical and in such position thereon that when said platform is confined within the cabinet the projected picture will register substantially with said mirror.

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

STANISLAUS KUCHARSKI.

Witnesses:
PAUL MASCOW,
PAUL GALDA.