W. J. LAUSTERER.

PARTY LEVER LOCKOUT FOR VOTING MACHINES.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 18, 1913.

1,210,495.

Patented Jan. 2, 1917

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

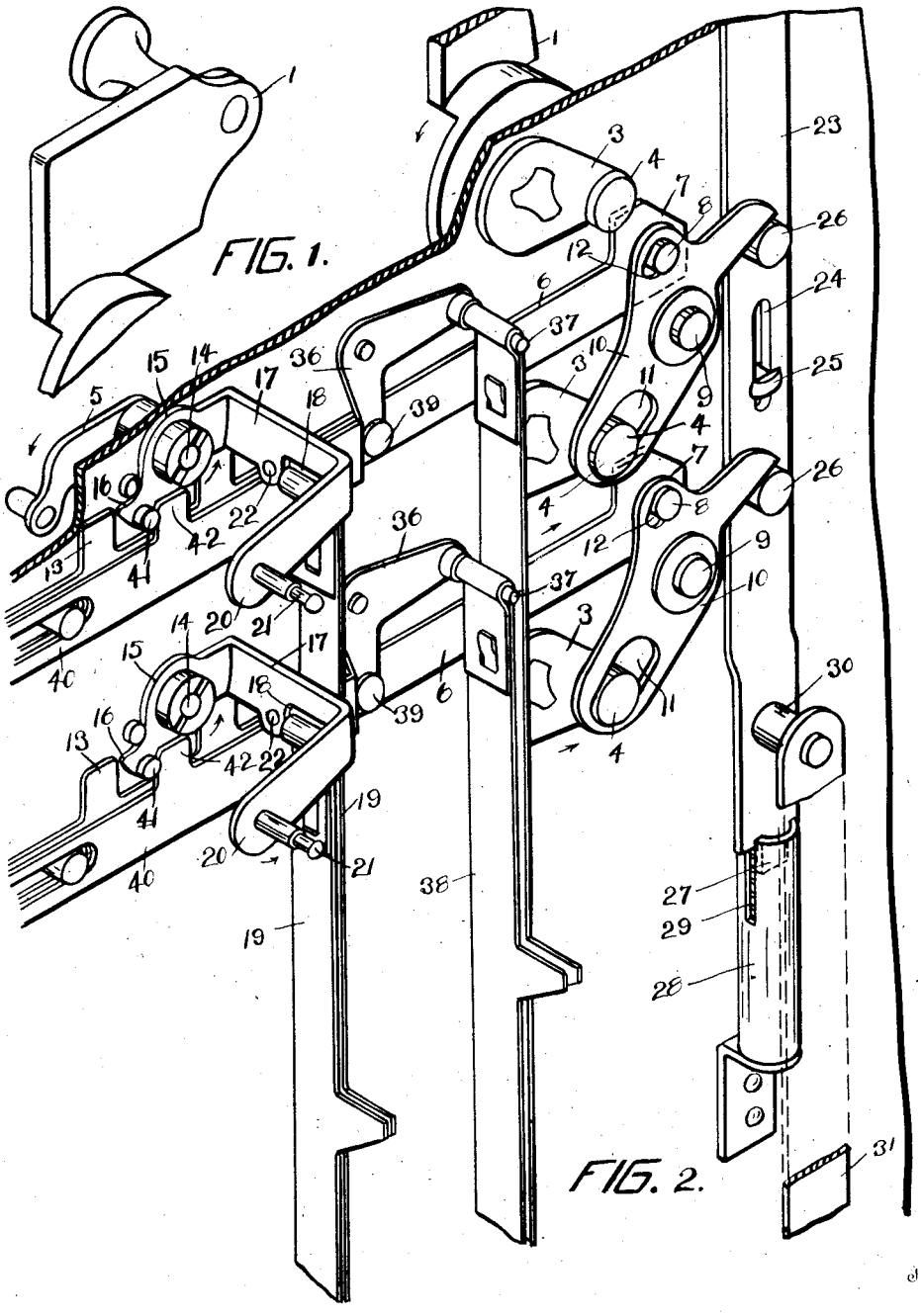


FIG. 1.

FIG. 2.

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Witnesses

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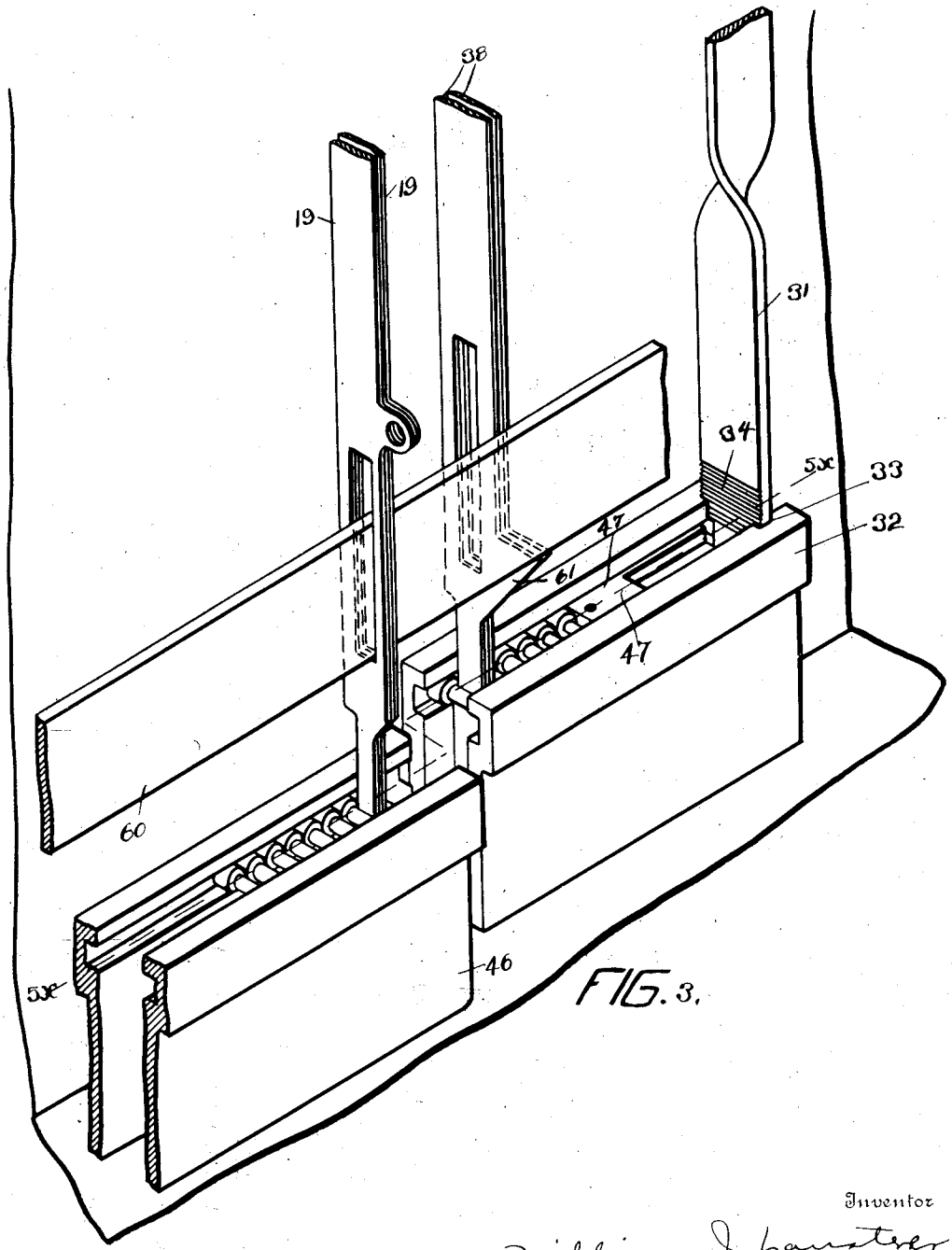


FIG. 3.

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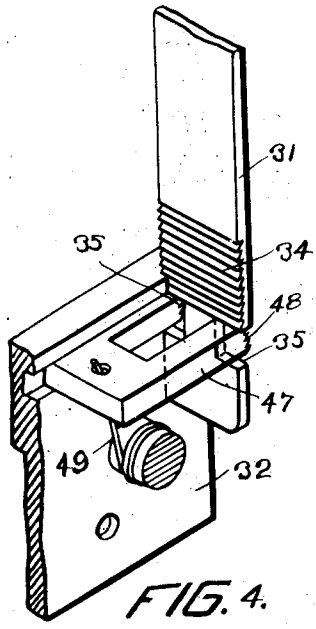


FIG. 4.

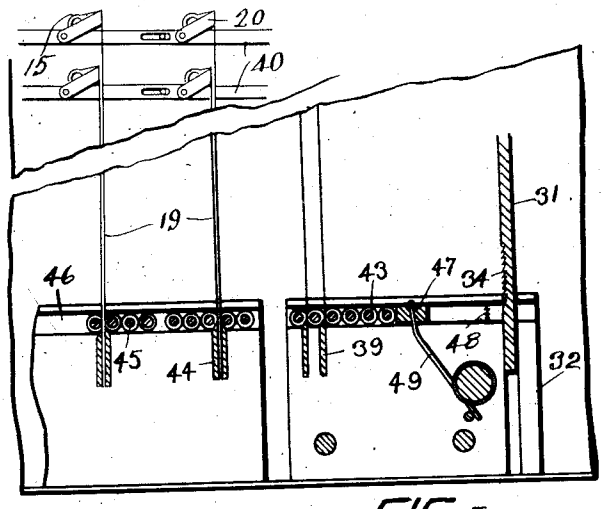


FIG. 5.

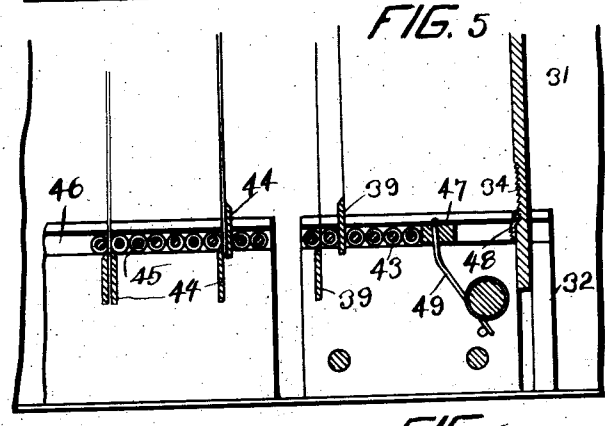


FIG. 6.

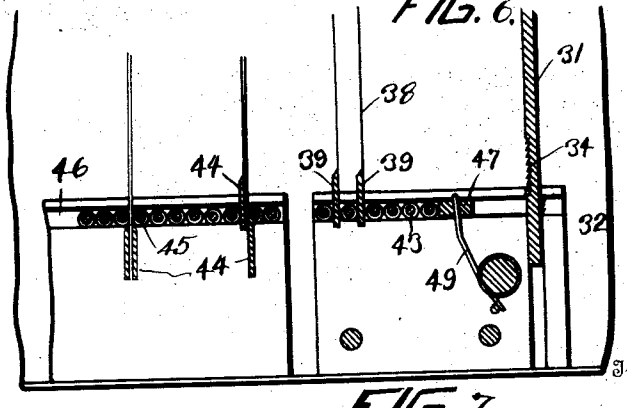


FIG. 7.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. LAUSTERER, OF JAMESTOWN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO AUTOMATIC REGISTERING MACHINE CORPORATION, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

PARTY-LEVER LOCKOUT FOR VOTING-MACHINES.

1,210,495. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Jan. 2, 1917.**

Application filed October 18, 1913. Serial No. 795,932.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. LAUSTERER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jamestown, in the county of Chautauqua and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Party-Lever Lockouts for Voting-Machines, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a lockout that will regulate the use of the party levers on the machine, permit the proper legitimate use of them and prevent any improper use of them. These and other objects of the invention will be illustrated in the drawings, described in the specification and pointed out in the claims at the end thereof.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective detail view of one of the party levers such as is illustrated in prior Patent No. 1,036,276. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a portion of the keyboard showing the straight ticket voting mechanism and a portion of the lockout mechanism. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the balance of the lockout mechanism, it being understood that the parts in Fig. 3 occur immediately below and are a continuation of the parts shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a portion of the lockout. Figs. 5, 6 and 7 are longitudinal cross sections through the interlock and lockout mechanism on the line 5^x—5^x in Fig. 3, the parts being shown in different positions.

In the drawings, like reference numerals indicate like parts.

Reference numeral 1 indicates the party lever, which lever passes through the front plate of the machine and has a crank 3 on the rear end thereof, on the outer end of which crank is a stud 4. Mounted in the front plate of the machine are voting keys 5, which keys are arranged in parallel party rows, there being one of the party levers 1 for each of these party rows of voting keys.

Below each party row of keys is a straight ticket bar 6, which straight ticket bar has a lug 7 on which is fastened a stud 8. Fastened in the front plate is a stud 9 on which is pivotally mounted a lever 10. This lever has a long slot 11 therein in which engages the stud 4 on the party lever which is just below the corresponding straight ticket bar 6. It also has a slot 12 therein with which engages the stud 8 on the straight party bar. When the party lever is turned in the direction indicated by the arrow in Fig. 2, the lever rocks to move the party bar 6 to the right. The party bars 6 have teeth 13 thereon. Each of the keys 5 has a stud 14 which extends through the front plate and has connected thereto the crank 15, each of which cranks has a shoulder 16 that can be contacted with the tooth 13. The crank 15 also has a yoke 17 thereon which is slotted at 18 to receive the interlocking strap 19 and is bent laterally at 20 to receive the stud 21 that is adapted to engage with the counter actuator, not shown herein, these parts being more fully described in the application of Dean, No. 576,620. On the yoke is also carried a stud 22 by which the position of the key may be justified with reference to its counter, which detail is shown in application No. 795,053. When the party lever 1 is turned in the direction of the arrow indicated in Figs. 1 and 2, the party bar above it will be moved to the right, causing the keys 5 to turn down on the keyboard on the machine.

At the right of Fig. 2 is mounted for longitudinal movement a universal bar 23. This bar has slots 24 therein adapted to engage with stud 25 mounted on the front plate of the machine. On the bar 23 are studs 26 which are engaged by the forward ends of the levers 10. When any of the party levers 1 are moved to voted position, the lever 10 is oscillated, causing the right hand end of the lever to move down and carry with it the bar 23. This bar 23 has on the bottom thereof a tongue 27 which engages with a dash pot 28 in which is a compression spring 29. As the bar 23 moves down, it compresses the spring and as soon as the voter lets go of the lever 1, the spring expands, pushing up the bar 23 which in turn restores the party lever 1 and the straight ticket bar 6 to normal position. On the bar 23 is the stud 30 on which is mounted the link 31, which link extends down and has a quarter turn on its lower end which lower end engages with the interlocking channel 32. The interlocking channel 32 is slotted at 33 to receive and guide the lower end of the bar 31. The lower end of the bar 31 is serrated at 34 and is notched at 35.

On the front plate are pivotally mounted bell cranks 36. On these bell cranks are carried the studs 37 to which are fastened

the interlocking straps 38. On the bell cranks 36 are carried the studs 39 which are engaged by the lockout bars 40, causing the bell cranks 36 to rock, lifting the straps 38 and the interlocking wedges 39 fastened to the lower end thereof. The lockout bars 40 are such as are used in connection with the primary lockout described in my prior application No. 565,146 and shown in my prior Patent No. 933,378. This lockout bar moves to the right when any of the straight ticket bars 6 are moved to the right or when any key is placed in voting position. For this purpose each key carries a stud 41 which engages with a tooth 42 on the lockout bar and by which the lockout bar is moved to the right. The straps 38 all carry wedges 39 which engage with the interlocking rollers 43 by which they are interlocked. These wedges may be arranged in pairs as is shown at the left of Figs. 5, 6, and 7, the interlocking rollers and wedges being substantially the same as are shown in the patent to Frank Keiper, No. 1,031,184. The interlocking straps 19 also terminate in similar interlocking wedges 44 which interlock with rollers 45 carried in the interlocking channel 46.

Carried in the channel 32 is a sliding block 47 which is forked at the ends and is provided with serrated faces 48. Engaging with this block is a spring 49 which normally holds it to the left as shown in Fig. 5, closing up all of the interlocking rollers against each other. In Fig. 5 none of the wedges 39 is shown in raised position and the block 47 stands withdrawn from contact with the bar 31. In Fig. 6 one of the wedges 39 is in voted position and the block 47 is shown almost in contact with the bar 31. If a second wedge 39 is raised the block 47 with its forked ends will be driven into the recesses 35 of bar 31. Two of the wedges 39 can be raised by moving individual keys on as many different party rows, causing the movement of as many different lockout bars. The third and fourth lockout bars can be moved in the same way, causing a progressive movement of the block 47 which can be moved far enough to permit the operation of all of the lockout bars of all the party rows. The raising of any two wedges 39 will move the block 47 far enough to lock the bar 31 against endwise movement and this in turn will lock the bar 23 against endwise movement. The levers 10 will not be able to turn and this will lock all of the party bars against operation. It will also be seen that after any party lever 1 has been operated, all parts will be in the position shown in Fig. 6. If a second party lever be operated the bar 31 will be lowered taking the recesses 35 out of register with the forked ends of the block 47 which block will be urged forward by the operation of the second wedge 39. The block will squarely abut against the serrated surface 34 of bar 31 which will prevent the further movement of the block 47 preventing the lifting of the second wedge 39 and the movement of the lockout bar 40. The serrated surface of the bar 31 and block 47 engaging with each other will prevent the downward movement of the bar 31 and the bar 23 thus preventing the movement of a second party lever.

In view of the foregoing it will be apparent that no party lever can be operated after a split ticket has been voted and therefore the leverage of the party lever cannot be exerted upon a single voting key for the purpose of forcing the interlock.

The interlocking straps 19 are pierced in the usual way for the resetting bar 60 by which they are reset. The straps 38 are formed with the shoulders 61 with which the bar 60 makes contact for the purpose of resetting them. The bar 60 does not pass through the straps 38 because they lie closer to the front plate. The bar 60 is operated in any suitable manner, such as is shown in Patent No. 945,714, Gillespie, or as is indicated in case of William J. Lausterer heretofore filed, application No. 795,053.

I claim:

1. In a voting machine, the combination of individual candidate voting means for each party, split ticket interlocking means controlled by said individual voting means, and means holding said interlocking means out of operation until individual voting means of more than one party have been actuated.

2. In a voting machine, the combination of individual candidate voting members in party groups, straight ticket voting means, and locking means for said straight ticket voting means directly actuated by said individual candidate voting members and rendered effective after the voting of a plurality of individual members constituting a split ticket.

3. In a voting machine, the combination of voting keys arranged in groups, group voting devices for voting the keys in certain of said groups, and an independent split ticket interlock whereby the actuation of any of said voting keys in more than one of said groups will render the group voting devices inoperative.

4. In a voting machine, individual keys arranged in groups, means for simultaneously actuating the keys of any group, and means and a separate interlock between said keys and said group voting devices whereby the operation of an individual key of any group will render the simultaneous actuating means of other groups inoperative.

5. In a voting machine, voting keys arranged in groups, group voting devices for

voting the keys in certain of said groups, and a separate interlock between said keys and said group voting devices whereby the voting of a key in one group will render the group voting devices of other groups inoperative and leave the group voting device of its own group operative to vote additional keys of said group.

6. In a voting machine, the combination of voting keys arranged in groups, group voting devices for voting all the keys in certain of said groups, and interlocking means between the voting keys and group voting devices whereby the actuation of the group voting device of one group will render the other group voting devices and the keys of all the other groups inoperative.

7. In a voting machine, individual candidate voting means arranged in groups, a group voting device for each group, and means whereby the voting of an individual candidate means in one group will render the group voting devices of other groups inoperative and the voting of an individual candidate means in a second group will render the group voting device of the first group inoperative.

8. In a voting machine, the combination of voting devices arranged in groups, group voting mechanisms for simultaneously actuating the voting devices of any group, a group lockout bar for each group of voting devices, and interlocking means between said lockout bars and said group voting mechanisms whereby the actuation of a group voting mechanism will lock the lockout bars of the other groups against movement to hold the voting devices of said other groups against actuation.

9. In a voting machine, the combination of single candidate keys arranged in party rows, a lockout bar for each party row of keys to lock the keys of the party row, straight ticket voting mechanism for each party row for placing all the keys in a party row in voted position, and a universal bar operated by any of the straight ticket voting mechanisms for preventing the operation of any of the straight ticket voting mechanisms after two or more of the lockout bars have been moved from locking position by the voting of individual keys.

10. In a voting machine, the combination of a series of lockout bars and a series of straight ticket bars, and means to prevent the movement of any of the straight ticket bars after any two or more of the lockout bars have been moved from locking position.

11. In a voting machine, the combination of a series of lockout bars, interlocking devices operated by the movement of said bars, straight ticket voting devices, and a universal bar capable of locking all of said straight ticket voting devices said universal bar interlocking with the interlocking devices of the lockout bars to prevent the movement of the universal bar through the movement of the lockout bars.

12. In a voting machine, the combination of a series of lockout bars, interlocking devices operated by the movement of said bars, and a universal bar movable at right angles to said interlocking devices and being interlocked therewith.

13. In a voting machine, the combination of a series of lockout bars, a bell crank operated by the movement of each of said bars, an interlocking strap connected to each of said bell cranks, wedges on each of said straps, an interlocking channel containing members which interlock with said wedges, a block supported to slide in said channel and driven in one direction by said wedges, and means for moving said block in the reverse direction.

14. In a voting machine, the combination of a series of lockout bars, a bell crank operated by the movement of each of said bars, an interlocking strap connected to each of said bell cranks, a wedge on each of said straps, an interlocking channel containing members which interlock with said wedges, a block supported to slide in said channel and driven in one direction by said wedges, and a universal bar movable transversely of said channel, said bar being adapted to limit said block to a single movement when the bar is in one position and to permit said block to make a series of movements when the bar is in another position.

15. In a voting machine, the combination of a series of lockout bars, a bell crank operated by the movement of each of said bars, an interlocking strap connected to each of said bell cranks, a wedge on each of said straps, an interlocking channel containing members which interlock with said wedges, a block supported to slide in said channel and driven in one direction by said wedges, a universal bar movable transversely of said channel, said bar being adapted to limit said block to a single movement when the bar is in one position and to permit said block to make a series of movements when the bar is in another position, and party levers on the machine engaging with said universal bar to place it in position to restrict the movement of said block by the operation of any of the party levers.

16. In a voting machine, the combination of an interlocking channel, a block mounted to slide therein, a series of rollers and interlocking wedges on the operation of which said block is moved forward, and a bar movable transversely to said channel having a recess therein into which the end of said block is adapted to pass.

17. In a voting machine, the combination of an interlocking channel, a block mounted to slide therein, a series of rollers and inter-

locking wedges on the operation of which said block is moved forward, a bar movable transversely to said channel having a recess therein into which the end of said block is adapted to pass, and guides in said channel for said bar.

18. In a voting machine, the combination of an interlocking channel, a block mounted to slide therein, a series of rollers and interlocking wedges on the operation of which said block is moved forward, a bar movable transversely to said channel having a recess therein into which the end of said block is adapted to pass, and guides in said channel for said bar, said bar being movable to put the recess thereof out of register with the end of said block for the purpose of limiting the movement of said block.

19. In a voting machine, the combination of a plate, party levers mounted to oscillate therein, said party levers having a crank thereon at the rear of the plate, a bell crank pivotally mounted on said plate for each of said party levers with which bell crank said party levers make engagement, and straight ticket bars mounted to slide on the rear of said plate, each of said bars being engaged with one of said bell cranks whereby on the operation of said party levers the straight ticket bar is operated.

20. In a voting machine, the combination of a plate, party levers mounted to oscillate therein, said party levers having a crank thereon at the rear of the plate, a bell crank pivotally mounted on said plate for each of said party levers with which bell crank said party levers make engagement, and straight ticket bars mounted to slide on the rear of said plate, each of said bars being engaged with one of said bell cranks whereby on the operation of said party levers the straight ticket bar is operated, a universal bar mounted parallel to the row of party levers, each of said bell cranks being adapted to engage the universal bar to cause the movement thereof by the operation of any of said levers.

21. In a voting machine, the combination of a plate, party levers mounted to oscillate therein, said party levers having a crank thereon at the rear of the plate, a bell crank pivotally mounted on said plate for each of said party levers with bars mounted to slide on the rear of said plate, each of said bars being engaged with one of said bell cranks whereby on the operation of said party levers the straight ticket bar is operated, a universal bar mounted parallel to the row of party levers, each of said bell cranks being adapted to engage the universal bar to cause the movement thereof by the operation of any of said levers, and means for returning said universal bar to its normal position.

22. In a voting machine, the combination of single candidate keys arranged in party rows, a straight ticket bar for each party row, each of said bars engaging with the keys of its row to move them to voted position, a lockout bar for each party row engaging with the keys of its row to hold them locked against voting operation or to be moved to unlocking position by the operation of any key in the party row, and an interlocking mechanism between the straight ticket bars and the lockout bars that permits the operation of any one of the straight ticket bars but prevents the operation of all of the straight ticket bars after any two of the lockout bars have been operated.

23. The combination in a voting machine, of straight ticket voting members, individual candidate voting means for each party, and interlocking mechanism directly engaged by said individual candidate voting means whereby the operation of individual candidate voting means in one party will render the straight ticket members of the other parties inoperative but leave its own straight ticket member free for operation.

24. In a voting machine, the combination of straight ticket voting members, individual candidate voting means, and a separate interlock whereby the operation of either a straight ticket member or individual candidate voting means of one party will prevent the operation of the straight ticket members of the other parties.

25. In a voting machine, the combination of single candidate keys arranged in party rows, a party lever for each row of single candidate keys, a bar operated by said party levers to place all of said keys in each party row, in voting position, a lockout bar to lock the keys of each party row against moving to voting position, each of said lockout bars being movable by any key of its party row to unlocking position, means controlling the operation of said lockout bars, and a universal bar operated by any of the party levers to prevent the movement of more than one of said lockout bars.

26. In a voting machine, the combination of individual voting means, straight ticket voting means, a split ticket interlock controlled by said individual and straight ticket voting means, and means for holding said interlock out of operation until a plurality of voting means constituting a split ticket are actuated.

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

WILLIAM J. LAUSTERER.

Witnesses:
ETHEL C. MILLER,
MOLLIE H. SHANAHAN.

Correction in Letters Patent No. 1,210,495.

It is hereby certified that in Letters Patent No. 1,210,495, granted January 2, 1917, upon the application of William J. Lausterer, of Jamestown, New York, for an improvement in "Party-Lever Lockouts for Voting-Machines," an error appears in the printed specification requiring correction as follows: Page 2, lines 124–125, claim 4, for the words "and a separate interlock between said keys and said group voting devices" read *independent of said actuating means;* and that the said Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein that the same may conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed and sealed this 30th day of January, A. D., 1917.

[SEAL.]

F. W. H. CLAY,

Acting Commissioner of Patents.

Cl. 235—54.

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