W. E. STRATTON.
COIN CONTROLLED TICKET VENDING MACHINE.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 4, 1908.
903,914. Patented Nov. 17, 1908.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

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Inventor

Witnesses
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By

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Inventor
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By
Counsel of Record
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COIN-CONTROLLED TICKET-VENDING MACHINE.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALLACE E. STRATTON, of New York, N. Y., a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York, State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Coin-Controlled Ticket-Vending Machines; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same.

The present invention relates to improvements in coin-controlled vending machines, and has as its principal object the provision of an exceedingly simple apparatus of that nature designed for vending tickets or postal cards, or other commodities, such as chewing gum, which are sold in flat compact packages.

To this end, the invention consists in the particular construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, all as hereinafter fully described, specifically claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which corresponding parts, or features, as the case may be, are designated by the same reference characters throughout the several views.

Of the said drawings, Figures 1 and 2 are perspective views of the improved vending machine, the door of the casing of the machine being shown in Fig. 2 in open position. Fig. 3 is a broken enlarged end elevation of the machine with the front panel removed. Fig. 4 is a similar side elevation with the door removed. Fig. 5 is a plan view with the top panel removed. Figs. 6, 7 and 8 are detail views, respectively, of the magazine, the cam and operating lever, and the slide.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, the casing or cabinet within which the working parts of the apparatus are disposed, is shown as comprising suitable top and bottom panels a and a', front and rear panels b and N, a side panel M, and a door 2, which latter is connected with the panel N by a hinge 8.

The front panel b has formed therein a pair of vertical slots 4 and 6 located one above the other, and a horizontal slot 5 located below the slot 6. The slots 4 and 5 are utilized respectively for coin-receiving and ticket-delivering purposes, while the slot 6 provides an opening through which projects the operating lever H, hereinafter described, said slot 6 having its upper end continued through the adjacent edge of the panel b as indicated by the reference character 6'.

Within the upper portion of the interior of the cabinet is located the card or ticket magazine 3 which is mounted upon a pair of horizontal brackets 19 provided with oppositely-disposed longitudinal slots 50, as shown in Fig. 3, said brackets being secured at their ends to the front and rear panels b and N. The magazine which is shown in detail in Fig. 5, is approximately C-shaped in cross-section, its vertical sides 98 and 99 having their outer longitudinal edges bent towards each other, to form the flanges D and their extreme lower edges cut away adjacent the guide-bars A, to provide the escape openings B shown in said figure.

The slots 50 above referred to, receive the longitudinal edges of the base member F' of a pusher plate or slide, the top member F of which carries at its rear end a rectangular stop-shoulder E which works between the guide-bars A and through the openings B, and is of a height equal to the thickness of the article to be vended, the lowermost article being engaged by said shoulder during the forward movement of the slide, and forced through the front opening B which latter registers with the delivery slot 5.

The base member F' of the slide carries a finger G which projects laterally beyond the outer bracket 19, and has its enlarged inner end g fastened to said member by pins 30. To one of these pins is secured the front end of a retractile coil-spring 20' whose rear end is attached to a pin 20 carried by the inner bracket 19 and its rear end, the tension of the spring normally maintaining the slide at the limit of its rearward movement in contact with a stop k.

The lower portion of the cabinet is occupied by a safe, or coin receptacle 10 in whose top wall is formed the intake opening a'. The safe is provided with a suitable lock 10', access to which is prevented when the door 2 is closed, the door being retained in such position by means of a hasp 9' arranged for engagement with a lock 9 secured to the inner face of the panel b, the sleeve 7 of the lock 9 extending through an opening formed in said panel, as shown in Fig. 4.

To the inner face of the door 2 are fastened two vertical runners 13 arranged in spaced relation to and parallel with each other, the
upper ends of the runners being connected by a cross-piece 14 carrying a screw 14′ to which a retractile coil-spring 15 has its upper end secured, its lower end being attached to a screw 5, set into the cam-carrying plate 1, which is slideable between the runners and is normally held in raised position by the tension of the spring. The plate I, as shown in Fig. 7, has secured thereto by means of screws 40 the upper portion or base J′ of a cam arm J which extends downwards and is offset adjacent its base J′, as indicated by the reference character j. To said base portion is attached by means of a shoulder or offset 33 an inverted L-shaped coin-striker arm K.

The arm proper J has secured thereto immediately at its ends the bent end 32 of a striker plate L′. The base portion of the cam arm is further connected to the operating lever H whose front end projects outwardly through the slot 6, as above stated, and has its opposite side faces provided with grooves 5 into which the side walls of said slot are received.

The offset or tenoned inner end 34 of the lever is fastened to the coin-striker K, the screw 3 above mentioned passing through an opening formed in the lever. To the inner face of the door 2 there is also secured the ear portion 12′ of a bracket 12 which carries an angular coin chute 1 the opening in whose upper or inlet end registers with the slot 4 when the door is closed, said end being provided with a collar 11 which contacts with the inner face of the panel 6 in which said slot is formed. The chute as shown in Fig. 3, is formed with an offset portion P through whose open upper end the free end of the striker K projects, the vertical lower portion 11′ of the chute being disposed directly slightly above the intake opening 2′ in the safe 10. Near its lower end the chute is provided with an opening 49, illustrated in Fig. 4, through which projects one end of a horizontally-disposed lock-bar 17 supported by a pair of brackets 18, said bar being normally held at the limit of its inward movement with respect to the chute by means of a leaf spring 16 which is secured to one of the runners 15 and bears at its lower end against the bar. The projecting end of the bar thus forms a stop which serves to arrest the progress of the coin c through the chute.

The bar has formed therethrough a slot 17′.

The operation of the apparatus is as follows. A coin of the proper denomination is inserted through the receiving slot 4 into the upper end of the chute through which it travels until stopped by the projecting end of the lock-bar. The operator then pulls down the lever H against the tension of the spring 15, thus forcing the plate I to move downwards between the runners 13. During this motion of the plate, the arm J will engage the finger G, forcing the slide member F contacting with the adjacent end of the lowermost card or ticket and projecting the same sufficiently far through the delivery slot 5 to permit it to be grasped by the operator. This movement of the plate can be effected however, only when a coin has actually been inserted in the coin-chute, since the location of the lock-bar is such that in its normal or projected position it lies in the path of movement of the striker L′. If then, no coin has been deposited in the chute, said bar will remain in its normal position and thus limit the movement of the operating lever to an extent sufficient to prevent the actuation of the slide by the cam arm. On the other hand, where the coin has actually been deposited in the chute, the downward movement of the lever will cause the striker arm K to contact with the coin and force the latter past the projecting end of the lock-bar, which latter is retracted by the movement of the coin against the action of the spring 16, thus bringing the slot 17′ directly below the lower end of the striker L′ in position to permit said end to pass therethrough, during the continued downward movement of the lever.

While the magazine is designed primarily to be fitted with tickets or cards, it is to be understood that these may be replaced by packages of chewing gum and similar commodities.

What is claimed is:

1. The combination, with a coin-chute, of a movable member having one end thereof arranged to enter the chute, to arrest the passage of a coin therethrough; means for normally holding said member in projected position; a coin striker having one end thereof working in said chute above said member; means for moving the striker against the coin, to force the latter past said member by retracting the same; and means carried by said striker and arranged for engagement with said member, when the latter is retracted, to prevent movement thereof.

2. The combination, with a coin-chute, of an endwise movable member having its front end arranged to enter the chute, to arrest the passage of a coin therethrough; means for normally holding said member in projected position; a coin striker having one end thereof working in said chute above said member; means for moving the striker against the coin, to force the latter past said member by retracting the same; and means carried by said striker and arranged for engagement with said member, when the latter is retracted, to prevent movement thereof.

3. The combination, with a coin-chute, of a notched movable member having one end thereof arranged to enter the chute, to arrest the passage of a coin therethrough; means for normally holding said member in pro
jected position; a coin striker having one end thereof working in said chute above said member; means for moving the striker against the coin, to force the latter past said member, by retracting the same; and means operated by the movement of the striker and arranged for engagement in the notch in said member when the latter is retracted, to prevent movement thereof.

4. The combination, with a coin-chute, of a notched movable member having one end thereof arranged to enter the chute, to arrest the passage of a coin therethrough; means for normally holding said member in projected position; a coin striker having one end thereof working in said chute above said member; means for moving the striker against the coin, to force the latter past said member, by retracting the same; and means connected with said striker and arranged for engagement in the notch in said member when the latter is retracted, to prevent movement thereof.

5. The combination, with a coin-chute, of a spring pressed lock bar extending into said coin-chute, said lock bar being provided with a slot; a spring held striker plate adapted to work into said slot in one position; a spring pressed coin striker extending into said coin-chute; and means to simultaneously actuate said striker plate and coin striker.

6. The combination, with a coin-chute, of a notched movable member having one end thereof arranged to enter the chute, to arrest the passage of a coin therethrough; means for normally holding said member in projected position; a coin striker having one end thereof working in said chute above said member, means for moving the striker against the coin, to force the latter past said member, by retracting the same; and means operated by the movement of the striker and arranged for engagement with said member when the latter is retracted, to prevent movement thereof.

7. The combination, with a coin-chute, of a movable lock-bar having one end thereof arranged to enter the chute, to arrest the passage of a coin therethrough; means for normally holding the bar in projected position; a coin striker having one end thereof working in said chute above said bar; a movable member arranged for engagement with said bar when the latter is retracted; and means for simultaneously actuating said striker and said member.

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

WALLACE E. STRATTON.

Witnesses:

Jos. F. Kennelly,
C. O. Farwell.