May 27, 1924.

1,495,874

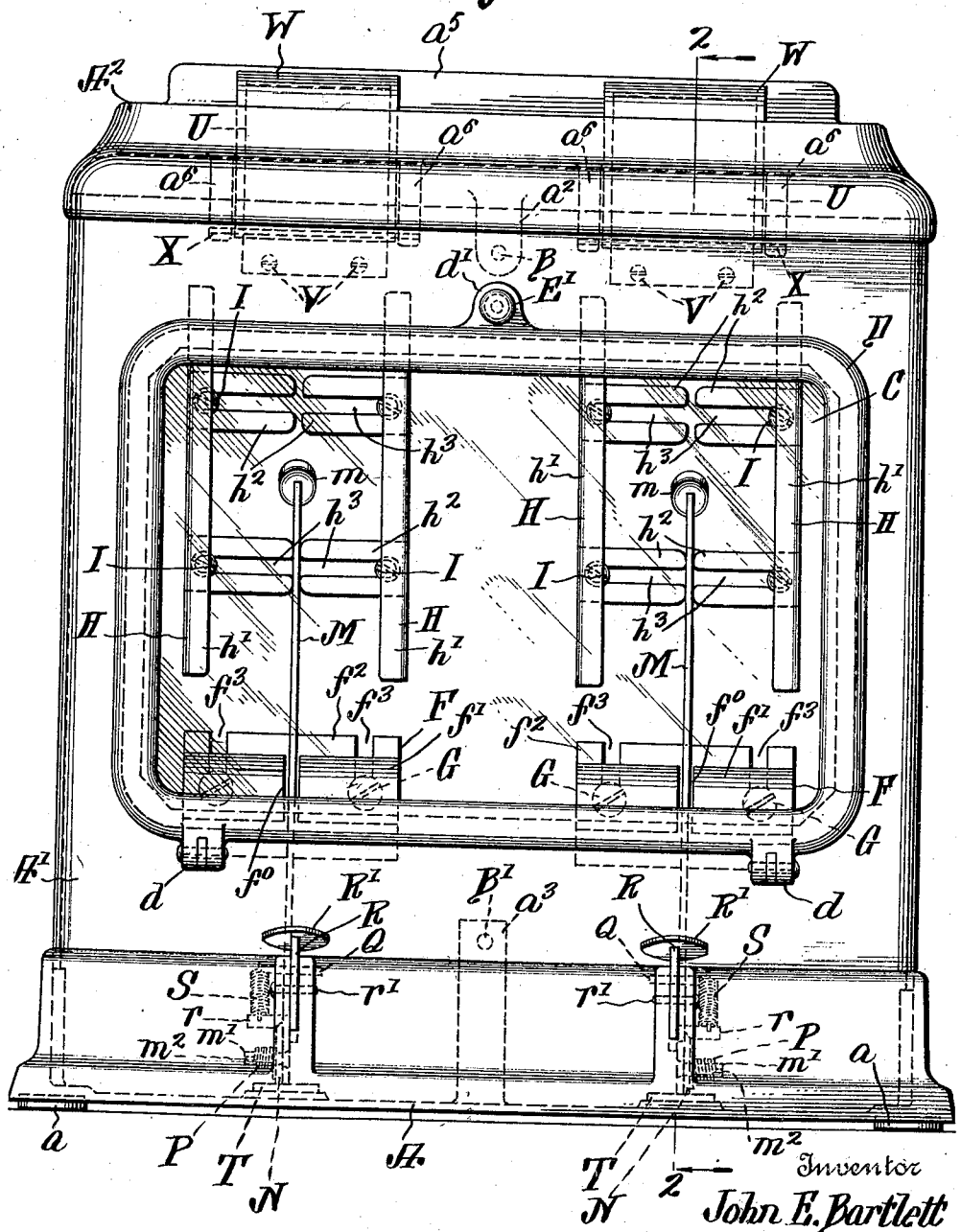
J. E. BARTLETT

DEVICE FOR FEEDING PAPER SLIPS

Filed Jan. 24, 1923

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.



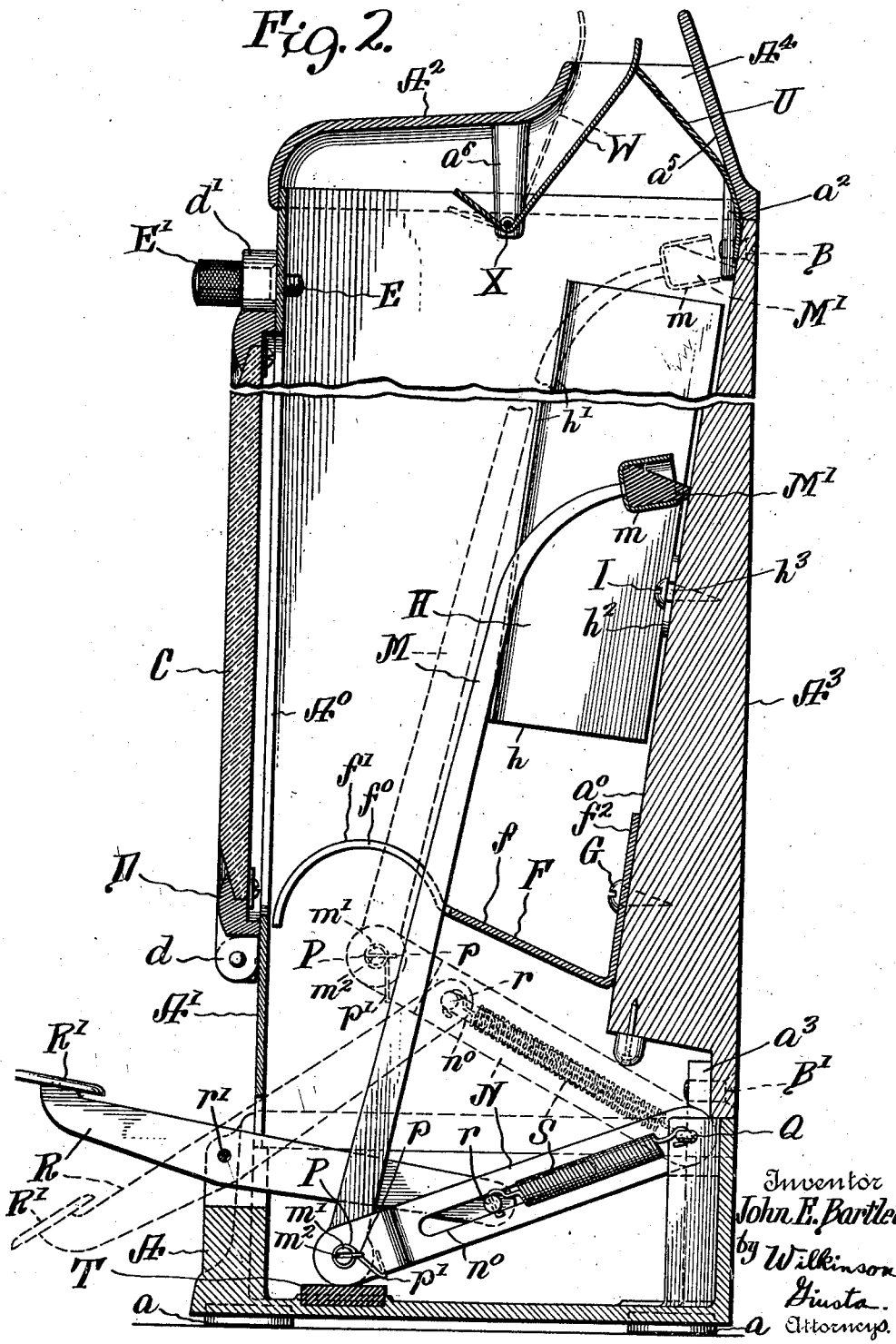
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Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DEVICE FOR FEEDING PAPER SLIPS.

Application filed January 24, 1923. Serial No. 614,671.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN EDMUND BARTLETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Birmingham, in the county of Jefferson and State of Alabama, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Feeding Paper Slips; 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 appertains to make and use the same.

My present invention relates to improvements in devices for feeding slips or sheets of paper or similar material seriatim from a loose stack or pile of the same.

The invention is specially intended to prevent waste in the use of bank checks, or deposit slips, or telegraph blanks. It may be also used for the delivery of stationery, such as envelopes or sheets of paper from the suitable receptacles provided at hotels or other public places.

It is well known that either through carelessness or cupidity, there is a tendency of the average consumer to be very wasteful in the use of articles of the kind referred to. Thus, it frequently occurs that people take away bank checks or deposit slips for use in making memoranda, and telegraph blanks are similarly wasted, while the waste of stationery at hotels is quite an important feature, generally necessitating the doling out of such stationery in limited quantities, as it may be required for use.

According to my invention, the articles to be used are supplied one by one to the user and he is not apt to spend the time or to attract the attention of the bystanders in withdrawing such articles in a wasteful way.

Moreover, according to my invention, I provide a neat and attractive receptacle in which such articles are kept free from dust or dirt, and are not blown around by the wind or careless cleaners, and which are served to the users fresh and clean in the quantities desired.

My invention will be more clearly understood after reference to the accompanying drawings, in which I show a cabinet adapted to use in a bank, provided with separate adjustable holders for checks and deposit slips; but similar receptacles may be used in telegraph offices, hotels or other places where articles of the character described are to be dispensed.

In the drawings like parts are indicated by similar reference symbols through out the several views, in which:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the completed cabinet as arranged to be stood upon a table or shelf; and

Figure 2 shows a section along the line 2—2 of Figure 1 and looking in the direction of the arrows.

The operating parts are held in the casing, which for convenience of manufacture, may be made of separate parts connected together, as shown.

I provide a base A, which may be provided at its bottom with discs a of rubber, leather or the like, to prevent scratching the table or shelf. The central portion of the casing A′ comprises an open front and side walls, to which the upper portion A^2 is connected, and the rear portion A^3 is connected to the top and base portions by means of lugs a^2 and a^3 and screws B and B′.

The inner face a^0 of the rear portion A^3 is inclined upwards and backwards, as shown in Fig. 2. For lightness of construction, this rear portion A^3 is preferably made of a wooden block, as shown in Fig. 2, but it may be made of metal, if desired. The front of the casing is provided with an opening A^0, which is covered by a door, preferably comprising a glass pane C mounted in the frame D, which frame is hinged at its lower end d to the casing, and at its upper end is provided with a lug d', perforated to receive the screw E, which screw is provided with a knurled head E′. This screw engages in screw threads in the front wall of the casing and by turning the screw, the door may be opened or closed, as desired.

Mounted inside of the casing I provide adjustable supports or racks F and guides H for the checks or deposit slips, or the like, which are to be dispensed by the apparatus. These supports or racks F, as shown, consist of bent plates having the portion f serving to support the lower end of the checks or deposit slips, and the curved end f' slotted as at f^0 to permit passage therethrough of the pusher bar and also to serve as guides for said pusher bar.

The other ends of these plates f^2 are slotted as at f^3 to engage the adjusting

screws G. Thus, these supports F may be moved up or down and adjusted according to the length of the slip of paper to be supported thereon and to be dispensed from the machine.

Mounted above the plates F are the guides H, which are oppositely disposed, as shown in Fig. 1, and are provided with vertical walls h having their front edges flanged inward as at h', and their rear edges provided with lugs h^2 slotted as at h^3 to engage the adjusting screws I. These guides may be moved towards or away from each other and set at the desired position, so as to correspond to the width of the paper slips to be held therebetween and to be fed from the machine.

I have shown two of these plates F one near each side of the casing and two pairs of the guides H arranged above the supports F, and I have shown these as of the same dimensions relatively, but obviously those on one side of the machine may be made larger than those on the other, but for convenience of manufacture, it will be better to have the same made of standard size and adjusted to suit the dimensions of the paper slips, as just described.

The paper slips, not shown, are fed upward by the pusher bars M, each of which carries at its upper end a cup m, in which the adhesive tip M′ of rubber or similar material is mounted, as shown in Fig. 2. Each of these pusher bars M is provided at its lower end with a lug or fixed pin m' slotted as at m^2. To this stud m' the lever N is pivoted, and I provide a spring P, which has one end p engaging in said slot m^2 and its other end p' engaging beneath the lever N, as shown in Fig. 2, whereby there is a slight spring pressure applied to the pusher bar M, tending to swing its upper end to the right, causing the tip M′ to engage on the face of the paper slip, with a slight pressure, and preventing the pusher bar from swinging backwards too far.

The lever N is pivoted at its rear end to the pin Q, preferably a cotter pin, and is slotted as at n^0 to receive the lug r projecting from the key lever R, which is pivoted to the casing as at r' and is provided with a key R′. This stud r is drawn towards the cotter pin Q by means of a tension spring S, which spring tends to normally restore the parts to the initial position, shown in full lines in Fig. 2.

Incidentally, the weight of the parts would accomplish a similar result, but the spring S referred to gives a positive and quick action for restoring the parts to the initial position. This spring also has a function of checking the downward movement of the key, as the pusher bar moves upward, as will be evident from the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2. This spring, therefore, serves as a shock absorber against the upward movement of the pusher bar and provides a form of "touch" to the instrument, analogous to that found in typewriting machines, or the like.

In order to prevent rattling, I provide a buffer T of rubber or similar material, which serves as a shock absorber when the pusher bar and the parts connected thereto return to the initial position, shown in full lines in Fig. 2.

The upper portion A^2 of the casing is provided with throats A^4, through which the paper slips are fed in the upward direction. At one side of each throat I provide a spring plate U inclined inwards, as shown in Fig. 2, which plate is secured to the casing, as by means of the screws V. At the other side of each throat I provide a bent plate W, which is pivoted as at X to the lugs a^6 projecting downward from the top of the casing.

This plate W tends to swing inward and to close the throat, as shown in Fig. 2, but may be readily pressed outwards to the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2, as the paper slips are fed upwards. Thus, the plates U and W normally keep the top of the casing closed and prevent dust or the like from falling on the paper slips below, but permit the paper slips to be conveniently fed upwards, when desired.

Obviously, the plate U may be omitted and the inclined face a^5 of the casing may serve to guide the slips upwards, but I prefer to have a separate plate, as shown.

The operation of the device is as follows:

Suppose the supports F and guides H to be properly adjusted and the paper slips in place, and suppose the operating parts to be in the position shown in full lines in Fig. 2, pressing down on the key R′ will cause the pusher bar M to move upward from the position shown in full lines to the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2. This will cause the front paper slip to be moved over the lower slips and the free end of said slip will be pressed between the plates U and W, and the same may be drawn out from the machine.

The parts are so adjusted that only one slip at a time can be fed out. The inclined face a^9 of the back of the casing will facilitate the feeding of the slips seriatim.

When the key R′ is released, the weight of the parts, supplemented by the action of the spring S, will tend to restore the parts from the position shown in dotted lines to that shown in full lines in Fig. 2.

While I have shown a casing arranged to feed two separate sets of paper slips, such as checks and deposit slips, it will be obvious that a casing may be made to use a single set of slips only, or more than two sets of slips.

I have shown a single embodiment of the invention in a simple form, but it will be obvious that changes might be made in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts, which could be used without departing from the spirit of my invention, and I do not mean to limit myself to such details, except as particularly pointed out in the claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. Apparatus of the character described comprising a closed casing having an opening in the front thereof and a door closing said opening, the said casing having its rear wall inclined slightly upwards and rearwards, with a delivery throat at the upper end of said casing, a supporting rack, adjustably secured to the inclined rear wall of said casing, and provided with a forwardly projecting slotted portion, guides for the edges of the paper slips also adjustably secured to said inclined rear wall, a pusher bar having an adhesive tip at the upper end thereof adapted to engage the forward paper slip, said bar engaging in the slotted front portion of said supporting rack, a slotted lever pivoted to said casing and to said pusher bar, and a key lever pivoted to said casing and projecting through the front wall thereof, and having a lug engaging said slotted lever.

2. Apparatus of the character described, comprising a closed casing having an opening in the front thereof and a door closing said opening, the said casing having its rear wall inclined slightly upwards and rearwards, with a delivery throat at the upper end of said casing, a spring plate at the back of the throat inclined forwardly and upwardly with its outer end substantially in the same plane with the outermost paper slip when a full stack of slips is present on the rack, a swinging plate normally closing said throat and extending substantially diagonally near the throat and adapted to rest near its upper end against the outer end of said spring plate, said swinging plate being carried by the casing forwardly of the throat, and below the throat, a supporting rack adjustably secured to the inclined rear wall of said casing, adjustable guides for the edges of the paper slips, a pusher bar having an adhesive tip at the upper end thereof adapted to engage the forward paper slip, a slotted lever pivoted to said casing and to said pusher bar, and a key pivoted to said casing and projecting through the front wall thereof, and having a lug engaging said slotted lever.

3. Apparatus of the character described comprising a closed casing having an opening in the front thereof and a door closing said opening, the said casing having its rear wall inclined slightly upwards and rearwards, with a delivery throat at the upper end of said casing, and a swinging plate normally closing said throat but yielding to slight upward pressure of the paper slips, a supporting rack adjustably secured to the inclined rear wall of said casing, and provided with a forwardly projecting slotted portion, guides for the edges of the paper slips also adjustably secured to said inclined rear wall, a pusher bar having an adhesive tip at the upper end thereof adapted to engage the forward paper slip, said bar engaging in the slotted front portion of said supporting rack, a slotted lever pivoted to said casing and to said pusher bar, and a key pivoted to said casing and projecting through the front wall thereof, and having a lug engaging said slotted lever, with a tension spring connecting said lug and the pivot of said slotted lever, and tending to positively restore the parts to the initial position.

JOHN EDMUND BARTLETT.