W. E. BURGETT.

DESK.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 10, 1916.

1,273,729. Patented July 23, 1918.

Fig. 1.

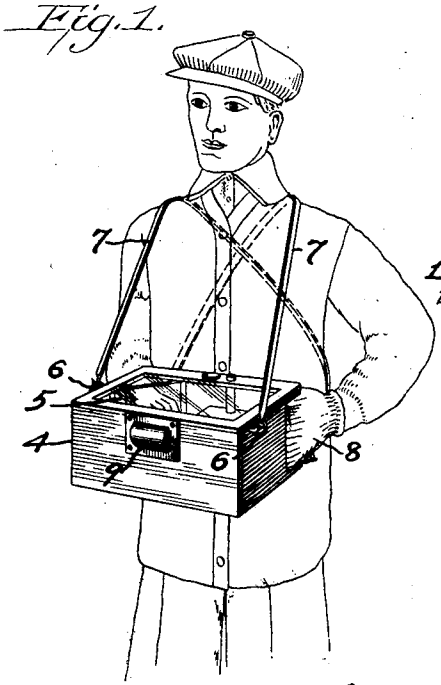


Fig. 3.

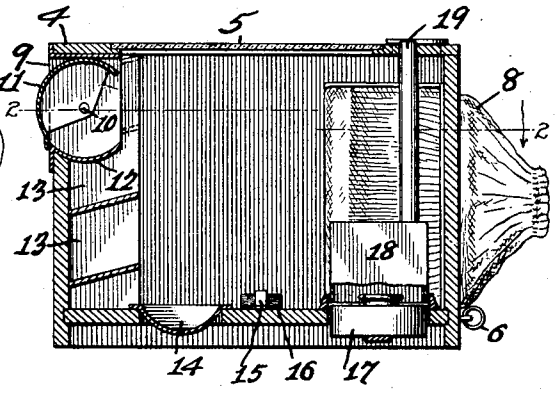
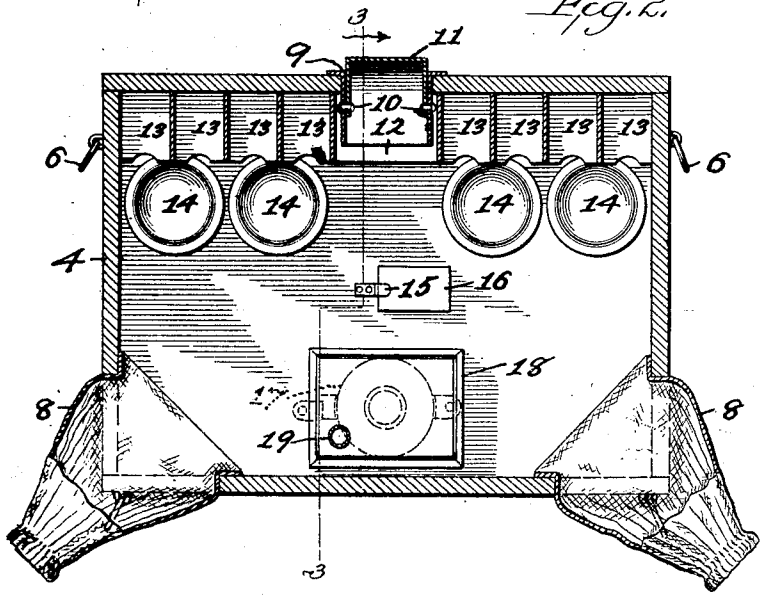


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES

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DESK.

1,273,729. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 23, 1918.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILFRED E. BURGETT, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Flaxton, in the county of Burke and State of North Dakota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Desks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to desks for use at auction sales, and the object thereof is to provide portable means whereby an accurate record of each sale may be made, concerning the purchaser, the article purchased, the price bid therefor, and such other data as might be desired.

A further object is to provide means whereby the individual records, in the form of sales checks, may be instantly accessible, whereby the purchase money may be received into the device and any change returned, whereby the moneys so received are kept inaccessible to anyone other than the person carrying the device, whereby monetary denominational units may be kept in separate compartments for ready change making, and whereby the device may be adapted for use in cold weather, as at outdoor sales or indoor sales with the doors open to admit the public.

My invention is fully described in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawings form a part, in which like characters refer to like parts in each of the views, and in which:—

Figure 1 is a view of my device in use;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged horizontal section taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 3; and

Fig. 3 is a section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings, 4 represents a casing of any desired form provided with a transparent top plate 5 and with rings 6 in predetermined locations for straps 7 whereby the casing 4 may be suspended from the shoulders of a person as clearly shown in Fig. 1, and the corners nearest to the body of the person carrying the device are provided with flexible armlets 8 through which the user of the device gains and retains access to the interior of the casing and preventing such access by other persons while the device is in use.

At the front of the casing is an opening 9 at the bottom of which and extending inwardly of the casing is a shelf formed on an arc of a circle of which a pivot 10 is the center, two of said pivots being provided at opposite ends of the opening 9 and serving as pivotal supports for a cover 11 normally closing said opening and formed, in cross-section, on an arc of a circle of slightly less radius than that of the shelf 12 whereby said cover may revolve about its pivots inwardly of said shelf, this being the money receiving and delivering means.

Interiorly of the front of the casing are a plurality of pigeon-holes 13 arranged in superposed rows, these at the ends of the horizontal rows being intended for the storage of extra pads or other supplies whereas the intervening holes of the several rows are alphabetically designated and are intended for the reception of the sales slips to be described, and a plurality of coin receptacles 14 are provided in the bottom of the casing convenient for the hands of the user of the device.

A spring clip 15 is also provided in the bottom of the casing serving to hold a pad 16 of sales slips of a size adapted to be inserted and alphabetically classified in the designated pigeon-holes and, when a sale of an article is made, the user of my device writes the name of the purchaser, the name of the article, and the purchase price, upon the uppermost slip on the pad 16, detaches said slip from the pad, and files the same in its proper pigeon-hole bearing the first letter of the purchaser's surname.

At any time during or after the auction if a purchaser of one or more articles desires to pay for the same, all that is necessary is for the user of my device to extract the purchaser's sales slips from the pigeon-hole in which they had been filed, totalize the amounts, tell the purchaser the total, receive the purchase money through the normally closed opening 9 and return the change through said opening if any change is due, no one but the user of the device thus having access to the money in the casing or to the sales slips and, to keep a check on the user of the device, the pads 16 will have a predetermined number of slips, each, which may or may not be consecutively numbered.

The armlets 8 not only serve to prevent access to the casing by other persons than the user but also prevent the ready removal of the user's hands although they permit free manipulation of the contents of the casing, and said armlets also serve to prevent the entry of drafts or cold air into the casing.

Inasmuch as auction sales are usually held in stores with open doors and without heat, or in the open air in country districts, I provide an alcohol stove 17 in the bottom of the casing, a sheathing 18 for the flame thereof, and a chimney 19 for the escape of the products of combustion, air being admitted beneath or through suitable draft holes to the said flame.

My invention is very simple though of considerable advantage to auctioneers who now rely upon one or more assistants to record the sales, receive the money, and make change, in the open, and it will be seen that the element of dishonesty on the part of an assistant is entirely eliminated by my device, as is also the possibility of mistake, or access to the money by unauthorized persons.

While I have shown a preferred embodiment of my invention, I do not desire to limit myself to the details shown and described, as many changes may be made thereover and still be within the spirit of the invention and the scope of the appended claims.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. A device as characterized consisting of a casing including a front wall provided centrally of the upper portion with a horizontal opening therethrough and arm receiving openings disposed obliquely at each rear corner thereof and in converging relation to each other, said arm openings disposed partly in the rear and end walls of the casing, and a closure for the opening in the front wall, said closure consisting of a semi-circular tray rotatably mounted within said opening to receive and deliver coins to and from the casing.

2. A device of the class described comprising a casing having a front opening therein at its central upper portion and two rear corner arm receiving openings, obliquely disposed in converging relation to each other, armlets fitted to said corner openings, and a manually operable and normally closed closure for said front opening, said closure including a semi-circular tray rotatably mounted in the front opening to permit the passage of desired money matter into and out of the casing.

3. A device of the character described consisting of a casing having a front wall provided with an opening through its upper central portion, a series of superposed pigeon holes within the casing, projecting from said front wall at each side of the front opening, and open at their rear ends, coin receptacles carried by the floor of the casing and at each side of the front opening, a closure for the opening in the front wall, said closure consisting of a coin chute rotatably mounted within said opening and adapted to be manually operated from within the casing to receive and deliver coins, and means carried at the rear corners of the casing to receive the arms of the operator to manipulate the coin chute.

WILFRED E. BURGETT.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."