

A. J. GILLESPIE & W. J. LAUSTERER.  
CONTROLLING MECHANISM FOR VOTING MACHINES.  
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 6, 1908.

972,527.

Patented Oct. 11, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

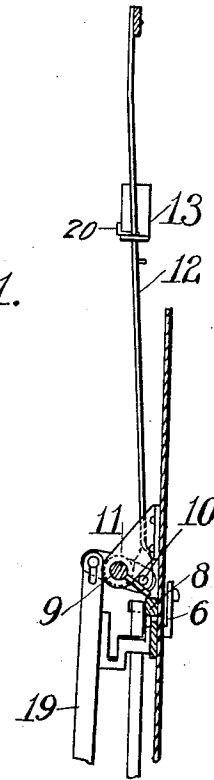
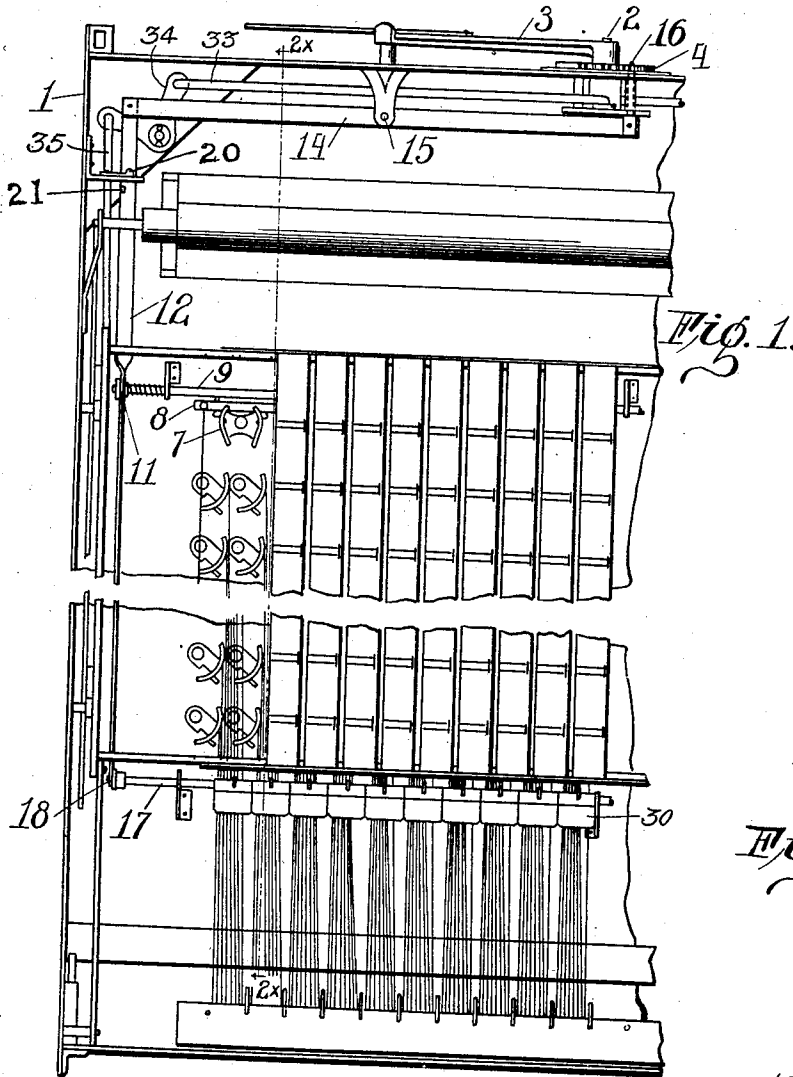


Fig. 2.

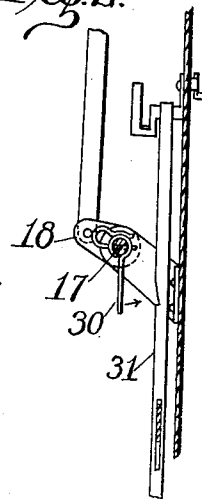
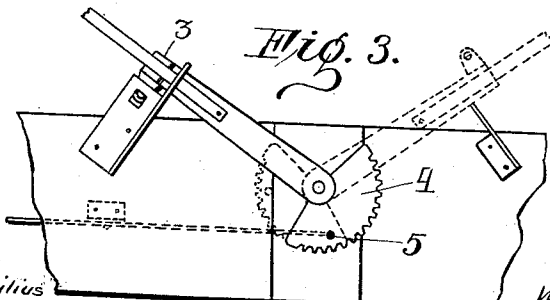


Fig. 3.



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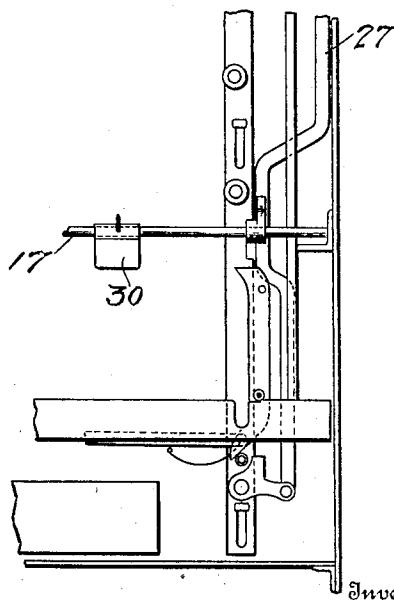
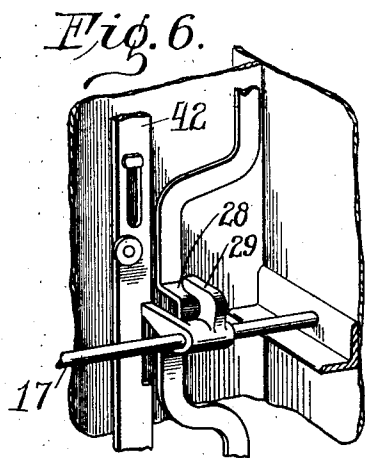
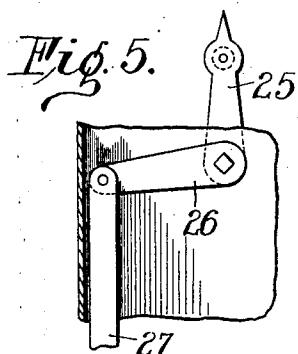
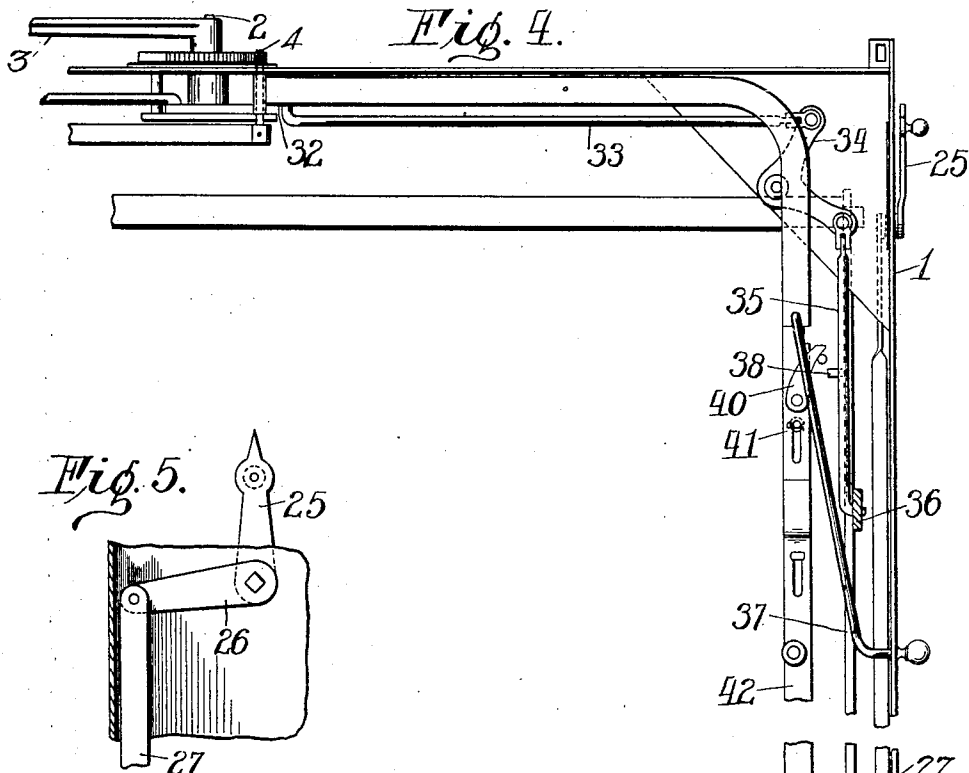
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Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFRED J. GILLESPIE, OF ATLANTIC, IOWA, AND WILLIAM J. LAUSTERER, OF JAMESTOWN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNORS, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO EMPIRE VOTING MACHINE COMPANY, OF ROCHESTER AND JAMESTOWN, NEW YORK, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

## CONTROLLING MECHANISM FOR VOTING-MACHINES.

972,527.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 11, 1910.

Application filed June 5, 1908. Serial No. 436,852.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, ALFRED J. GILLESPIE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Atlantic, in the county of Cass and State of Iowa, and 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 Controlling Mechanism for Voting-Machines, of which the following is a specification.

*"Yes" and "No" control of curtain lever.*—The object of this invention is to provide means by which the voter is compelled to vote on questions or amendments before he can release himself from the machine.

The invention is shown as applied to a machine such as is described in prior patents on voting machines that have been issued to Alfred J. Gillespie and William J. Lausterer: for example, Pat. #802,820.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 represents a rear view of the back of the machine with the working parts exposed. Fig. 2 represents a vertical transverse section of the machine on an enlarged scale on the line 2X, 2X, of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view of a portion of the top of the machine showing the curtain lever. Fig. 4 is an elevation of a portion of the right hand part of the machine showing the woman's lock-out and resetting mechanism. Fig. 5 is a detail of the woman's lockout lever. Fig. 6 is a detail showing in perspective the connections between the woman's lockout shaft and its operating mechanism.

In the accompanying drawings like reference numbers refer to like parts.

In Fig. 1 reference numeral 1 refers to the casing of the voting machine. On top of this casing at its center is mounted the shaft 2. This shaft extends up through the top of the machine casing and has keyed thereto the curtain lever 3. This shaft has also keyed thereto the ratchet plate 4 which plate has therein a pinhole 5.

Pivoted on the front of the machine are the "Yes" and "No" keys 6 having a double yoke 7 similar to that shown in Fig. 18 of the patent to Alfred J. Gillespie No. 647,657. These keys are reset and locked by the bars 8 one of which bars serves to reset and lock several of such keys so that no key

can be turned to the right or left without lifting the bar 8 which otherwise holds it. Pivoted to the rear of and a little above the bar 8 is the rock shaft 9 which extends parallel to said bar 8. This rock shaft 9 has pins 10, 10, thereon which pins engage with and rest on the bars 8, one of these pins 10 making contact with each end of the bar 8. Each of these bars 8 is long enough to reset and lock a number of the "Yes" and "No" keys, preferably five, and the two pins 10 on the rock shaft 9 will engage said bar 8 near the ends thereof. In this way if any one of the bars 8 is lifted at either end the pin 10 resting on that end will be raised and the shaft 9 will be rocked. At the left hand end of shaft 9 as shown in Fig. 1 is carried a crank 11 which crank is connected to a connecting rod 12 which connecting rod passes up through the bracket or guide 13 and at its upper end connects with the lever 14 pivoted at 15. On the right hand end of this lever 14 is carried a pin 16 which engages with the hole 5 in ratchet plate 4 and operates to lock it.

When the voter has gone into the machine and has moved the curtain lever 3 to the full line position shown in Fig. 3 the pin 16 mounted on the lever 14 raises into the hole 5 and locks the curtain lever against backward movement and the left hand end of the lever 14 drops down rocking the shaft 9 so that the pins 10 thereon will rest on the bars 8. The movement of any of the "Yes" and "No" keys will raise any of the bars, rock the shaft 9 and through the crank 11 and the connecting rod 12 will rotate the lever 14 and draw down the pins 16 so as to unlock the curtain lever. Thus to release the curtain lever the voter must first vote on one of the "Yes" and "No" keys and in this way the voter is prevented from overlooking these "Yes" and "No" keys. As shown in prior patents this curtain lever is normally locked in full line position as shown in Fig. 3 until a party lever is voted or until a woman's lockout lever is operated. See for example the patent to Lausterer #820,802. In such cases where "Yes" and "No" keys are to be voted on, the curtain lever may be controlled by a latch operated or released by the party lever and may also be controlled by a latch operated by the "Yes" and "No"

keys as is herein described, making it necessary for a voter to vote both a party lever and a question key before he can move the curtain lever. In such a case the voter will be compelled by the mechanism of the machine to vote both a party lever and the "Yes" or "No" key before he can move the curtain lever to the dotted line position shown in Fig. 3 to count his vote and reset the machine. At such elections it may also frequently happen that women will be admitted to the machine to vote on such an office as school trustee and such women would not be entitled to vote with the party levers. In such case the party levers and office lines which the woman voter would not be entitled to vote with would be locked against operation by the lockout lever shown in Figs. 4 and 5 of this application. Such a voter might not be entitled to vote on questions and would in that case also be locked against voting on the questions by the use of the "Question" lockout slides shown in Lausterer Patent 820,802 referred to. In such case the woman voter would not be able to release herself from the booth by voting on the question pointers and it would then be desirable to effect such release through the operation of the woman's lockout lever. This can be accomplished by connecting the rock shaft 17 operated by the woman's lockout lever with the "Yes" and "No" releasing latch.

The woman's lockout lever and the connecting parts are shown in Figs. 4, 5 and 6. Pivoted on the machine casing 1 in Fig. 4 is the lever 25 which extends through the casing in the machine and has within said casing keyed thereto the crank arm 26 to which is connected the connecting rod 27. A shoulder 28 is formed on said connecting rod 27 which shoulder 28 engages with a crank 29 and rocks the shaft 17 when the bar 27 is moved up by the operation of the lever 25. Carried on this shaft 17 are the wings 30 which engage with the corresponding recesses in the interlocking straps 31. The rotation of this shaft 17 by the means above described will carry with it the crank 18 which is keyed to said shaft 17 at its left hand end as shown in Fig. 1. This crank 18 is in turn connected to the connecting rod 19 which connecting rod 19 in turn is connected to the crank 11 which in Fig. 2 appears as a double ended crank. If now the rock shaft 17 is turned in the direction indicated by the arrow shown in Fig. 2 the connecting rod 19 will be drawn down and the crank 11 will be rotated and the connecting rod 12 will be pushed up causing the lever 14 to rotate and causing in turn the latch 16 to be drawn down releasing the curtain lever. The connecting rod 19 has a slotted connection with the crank 11 so that the connecting rod 12 and crank 11 can

be operated independently of it, that is, without operating the lock shaft 17. But when the rock shaft 17 is operated in the manner above described all of the other parts connected to it will operate with it in the manner above described and the curtain lever will be released thereby.

On the operation of the curtain lever by a voter to reset the machine the woman's lockout will be reset to normal position and the latch 16 will engage with the curtain lever compelling the next voter to vote on the "Yes" or "No" key before he can get out of the machine unless the latch 16 is again drawn down by the operation of the woman's lockout above described.

How these parts are restored to normal condition I will now describe. As shown in Fig. 4 keyed to the shaft 2 is the double ended crank 32 to which in turn is connected the connecting rod 33 which in turn is connected to the bell crank 34 which bell crank is in turn connected to a connecting rod 35 which connecting rod operates the lever 36. When the curtain lever is swung from the full line to the dotted line position in Fig. 3 this lever 36 will be thrown down to the connections above described. This lever 36 is in turn connected to the vertical moving bar 37 on which is carried the stud 38. As this stud 38 moves down it will engage with the latch 40 carried on the sliding bar 41 causing it to be shoved down to the position shown in Fig. 4. This bar 41 will in turn push down the bar 42 which bar 42 has been raised by the swinging of the rock shaft 17 as shown in Fig. 6. When the bar 42 is pushed down the rock shaft 17 will be rotated in the direction to push up on the connecting rod 19 releasing the latch 16 so that it will again be free to rise and engage the curtain lever. In this manner the operating parts will be restored to their normal condition after each vote has been counted on the machine.

It will also be seen that by this invention the voter that is qualified to vote on questions will be reminded to vote on them and the woman voter who is not permitted to vote on questions can operate the machine to the extent of her limited franchise and will not be interfered with in the counting of her vote by being unable to move the question keys. And it will also be seen that all of the parts will be returned to normal position after each voter, regardless of the position in which they might have been set for such voter.

It will also happen that in certain elections there will not be any questions to be voted on and in such cases it is desirable that the latch 16 be put out of operation. To secure this result a second latch 20 is provided pivoted on the bracket 13 for the purpose of engaging with the connecting rod

12 in the recess 21. When the connecting rod 12 is elevated the pin 16 is withdrawn from engagement with the plate 4. In this position of the connecting rod 12 the latch 20 can be rotated so as to engage with the recess 21 and when so engaged it will hold the connecting rod 12 up and the latch 16 down out of operation. In this manner this controlling device may be thrown into or out of operation as the needs of the election may require.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim is new and patentable is as follows:—

1. In a voting machine, the combination of an operating lever capable of a forward and backward movement, a latch for locking said lever against backward movement, keys for voting on questions, means for moving said latch to release said lever for backward movement, said means operating to move said latch on the operation of any one of the keys for voting on questions.

2. In a voting machine, the combination of an operating lever capable of a forward and backward movement, a latch for locking said lever against backward movement, keys for voting on questions, means for moving said latch to release said lever for backward movement, said means operating to move said latch on the operation of any one of the keys for voting on questions, and means operable for permanently holding said latch in inoperative position.

3. The combination in a voting machine of a plurality of Yes and No keys movable to voted position, a bar normally resting on said keys and raised by the operation of any one of said keys, a rock shaft rotated by the movement of said bar, a lever for operating the machine, a latch normally locking said lever against movement, connections between the rock shaft and the latch whereby when any one of the keys is voted, the latch is withdrawn from its locking position.

4. In a voting machine, the combination

of an operating lever capable of a forward and backward movement, a latch for locking said lever against backward movement, keys for voting on questions, means for moving said latch to release said curtain lever for backward movement, said means operating to move said latch on the operation of any one of the keys for voting on questions, a woman's lockout means for independently operating said latch through the operation of the woman's lockout.

5. In a voting machine, the combination of an operating lever capable of a forward and backward movement, a latch for locking said lever against backward movement, keys for voting on questions, means for moving said latch to release said curtain lever for backward movement, said means operating to move said latch on the operation of any one of the keys for voting on questions, a woman's lockout means for independently operating said latch through the operation of the woman's lockout, said latch being restored to normal operation again when the woman's lockout is returned to normal position.

6. The combination in a voting machine of a plurality of keys; a bar normally resting on said keys and raised by the operation of any one of said keys, a rock shaft rotated by the movement of said bar, a latch operated by the rock shaft, and a lever controlled by said latch.

In testimony whereof we do hereby affix our signatures, each in the presence of two witnesses.

ALFRED J. GILLESPIE.

WILLIAM J. LAUSTERER.

Witnesses as to the signature of Alfred J. Gillespie:

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D. S. ELDRIDGE.

Witnesses as to the signature of William J. Lausterer:

MARTIN L. BADHORN,

ALEXANDER B. CORCILIUS.