A. L. MACBETH.

PICTURE PROJECTION THEATER.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 24, 1921.

1,419,281.

Patented June 13, 1922.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

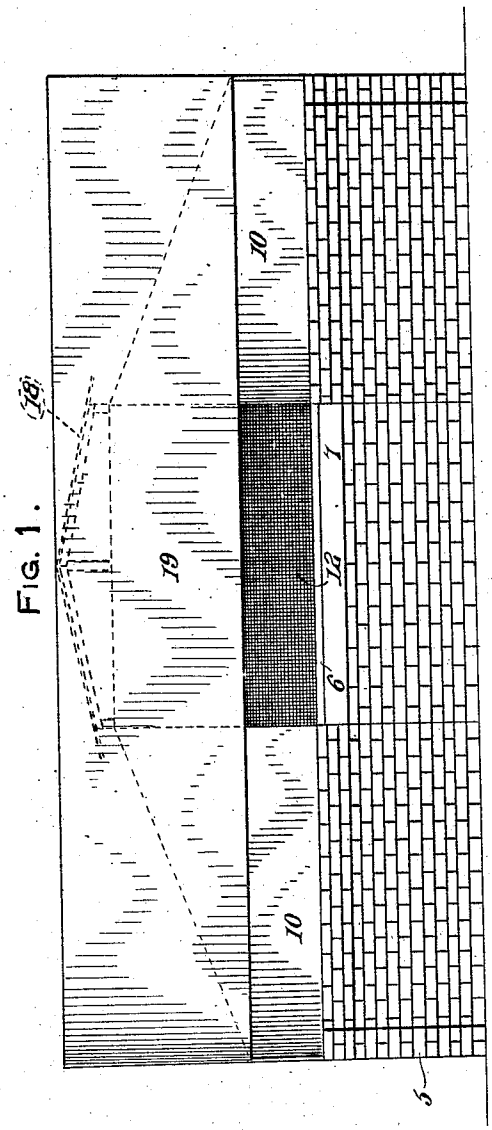



FIG. 1.

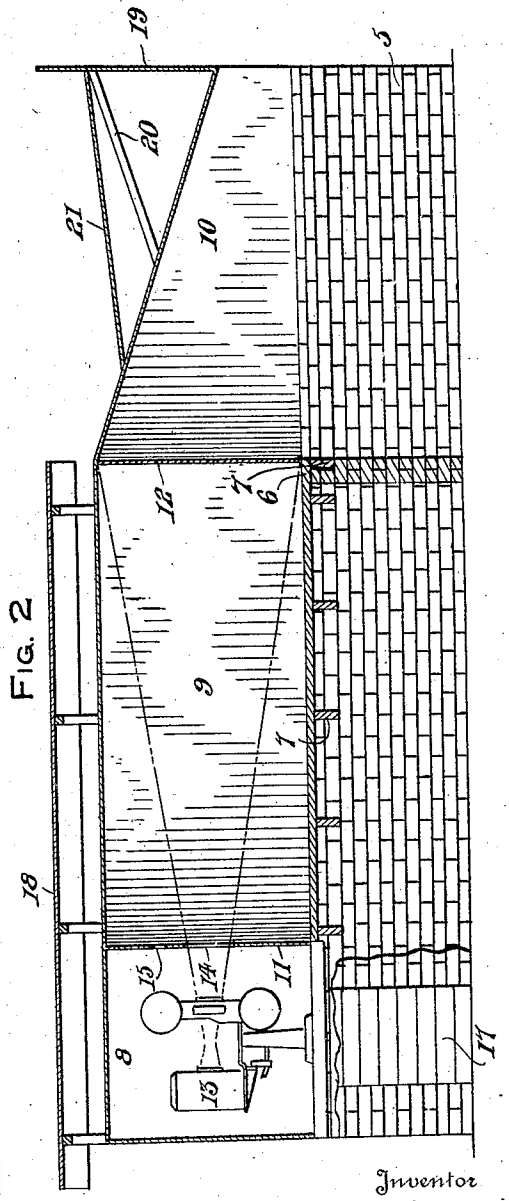



FIG. 2.

Inventor

Arthur L. Macbeth

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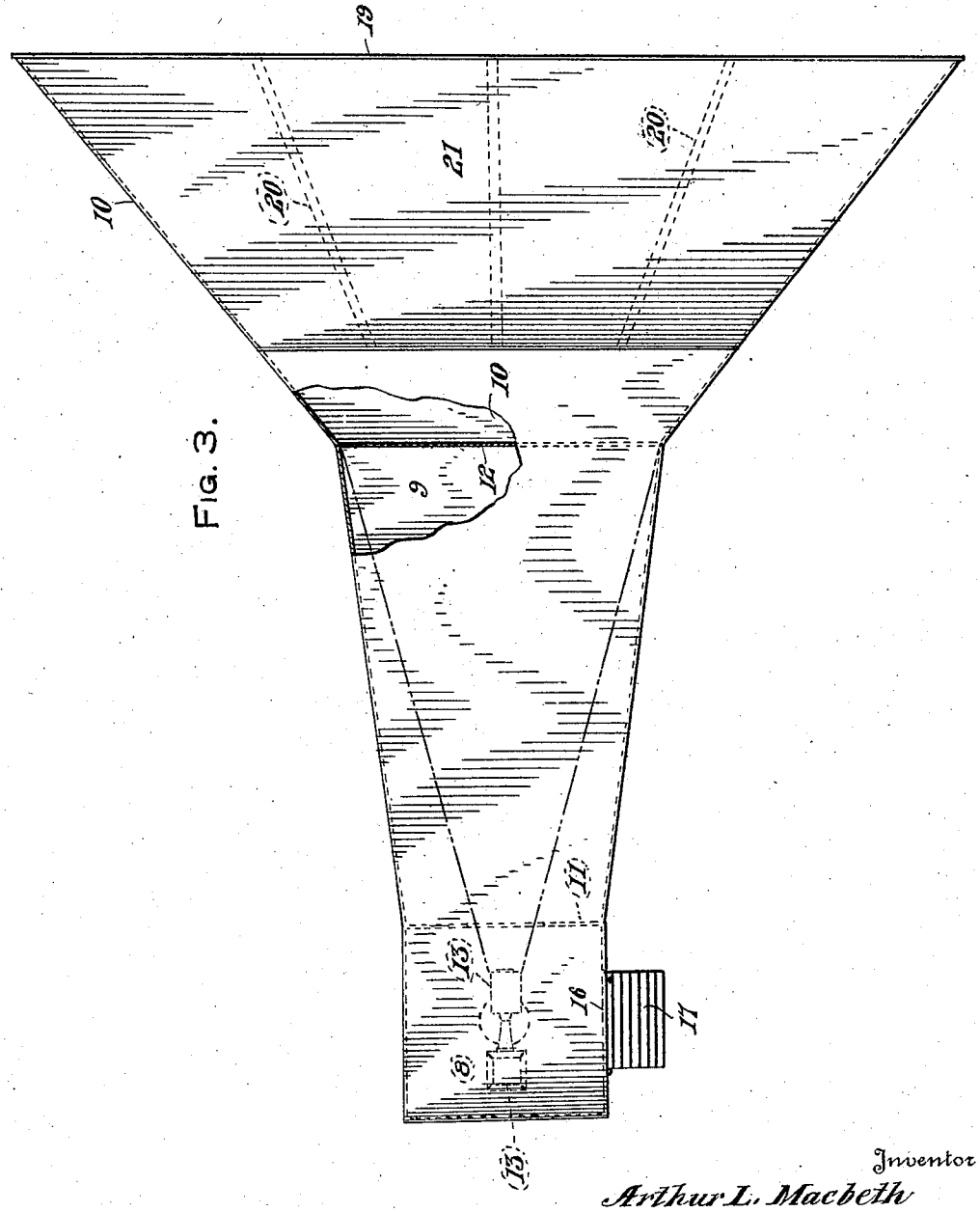



FIG. 3.

Inventor

Arthur L. Macbeth

By J. T. Bryant

Attorney

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR L. MACBETH, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

## PICTURE-PROJECTION THEATER.

1,419,281. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented June 13, 1922.**

Application filed March 24, 1921. Serial No. 455,186.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ARTHUR L. MACBETH, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Baltimore, in the county of Baltimore city and State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Picture-Projection Theaters, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in picture projection theaters of that type which provides for the display of pictures or the like upon a screen in the daylight and by means of which the spectators are enabled to assemble in the open air while obtaining a clear vision of the projected matter.

The present application is a continuation, in part, of an application upon daylight movie theater, filed by me February 25, 1920, Serial No. 361,297.

The primary object of the invention is to greatly improve and simplify theaters of the above kind whereby the same may meet with all of the requirements for a successful commerical use.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved daylight moving picture theater constructed in three rooms or compartments, the rear room being the operator's room, the middle room being the projection room and the front room comprising an open front alcove of flaring formation, a transverse, translucent or opalescent screen being provided between the middle and front rooms for having the projected matter displayed thereon by a suitable projecting machine located in the rear operator's room, the rear and middle rooms being separated by a transverse opaque partition provided with a pair of openings, one for the passage of the rays from the projection machine to the screen, and the other for permitting the operator to view the pictures upon the screen and the flaring form of the alcove permitting clear vision, from various angles, of the pictures upon the screen by persons suitably assembled in front of the theater and in the open air either at nighttime or daytime.

Other objects will become apparent as the nature of the invention is better understood, and the same consists of the novel form, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawings and claimed.

In the drawings, wherein like reference characters indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views,

Figure 1 is a front elevational view of a moving picture theater constructed in accordance with the present invention,

Figure 2 is a view of the theater shown in Fig. 1, partly in side elevation and partly in central longitudinal section, and

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the theater shown in Fig. 1 with the gable roof removed and a portion of the theater broken away to reveal the projection screen.

Referring in detail to the several views, the present invention embodies a suitable foundation 5 of brick, cement or the like erected to a desired height above the ground line, a suitable floor 6 being supported by said foundation and by suitable transverse anchors 7. The theater proper embodies a rear room or operator's booth 8, a middle or projection room 9 and a front alcove 10, the walls of which are preferably of sheet metal or other fireproof material suitably arranged above the foundation 5 and preferably of a portable nature.

The middle or projection room 9 is separated from the rear operator's room or booth 8 by means of a transverse opaque partition 11, while the middle or projection room 9 and the front alcove 10 are separated by a translucent or opalescent transversely arranged screen 12 onto which the projected matter is to be displayed from the rear by means of a suitable projecting and enlarging machine 13 situated in the operator's booth and focused to project the pictures through an opening 14 provided in the opaque partition 11. The partition 11 is also preferably provided with a sight opening 15 for permitting the operator to view the screen 12 from a point within the booth 8 so that he may see that the pictures are being properly projected on the screen. The operator's room 8 may be provided with a side door 16 with steps 17 leading thereto so that the operator may conveniently obtain access to the booth 8, and the ceilings of the rooms 8 and 9 may support a suitable gable roof 18.

As shown clearly in Fig. 1, the operator's booth 8 is preferably of substantially rectangular form in plan and the middle or projection room is preferably of slightly flaring form with the side walls of the same forwardly diverging.

The side walls of the front room or alcove 10 greatly diverge forwardly as clearly

shown in Fig. 3 while the top wall of the same slants forwardly and downwardly so that the open front end of the alcove is narrow vertically and quite wide horizontally whereby the entrance of material outside light into said alcove is prevented and clear vision of the screen 12 is made possible, it being understood that the audience is seated or standing in front of the structure when viewing the pictures projected upon the screen 12.

A suitable sign plate 19 is mounted vertically above the open end of the alcove 10 for receiving any suitable advertising sign or the like, the plate 19 being suitably braced as at 20 and a slanting flat roof 21 being disposed above the top wall of the alcove if found desirable.

In operation, the projection machine 13 is operated in the usual way for projecting pictures or printed matter through the opening 14 onto the screen 12 and as the latter is translucent the pictures will be readily seen from the front or the opposite side of the screen through the open front end of the alcove.

By means of the present invention persons may enjoy the amusement of moving pictures or the like during the daytime while assembled in the open air, which is beneficial to health and the like.

Minor changes may be made in the invention without departing from the spirit and scope thereof.

What is claimed as new is:—

1. A moving picture theater comprising a house-like structure with three rooms, one located in front of the other, the rear room comprising an operator's booth with a projection machine therein and being divided from the middle room by means of an opaque transverse partition, a second transverse partition consisting of a translucent screen dividing the front and middle rooms, said opaque partition being provided with an opening through which the pictures are projected onto the screen, the front room comprising an alcove having an open front through which the pictures may be viewed as they are projected upon said screen, said front room or alcove having a forwardly and downwardly slanting top wall for providing a restricted opening at the front of the alcove whereby clear vision of the screen may be had from the exterior of the theater and the external light may be excluded from the screen, the side walls of the front room or alcove diverging forwardly whereby the alcove is made of flaring form so as to give the front opening of the alcove a wide dimension horizontally for permitting viewing of the pictures by a large audience.

2. A moving picture theater comprising a house-like structure with three rooms, one located in front of the other, the rear room comprising an operator's booth with a projection machine therein and being divided from the middle room by means of an opaque transverse partition, a second transverse partition consisting of a translucent screen dividing the front and middle rooms, said opaque partition being provided with an opening through which the pictures are projected onto the screen, the front room comprising an alcove having an open front through which the pictures may be viewed as they are projected upon said screen, said front room or alcove having a forwardly and downwardly slanting top wall for providing a restricted opening at the front of the alcove whereby clear vision of the screen may be had from the exterior of the theater and the external light may be excluded from the screen, the side walls of the front room or alcove diverging forwardly whereby the alcove is made of flaring form so as to give the front opening of the alcove a wide dimension horizontally for permitting viewing of the pictures by a large audience, the side walls of the middle or projection room being slightly forwardly diverging.

3. A moving picture theater comprising a house-like structure with three rooms, one located in front of the other, the rear room comprising an operator's booth with a projection machine therein and divided from the middle room by means of an opaque transverse partition, a second transverse partition consisting of a translucent screen dividing the front and middle rooms, said opaque partition being provided with an opening through which the pictures are projected onto the screen, the front room comprising an alcove having an open front through which the pictures may be viewed as they are projected upon said screen, said front room or alcove having a forwardly and downwardly slanting top wall for providing a restricted opening at the front of the alcove whereby clear vision of the screen may be had from the exterior of the theater and the external light may be excluded from the screen, the side walls of the front room or alcove diverging forwardly whereby the alcove is made of flaring form so as to give the front opening of the alcove a wide dimension horizontally for permitting viewing of the pictures by a large audience, and a sign plate vertically mounted upon the top of the alcove at the open end of the latter.

4. A moving picture theater comprising a house-like structure with three rooms, one located in front of the other, the rear room comprising an operator's booth with a projection machine therein and being divided from the middle room by means of an opaque transverse partition, a second transverse partition consisting of a translucent screen dividing the front and middle rooms, said opaque partition being provided with an

opening through which the pictures are projected onto the screen, the front room comprising an alcove having an open front through which the pictures may be viewed as they are projected upon said screen, said front room or alcove having a forwardly and downwardly slanting top wall for providing a restricted opening at the front of the alcove whereby clear vision of the screen may be had from the exterior of the theater and the external light may be excluded from the screen, the side walls of the front room or alcove diverging forwardly whereby the alcove is made of flaring form so as to give the front opening of the alcove a wide dimension horizontally for permitting viewing of the pictures by a large audience, a fondation constructed a suitable height above the ground line, said rooms having a common floor construction mounted upon said foundation, and means giving access to the operators booth through one side thereof.

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

ARTHUR L. MACBETH.

Witnesses:

B. F. SWINDELL,

N. E. CLARKE.