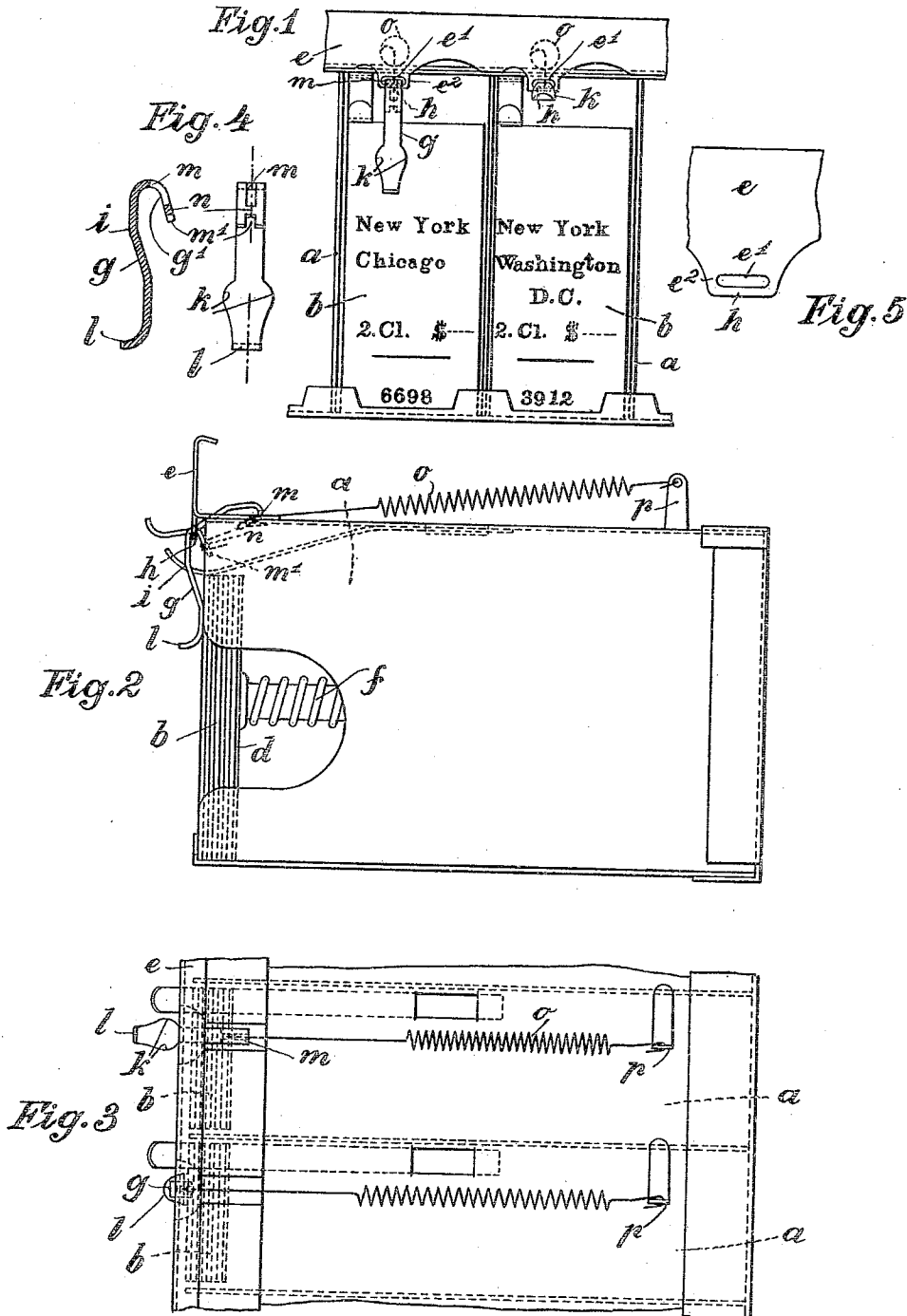


H. J. MÜLLER.
 INDICATOR FOR TICKET RECEPTACLES.
 APPLICATION FILED APR. 1, 1909.

953,751.

Patented Apr. 5, 1910.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HEINRICH JULIUS MÜLLER, OF SCHAFFHAUSEN, SWITZERLAND.

INDICATOR FOR TICKET-RECEPTACLES.

953,751.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 5, 1910.

Application filed April 1, 1909. Serial No. 487,274.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HEINRICH JULIUS MÜLLER, a citizen of the Republic of Switzerland, residing at Schaffhausen, in the Canton of Schaffhausen, Republic of Switzerland, (whose post-office address is 29 Neustadt, Schaffhausen,) have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Indicators for Ticket-Receptacles; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Indicators for indicating the withdrawal or non-withdrawal of tickets from compartments or receptacles containing the tickets stacked on edge are known, in which an indicating flap adapted to be held in its vertical and horizontal end positions by a spring is pivotally mounted on a slide below the bottom of the ticket receptacle, the arrangement being such that the slide is pulled backward with the indicating flap by means of a tension spring when the flap is moved from its position by the withdrawal of a ticket. In the indicator of that class, as constructed hitherto two springs and a slide are required for each compartment or receptacle.

Now the present invention has for its object to provide an improved indicator of that type, and it consists in arranging an indicating flap or tongue (hereinafter called a tongue) capable of movement without being hinged, in such a manner that it can be moved and held in both of its end positions by means of a single spring without the use of a slide.

Great simplicity of construction and a permanently reliable working constitute the chief advantages of the improved indicator.

The accompanying drawings illustrate by way of example one form of this invention, applied to railway ticket distributing apparatus.

Figure 1 is a front elevation, Fig. 2 is a side elevation, and Fig. 3 is a plan of the improved indicator applied to two ticket compartments or receptacles, Fig. 4 shows an indicating tongue in central longitudinal section, and in rear elevation, Fig. 5 shows a detail.

a a indicate two of a series of ticket com-

partments in which the tickets are stacked on edge, *d* is a plate which is caused by the spring, *f*, to push the tickets forward.

e is a bar bearing the names of the various stations; it extends along the top of the entire series of the compartments, *a*. In this bar above each compartment is a narrow horizontal slot, *e'*, located so near to the lower edge of the bar as to form a narrow bridge, *h*, at that point.

The slot, *e'*, as well as the bridge, *h*, give freedom of motion to the correspondingly wide hook-shaped indicating tongue, *g*, that is to say the bridge *h*, serves as an axis of pivotation for the indicating tongue, while the slot, *e'*, above it gives it sufficient guidance without necessitating any other devices for that purpose.

The hooked end, *g'*, of the indicating tongue is hung loosely in the slot, *e'*, and forms one arm of a bent lever for which the bridge, *h*, serves as a point of support and as an axis of pivotation without being hinged to it. Each indicating tongue, *g*, has further an obtuse angled middle portion, *i*, two shoulders, *k*, and an outwardly bent end, *l*, that serves as a handle for manipulating the tongue. The end, *g'*, of the indicating tongue, *g*, is bent in the shape of a hook and serves as a lever; it has two slots, *m m'*, (Fig. 4) extending in the direction of the length of the tongue and spaced apart to form a bridge, *n*.

A tension spring, *o*, engages the bridge, *n*, and in combination with the bridge, *h*, of the bar, *e*, has a two fold action upon the movements of the indicating tongue, *g*, such that the tongue, *g*, is held firmly in its elevated and depressed positions without further aid.

The outer slot, *m'*, extends through the edge of the hooked end, *g'*, of the indicating tongue, *g*, forming thereby two horns that prevent the end of the spring from slipping out in the movement of the tongue. The other end of the spring, *o*, is attached to a projection, *p*, on the compartment. The spring, *o*, pulls the indicating tongue, *g*, back into its elevated and depressed positions.

In its normal position the indicating tongue is depressed, that is, it hangs down in front of the tickets, *b*, and thereby indicates clearly to the booking office clerk that no tickets have been taken from the compartment. So long as the indicating tongue,

g, is in its depressed position it is kept pressed against the foremost ticket by the action of the spring, *o*, pulling on the bridge, *n*.

5 On removing the foremost ticket from the closed compartment, the indicating tongue, *g*, swings automatically by rocking on the bridge, *h*, out of its depressed position up into an approximately horizontal position,
10 whence it is pulled automatically by the spring, *o*, through the slot, *e'*, behind the bar, *e*, as far as the shoulders, *k*, will allow. The tongue is guided in this movement solely by the bridge, *h*, and the sides of the slot, *e'*.
15 In removing the foremost ticket its upper edge pushes up the indicating tongue into such a position that the tongue must necessarily follow the pull of the spring, *o*. The pull of this spring keeps the tongue firmly
20 in its approximately horizontal drawn up position. After the tickets and cash receipts have been checked, the indicating tongues, *g*, are again pulled out and folded down against the foremost of the remaining
25 tickets.

The spring, *o*, cannot be strained because the indicating tongue can be pulled out only as far as the bridge, *h*.

The operation of folding down the indicating tongue is considerably facilitated by the fact that in consequence of the pull of the spring, *o*, on the lever-like end, *g'*, of the indicating tongue, *g*, the latter on assuming a determined angular position will
30 move down of itself against the foremost ticket without further aid from the hand of the operator. Thus it is not necessary for the operator to move the drawn out tongue down against the foremost ticket, because
40 when the tongue has moved through an angle of approximately 45 degrees it will snap automatically against the foremost ticket.

The peculiar combination of the turning and sliding movements of the tongue due to
45 a single spring and the locking of the said tongue in its elevated and depressed posi-

tions, render it impossible for the indicating tongue to be operated except when a ticket is being taken out.

Tampering in any way is excluded with 50 the improved indicator.

Since the indicating tongues hang loosely in the slots, *e'*, and the compartments can be filled and emptied without being removed from and replaced into the drawers, both 55 the entire indicator and the indicating tongue are not subjected to wear.

What I claim is:

1. An indicator for ticket receptacles having compartments, comprising a bar having 60 slots along its length providing a bridge above each compartment, a hook-shaped indicating tongue mounted for pivotal and sliding movement in each slot, and a spring adapted to hold said tongue in either its 65 elevated or depressed position and adapted to turn and slide the tongue in moving from one position into the other.

2. An indicator for ticket receptacles having compartments containing tickets stacked 70 on edge in each compartment comprising a hook shaped indicating tongue arranged above each compartment, a bar having slots along its length providing bridges with which said tongues engage, the hooked end 75 of each tongue having two slots therein spaced apart to form a second bridge, and an operating spring engaging with each of said second bridges, one of said slots extending through the edge of the hook to prevent 80 the spring from slipping out, said spring adapted to hold the tongue in either its elevated or depressed position and adapted to turn and slide the tongue in moving from one position into the other. 85

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HEINRICH JULIUS MÜLLER.

Witnesses:

HERMANN HUBER,
M. SCHUMANN.