No. 657,834. Patented Sept. 11, 1900.

C. F. RUTTMAN.

OFFICE INDICATOR.

(Application filed July 5, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

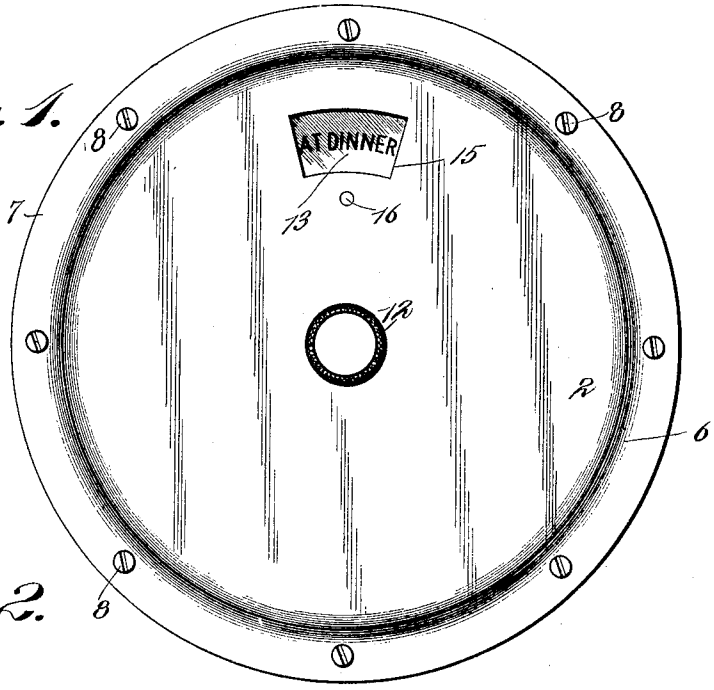


Fig. 2.

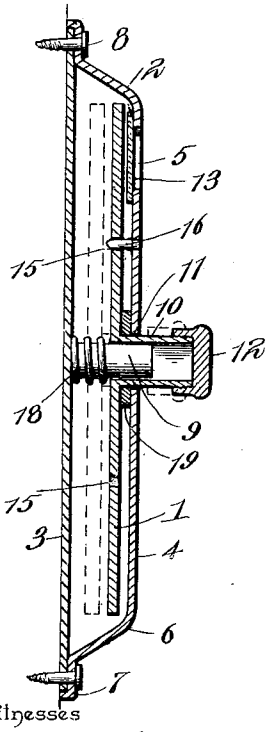
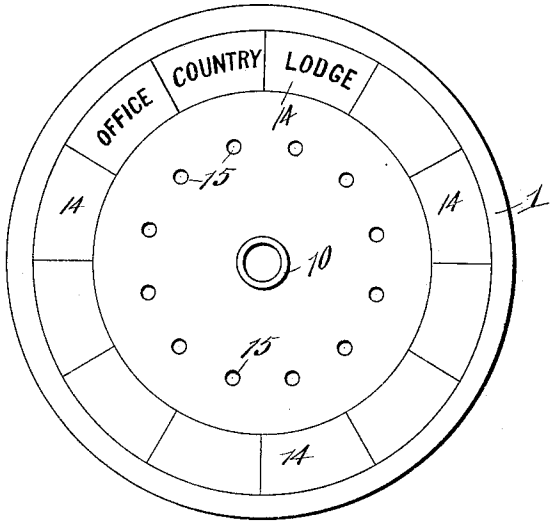


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

C. M. Walker

F. F. Riley

C. F. Ruttman Inventor

by C. A. Snow & Co.

Attorneys

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES F. RUTTMAN, OF VALPARAISO, NEBRASKA.

OFFICE-INDICATOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 657,834, dated September 11, 1900.

Application filed July 5, 1900. Serial No. 22,626. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES F. RUTTMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Valparaiso, in the county of Saunders and State of Nebraska, have invented a new and useful Office-Indicator, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in office-indicators.

One object of the present invention is to improve the construction of office-indicators and to provide a simple, inexpensive, and efficient one designed more especially for physicians' use and adapted to indicate whether a physician or other person is in or out and, if out, where he may be found.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this character adapted to be readily operated to display the desired information and capable of being firmly held when set, so that it cannot accidentally change its position.

The invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of an indicator constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the adjustable dial.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates an adjustable or rotary indicator-dial arranged within a casing 2, which is composed of a circular back plate 3 and a front or face plate 4, having its body portion offset from the back plate and provided with a sight-aperture 5, by means of which a portion of the indicator-dial is exposed. The circular front or face plate is provided with a flared peripheral portion 6, having a peripheral flange 7, L-shaped in cross-section and fitting against the front face and edge of the back plate and secured to the same by fastening devices 8, consisting of screws, which also serve to fasten the device to a suitable support. The back plate is provided with a central rounded stud or pivot 9, extending outward and receiving a hub 10 of the adjustable indicator-dial, which is provided with a central opening, and the hub 10, which extends outward from the opening, is tubular and projects through a central opening 11 of the front or face plate of the casing. The outer end of the hub is exteriorly threaded to engage interior threads of a cap 12, forming a knob by means of which the indicator-dial is operated. The knob, which is preferably provided with a milled edge, may be secured to the hub in any other suitable manner, and it is adapted to be readily grasped by the operator to set the dial, as hereinafter explained.

The front or face plate of the casing is provided at the sight-aperture with a transparent plate or pane 13, of glass or other suitable material, and the dial is provided with an annular series of spaces 14, adapted to bear the information designed to be displayed, and this information is preferably applied to the dial by means of cards, so that the same may be changed as desired.

The dial is provided with an annular series of openings 15, located opposite the annular series of spaces and located at points between the same and the hub and adapted to receive a pin or projection 16, extending from the inner face of the front or face plate and rigid with the same, whereby the dial is securely held in its adjusted position. The dial is maintained in engagement with the projection 16 by a coiled spring disposed on the stud or pivot and interposed between the said dial and the back plate 3. The spring 18 is adapted to be compressed by forcing the knob inward to permit the dial to be disengaged from the pin or projection to enable the said dial to be rotated to bring any one of the annular series of spaces opposite the sight-aperture. The dial is spaced from the front plate by means of a washer 19, interposed between such parts and adapted to prevent the dial from coming in contact with the transparent plate. The washer 19 is disposed on the hub, as clearly shown in Fig. 2 of the accompanying drawings, and the dial is adapted when the knob is depressed or forced inward to be carried from the position illustrated in full lines in Fig. 2 to that shown in dotted lines.

It will be seen that the indicator is exceedingly simple and inexpensive in construction, that it is adapted to contain a large amount

of information, and that it is capable of ready adjustment to display parts of the same and will be found of great advantage both to the owner and those having business with him.

What I claim is—

1. A device of the class described comprising a casing having a sight-aperture and provided with an opening, a projection located within the casing and extending rearward from the front of the same, a pivot projecting from the back of the casing, a dial having a hub arranged on the pivot and extending through the opening of the casing, said dial being provided at intervals with openings to receive the projection, and a coiled spring disposed on the pivot and interposed between the dial and the back of the casing, substantially as described.

2. A device of the class described comprising a casing having an opening and provided with a sight-aperture, a transparent plate arranged at the inner face of the front of the casing at the sight-aperture, a projection located within and rigid with the front of the casing, a stud forming a pivot and extending from the back of the casing, a dial having openings to receive the pin and provided with a hub arranged on the pivot and extending through the opening of the casing, a knob secured to the hub, a washer arranged on the hub and interposed between the dial and the front of the casing, and a coiled spring arranged on the pivot and engaging the dial, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES F. RUTTMAN.

Witnesses:
J. PETERMICHEL,
F. J. PETERMICHEL.