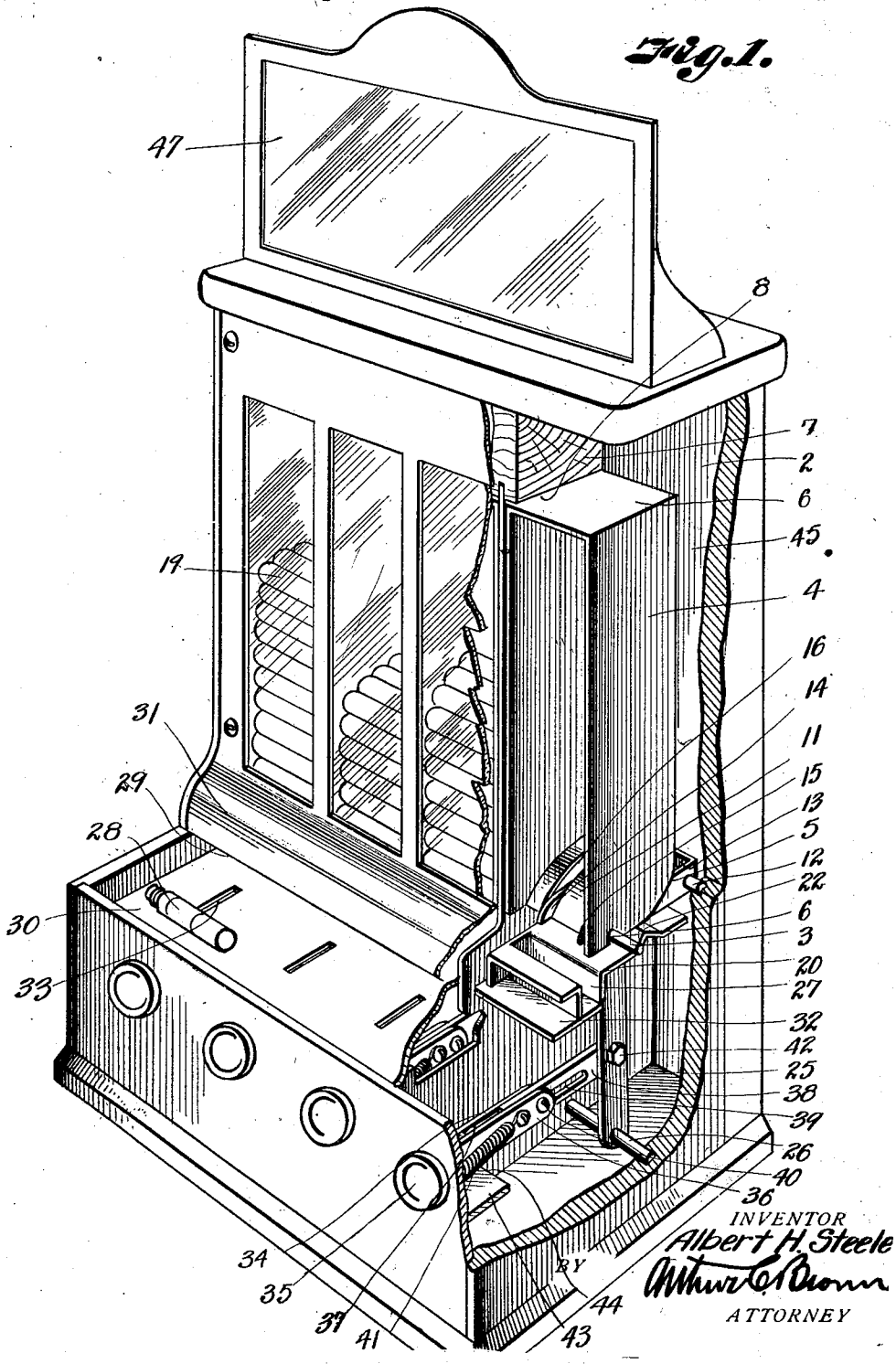
Dec. 22, 1925. 1,566,626

A. H. STEELE

VENDING MACHINE

Original Filed Jan. 10, 1921 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.



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Fig. 3.

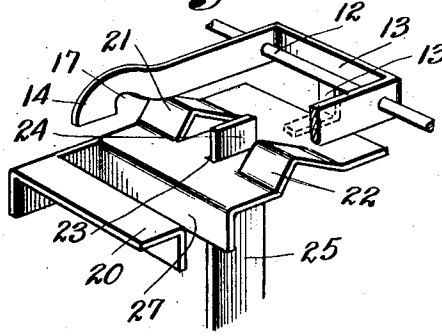


Fig. 4.

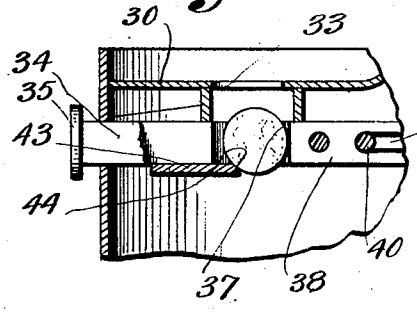


Fig. 2.

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Patented Dec. 22, 1925. 1,566,626

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT H. STEELE, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

VENDING MACHINE.

Continuation of application Serial No. 463,027, filed January 10, 1921. This application filed January 28, 1924. Serial No. 688,970.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT H. STEELE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Vending Machines; and I do 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 the figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to vending machines and particularly to a machine for vending liquid containers, such as vials of perfume and the like, the present application being a continuation of my forfeited application filed January 10, 1921, Serial No. 436,027.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide an efficient, durable, and inexpensive machine, the vending mechanism of which will become effective upon the introduction of a check, coin, or token of proper denomination.

The invention contemplates a provision of means whereby the device may be conveniently loaded, whereby the merchandise within the receptacle may be agitated from time to time, so as to insure proper feeding thereof into the vending slide, and whereby the proper vending of an article upon the introduction of a coin and the actuation of the vending machine will be insured.

Other advantages, as well as the novel details of construction, will appear hereinafter, reference being had to the accompanying drawings in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a vending machine constructed in accordance with my invention, parts being broken away to clearly illustrate the vending mechanism therein.

Fig. 2 is a vertical, longitudinal, sectional view through a machine constructed in accordance with my invention.

Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of one of the vending slides and agitator, co-operating therewith, and

Fig. 4 is a sectional view through the slide, showing the coin slot.

Referring now to the drawings by numerals of reference:

1 designates a casing, provided with a plurality of vertical compartments 2, there being as many compartments as advisable for the particular machine to be installed, and generally the number will be governed by the number of different perfumes or similar merchandise to be vended. As each compartment and its co-operating mechanism is a counterpart of all of the others, it is considered necessary to describe only one set of mechanism, for example, such as is shown in the right hand end of Fig. 1. There is a transversely, disposed pivot rod or bar 3, extending from end to end of the casing 1, the bar 3 constituting a pivot support for the box shaped chute or container 4, which has a lower curved end 5 provided with notches 6, the notches engaging the rod 3, so that the box shaped chute 4 may swing thereon.

The box shaped chute 4 may be conveniently constructed of a single piece bent intermediate its ends to form a transverse top 6 with depending portions as shown, the chute being adapted to be swung rearwardly to be leaded and then swung back vertically beneath the block 7, there being a clearing space 8 for this purpose. After the chute 4 is in place, it may be secured against rearward tilting by a cleat 9, pivotally fastened to the block 7 and adapted to be swung in the rear of the chute as shown in Fig. 2. If the chute is swung or cast, it will have a back piece 9′, (see Fig. 2) which may be provided with a button 10, so that it can be pulled rearwardly when it is loaded.

The lower end of the back piece 9′ will be curved forwardly and downwardly as at 11 to provide a floor for the chute 4. Beneath the chute 4 and pivoted to the bar 12 in rear thereof is a lateral U-shaped frame 13, having forwardly projecting arms 14 and 15 adapted to project through slots 16 in the floor 11. The arms are provided with notches 17 normally resting upon the bar 3 which supports the chute 4. The frame 13 with its arms constitute an agitator to agitate the merchandise within the chute 4, so as to insure the vials or similar articles being delivered through the restricted opening 18 formed by the front edge of

the floor 11 and the front panel 19 for the chute, there being an arm 13′ centrally of the agitator to prevent tilting. Beneath the agitator 13 is a laterally, movable slide 20, having inverted V-shaped up-struck portions 21 and 22 spaced apart and between which is a slot 23 through which projects one end 24 of an actuating lever 25 pivoted below the chute to a pivot 26 as clearly seen in Figs. 1 and 2. The forward portion of the slide or plate 20 is provided with a transverse delivery slot 27 through which the vials 28 may be dispensed upon the delivery chute or curved table 29 so that they may pass to the table 30 to be removed by the operator or purchaser. The curved delivery chute 29 is protected by an outwardly and downwardly curved guard 31 as clearly seen in Figs. 1 and 2, the guard being part of the front of the machine and may extend entirely across the same.

The slot 27 is normally, partially closed by a guard plate 32 which serves to support the slide 20, and it is understood that in order to deliver the merchandise from the receptacle 2 onto the chute 29, the slides 20 must be moved rearwardly and this can be accomplished only upon the introduction of a check, coin, or token of proper denomination through the proper slot 33, beneath which is a spring retracted push rod 34, extending through the front of the machine and adapted to be actuated by the button 35. The spring retracted push rod is provided with a bifurcated portion 36, forming a slot 37 aligning with the slot 33. The bifurcated portions overlap the link 38 which is provided with a longitudinal slot 39 through which a pin 40 projects, the pin being carried by the forward ends of the forked or bifurcated pusher rod 36. If the parts are in the position shown in Fig. 1, the push rod 36 is moved forward against action of the spring 41, the pin 40 will simply move idly in the slot 39 of the link 38 pivoted at 42 to the actuating lever 25.

If a check, coin, or token of improper denomination, that is, either of less diameter or greater diameter than the one intended, is introduced through the slot 33, it will not be retained in the slot 37, the smaller one will pass through and the larger one cannot enter. If a coin of proper denomination, however, is introduced through the slot 33, it will pass into the slot 37 and will be momentarily retained by the plate 43 under the bottom of the push rod 36. One edge will rest against the shoulder 44 on the plate 43 and the other edge will rest against the forward end of the push rod 36. Then a continued rearward push on the rod 36 will cause the actuating lever 25 to move rearwardly. As it moves rearwardly, it will move the slide 20 rearwardly, carrying the lowermost vial or similar article 28 off the edge of the bar 32 and allow it to drop onto the curved plate or chute 29 and pass onto the table 30. As the slide 20 moves rearwardly its cam portions or V-shaped obstacle portions 21 and 22 will contact with the arms 14 and 15, so as to swing the frame 13 and cause the forward end of the arms to agitate the merchandise sufficiently to insure deposition of another vial or similar article into the slot 27 to rest upon the plate or bar 32 which will take place as soon as the slide is retracted. The slide will be retracted by the spring 41 which is connected to the bar 36 so associated with the link 38 that a forward movement (which, in the present instance, is a retractive movement) of the bar 36 will cause a link 38 to move toward the front of the machine and thereby impart a forward, swinging movement to the lever 25, restoring the mechanism to the position shown in Fig. 2.

As the push bar 36 moves rearwardly to actuating position, the coin, check, or token will pass off the plate 43 and drop into the bottom of the machine where it can be recovered by opening the rear door 45 normally locked to the frame to the locking device 46.

In order to make the device decorative, I may apply a mirror 47 on the top thereof.

It will be apparent from the foregoing that the device constructed in accordance with my invention will be simple in construction and will be easily operated, and that it will effectually bend articles in the manner contemplated.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters-Patent is:

1. A vending machine comprising an article containing chute, a cross bar for pivotally mounting the chute, a delivery slide below the chute, a pivotally mounted agitator having forwardly extending hooked arms for normally engaging the cross bar to support said arms, and inverted V-shaped projections on the slide for raising the agitator arms from the cross bar.

2. A vending machine comprising an article-containing chute, a delivery slide below the chute having inverted V-shaped projections on its upper face, a pivoted agitator having forwardly extending pivoted arms with hook-shaped extensions, the projections being movable against the lower edges of the arms to raise them to agitate the contents of the chute, a stop below the arms to limit their movements in a downward direction, and means for actuating the slide.

3. A vending machine comprising an article-containing chute, a delivery slide below the chute consisting of sheet metal having struck-up, inverted V-shaped projections, means for actuating the slide, and agitator arms in spaced relation pivotally mounted below the chute, the V-shaped projections being movable over the lower edges

of the arms upon actuation of the slide to raise the arms to agitate the contents of the chute.

4. A vending machine comprising an article-containing chute, a delivery slide mounted for transverse movements below the chute, the slide consisting of a sheet metal member having depending side flanges, a slotted delivery portion and upstruck, inverted, V-shaped projections, a support upon which the flanges ride, a pair of connected, pivotally supported, spaced agitator arms against which the projections ride, a pivoted bar having its upper end projecting through a slot in the slide, and means for actuating the pivoted bar.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ALBERT H. STEELE.