July 20, 1943. W. M. JUNE 2,324,934

PHYSICIAN'S IN-AND-OUT REGISTER FOR HOSPITALS

Filed Sept. 30, 1941

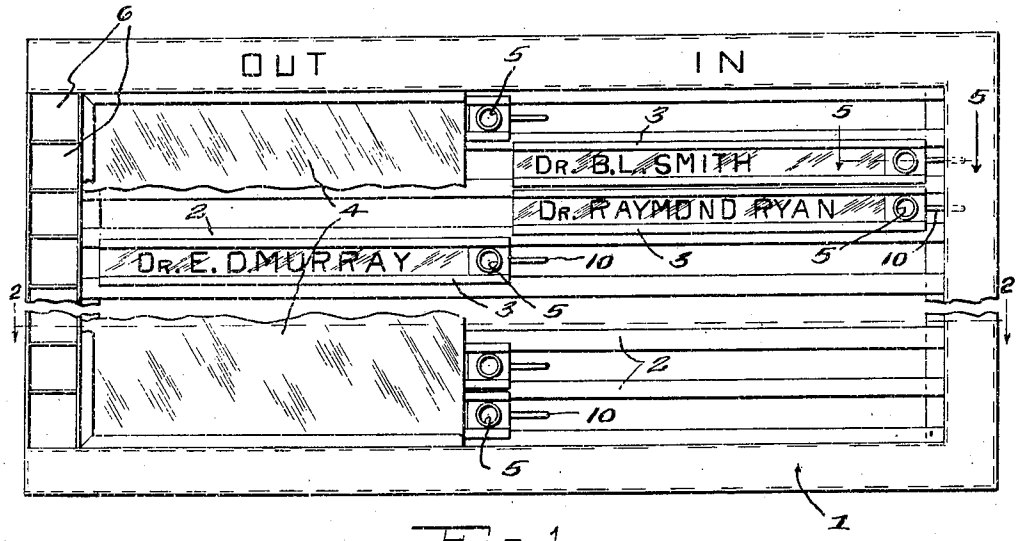


Fig-1

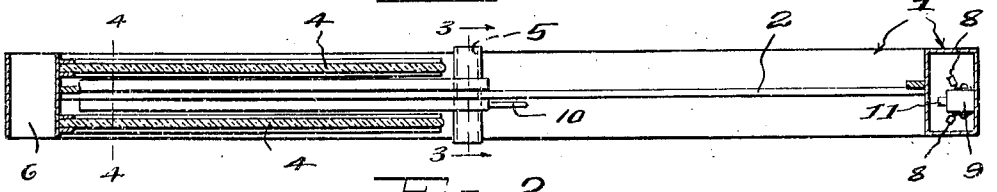


Fig-2

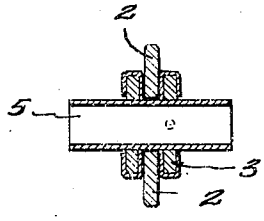


Fig-3

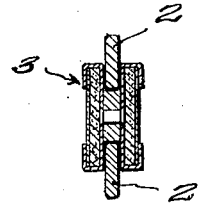


Fig-4

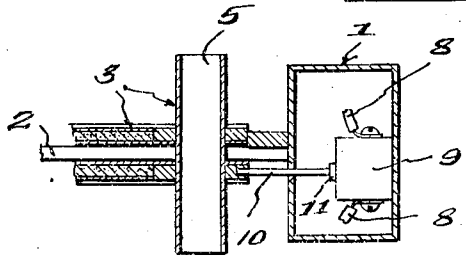


Fig-5

INVENTOR.
William M. June.
BY
Bodell & Thompson.
ATTORNEYS.

Patented July 20, 1943 2,324,934

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,324,934

PHYSICIAN'S IN-AND-OUT REGISTER FOR HOSPITALS

William M. June, Syracuse, N. Y.

Application September 30, 1941, Serial No. 413,063

3 Claims. (Cl. 116—135)

This invention relates generally to indicator racks comprising indicators shiftable from a normal position and in which they give one class of information, as the absence of a person from the place, to another position, wherein they denote the presence or attendance of the person, and has for its object a rack, particularly for expediting or simplifying hospital service with respect to physicians, who are in regular or frequent attendance at the hospital, to indicate whether or not the physician is at the hospital, and particularly an indicator readable from both sides thereof and arranged to be located, so as to be within the range of vision of a clerk, as a telephone operator, and persons outside the telephone operator's room.

It further has for its object means for receiving messages coming in to the physicians.

Other objects appear throughout the specification.

The invention consists in the novel features and in the combinations and constructions hereinafter set forth and claimed.

In describing this invention, reference is had to the accompanying drawing in which like characters designate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a fragmentary elevation of a panel or frame embodying the invention.

Figure 2 is a sectional view on line 2—2, Figure 1.

Figures 3 and 4 are sectional views taken respectively on lines 3—3 and 4—4, Figure 2.

Figure 5 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view on line 5—5, Figure 1.

1 designates a frame or panel which may be suitably mounted in an opening, as a window opening, so that the indicia are readable from opposite sides thereof. The frame is provided with suitable transverse guides for indicator slides, these guides being shown as transversely extending spaced apart tracks or rails 2.

3 designates the slides movable along two adjacent parallel rails. Each rail is common to two slides. The slides are shiftable horizontally from a normal "out" position in one side portion or half of the frame along the guides to "in" position in the other side portion or half, and when in their normal position, have a different visual effect than when in the other position. Each slide is provided with the same indicia on opposite sides thereof. As this indicator rack is here shown as adapted to hospital service, as an in-and-out register for physicians, each slide has the name of a physician on opposite sides thereof. The portion or half of the frame in which the slide is normally arranged, that is, when a physician is "out" or is not in attendance at the hospital, is shown here as covered on opposite sides thereof with glass panes 4. These may be colored or slightly translucent. Also, each slide is provided with a means as a transverse passage extending through the front to the rear sides thereof for receiving messages for the physician and transcribed by the clerk or telephone operator. As here shown, these passages 5 are tubular, the tubes extending through the front and rear sides of the slide and serving as a handle or knob for facilitating the shifting of the slide. The tube is normally located outside of the portion or compartment covered by the glass panes. Also, pockets, as 6, are provided along one lateral edge of the frame opposite each slide for receiving other messages, notes, letters, etc. left with the clerk. The passages 5 are intended primarily for messages received and transcribed by the telephone operator, the pockets 6 for receiving messages, notes, etc., which may be delivered for the physician at the hospital.

Each slide may control an electric circuit with a tell-tale light signal or indicator or recording apparatus connected therein. 8 designates the wires of such a circuit; 9 a normally open switch for each circuit, there being one switch and circuit for each slide. The switches are mounted in the frame at like ends of each guide. The switches are operated by a push rod 10 on each slide and arranged to coact with the switch operating member or button 11 to close the switch when the slide is shifted from its normal "out" position out of the compartment with the glass panes 4 to "in" position or compartment in which the slides are located, when the physician is in attendance. The slides are usually formed with white letters on a black background, in order that the name of the physician may be readable through the glass panes 4, although in the drawing, the physicians' names are shown in black on a white background.

In operation, the slides are normally in the "out" compartment behind the glass panes 4. When a physician comes to the hospital, he shifts his slide out of the "out" compartment into the "in" compartment, and as the physician's name appears on opposite sides of the slide, it is apparent to anyone on either side of the frame, whether or not the physician is or is not in attendance. When a telephone message is received for the physician, and he can not be readily located, the telephone operator or other clerk receiving the

message, makes a note of it and places the note in the hollow handle or passage 5 of the slide for the particular physician, so that when he is leaving or arriving at the hospital, he can readily see it. Any messages in the form of letters received are placed in the compartment 6. When the physician leaves the hospital, he shifts his slide from the "in" compartment back into the "out" compartment.

Oftentimes, a signal indicating whether a physician is in attendance or out is given in some other part of the hospital or an "in" and "out" registration made of the physician. When either of these systems is used, the electric circuit closing the signal indicator or recording circuits are automatically operated when the physician shifts his slide into "in" or "out" position.

This rack or panel is particularly advantageous as it can be readily installed as a panel in a window opening or in any other situation, and also in that the indications are clear to persons on the opposite sides of the frame or panel, and further in that any messages for the physicians can be immediately delivered to or he will see them when checking "in" or "out."

What I claim is:

1. An indicator rack for the purpose set forth comprising a frame open at one side, substantially one half of the frame being an "in" column and the other half an "out" column, transverse guides in the frame, indicator slides mounted to move along the guides from one column into the other, the "out" column having a translucent covering through which the indicator slides are readable giving a different visual effect to the slides from that given when the indicator slides are shifted to the "out" column.

2. An indicator rack for the purpose set forth comprising a frame, substantially one half of the frame being an "in" column and the other half an "out" column, transverse guides in the frame, indicator slides mounted to move along the guides from the "in" column into the "out" column and vice versa, the slides being visible from the front and rear sides of the frame, one column having translucent coverings on the front and rear sides thereof through which the indicator slides are readable from the front and the rear sides of the frame and which give a different visual effect when in one column from that given in the other column.

3. An indicator rack for the purpose set forth comprising a frame, substantially one half of the frame being an "in" column and the other half an "out" column, transverse guides in the frame, indicator slides mounted to move along the guides from the "in" column into the "out" column and vice versa, the slides being visible from the front and rear sides of the frame, one column having translucent coverings on the front and rear sides thereof through which the indicator slides are readable from the front and the rear sides of the frame and which give a different visual effect when in one column from that given in the other column, each slide having a combined operating and message element carrier handle formed with a passage therethrough for receiving a message element and permitting the message element to project out of the passage beyond the end of the handle, whereby the operator, when taking hold of the handle to shift a slide, comes in contact with the message element.

WILLIAM M. JUNE.