Feb. 2, 1926. 1,571,692

P. G. T. DE VILLIERS

COIN BOX MECHANISM FOR COIN-IN-THE-SLOT MACHINES

Filed Dec. 3, 1920

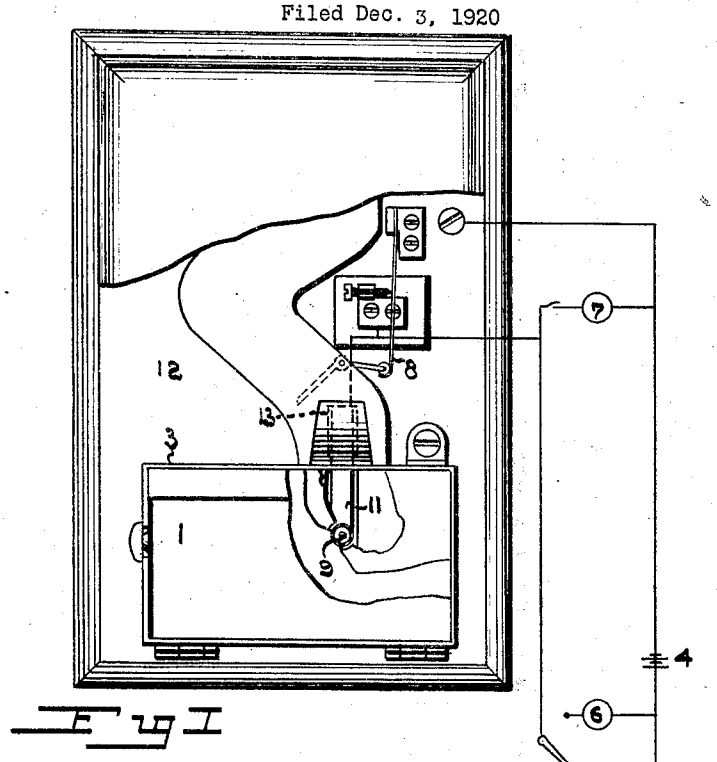


Fig I

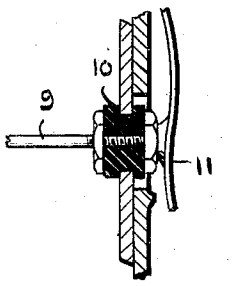


Fig III

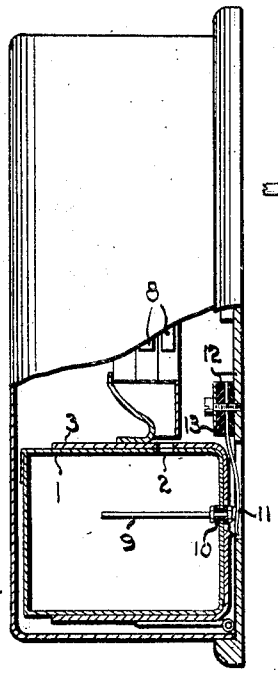


Fig II

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Patented Feb. 2, 1926. 1,571,692

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER GYSBERT THOMAS DE VILLIERS, OF PRETORIA, TRANSVAAL, SOUTH AFRICA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO ARTHUR ROGERS-JENKINS, OF DURBAN, NATAL, SOUTH AFRICA.

COIN-BOX MECHANISM FOR COIN-IN-THE-SLOT MACHINES.

Application filed December 3, 1920. Serial No. 427,954.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that PETER GYSBERT THOMAS DE VILLIERS, a British subject, residing at Department of Posts and Telegraphs, General Post Office, Pretoria, Transvaal Province of the Union of South Africa, has invented certain new and useful Improvements in Coin-Box Mechanism for Coin-in-the-Slot Machines, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention has reference to coin collecting boxes, for instance telephone pay stations; the purpose of the invention being to prevent the box from becoming over-filled or at least to give warning when that is occurring, so that in a telephone call station for example, the insertion of coins which cannot actuate the signal, is prevented.

This application shows to some extent some of the same material illustrated in my copending application Ser. No. 427,953.

According to this invention, provision is made whereby the piling of coins in the box beyond a predetermined height, closes an electric circuit whereby the desired signal or other precautional step is effected.

An example of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which—

Fig. I indicates the general arrangement of a telephone pay box, fitted with coin box mechanism according to this invention, and shows diagrammatically the electric circuit.

Fig. II is a sectional side view of the same.

Fig. III is an enlarged detail.

1 indicates a coin box having a coin slot 2 and seated in a metallic casing 3. The electrical circuit includes a battery 4, a signal lamp 5 and telephone 6 at the exchange; and at the call station, the telephone 7, and a coin actuated signalling reed 8.

The box is provided at a suitable height, with a rod 9 which is insulated from the box by a washer 10 and projects beyond the box to make contact with the spring terminal 11. Said spring is mounted upon the base 12 of the payment box by an insulating block 13 and is wired into the signal circuit. The rod 9 is arranged under the slot 2 so that on the one hand it serves to divert the coins falling through said slot, and distribute them over the box, whilst on the other hand, it is in the path of the apex of the rising pile of coins in the box. So long as the coins can simply strike said rod and fall freely therefrom, no electrical contact is made, but ultimately the pile builds up to the rod, and completes the circuit between said rod and the box, and so to the base 12. Current can thus flow through the signal lamp 5, which glows and calls the attention of the exchange operator, who connects for a call in the usual way. As no call is received, the operator refers the station to "faults" for attention.

I claim:

The combination with a metallic coin collecting box, having a coin receiving slot, of a rod arranged beneath said slot to distribute coins inserted therethrough, said rod being insulated from the box, and an electric signalling circuit including the box and said rod.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

PETER GYSBERT THOMAS de VILLIERS.