

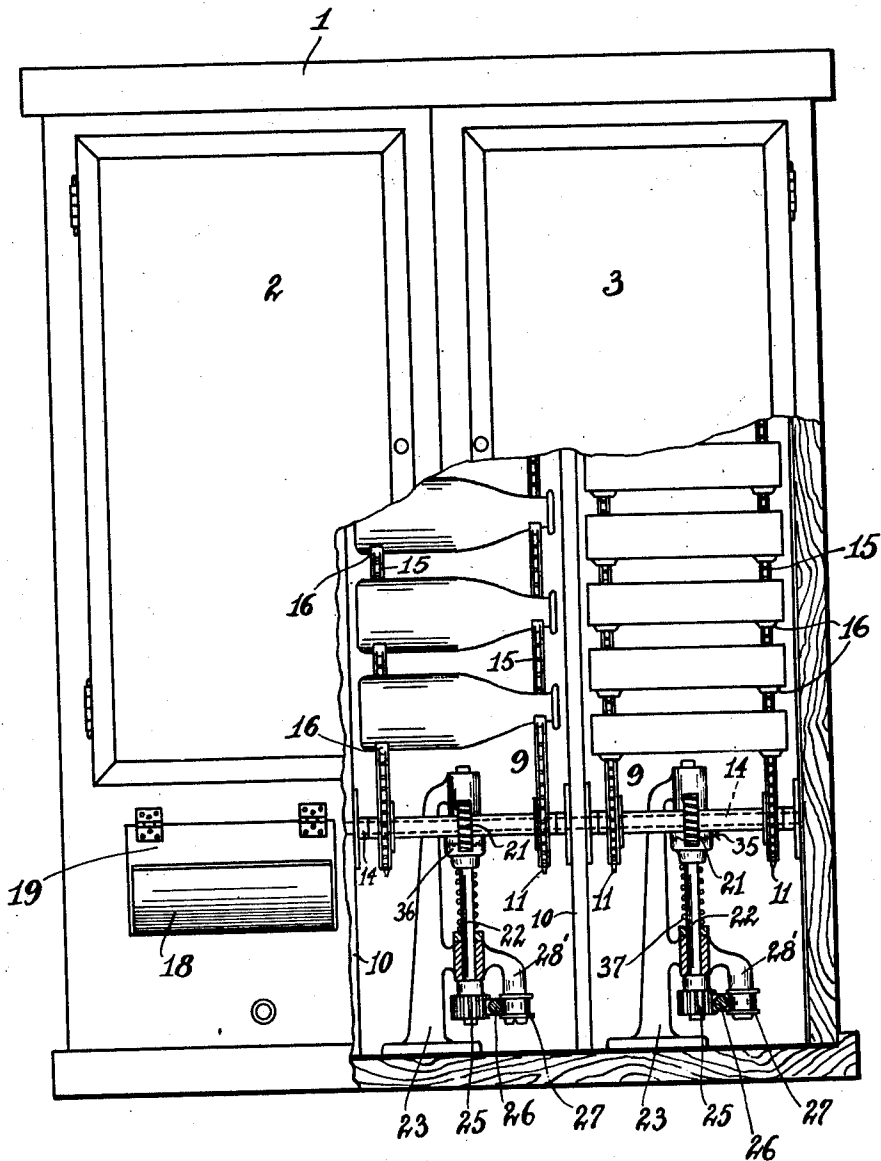
Aug. 17, 1926.

1,596,620

F. B. C. NEWMAN
MERCHANDISE DISPENSER
Filed March 5, 1923

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1



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FIG. 2

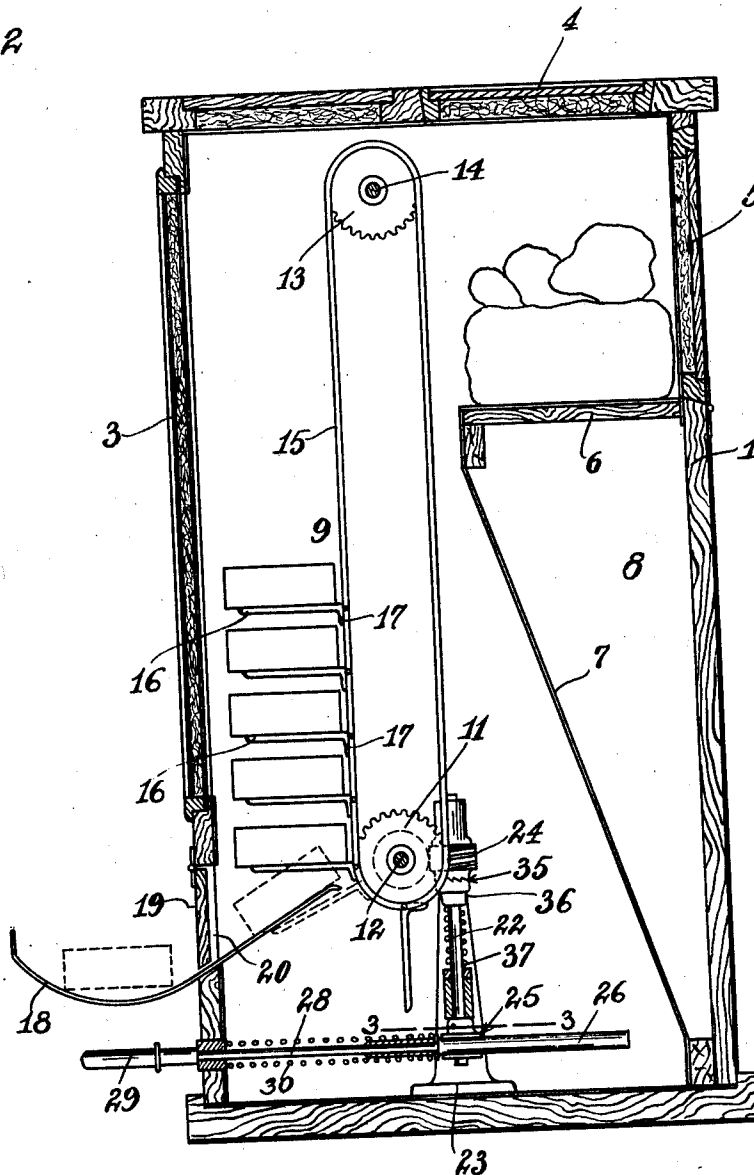
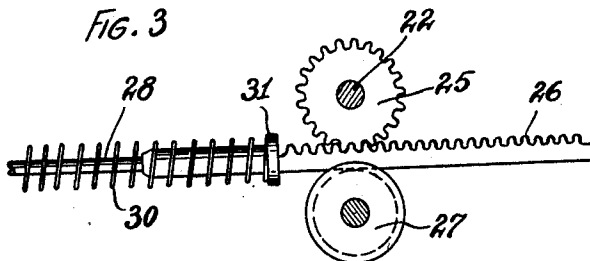


FIG. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANKLIN B. C. NEWMAN, OF OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.

MERCHANDISE DISPENSER.

Application filed March 5, 1923. Serial No. 622,822.

My invention is an improved dispensing box, particularly useful to dispense perishable goods.

The object of my invention is to provide a box in which a number of different articles may be placed and which may be individually dispensed, as desired.

Another object of my invention is to provide a box which is simple in construction, inexpensive to manufacture and efficient in operation.

In the drawing in which my invention is illustrated:

Figure 1 is a front view of my box with the front wall broken away to show the interior.

Figure 2 is a transverse sectional view of my dispenser.

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3-3 of Figure 2.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, the numeral 1 indicates a box, which has glass paneled doors 2 and 3 in the front thereof, and doors 4 and 5 in the top and back thereof. A shelf 6 extends across the back of the box 1 to receive the ice for cooling the box. A wall 7 extends from the inner edge of the shelf 6 to the bottom of the box 1, thus forming a dead air space 8.

A plurality of vertical dispensing conveyors 9 are positioned across the box 1 with partitions 10 between adjacent conveyors. The conveyors 9 consist of a pair of lower sprockets 11 which are secured to a plurality of shafts 12 in alignment with each other as shown in Fig. 1, and a pair of upper sprockets 13 which are secured on a shaft 14. The shafts 12 and 14 are each journaled in the box 1 and partitions 10, or if more than two conveyors are used, the inner shafts 12 and 14 are journaled in the partitions 10, the shafts 12 being positioned at the bottom of the box and the shafts 14 at the top. Chains 15 encircle the sprockets 11 and 13, to carry the articles to be dispensed.

While I intend to use a plurality of units, a description of one unit is sufficient, for all of the units would be of the same construction.

Supporting brackets 16 are pivoted to each of the chains 15; each bracket is formed with a foot 17 which bears against the chain to hold the bracket in a horizontal position on the forward reach of the chain. The method of operation of my dispenser is to rotate the sprockets 11 and 13 a sufficient

amount to cause the brackets 16 to incline forwardly and eject the article, (as shown in Figure 2). A tray 18 is secured to the front wall of the box 1 and extends into the box at the point where the articles are ejected by the brackets 16. The article thus falls upon the tray and is carried out of the box into a convenient position to be grasped by the customer. A door 19 is hinged to the front of the box 1 and covers an opening 20 through which the articles are ejected, to prevent the entrance of warm air into the box.

A gear 21 is secured to the shafts 12 to rotate said shafts and dispense the articles on the brackets 16. The vertical shaft 22 is journaled in a bracket 23, which is mounted on the floor of the box 1. A worm gear 24 is secured to the shaft 22 and meshes with the gear 21. A drive gear 25 is secured to the bottom of the shaft 22 and is adapted to be rotated by a rack 26 meshing therewith. The rack 26 is held in engagement with the gear 25 by an idler 27, which is mounted on an arm 28' from the bracket 23. A rod 28 formed with a handle 29 on the outer end thereof is secured to the rack 26 and is journaled in the front wall of the box 1. A spring 30 surrounds the rod 28 and is positioned between the front wall of the box 1 and a shoulder 31 on the rod. The rack 26 is thus normally urged towards the rear of the box 1.

The shaft 22 must rotate in only one direction. This action is accomplished by a one way clutch 35 which comprises a yieldable ratchet member 36 keyed to the shaft 22 and held in engagement with the upper member by a weak spring 37. Thus, as the rack 26 returns to its rear position the member 36 will slip and the gears 24 and 21 will not be rotated.

The method of operation is as follows:

The handle 29 is pulled outwardly. This moves the rack 26 which actuates the gear 25 and rotates the shaft 22. The gear 24 on the shaft 22 rotates the gear 21 and shaft 12, and sprockets 11. This moves the chain 15 downwardly and tips the lower bracket 16 at an acute angle causing the article on said bracket to slide on to the tray 18 and out through the door 19.

Having described my invention, I claim: A dispensing device comprising a closed container, an endless belt conveyor within said container, a tray extending through

the front wall of the container adapted to receive parcels from said conveyor, a door in said wall adapted to be opened by the passage of said parcels, and actuating means 5 for said conveyor, said means comprising a horizontally reciprocating rack, a vertical shaft, a pinion keyed to said shaft, a ratchet member yieldingly mounted on said shaft, a worm gear rotatably mounted on said shaft and having a ratchet face adapted to engage 10 said ratchet member, and a gear wheel mounted on one shaft of said conveyor and adapted to engage said worm gear.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FRANKLIN B. C. NEWMAN.