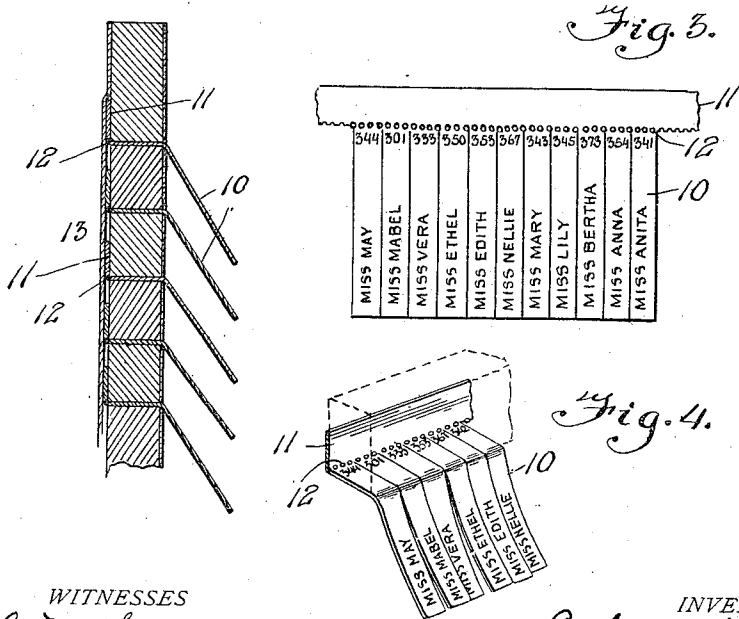
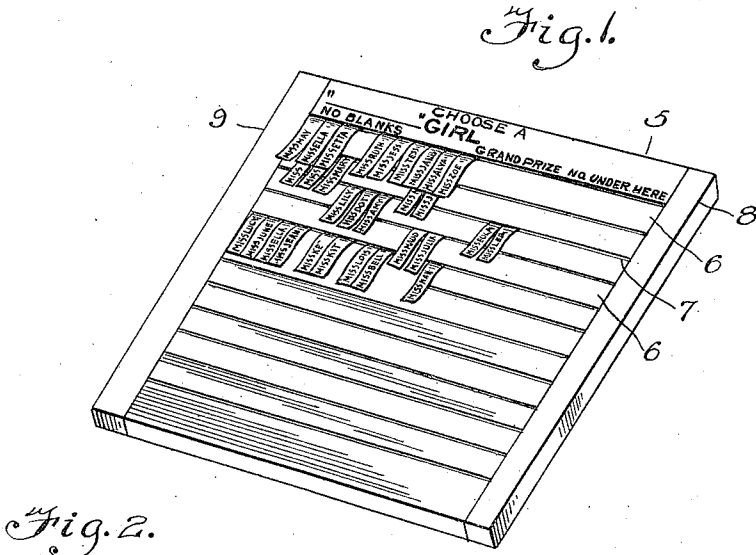




WITNESSES
G. M. Spring
A. C. Clark

INVENTOR
Arthur Heaton
Frank Appleman
 Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR HEATON, OF WHITEHALL, ILLINOIS.

VENDING APPARATUS.

972,532.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 11, 1910.

Application filed April 26, 1910. Serial No. 557,646.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR HEATON, a citizen of the United States of America, and resident of Whitehall, in the county of Greene and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Vending Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to vending apparatus and particularly to a chance device in which a number of a series of numbers to be drawn from a container shall indicate the winner of a prize, the holder of the number to receive the prize being ascertained by unmasking the prize number which is concealed under a label attached to the base to which the strips are secured.

This vending apparatus may be used in a plurality of ways, that is to say, a slip may be drawn containing a number and the purchaser may be entitled to an article of merchandise containing the said number and the purchaser may also be entitled to a chance for the grand prize indicated by the number on the base which is concealed or a merchant may give his purchasers an opportunity to draw a slip of paper containing a number and such purchaser may be entitled to a chance for the grand prize, or other methods may be adopted for the advantageous employment of the invention and the inventor, therefore, does not wish to be limited with respect to the method of use.

An object of this invention is to produce a base having a series of slots therein to which strips of paper containing numbered tabs may be applied, the said tabs being projected through the said slots in order that they will overlie the front of the base, the said tabs containing numbers which are concealed in the slots of the base.

A still further object of this invention is to provide novel means to prevent tampering with the tabs in order that the numbers contained on said tabs may be protected against inspection prior to the time they are severed from the strips.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention consists in the details of construction and in the arrangement and combination of parts to be hereinafter more fully set forth and claimed.

In describing the invention in detail, reference will be had to the accompanying

drawings forming part of this specification wherein like characters denote corresponding parts in the several views, in which—

Figure 1 illustrates a base by a view in perspective the said base having a plurality of tabs projecting from the front side thereof; Fig. 2 illustrates a sectional view of a fragment of the base; Fig. 3 illustrates a plan view of a fragment of a strip with the tabs shown thereon; and Fig. 4 illustrates the strip and tab in such relation to one of the sections of the base and the relation of the numbers to the said section in order to illustrate how the members are protected against observation except after the tabs are severed from the strips.

In these drawings 5 denotes a head or upper section of the base and 6, 6, 6, denote the sections of the base which are slightly separated to form slots 7. The ends of the sections 6 may be connected to the marginal strips 8 and 9 or, if desired, the base may consist of a single piece of material having the slots cut therein but terminating a slight distance from the edges but as such construction is an immaterial detail, I do not wish to be limited with respect to the means for producing the base having a series of slots such as is indicated by the numeral 7.

The tabs 10 are integral with the strips 11 but there are perforations 12 at the junction of the strips and tabs in order that the said tabs may be readily detached from the strips. Each strip is numbered near the line of perforation and to further increase the interest of the purchaser, said tabs have names stamped thereon in order that the purchaser may select his strips according to the name contained thereon without reference to the number, a view of which is obstructed by the sections 6 of the base.

As shown in Fig. 2, the strips 11 are secured to the back of the base and such strips may be attached thereto by adhesive of any appropriate character, the perforated lines forming the junction between the strip and the tabs being at the rear edges of the sections under which the tabs extend. When a tab is selected, a pull is exerted on it and it will be severed from the strip on the perforated line and the numeral on said tab will be visible to the person who selects it as soon as the tab has been withdrawn from the slot in which it rested. I prefer that the strips shall be folded downward on the

front surface of the base although when there are a series of tabs in each slot, the tabs of one slot may partially overlie the tabs of the next succeeding slot but not to such an extent as to obscure the names contained on the tabs which they overlie. The rear surface of the base is also provided with a protecting sheet of material 13 such as paper which will prevent the withdrawal of any of the tabs rearwardly for the purpose of observing the numbers contained on them.

The head 5 is provided with a protecting sheet 14 which conceals the grand prize number and which may serve for the reception of such advertising or display matter as will indicate the business of the vending apparatus.

By reason of the fact that the strips of material may be inserted through the slots of the base, the base may be renewed after the tabs are exhausted by refilling the slots and applying the strips and tabs to the base in the manner heretofore described.

I claim:

1. In a vending device, a base having a series of slots, strips of material secured to the back of the base and having tabs extending through the slots of the base, the said tabs containing numbers on those portions within the slots.

2. In a vending device, a base having a series of slots, strips of material secured to the back of the base and having tabs extending through the slots of the base, the said tabs containing numbers on those portions

within the slots, and a protecting sheet covering the strips on the back of the base.

3. In a vending device, a base having a series of slots, strips of material secured to the back of the base and having tabs extending through the slots of the base, the said tabs containing numbers on those portions within the slots, a protecting sheet covering the strips on the back of the base, and a strip of material on the head adapted to conceal the grand prize number.

4. In a vending device, a base having a series of slots, strips of material secured to the back of the base and having tabs extending through the slots of the base, the said tabs containing numbers on those portions within the slots, the said strips having perforations at the junction of the strips and tabs.

5. In a vending apparatus, a base having slots, combined strips and tabs, the said strips being secured to the surface of the base and the tabs extending through the slots of the base, the junction of said strips and tabs being positioned at the rear edge of the section of the base whereby the tabs may be torn from the strip flush with the edge of the section of the base.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ARTHUR HEATON.

Witnesses:

R. B. WINN,
F. V. PEARCE.