March 4, 1930. B. G. RAND 1,749,228

INDEX FOR TELEPHONE EXCHANGE DESKS

Filed Dec. 29, 1924

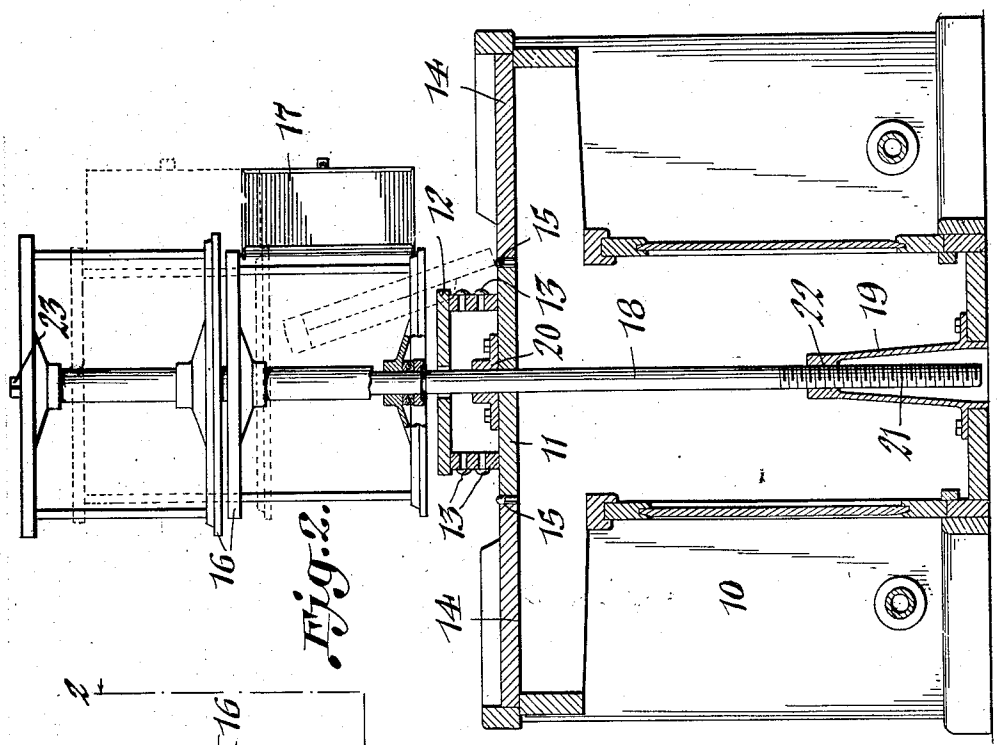


Fig. 2.

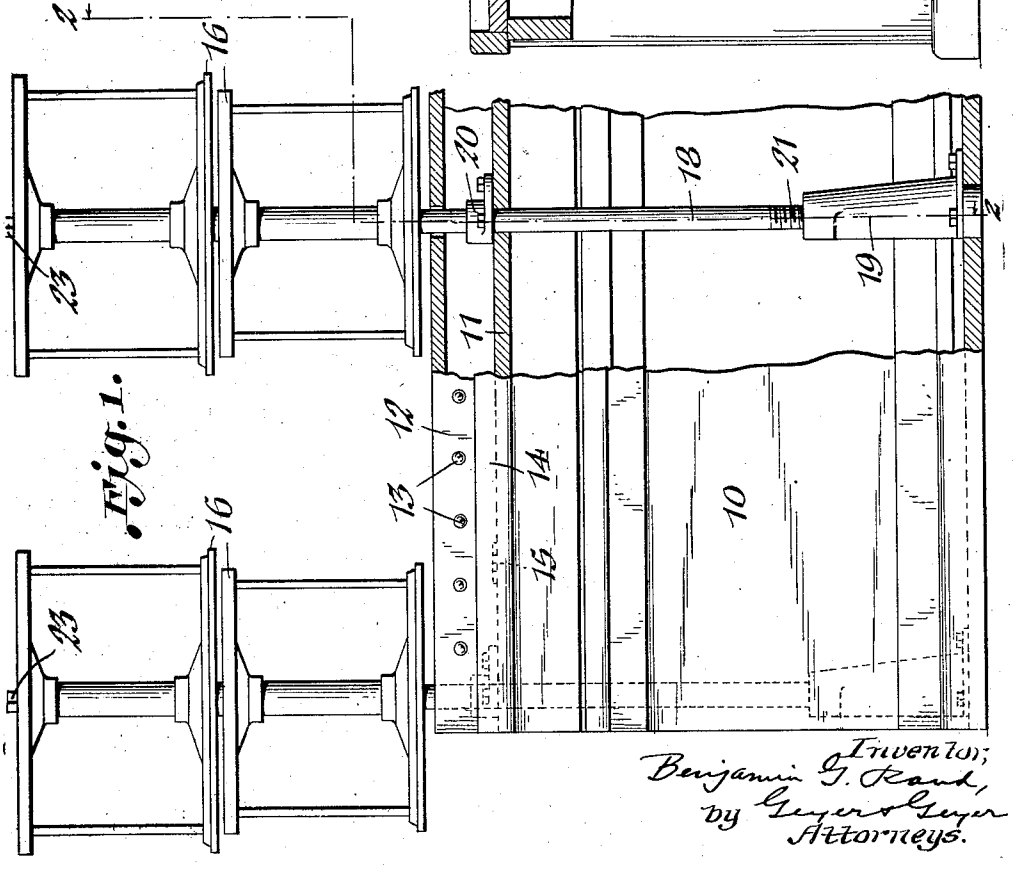


Fig. 1.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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INDEX FOR TELEPHONE-EXCHANGE DESKS

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This invention relates to an index which is intended more particularly for telephone exchange desks and which usually contains a record of those subscribers too late to classify in the telephone books.

Its chief object is to provide an index of this character which can be readily adjusted or temporarily moved out of the way for the purpose of conveniently gaining access to the wiring or other mechanism concealed within the exchange desk.

A further object of the invention is to provide the index with simple, reliable and inexpensive means for effecting such movement or adjustment thereof.

In the accompanying drawings:—

Figure 1 is a fragmentary sectional front view of an index embodying my invention. Figure 2 is a transverse section thereof on line 2—2, Fig. 1.

Similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

The telephone desk, in connection with which my invention is particularly applicable, may be of any well-known construction, that shown in the drawings, by way of example, comprising a hollow pedestal or base portion 10 and a top portion 11 overhanging the opposite sides of the latter to provide leg-space for the telephone operator. Arranged centrally on the top portion of the desk is a longitudinal box-like structure 12 in the side walls of which are contained the usual signal lamps 13. For the purpose of conveniently gaining access to the electric wiring housed within the desk, its top portion 11 includes vertically-swinging cover-sections or lids 14 which are hinged at 15 as shown in Fig. 2. Normally, these lids are in the lowered position shown by full lines in Fig. 2, and when it is desired to gain access to the wiring or other mechanism for inspection or repairs, the lids are raised to the position shown by dotted lines in said figure.

The numeral 16 represents the supporting frame of an index of any approved construction disposed substantially centrally above the desk and in front of the operator for her convenient use. Mounted on this frame are a plurality of panels or leaves 17 which contain the names of the new subscribers and related data. The index illustrated in the drawings is of the rotary type, its frame 16 being rotatably mounted on an upright post or shaft 18 supported at its lower end in a bearing-bracket 19 and at a point intermediate its ends in a bearing 20 secured to the top portion 11 of the desk. As shown in Fig. 2, the post 18 is disposed between or rearwardly of the cover-hinges 15 and the index-frame, together with its panels 17, normally overhangs the covers 14. Said index-frame is capable of vertical adjustment to bring the same to a point above the desk-top to permit the covers 14 to be conveniently opened to the dotted line position shown in Fig. 2. To this end, the shaft 18, which carries the index-frame 16, is preferably provided at its lower end with a screw-threaded portion 21 engaging an internally-threaded portion 22 formed in the bearing-bracket 19. The upper end of the shaft 18 may be provided with a square shank 23 for receiving a wrench or other appropriate tool for effecting the rotation of said shaft in one direction or the other to correspondingly raise or lower the index-frame.

By mounting the index in this manner, the same can be conveniently and quickly adjusted to a position to permit the desk-covers 14 to be raised when desired without the necessity of bodily and manually removing the indexes from the desk, or otherwise dismembering them, thereby affording a material saving in time and effort over the present installations. Furthermore, by making the index vertically-adjustable relatively to the desk-top, the same can be readily set in proper position to suit operators of different heights so that the index panels 17 will not extend across their line of vision and interfere with the display of the signal lamps 13.

If desired, the index-frame 16 may be suspended or hung from an overhead support, instead of mounting it as heretofore described.

I claim as my invention:

1. The combination with a telephone exchange desk having a cover hinged thereto

to swing from a horizontal to a substantially vertical position, of a vertically-movable post rising above the desk in rear of its cover, an annular and rotary index carried by said post and normally overhanging said cover to prevent full opening movement thereof, and a bearing for said post having an internally-threaded portion, the post having an externally-threaded portion engaging the latter, so that rotation of said post in said threaded bearing causes said index to be elevated to clear said cover during the swinging movements thereof.

2. The combination with a telephone exchange desk having a vertically movable cover in its top, of an index holder disposed over said cover and normally preventing full opening movement thereof, a support post for said index holder, and means by which said post may be elevated to bring the index holder to a height to permit opening of the cover.

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