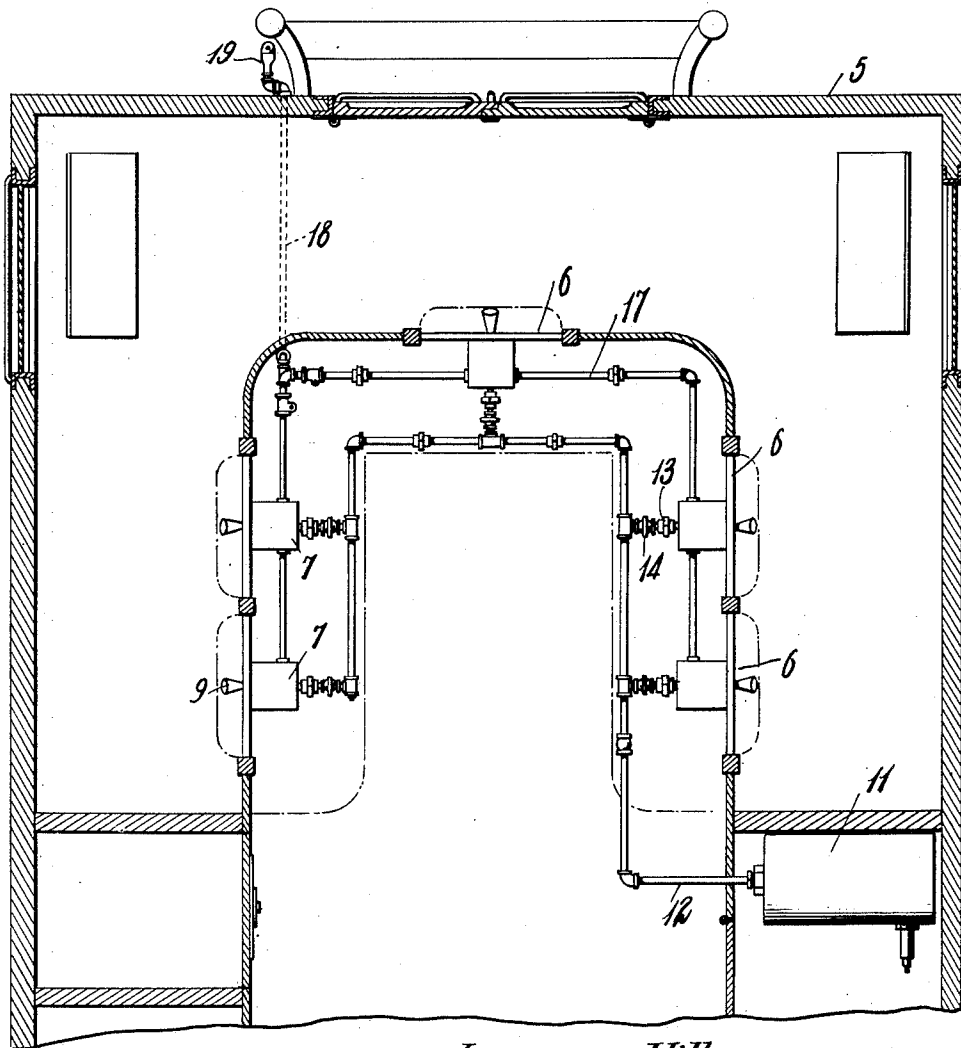


L. HILL.
BANK PROTECTOR.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 3, 1920.

1,358,638.

Patented Nov. 9, 1920.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



Lemreaux Hill

INVENTOR.

BY

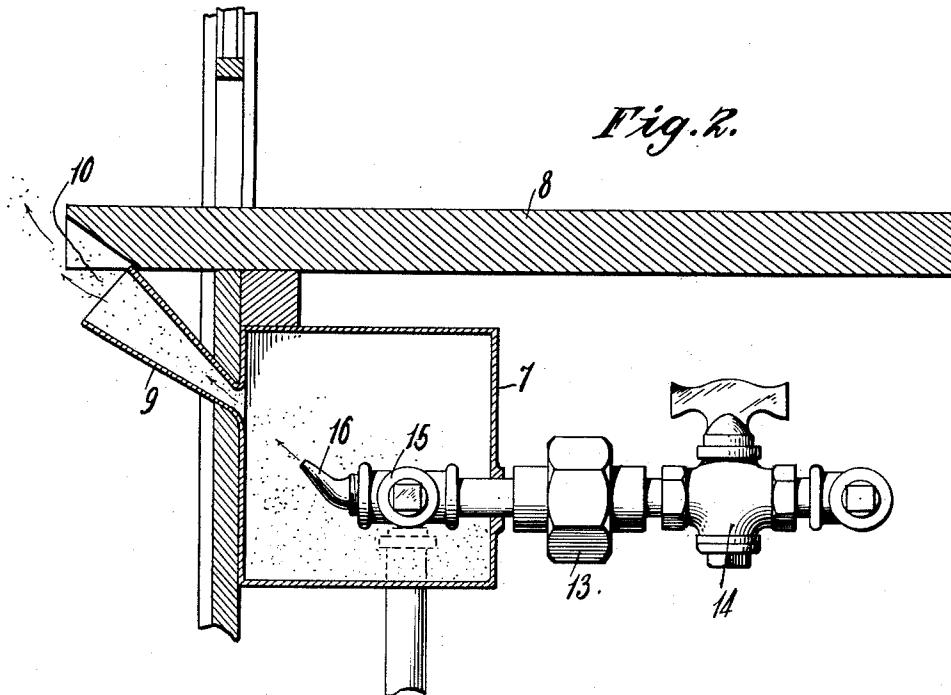
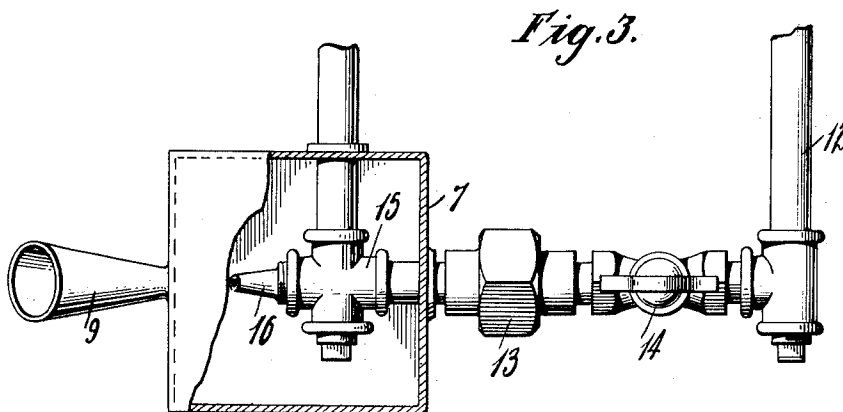
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEMREAU HILL, OF ELVINS, MISSOURI.

BANK-PROTECTOR.

1,358,638.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 9, 1920.

Application filed June 3, 1920. Serial No. 386,225.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEMREAU HILL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Elvins, in the county of St. Francois, and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Bank-Protector, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is a bank protector and its principal object is to provide an apparatus to be installed in banks and other places handling large cash receipts, as a protection against bank robberies or hold-ups.

Further the invention contemplates an apparatus wherein an agent will be discharged into the face of a robber to render him unconscious or blind.

The invention also provides an apparatus wherein receptacles containing a chemical agent, preferably in powdered form, are arranged at convenient points at the various windows of a bank or like institution, all of which are in communication with a source of compressed air, whereupon persons, with the intent to rob or hold up any one or more of the various employees at the various windows, the contents of any one or more of the receptacles will be blown therefrom and directed into the robbers' face to render them helpless or unconscious until they can be overpowered.

It is another object of the invention to provide a bank protecting apparatus which can be readily installed in any bank or the like, and which when operated will sound an audible alarm at a convenient point outside of the bank to call officers of the law.

With the preceding and other objects and advantages in mind, the invention consists in the novel combination of elements, constructions and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter enlarged upon and recited in the subjoined claims and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a diagrammatic view of a bank equipped with the apparatus;

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view of one of the compartments of a bank and showing one of the receptacles and part of the pipe line associated therewith, the receptacle being shown in vertical cross section; and

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary top plan view of one of the receptacles and pipe line having parts broken away.

Referring in detail to the drawings wherein like characters of reference designate like

parts throughout the several views, the numeral 5 designates a bank or other building provided with the usual teller or collection windows 6.

The invention, as reduced to practice, includes a plurality of receptacles 7, one of which being mounted at each window below the counter 8 thereof. Extending obliquely from each of the receptacles 7 and upwardly toward the outer edge of the counter 8 is a flared discharge nozzle 9. The under face of the outer edge of each of the counters 8 is cut away as at 10 so that a chemically treated powder contained in the receptacle 7 may be discharged through these nozzles 9 beyond the outer edge of the counters 8 and into the face of the would-be robbers.

A tank containing compressed air is designated at 11 and is arranged at any convenient point in the building, as shown in Fig. 1. A pipe line 12 leads from the compressed air tank 11 and is disposed rearwardly of the receptacles 7 and has communication therewith by branch pipes 13, in each of which a valve 14 is arranged. A pipe coupling 15 is disposed upon the inner end of each of the branch pipes 13 and engaged in the forward branch of each of these couplings is an upwardly inclined nozzle 16, the outlet of each of which is disposed in alinement with the bore of the nozzles 9. A pipe line 17, made up of sections extending through the receptacles 7 and engaged in the couplings 15, is arranged in parallel relation to the pipe line 12 and communicating with this pipe line 17 is a pipe 18 extending to a point outside of the building and has communication with a whistle 19 or any other audible signal. Thus, upon opening of either of the valves to permit air to flow from the pipe 12 into one or more of the receptacles 7 to discharge its contents, the air will circulate through the pipe 17 and into the pipe 18 to sound the whistle 19.

From the disclosure it will be obvious that upon attempt to hold up any one of the employees at the various windows, the valves of the respective windows being attacked will be opened to admit air from the air line to enter the receptacles, thus discharging a volume of the powder into the robber's face.

It is to be understood that the form of my invention herein shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example of the

same, and that various changes in the shape, size and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the sub-joined claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure and protect by Letters Patent of the United States, is:

10 1. In a bank protecting apparatus, a receptacle arranged at each window of the various compartments of the bank, an outlet nozzle communicating with each of the receptacles and arranged exteriorly of the win-
15 dows, a source of compressed air communicating with the receptacles, and means for controlling the passage of air into the receptacles to discharge the contents thereof through the nozzles.

20 2. In a bank protector, a receptacle for containing a chemical agent and arranged in each booth of a bank, a compressed air tank, a pipe line leading therefrom, a branch pipe leading from the air
25 pipe and communicating with each of the receptacles, a valve in each branch pipe controlling the passage of air to its respective receptacle, and an upwardly inclined discharge spout communicating with each of
30 the receptacles and arranged exteriorly of the booth.

3. In a bank protector, a receptacle for containing a chemical agent and arranged in each booth of a bank, a compressed air
35 tank, a pipe line leading therefrom, a branch pipe leading from the air pipe and communicating with each of the receptacles, a valve in each branch pipe controlling the passage of air to its respective receptacle,
40 an upwardly inclined discharge spout com-

municating with each of the receptacles and arranged exteriorly of the booth, and an audible signal in communication with the air line and sounded upon admission of air into any one of the receptacles.

4. The combination with a counter, of a
45 receptacle disposed beneath the counter and adapted to contain a chemical agent, a discharge spout leading from the receptacle and extending upwardly and having its out-
50 let disposed in close proximity to the outer edge of the counter, and means for conducting compressed air to the receptacle to blow its contents therefrom.

5. The combination with a building in-
55 cluding a plurality of communicating business-transacting booths, each of which having a window, of a receptacle for containing a chemical agent arranged adjacent each win-
60 dows, an upwardly and angularly disposed flared discharge nozzle extending from each of the receptacles and arranged exteriorly of the window, a pipe line establishing com-
65 munication with all the receptacles, an audible signal in the pipe line, a second pipe line arranged within the booths and ar-
ranged parallel to the windows, branch
70 pipes leading from the last mentioned pipe line and communicating with each of the receptacles, a compressed air storage tank communicating with the second mentioned
pipe line, and a valve in each of the branch
75 pipes for controlling the passage of air to any one of the receptacles to eject the contents therefrom through its discharge nozzle, the air from the operated receptacle passing through the first mentioned pipe line to sound the alarm.

LEMREUX HILL.