Feb. 27, 1934. D. A. PACK 1,949,178

GAS VALVE LOCK

Filed Nov. 5, 1931

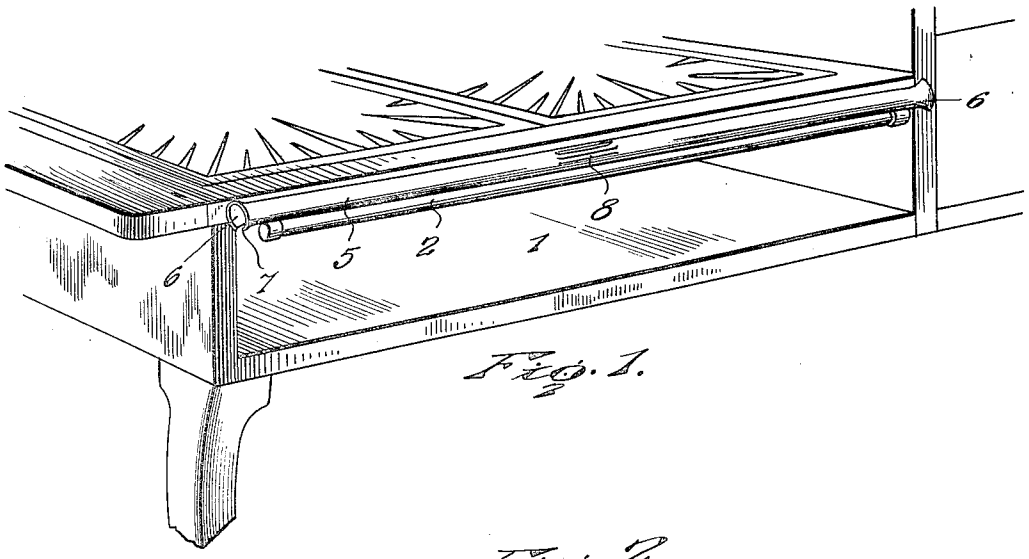


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

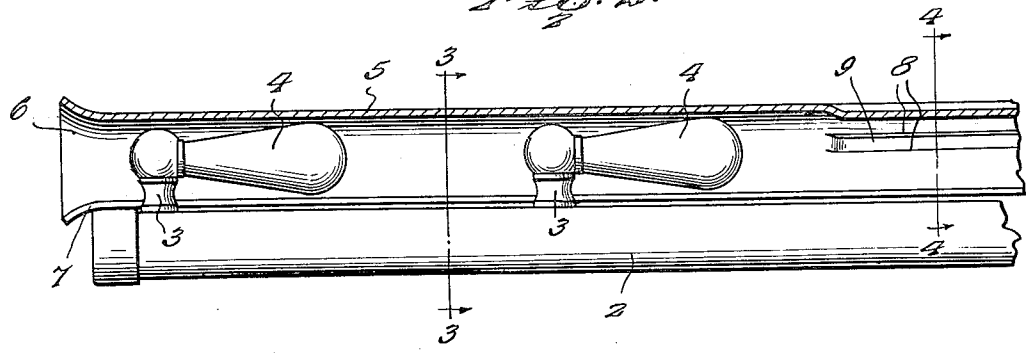


Fig. 3.

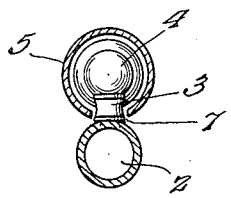


Fig. 4.



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Patented Feb. 27, 1934

1,949,178

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,949,178

GAS VALVE LOCK

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Application November 5, 1931. Serial No. 573,214

1 Claim. (Cl. 126—42)

The object of this invention is to provide an exceedingly simple, inexpensive and efficient device whereby the accidental or premature opening of the valves of a gas range will be prevented. The cut-off or regulating valves controlling the flow of gas to the burners of a gas range are generally disposed in a line extending across the front of the range, and as the ranges are seldom of any appreciable height, the valves may be easily reached by young children and opened, or they may be accidentally opened by the reason of the handles catching in the clothing of persons using or passing by the range. Considerable damage has resulted and lives have been lost by the unnoticed opening of the gas cocks and the consequent escape of gas from the burners. The present invention provides exceedingly simple means whereby the accidental opening of the gas cocks will be prevented. The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing and will be hereinafter first fully described and then more particularly defined in the appended claim.

In the drawing,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a gas range having my invention applied thereto,

Fig. 2 is an enlarged view showing the handles of two gas valves in elevation and showing the lock of the present invention in longitudinal section,

Fig. 3 is a transverse section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2,

Fig. 4 is a transverse section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

The gas range, a portion of which is indicated at 1, may be of any approved design. A gas pipe 2 extends across the front of the range and at intervals in said pipe are fitted valves, indicated at 3, which control the flow of gas to the several burners. The handles of the gas valves are given various forms but the most generally adopted form is that of a crank or lever, such as shown at 4, extending radially from the stem of the valve. When the valves are closed, the handles 4 extend in longitudinal parallel relation to the pipe 2 and are alined across the front of the range.

According to the present invention, there is provided a tube 5 having open ends and slightly flared at its ends, as indicated at 6, and having a longitudinal slot 7 extending from end to end thereof. This tube may be given any desired cross sectional outline according to the form of the handles of the several valves upon the range to which the device is to be fitted, and, at its center, longitudinal slits 8 are formed therein and the metal of the tube, between adjacent slits, is pressed inwardly to form tongues 9 whereby some resiliency is imparted to the tube at the slotted portion thereof. The tongues not only serve to prevent accidental displacement of the tube on the gas pipe 2 but, by engagement with the handles 4, serve to center said handles within the tube as the latter is fitted over the valves 3 so that the operator will know that all of said valves are securely closed. When the tube is to be employed, one end thereof is engaged about the handle of the valve, at one end of the series of valves, and the tube is then slid across the front of the range so as to successively engage and close each and all of the valve handles. When the tongues are at the center of the tube, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawing, it will, of course, be necessary to adjust the tube longitudinally on the gas pipe until the tongues engage all of the handles to close the valves but when said tongues are at the entrance end of the tube this adjusting operation will not be required. When the tube has been slid over all the handles, as shown in Fig. 1, none of the valves can be opened for the reason that the valve handles are all enclosed and no one handle can be moved without causing the locking tube 5 to swing about the same pivot as said handle. This swinging movement of the tube, however, is positively resisted by the handles of all the other valves and the result is that the valves cannot be opened until the tube is slid to one side. If it be desired to use all the burners in the range, the tube may be entirely withdrawn, but if only one burner is to be used, the tube may be slid to one side far enough to uncover the proper valve handle and then left in engagement with the remaining valve handles so that accidental opening of any one of the other handles will be prevented.

The device is exceedingly simple and may be manufactured at an exceedingly low cost. The application of the lock to the valves may be effected in an exceedingly short period of time and does not require the services of skilled mechanics.

Having thus described the invention, I claim,

A device for preventing the opening of gas cocks consisting of an open-ended tube having flared ends and constructed with a longitudinal slot extending from end to end thereof and opening through its ends and provided between its ends with a circumferential series of longitudinal slits, and inset tongues between the slits.

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