July 25, 1933. O. MORREALE ET AL 1,919,701

METAL LOCK FOR GAS METERS

Filed Sept. 22, 1932

Fig. 1.

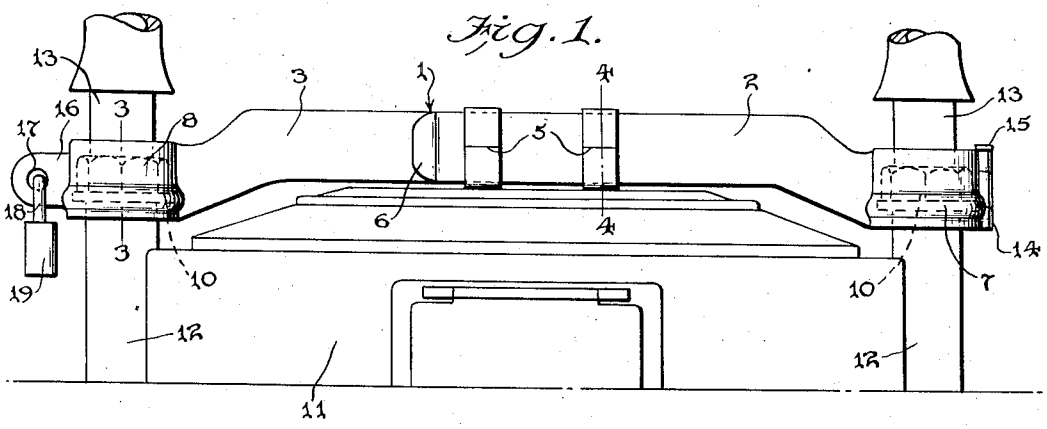


Fig. 2.

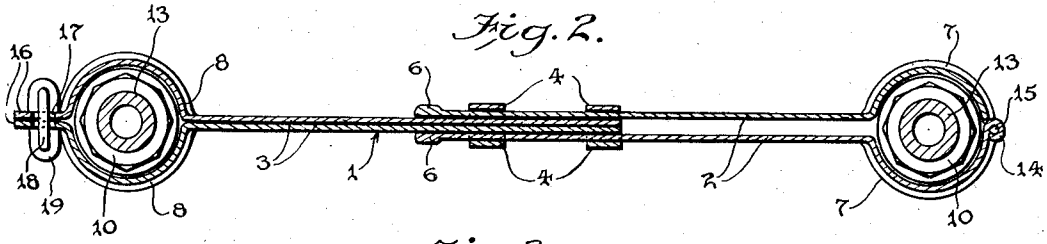


Fig. 3.

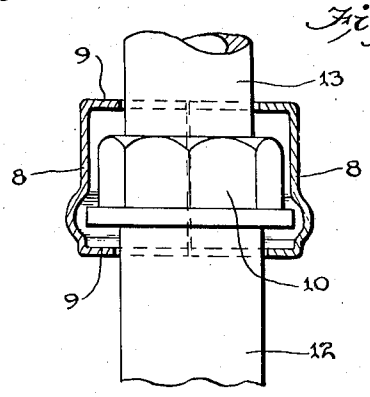


Fig. 4.

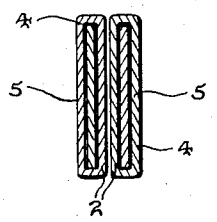
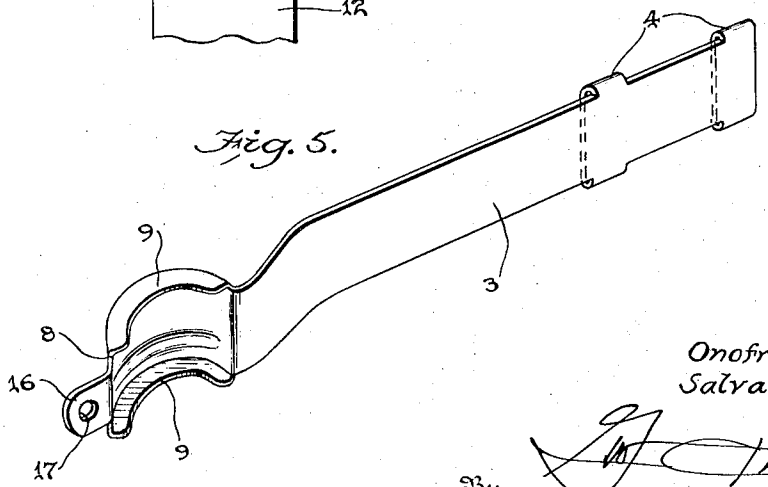


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ONOFRIO MORREALE AND SALVATORE GUARINO, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, ASIGNORS OF ONE-THIRD TO ROY COLTON MOORE, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

METAL LOCK FOR GAS METERS

Application filed September 22, 1932. Serial No. 634,430.

The invention relates to a metal lock for gas meters.

The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of metal locks for gas meters and to provide a simple, practical and efficient metal lock of strong, durable, and comparatively inexpensive construction capable of adjustment to fit meters of different sizes and adapted to be readily applied to the same and capable also of covering the coupling nuts of a gas meter and of effectually preventing a wrench from being applied to the same, whereby tampering with meter connections and theft of gas by such means are entirely eliminated.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing and pointed out in the claims hereto appended, it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion and minor details of construction, within the scope of the claims, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention,

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a metal lock constructed in accordance with this invention and shown applied to a gas meter.

Fig. 2 is a horizontal sectional view of the metal lock.

Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, and illustrating the construction of the cups or sockets.

Fig. 4 is a similar view taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of one of the sections of the lateral, separable members.

In the accompanying drawing in which is illustrated the preferred embodiment of the invention, the metal lock, which is designed to be constructed of sheet metal or other suitable material, comprises in its construction two lateral separable members 1 composed of longitudinally adjustable sections 2 and 3 consisting of substantially straight strips or bars fitted flat against each other and slidable on each other to vary the length of the metal lock to fit gas meters of different sizes. The section 3 which is fitted against the inner face of the section 2 is provided with transverse loops 4 composed of narrow straps formed integral with the section 3 and connected with the same at the side edges thereof and folded transversely into overlapping relation, the terminals 5 of the transverse straps being welded or otherwise secured together. The loops 4 of the section 3 receive the section 2 and form a slidable connection between the sections which are limited in their outward adjustment by a stop lug 6 located at the outer face of the section 2 at the inner end thereof.

A pair of transverse loops 4 are illustrated in the accompanying drawing, but one or more loops may, of course, be employed and the stop lug is of a size to engage the innermost loop for limiting the outward longitudinal movement of the sections to prevent the same from being pulled apart. This form of adjustment of the sections enables the members to fit flat against each other when the metal lock is closed.

The members are provided at their ends with sectional cups or sockets 7 and 8 composed of approximately semi-cylindrical side walls and approximately semi-circular top and bottom flanges 9. The cups or sockets 7 and 8 are laterally separable and are adapted to be placed around the coupling nuts 10 of a gas meter 11 and the said cups or sockets form casings which completely enclose the nuts 10 and effectually prevent a wrench from being applied to the same so that there is no liability of the meter being tampered with and theft of gas by such means is entirely eliminated. The curved top and bottom flanges 9 form circular openings to receive the gas pipes 12 and the nipples 13 of the meter.

The cup sections 7 are provided at their outer vertical edges with aligned eyes 14 through which passes a pintle 15 to form a hinge connection for the members 1 to permit the same to swing laterally in opening and closing the metal gas meter lock.

The cup sections 8 at the free ends of the members 1 are provided with ears 16 having aligned openings 17 for the reception of the shackle 18 of a padlock 19, but a seal or any other suitable locking device may, of course, be employed for locking the lateral separable members in their closed position.

What is claimed is:

1. A lock for gas meters comprising two lateral separable members fitted flat against each other and each composed of overlapping sections slidably connected with each other, sectional cups carried by the said members at each end thereof and forming casings to fit over the coupling nuts of a meter, means for hinging the cup sections together at one end of the lock to permit lateral separation of the members, and means for securing the cup sections together at the other end of the lock.

2. A lock for gas meters comprising two lateral separable members composed of longitudinally adjustable flat sections slidable on each other, one of the sections of each member being provided with transverse loops receiving the other section and the latter being provided with exteriorly projecting loop engaging means for limiting the relative outward movement of the sections, cup sections carried by the ends of the members and forming casings for enclosing the coupling nuts of a meter, and means for hinging the cup sections at one end of the gas meter lock together to permit the said lateral separation of the members.

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