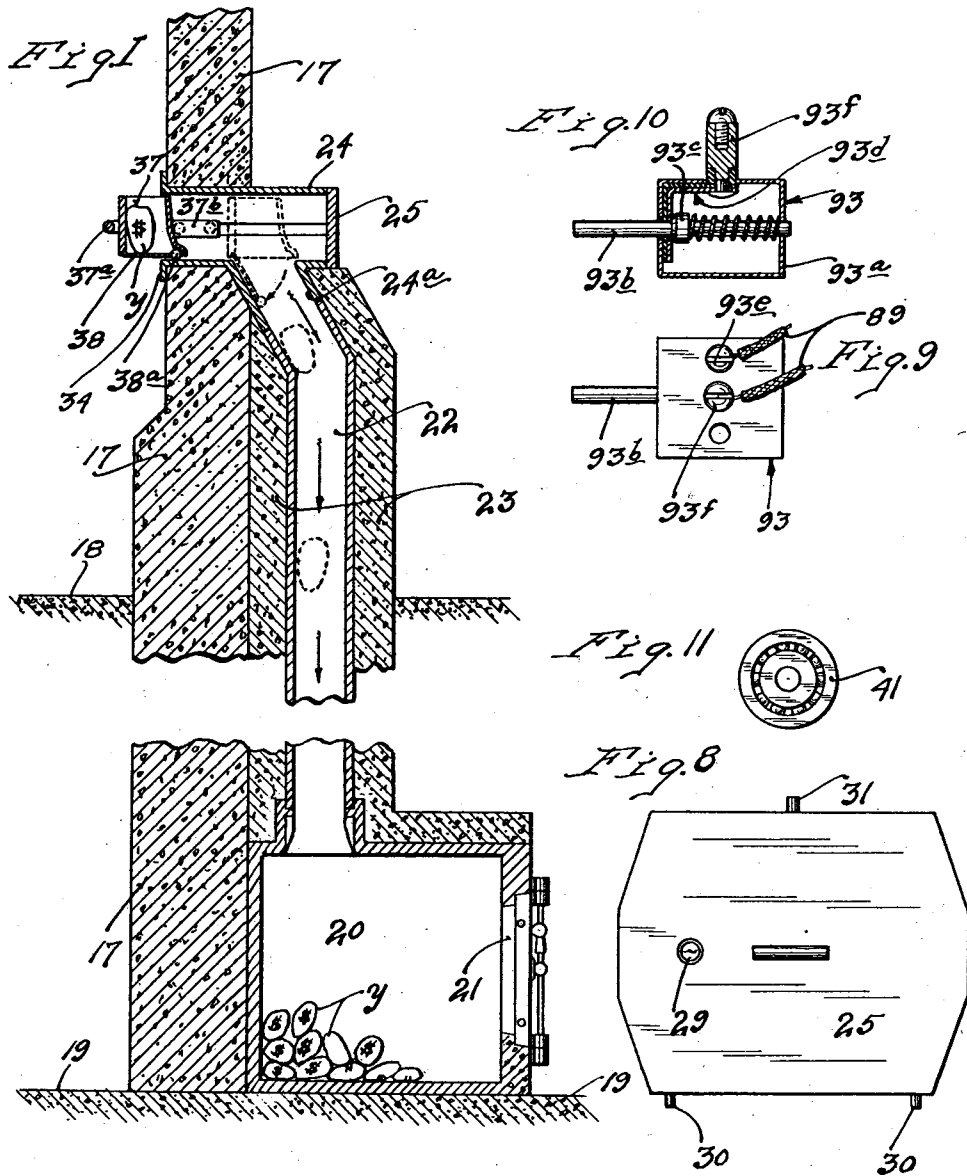


**1,704,865**

### AFTER HOUR DEPOSITORY

Filed Aug. 12, 1927

4 Sheets-Sheet 1



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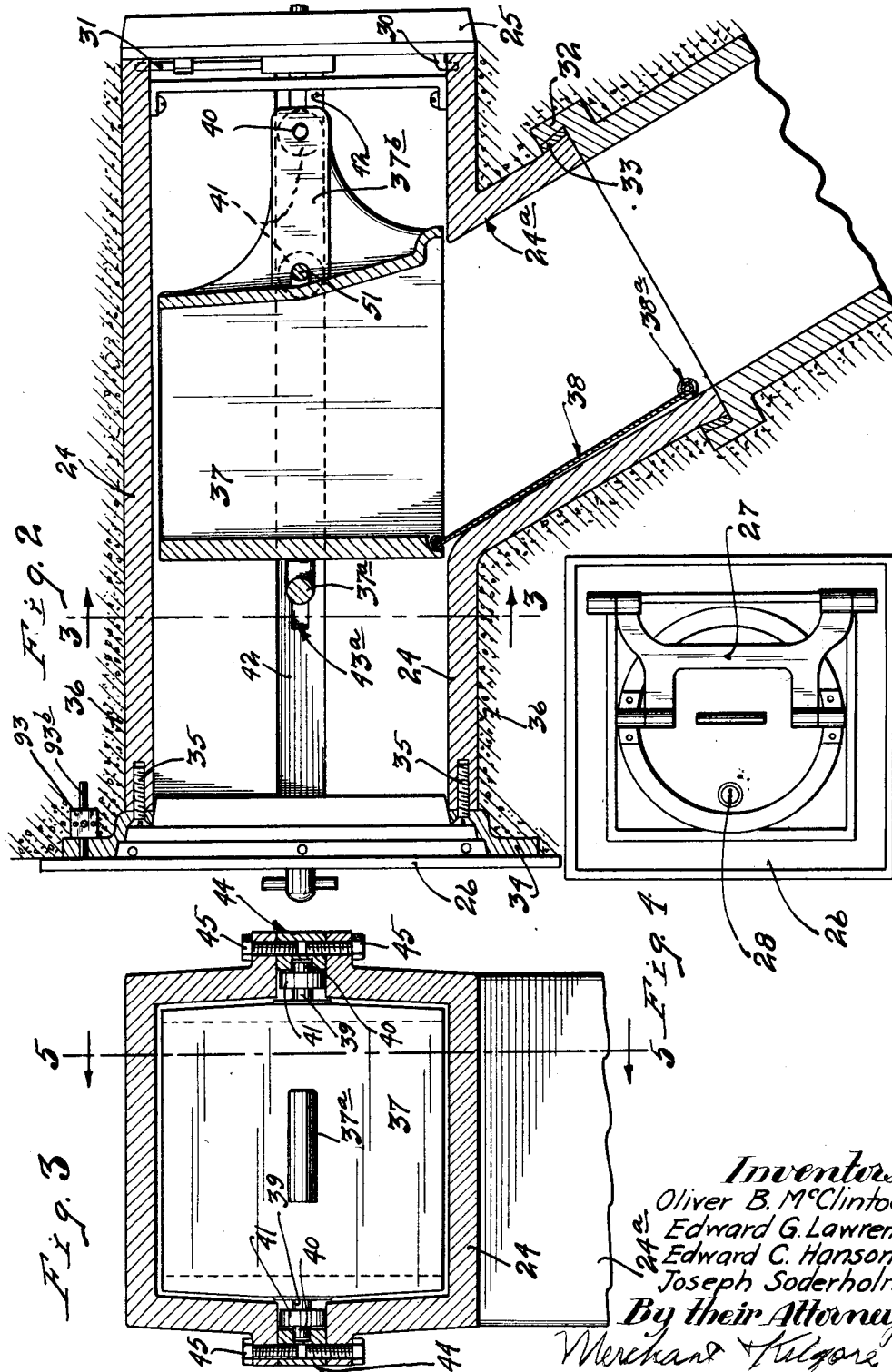
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1,704,865

AFTER HOUR DEPOSITORY

Filed Aug. 12, 1927

4 Sheets-Sheet 2



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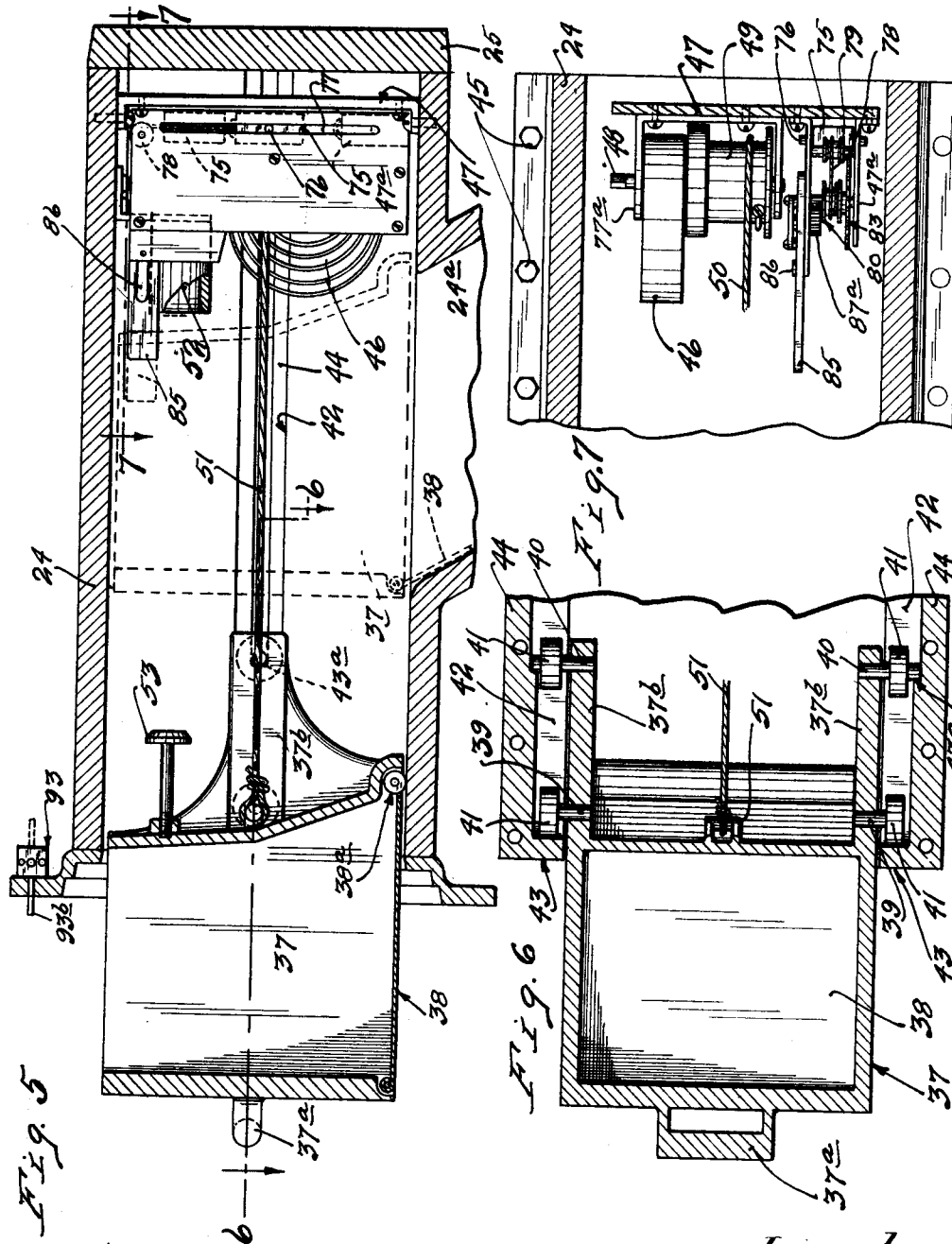
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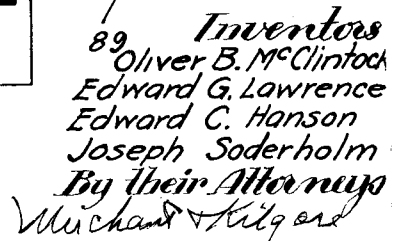
4 Sheets-Sheet 3



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**1,704,865**

4 Sheets-Sheet 4



## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## AFTER-HOUR DEPOSITORY.

Application filed August 12, 1927. Serial No. 212,539.

Our invention relates to what are generally designated as after hour or night depositories. Devices of this kind are used in connection with banks, safety deposit vaults and the like, to enable depositors, subscribers or other authorized persons to deposit money or other valuables at night or at any other time out of banking or business hours. In a depository of this character, all possible safeguards against theft and fraudulent actions are required and these, as will hereinafter appear, are provided in the preferred form of the device hereinafter described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein like characters indicate like parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a vertical section with some parts broken away, showing the improved depository applied in working position, only one wall of the building to which is applied being illustrated, and some of the parts being diagrammatically shown, details of structure being omitted;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged central vertical section showing the upper or receiving portion of the depository, some parts being shown in full and some parts broken away;

Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is an elevation looking at the outer face of the door that normally closes the outer end of the receiving chute;

Fig. 5 is a view corresponding somewhat to Fig. 2, but in section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 3 and with the receiving drawer or sliding receptacle drawn out and in position to receive a deposit;

Fig. 6 is a horizontal section taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5, some parts being broken away;

Fig. 7 is a horizontal section taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 5, some parts being broken away;

Fig. 8 is a detail showing an inner door that is applied to the inner end of the drawer runway, to-wit: The horizontally extended head or receiving portion of the delivery chute;

Fig. 9 is a detail showing an electrical switch that is operated by the outer door of

the depository and controls a buzzer circuit;

Fig. 10 is a section on the line 10—10 of Fig. 9;

Fig. 11 is a detail in elevation showing one of the ball-bearing rollers or wheels of the drawer or receiving receptacle;

Fig. 12 is a plan view showing a mechanically operated motor, (to wit: the motor operated by weight or spring), and including a retarding device;

Fig. 13 is a vertical section taken on the line 13—13 of Fig. 12;

Fig. 14 is an elevation of the motor shown in Figs. 12 and 13 showing also electrical switches controlled by said motor;

Fig. 15 is a diagrammatic view showing the alarm circuits controlled by the switches illustrated in Fig. 14; and

Fig. 16 is a diagrammatic view of the bell circuit controlled by the electrical switches shown in Figs. 2, 5, 9 and 10.

The wall of a bank or other building in which the device is installed is indicated by the numeral 17. The numeral 18 indicates the sidewalk or first floor line, and the numeral 19 the basement floor. In this illustration, the depository receives the valuables from the exterior of the building at a point above the street or sidewalk line and delivers the same to a receiving vault 20 that is located inside of the building and, as shown, in the basement of the building, although the receiving vault may and sometimes will be located at a higher point but always below the receiving point. The receiving vault 20 is shown as provided with a suitable door 21 that is accessible only from the interior of the bank or building.

Extended upward from the receiving vault 20 is a delivery chute 22 that is preferably rectangular in cross section and made of heavy steel. This chute 22 is advisably encased in a reinforced concrete armor 23 which will, in practice, contain also wires of the customary vault-protecting system. The delivery chute 22, at its upper end, is joined to the bottom of a horizontally disposed casing 24 that affords a receiving head to said chute and an enclosed runway for a sliding or drawer-like parcel receptacle. This head or casing 24, at its inner end, is normally closed by a door 25 and, at

its outer end, by a door 26. These doors 25 and 26 may be of any suitable or approved construction. As shown, the outer door 26 is supported from the flanged outer end of the casing 24 by a hinge bracket 27 and will be normally locked in its closed position by a key-actuated lock 28, such as usually employed on vault or safe doors. Keys fitting this lock 28 will be given to the various depositors. The inner door 25 is also preferably secured in its closed position by a key-actuated lock 29, the key to which will be kept by the proper bank official or employee. As shown, said door 25 is provided with depending hook-like bolts 30 and with a lock-actuated bolt 31, which bolts are engageable with detents in the inner end of the casing 24. In the preferred construction, the chute 22 will be made up of sections, the upper section being connected to an obliquely depending portion 24<sup>a</sup> of the casing 24 by a double lap joint 32 and a cast-in metal lock ring 33, best shown in Fig. 2. Also, the casing 24, at its outer end, is preferably formed with a detachable flange 34 shown as secured thereto by screws 35 and to which flange the door-supporting hinge bracket 27 is directly pivoted.

In practice, the wires of the vault-protecting system may be interposed in concrete 36 laid around the casing 24, its depending portion 24<sup>a</sup> and its flange 34, so that if any one of said parts is displaced, an alarm will be sounded.

The parcel receptacle 37 is substantially a rectangular structure that freely but quite closely fits within the casing 24 and is primarily open at top and bottom, but is provided with a hinged drop bottom 38. This receptacle 37 slides as a drawer within the casing 24 and, at its sides, is provided with outstanding studs 39 and 40 on which, respectively, rollers 41 are journaled. These rollers 41 are arranged to run in channel-like guideways 42 formed in the sides of the casing 24. Preferably, these rollers 41 are in the form of ball-bearings, as shown in detail in Fig. 11, but, of course, any suitable rollers may be provided. By reference particularly to Fig. 6, it will be noted that the sides of the casing 24, at the outer extremities of the channels 42, are provided with stop flanges 43 against which the front rollers 41 engage when the parcel receptacle 37 is drawn outward to its limit; it will also be noted that the projecting ends of the relatively long rear studs 40 are arranged to engage stop shoulders 43<sup>a</sup> formed within the channels 42 when the parcel receptacle is drawn out to its limit. These two stop devices afford double security against forcing of the parcel receptacle completely out of the casing 24 by any person who may attempt to maliciously tamper with the device. The parcel receptacle 37, on its front

wall, is shown as provided with a suitable handle 37<sup>a</sup> by means of which it may be drawn forward or outward. By reference particularly to Figs. 2, 5 and 6, it will be noted that the studs 39 and 40 are directly secured to flanges 37<sup>b</sup> that are projected rearward from the sides of the parcel receptacle 37.

At its free edge, the drop bottom 38 is shown as preferably provided with one or more small anti-friction rolls 38<sup>a</sup> that run on the bottom of the casing 24 when the parcel receptacle is drawn outward, and thereby hold the drop bottom in a closed position. Normally, the parcel receptacle will be in its innermost position, to wit: in the position indicated by full lines in Fig. 2 and by dotted lines in Fig. 5, and in which position, the drop bottom 38 will drop downward and fall against the inclined bottom wall of the casing extension 24<sup>a</sup>. By reference to Fig. 3, it will be noted that in this preferred construction, the casing 24 is horizontally split or divided along the line of the centers of the guide channels 42; that the sections of said casing are spaced by strips 44; that said sections and strips are rigidly connected by screws 45; and that the stop shoulders 43 and 43<sup>a</sup> are directly formed on said spacing strips 44.

As an important feature, we provide yielding means for automatically returning the drawer-like parcel receptacle from its outermost position shown in Figs. 5 and 6 back to its normal or innermost position shown by full lines in Fig. 2 and by dotted lines in Fig. 5. The motive power of this yielding device is preferably a strong coiled spring 46 anchored at one end to a frame 47 rigidly secured within and at the inner end of the casing 24. The other end of this spring 46 is attached to a shaft 48 journaled in the frame 47 and provided with a windlass drum 49. A cable 50 is anchored to the drum 49 at one end and at its other end is attached at 51 to the rear of the parcel receptacle 37. When the parcel receptacle is drawn forward or outward, the spring 46 will be wound under increased tension, and when said receptacle is released, it will be quickly returned to its normal or innermost position by the spring 46. To prevent shocks, due to quick stopping of the parcel receptacle at its extreme innermost position, there is provided a suitable buffer or cushioning device, as shown in the form of a dash-pot 52 secured to the frame 47 and a cooperating dasher head or piston 53 secured to and projecting from the back of said parcel receptacle. The head of the piston 53 quite loosely fits the dash-pot 52 so that it will cushion rapid movement but will not materially retard a slow movement, such as produced when the parcel receptacle is manually drawn outward.

As a safeguard against tampering, there are provided, in addition to the customary burglar alarm protection, two signaling schemes or devices, one of which will sound an alarm, if the parcel receptacle be held drawn outward or in a receiving position beyond a predetermined short interval of time, and the other of which, while not acting as a burglar alarm proper, will serve to keep the depositor's attention called to the fact that he is keeping the parcel receptacle held out during a period which, when ended, will result in sounding of an alarm proper, through the automatic action of the first noted circuit. The alarm or first noted device just above indicated is diagrammatically shown in Fig. 15 and the second or buzzer circuit is indicated in Fig. 16. Said alarm device, diagrammatically shown in Fig. 15, includes an alarm circuit proper and an alarm-actuating circuit. Said alarm circuit 54 includes a battery or source of energy 55, an electrically actuated bell 56, a fixed contact 57 and a cooperating movable spring contact 58. The alarm-actuated circuit includes a trip magnet 59, a reset magnet 60, a battery 61, two switches 62 and 63, and circuit wires 64, 65, 66, 67 and 68. The trip magnet 59 operates on a spring-retracted bell crank lever 69, the depending arm of which, by a rod 70, is connected to a pivoted latch lever 71, the hook-like end of which normally engages a pivoted armature 72 that is subject to the reset magnet 60 and is provided with an extended finger 73, which latter, as shown, is provided with an anti-friction roller 74 that operates on the curved end of the movable contact 58 of the alarm circuit proper.

The just above noted switches 62 and 63 are mounted on bearing plates 47<sup>a</sup> that constitute a part or extension of the frame 47 and they are preferably positioned as best shown in Fig. 14. The switch 62, as will presently appear, operates as a reset switch, while the switch 63 operates as a trip switch. For operating these two switches 62 and 63 in proper order and at proper times, there is provided a yieldingly movable traveling switch closer, (under action of weight or spring), which, normally or when the parcel receptacle is in its retracted or innermost position, is held inactive, but which, when the parcel receptacle is moved forward or drawn outward, will begin a movement which, after a predetermined time, will close the trip switch 63 and cause the alarm to be sounded in a manner which will be presently more fully traced. This switch closer, as illustrated in the drawings, is in the form of a vertically movable weight 75 mounted between the plates 47<sup>a</sup> and provided with a stud or projection 76 that works in a vertical slot 77 formed in one of said plates. The weight 75 is connected to the lower end of a

cable 78 which, is shown, runs over a guide sheave 79 and is connected to a small windlass drum 80. The sheave 79 is journaled on a rod 81 supported by the frame plates 77<sup>a</sup>, and the windlass drum 80 is connected to a shaft 82 journaled in said frame plates. The shaft 82, through a train of gears 83, is connected to a retarding fan 84, all of which parts are journaled to the frame plates 47<sup>a</sup>. This train of gears includes a pawl and ratchet device 82<sup>a</sup>, (see Fig. 12), which permits the windlass drum 80 to be rotated in a direction to wind up the cable 78 and raise the weight 75 without driving the train of gears 83. However, under the action of the weight 75, when the latter is released, the train of gears and the retarding fan 84 will retard and make slow the downward movement of said weight.

For rotating the drum 80 in a direction to wind up the cable and raise the weight 75 each time that the parcel receptacle 37 is moved from its outward back to its normal or innermost position, there is provided a drum-resetting device which preferably is as shown in Figs. 5, 7, 12, and 14. This device comprises a rack bar 85 which, by slot and pin connections 86, is slidably connected on one of the frame bars 47<sup>a</sup> and the teeth of which mesh with a pinion 87. The pinion 87 is journaled to the adjacent frame bar 47<sup>a</sup> and is connected for common rotation with a twin pinion 87<sup>a</sup> that meshes with a pinion 88 on the drum shaft 82.

The so-called "buzzer" circuit diagrammatically illustrated in Fig. 16, in addition to the conducting wires 89, comprises a battery or source of electrical energy 89<sup>a</sup>, an electro-magnet 90, a fixed contact 91, a cooperating yieldingly retracted armature-actuating contact 92, and a switch 93. The magnet 90 and cooperating contacts 91 and 92 constitute what is generally designated as a "buzzer." The switch diagrammatically illustrated in Fig. 16, and indicated as an entirely by the numeral 93, is in practice preferably of the form illustrated in Figs. 2, 9 and 10 and comprises as follows:

The numeral 93<sup>a</sup> indicates a metallic casing that is imbedded in the concrete of the wall 17 adjacent to the flange 34 of the casing 24. Mounted to move endwise in this casing 93<sup>a</sup> is an outwardly spring-pressed plunger 93<sup>b</sup> which, when said plunger is released, as shown in Figs. 9 and 10, has electrical contact with the contact plate 93<sup>c</sup> that is insulated from the casing 93<sup>a</sup>. One of the circuit leads 89 is electrically connected by a contact post 93<sup>e</sup> to the casing 93<sup>a</sup>, while the other lead 89 is electrically connected by a binding post 93<sup>f</sup> to the contact plate 93<sup>c</sup>. The plunger 93<sup>b</sup> is grounded through the casing 93<sup>a</sup>, and has electrical connection with the contact plate 93<sup>c</sup> only when the plunger 93<sup>b</sup> is released and permit-

ted to move into the position shown in Figs. 9 and 10. When the outer door 26 is closed, said door engages the outer end of the plunger 93<sup>b</sup> and presses the same inward so  
 5 that the collar 93<sup>c</sup> will be out of engagement with the plate 93<sup>d</sup> and, hence, normally or when said door 26 is closed, the buzzer circuit will be opened and the buzzer will be idle. In Fig. 1, money bags or other valu-  
 10 able parcels are indicated by the character *y*.

#### *Operation.*

The normal positions of the various movable parts of the system or installation are  
 15 indicated by full lines in Figs. 2, 13, 14, 15 and 16, and by dotted lines in Figs. 1 and 5. Depositors or persons authorized to make deposits will, as already stated, be furnished with keys that will operate the lock 28 of  
 20 the outer door 26, and such persons can, of course, at will, open said door. When the door 26 is open, the depositor can reach in and take hold of the handle 27<sup>a</sup> of the parcel receptacle 37 and may then readily draw the  
 25 same outward into the receiving position shown by full lines in Figs. 1 and 5 and then may deposit his parcel *y* in the outwardly drawn receptacle. As soon as the operator releases the parcel receptacle, the  
 30 latter will be quite rapidly drawn inward and restored to its normal position by the spring 46, the extreme return movement of said receptacle being cushioned by the dash pot 52 and plunger 53. When the parcel  
 35 receptacle is drawn outward to the receiving position, its bottom 38, as best shown in Fig. 5, will be held in a horizontal or operative position, so that the receptacle will hold the parcel and carry the same inward. When  
 40 the parcel receptacle approaches its extreme inward movement, the bottom 38, under the action of gravity, drops down against the inclined lower wall of the inclined spout-forming portion 24<sup>a</sup> and causes the parcel *y*  
 45 to be dropped through the chute 22 and into the vault 20.

The above are the major mechanical operations of the system.

Immediately upon opening of the outer  
 50 door 26, the spring-pressed plunger 93<sup>b</sup>, operating as already described, closes the buzzer circuit 89 and sets the buzzer 90-91-92 into action, for a purpose already generally indicated and which will be fur-  
 55 ther considered after having described the action of the alarm system illustrated diagrammatically in Fig. 15 and further illustrated in Figs. 12, 13 and 14.

When the parcel receptacle 37 is drawn  
 60 forward or outward, it moves out of engagement with the rack bar 85, thereby releasing the weight 75 and permitting the latter to begin its downward movement, and which downward movement is retarded by the re-  
 65 tarding fan 84. This weight 75 and its

projecting stud 76 afford one form of switch closer, and when they move downward, the stud 76, on passing the curved cam-acting end of the movable member of the reset  
 switch 62, closes said switch, and this closes  
 70 the circuit through the reset magnet 60 and causes the same to act on the armature 72 but without result, however, inasmuch as said armature is then locked down by the  
 latch lever 71 and holds the switch of the  
 75 alarm circuit 54 open.

It is calculated that about two minutes will be sufficient time to enable the depositor, after opening the door 26, to draw out the  
 parcel receptacle, deposit the parcel therein  
 80 and release said receptacle for automatic return movement and, hence, the clock mechanism or retarding device, which retards the movement of the switch closer, is in this particular instance so timed that  
 85 a little more than two minutes will be required to cause the stud 76 of the downwardly moving switch closer to come into engagement with the upper member of the  
 trip switch 63. Hence, if the deposit be  
 90 made and the parcel receptacle be permitted to return to its normal position within the two minute period, then the returning parcel receptacle, by engagement with the rack 84  
 95 and operating through the connections described, will raise or move the switch-closing weight 75 back to its normal position without having permitted the stud 76 to engage  
 or close the trip switch 63. Under upward  
 100 or return movement of the stud 76, it will, in the above event, again close the trip switch 62 but without any functional action.

If, however, the parcel receptacle be held  
 outward or not permitted to return to its  
 105 normal position within the assumed limit of two minutes, then the stud 76 will engage the upper member of the trip switch 63 and will close said switch. When the trip  
 switch 63 is closed, the circuit through the  
 110 trip magnet 59 will be closed and said magnet will be energized, with a result that the armature 69 will be moved and, through the connection 70, the latch lever 71 will be  
 disengaged from the armature 72, and there-  
 115 upon, under the tension of the movable spring contact 58, (the upper end of which is rounded or cam-shaped), said armature 72 will be raised and the contact 58 will engage  
 the contact 57, thereby closing the alarm  
 120 circuit proper 54 and causing the alarm gong 56 to be sounded. Thus, it will be seen that when the trip magnet 58 has been energized by an extreme movement of the  
 switch closer 75-76, the armature 72, subject  
 125 to the reset magnet 60, will be released and will remain released and the alarm continued to be sounded until the parcel receptacle 37 has been restored to its normal inner-  
 most position, whereupon the rack bar 85,  
 130 under the action of the returned parcel



receptacle and through the connections described, will move said switch closer back to its raised or normal position, causing the stud 76 to again engage the curved end of the movable member of the reset switch 62, thereby closing said switch. When the switch 62 is closed, under these conditions just noted, the circuit through the reset magnet 60 will be closed and said reset magnet will be energized and will then draw the armature 72 downward to a position where it will be again engaged and held by a latch lever 71. This return movement of the armature 72 presses the switch contact 85 out of engagement with the contact 57 and thereby opens the alarm circuit 54 and stops the alarm.

From the above, it will be evident that the scheme just above described and illustrated diagrammatically in Fig. 15 accomplishes two results, to wit: first, means for sounding an alarm when the parcel receptacle has been held in its outwardly drawn or receiving position beyond a predetermined period of time, and second, means for automatically opening the alarm circuit and setting the device for a repeated alarm action. In the scheme specifically illustrated in said Fig. 15, the opening of the alarm circuit and resetting of the device for repeated action is dependant upon return movement of the parcel receptacle to its normal position, and in this simple diagrammatical illustration, said opening of the alarm circuit and resetting of the device would be accomplished instantly upon return movement of the parcel receptacle. In practice, however, it is proposed to use a more intricate scheme in which, by a clock-actuated or timing mechanism, the opening of the alarm circuit and resetting of the device for repeated action would be delayed for a period of, say, fifteen minutes more or less, even though the parcel receptacle should be restored to normal position in less time. For the incorporation of this more elaborate scheme just above indicated, we have, in practice, utilized a system disclosed and claimed in the Lawrence Patent No. 1,629,347, of date May 17, 1927, entitled "Alarm system for vaults."

Attention is further called to the buzzer circuit illustrated in Fig. 16, and which buzzer, as it will be remembered, will be thrown into action instantly upon opening of the outer door 26. This buzzer will, therefore, continue to operate as long as the said door 26 is open and will be cut out of action only when the said door is closed. This buzzer, except for the time of its starting into action, has no timed action in respect to the alarm device and it simply keeps the depositor's attention directed to the fact that he is operating under a limited period of time and that he should close the door and, in fact,

must close the door in order to cut the buzzer out of action.

What we claim is:

1. In a depository of the kind described, a delivery chute provided at its receiving end with a transversely extended casing adapted to be projected through a wall, a parcel receptacle slidably mounted in said casing from a position to discharge into said chute into a position to receive a parcel, in combination with a normally restrained alarm device and means for automatically setting the same into action when said receptacle is moved from its normally discharging position for a predetermined period of time.

2. The structure defined in claim 1 in which said alarm device includes an alarm circuit having a normally open switch, an actuating circuit including a normally open trip switch, a magnet and magnet-operated means for closing the switch of said alarm circuit, a switch closer under strain to move and to close said trip switch but normally held from movement when said parcel receptacle is in discharging position, means for retarding the movement of said switch closer when released so that it will cause the closing of the alarm circuit only when said parcel receptacle has been held from its discharging position for a predetermined period of time, and means for restoring said switch closer to normal position when said parcel receptacle is restored to discharging position.

3. In a depository of the kind described, a delivery chute, a parcel receptacle at the receiving end of said chute movable from a position to receive a parcel into a position to discharge the same into said chute, yielding means tending to move said parcel receptacle, a normally restrained alarm device, and means for automatically setting said alarm device into action when said parcel receptacle is moved and held away from its normal discharging position for a predetermined period of time.

4. In a depository of the kind described, a delivery chute, a parcel receptacle at the receiving end of said chute movable from a position to receive a parcel into a position to discharge the same into said chute, yielding means tending to move said parcel receptacle, a normally restrained alarm device, means for automatically setting said alarm device into action when said parcel receptacle is moved and held away from its discharging position for a predetermined period of time, and resetting means for restoring said alarm device to normal condition for repeated action and rendered operative by the return of said parcel receptacle to its normal discharging position.

5. In a depository of the kind described,

a delivery chute provided at its receiving end with a transversely extended casing adapted to project through a wall, a parcel receptacle slidably mounted in said casing from a position to discharge into said chute 5 into a position to receive a parcel, said casing at its outer end having a normally closed door, yielding means operative to return said parcel receptacle from its receiving 10 position into its normal discharging position, a normally restrained electromagnetic alarm device including a trip switch, a timed switch closer, held retractive and inoperative when said parcel receptacle is in a normal 15 discharging position, but released for timed action when said receptacle is moved from normal position and operative on said trip switch to cause the sounding of the alarm when and only when said parcel receptacle is held away from its normal discharging position for a predetermined 20 period of time.

6. The structure defined in claim 5 in combination with electromagnetic resetting means for restoring said alarm device to 25 normal condition for repeated action and rendered operative by the return movement of said parcel receptacle to its normal discharging position.

7. In a depository of the kind described, a delivery chute provided at its receiving 30 end with a transversely extended casing

adapted to project through a wall, a parcel receptacle slidably mounted in said casing from a position to discharge into said chute 35 into a position to receive a parcel, yielding means operative to return said parcel receptacle from its receiving position into its normal discharging position, a normally restrained electromagnetic alarm device including a trip switch, a timed switch closer 40 held retracted and inoperative when said parcel receptacle is in a normal discharging position, but released for timed action when said receptacle is moved from normal position 45 and operative on said trip switch to cause the sounding of the alarm when and only when said parcel receptacle is held away from its normal discharging position for a predetermined period of time. 50

8. The structure defined in claim 7 in combination with electromagnetic resetting means for restoring said alarm device to 55 normal condition for repeated action and rendered operative by the return movement of said parcel receptacle to its normal discharging position.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

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