

Nov. 1, 1932.

G. L. WILLEMS

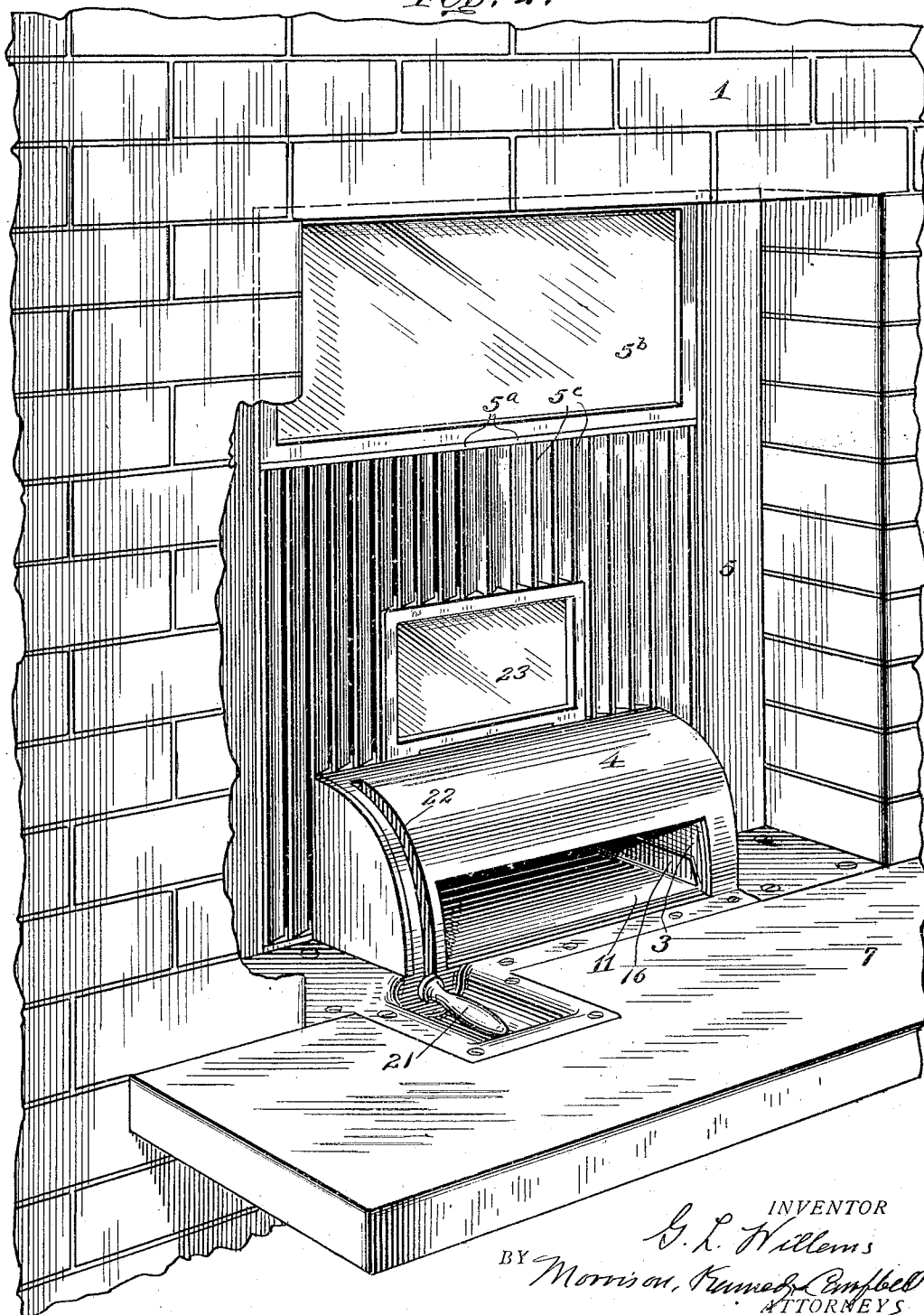
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ARMORED CASHIER'S WICKET STRUCTURE

Filed May 7, 1931

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Fig. 1.



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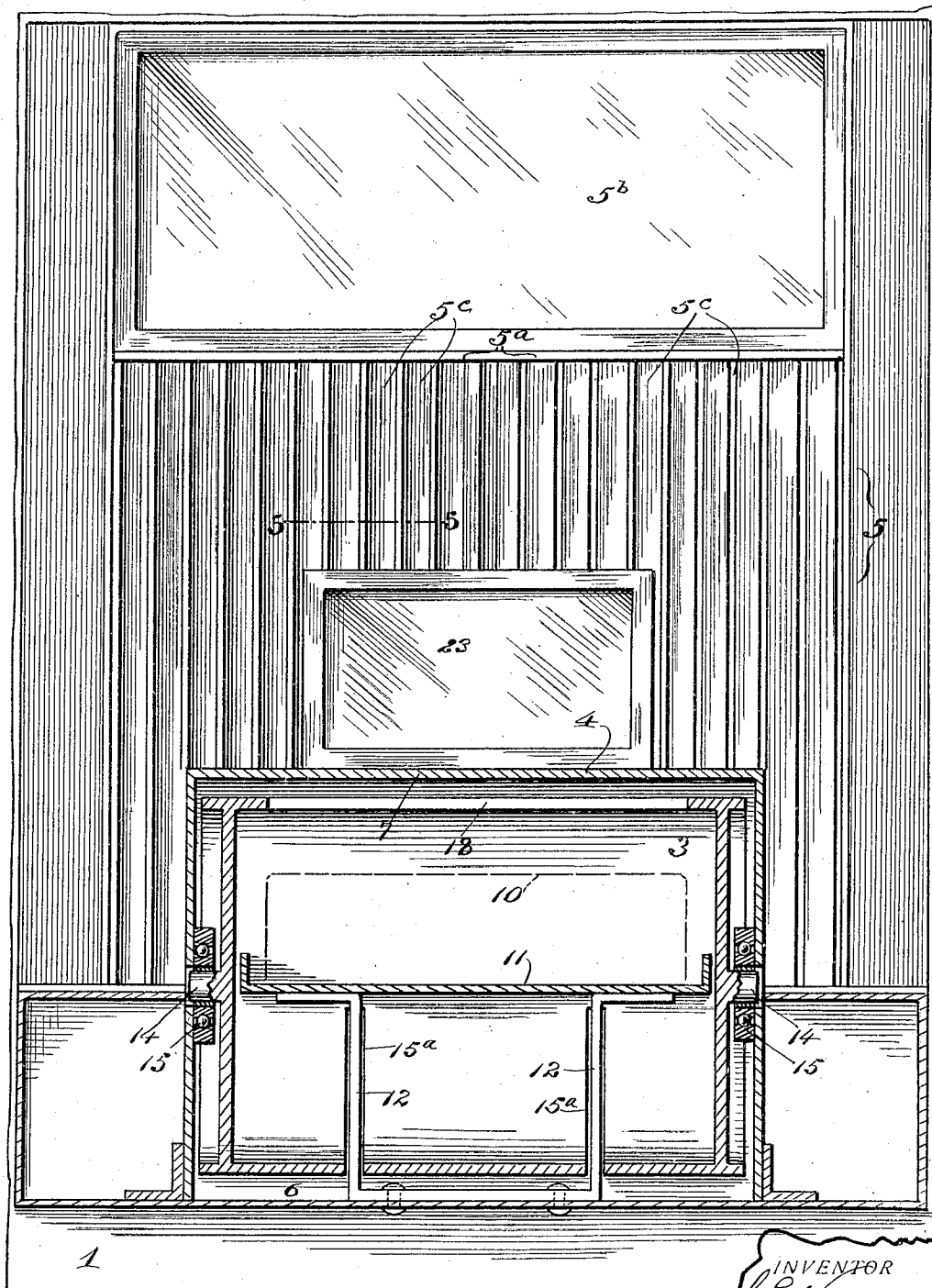


FIG. 2.

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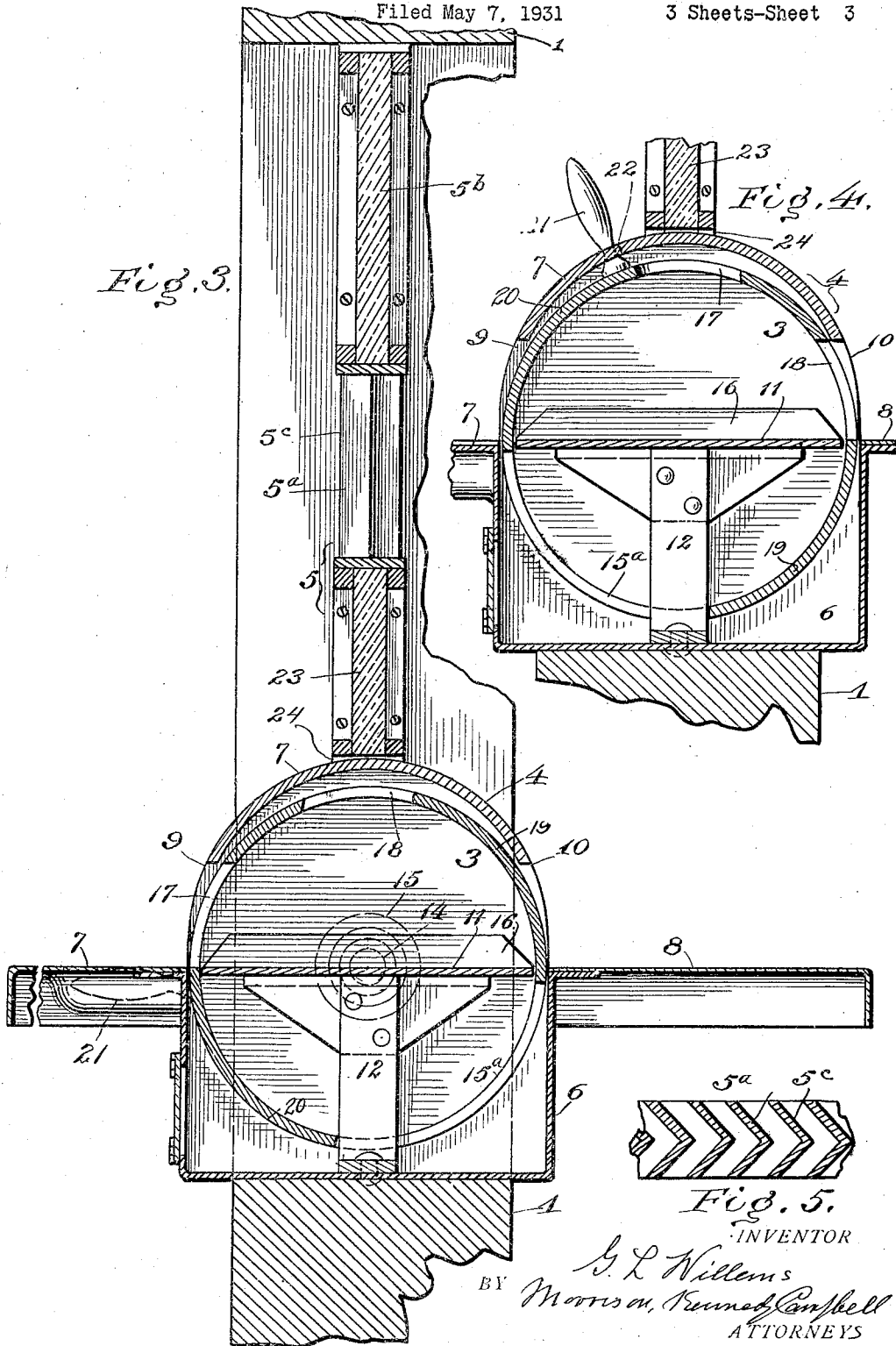
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ARMORED CASHIER'S WICKET STRUCTURE

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This invention relates to the construction of cashiers' booths or windows, and the like, to enable transactions, such as the payment or the cashing of checks, to be conducted without exposing the cashier to successful attack by robbers, and the invention is characterized by a wicket structure of improved form of armored or bullet-proof material, and under the control of the cashier or party handling the funds, whereby, while the cashier may receive the checks which are to be cashed, and may deliver the funds to the payee, the former will at all times be protected from attack or injury by fire arms or other weapons in the hands of robbers.

In the specification to follow, the invention will be described in detail, and the novel features thereof will be pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a wall of a cashier's booth or cage and a wicket structure therein, the same being constructed in accordance with my invention;

Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the same on an enlarged scale, with parts in section;

Fig. 3 is a vertical section through the same with the parts in one position;

Fig. 4 is a similar view with the parts in a different position; and

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary horizontal sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings:—

1 designates the front wall of a cashier's booth or cage, containing a rectangular opening therethrough in which my improved wicket structure is mounted, the said structure comprising an oscillating wicket member 3, a casing 4 set in the lower part of the opening in the wall and in which the oscillating member is mounted, and a panel 5 set in the opening at the sides of and above the casing, the said parts being constructed of a material which will act as an armor in resisting or preventing the passage of the bullets or weapons therethrough.

The casing 4 is formed with a lower rectangular portion 6 and an upper curved portion 7, and is firmly fastened in the lower part of the wall opening, as best shown in Fig. 3,

where it will be seen that the lower rectangular portion of the casing extends below inner and outer counters 7 and 8 projecting horizontally from the wall, while the upper curved portion of the casing projects above said counters.

The panel 5 before alluded to, extends at the side of the casing and vertically above the same in the upper portion of the wall opening and is of a detailed constructional form which will be described more fully later on.

The casing is formed at the inner side of the wall where the cashier stands, with an opening 9 whose lower edge is flush with the inner counter 7, and it is similarly formed at the outer side of the wall, with an opening 10 diametrically opposite the opening 9, and whose lower edge is flush with the outer counter 8.

Fixed within the casing between the two openings 9 and 10, is a horizontal supporting shelf 11 extending flush with the inner and outer counters, to which shelf access may be had alternately through the respective casing openings. This shelf is supported on the upper ends of two standards 12, whose lower ends are fastened to the bottoms of the casing, and is for the purpose of receiving the funds which the cashier is to pay to the check holder, as will be more fully described later on.

Mounted within the casing and associated with the shelf, is the oscillating member 3 under the control of the cashier and adapted to control the openings in the casing 4, to the end that access may be had to the shelf by the cashier and payee respectively. This oscillating member is, in the present instance, in the form of a hollow drum which is mounted to oscillate on a horizontal axis by means of studs 14 on the ends of the drum journaled in bearings 15 on the ends of the casing, the drum being formed with slots 15^a in which the standards 12 extend.

The shelf 11 is situated wholly within the drum, the curved wall of which passes between the front and rear edges of the shelf and the front and rear walls of the casing, as shown in Fig. 3, and the ends of the shelf

are bent up, as shown at 16, to fit within the ends of the drum.

The drum is provided with two openings 17 and 18 which are adapted, in the different positions, of the drum in the oscillations of the same, to register respectively with the openings 9 and 10 in the casing, and the distance between the drum openings is such that these openings will be caused to register with respective openings of the casing, by a movement of the drum through 90°.

The relation of the drum openings to the casing openings is such that, when the drum is at the limit of its movement in one direction, as shown in Fig. 3, the opening 17 in the drum will register with the inner opening 9 in the casing, while the outer opening in the casing will be closed by the intact portion 19 of the drum; and when the drum is adjusted to the other limit of its movement, as shown in Fig. 4, the opening 18 in the drum will be in register with the outer opening 10 of the casing, and the intact portion 20 of the drum will close over the inner opening 9 of the casing. In the position of the parts shown in Fig. 3, access is afforded to the shelf from the inner side of the booth wall, where the cashier stands, while access to the shelf from the opposite side of the wall is cut off; and in the position of the parts shown in Fig. 4, access to the shelf from the outer side of the wall, where the payee stands, is permitted, while access to the shelf by the cashier is shut off. The relation of the two sets of openings in the casing and drum is such that, at no point in the adjustment of the drum, can access be had to the shelf through both openings in the casing, since the parts are so arranged that neither casing opening is uncovered before the other is completely covered. As a result, it is not possible for a robber to reach into the cashier's booth, nor to insert a fire arm or other weapon through the wall or wicket, nor to shoot through the same.

For the purpose of oscillating the drum to adjust it to its different positions, it is provided at the inner side of the wall, with a handle 21 projecting into the cashier's booth, which handle extends through a slot 22 in the casing and is limited in its movement respectively by the upper and lower ends of the slot.

In the operation of the parts so far described, in the payment of money by the cashier inside the booth to a payee on the outside of the same, the cashier moves the handle 21 down to horizontal position, as shown in Fig. 3, thereby oscillating the drum and adjusting the opening 17 therein in register with the inner opening 9 of the casing and causing the intact portion 19 of the drum to close over the outer opening 10 in the casing, thereby closing all communication between the two sides of the wall. Access

being now established to the shelf from the cashier's side of the wall through said registering openings, the cashier reaches through said openings and places the money on the shelf. He then swings the handle 21 upwardly to the position shown in Fig. 4, thereby causing the intact portion 20 of the drum to close over the inner opening of the casing and cutting off all communication between the two sides of the wall, and causing the opening 18 in the drum to register with the outer opening in the casing, thereby giving access by the payee to the shelf. The payee can then reach in through the openings and remove the money.

The panel 5, before alluded to as extending at the sides of and above the casing, consists of a main lower metallic portion 5^a, and an upper transparent section 5^b, the metallic portion being formed to permit the passage of sound through the panel to admit of conversation being carried on between the cashier and payee, while the glass or transparent section affords a view from one side of the wall to the other. The transparent section 5^b will be formed of bullet-proof glass or glass of sufficient thickness to prevent the passage of bullets, while the metallic portion 5^a of the panel will be constructed of metal of a character to resist the penetration of bullets, and is provided with openings of such form and relation that, while conversation may be carried on between the cashier and payee, the direct passage of objects, such as bullets, will be prevented. To effect this object, the portion 5^a of the panel may be variously constructed, but I prefer to adopt the construction shown in Fig. 5, where it will be seen that it is made up of a series of vertical bars 5^c, angular or V-shaped in cross section and interlapped with each other, with the apex of one bar extending into the angle of the next bar, thereby presenting spaces or openings between the bars, offering an indirect communication between the two sides of the panel.

To afford a view by the cashier to the outer counter 8, a bullet-proof or thick glass panel 23 is set in the metal panel 5^a just over the casing 4; and a horizontal slot 24 is provided in the metal panel between the glass panel 23 and top of the casing 4, through which checks to be cashed may be passed by the payee to the cashier.

From the construction and arrangement of the parts described, it will be realized that the cashier is at all times and under all conditions, protected from successful attack by robbers and the like, and while being able to see the party presenting the check to be cashed, and while being able to converse with him, and to receive the checks to be cashed from him and to deliver the funds represented by the check to the payee, at no time is there a direct communication established

from one side of the wall to the other, through which a weapon may be passed or bullets fired.

While in the foregoing description and accompanying drawings the invention has been set forth in the particular detailed form and construction of parts which have been found to answer in practice the objects and aims sought, it will be understood that these details may be variously changed and modified without departing from the limits of the invention; and further, it will be understood that the invention is not limited to any particular form or construction of the parts, except in so far as such limitations are specified in the claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:—

1. In combination with a wall or partition, a casing in said wall having openings through it respectively at opposite sides of the wall, a shelf to which access may be had from the opposite sides of the wall through the respective openings in the casing, a member oscillatable in the casing between the said openings and having portions adapted in the different positions of the member to cover and uncover the respective casing openings alternately; whereby in the different positions of said member, access may be had from one side of the wall to the shelf, while access to said shelf from the other side of the wall will be cut off, and vice versa.

2. The combination of elements specified in claim 1, characterized by the fact that the parts therein enumerated are formed of bullet-proof material.

3. The combination of elements specified in claim 1, characterized by the fact that the shelf therein mentioned is fixed relatively to the casing.

4. The combination of elements specified in claim 1, characterized by the fact that the openings in the casing are arranged diametrically opposite each other in a horizontal plane.

5. The combination of elements specified in claim 1, characterized by the fact that the member therein mentioned is oscillatable about a horizontal axis.

6. The combination of elements specified in claim 1, characterized by the fact that the oscillatable member is provided with a handle for operating it, which handle projects therefrom on one side of the wall.

7. The combination of elements specified in claim 1, characterized by the fact that the oscillatable member therein mentioned is in the form of a drum, provided at intervals with openings and intermediate intact portions, and adapted in its different positions to cover and uncover the respective casing openings.

8. In combination with a wall or partition, a casing in said wall having openings through

it respectively on opposite sides of the wall, a horizontal shelf within said casing to which access may be had from the opposite sides of the wall through the respective openings, and a drum oscillatable in said casing between said openings, said drum having two openings therethrough adapted in the different positions of the drum to register alternately with said openings in the casing; whereby in one position of the drum access may be had from one side of the wall to the shelf through the opening in the casing at that side and through one of the registering openings in the drum, while access to the shelf from the other side of the wall will be cut off by the drum, and in another position of the drum access may be had to the shelf from the other side of the wall through the opening in the casing at that side and through the other registering opening in the drum, while access to the shelf from the other side of the partition will be cut off by the drum.

9. The combination of elements specified in claim 8, characterized by the fact that the openings in the casing are arranged at diametrically opposite points in a horizontal plane above and adjacent the shelf, and that the openings in the drum are at such distance apart that they will be caused to register alternately with the casing openings when the drum is oscillated through 90°.

10. The combination of elements specified in claim 8, characterized by the fact that the shelf therein mentioned is fixed relative to the casing and is situated within its drum.

11. The combination of elements specified in claim 1, characterized by the fact that the wall therein mentioned is provided above the casing with a slot for the passage of pay checks or the like from one side of the wall to the other.

12. The combination of elements specified in claim 1, characterized by the fact that the wall therein mentioned is provided above the casing with a transparent bullet-proof partition.

13. The combination of elements specified in claim 1, characterized by the fact that the wall therein mentioned is provided adjacent the casing with openings of a form which will prevent the direct passage of an object therethrough; whereby while a person on one side of the wall may converse with a person on the other side, the introduction of fire arms or the passage of bullets therethrough will be prevented.

In testimony whereof, this specification has been duly signed by:

GEORGE L. WILLEMS.