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FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFE

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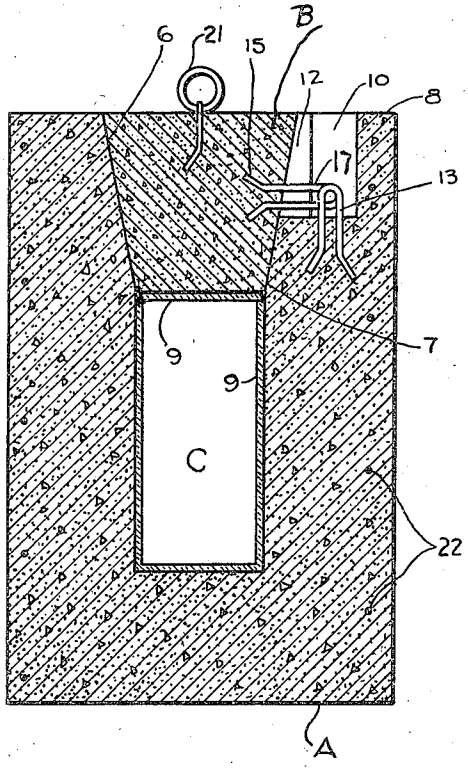


FIG. 2

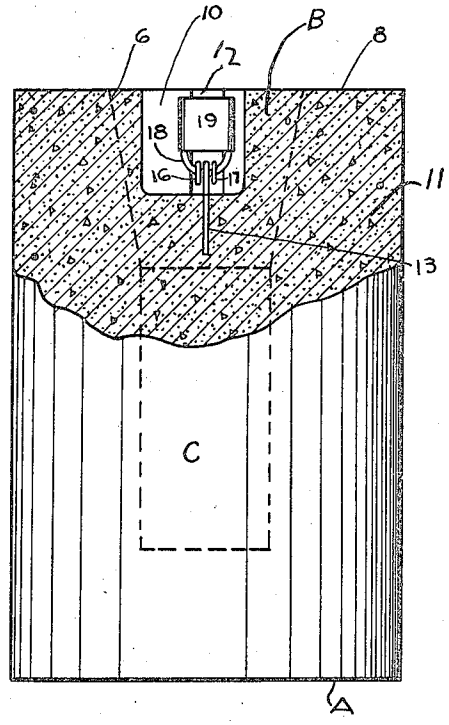


FIG. 3

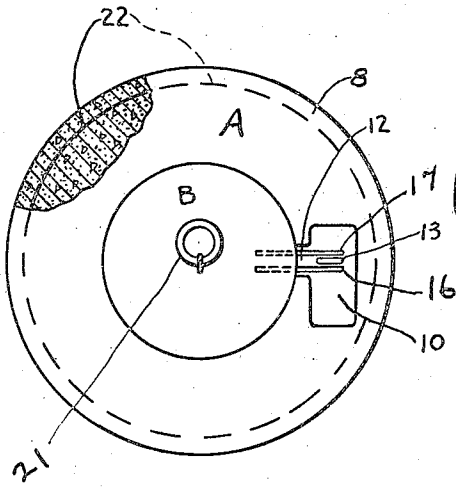


FIG. 1

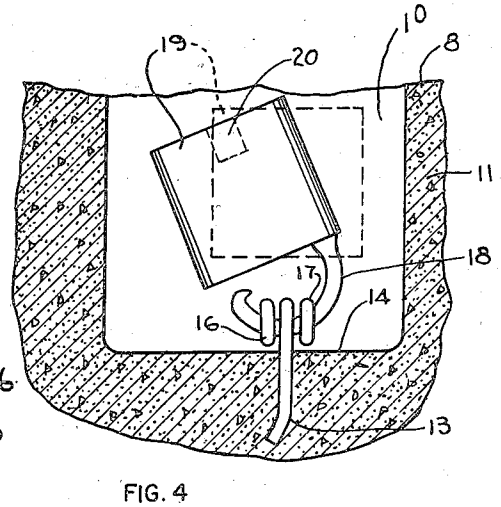


FIG. 4

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FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 109—59)

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This invention relates to fire and burglar proof safes.

In the construction and use of safes to protect valuables from losses by fires and burglars, difficulty has been found in providing reliable structures therefor that could be manufactured in relatively small sizes and prices low enough for general household application and still provide sufficient space and safety.

When safes are subjected to the great heat that is frequently engendered by burning houses, it is important that the walls of the safes around the valuables be relatively thick and of material that is substantially impervious to heat and so will not conduct heat to the articles in the interior chambers. When burglars attempt to force open safes they usually first seek to break away all door hinges and combination spindles that may protrude outside of the walls, and they are then frequently able to open the safe or the door thereof.

It is therefore an object of this invention to provide a relatively small safe body that may be easily and economically constructed for use in home dwellings, preferably of materials and shapes to resist both fires and burglaries.

A more particular object is to provide such a safe in general columnar shape and formed of concrete or cement or other similar materials suitably reinforced by steel rods, and having a chamber centrally disposed therein for valuables and a tapered walled mouth above the same for an entrance, together with a relatively thick and heavy cap for closing the mouth with tapered walls thereof to conform with the walls of the mouth together with means for locking the cap in closed position over the chamber.

With these and other objects to be hereinafter stated I have exemplified my invention by the accompanying drawings, of which:

Figure 1 is a plan view, with a portion broken away, of the safe.

Figure 2 is front elevation view in section, of the safe.

Figure 3 is a side elevation of the safe, with a portion of the upper part broken away, disclosing the well and padlock in position, when the cover cap is locked in closed position.

Figure 4 is an enlarged detail fragmentary view of the upper portion of the safe, taken from the same direction as Figure 3, and showing the well with staples projecting therein, and the hasp of a padlock being threaded through the three staples for locking the cap in closed position.

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Like characters on the different figures represent like parts.

The letter A, indicates generally the body of the safe which is preferably formed in columnar shape of suitable dimensions for various uses and applications desired, and when in generally rounded formation the safes may be easily rolled for shifting the locations thereof. The letter B, indicates generally the cover or cap for closing the mouth or area above the chamber wherein valuables may be placed for protection. The sides of the cap are tapered inward and downward from the top as indicated at 6 and the walls 7 of the mouth are similarly tapered in reversed positions for cooperation with the walls of the cap for sealing the outlet or inlet to and from the chamber, and to complete a heavy or thick wall entirely surrounding the chamber. The interior walls of the chamber and the bottom of the cap are preferably lined with relatively heavy asbestos 9 for additional protection against heat.

In order to lock the cap or cover in such closed position over the chamber a rectangular well 10 is provided in the top portion of the side walls 11 spaced from the mouth and a slot 12 is extended laterally between the well and the mouth above the chamber. A staple or eyelet 13 is extended upward from the bottom of the well; the lower legs of the staple being built into the cement or base of the well for rigidity.

The legs of two other similar staples or eyelets 16 or 17 are built into the cap and the said eyelets 16 and 17 extend laterally outward from the cap in spaced relation from each other sufficiently to straddle the upstanding eyelet 13 when the cap is lowered upon its seat above the chamber.

In operation for locking the cap in closed position it is lowered into the cavity or mouth above the chamber with the two staples extended therefrom sliding down through the slot and on opposite sides of a staple 13 in the base, so that the three eyelets are in alinement when the cap is seated in the cavity above the chamber. A hasp 18 of any suitable padlock 19 is then inserted into and through the three eyelets as shown in Figure 4, and then the hasp is closed by manual pressure on top of the padlock while the outer edge of the hasp is being compressed against the lower walls of the eyelets; thus securing the cap in immovable position upon its seat above the chamber. The padlock may be of any ordinary type of suitable strength with the usual spring which normally maintains the hasp in open position, but which hasp will be automatically latched

or locked by the usual guard inside the lock when the hasp is completely closed in the usual manner.

In order to raise the cover for access to the chamber a suitable key is inserted in a keyhole as **20** in the base of the padlock and turned for releasing the bolt and hasp in the usual manner. The padlock is then rocked laterally in order to disconnect the hasp from the eyelets and to release the cover therefrom for removal. The well as shown in the drawings is preferably rectangular in area sufficiently to permit the padlock to be rocked in either direction. In some cases a circular well may be preferred when a barrel shaped padlock is available, and which may be rotated in the well for connecting and disconnecting a hasp therefrom to and from the eyelets. In either formation the well area is restricted to provide only the necessary clearance for operating the locks. To facilitate the raising and lowering of the cap a light ring **21** may be connected centrally in the cap, sufficient in strength merely to lift the weight of the cap but insufficient in strength for breaking the hasp of the lock or the eyelets by any force which might be employed as by burglars for forcing the removal of the cover. When cement or similar material is used for the wells of the safe it is advisable to reinforce the same by ordinary steel rods indicated as **22**, which may be spirally disposed within the walls by pouring the liquid cement in formation around the rods in the usual construction with such reinforcing.

It will thus be understood that when the cap is closed, the top thereof will be flush or level with the tops of the walls and the butt of the padlock will be flush with or below the level of the top of the walls, thus there will be no parts extending beyond the exteriors of the walls and cap which may be broken away by burglars. It will also be understood that in event of fires the relatively thick walls of fire resisting material around the chamber will protect all valuables therein against the heat of all ordinary fires, caused by burning of buildings.

Having described my invention, I claim as new for Letters Patent:

1. A safe for protecting valuables from losses by fires and burglars, comprising a body of general columnar shape, and having a chamber centrally disposed therein, relatively thick walls around the sides and bottom of the chamber of material for resisting heat and burglars' tools, said chamber having a mouth for entrance to the chamber, the interior walls of said mouth being tapered inward and downward from the top to the chamber, said side wall having a vertical well extended downward from the top surface, together with a vertical slot extended between the open mouth and the well, a circular block for a cover above the chamber having its side walls tapered inward and downward from the top thereof for coacting with said interior walls of the mouth for sealing the chamber entrance when the block is seated therein, an eyelet extended upward from the base of the well and a pair of eyelets extended laterally from one side of the cover and being spaced apart for straddling the eyelet in the well and in alinement therewith for engagement thereof by the hasp of a padlock, together with means for raising and lowering the cap having less tensile strength than said eyelets.

2. A fire and burglar proof safe, comprising, a body formed with relatively thick walls of material for resisting heat and burglar's tools having a chamber centrally disposed therein for preserving valuables, and the chamber having an opening from its top for a passageway, a cap of like material for closing such passageway, having a pair of eyelets projected laterally from one side thereof, the wall adjacent to the passageway having a well therein for a padlock and being connected with the passageway by a lateral slot for the pair of eyelets aforesaid, an eyelet extended vertically above the bottom of the well for alignment with the eyelets from the cap when the cap is seated in the passageway for engagement by the hasp of a padlock.

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