

984,542.

Fig. 1.

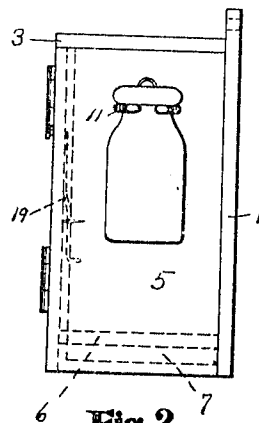


Fig. 2.

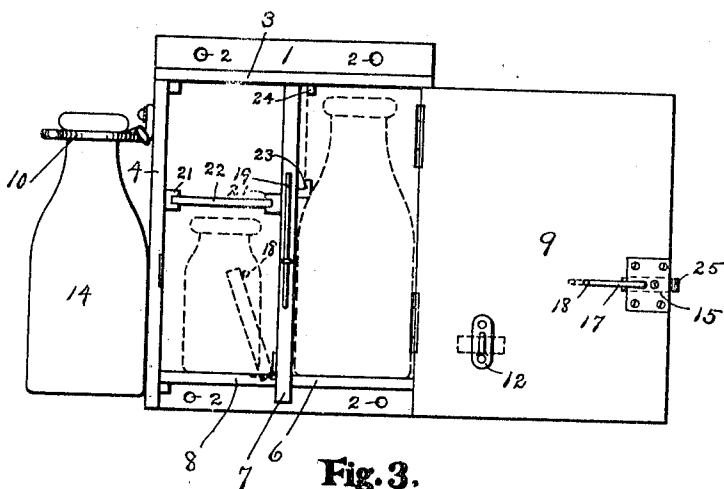


Fig. 3.

WITNESSES:

Albert A. Hofmann.

E. M. Brown.

J. M. Cooper and F. J. Prismall,

BY

Edward N. Pagelsen.

ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES MONROE COOPER AND FRED J. PRISMALL, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNORS
OF ONE-FOURTH TO CHARLES R. TALBOT AND ONE-FOURTH TO EDWARD P. VANDER-
BURG, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

MILK-BOTTLE SAFE.

984,542.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 21, 1911.

Application filed August 22, 1910. Serial No. 578,301.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JAMES MONROE COOPER and FRED J. PRISMALL, citizens of the United States, and residing at Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Milk-Bottle Safe, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to means for safeguarding milk-bottles, and its object is to provide a receptacle, which, when empty, can be readily opened without the use of a key, but when the milk-bottle has been properly placed therein, can only be unlocked by a key fitting the lock on the door of the safe.

While the drawing shows a construction, which embodies this invention, adapted for milk bottles, it will be readily understood that the device may be adapted to containers of any design and for any purpose, and that any number of containers can be provided for.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a front elevation and Fig. 2 is a side elevation of a preferred form of this container. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of the same with the door open.

Similar reference characters refer to like parts throughout the several views.

It has become a general custom to deliver milk in sealed bottles, early in the morning, which bottles are generally placed where they are accessible to animals and petty thieves. The construction shown in the drawing is designed to insure against such pilfering and to protect the bottles from sunshine and frost.

The safe may be constructed with a case of any desired material, with a back 1 provided with screw-holes 2 so it may be attached to some stationary structure. The top 3, sides 4 and 5, bottom 6 and partition 7 are connected together and to the back. A trap-door 8 is preferably hinged to the partition; while the main door 9 is hinged to the side 5.

Spring clamps 10 and 11 may be secured to the sides to hold extra bottles 14, while a clip 12 may be secured to the inside of the door to hold milk-tickets. On the outside of the door may be secured a card-holder 13 which may hold cards with any desired directions. The spring lock 15 may be opened

from the front by means of a proper key inserted into the key-hole 16. A rod 17 may be bent at right angles at its outer end and through a slot in the back plate of the lock and connects to the latch 25, while its opposite end 18 is also bent at right angles and extends into the path of the trap-door 8 as indicated in Fig. 3. A spring wire 19 may be secured to the partition 7 so its free end tends to press against the closed door.

Secured to the side 4 and partition 7 are guides 21 to receive the slide 22. When this slide is not in use it may be placed between the guide 23 on the partition and the guide 24 on the top as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 3.

Normally, the safe will be empty, the slide 22 in position in the guides 21 and the door 9 locked. The milk-man lifts the trap-door 8 until it strikes the end 18 of the rod 17 so as to pull back the bolt 25 of the lock 15, whereupon the spring 19 will swing open the door. Or the hand may push up the trap door and take hold of the bar 17 directly. A small bottle may then be placed between the trap-door and the slide 22, and a large container on the other side of the partition, if desired, and the door closed. The door can now be opened by a proper key, but the container on the trap-door will prevent it being raised to unlock the door. When a large bottle is to be placed on the trap-door, the slide 22 is removed.

The dimensions and proportions of this safe can all be changed to provide for any number and sizes of containers, so long as provision is made for the prevention of the unlocking of the main door by one of the containers within the safe.

Having now explained our construction, what we claim as our invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. In a milk-bottle safe, the combination of a case, a door for the same, a trap-door adapted to be prevented from opening by an article within the safe, and a lock on said door having a projection in the path of the trap-door whereby the door may be unlocked.

2. In a milk bottle safe, the combination of a case, a door for the same, a lock for said door, and a second door adapted to be prevented from opening by an article within the safe, said first door adapted to be un-

locked by the second door when being opened.

3. In a milk-bottle safe, the combination of a case comprising a top, sides and a bottom, a door for the case, a lock on the door, a trap-door in the bottom of the case adapted to be opened to admit of the door being released, said trap-door being held down when a proper container is placed thereon, and removable means adapted to be positioned within the case below the top to limit the upward movement of containers of predetermined height.

4. In a milk-bottle safe, the combination of a case, a door for the same, a lock on said door having a latch and an inwardly extending pin whereby the latch may be withdrawn to unlock the door, a trap-door in the bottom of the case adapted, when lifted, to engage the pin to unlock the door, but prevented from lifting when a proper container

is placed thereon, and means to limit the movement of a container on the trap-door.

5. In a milk-bottle safe, the combination of a case, a door for the same, a lock for the door having a latch on which is mounted an inwardly extending pin whereby the latch may be withdrawn to unlock the door, said pin being accessible through an opening in the case, said case being so constructed that the opening will be obstructed by a proper container, and a slide suitably mounted in the case to prevent the container from being raised.

In testimony whereof we have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES MONROE COOPER.
FRED J. PRISMALL.

Witnesses:

M. BRUDER,
W. H. COURTAINE.