Jan. 11, 1927. 1,613,813

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SAFE

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Fig 1

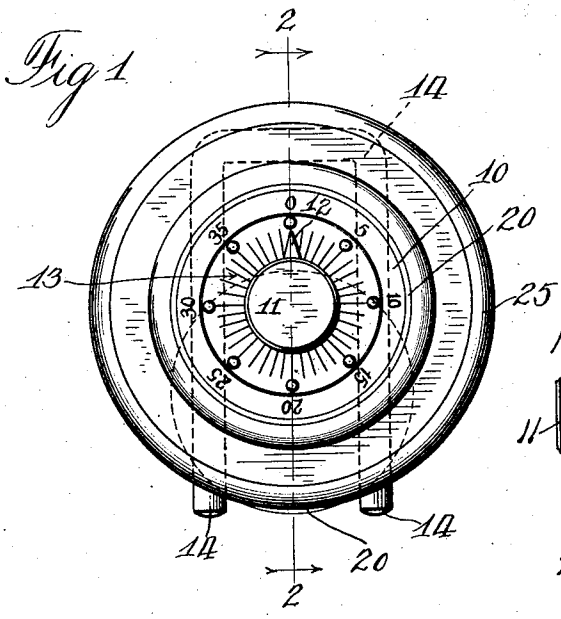


Fig. 5.

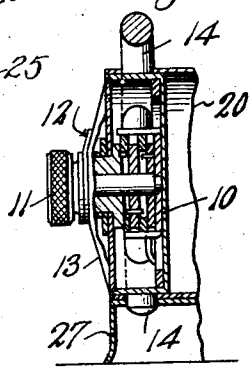


Fig 2.

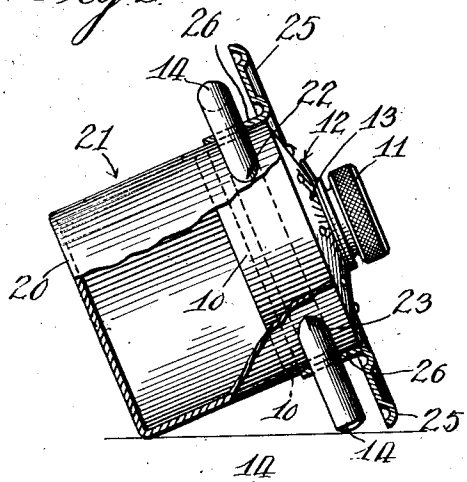


Fig 3.

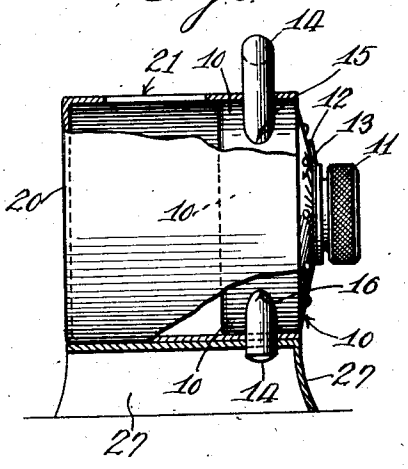
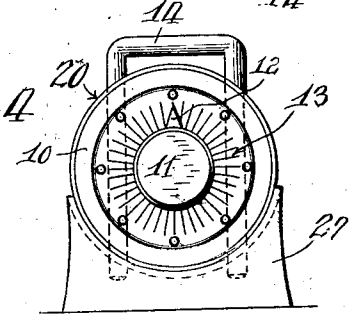


Fig 4



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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These improvements relate more particularly to small safes or locked compartment devices, and one very useful application of the invention is in the construction of children's so-called savings banks.

The principal objects are to provide a simple and cheap device of the character described according to which the contents are preserved securely, and, in an important aspect, to provide a toy savings bank which, through its form, appearance and mode of operation simulating certain characteristics of the larger bank vaults, has a peculiar appeal to all concerned in the use of such devices. Other objects and advantages will appear hereinafter.

In the drawings Figure 1 shows a face view of my novel safe or bank in its preferred form; Fig. 2 is a side view, with the coin container partly broken away; Fig. 3 is a side view of a modified form with the container walls and supporting stand partly broken away; Fig. 4 is a front end view of the device of Fig. 3, on a smaller scale, and Fig. 5 is a medial vertical section through the lock mechanism.

In the construction of my improved bank I have found a certain so-called "combination" lock well suited to my purposes and shown in the patent to Steen, No. 1,291,228 of January 14, 1919, entitled "Lock." Fig. 5 of the present drawings is reproduced from Fig. 2 of said Steen patent, as to the lock mechanism. This lock member or unit comprises a cylindrical body 10 having combination-lock mechanism therein, a rotatable external knob 11 provided with a pointer 12 traveling over a dial 13, well shown in Figs. 1 and 4, and a locking member 14 in the form of a bail or U-shaped member, the two legs of which pass into the lock body 10 through a pair of top lateral openings 15 (one of which is shown in Fig. 3) and issuing from the lock body through lateral openings 16 (one also shown in Fig. 3) at the lower portion of the lock body.

It is not necessary, in view of the Steen patent mentioned, to illustrate or describe the particular lock mechanism within the lock body 10, but it will suffice here to point out that the locking member 14 contains a notch normally within the lock body, which notch is engaged by a detent to hold the bail 14 to the lock body 10, which detent is released through the operation of tumblers turned by the finger piece 11 when moving the pointer 12 back and forth to predetermined graduations of the dial.

Referring to Figs. 2 and 3 the coin container or safe body 20 is formed of thin sheet metal and is provided at 21 with a slot through which coins may be inserted from time to time. The safe body 20 is shown as being cylindrical throughout. The cylindrical lock body 10 fits nicely within the cylindrical open end of the safe body 20 and constitutes the closure for this opening at the front end of the safe body through which access may be had to the interior when the lock body is removed.

The lock body 10 is held securely in its closure position by means of the locking member 14, the legs of which pass through appropriate openings 22 (one of which is shown in Fig. 2) at the upper front part of the safe body 20, these legs projecting through similar openings 23 in the housing 20 (Fig. 2).

The construction is such that when the lock body 10 is properly inserted into the open end of the safe body 20 there are aligning holes through the body 20 and the body 10 for the legs of the U-shaped member 14, and by inserting the locking member 14 into these aligning openings, as illustrated, the bodies 10 and 20 are securely locked together, and to separate them it is necessary to operate the finger-wheel 11 until the "combination" is worked and the locking member 14 released and then to withdraw the locking member.

In the device of Figs. 1 and 2 I have shown a circular ornamental piece 25 suggestive of a frame part of a larger safe, having a flange 26 also provided with holes through which the legs of the locking member 14 extend, the ornamental front piece 25 thereby being locked to the other parts by this same locking member 14. In the device of Fig. 2 the lower end of the legs or locking member 14 become feet upon which the device rests at its front end. In the device of Figs. 3 and 4 there is a sheet-metal base 27 to which the safe body 20 may be permanently secured.

The device as a whole is unusually compact for a given capacity, is neat and attractive in appearance, and has a distinct appeal in its suggestion of the larger safe used in financial institutions. It is a miniature of something ordinarily large and costly, and is yet simple in operation and cheap.

I contemplate as being included in these improvements such changes and departures from what is specifically herein set forth as fall within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a safe, the combination of a lock body having lock mechanism therein and having a locking member extending into the lock body and locked therein and releasable for withdrawal therefrom through the operation of the lock mechanism, walls forming a hollow safe body, the safe body having an opening for gaining access to the hollow interior thereof, said lock body being positioned at and serving as a closure for said opening, and means carried by the safe body and cooperating with said locking member to hold the lock body in its closure position until the locking member is released for withdrawal through the operation of the lock mechanism and withdrawn from the lock body.

2. In a safe, the combination of a lock body having "combination" lock mechanism therein and dial-and-pointer means for operating same, and having a locking member extending into the lock body and locked therein and releasable for withdrawal therefrom through the operation of the lock mechanism, walls forming a hollow safe body, the safe body having an opening for gaining access to the hollow interior thereof, said lock body being positioned at and serving as a closure for said opening, said locking member extending through a wall of the safe body, when the lock body is in its closure position, to lock body and the safe body together until the locking member is released for withdrawal through the operation of the lock mechanism and withdrawal from the lock body.

3. In a child's savings bank, the combination of a cylindrical lock body having lock mechanism therein and an external operating knob and dial-and-pointer elements through which the lock mechanism is operated, there being a substantially U-shaped locking member having its legs extending into the lock body and locked therein and releasable for withdrawal therefrom through the operation of the lock mechanism, walls forming a hollow safe body having a coin slot therein, the safe body having a circular opening for gaining access to the hollow interior thereof, the lock body fitting and serving as a closure for said opening, the safe body having openings through which the legs of said U-shaped member extend when the lock body is in its closure position to lock the lock body and the safe body together until the U-shaped member is released for withdrawal through the operation of the lock mechanism and withdrawn.

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