

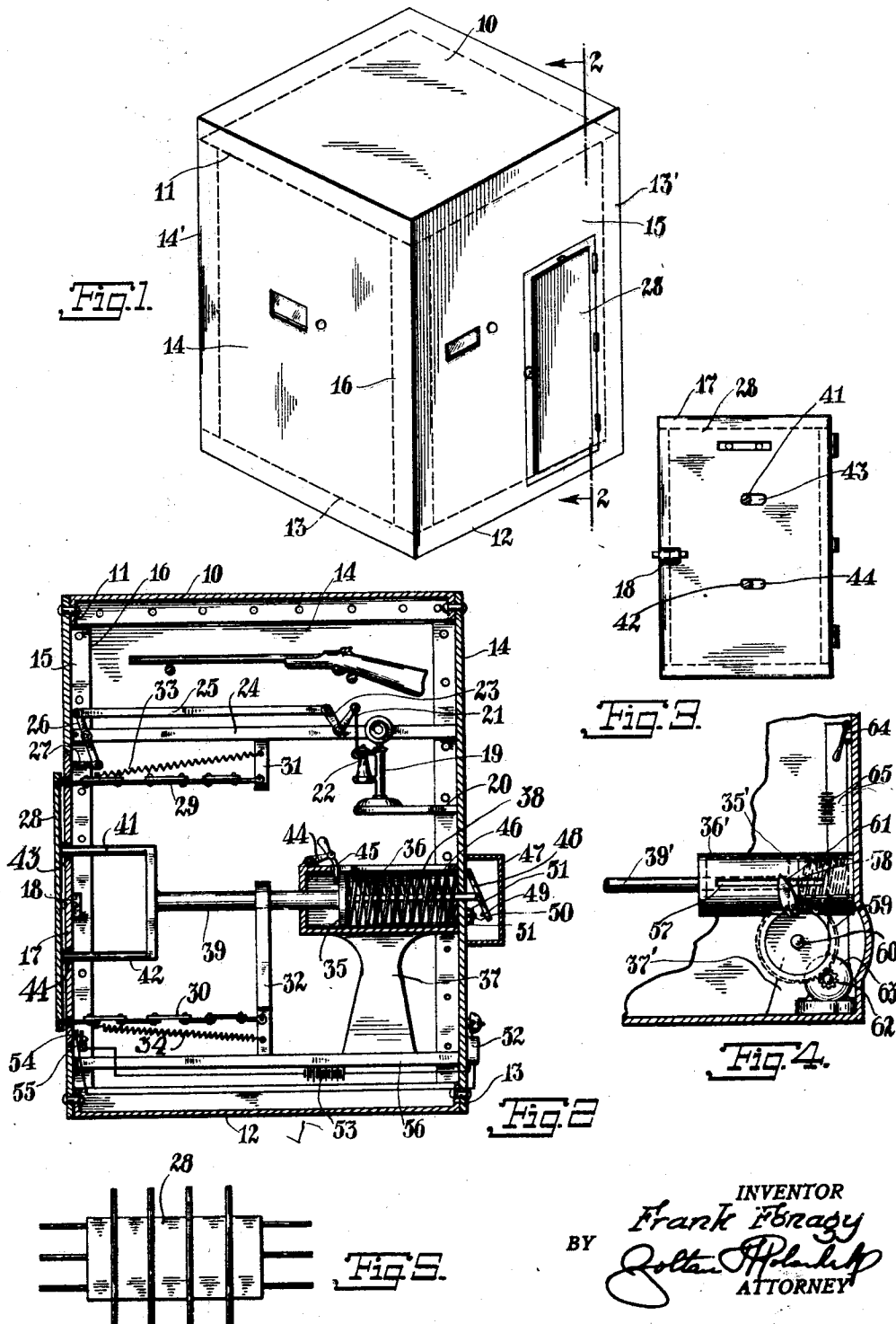
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SAFETY CLOSET

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SAFETY CLOSET.

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This invention relates to a safety closet and has for its object the provision of a safe and secure retreat for merchants at times of robberies and holdups.

5 Another object of my invention is the provision of a safety closet having a bumper on the door thereof adapted to be released from the interior of the closet for repelling an attempted attack. Another object of my
10 invention is the provision of mechanism for discharging a blank cartridge simultaneously with the operation of the bumper.

15 A still further object of my invention is the provision of mechanism for automatically lifting the receiver hook of a telephone when the door of the closet is completely closed.

20 Other objects will appear hereinafter, the novel features and combinations being more clearly set forth in the appended claims.

In the drawing.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a safety closet embodying my invention.

25 Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a plan view of a door embodied in my invention.

30 Fig. 4 is a fragmentary detail view of a further development of my invention.

Fig. 5 is a plan view of a bumper device embodied in the modified form of my invention.

Referring particularly to Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawing, the numeral 10 designates a top closure preferably made of metal which comprises downwardly directed flanges 11. The numeral 12 designates a bottom closure having flanges 13 thereon. Sides 13' and 14 are disposed between the top and bottom members 10 and 12, respectively, and are secured on the outside of the flanges 11 and 13. A rear wall 14' and a front wall 15 are similarly mounted on the flange elements of the top and bottom members and angularly
45 shaped strips 16 are secured in the corners of the closet thus formed. All of the above mentioned members are securely riveted together as illustrated in the drawings.

50 The front wall 15 of the closet is provided with an opening of rectangular form in which a door 17 is disposed. The door 17 is pivotally attached at its right hand edge to the front wall 15 and is adapted to swing outwardly to open position. A
55 catch or lock 18 is provided on the inner side of the door and is adapted to be em-

ployed for locking the door from the inside after a person has taken refuge in the closet.

A telephone 19 of the usual form is
60 clamped onto a shelf 20 and a string or wire 21 is attached at one end to the receiver hook 22 of the telephone and at its other end to one arm of a bell crank 23. The bell crank 23 is pivotally mounted on a
65 support 24 disposed between the front and rear walls of the closet and is connected by a link 25 with a lever 26 which is also pivotally mounted on the support 24. The lower end of the lever 26 is provided with
70 a finger 27 which is adapted to engage the door 17 when the latter is moved to closed position. It should be understood that the lever 26 is rotated when the door is closed completely and that the receiver hook 22 connected therewith is raised and retained in a raised position as long as the door remains closed. The telephone 19 may be in direct
80 communication with a police station and electrically connected with a signal device at the station in the usual manner employed in telephone construction. When the receiver is lifted the party in the closet can give what information he desires to the station
85 without being in danger.

In order to prevent an intruder from approaching the door of the safety closet, a bumper member 28 is provided on the outer side of the door. The bumper 28 is supported on lazy tong members 29 and 30
90 mounted within the closet on supports 31 and 32, respectively. The lazy tong members are adapted to extend through slots in the door 17 when the bumper is projected in a manner hereinafter described. Springs
95 33 and 34 are attached to the forward end of the lazy tong members 29 and 30, respectively, and to the supports 31 and 32 for normally urging the bumper 28 against the door 17.

A piston 35 is suitably mounted in a cylinder 36 mounted on a standard 37 and a spring 38 is disposed in the cylinder for urging the piston to the left as viewed in Fig. 2. The piston 35 is provided with a piston
105 rod 39 which is slidably mounted in the upper end of the support 32. The forward end of the piston rod 39 is provided with a forked extension 40 comprising arms 41 and 42, which are adapted to extend through slots 43 and 44 in the door 17 and engage the bumper member 28. The piston 35 may
110

be held in a retracted position with the spring 38 compressed, by the catch mechanism 44 which is pivotally mounted on the cylinder 36 and which comprises a pin 45 extending through the wall of the cylinder. When it is desired to cause the bumper 38 to be urged forwardly for knocking down an intruder, the lever 44 may be rotated for withdrawing the pin 45 to release the piston 35 and the latter will be urged forwardly by the spring 38.

A rod 46 is mounted on the end of the piston 35 and is extended rearwardly through the rear wall 14' of the closet into a casing 47 mounted thereon. The end of the rod 46 is adapted to engage a leaf spring 48 mounted at one extremity on the wall 14' and to hold the same in a tensioned position as shown in Fig. 2. The other extremity of the spring 48 is provided with a pointed projection which is adapted to register with the cap of a blank cartridge 50 mounted in a bracket 51 on the wall 14'. It should be understood that when the lever 44 is rotated to release the piston 35 for forcing the bumper 28 outwardly, the rod 46 is also simultaneously disengaged from the spring 48 permitting the same to rotate in a clockwise direction and to cause the pointed projection 49 to strike the cartridge and discharge the same.

A signal device comprising an electric bell 52 is mounted in the closet and is electrically connected with a source of power 53 and in a circuit with a contact member 54 mounted on the door 17 and a contact member 55 mounted on a support 56. When the door 17 is completely closed the contact members 54 and 55 engage and complete an electric circuit through the bell.

In the modified form of my invention illustrated in Fig. 4, the cylinder 36' is provided with a piston 35' and a piston rod 39' all of which are similar in construction to the elements shown in Fig. 2 and are adapted to be similarly arranged in a closet. The cylinder 36' is provided with a longitudinal slot 57 through which a pin 58 attached to the piston 35' is extended. A gear 59 is mounted on a shaft 60 attached to the standard 37'. The gear 59 is provided with a cam member 61 which is adapted to engage the pin 58 for moving the piston 35' rearwardly to compress the spring 48'. When the cam member 61 moves out of engagement with the pin 58, the piston and piston rod are forced forwardly for operating the bumper as above described. The gear 59 is meshed with a gear 62 mounted on the shaft of an electric motor 63 which is electrically connected in an electric circuit with the switch 64 and a source of power 65. It should be understood that a person taking shelter in the above described closet may manipulate the switch for causing the

bumper to be manipulated and in this manner access to the door 17 is prevented. As shown in Fig. 5 horizontally extending bars 66 may be mounted on the bumper and bars 67 and 68 may be extended in advance of the top and bottom edges thereof.

Having thus fully shown and described an embodiment of my invention, what is desired to be secured by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A safety closet of the class described comprising a pivotally mounted door, and a bumper thereon adapted to be projected forwardly.

2. A safety closet of the class described, comprising a bullet proof casing having a door way therein, a door pivotally attached to said casing, a telephone in said casing, an actuating mechanism operatively mounted in said closet connected with the receiver hook of said telephone and adapted to be engaged by said door when the latter is completely closed for raising said telephone receiver hook.

3. A safety closet of the class described comprising a casing having a doorway therein, a door pivotally attached to said casing, a bumper comprising a plate disposed in front of said door, lazy tong members attached at their outer extremities to said plate and at their inner extremities to supports of said casing adapted to support said plate in spaced relation to said door, said lazy tong members being extended through apertures in said door, a forked member adapted to be disposed through apertures in said door and to engage said plate for urging the same outwardly, a cylinder mounted in said closet directly in back of said door, a piston slidably mounted in said cylinder, a spring disposed in said cylinder for urging said piston forwardly, and a piston rod connected at one extremity to said piston and at its other extremity to said forked member for urging the latter forwardly to project said plate.

4. A safety closet of the class described comprising a casing having a doorway therein, a door pivotally attached to said casing, a bumper comprising a plate disposed in front of said door, lazy tong members attached at their outer extremities to said plate and at their inner extremities to supports of said casing adapted to support said plate in spaced relation to said lazy tong members being extended through apertures in said door, and spring actuated mechanism for forcing said plate forwardly in advance of said door when the latter is closed.

5. A safety closet of the class described, comprising a casing having a doorway therein, a door pivotally attached to said casing, a bumper comprising a plate disposed in front of said door, lazy tong members attached at their outer extremities to

said plate and at their inner extremities to supports of said casing adapted to support said plate in spaced relation to said door, said lazy tong members being extended
5 through apertures in said door, actuating mechanism comprising a plunger slidably mounted in said closet for projecting said plate in advance of said door, a spring disposed in back of said plunger, and mechanism comprising a motor driven cam for
10 retracting said plunger to tension said spring for a second projecting operation.

6. A safety closet of the class described comprising a casing having a doorway therein, a door pivotally attached to said casing,
15 a bumper comprising a plate disposed in front of said door, lazy tong members attached at their outer extremities to said plate and at their inner extremities to supports
20 of said casing adapted to support said plate in spaced relation to said door, said lazy tong members being extended through apertures in said door, a plunger slidably mounted in said closet adapted to engage said plate

for urging the same forwardly, a piston on
25 the rear end of said plunger, a cylinder enclosing said piston, a spring disposed between the rear end of said cylinder and said piston, means for holding said piston in a
rearward position while retaining said
30 spring tensioned, a casing mounted on the rear wall of said bracket, a spring comprising a pointed projection attached to said rear wall and disposed within said casing, a cartridge mounted in a bracket on the rear
35 wall of said closet adapted to be engaged by said projection and a rod attached to said piston and extending rearwardly therefrom and through an aperture in said rear wall, said rod being adapted to engage said spring
40 for normally retaining the projection thereof in spaced relation to said cartridge and adapted to be disengaged from said spring for discharging said cartridge when said
45 plate is projected.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

FRANK FÓNAGY.