Sept. 26, 1950 L. PETERS 2,523,969

LOCK SUPPORT FOR CONTAINERS

Filed Dec. 20, 1948

Fig. 1

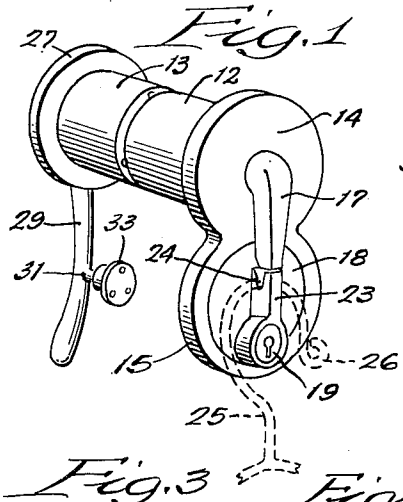


Fig. 2

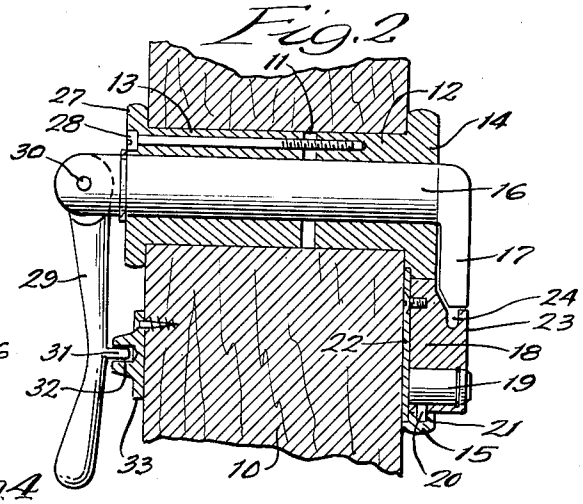


Fig. 3

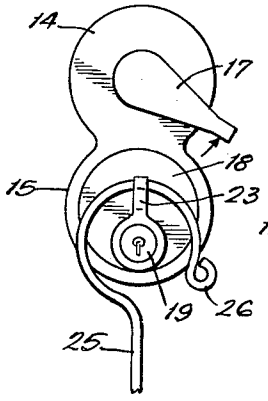


Fig. 4

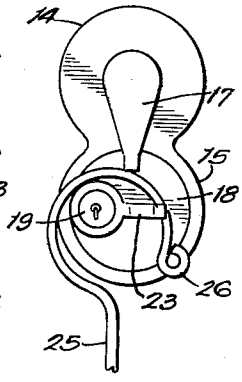


Fig. 5

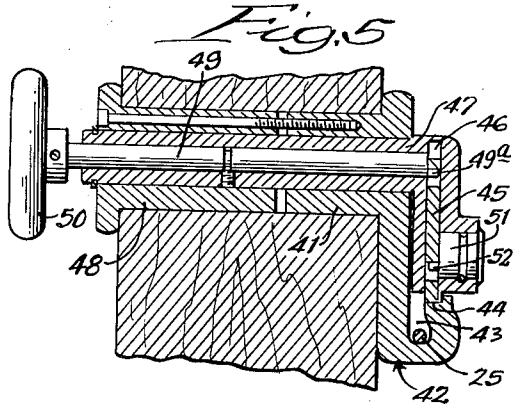


Fig. 7

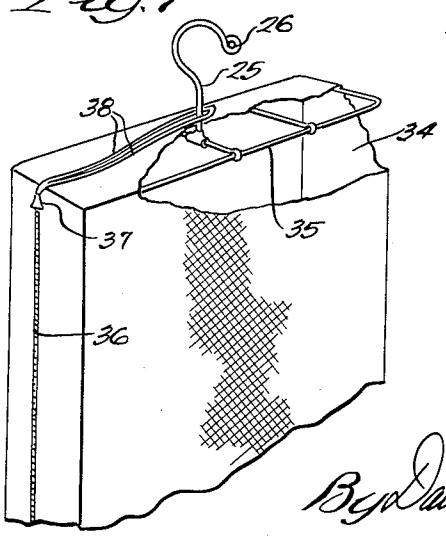


Fig. 8

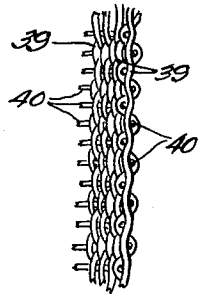
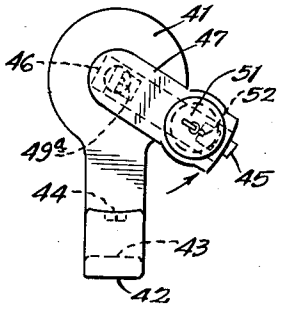


Fig. 6



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LOCK SUPPORT FOR CONTAINERS

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7 Claims. (Cl. 70—58)

1

This invention relates to a lock support for containers, and is particularly useful in connection with the locking of a clothes hanger with a bag or other container on the outside of a door in a manner that will enable the hanger to be unlocked from the outside of the door only with a key while permitting unlocking from inside the door without a key. The invention, however, may be used in other combinations.

The pick-up and delivery of laundry, clothes for dry cleaning and various other packages and goods present a number of problems for which there have been no satisfactory solutions. Frequently no one is at home when the pick-up man arrives or when the driver is delivering laundry, dry-cleaned suits, or other packages or bundles. Neighbors are inconvenienced by being entrusted with packages, considerable time is wasted due to the tardy collection of the clothes, etc. and the situation presents a troublesome problem.

An object of this invention is to provide inexpensive means for furnishing clothes for the laundry, for dry cleaning, etc. to the pick-up man in a safe manner without requiring the presence of the housewife, while at the same time permitting the safe delivery of such goods without requiring her presence. Another object is to provide a hook or support in combination with a lock which may be secured to a door or panel of a house in such a manner that a clothes hanger or bag of clothes may be hung and locked upon the door, while at the same time permitting the release thereof by a key held by the delivery man. Yet another object is to provide a combination lock and hook together with means operable from within the house for unlocking the hook. A further object is to provide a combination hook and lock which can be opened from the outside only with a key and opened from the inside without a key, thus permitting the operator of a cleaning establishment to have access to the combination lock and hook while at the same time permitting the housewife to open the lock from inside the door. A still further object is to provide a burglar-resistant hanger and bag to be used with the lock and hook together with means for locking the bag in closed position simultaneously with the locking of the hanger upon the hook. Other specific objects and advantages will appear as the specification proceeds.

The invention is shown in illustrated embodiments by the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hook and lock structure embodying my invention; Fig. 2, a vertical sectional view of the structure applied to a door or wall panel; Fig. 3, a front view in elevation of the lock and hook structure showing the lock member moved laterally; Fig. 4, a view similar to Fig. 3 but showing the hook member moved laterally after being unlocked; Fig. 5, a sectional view similar to Fig. 2 but showing a modified form of structure; Fig. 6, a front view in elevation of the lock and hook structure shown in Fig. 5 but showing the lock member swung to release position; Fig. 7, a broken perspective view of a zipper-equipped bag which may be used in accordance with my invention; and Fig. 8, a broken detail view of a portion of the material used in the fabrication of the bag, the wire and textile threads being shown in greatly enlarged condition.

2

In the illustration given in Figs. 1–4 inclusive, 10 designates a panel which is preferably a panel from a service door or other door. The panel 10 may, however, be any wall of the building or other structure. The panel 10 is provided with a transverse passage 11 which receives the sleeve member 12 and the inner sleeve member 13. The sleeve member 12 is preferably formed integrally with an upper circular flange 14 and a lower annular flange 15. The flange 14 is centrally apertured to receive the actuating shaft 16 which extends through the panel 11 to the inner side of the door. The shaft 16 is provided with an integral downwardly-extending closure member 17.

The annular member 15 rotatably receives a hook member 18 and is provided with a key lock 19 having a locking bolt 20 received within a recess 21 of the annular casing 15. A plate 22 is secured to the rear side of the rotatable slot member 18. The plate 22 is received within recesses within the annular member 15 so as to retain the member 18 against removal while permitting rotation thereof.

Integrally formed with the member 18 is a forwardly-extending portion 23 having at its top a recess 24 adapted to receive the bail 25 of the clothes hanger, etc. The upper end of the recess 24 is closed by the closure member 17 when the same is in the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The bail 25, as shown best in Figs. 3 and 4, has an enlarged end 26 which prevents the removal of the bail from the recess 24 when the members 17 and 23 are in the positions shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The sleeve 13 is provided on its inner side with a flange 27 and the sleeves 12 and 13 may be secured together by a screw 28, etc.

The shaft 16 extends through the sleeves 12 and 13 and is preferably bifurcated at its inner end to receive a lever 29 secured thereto by a pivot pin 30. The handle or lever 29 is preferably provided with a latching pin 31 adapted to be received within a recess 32 provided by the bracket member 33.

The bail 25 preferably is extended through a bag 34 and may be secured to a metal frame support 35 within the bag. If desired, an open side of the bag may be equipped with a separable fastener 36, the slide 37 of which is preferably equipped with a chain or other means forming a loop 38 adapted to be extended over the bail 25, as illustrated in Fig. 7.

The bag 34 may be formed of any suitable sturdy material and preferably it is formed of a material which will resist cutting, etc. For example, the bag may be formed of fabric threads 39 interspersed with wire threads 40. Any suitable bag or container which will render access to the bag difficult and which provides a locking member may be employed.

Operation

In the operation of the structure shown in Figs. 1–4 inclusive, assuming that the parts are in locked position, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 with a hanger bail secured within the recess 24, the laundry, clothes for dry cleaning, or other goods having been placed within the bag, the pick-up man upon arrival, inserts his key within the lock 19 and withdraws the lock bolt 20 from engagement with recess 21. The member 18 is then rotated to the position shown in Fig. 4 permitting the release of the bail 25. The loop 38 may then be drawn over the bail 25 and the slide 37 drawn downwardly to open the bag. The clothes or other goods may then be removed by the pick-up man and the empty bag locked again in position. The locking is accomplished by rotating the member 18 to the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The same procedure is followed by the delivery man, who inserts his key within the lock 19 to unlock the member 18 and then rotates the member 18 to the position shown in Fig. 4. The bag may be opened as described and the clean laundry and dry-cleaned clothes, etc. placed within the bag or upon the hanger frame 35. The slide 37 is then moved to close the separable fastener 36 and the chain loop 38 drawn about the bail 25. The bail 25 is then placed within the recess 24 of member 23 and the member is moved to the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the bolt 20 dropping into the latching position shown in Fig. 2. The hanger and the goods are thus protected against removal and safely await the return of the housewife.

The housewife has ready access to the delivered laundry, clothes, etc. and is able to release the bail 25 from inside the door panel 10. She draws the handle 29 rearwardly and rotates the shaft 16 to swing the closure member 17 to the position illustrated in Fig. 3. The hanger bail 25 may then be lifted off of the hook 23 and the bag 34 carried into the house.

In Figs. 5 and 6 a modification is shown in which the hook member is stationary and the only movable member is an upper latching and locking member. In this structure, the outer sleeve 41 is provided with a depending hook member 42 providing a recess 43 for receiving the bail 25. The top portion of the outer side of the hook 24 is provided with a recess 44 adapted to receive a latch bar 45. The latch bar 45 is mounted for

free sliding movement in a channel 46 in the tubular member 47. The tubular member 47 extends inwardly through sleeve 41 and through an inner sleeve 48. An actuating shaft 49 equipped with a handle 50 extends through the tube 47 and is provided at its outer end with an eccentric pin 49a received within a recess in the latch member 45.

The tubular member 47 is turned downwardly at its outer end at right angles so as to guide the latch 45 into alignment with the locking recess 44 in the hook 42. The member 47 provides a cylindrical recess adapted to receive a key-controlled rotary member 51. The member 51 is provided with an eccentric pin 52 received within a slot in the latch 45 whereby upon rotation of the member 51 through the use of a key, the latch 45 is raised or lowered.

It will be noted that the member 47 is freely rotatable within the sleeves 41 and 48 and is held against rotation only by the latch bar 45. Upon release of the latch bar from engagement with the hook recess 44, the member 47 may be freely rotated either by the handle 50 or by swinging the key which is in engagement with the lock 51. Thus the latch bar 45 may be actuated either by rotating the member 51 through the use of the key or by rotating the shaft 49 through the use of the handle wheel 50 after the retraction of latch 45.

After unlatching the member 45 either through the turning of handle 50 or the turning of member 51 through the use of the key, the depending portion of the rotatable member 47 may be swung laterally to uncover the recess 43 to permit the insertion of bail 25 or the removal of the bail therefrom.

The structures described above may be installed upon a door in very simple operations, a hole being first formed through the door, and the parts then fitted into position as described. A sturdy locking structure is thus provided requiring the use of a key only by the pick-up or delivery man, access to the hanger being provided for the housewife through the operating shaft which extends through the door.

It will be understood that the pick-up man may take the entire hanger and bag and later may return the same with the cleaned goods, etc. therein. Further, instead of using a key-controlled lock, a combination lock, the combination of which is known to the pick-up and delivery man, may be employed, the combination being changed from time to time to insure security. Other equivalent means for safeguarding the hook latch may be employed.

While in the foregoing specification I have described specific structures illustrative of the invention in considerable detail, it will be understood that such details of structure may be varied widely by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of my invention.

I claim:

1. A support guard, comprising a support member adapted to be secured upon the exterior of a door for supporting a clothes container, a guard member normally securing said container upon said support, at least one of said members being movably mounted to effect release of said container, a key-controlled lock controlling the movement of said movably mounted member, and means extending from said movably mounted member and adapted to extend to the interior of said door to also effect release of said movably mounted member independently of said key-controlled lock.

2. A support guard, comprising a support member adapted to be secured upon the outside of a door and to support a clothes container, a guard member adapted to be mounted upon the outside of said door for movement thereon into a position confining said container upon said support member, and means adapted to be operable from inside and key controlled means adapted to be operated from the outside of the door for releasing said guard member.

3. A support guard of the character set forth, comprising a container support adapted to be secured to the exterior of a door, a guard member for confining said container upon said support member, at least one of said members being movably mounted with respect to the other to effect the confining of the container upon said support and the release of the container from the support, and independent means adapted to be operable from inside the door and key controlled means adapted to be operated from the outside of the door for effecting release of said movably mounted member.

4. A support guard of the character set forth, comprising a container support adapted to be secured to the exterior of a door, a guard member for confining said container upon said support member, at least one of said members being movably mounted with respect to the other to effect the confining of the container upon said support and the release of the container from the support, independent means adapted to be operable from inside the door and from outside the door respectively for effecting release of said movably mounted member, and a key-controlled lock adapted to be mounted on the exterior of the door for controlling the release of the movably mounted member from the exterior of the door.

5. In a support guard adapted to support a clothes hanger equipped with a bail having an enlarged end, a support adapted to be secured to the exterior of a door and providing a slot for receiving said bail, a latch member adapted to be supported upon said door for movement into a position for confining said bail within said slot, locking means for releasably confining said latch in bail-obstructing position, and means adapted to be accessible from inside of the door for moving said latch to non-obstructing position independently of said lock.

6. A support guard, comprising a support member adapted to be secured upon the exterior of a door and providing a support for a container, and a guard member adapted to be supported upon said door for movement into a position for locking said container upon said support, said guard and said support members being both movably mounted, one of said members being adapted to be operable from inside of the door and the other of said members being adapted to be operable from outside the door.

7. A support guard, comprising a support member adapted to be secured upon the exterior of a door and providing a support for a container, a guard member adapted to be supported upon said door for movement into a position for locking said container upon said support, said guard and said support members being both movably mounted, one of said members being adapted to be operable from inside of the door and the other of said members being adapted to be operable from outside the door, and a key-controlled lock controlling the operation of the member operable from the outside of the door.

LEO PETERS.

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