March 1, 1932. J. SCHUETTE 1,847,986

CABINET

Filed May 23, 1927 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

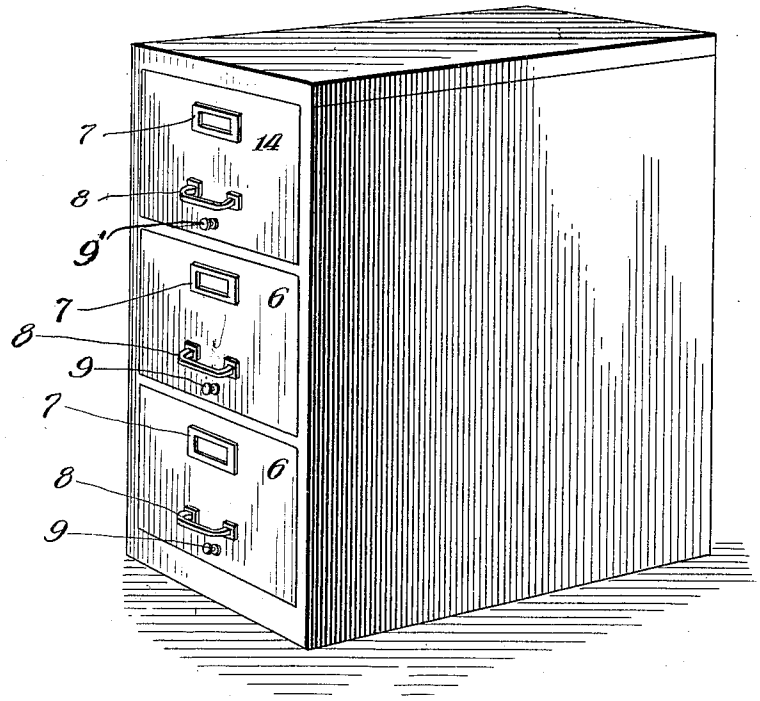


Fig. 1.

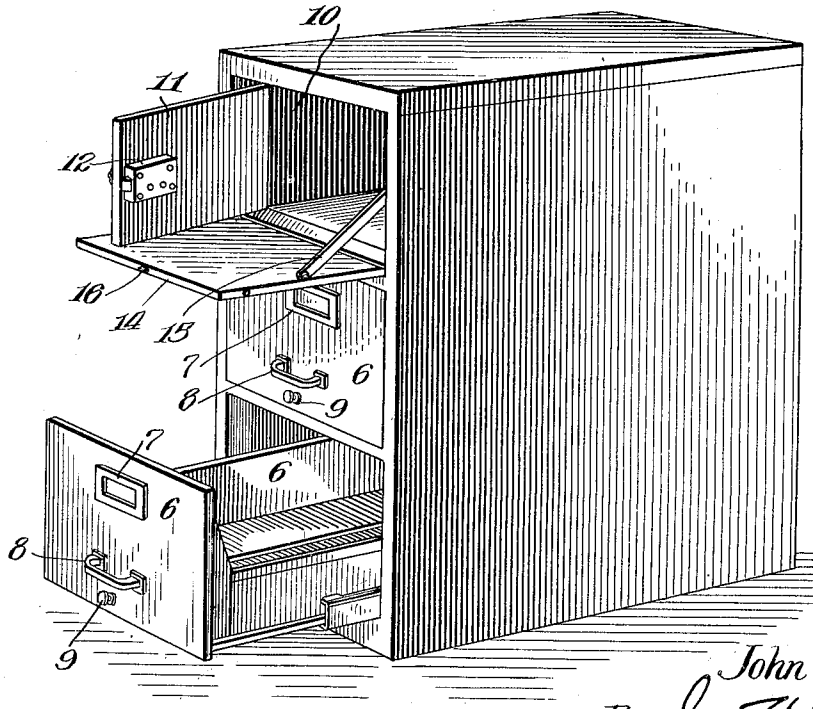


Fig. 2.

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March 1, 1932. J. SCHUETTE 1,847,986

CABINET

Filed May 23, 1927 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 3

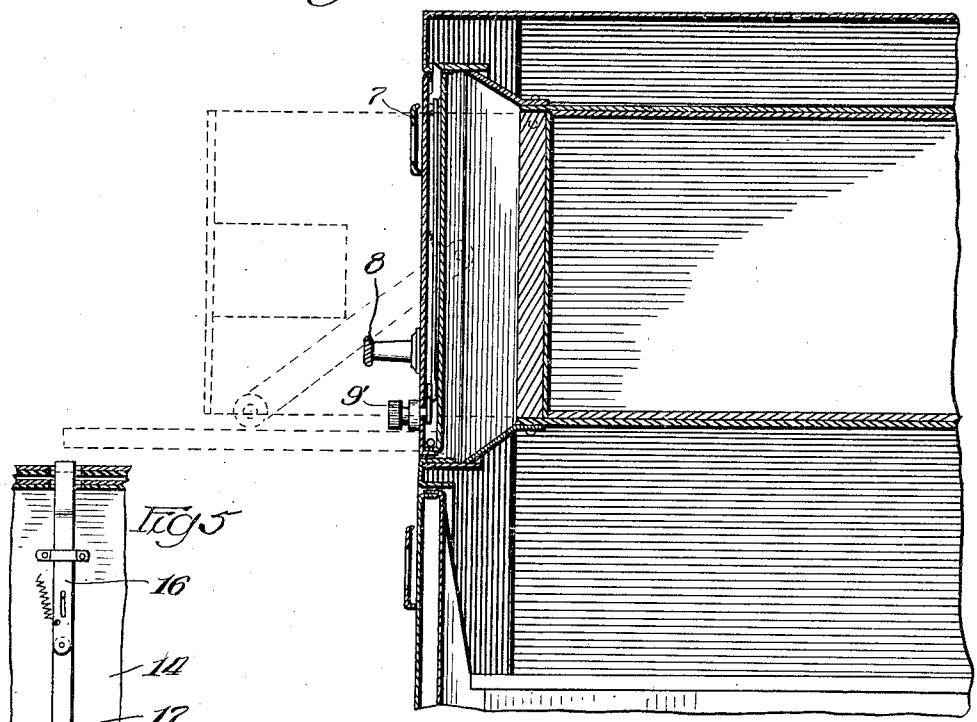
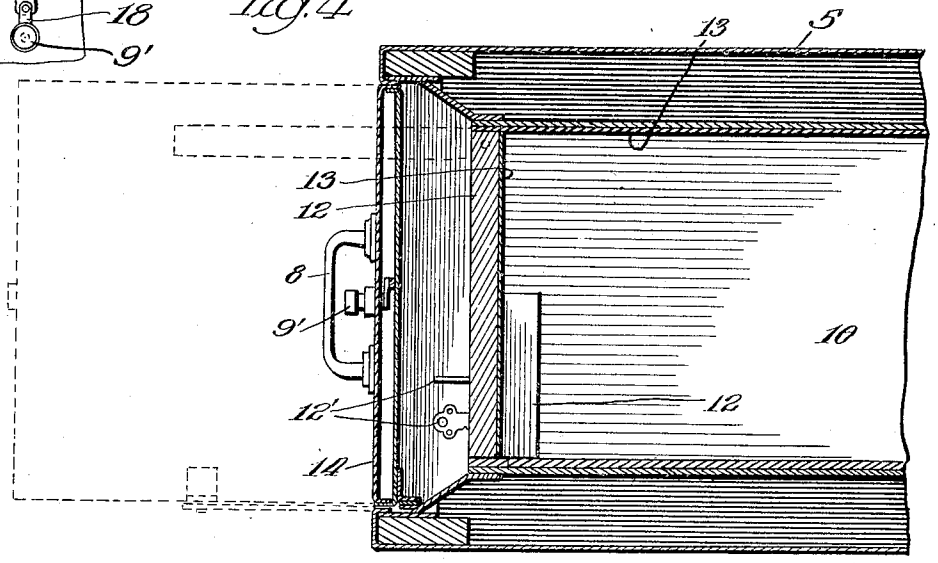


Fig. 5

Fig. 4



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Patented Mar. 1, 1932 1,847,986

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JOHN SCHUETTE, OF MANITOWOC, WISCONSIN, ASSIGNOR TO INVINCIBLE METAL FURNITURE COMPANY, OF MANITOWOC, WISCONSIN, A CORPORATION OF WISCONSIN

CABINET

Application filed May 23, 1927. Serial No. 193,484.

My invention relates to improvements in office cabinets, and has for its object the provision of an improved cabinet of this character equipped with a safety deposit box for the reception of valuable papers and the like.

Another object of the invention is the provision of such a cabinet so constructed and arranged so as to conceal and disguise the presence of the safety deposit box and thereby mislead persons intending to tamper therewith.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

The objects of the invention are attained by providing an office cabinet divided into a plurality of compartments, one or more of said compartments being provided with the usual sliding filing drawers and another of said compartments being equipped with the safety deposit box. The outer surfaces of the various compartments are made similar or identical in appearance whereby the presence of the safety deposit box is concealed and persons intending to burglarize the same thereby misled.

The invention consists in the combinations and arrangements of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention will be best understood by reference to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification and in which,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a cabinet embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a similar view showing some of the compartments of the cabinet opened;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged partial vertical section through the upper forward portion of the cabinet;

Fig. 4 is a horizontal section through the upper compartment of the cabinet, and

Fig. 5 is a detail view of a spring latch employed in the cabinet.

The preferred form of construction as illustrated in the drawings comprises a suitable rectangular metallic casing having two lower sliding filing drawers 6 therein. Each of the filing drawers 6 is the usual filing drawer for the purpose and provided on its outer face with a knob 9 for manipulating a usual rod for securing filing guides in said drawers.

The cabinet casing is divided into three similar compartments, the two lower ones containing the sliding filing drawers 6 and the upper compartment containing a safety deposit box 10.

The safety deposit box 10 is made of heavy steel plates, as indicated, and has a horizontally swinging door 11 and a lock 12 having double keys 12′, as indicated. The inner face of the door 12 and the walls of the box are lined with asbestos sheets 13 for better protection against fire.

The door 12 of the safety deposit box 10 is adapted to be concealed and hidden by a downwardly and outwardly swinging hollow metal door 14 equipped with the brace 15 limiting the downward swing thereof at horizontal position, whereby said door 14 also constitutes a table, as will be readily understood.

In the hollow interior of the door 14 is a spring latch 16, see particularly Fig. 5, connected by a link 17 with a crank arm 18 on a knob 9′ on the exterior surface of the concealing door.

The concealing door 14 is also provided with an index rack 7 and a handle 8, identical with the similar parts on the drawers 6, and the knob 9′ is made in exact simulation of the knobs 9 on the drawers 6.

The knob 9 serves as a means for releasing the spring catch 16 when it is desired to open the door 14 for access to the safety deposit box 10.

By this arrangement, it will be noted, that the upper compartment of the cabinet containing the safety deposit box is, to outward appearance identical with the lower filing drawer compartments, so that burglars would be unlikely to discover the presence of the safety deposit box, mistaking the same for an ordinary filing drawer containing invaluable papers. In this way a safety deposit box may be provided which is part and parcel of an ordinary filing cabinet, being thereby protected against unauthorized tampering because of the fact that its presence will ordinarily be unsuspected.

The construction set forth also provides a

small sized safe or vault for the reception of valuable papers as part and parcel of an ordinary filing cabinet and, therefore, occupy but little space.

The specific form and arrangement of construction disclosed is a simple and effective one for the purpose.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred form of construction for carrying my invention into effect, this is capable of variation and modification without departing from the spirit of the invention. I, therefore, do not wish to be limited to the precise details set forth, but desire to avail myself of such variations and modifications as fall within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A construction of the class described comprising a cabinet divided into a plurality of separate similar compartments; sliding filing drawers in one or more of said compartments; a swinging door for one of said compartments, a knob on the outer face of each drawer and of said door, the outer face of said door and the outer faces of said drawers and door being made in close imitation of each other; a concealed latch for said swinging door; connection between said latch and the knob on the door for operating said latch, and a lockable safety deposit box in said last mentioned compartment.

2. A construction of the class described comprising a cabinet divided into a plurality of separate similar compartments; sliding filing drawers in one or more of said compartments; an operating handle on the outer face of each drawer; a knob on the outer face of each drawer located centrally thereof below said handle; a downwardly and outwardly swinging hollow door for one of said compartments, the outer face of said door and the outer faces of said drawers being made in close imitation of each other; an operating handle on the outer face of said door of the same type as the drawer handles and similarly located; an operative knob located centrally below said handle on the outer face of said door and extending into the hollow interior thereof; a spring latch for said door located within the hollow interior thereof; an operative connection between said operative knob and said spring latch; and a safety deposit box in the compartment behind said door.

3. A construction of the class described comprising a cabinet divided into a plurality of separate similar compartments; sliding filing drawers in one or more of said compartments; an operating handle on the outer face of each drawer; a knob on the outer face of each drawer located centrally thereof below said handle; a downwardly and outwardly swinging hollow door for one of said compartments, the outer face of said door and the outer faces of said drawers being made in close imitation of each other; an operating handle on the outer face of said door of the same type as the drawer handles and similarly located; an operative knob located centrally below said handle on the outer face of said door and extending into the hollow interior thereof; a spring latch for said door located within the hollow interior thereof; an operative connection between said operative knob and said spring latch; a safety deposit box in the compartment behind said door; and a horizontally swinging lockable door for said safety deposit box arranged to swing outwardly over said downwardly swinging door when the latter is open.

In witness that I claim the foregoing as my invention, I affix my signature this 18th day of May, A. D. 1927.

JOHN SCHUETTE.