Nov. 9, 1926. 1,606,516

T. DALY

VALISE

Filed Oct. 31, 1923 5 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

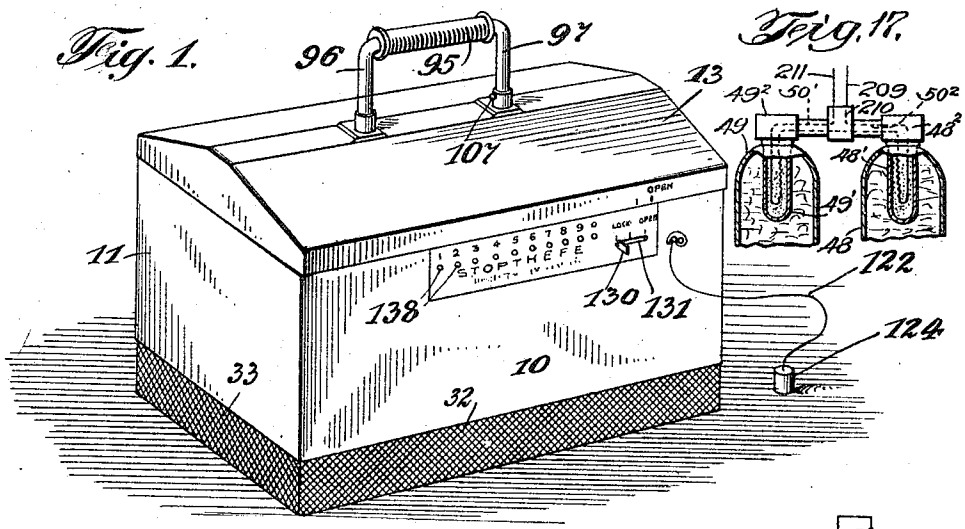
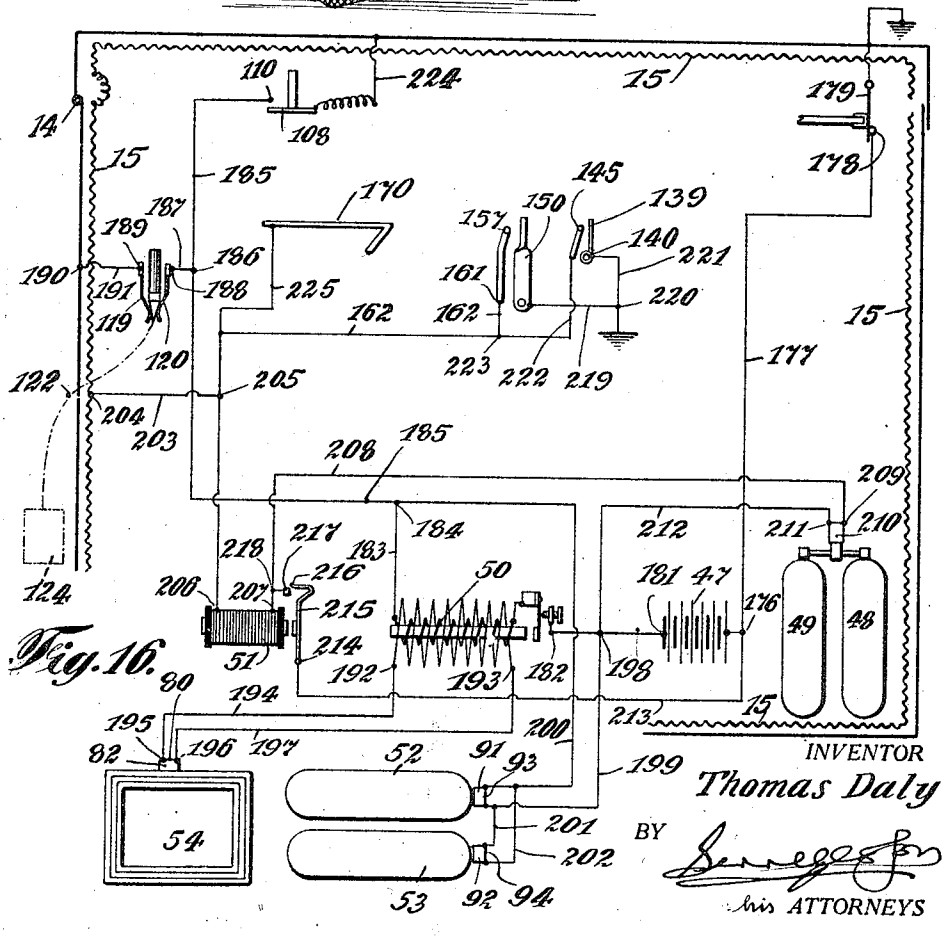


Fig. 17.

Fig. 16.



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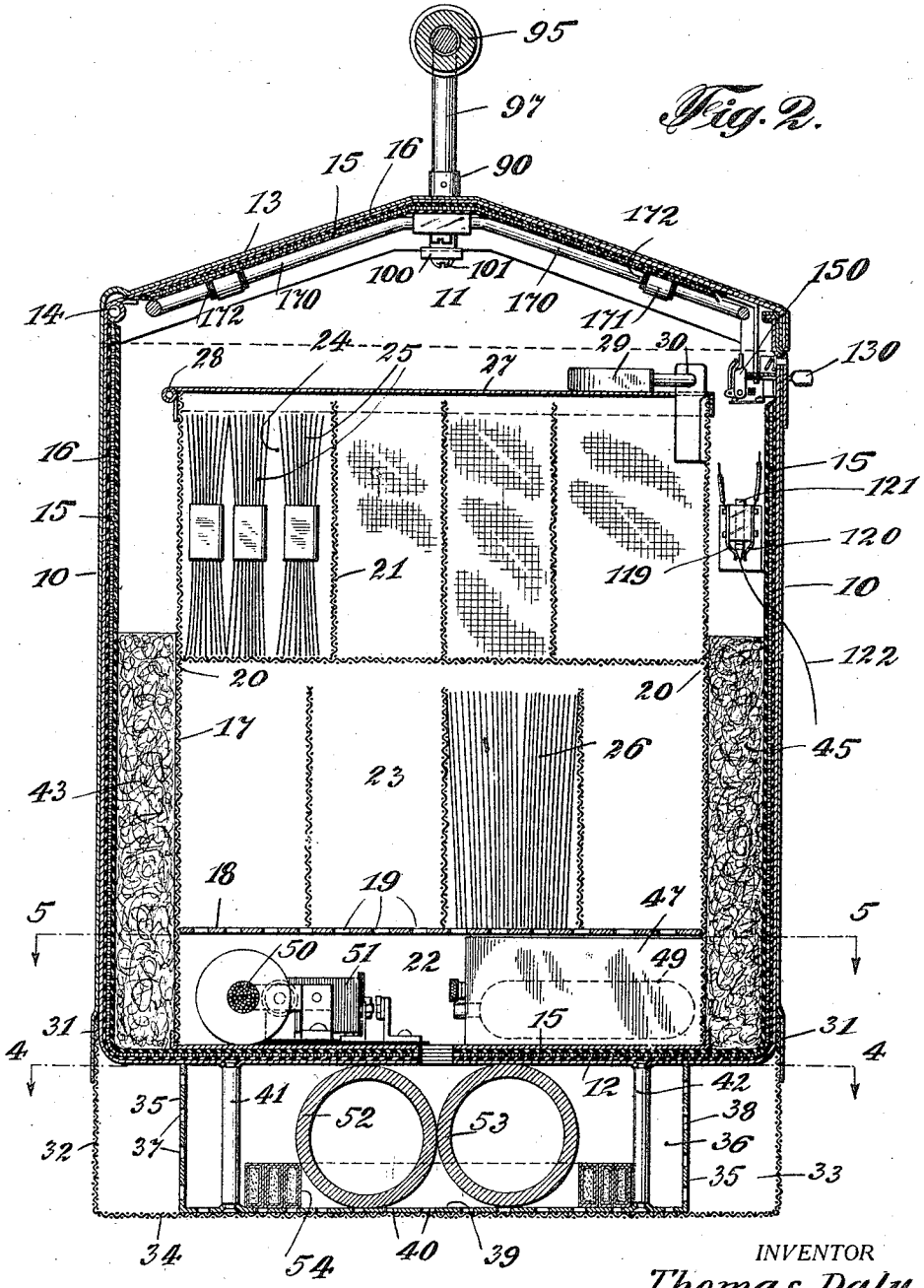
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VALISE

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Fig. 2.



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T. DALY

VALISE

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Fig. 3.

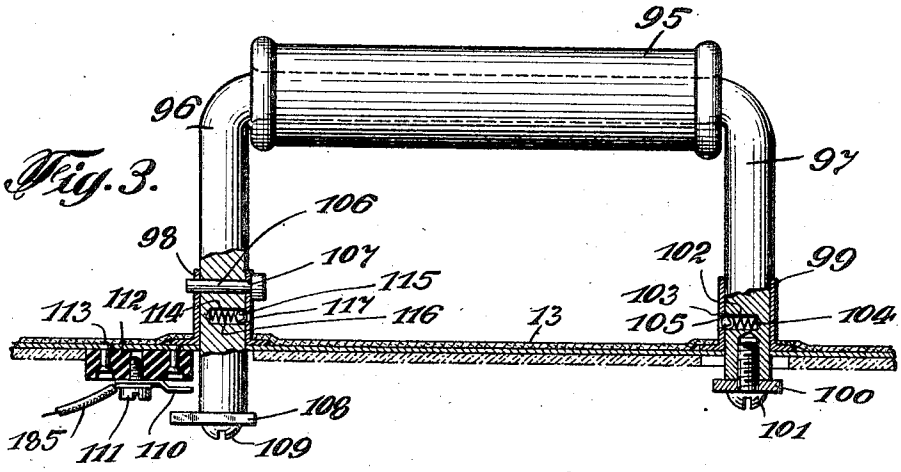
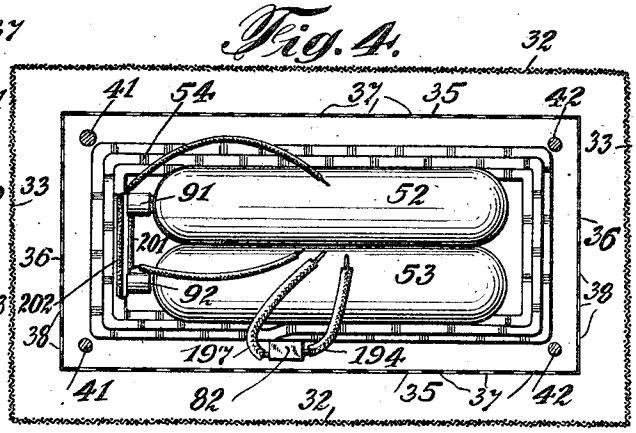


Fig. 4.



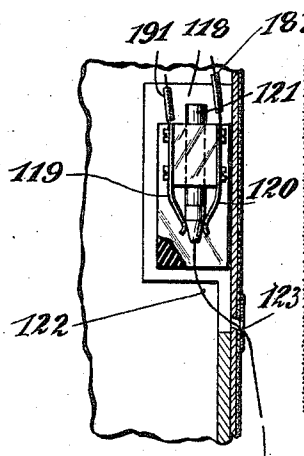
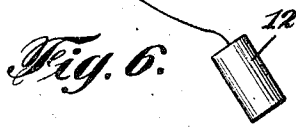


Fig. 6.



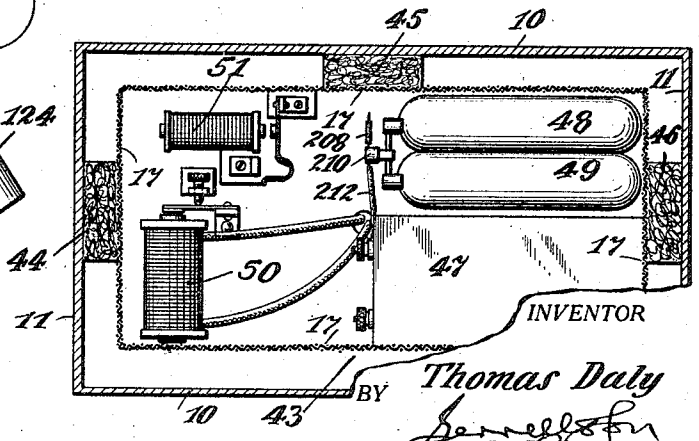


Fig. 5.

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VALISE

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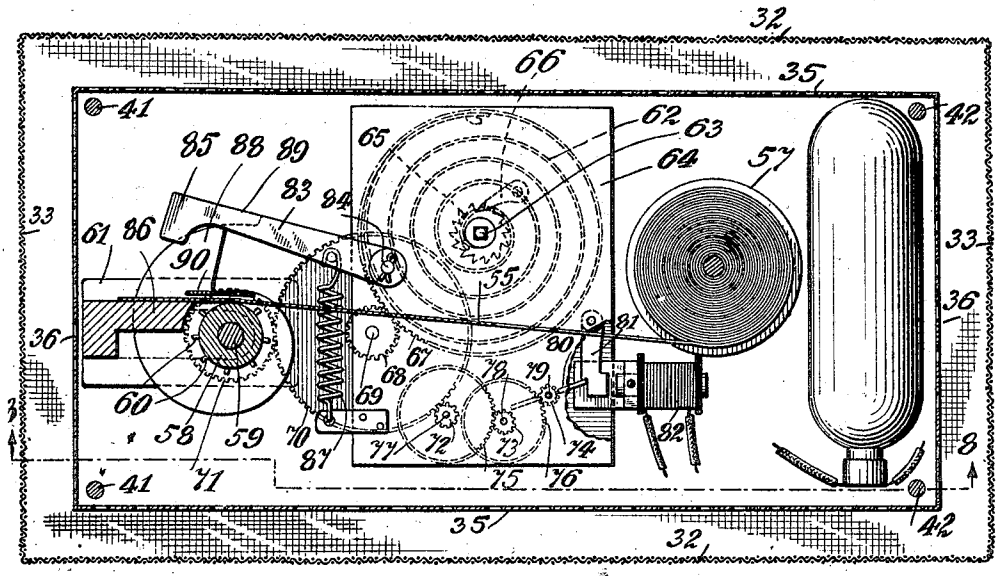


Fig. 7

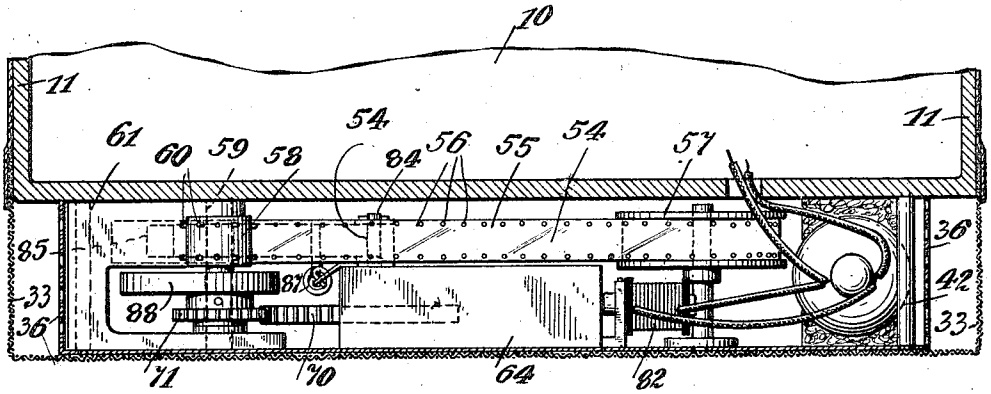


Fig. 8.

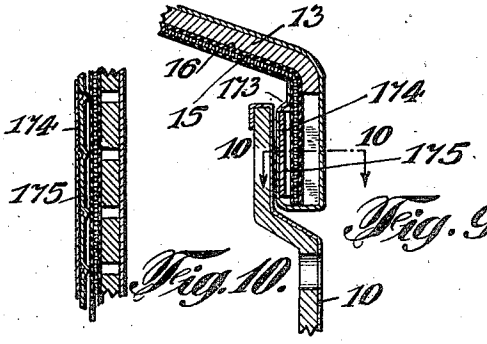


Fig. 9.

Fig. 10.

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VALISE

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Fig. 11.

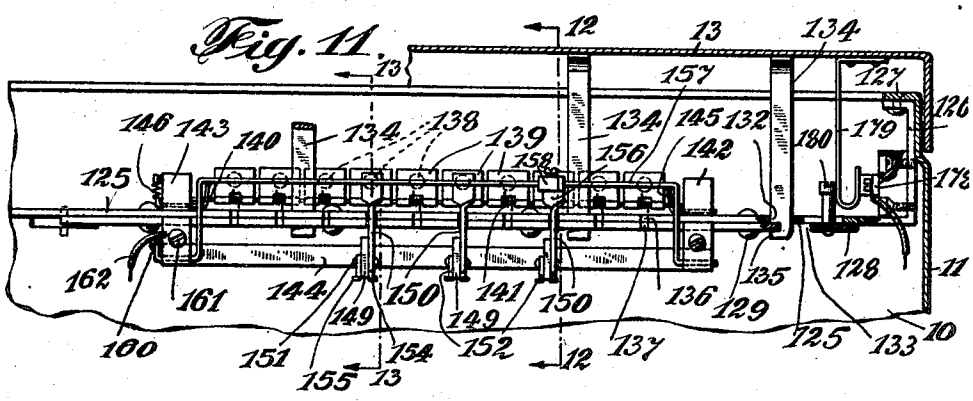


Fig. 12.

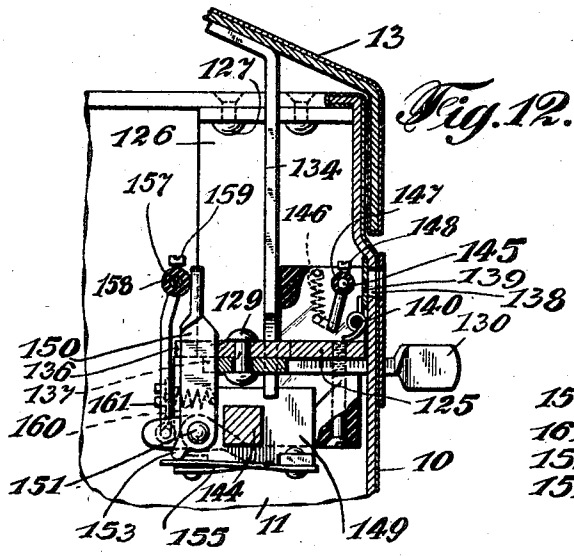


Fig. 13.

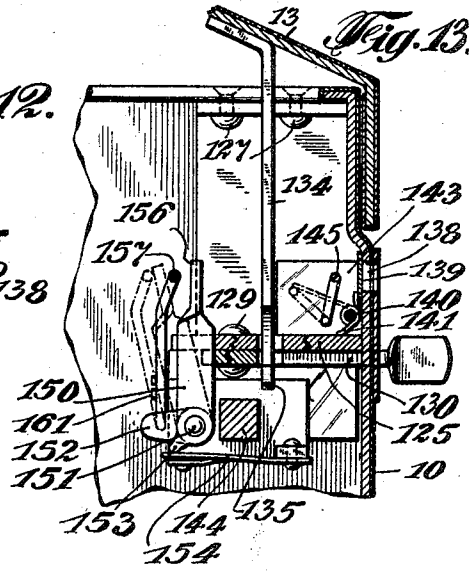


Fig. 14.

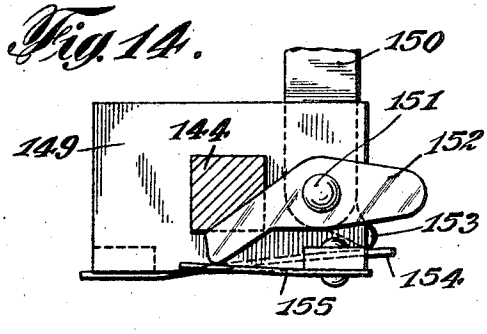
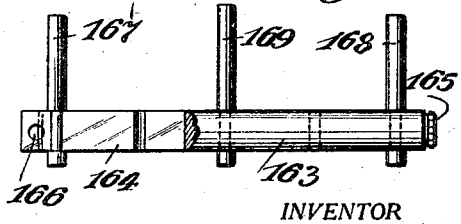


Fig. 15.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS DALY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR OF ONE-THIRD TO WILLIAM J. NUGENT AND TWO-THIRDS TO EDWARD M. CURRY, BOTH OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

VALISE.

Application filed October 31, 1923. Serial No. 671,836.

In the performance of their duties the messengers or other employees of manufacturers, business houses, bankers, brokers and other concerns often are obliged to carry currency in bank notes or other information, bonds, stocks and other securities for various purposes. In so doing the currency or securities are generally placed in a valise or some similar receptacle by which they may be readily carried from one place to another. These duties of such employees are more or less hazardous as oftentimes they are held up and the valise or valises taken by thieves who in many instances are sufficiently expert to make off with the valise or valises and the contents thereof without being caught.

The object of my invention is to provide a valise for messengers or other persons required to carry currency and securities in the use of which the unauthorized or illegal acquisition of the valise automatically sets in operation either electrically or otherwise a predetermined signal or series of signals which may be audible, visual or otherwise to assist the police, detectives or other persons in tracing the thieves, and furthermore the construction is such that if by any chance the thieves go undetected and uncaught the valise is so constructed that attempts to open the same automatically set in operation by electrical means or otherwise certain devices for liberating a gas or other fluid by which the bank notes, stocks, bonds or other securities contained in the valise are effected by discoloration or otherwise so as to provide an indication that they have been surreptitiously obtained and consequently to serve notice that they are not properly or lawfully negotiable.

In carrying out the invention, as will be hereinafter more particularly described, the signaling devices may include a suitable smoke or other similar substance which is liberated and a series of torpedoes or caps or other devices which are successively fired electrically or otherwise when the valise in which they are incorporated is taken or attempts are made to handle the same in an unauthorized manner. Also when attempts are made to unlock the valise or to cut the same or to otherwise gain admission thereto to obtain the securities a suitable gas is automatically liberated to fill the interior of the valise and to discolor the bank notes, stocks, bonds or other securities contained therein in order to thus make the same non-negotiable by it being understood that the discoloration of a predetermined type is notice that the securities are in unlawful hands.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a valise made in accordance with my present invention.

Fig. 2 is a transverse section on an enlarged scale.

Fig. 3 is an elevation and partial section illustrating the manner in which the handle of the valise is attached to the cover thereof.

Fig. 4 is a sectional plan illustrating the devices for producing predetermined visual and audible signals.

Fig. 5 is a sectional plan illustrating the devices employed for liberating a suitable gas and also compressed air.

Fig. 6 is a sectional elevation illustrating more or less diagrammatically a means for closing a circuit to operate the audible and visual signaling devices.

Fig. 7 is an elevation of the devices which may be employed for operating the audible signal.

Fig. 8 is a plan of the same.

Fig. 9 is a partial section showing the relationship between an edge of the cover and the adjacent portion of the body of the valise.

Fig. 10 is a section on line 10—10, Fig. 9.

Fig. 11 is an elevation of the lock mechanism which may be employed in the valise.

Fig. 12 is an enlarged section on line 12—12, Fig. 11.

Fig. 13 is a view similar to Fig. 12 showing the parts in another position.

Fig. 14 is an elevation and partial section illustrating a latch device.

Fig. 15 is a plan view of the key employed with the lock.

Fig. 16 is a diagrammatic plan of the devices and electrical connections employed to operate the same as incorporated in the improved valise, and

Fig. 17 is a diagrammatic section illustrating one of the disrupting fuse devices.

The valise or similar container made in accordance with my present invention comprises a casing having side walls 10, end

walls 11, a bottom 12 and a suitable cover member 13 which, as indicated, is hinged to one of the side walls at 14. These walls of the valise are made of sheet metal or any other material of equally good electrical conductivity. The valise is provided with a lining indicated at 15 which is preferably made of metallic wire mesh or similar material whether pliable or otherwise and of equally good electrical conductivity. The lining as clearly indicated in Fig. 2 is provided in the same manner for the cover as for the walls and bottom of the valise and is insulated therefrom by a layer 16 of any suitable insulating material. It will be understood, of course, that the outer walls of the valise may be suitably covered with leather, fabric or other material if necessary or desirable and in a like manner the interior of the valise may be provided with an inner lining of leather, fabric or any other suitable material.

Interiorly the valise is provided with a suitable frame indicated at 17 and made of metal or other material which is preferably perforate and suitably divided into compartments for the reception of bills, bonds, stocks or other similar papers. Adjacent the bottom or inner end of the frame 17 the same is fitted with a transverse partition wall 18 in which there is a plurality of apertures 19. In a suitable position the frame is also provided interiorly with ribs 20 forming a support for a tray or rack 21 which is also suitably provided with division walls dividing the same into a plurality of compartments. The transverse wall 18 is so placed in the frame 17 as to leave an appreciable space forming a compartment 22 between this partition wall and the bottom of the frame and the valise. The compartments in the lower or inner end of the frame 17 are indicated at 23 and the compartments in the upper or outer end thereof are indicated at 24. These compartments may be used for currency as illustrated, wherein in Fig. 2, 25 designates bundles of bank notes. The lower compartments in the frame, for example, may be used for stocks, bonds or other securities as designated at 26 in this figure of the drawing. It will be understood, however, that the various compartments in the frame may be made to serve various purposes as the number and shape of the same form no part of my present invention. The inner frame may also be provided with a cover 27 suitably hinged to the frame as indicated at 28 and adapted to be secured in position relatively thereto by a suitable lock 29 made to engage apertures provided for this purpose in engaging lugs 30 secured to the frame and extending through openings in the cover member 27.

The end and side walls of the valise are preferably provided with depending flanges 31 adapted to receive and have connected thereto the side and end walls 32 and 33 of a cage, the bottom wall of which is indicated at 34. The walls of this cage are preferably made of suitable wire mesh or other perforate metallic material. Within the cage there is a frame, the walls 35 and 36 of which are also preferably made of suitable sheet metal and provided with series of apertures 37 and 38. The bottom wall of this frame is indicated at 39 and is similarly apertured as indicated at 40. The frame is maintained in position in the cage by suitable tie-bolts 41 and 42 or otherwise, these bolts acting as spacers and also as supports to maintain the valise in position when resting on the floor or other support without in any manner crushing or otherwise damaging the said cage. The frame 17 is fitted with spaced strips of felt designated at 43, 44, 45 and 46 and extending between the same and the inner walls of the body of the valise in order to properly space the frame and maintain the same in the desired position in the body of the valise, it being understood that these strips of felt or other similar porous material may be of any desired width and of any sufficient length and number to serve the intended purpose.

In the compartment 22 there is suitably placed a battery 47 or any other source of electrical energy, together with a gas tank 48, an air tank 49, an induction coil 50 and a relay instrument 51, all of which may be of any suitable type and the purpose of which will be hereinafter more particularly described.

In the compartment enclosed by the walls 35 and 36 of the frame member employed beneath the bottom proper of the valise there are suitably placed smoke tanks 52 and 53 and an audible signaling device 54, which latter, for example, may consist of a strip of caps or torpedoes and means for operating the same under predetermined circumstances.

As illustrated, particular reference being made to Figs. 7 and 8, the audible signaling device may be made to comprise a band or strip 55 in which in suitably spaced positions the caps or torpedoes 54 are placed. Along the edges and in corresponding positions the band 55 is provided with perforations 56 and this band is mounted on a reel 57 from which it is unwound by a suitable sprocket 58, the sprocket 58 being mounted on a shaft 59 and provided with pins 60 adapted to enter the perforations 56 as the sprocket is caused to revolve so as to advance the torpedo band. The devices for actuating the torpedo band may include a suitable frame 61 having a flat surface over which the torpedo band

is delivered in order that the same may be exploded by a hammer device hereinafter described. The audible signaling device also includes a spirally coiled spring 62 connected at one end to a shaft 63 which is suitably journaled in the oppositely disposed walls of a frame 64 to which the opposite end of the spring is also connected. On the shaft 63 there is a ratchet 65 and when wound the spring may be maintained in position by a pawl 66 engaging the teeth of the ratchet. Also carried on the shaft 63 there is a gear 67. The gear 67 meshes with a pinion 68 mounted on a shaft 69 on which shaft there is also a gear 70 meshing with a gear 71 fixed on the shaft 59. This spring motor mechanism is consequently adapted to drive the ratchet to advance the torpedo band and is normally maintained in an inoperative condition by a series of reduction pinions 72, 73 and 74 and reduction gears 75 and 76. The pinion 72 meshes with the gear 70 and this pinion and the gear 75 are mounted on a shaft 77. The pinion 73 meshes with the gear 75 and is mounted on a shaft 78 on which shaft the gear 76 is also mounted. The pinion 74 meshes with the gear 76 and is mounted on a shaft 79 on which there is also mounted a hub carrying a finger 80. The finger 80 is adapted to normally lie within a recess in the face of an armature 81 so that when this armature is attracted by the electromagnet 82 the finger 80 will be released and the spring 62 will be made operative to drive the cap or torpedo band, as hereinbefore described.

As illustrated in these figures of the drawing the caps or torpedoes may be successively fired as the band is advanced. The devices for performing this function include a lever 83 pivotally mounted at 84 on a pin secured in the walls of the frame 64 and provided at its free end with a head 85 adapted to act as a hammer and to strike each successive torpedo as the same passes over the table 86 forming a striking base for the hammer head. The lever 83 is operated by a suitable spring 87 and a cam 88 mounted on the shaft 59 and adapted to contact with an arm 89 extending from the hammer lever 83, it being understood that the arm is maintained in position against the surface of the cam by the action of the spring and that when the cam is in the position in which the arm is freed therefrom the spring will cause the lever to swing bringing the hammer head thereof down into contact with one of the torpedoes or caps which are so placed and the time of advancing the strip so arranged that each successive cap or torpedo is fired in turn as the strip advances under the guide member 90 also forming part of the frame 61 and assisting to maintain the strip in position in the feeding of the same for properly bringing the caps or torpedoes beneath the head of the hammer.

The smoke tanks or containers 52 and 53 are adapted to contain smoke of any predetermined character which is confined in the smoke tanks by any suitable sealing device as for instance by the caps 91 and 92 which are sealed and maintained in place by fuses 93 and 94 in order to permit the caps to be automatically removed under predetermined conditions, as hereinafter described, upon the blowing of the fuses 93 and 94.

The valise is preferably provided with a suitable handle connected to the cover member. As particularly illustrated in Figs. 1, 2 and 3, a handle is indicated at 95. This is mounted on a U-shaped member, the arms of which are designated by 96 and 97. The cover of the valise is fitted in suitable positions with sockets 98, 99 adapted to receive the arms 96 and 97 which extend through these sockets into the interior or inner side of the cover. At the inner end the arm 97 is provided with a washer 100 which is secured thereto by means of a screw 101 or otherwise. Adjacent the end portion of the arm 97 there is a recess 102 adapted to receive a ball 103 which is normally forced outwardly by a spring 104 to cause the ball 103 to engage in a recess 105 provided for this purpose in the socket 99 in order to maintain or to assist in maintaining the arm 97 in position in the socket as indicated in Fig. 3 which shows the normal position of the handle relatively to the cover. The handle is maintained in this position by means of a pin 106 adapted to pass through the arm 96 and through suitable apertures 107 made for this purpose in the socket 98. At the inner end of the arm 96 there is also a washer 108 secured thereto by a screw 109 or otherwise. The washer 108 is provided with an extension to act as an electrical contact adapted when the pin 106 is removed and the handle raised relatively to the cover to bear against a contact 110 secured in position by a pin 111 in a suitable block of insulation 112 to complete the circuit for the purpose of opening the smoke container tanks and actuating the audible signal device to which reference will be hereinafter further made. As illustrated the block 112 may be suitably secured to the cover member by means of rivets 113 or otherwise. The arm 96 is also provided with a recess 114 adapted to receive a ball 115 which is normally forced outwardly by a spring 116 to cause the ball to engage with a recess 117 provided for this purpose in the socket 98 to assist in normally maintaining the handle in its inoperative position.

The visual and audible signaling devices may also be made operative by means of closing a circuit through a suitable contact nor-

mally maintained in an open position and permitted to close by withdrawing a pin which may be readily accomplished by the person carrying the valise when an attempt is made to take the valise from him by force or otherwise. As illustrated in Fig. 6, for example, the valise may be provided in a suitable position interiorly with a block of insulating material 118 carrying spaced contacts 119 and 120. These contacts 119 and 120 are normally maintained in an open or spaced condition by means of a pin 121. Attached to the pin 121 is a chain or cord 122 passing through an opening 123 provided therefor in a wall of the valise and carrying in its opposite end a weight 124. The weight 124 as will be apparent may be used in any one of a number of ways for causing the withdrawal of the pin from its normal position between the contacts 119 and 120 permitting the same to come together to thereby close a circuit to operate the visual and audible signaling devices, as will be hereinafter further described.

In carrying out the invention the valise is also provided with a lock mechanism that is so constructed as to include an electrical detecting mechanism whereby in attempting to operate the lock with any key other than the one designed to operate the same circuits are closed to operate, that is to release the gas and air from the tanks 48 and 49 permitting the same to permeate the entire interior of the valise and to discolor the contents thereof for the purposes hereinbefore specified. The lock device for this purpose is illustrated in Figs. 11 to 15 inclusive. As illustrated in these figures this lock mechanism preferably comprises a plate 125 forming part of a frame, the ends 126 of which are suitably secured to the walls of the body of the valise. As illustrated the extremities of the end members 126 are riveted to the walls of the valise as indicated at 127. Associated with the plate 125 is a slide bar 128. In suitable positions the plate is provided with rivets 129 which pass through slots provided for this purpose in the slide bar 128 so that the same is movable longitudinally of the plate 125. In order to move the slide bar exteriorly of the walls of the valise the same is provided with an arm 130 extending through a slot 131 (see Fig. 1) so that the extremity of this arm may be employed for shifting the slide bar. The plate 125 is also provided with slots 132 and the slide bar 128 with correspondingly placed slots 133 each set of recesses adapted to receive the inner end of a lock bar 134 suitably connected to the cover member and of such a length that when the cover is in the closed position and the slide bar is in the unlocked position the end of the lock bar will pass through the corresponding set of slots 132, 133. At the end of each of the lock bars 134 there is a notch 135 adapted to receive a portion of the slide bar 128 when the same is shifted to the locked position as indicated in Fig. 11. Corresponding edges, preferably the inner edges of the plate 125 and the slide bar 128 are provided with sets of corresponding notches 136 and 137 adapted to receive the lock levers hereinafter described.

In the front wall of the valise there is provided a series of apertures 138. As indicated these are ten in number although, as will be understood, any desired number may be employed. Immediately at the inner end of each of these apertures there is a flap 139. Each flap is made of electrical conducting material and is pivotally mounted on a rod 140 and maintained in position by a suitable spring 141 or otherwise so that when a pin or similar device is inserted through any of the apertures 138 the corresponding flap is caused to turn inwardly against the action of the spring which normally maintains the flap in a position in which the aperture is closed at its inner end. The rod 140 upon which the flaps are pivotally mounted is preferably grounded in the frame of the valise so as to permit the flaps to form one of the members of a circuit closing device, as will be hereinafter described.

Suitably mounted on the plate 125 there are insulating blocks 142 and 143. These blocks are spaced so as to lie on either side of the series of apertures 138, that is to bring the series of apertures 138 intermediate of the insulating blocks 142 and 143. Extending between the lower ends of the insulating blocks 142 and 143 there is a connecting bar 144. Pivotally mounted in these insulating blocks 142 and 143 there is an auxiliary contact bar 145. This auxiliary contact bar extends between the blocks 142 and 143 and lies immediately at the rear, that is the inside of the flaps 139. The auxiliary contact bar is suitably maintained in a normal position against stops provided for this purpose by a spring 146 or otherwise and this auxiliary contact bar carries a band 147 of insulating material which is shiftable to any desired position thereon and may be maintained in place at the rear of any flap 139 by means of a set screw 148 or otherwise. The auxiliary contact bar is suitably connected, as hereinafter further described to the battery or other source of electrical energy for operating the devices to release the gas and air from the tanks 48 and 49.

On the connecting bar 144 I employ a plurality of adjustable slides 149. Pivotally mounted in each of these slides 149 is a lock lever 150. As clearly illustrated, for example, in Fig. 14 each lock lever 150 is mounted on a shaft 151 journaled in the corresponding slide 149 and also connected to

the shaft 151 is an auxiliary lever 152. The lower end of each lock lever 150 terminates in a toe 153 adapted to normally engage with a spring 154, while the oppositely disposed end of the lever 152 is normally adapted to contact with a spring 155 so that the lever 150 is normally maintained in a position at right angles to the slide and the cross bar 144. At its opposite or free end each lock lever is preferably turned to a right angle position as indicated at 156 in order to form a contact member, as hereinafter described. The intermediate portion of each of these lock levers 150, that is the portion between the free and pivotal ends thereof is adapted to enter one of the pairs of notches 136 and 137 when these notches are in alignment or when they register with each other in order to maintain the slide bar 128 in the locked position as shown in Figs. 11, 12 and 13. It will be understood that any predetermined number of these lock levers may be employed and that to release the slide bar it is necessary to simultaneously swing each of the lock levers out of engagement with the corresponding notches.

Associated with the free ends of the lock levers I employ a main contact bar 157. This is adapted to lie immediately at the rear of the free ends of the lock bars and preferably extends between the blocks 142 and 143, the ends of the contact bar being pivotally mounted so that the same may be made to swing by bringing any or all of the lock levers into contact therewith. Mounted on the contact bar 157 is a sleeve 158 of insulating material. This sleeve 158 is adjustable to any position along the contact bar and may be secured in place immediately behind or at the rear of either of the lock levers by means of a set screw 159 or otherwise. The contact bar is maintained in a normal position against suitable stops provided for this purpose by means of a spring 160 or otherwise. The corresponding ends of the main contact bar 157 and the auxiliary contact bar 145 are electrically connected in any suitable manner to a terminal 161 to which is secured a lead wire 162 to which reference will be hereinafter further made.

The device forming part of the lock as hereinbefore described is illustrated in Fig. 15 and may comprise a pair of half round bars 163, 164 pivotally connected as indicated at 165 at corresponding ends thereof and adapted to be secured to one another at the opposite end by a lock pin 166 or otherwise. Associated with these key bars 163 and 164 there are pins 167, 168 and 169. Each pin is adapted to be received in recesses provided therefor in the adjacent faces of the bars 163 and 164, provision being made for the use of as many of these key pins as there are apertures 138 provided in the lock device, it being understood that the key pins may be arranged to form any desired combination, and as hereinafter described and for the purpose named one of the key pins as indicated at 169 is longer than the other pins. The operation of the parts comprising this lock device will be hereinafter more particularly described.

Also in order to liberate the gases contained in the receptacles 48 and 49 when attempts may be made to open the cover by prying the same apart from the body of the valise the peripheral portion of the cover may be provided with rods or bars 170. These rods 170 are mounted in collars 171 from which they are separated by suitable insulating material 172 or otherwise as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawing. It will be apparent that in efforts to pry the cover open a chisel, screw driver or other similar tool employed for this purpose will close a circuit to operate the devices for normally maintaining the gases in the tanks or containers 48 and 49, as will be hereinafter more particularly described. For a similar purpose as shown in Figs. 9 and 10 the inner peripheral portion of the cover may be extended as indicated at 173 and a suitable strip or strips 174 of conducting material employed in conjunction therewith and provided with series of spaced ribs or projections 175 which will be forced through the sheath of insulation into contact with the conducting liner mesh to close a circuit, as will be further set forth in the following description.

The electrical circuits employed in carrying out the invention are diagrammatically illustrated in Fig. 16. By reference to this figure it will be seen that one terminal of the battery 47 is connected at a junction point 176 to a lead wire 177 which at its opposite end is connected to a terminal 178. The cover carries a spring terminal 179 adapted when the cover is closed to contact with the terminal 178 and this contact is made certain by a pin 180 carried by the slide bar 128 when the cover is closed and the slide bar moved to the locked position bears against the spring terminal 179 to force the same against the terminal 178. The spring terminal 179 as indicated in this figure of the drawing is mounted in the outer metallic wall of the cover and consequently connected to the metallic body of the valise. The other terminal of the battery 47 as indicated at 181 is connected to the terminal 182 of the induction coil 50, the other terminal of the primary of which as indicated at 182 is connected by a lead 183 to a junction point 184 in a lead wire 185 which is connected to the terminal 110 by the screw 111. In the lead wire 185 is a junction point 186 connected by a conductor

187 to the terminal 188 of the contact 120, the terminal 189 of the contact 119 being grounded in the wall of the valise as indicated at 190 by it being connected thereto by a suitable conductor 191. The terminals of the secondary of the induction coil 50 are indicated at 192 and 193. The terminal 192 is connected by a lead 194 to one of the terminals 195 of the finger 80 operated by the armature of the electro-magnet 82 which releases the audible signal devices hereinbefore described. The other terminal 196 of the electro-magnet is connected by a lead 197 to the terminal 193. In the conductor leading from the terminal 181 of the battery there is a junction point 198. A lead wire 199 runs from the junction point 198 to one of the terminals of the fuse 93 associated with the cap 91, while the other terminal of this fuse 93 is connected by a lead wire 200 to the junction point 184. The fuse 94 in the cap 92 is connected in series across the lead wires 199 and 200 by the lead wires 201 and 202. A lead wire 203 is connected at one end to the mesh lining as indicated at 204. The other end of this lead wire is connected to the lead wire 162 at a junction point 205. The lead wire 162 is also connected to one terminal 206 of the relay magnet 51. The other terminal 207 of the relay magnet is connected by a lead 208 to one terminal 209 of a fuse or other device 210 employed to normally close the air and gas tanks or containers 48 and 49. The other terminal 211 of this fuse device is connected by a lead wire 212 to the junction point 198. A lead wire 213 extends from the junction point 176 to the terminal 214 of the spring armature 215 of the relay magnet 51. The free end of the spring armature 215 is fitted with a hook 216 adapted to engage a contact 217 which is connected at a junction point 218 in the lead wire 208. The bar 144 and consequently the lock lever 150 are connected by a lead wire 219 to a junction point 220 to which by a lead wire 221 the flaps 139 are connected so that these flaps and the lock levers may be grounded in the metallic body of the valise as indicated in Fig. 16. The auxiliary contact bar 145 is connected by a lead 222 to a junction point 223 in the lead wire 162 which is connected to the terminal of the contact bar 157 so that these contact bars through the lead wire 162 are connected to the terminal 206 of the relay magnet.

As illustrated in Fig. 17 of the drawing, the fuse device 210 may be made to comprise tubes 48′ and 49′ having suitable heads 48^2 and 49^2 respectively, these heads being jointed by a suitable hollow connecting device 50′ in which the terminals 209 and 211 are mounted. These terminals are connected by a resistance wire 50^2 or other device which extends into the tubes 48′ and 49′ which are also adapted to contain powder or other suitable explosive material so that when the circuit is closed the resistance wire will be heated to explode the powder or other similar material to disrupt the tubes 48′ and 49′ and to break the joint between the same and the containers 48 and 49 in order to liberate the contents thereof. It will be understood that the fuse devices 93 and 94 may be constructed to operate in a similar manner, but that these fuse devices may be made to operate in any way in which upon the closing of the circuit they are disrupted to liberate the contents of the container with which they are associated.

In the use of a valise constructed as hereinbefore described the bank notes, stocks, bonds or other securities or papers of any other nature may be placed in the valise in the customary manner when the cover member is open. After the securities or other articles to be carried from one place to another have been placed in the valise the cover is closed and the slide bar 128 moved to the locked position and the key removed, it being understood that the key member is set with the pins thereof in predetermined positions and that the slides 149 are set accordingly, each being fixed in place with the corresponding lock lever immediately behind the respective flaps 139 which the pins of the key are set to operate, the insulating bands 147 and 158 being secured in position on their respective contact bars so as to assume a position immediately at the rear of the flap operated by the longer key pin. In so doing the slide bar 128 will engage the lock bars 134 to secure the cover in its closed position and the lock levers 150 will fall into their respective notches 136 and 137 so as to secure the slide bar in the locked position and make it impossible normally to move the slide bar in the opposite direction to release the lock bars until the respective lock levers have been freed again from their respective notches 136 and 137. The valise is therefore securely locked. Normally the pin 106 maintains the handle and the arms associated therewith in the position shown in Fig. 3. Should it be necessary, however, for the messenger or other person carrying the valise to rest the same upon the floor or the ground the pin 106 is withdrawn or removed. If then the valise is lifted without first replacing the pin 106 the members of the handle will move outwardly relatively to the cover so as to bring the contact member 108 into contact with the contact member 110. In so doing a circuit will be closed to the lines 199 and 200 to the smoke tanks, that is through the fuse or other devices controlling the smoke tanks through the line 185 to the contact 110, the contact 108, through the lead 224 which is grounded in the frame of the valise, through

the spring contact 179, the contact 178, the lead 177 of the other terminal of the battery, it being understood that the spring contact 179 is moved into position against the fixed contact 178 by the pin 180 on the slide bar when the same is moved to the locking position. At the same time a circuit is closed through the junction point 182, through the primary of the induction coil to the junction point 184 to the lead 185, the remaining portions of the circuit being the same as those of the circuit just described. This will cause the current to be set up in the secondary of the induction coil, and through the leads 194 and 197 this current will operate the electro-magnet 82 to attract the armature 81 and release the finger 80 setting the audible signaling apparatus into operation. It therefore follows that in thus raising the valise in an unauthorized manner the audible signaling devices will be set in operation and at the same time the smoke from the smoke containers released so as to also produce a visual signal to indicate that the valise is in the possession of a party or parties unauthorized to have the same. It will also be understood that in the event of the valise being taken forcibly or otherwise from the possession of the rightful party when the handle is in the proper operative position the weight 124 may be released in any suitable manner to withdraw the spacer pin 121 from its normal position between the contacts 119 and 120 whereby the same circuits as hereinbefore described are closed through the contact points 119 and 120 to produce the same results which will enable the police or other officers of the law to readily detect and follow the thief or thieves or other persons who have taken the valise in an unauthorized manner.

As hereinbefore stated, when attempts are made to open the valise, for instance by prying the cover apart from the body member or by cutting the body member or cover, or by efforts to open the lock with any instrument except the properly arranged key, a circuit is closed which operates the fuse device 210 which permits the gases or the gas and air, or any suitable fluid to escape from the tanks 48 and 49 and to permeate the interior of the valise, the gas or gases being of such a nature as to stain or discolor the securities or other papers contained in the valise to serve as a notification that they are in unauthorized hands. For example, in efforts to pry the cover open the tool employed will close a circuit between the wall of the cover or the wall of the body or both of these members and the bars 170, these bars being connected by a lead 225 to the terminal 206 of the relay magnet 51, the other terminal 207 of the relay being connected by a lead 208 to the fuse terminal 209, while the fuse terminal 211 of the fuse device 210 is connected to a battery terminal through the lead wire 212 and the junction point 198, the other terminal of the battery being connected by the lead wire 177 and the contact or switch device operated by the slide bar of the lock to the casing of the valise. The momentary closing of this circuit operates the armature 215 causing the hook end 216 thereof to engage the terminal contact 217 and to remain in permanent connection therewith. By this means, therefore, a circuit is permanently closed through the fuse device 210, this circuit comprising the lead wire 212, the fuse device 210, the lead wire 208, the contact 217, the armature 215 and the lead wire 213 to the other terminal of the battery. This circuit remains closed until the fuse device 210 operates to break the same at which time the fuse device also operates to liberate the gas and air or other combination of gases from the tanks 48 and 49. The same condition maintains when attempts are made to open the valise by cutting the walls thereof inasmuch as the tool most likely to be employed in efforts in so doing will close a circuit between the outer wall and the mesh lining which will be completed as hereinbefore described even if momentarily through the relay magnet 51 to attract the armature and close the permanent circuit at the contact 217 and the hook end of the armature 215.

In attempts to operate the lock by any other instrument than a key set to the necessary combination it will now be understood that for instance by inserting a nail or stick or combination of the same through one or more of the apertures 138 by which the key pins enter the lock, the flaps which are turned by the instrument so inserted contact with the auxiliary contact bar 145 thereby momentarily closing a circuit through the relay 51 to operate the armature 215 thereof, it being understood that the rod upon which the flaps are pivotally mounted is grounded in the frame of the valise and that the auxiliary contact bar 145 is connected by a lead wire 222 and the lead wire 162 to the terminal 206 of the relay, while the other terminal 207 of the relay is connected by the lead 208 to one terminal 209 of the fuse device 210 and the other terminal 211 of this fuse device is connected to one terminal of the battery, the other terminal of the battery being also grounded in the frame of the valise. In the event, however, that the key hole corresponding to the flap behind which the insulating ring 147 is employed on the auxiliary contact bar should be selected it will be understood that this preliminary circuit will not be closed inasmuch as the flap will come into contact with the insulating ring and swing the same inwardly so that it will be moved out of the

way or path of this or any of the other flaps and no electric circuit will be closed. The insertion of the pin or pins to this extent, however, will not open the lock, it being necessary to extend the insertion sufficiently far for the pin or other instrument to also reach and swing each of the lock levers 150 out of its position in the notches 136 and 137. In the event that but one pin is employed and is inserted sufficiently far to reach the lock lever behind which the insulating ring 158 is fixed on the contact bar 157 this bar will also be actuated without closing any of the electric circuits, but however the other lock levers will not be actuated and consequently the slide bar will remain in its locked position. The operation of either of the other lock levers will bring the same almost immediately into contact with the contact bar 157 whereby the same circuits will be closed, as hereinbefore described, through the relay 51. When this circuit is closed the main or permanent circuit through the fuse device 210 is also closed and remains closed by the engagement of the hooked end 216 of the armature 215, as hereinbefore described, until the fuse device 210 blows to open the gas and air tanks 48 and 49 to liberate the contents thereof, as hereinbefore described.

It will now be understood that in selecting any combination for opening the lock, the longer key pin 169 is set in the position to enter the apertures in the front wall of the valise behind which the insulating rings 147 and 158 are set on their respective contact bars and that by inserting the prearranged key this longer pin first causes the corresponding flap to contact with the insulating ring 147 and to move the auxiliary contact bar out of the path of the other key pins whether there be two pins 167 and 168 employed as illustrated, or whether there be more of these pins so that the additional shorter pins do not come into contact with the auxiliary contact bar. The same condition maintains after the key pins have been inserted sufficiently far for the longer pin 169 to contact with the corresponding longer lever 150. In doing so with the further insertion of the key pin causes the movement of the corresponding lock lever to swing the main contact bar 157 out of the path of the other lock levers irrespective of the number of the same which may be employed so that the remaining or shorter pins of the key may in the continued insertion thereof contact with the other lock levers to swing the same out of their normal positions within the corresponding notches 136 and 137 thereby entirely releasing the slide bar 128 and making it possible to move the same to its unlocked position without causing any of the prearranged signals to be given or to liberate the gas or fluid which may be employed for the discoloration of the papers contained within the valise. It will also be understood that the number of lock levers and the corresponding number of key pins as shown and described is only illustrative as is also the number of flap members and the openings therefor in the front or other wall of the valise, inasmuch as these may be varied to satisfy different conditions in use. It is believed, however, that the employment of ten openings and a corresponding number of flaps will give a sufficiently wide range of combinations for the lock to satisfy all practical requirements.

It will now be understood that in view of the open work construction of the sub-base of the valise that the audible signal when operated will be readily heard as the sub-base will not impede the sound to any appreciable extent and also that when the visible signal is operated the smoke or other similar substance employed for this purpose will readily escape and permit of the ready detection of the valise in possession of persons unauthorized to have the same. It will also be understood that when attempts, as hereinbefore described are made to open the valise either by prying off the cover or cutting the valise open or unlocking the same by any means except prearranged keys the devices for discoloring the contents of the valise will be liberated and made operative. It is furthermore to be understood that while I have hereinbefore shown and described a visual signal, an audible signal and also means for discoloring or otherwise attacking the contents of the valise when the same is in unauthorized hands it will be understood that any one or two of these theft detection devices may be employed without the others.

It will be still furthermore understood that the construction of the cover of the valise and the manner in which the same is attached to the body member thereof may be the hinged construction herein illustrated and described or any other similar structure to accomplish the same purposes, and that while as hereinbefore shown and described I have illustrated what may be considered a single circuit for electrically connecting and operating the various signal and locking devices that two or more independent circuits may be employed for this purpose.

I claim as my invention:

1. In a valise, a casing of electrically conductive material, a lining for the casing also of electrically conductive material, a tank for a discoloring liquid, disruptable means for normally maintaining the tank closed to contain the liquid, an electric circuit closable between the casing and the lining therefor for disrupting the said means for normally maintaining the said tank closed in order to thereby liberate the liquid and discolor the contents of the valise.

2. In a valise, a casing of electrically conductive material, a lining therefor also of electrically conductive material, a tank for a discoloring liquid, disruptable means for normally maintaining the tank closed to contain the discoloring liquid, a relay, a battery, and an electric circuit closable between the casing and lining therefor, the said relay and battery for disrupting the said means for normally maintaining the tank closed to liberate the liquid and thereby discolor the contents of the valise.

3. In a valise, a casing of electrically conductive material, a lining therefor also of electrically conductive material, a tank for a discoloring liquid, disruptable means for normally maintaining the tank closed to contain the discoloring liquid, a relay, a battery, an electric circuit closable between the said casing and the lining therefor and the said relay and battery, a second electric circuit, and means for closing the same through the said battery and the disruptable means for maintaining the tank closed in order to disrupt the said means and liberate the liquid to discolor the contents of the valise.

4. In a valise, a casing of electrically conductive material, a lining therefor also of electrically conductive material, a tank for a discoloring liquid, a fuse cap for normally closing the said tank to maintain the liquid therein, and an electric circuit closable between the said casing and the lining therefor for disrupting the said fuse cap to open the tank and thereby liberate the liquid therein for discoloring the contents of the valise.

5. In a valise, a casing of electrically conductive material, a lining therefor also of electrically conductive material, a tank for holding a discoloring liquid, a fuse cap for normally maintaining the tank closed to prevent the escape of the said liquid, a relay, a battery, an electric circuit closable between the casing and its lining and through the relay and battery, a second electric circuit, and means operative upon the actuation of the said relay for closing the said second electric circuit through the said fuse cap and battery to disrupt the fuse cap and liberate the liquid in the tank for discoloring the contents of the valise.

Signed by me this 24th day of October, 1923.

THOMAS DALY.