March 17, 1953 L. PETERS ET AL 2,631,338

CLOTHES RETAINER OR GUARD

Filed Sept. 10, 1949 2 SHEETS--SHEET 1

Fig. 1

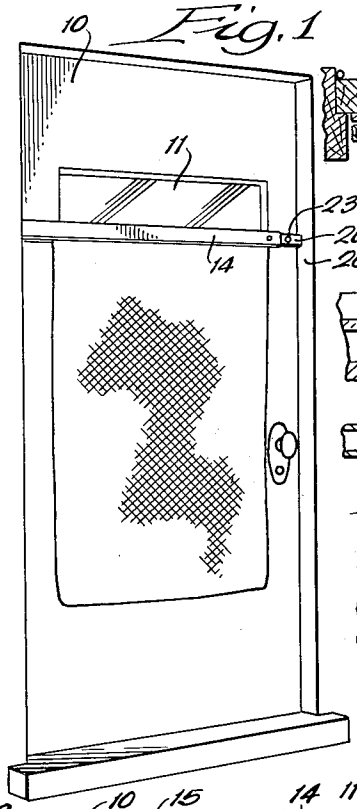


Fig. 3

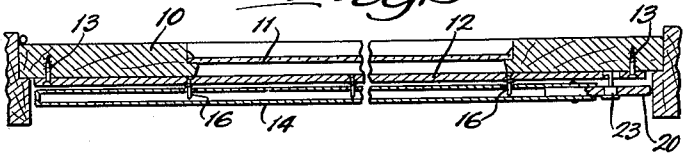


Fig. 4

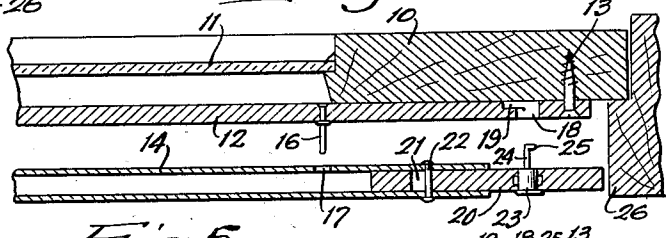


Fig. 5

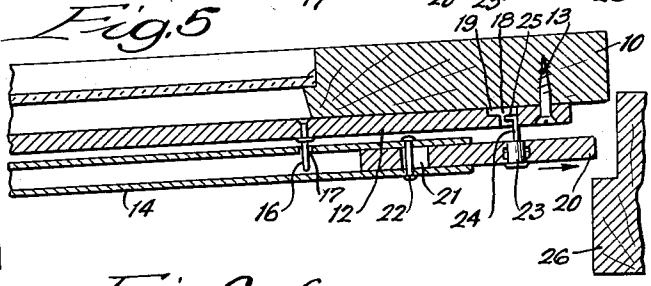


Fig. 2

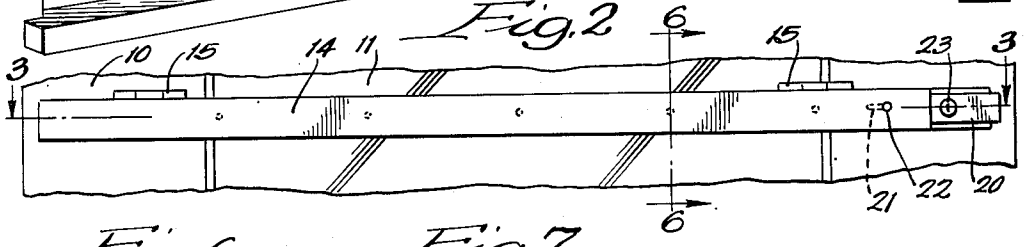


Fig. 6

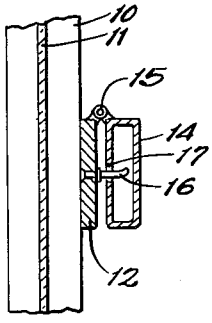
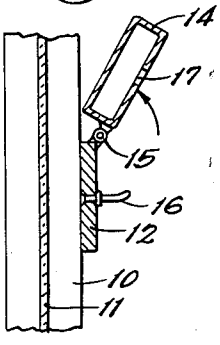


Fig. 7



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Fig. 8

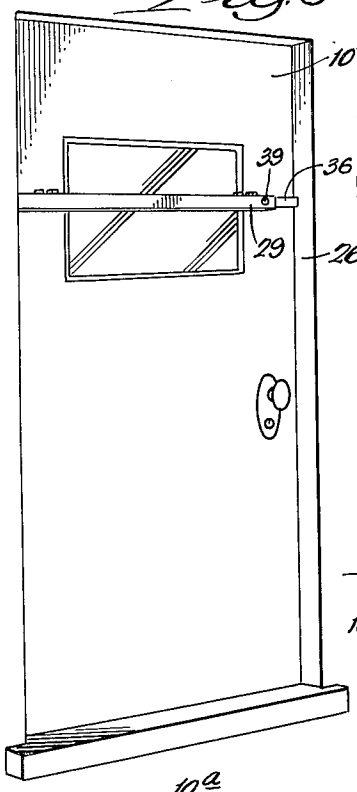


Fig. 11

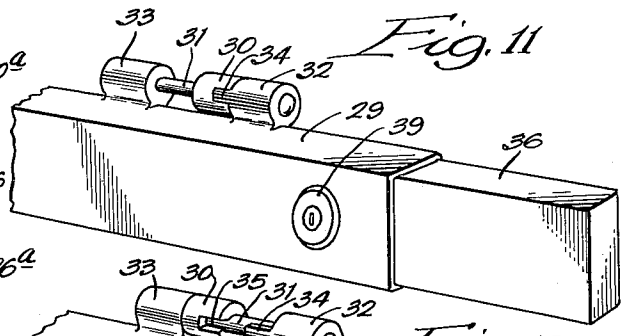


Fig. 12

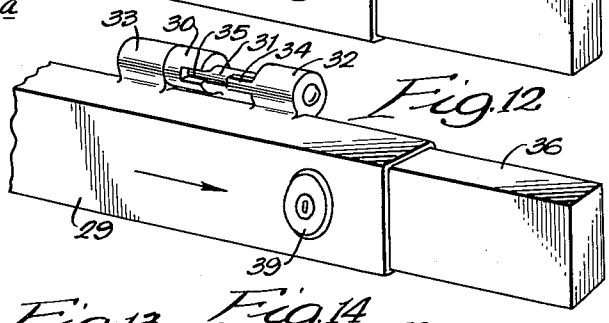


Fig. 13

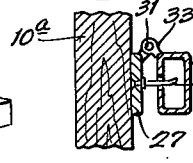


Fig. 14

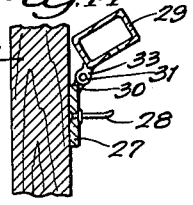


Fig. 9

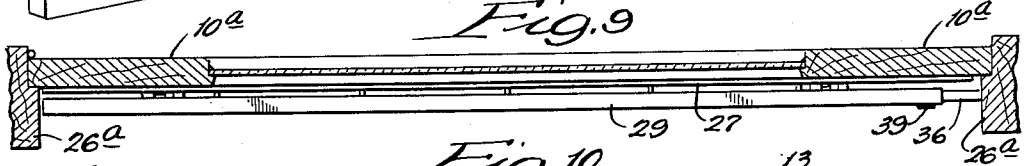


Fig. 10

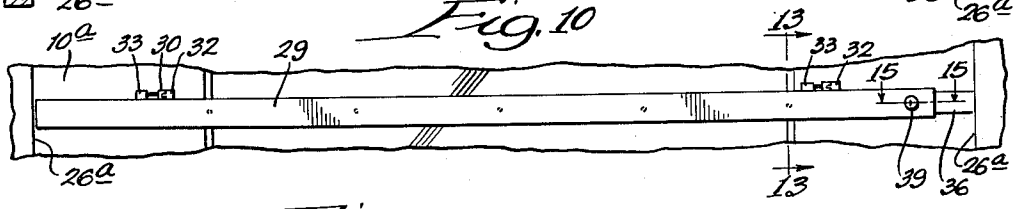
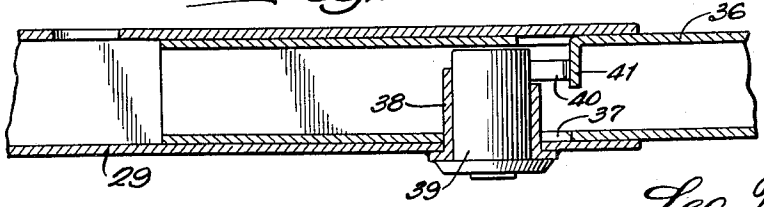


Fig. 15



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CLOTHES RETAINER OR GUARD

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Application September 10, 1949, Serial No. 114,952

8 Claims. (Cl. 20—16)

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This invention relates to a clothes retainer or guard. The structure is particularly useful when employed in connection with the exterior panel of a building and preferably with a service door.

We have heretofore suggested clothes retainer apparatus which is effective for the safeguarding of clothes to be dry cleaned or laundered until the same have been picked up by the deliveryman while so safeguarding the delivered garments until the housewife returns home. A problem is presented in the provision of such apparatus in an inexpensive form consisting of few parts while at the same time avoiding projections and avoiding also the use of levers which might be damaged by children or adults leaning or hanging thereon. A still further problem is presented in the provision of such apparatus which may be installed upon a single panel, as for example, the exterior side of a service door, while avoiding mutilation of the door and the surrounding doorframe.

An object of the present invention is to provide a structure which overcomes the above-mentioned disadvantages while satisfying the needs described. Yet another object is to provide a clothes retainer which is effective for guarding clothes and in permitting their release to authorized persons while at the same time requiring very little movement of the retainer parts so that the members projecting into the area about the door extend a very short distance from the door in any of the positions of such parts. A still further object is to provide a pair of bar means for supporting or guarding a clothes container, the parts being pivotally connected along one longitudinal side thereof, the parts being releasably held in locking position while being independently made accessible for unlocking through the use of a key or alternatively through the movement of the door toward an open position. Other specific objects and advantages will appear as the specification proceeds.

The invention is illustrated in preferred embodiments, by the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a retainer structure embodying our invention and shown applied to the exterior wall of a door; Fig. 2, a broken enlarged view in elevation of the clothes retaining structure; Fig. 3, a transverse sectional view, the section being taken as indicated at line 3—3 of Fig. 2; Fig. 4, an enlarged broken detailed sectional view showing the clamping bar being moved to released position after the unlocking of the key-controlled lock; Fig. 5, a view similar to

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Fig. 4, but showing the parts moved to unlocking position upon the swinging of the door inwardly toward the open position; Fig. 6, a transverse sectional detailed view, the section being taken, as indicated, at line 6—6 of Fig. 2; Fig. 7, a view similar to Fig. 6 but showing the clamping bar swung to open position; Fig. 8, a perspective view similar to Fig. 1, but showing a modified form of clothes-retaining apparatus; Fig. 9, an enlarged transverse sectional view; Fig. 10, an enlarged view in elevation of the outer side of the clothes-retaining structure; Fig. 11, a perspective view on an enlarged scale of the hinge mechanism employed, the hinged parts being shown in interlocked position preventing swinging of the clamping bar; Fig. 12, a view similar to Fig. 11 but showing the hinged parts released to permit swinging of the outer bar relative to the inner bar; Fig. 13, a transverse sectional view, the section being taken as indicated at line 13—13 of Fig. 10; Fig. 14, a view similar to Fig. 13 but showing the clamping bar in open position; and Fig. 15, a broken sectional detailed view, the section being taken as indicated at line 15—15 of Fig. 10.

In the illustration given in Figs. 1 to 7 inclusive, 10 designates a door which may be of any suitable type of construction. In the specific illustration given, the door 10 is provided with a glass panel 11. It will be understood that the panel may be omitted if desired and that any type of door or hinged structure may be used.

In the illustration given, an inner bar or pin bar 12 is secured by screws 13 or by any other suitable means to the door 10 and the bar extends across the panel 11 thus affording protection for the panel. A second bar or clamping bar 14 is pivotally supported by hinges 15 upon the inner bar 12. The bars 12 and 14 may be provided with any flange or projection which may be brought into cooperating relation for supporting garments or for supporting a bag or other container for garments. In the specific structure shown, the bar 12 is provided with pins 16 which are adapted to extend through openings in a clothes bag as, for example, a bag having an open top and with the top edge portion thereof provided with openings, as illustrated more clearly in Leo Peters co-pending application, Serial No. 99,486 filed June 16, 1949, for Clothes Container and Guard. Instead of employing an open-mouthed bag, it will be understood that other containers for clothes having apertures therein receiving the pins 16 may be employed.

The clamping bar 14 is preferably tubular in

structure and its inner wall is provided with apertures 17 adapted to receive pins 16, as shown more clearly in Figs. 3 and 5.

The inner bar 12 is preferably provided near the free end of the door with a recess 18 communicating with a locking recess 19, as shown more clearly in Figs. 4 and 5.

We prefer to equip the clamping bar 14 near its outer free end adjacent the free end of the door with means for locking the clamping member in clamping position with respect to the pins 16 while permitting a release of the clamping bar by an authorized person outside the door and the release also by the housewife upon the opening or partial opening of the door. In the illustration given, we provide a slidable bar 20 which is received within the open end of the clamping bar 14 and is provided with a slot 21 which receives a pin 22 extending through the rectangular clamping bar 14. The bar 20 is also provided with a transverse slot for receiving the rotatable barrel 23 of a key-controlled lock. Fixed to the barrel is a locking stud 24 equipped with an angularly-turned segment 25. It will be understood that the barrel 23 may be controlled by a combination lock mechanism or by other suitable means instead of by a key.

Operation

In the operation of the structure shown in Figs. 1 to 7 inclusive, the barrel 23 is normally turned to locking position as shown in Fig. 3. In this position, the stud 24 is rotated to bring the angular segment 25 behind the locking recess 19. When the door is closed, it is impossible for anyone to unlock the clamping bar 14 without the use of the key or other means for rotating the barrel 23. However, the housewife may open the door 10 or partially open it as illustrated in Fig. 5 and then by drawing the slidable bar 20 toward the doorframe 26, she moves the angular segment 25 of the locking bar 24 to the position shown in Fig. 5 within the recess 18. This allows the segment 25 to clear the recess 19 and the clamping bar may then be swung upwardly to open position as illustrated in Fig. 7.

When the deliveryman wishes to obtain access to the bag or other container carried thereby, he may insert the key within the lock and rotate the barrel 23 to the position shown in Fig. 4. This rotates the locking segment 25 away from the locking recess 19 and permits the clamping bar to be swung to open sosition. For relocking the clamping bar, the deliveryman simply swings the clamping bar 14 downwardly into closed position, as illustrated in Fig. 6, and then rotates the barrel 23 to bring the locking segment 25 within the recess 19.

By the means above described, it will be observed that the housewife obtains ready access to the inner bar by merely opening the door and slidably moving the bar 20 in an outward direction while the deliveryman obtains access to the bar through the use of a key or other means for manipulating the lock. The structure is extremely simple, requiring no mutilation of the door or doorframe while at the same time occupying very little space when the clamping bar is moved to open and closed position.

In the modification illustrated in Figs. 8 to 15 inclusive, the door 10*a* is hingedly mounted within the doorframe 26*a* in the usual manner so that the door may be swung inwardly. Inner bar 27 is secured to the door 10*a* and is equipped with pins 28.

Clamping bar 29 is hingedly and slidably mounted upon the inner bar 27 by means of a special hinged structure. One part of the hinged structure is the cylindrical member 30 which is fixed to the inner bar 27 and is longitudinally apertured to receive a hinge rod 31. The hinge rod 31 as shown more clearly in Figs. 11 and 12 is fixed within the ears 32 and 33 which are fixed to the outer bar 29. Since the hinge element 30 is fixed to the inner bar 27 and the rod 31 is fixed to the ears 32 and 33 of the outer bar 29 and since space is provided between the ears 32 and 33, the outer bar 29 may be slidably moved with respect to the inner bar. In this movement, the rod 31 moves through the fixed element 30 carried by the inner or stationary bar 27.

The ear 32 is provided with an inwardly-extending member 34 and the cylinder 30 is provided with a groove or slot 35 adapted to receive the key or teeth 34 of the member 32 when the bar 29 is moved to the left, as illustrated in Fig. 11.

When the member 30, which is fixed to the inner bar 27, is locked to the ear 32 by means of teeth 34 engaging the recess 35, as illustrated in Fig. 11, the clamping bar 29 is held against rotation and in confining relation about the pins 28. When, however, the bar 29 is moved to the right, as indicated by the arrow in Fig. 12, the hinge element 30 is freed from engagement with the ear 32 and the clamping bar 29 may be freely swung to open position, as illustrated in Fig. 14.

Slidably mounted within the end of the clamping bar 29 toward the free side of the door is a locking bar 36. The bar 36 is provided with a slot 37 receiving the lock casing 38. A key-controlled lock 39 is provided with a laterally-extending locking plunger 40 of well-known construction and is adapted to engage an inwardly-turned flange 41 of the locking bar 36. Thus, when the locking plunger 40 is in extended position as illustrated in Fig. 15, the bar 36 may not be moved inwardly. However, when the locking plunger 40 is retracted by the insertion of a key and rotation of the barrel of the lock, the flange 41 is released and the bar 36 may be moved inwardly.

It wil be observed that the slidably mounted bar 29 together with the extended locking bar 36 substantially fill the space between the frame members 26*a* as shown in Fig. 9 when the hinge ear 32 is in interlocking engagement with the element 30 of the fixed bar 27, as shown more clearly in Figs. 9 and 10. With the plunger 40 extended, as illustrated in Fig. 15, the clamping bar is held against release and the garment container is held in closed condition and safeguarded against removal. When, however, it is desired by the housewife to have access to the inner bar 27 or to the garment container carried by the pins 28 thereof, it is merely necessary for the housewife to swing the door 10*a* inwardly so as to release bar 36 from engagement with the doorframe 26*a*. This enables the housewife to swing the entire bar 29 together with the locking bar 36 toward the right and to effect a release of teeth 34 from slot 35, as illustrated in Fig. 12. The clamping bar 29 may then be swung to a released position. Similarly, in locking the clamping bar, it is only necessary for her to swing the clamping bar to closed position as illustrated in Fig. 13 and then to move the bar 29 toward the hinged end of the door to bring the teeth 34 into engagement with the groove 35, as illustrated in Fig. 11, and to close the door. The closing of the

door confines the ends of the composite bar made up of the clamping bar 29 and the bar 36 which is held in extended position by the plunger 40 against lateral movement since the two sides of the doorframe 26a abut the ends of the composite bar.

Assuming that the door is closed and that the bars are in the extended or locked position illustrated in Figs. 10 and 15, the deliveryman, in order to obtain access to the inner bar, inserts a key within the lock 39 or otherwise manipulates the lock to retract the locking plunger 40. This releases the bar 36 for inward movement and by reason of the reduced length of the bar 36, the clamping bar 29 may then be moved to the right or toward the free side of the door to disengage the teeth 34 from the slot 35. The clamping bar 29 may then be swung to open position. Locking is accomplished by a reversal of these movements.

The structures illustrated show pins employed for supporting a bag or other container for the garments; it will be understood, however, that flanges or other parts may be carried by the inner bar and clamping bar for retaining the clothes or container for the clothes against unauthorized removal.

While in the foregoing specification we have set forth a specific structure in considerable detail for the purpose of illustrating embodiments of our invention, it will be understood that such details may be varied widely by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of our invention.

We claim:

1. In a clothes retainer apparatus, an inner bar adapted to be fixed to the outside of a door mounted in a frame, a clamping bar covering said first-mentioned bar, hinges connecting longitudinal sides of said bars to permit swinging movement of said clamping bar toward and away from said fixed bar, means on said bars for retaining clothes when the clamping bar is in closed position, a slidably-mounted locking bar on said clamping bar for maintaining said clamping bar in confining relation with respect to said inner bar when the door is closed but releasing said clamping bar when the door is opened, and a key-controlled lock for freeing said slidable member to effect release of said clamping bar independently of the closed and open positions of the door.

2. In a clothes retainer structure, an inner bar adapted to be secured to the outside of a door mounted in a frame, an outer bar over said inner bar, a hinge connecting longitudinal sides of said bars to permit swinging movement of said outer bar toward and away from said inner bar, means carried by said bars for releasably securing a container therebetween when said bars are in adjacent relation, a slidable locking bar carried by said outer bar for maintaining said outer bar in closed position when said door is closed but permitting release of said outer bar when the door is opened, and locking means on said outer bar for releasing said slidable member independently of the closed and open positions of the door.

3. In a clothes retainer structure, a bag-retaining bar adapted to be secured to the outside of a door mounted in a frame and provided with a locking recess, a clamping bar over said bag-retaining bar, hinged means connecting longitudinal sides of said bar to permit movement of said bar toward and away from said bag-retaining bar, said clamping bar having an opening in one end, a slidable bar received within said opening and provided with a slot, a pin extending through said clamping bar and engaging said slot in said slidable bar, said pin preventing inward movement of said slidable bar when the door is closed but permitting outward movement when said door is opened, a latch member carried by said slidable bar and engageable with said locking recess, and a key-controlled lock rotatably connectable to said latching member, said latching member being released from said locking recess alternatively by the lateral movement of said slidable bar outwardly when said door is opened and by the rotation of said lock member when said door is closed.

4. The structure of claim 3 in which the bag-retaining bar is provided with outwardly-extending pins and in which the clamping bar is hollow and provided with apertures receiving said pins.

5. In a clothes retainer structure, an inner bar secured to the outer surface of a door mounted in a frame, a composite clamping bar consisting of telescoping members having their ends abutting opposite frame members of said doorframe, hinges connecting said bar members along a longitudinal side to permit relative sliding movement between the inner bar and said composite bar and to permit a swinging movement of said clamping bar when said clamping bar is in one longitudinal position, said hinge elements comprising one apertured element secured to the inner bar and a rod fixed to spaced hinge elements on said clamping bar, said rod extending through said first-mentioned apertured element, said apertured element and one of said spaced hinge elements being provided with a tongue-and-groove connection and tongue and groove connections on said hinged parts for locking said clamping bar in confining position against said inner bar when said clamping bar is sliding to one longitudinal position.

6. In a clothes retainer structure, an inner bar secured to the outer surface of a door mounted in a frame, a composite clamping bar consisting of telescoping members having their ends abutting opposite frame members of said doorframe, hinges connecting said bar members along a longitudinal side to permit relative sliding movement between the inner bar and said composite bar and to permit a swinging movement of said clamping bar when said clamping bar is in one longitudinal position, said hinge elements comprising one apertured element secured to the inner bar and a rod fixed to spaced hinge elements on said clamping bar, said rod extending through said first-mentioned apertured element, said apertured element and one of said spaced hinge elements being provided with a tongue-and-groove connection for said hinged elements and key-controlled locking means permitting the movement of one portion of the composite bar into the other to shorten the composite bar whereby said bar is free to swing in a longitudinal direction for freeing the interlocked hinged elements.

7. In a clothes retainer structure, an inner bar adapted to be secured to a door mounted in a frame, bag-supporting means carried by said bar, a second bar hingedly mounted with respect to said first-mentioned bar and movable into a confining position about said bag-supporting means, said second bar being hollow, and a locking bar telescopically engaging said second bar for limiting relative movement with respect thereto, said locking bar being engageable to prevent release of said clamping bar when the door is closed but

permitting release of said clamping bar for movement to open position when said door is open, and locking means for confining said locking bar against sliding movement inwardly but permitting inward movement of said sliding bar to effect release of said clamping bar when said locking means is unlocked.

8. In a clothes retainer structure, an inner bar adapted to be fixed to the outside of a door mounted in a door frame, a second bar covering said first-mentioned bar, hinges connecting the top sides of said bars to permit swinging movement of said clamping bar toward and away from said fixed bar, said hinges comprising sleeve members connected by a rod, one of said sleeve members being carried by said inner bar and the other of said sleeve members being carried by said second bar and being slidably mounted on said rod, tongue and groove connections between said sleeve members, a slidably mounted locking bar on said clamping bar for maintaining said

hinges in interlocked position for confining said clamping bar with respect to said inner bar when the door is closed but releasing said clamping bar to permit separation of said hinge sleeves when the door is open, and a key-controlled lock for freeing said slidable member to effect release of said hinge sleeves independently of the closed and open positions of the door.

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HARRY I. SEBERT.

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