Oct. 10, 1950 M. F. DOHERTY 2,525,019

MEANS FOR OPENING DOORS OF LOCKED ENCLOSURES FROM WITHIN

Filed March 13, 1948

Fig. 1.

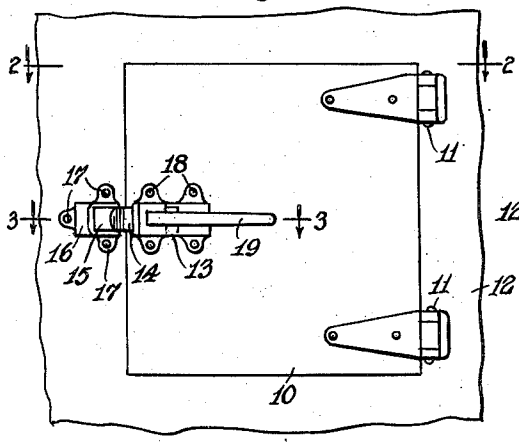


Fig. 2.

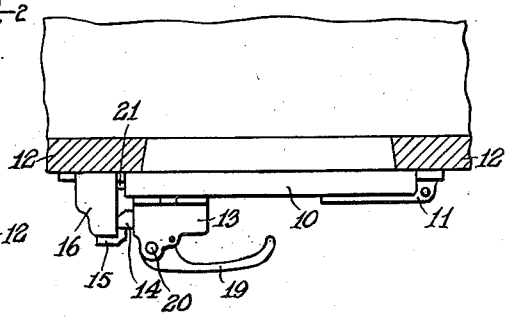


Fig. 3.

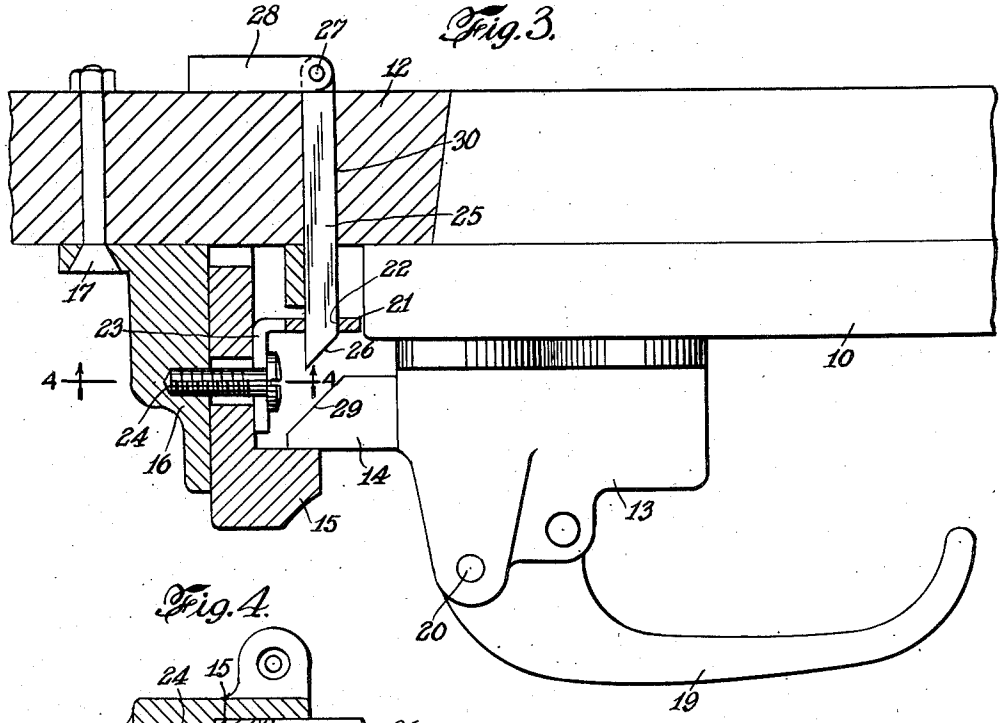
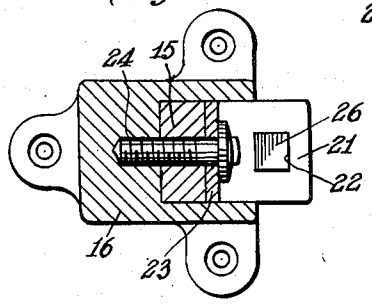


Fig. 4.



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Patented Oct. 10, 1950

2,525,019

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,525,019

MEANS FOR OPENING DOORS OF LOCKED ENCLOSURES FROM WITHIN

Mae F. Doherty, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Application March 13, 1948, Serial No. 14,758

3 Claims. (Cl. 292—254)

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This invention relates to means whereby it will be possible for a person, who by accidence or inadvertence has been shut in or imprisoned in an enclosure, such as for instance an ice box or refrigerator, as used by delivery wagons, or in butcher shops, etc., to extricate himself by means of an appliance to be operated by said person from within said confinement.

With the above and other objects in view, this invention consists of the novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts, hereinafter fully described, claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawings forming part of this application, and in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all views, and in which:

Figure 1 is an elevation of a door commonly used, for instance, in refrigerators.

Figure 2 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 2—2 in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is an enlarged section taken on the line 3—3 in Figure 1; while

Figure 4 is a section taken on the line 4—4 in Figure 3.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, the numeral 10 indicates a door hinged at 11 to a frame 12. A spring latch 13 has a bolt 14 adapted to engage a strike 15, the latter is enclosed in a housing 16 secured by bolts 17 to the frame 12.

The latch 13 is secured by bolts 18 to the door 10; said latch is provided with an operating handle 19 pivoted at 20; said handle will, when pulled in an outward direction, or towards the operator, retract the bolt 14 from engagement with the strike 15.

This operation can, however, only be performed by a person outside the door to an enclosure, so that, if any person is accidentally locked inside the latter, such as in a freezing compartment, he is unable to release or extricate himself from confinement within the enclosure.

This invention, however, provides means by which such release can be attained by the person so confined, as said means is operated from within the enclosure.

The said means of release, thus referred to, comprises a guide member 21 having an opening 22 therein and a slotted or forked member 23 bent at a right angle to the guide member 21. The forked member 23 is held against the strike 15 by the adjustment screw 24 ordinarily provided upon such strike.

A slide rod 25 is mounted in an opening 30 in the door frame 12, the lower end of said slide rod is provided with a bevelled or slanting surface 26 and projects through the opening 22 in the guide member 21.

The slanting surface 26 of the slide rod 25 is

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adapted to engage a slanting surface 29 of the bolt 14.

The slide rod 25 is provided with a pin 27, a handle 28, is pivoted upon the latter, said handle is adapted to actuate said rod 25, whereby the latter will engage and press upon the sloping surface 29 of the bolt 14 and thereby cause the release of the latter so that it will clear the strike 15, and thus permit the door 10 to be opened from within.

It is obvious that changes may be made in the form, construction and arrangement and shape of the several parts, as shown, within the scope of the appended claims, without departing from the spirit of the invention, and I do not, therefore, wish to limit myself to the exact construction shown and described herein.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is:

1. In a device of the class described, a guide member having an opening therein, a forked member bent at a right angle to the latter, a strike and an adjustment screw securing said forked member against the strike, a slide rod mounted in the opening of a door frame, said slide rod having a slanting surface projecting through the opening in the guide member, a bolt provided with a slanting surface, said slide rod being adapted to actuate the slanting surface of the bolt, whereby to release the latter to permit clearing of the strike.

2. In a device of the class described, a guide member having an opening therein, a forked member bent at a right angle to the latter, a strike and an adjustment screw securing said forked member against the strike, a slide rod mounted in the opening of a door frame, said slide rod having a bevelled surface projecting through the opening in the guide member, a bolt provided with a slanting surface, the bevelled surface of said slide rod being adapted to engage the slanting surface of the bolt, whereby to release the former, and permitting it to clear the strike, and means for operating said slide rod.

3. In a device, as claimed in claim 2, said means comprising an operating handle, and a pin pivotally securing said handle to the bolt slide rod, said handle being adapted to be positioned flat against the door frame.

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REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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