May 12, 1931. C. T. JAMES 1,804,776

SAFETY CAGE WINDOW

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Fig. 1

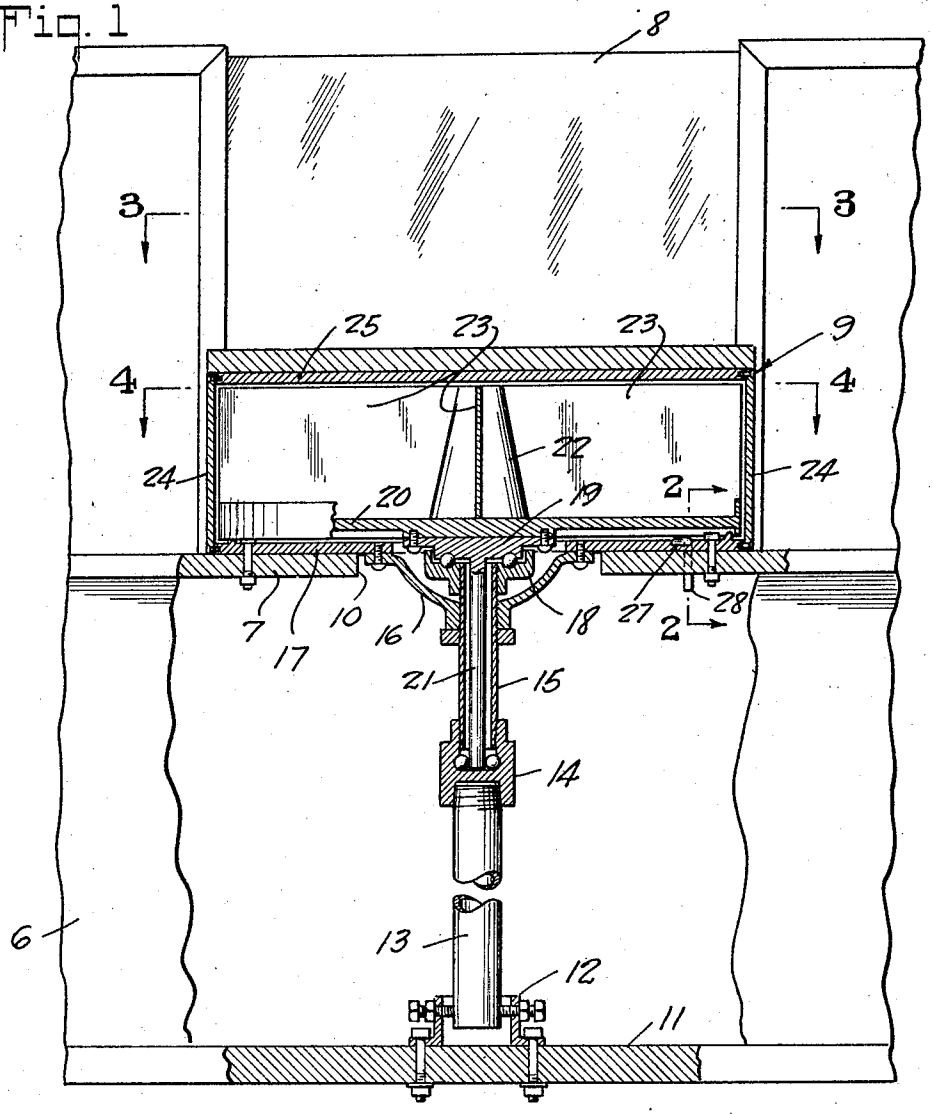
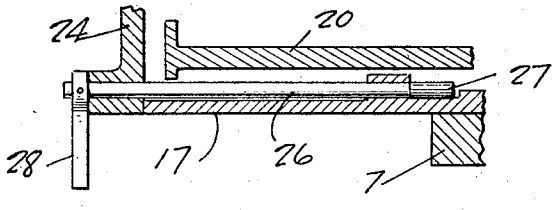



Fig. 2




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Fig. 3

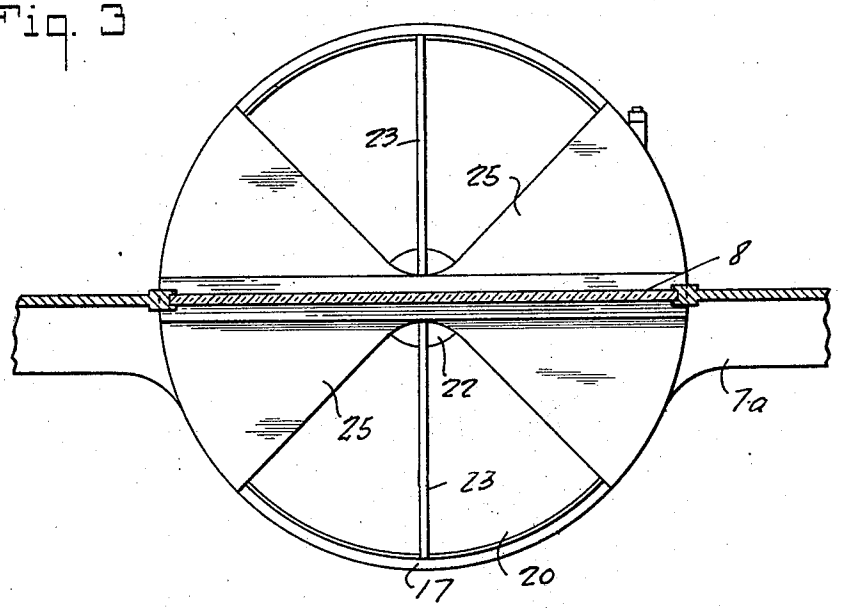
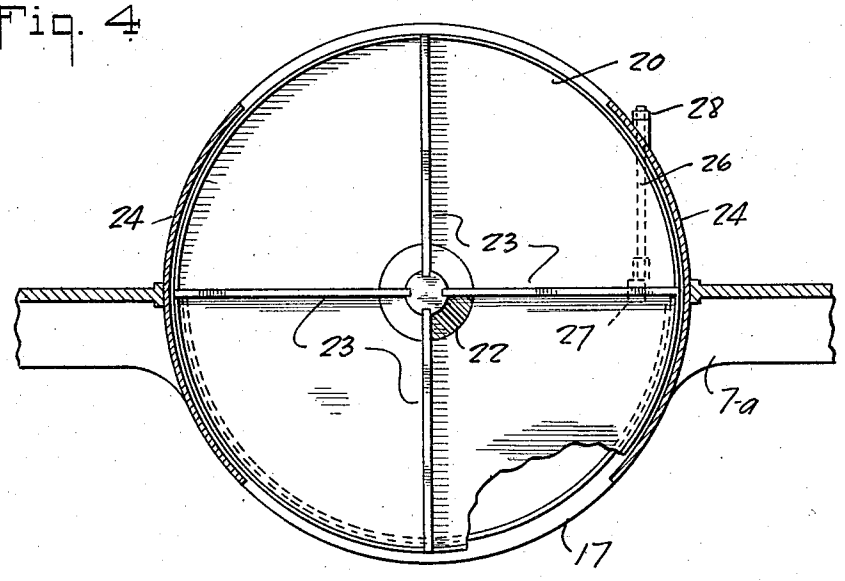



Fig. 4




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Patented May 12, 1931 1,804,776

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CHARLES T. JAMES, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

## SAFETY CAGE WINDOW

Application filed July 15, 1929. Serial No. 378,250.

This invention relates to a guard for a window such as is commonly employed in tellers', cashiers' cages and the like for passage of valuables therethrough. Such openings as at present used present opportunity for robbery. The common practice of robbers is to threaten the clerk, cashier or teller within the cage by pointing a revolver at him through the window opening and causing him to shove money or valuables through the window opening to the robber. In some cases, it is possible for the robber to reach the valuables through the opening. It is a primary object of this invention to provide a turnstile guard for the window opening which is equipped with upright walls serving as a closure for the opening and preventing insertion of a weapon therethrough as well as shutting off the interior of the cage from access by way of the opening. Another object of this invention is to provide a carrier rotatable with the turnstile so that pockets or compartments are formed between the upright walls which compartments are revoluble to give access thereto either from within or without the cage but not from both sides.

A further object of this invention is to provide details of structure whereby a simple, durable and compact structure is obtained.

These objects together with other objects and corresponding accomplishments are obtained by means of the embodiment of my invention illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a fragment of a cage with my improved turnstile guard in position and shown partly in section, and Figs. 2, 3 and 4 are sections as seen on the lines correspondingly numbered.

Referring with more particularity to the drawings, a cage of conventional form is marked 6. It will be understood that the term cage as used herein contemplates any structure wherein a clerk, teller, cashier or like handler of valuables, is separated from the public by a wall having a window opening for the passage therethrough of valuables. A table or shelf for the clerk to work thereon is marked 7. In the particular structure shown, a pane of bullet proof glass 8 is disposed in front of the clerk's position and may extend to a height sufficient to prevent a robber from reaching over the top. It will be understood that the cage may be enclosed at the top if desired. The lower portion of the cage below the table is closed by a wall in the conventional manner. It will be obvious that the cage may be constructed in any suitable manner so that an opening is provided, which opening is indicated generally by 9. In the present instance the table has a semi-circular shelf like forward projection marked 7—*a*. A circular opening is formed in the table at the opening and indicated by 10.

Mounted upon the floor 11 of the cage is a socket 12 equipped with clamping screws for supporting a post 13 forming part of a column. A ball bearing 14 is mounted upon the top of the post and a tubular extension 15 houses a stub shaft. Mounted upon the tubular extension by means of threads is a bracket 16 having a flange to which is secured the base 17 of a housing for the turnstile. This base may also be secured to the table by means of bolts or the like. Mounted upon the top of the tubular extension 15 is a ball bearing race 18 to support the turnstile through an intermediate race 19. The race 19 is secured to the bottom circular wall 20 of the turnstile which serves as a rotatable carrier. At the centre of the carrier and in line with a stub shaft 21 is an upstanding central hub 22 for the turnstile. The particular hub shown is merely illustrative and designed for convenience of assembly. Extending radially from the hub are upright guard walls 23, which are preferably formed of metal to resist bullets. Four walls are shown but any suitable number may be used. Housing the turnstile is a casing consisting of the base 17 and diametrically opposed arcuate side walls 24.

The top wall of the housing is formed of circular sectors 25, each sector being coextensive with adjacent upright walls, so that the interior of the cage is separated from the front at all times by the upright walls.

If a person is depositing valuables, he places them in a pocket or compartment formed between two of the upright walls and

resting upon the base 20 of the turnstile. The clerk within the cage then rotates the turnstile to bring the compartment within the cage and before him. The reverse operation is effected when valuables are being paid out. It will be noted that at all times, two of the upright walls serve as a cage separating the clerk from the public and by reason of the housing access to the interior of the cage cannot be obtained, nor can a weapon be thrust through the opening.

In order to provide for stoppage of the turnstile in its rotation, a brake is provided which may be operated by the clerk. In the present instance this brake is shown on a shaft 26 enclosed in a suitable cavity in the table and mounted in bearings. Shaft 26 enables turning a finger 27 so disposed that upon positioning the shaft at a predetermined angle, the finger will rest against and frictionally engage the base 20 of the turnstile. An operating handle 28 is mounted upon a shaft in position for convenient operation by the clerk.

Various mechanical expedients may be resorted to in changing the structure shown without departing from my invention.

What I claim is:—

1. In a cage, a front wall having an opening for passage of valuables, a table at the base of said opening; a turnstile rotatably disposed in said opening comprising upright walls to close said opening at all angular positions of said turnstile, and a base wall rotatable with said upright walls and serving as a rotary carrier for articles; and a housing for said turnstile disposed within said opening and comprising a circular base mounted on said table and diametrically opposed sectors including top and side walls thereby at all positions of said turnstile closing the space in front of said front wall from that behind.

2. In a cage, a front wall having an opening for passage of valuables, a table at the base of said opening; an upright column, a turnstile journalled on said column and rotatably disposed in said opening, said turnstile comprising upright walls to close said opening at all angular positions of said turnstile, and a base wall rotatable with said upright walls and serving as a rotary carrier for articles; a housing in said opening comprising a circular base mounted on said table and diametrically opposed sectors including top and side walls thereby at all positions of said turnstile closing the space in front of said front wall from that behind.

In witness that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto subscribed my name this 9th day of July, 1929.

CHARLES T. JAMES.