March 23 , 1926. 1,578,115

J. M. FITZGERALD

SAFE PROTECTING DEVICE

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Fig. 1

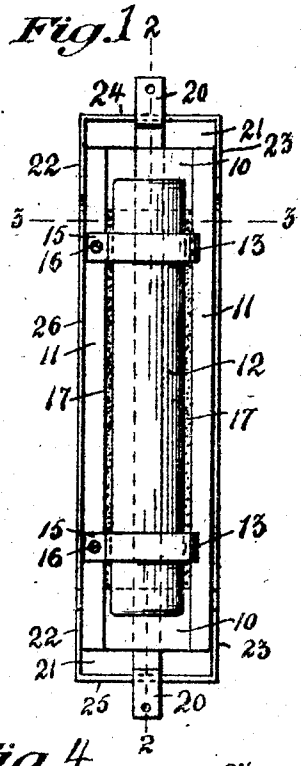


Fig. 2.

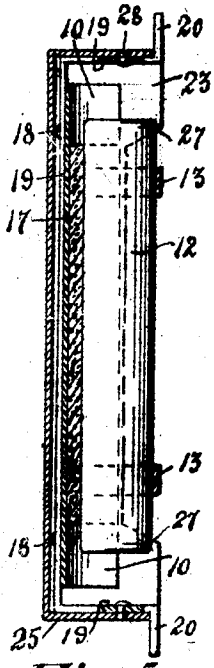


Fig. 3

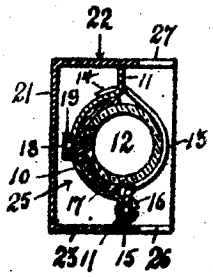


Fig. 4.

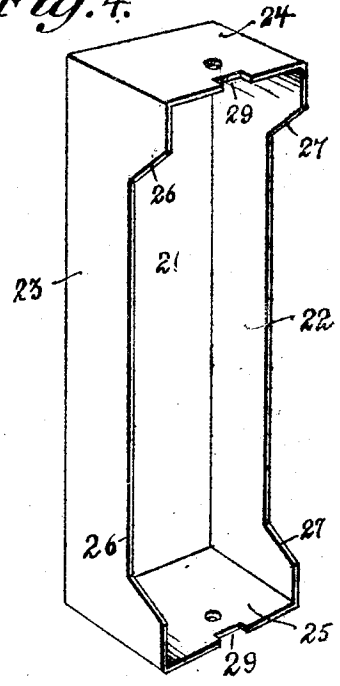


Fig. 5.

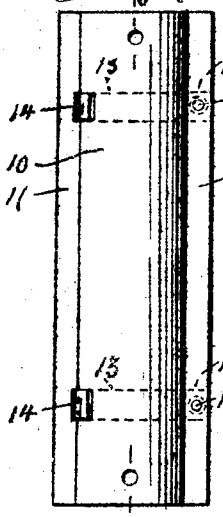
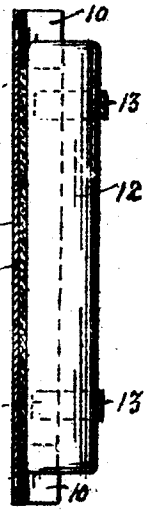


Fig. 6



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SAFE PROTECTING DEVICE

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Fig. 7.

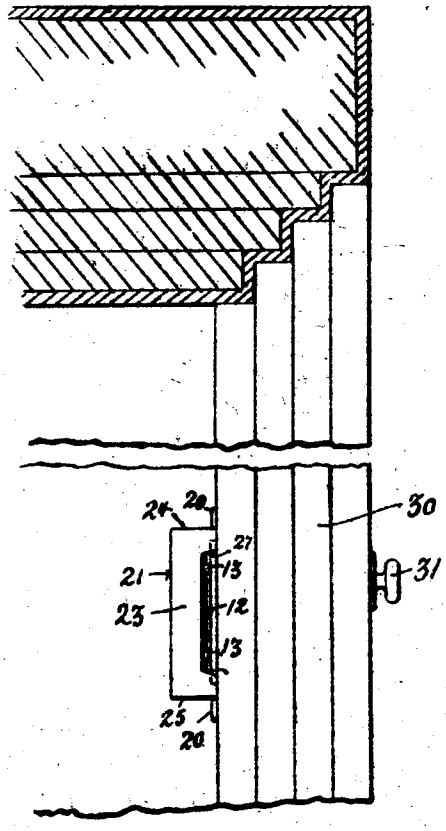


Fig. 9.

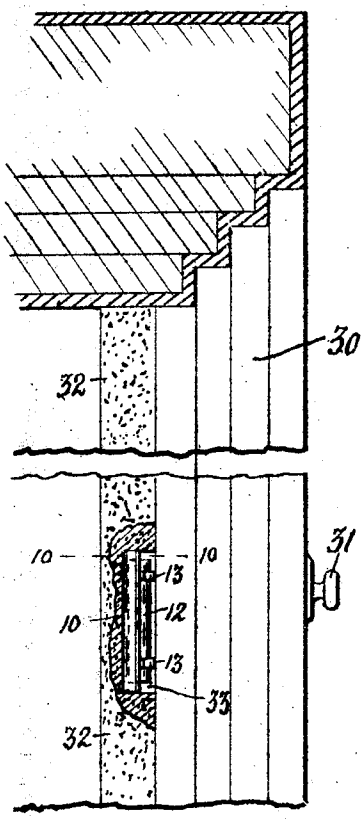


Fig. 8

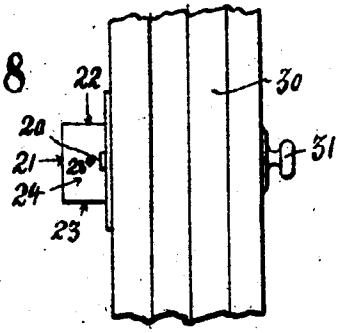
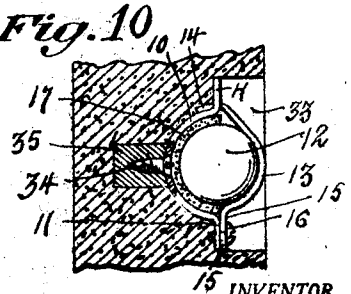


Fig. 10



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Patented Mar. 23, 1926. 1,578,115

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN M. FITZGERALD, OF MADISON, WISCONSIN.

SAFE-PROTECTING DEVICE.

Application filed May 12, 1925. Serial No. 29,803.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN M. FITZGERALD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Madison, in the county of Dane and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Safe-Protecting Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to devices adapted to be attached to or enclosed in the doors or other parts of safes and the like, to protect the contents thereof from burglars and other unauthorized persons who may attempt to gain access to the safe by violence, and has for one of its objects to provide a holder of simple and novel construction for a container of fragile material containing a compound or substance capable of creating and diffusing poisonous or noxious vapors when the container is shattered by the violent opening of the safe, and thus forcing the criminal to flee.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction as hereinafter shown and described and then specifically pointed out in the claims, and in the drawings illustrative of the preferred embodiment of the invention.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the improved device constructed for attachment to the inner face of a safe door or other portion of the interior of the safe.

Figure 2 is a vertical section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a transverse section on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the enclosing and protecting shell for the holder.

Figure 5 is a rear elevation of the holder for the fragile container for the compound to produce the noxious gas.

Figure 6 is a section on the line 6—6 of Figure 5 with the container in position therein.

Figure 7 is a sectional view of a portion of the wall of a safe including a side view of a portion of the door, with the improved protecting device attached thereto.

Figure 8 is a plan view of a portion of the safe door shown in Figure 1, with a plan view of the protecting device.

Figure 9 is a view similar to Figure 7, illustrating the manner of applying the improved device to the interior of a safe door.

Figure 10 is a section on the line 10—10 of Figure 9, enlarged.

The improved holder is preferably of sheet metal, and comprises a body portion 10, preferably semi-cylindrical transversely, and having laterally directed reinforcing flanges 11. The holder is designed to receive a receptacle indicated at 12 for a compound or substance capable of generating and diffusing a noxious vapor when released by the destruction of the receptacle, the latter constructed of fragile material, such as relatively thin glass and readily breakable by concussion, such for instance, as would be produced by the blowing open of the door of the safe by burglars, or the like.

The container 12 is retained in position in the holder by strap devices 13 each preferably of sheet metal and passed at one end through an aperture in one of the flanges and attached to the body 10 by soldering, electric welding or the like as indicated at 14, and bent around the outer portion of the container 12 and outturned as shown at 15 and bearing over the other flange, and secured thereto by bolts or screws 16.

A pad 17 of felt or the like is interposed between the body 10 and the container to cushion the latter, and prevent premature fracture while being transported or installed.

Attached at 18 to the rear face of the body portion 10 of the holder, is a supporting bar 19 with its ends outturned in advance of the ends of the body portion 10, and thence directed longitudinally in opposite directions as shown at 20, and apertured to receive holding screws or the like to attach the device to the inner face of the door or other portion of a safe, as represented in Figures 7 and 8.

A protecting shield or guard preferably of sheet metal is disposed over the holder and its supporting bar and is constructed as shown in Figure 4, and is formed of an outer side 21, spaced sides 22—23, the forward edges of the sides 22 and 23 being cut away as indicated at 26 and 27 to provide for the free circulation of air and likewise to permit the fumes or vapors to escape when the receptacle 12 is shattered.

The outturned portion of the holding bar 19 bears against the inner faces of the ends 24 and 25 of the shield, and are secured thereto by rivets 28, or the like.

The forward edges of the ends 24—25 of

the shield are notched as shown at 29 in Figure 4, to receive the terminals 20 of the holding bar.

In Figures 7 and 8 the device is shown attached to the inner face of the door of a safe, indicated conventionally at 30, and preferably opposite the combination lock, the knob of which is indicated at 31.

When applied to a safe having an inner lining of fire proof material, indicated conventionally at 32, a recess or seat, indicated at 33, is formed in the inner face of the lining, as shown in Figures 9 and 10, and the holder without the bar 19 or the shield, is inserted in the recess, and fastening screws 34 employed to attach the holder to the lining.

The lining 32 being generally of fire brick material or the like, will be provided with wood blocks, indicated at 35, to receive the holding screws, the latter being preferably passed through the same holes by which the fastening devices of the bar 19 are secured.

The improved device is simple in construction, can be inexpensively manufactured, and applied to various forms and sizes of safes and like devices, and may be applied to the larger safes or vaults in banks, trust companies, and other fiduciary institutions, railway and other offices and the like, or to the smaller safes used in homes and offices or factories.

The preferred embodiment of the invention is disclosed in the drawings and set forth in the specification, but it will be understood that modifications within the scope of the claimed invention may be made in the construction without departing from the principle of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

Having thus described my invention what I claim is:

1. A device of the character set forth comprising, a shield in the form of an elongated casing open throughout one side and having the free side edges thereof recessed, means for retaining the open face of said casing against a supporting wall, a semi-circular supporting body secured in said casing, a frangible container, and means for holding said container in said body.

2. A device of the character set forth comprising a shield in the form of an elongated casing open throughout one side and having the free side edges of the open side recessed, means for retaining the open face of said casing against a supporting wall, a semi-circular supporting body in said casing, said body having the side edges extending laterally and engaging the opposite side walls of the casing, a frangible container positioned in said body, and retaining elements extending across said container and secured to said lateral side edges.

3. A holder of the class described including an outwardly opening body to receive a container and having laterally directed attaching flanges, a plurality of strap devices of bendable material each attached at one end to one of said flanges and bearing over the other flange and adapted to enclose the container, a protecting shell in which said body and its container are received, and with air passages in certain of its walls, a supporting bar attached to the body with the terminals bent outwardly and thence longitudinally to provide means for attaching the shell and the holder enclosed thereby to a support, and fastening devices operating through the outturned portions of the bar and the ends of the shell.

4. A device of the character set forth comprising, a shield in the form of an elongated casing open throughout one side and having the free side edges thereof recessed, means for retaining the open face of said casing against a supporting wall, a semi-circular supporting body suspended in said casing by said retaining means, means formed upon said body for holding the same against side movement in the casing, a frangible container, and means for securing said container in the concave side of said body.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature hereto.

JOHN M. FITZGERALD.