

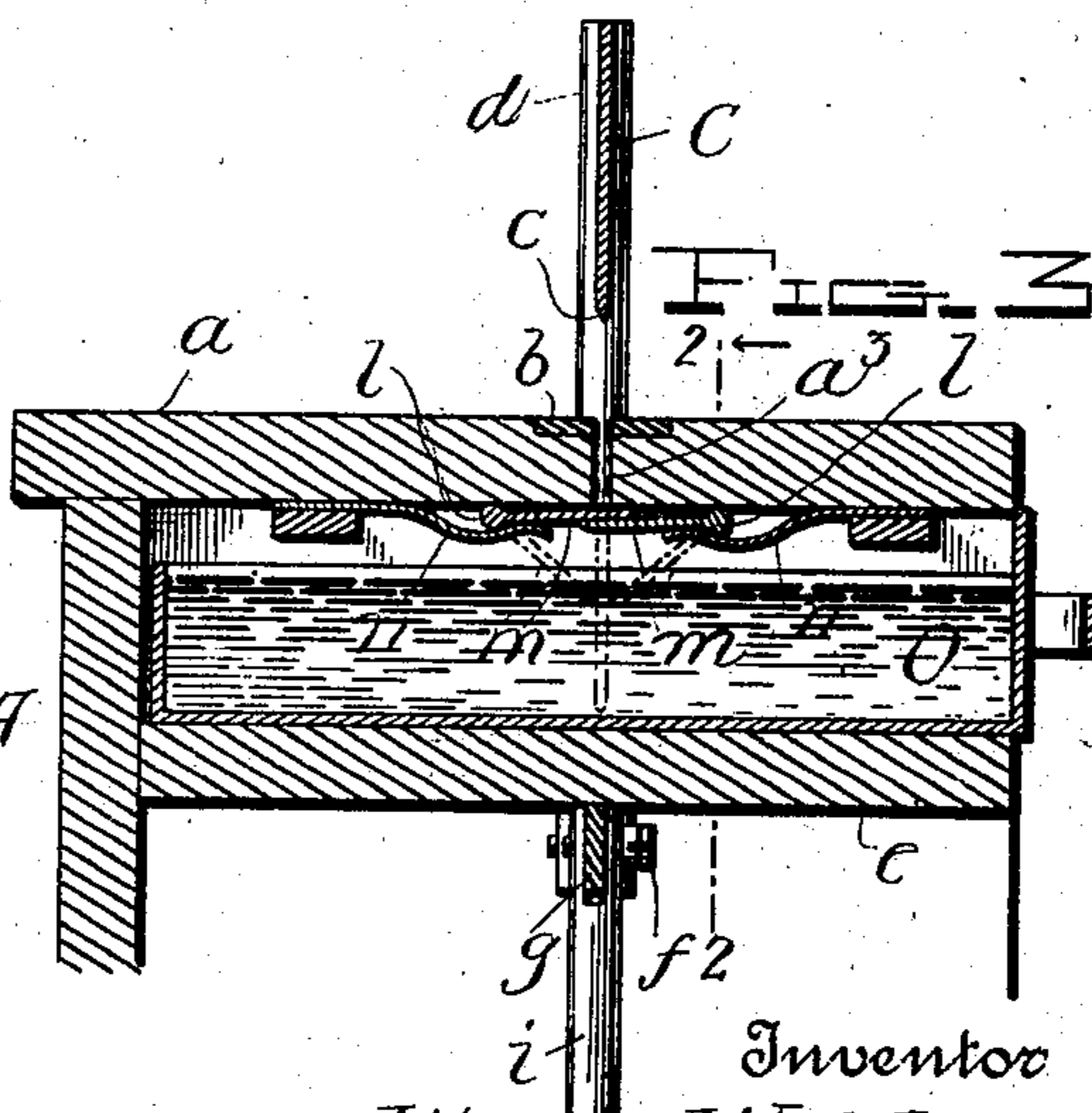
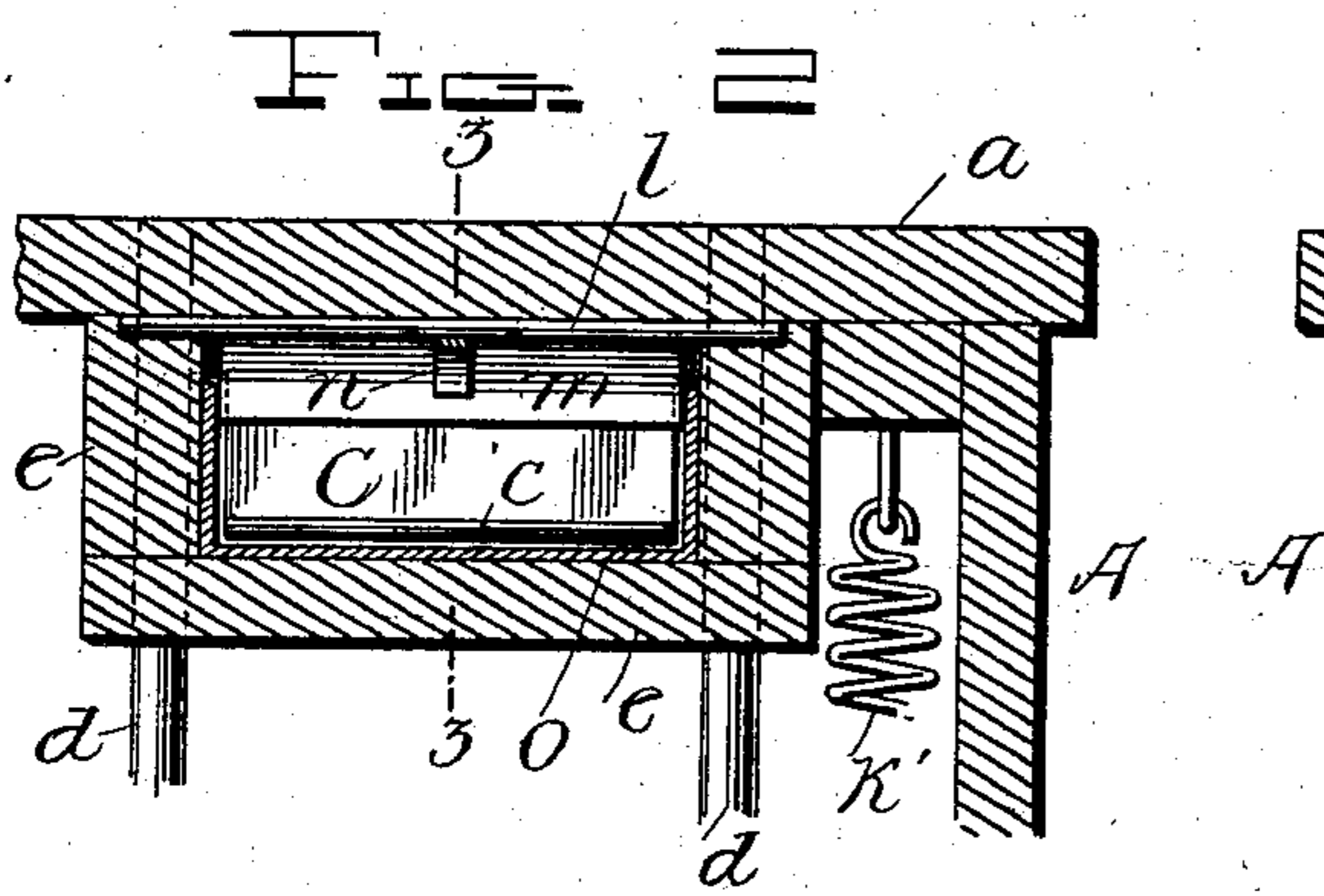
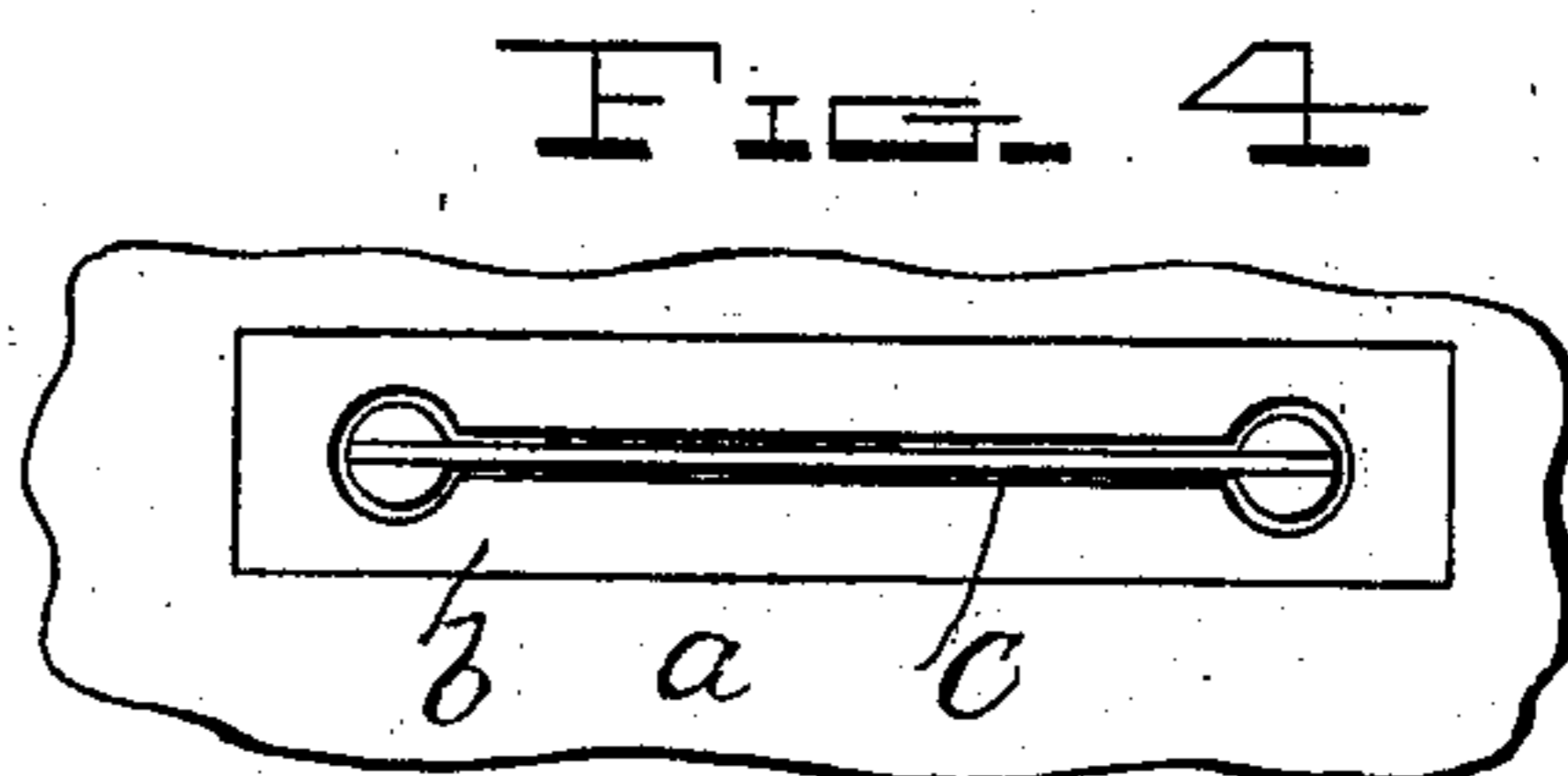
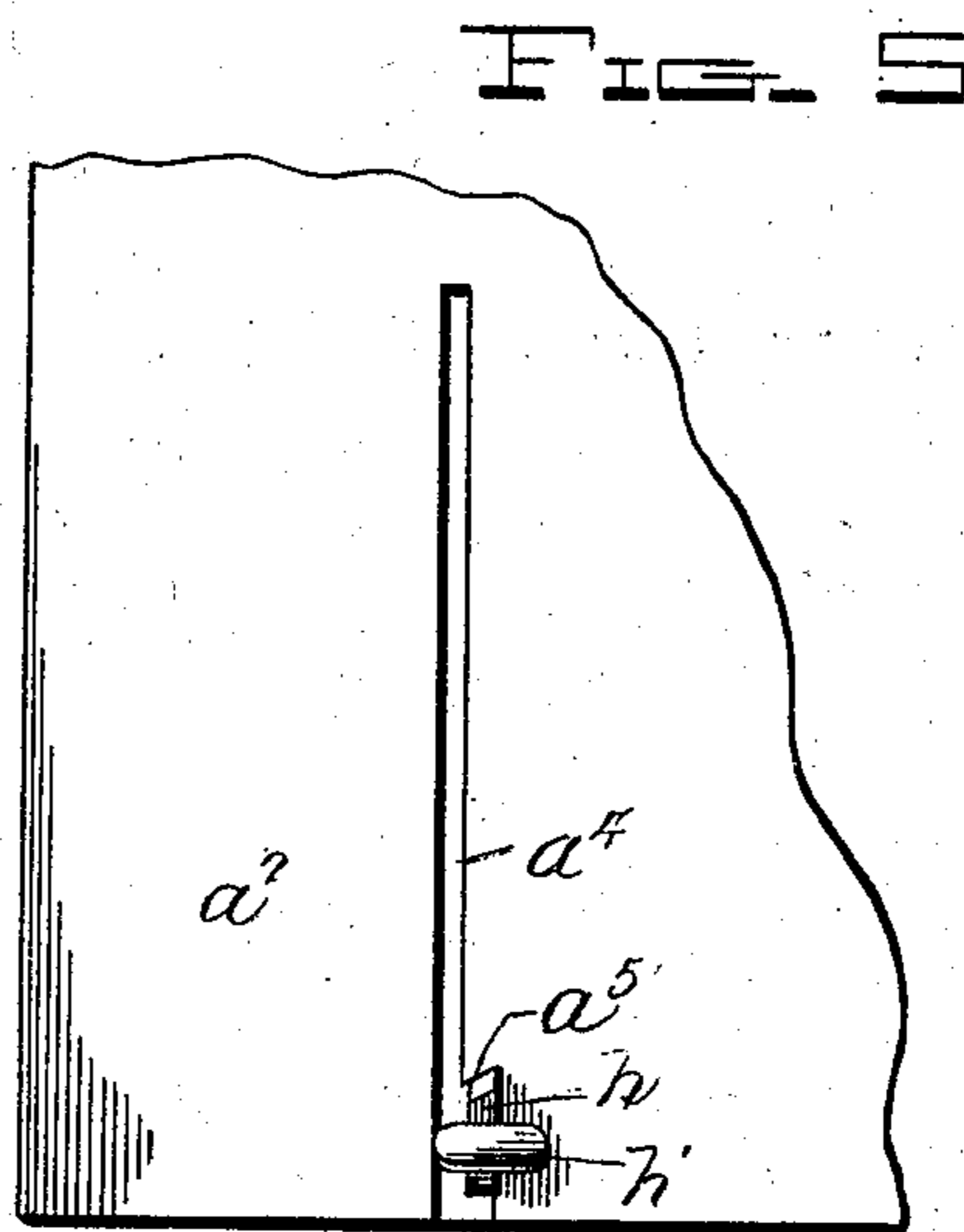
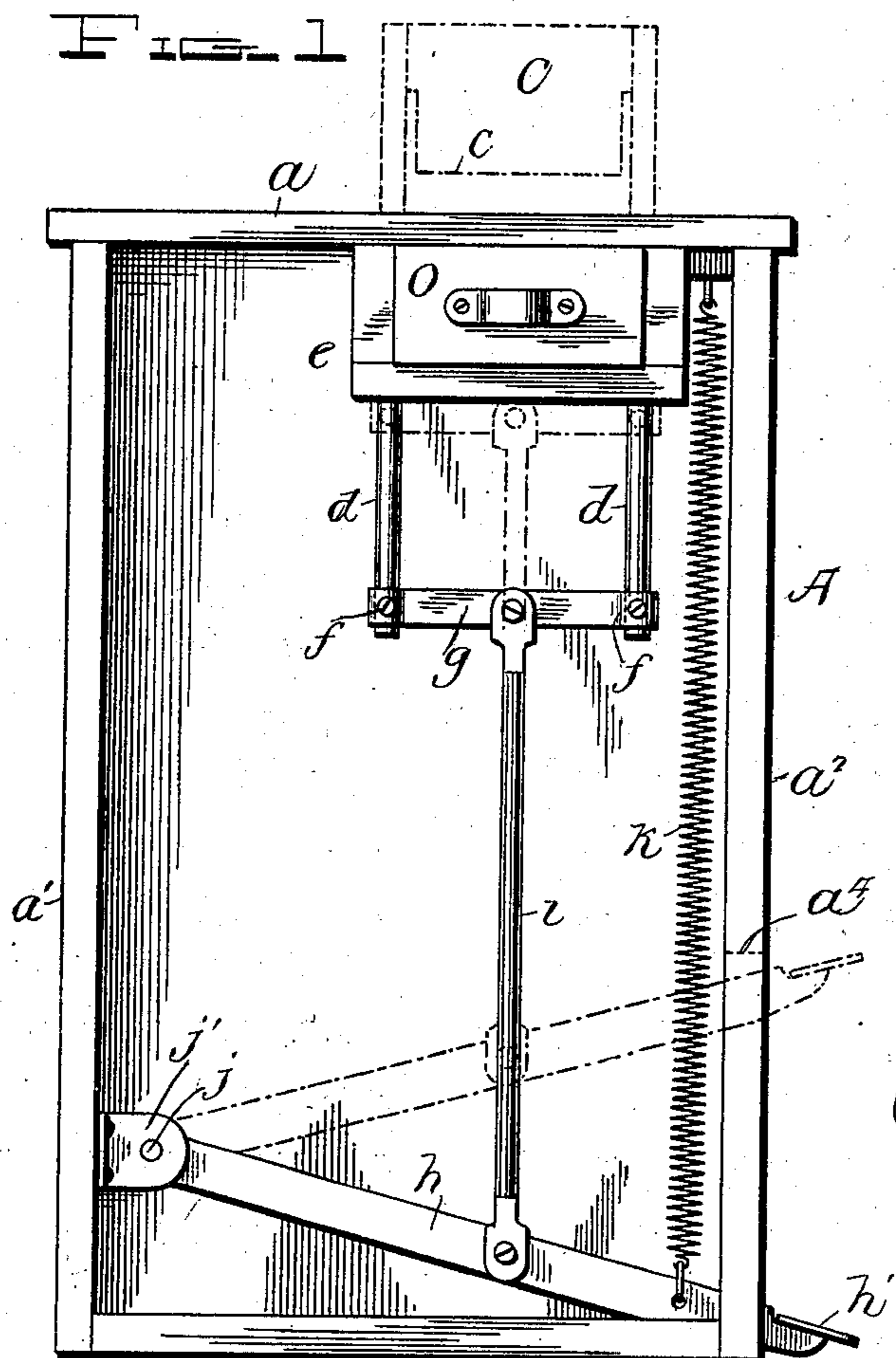
No. 701,974.

Patented June 10, 1902.

W. W. WATSON.
TOBACCO CUTTER.

(Application filed Feb. 27, 1902.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TOBACCO-CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 701,974, dated June 10, 1902.

Application filed February 27, 1902. Serial No. 95,921. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM W. WATSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ada, in the county of Norman and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Self-Cleaning Tobacco-Cutters; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to tobacco-cutters, and contemplates the production of an improved appliance of this character constructed in cabinet form or adapted for attachment to existing counters or tables and arranged to be operated by foot-power to cut plug-tobacco and the like.

The improvement has for its object simplicity of construction, efficiency in operation, and durability; and a further object is the provision of means for rendering the knife self-cleaning, whereby absolute cleanliness is at all times secured.

The nature of the improvement will be readily comprehended, reference being had to the following detailed description and to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a tobacco-cutter embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view on line 2 2 of Fig. 3, the knife being lowered. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view on line 3 3 of Fig. 2, the knife being raised. Fig. 4 is a detail plan view of the knife and table. Fig. 5 is a detail view showing the means for locking the knife in lowered position.

Referring to the drawings by letter, A denotes a support, which may be the counter of a retail store, but which, preferably, is a cabinet having a table a and sides a' a^2 . In the table is a slot a^3 , and b is a metal plate fitting a recess in the table-top to be flush therewith and having a slot registering with the table-slot a^3 .

C designates the knife, having a lower cutting edge c and fixed at its sides to vertical rods d d , which are slidable in the side pieces of a drawer-frame e , secured to the under side

of the table and in enlargements of the slots in the table and plate. The rods d d are adjustably attached, by means of screws f f , to a bar g , and connecting the bar g centrally with a foot-lever h is a rod i . The foot-lever is pivoted by a screw j to a bracket j' , secured to the side a' , and its free end projects through and beyond a slot a^4 in the side a^2 and terminates in a step-piece h' .

The knife is lowered by the downward movement of the lever h against the action of a spring k , connected to the lever and to a hook or staple on the under side of the table. The spring elevates the knife to the cutting position, (shown in Fig. 3 and indicated in Fig. 1,) the limit of movement being fixed by the bar g , which acts as a stop by engaging the underside of the drawer-frame. The lowered position of the knife (shown in Fig. 2 and indicated in Fig. 3) is maintained by the engagement of the foot-lever with an offset a^5 in the slot a^4 , this being accomplished by a slight lateral movement of the foot-lever when it is fully depressed. In its lowered position the top of the knife is flush with the top of the table, leaving the latter unencumbered.

Pivoted to the under side of the table by means of rods l l are scrapers m m , which are normally raised to extend across the slot a^3 by the action of springs n n .

The knife in its downward movement enters a pan O , which is slidably arranged in the frame e . The pan is of water-tight construction and in practice is filled with water, whereby the tobacco which adheres to the sides of the knife in the cutting operation is loosened. In the downward movement of the knife the scrapers are engaged and pressed downwardly to the position shown in Fig. 2 and indicated in Fig. 3, and in the return movement of the knife the scrapers act upon its sides to clean them of the adhering tobacco, which has been loosened by the contact with the water in the pan. Thus the knife is at all times kept perfectly clean, and the cleaning being accomplished automatically no attention further than to renew the water from time to time is required. Obviously the knife is immersed in the water during the time it is not in use.

In practice the cutting movement of the knife and the locking and releasing thereof

are accomplished by the foot of the operator, and his hands are left free to handle the tobacco.

The cutter may be easily applied to any
5 cabinet, counter, or table, and, as before
stated, when it is not in use it is below the
table and out of the way of business which
does not require its use. The construction
employed is simple, the parts are few in num-
10 ber and easily assembled, and the appliance
may be inexpensively produced and set up
by persons not particularly skilled in the art.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination of a slotted table, a re-
15 movable water-receptacle beneath the same,
a knife vertically movable in the slot, to en-
ter the receptacle, a spring for elevating the
knife above the table, scraper-blades in the
path of the knife arranged to be moved by
20 the knife in its downward movement to en-
ter the receptacle, a foot-lever connected with
the knife to lower it, and means for locking

the foot-lever when depressed to maintain
the lowered position of the knife and scraper-
blades.

2. The combination of a slotted table, a
slidably-removable water-receptacle beneath
the same, a knife vertically movable in the
slot to enter the receptacle, a spring for ele-
vating the knife above the table, scraper- 30
blades in the path of the knife arranged to
be moved by the knife in its downward move-
ment to enter the receptacle, an upright hav-
ing a slot provided with an offset, a foot-le-
ver connected with the knife to lower it and 35
the scraper-blades said foot-lever moving in
the upright slot and engaging the offset to
lock the depressed knife and scraper-blades.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature
in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM W. WATSON.

Witnesses:

A. G. GRAY,

A. D. GRAY, Jr.