

No. 720,234.

PATENTED FEB. 10, 1903.

O. H. ELBRECHT.

STERILIZING CASE FOR POCKET THERMOMETERS.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 6, 1901.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

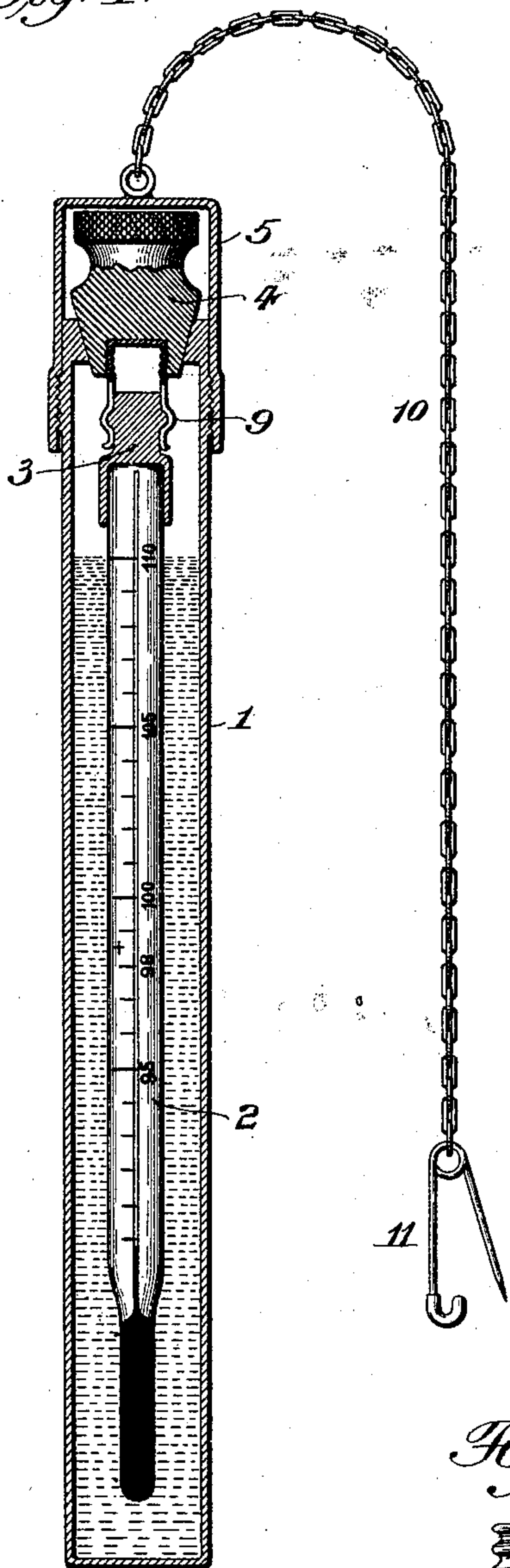


Fig. 2.

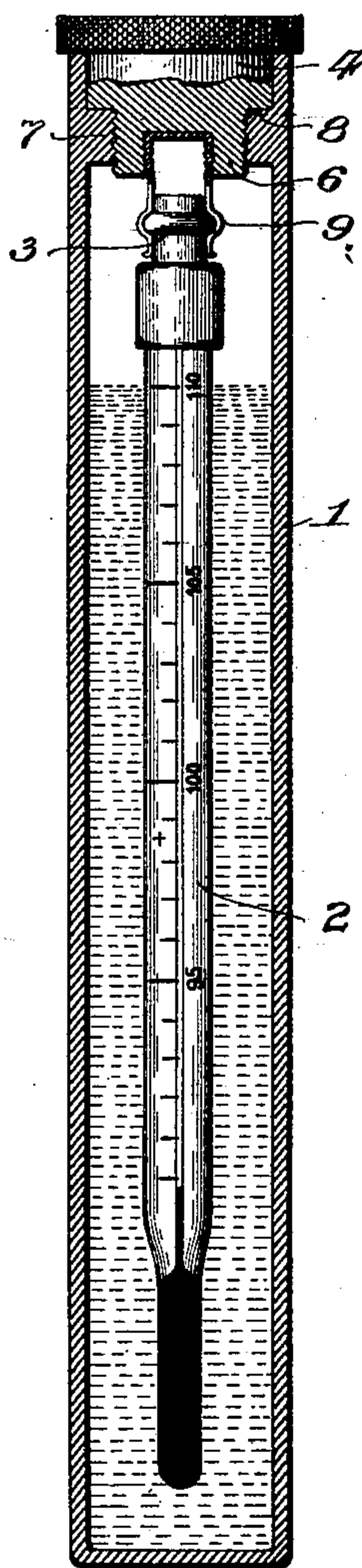
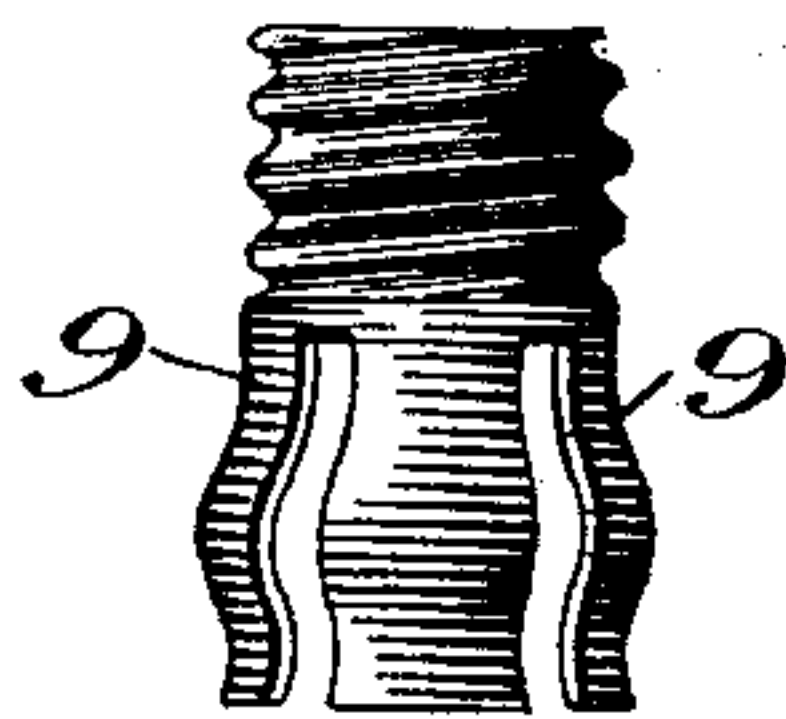


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OSCAR H. ELBRECHT, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

STERILIZING-CASE FOR POCKET-THERMOMETERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 720,234, dated February 10, 1903.

Application filed September 6, 1901. Serial No. 74,509. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OSCAR H. ELBRECHT, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of St. Louis, State of Missouri, have
5 invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sterilizing-Cases for Pocket-Thermometers, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to a sterilizing-case for the pocket-thermometers of physicians and which is adapted to maintain such instruments in a constant sterilized condition ready for use.

The present improvement has for its object
15 to provide a simple, durable, and efficient arrangement of parts in which the thermometer is held within the case in a secure manner, its withdrawal rendered easy and convenient, and with which accidental leakage
20 or spillage of the sterilizing fluid is prevented, all as will hereinafter more fully appear, and be more particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrative
25 of the present invention, Figures 1 and 2 are central sectional elevations illustrating two different forms of the present invention. Fig. 3 is a detail elevation illustrating the spring holding-prongs of the present construction.

30 Referring to the drawings, 1 represents the case or holder, preferably of an elongated cylindrical shape and formed of any usual and suitable material adapted to resist the action of the sterilizing fluid which it is intended to
35 use. Such case or holder will have the usual closed bottom and open top for the insertion and removal of the thermometer.

2 is the thermometer, of the usual shape and which in the present invention is provided at
40 its top with an engaging head 3, which may be integrally formed on the end of the thermometer or be in the form of a headed sleeve of hard rubber or other analogous material and permanently attached to the upper end
45 of the thermometer, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings.

4 is a closure-head or stopper fitting the upper open end of the containing-case 1 in a liquid-tight manner and which is positively
50 held in place by any usual and suitable provision.

In the form of stopper illustrated in Fig. 1

of the drawings the same will be of the usual plain conical form fitting a correspondingly-formed mouth of the case 1 and held in place
55 by a screw-cap 5, fitting over said stopper and screwing upon the exterior of the upper end of the case 1, as shown, while in the form illustrated in Fig. 2 the stopper will have a reduced portion 6, provided with external
60 screw-threads and adapted to screw into the screw-threaded bore of the annular internal flange or neck 7 of the main casing 1 and which flange is located at a point adjacent to the open end of such main casing. As so
65 constructed a very effective closure or sealing means against leakage is afforded by the contact of the top surface of said flange with the annular shoulder or surface 8 on the stopper adjacent to the reduced portion 6. 70

9 represents a series of annularly-arranged spring fingers or prongs depending from the lower end of the closure-head or stopper 4 and adapted to receive and hold the engaging head 3 of the thermometer in a manner to
75 prevent any but a forcible disengagement of the same by the hands of the user or other like forcible means.

In use the main casing or housing 1 of the sterilizer will contain a quantity of any desired sterilizing fluid, and when so desired the interior of such casing may be provided with an interior absorbent lining of spun glass or other like cellular material to hold the sterilizing fluid against spillage, as well
80 as to act as a cushion for the sides of the thermometer. 85

10 is an attaching-chain for a safety connection of the holder to the clothing of the physician, &c., by means of a hitch or other
90 pin 11, the other end of such chain being connected to the screw-cap 5 or other suitable portion of the casing 1.

Any usual and suitable material may be employed in the construction of the present
95 invention, the only absolute requirement being that the material used will resist chemical action on the part of the particular sterilizing fluid it is intended to use.

Having thus fully described my said invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is— 100

1. A sterilizing-case for pocket-thermometers comprising in combination, a case or

holder, a closure-head or stopper therefor, an annular series of spring-prongs attached to the inner end of said closure-head, and a headed sleeve adapted for permanent attachment to the end of the thermometer and for detachable engagement with said prongs, substantially as set forth.

2. A sterilizing-case for pocket-thermometers comprising in combination, a case or holder, a closure-head or stopper therefor having a tapering form, a screw-cap engaging the case or holder to maintain the stopper in place, and an annular series of spring-prongs attached to the inner end of said closure-head and adapted to engage and hold a thermometer by its end in a readily-detachable manner, substantially as set forth.

3. A sterilizing-case for pocket-thermometers comprising in combination, a case or holder, a closure-head or stopper therefor having a tapering form, a screw-cap engaging the case or holder to maintain the stopper in place, and an annular series of spring-prongs attached to the inner end of said closure-head, and a headed sleeve adapted for permanent attachment to the end of the thermometer and for detachable engagement with said prongs, substantially as set forth.

Signed at St. Louis, Missouri, this 28th day of August, 1901.

OSCAR H. ELBRECHT.

Witnesses:

JULIUS T. MUENCH,
JOS. MORRISON.