

No. 858,832.

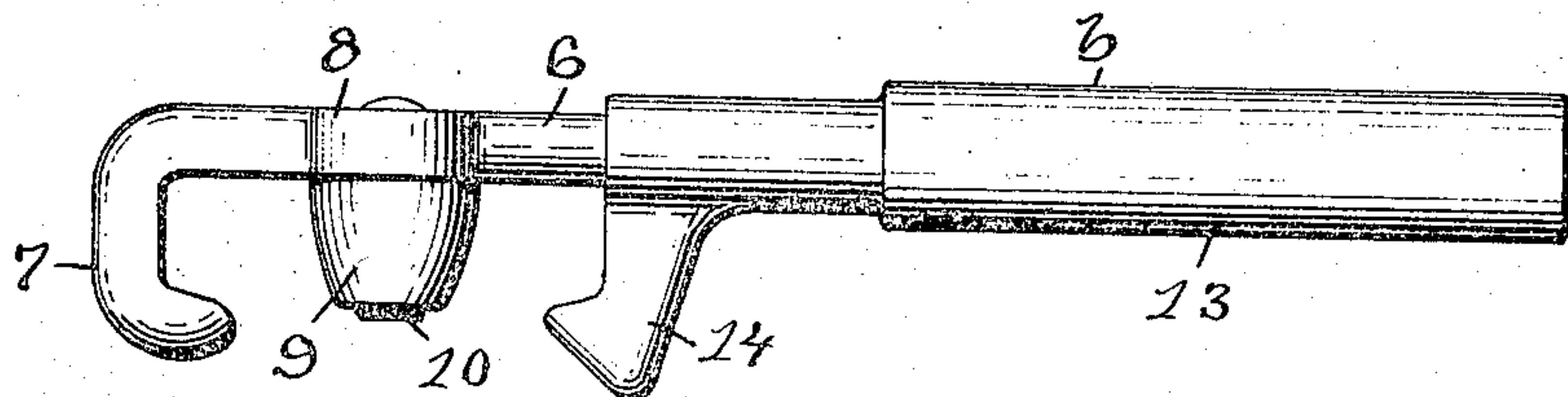
PATENTED JULY 2, 1907

W. A. SHORT.

CLOSURE FOR AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 31, 1907.

Exp. 1.



2.

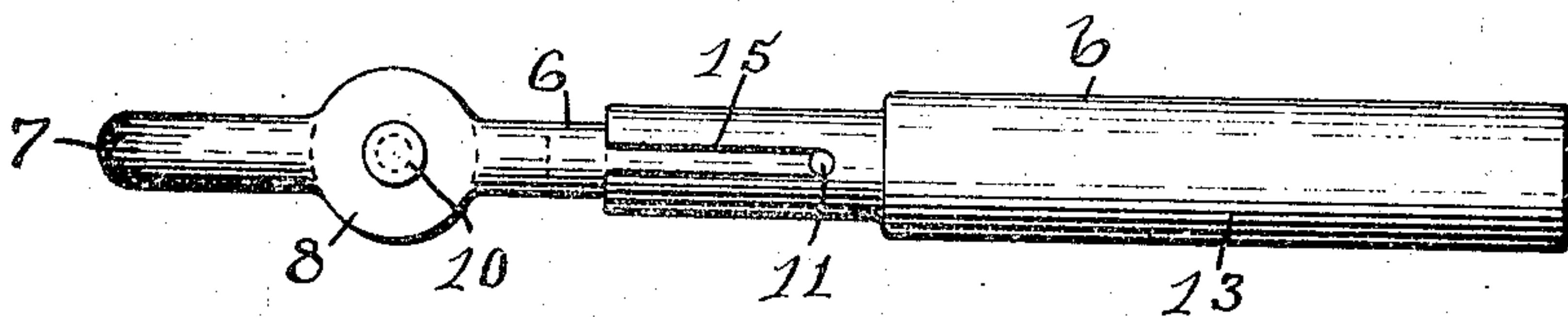
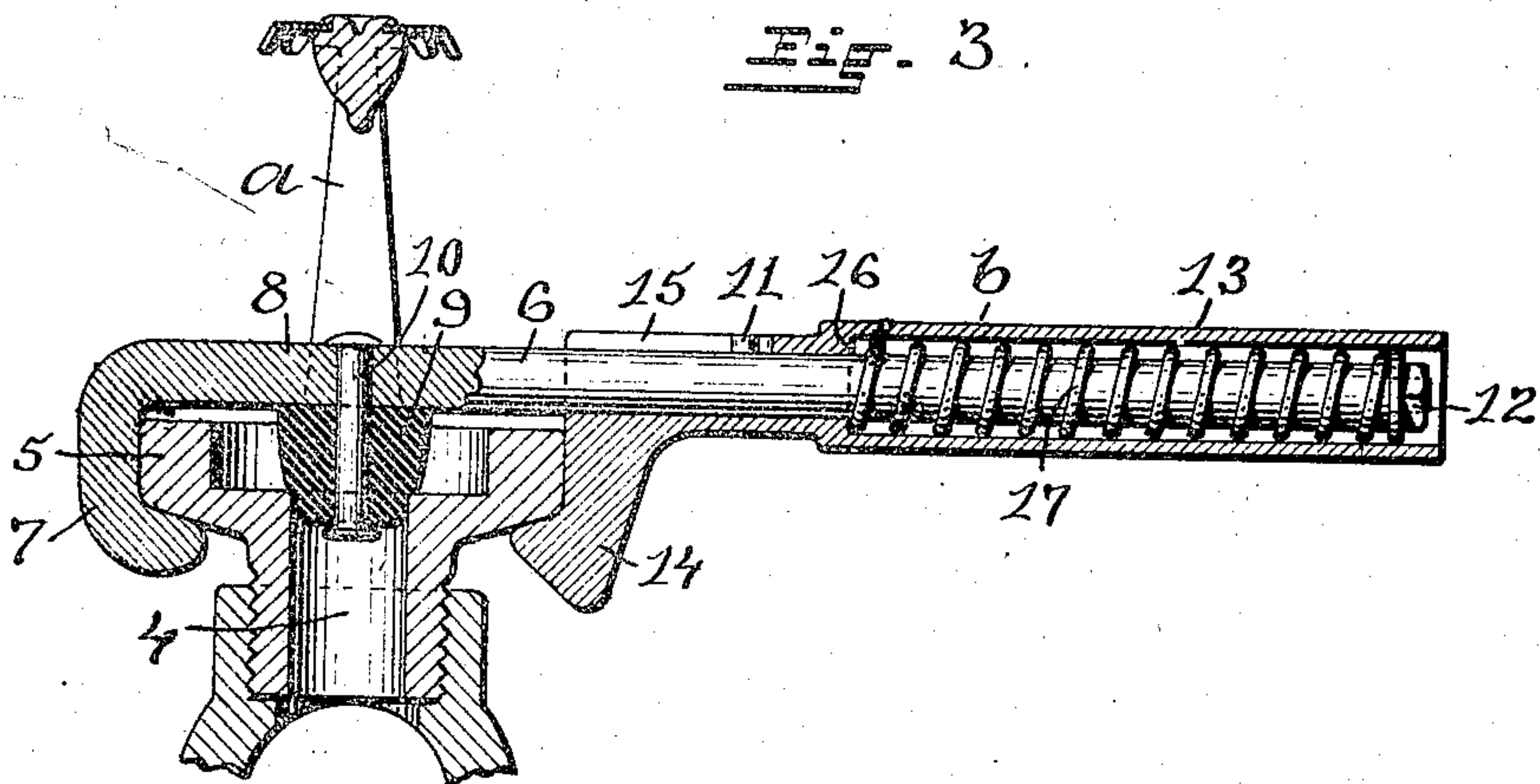


Fig. 3.



WINNIE

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLARD A. SHORT, OF SEEKONK, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO HARRY C. ARNOLD, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

CLOSURE FOR AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS.

No. 858,832.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 2, 1907.

Application filed January 31, 1907. Serial No. 355,048.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLARD A. SHORT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Seekonk, in the county of Bristol and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Closures for Automatic Sprinklers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to an improvement in closures and more particularly to an improvement in closures for automatic fire extinguishers or sprinklers.

The object of my invention is to prevent unnecessary or excessive damage from water through the accidental opening of an automatic sprinkler or sprinklers caused by the heat from a lantern, candle or gas jet carelessly left under the same, or in any way otherwise than from on actual conflagration, which the sprinklers are intended to extinguish.

My invention consists in the peculiar and novel construction of a closure adapted to close the orifice of an automatic sprinkler, when the sprinkler has opened through any means other than from the heat of an actual fire which the sprinkler is intended to extinguish, said closure having details of construction, as will be more fully set forth hereinafter and claimed.

Figure 1 is a side view of my improved closure for automatic sprinklers. Fig. 2 is a top view of the closure, and Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view through the closure, showing the same in the applied position for closing the orifice of an automatic sprinkler, which is shown in section.

In the drawings, *a* indicates an automatic sprinkler and *b* my improved closure for closing the orifice of the sprinkler.

The sprinkler *a* has the usual orifice 4 and the annular lip 5 and may be any one of the standard forms of sprinklers.

The closure *b* consists of a rod 6 having a hook-shaped jaw 7 on one end adapted to hook under the annular lip 5 of the sprinkler, a circular enlargement 8 adjacent the end 7, a stopper 9 made preferably of soft rubber and secured to the enlargement 8 by a headed pin 10 in a position to close the orifice 4 in the sprinkler, a stop pin 11 secured centrally in the top of the rod, a flanged nut 12 on the opposite end of the rod, a tubu-

lar handle 13 on the rod 6 having the oppositely-disposed hook-shaped jaw 14 adapted to hook under the annular lip 5 of the sprinkler and shaped to act as a cam on the lip to force the jaws apart, a longitudinal slot 15 which extends in from the end of the handle for the stop pin 11, an internal annular shoulder 16 in the handle and a coiled spring 17 on the rod 6 intermediate the flanged nut 12 on the rod 6 and the internal annular shoulder 16 on the handle 13, as shown in Fig. 3.

In the use of my improved closure for automatic sprinklers the hook-shaped jaw 7 on the end of the closure is passed through the arms of the sprinkler and hooked under the lip 5 of the sprinkler. A downward movement of the handle 13 now forces the stopper 9 into the orifice 4 of the sprinkler, closing the same, and the jaw 14 through the tension of the spring 17 snaps under the lip 5 of the sprinkler and securely fastens the closure to the sprinkler against the pressure of the water in the sprinkler.

Damage to property by water is of frequent occurrence through the accidental opening of sprinklers by means other than an actual conflagration. By the use of my improved closure for sprinklers this damage by water is practically eliminated.

I do not wish to confine myself to the construction shown, as it is evident that other means could be used for detachably securing the stopper 9 in the orifice of the sprinkler, without materially affecting the spirit of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent;—

A closure for automatic sprinklers comprising a rod having a hook-shaped jaw on one end, a stopper constructed preferably of soft rubber and secured to the rod, a tubular handle on the rod having an internal annular shoulder, an oppositely-disposed hook-shaped jaw on the handle, a flange on the end of the rod in the handle and a coiled spring on the rod in the handle intermediate the shoulder in the handle and the flange on the rod, and means for holding the hook-shaped jaws in alignment, as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLARD A. SHORT.

Witnesses:

ADA E. HAGERTY,
J. A. MILLER.