No. 862,283. PATENTED AUG. 6, 1907.

W. SAMS.

SAVINGS BANK.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 2, 1906.

Fig. 1.

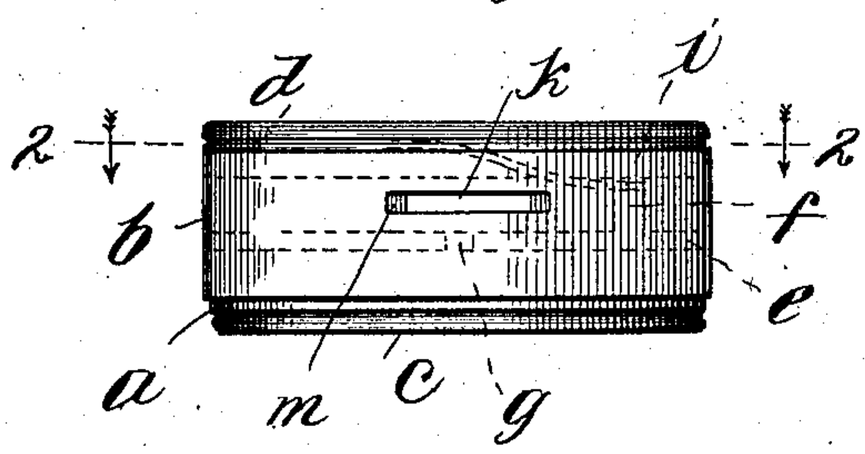


Fig. 2.

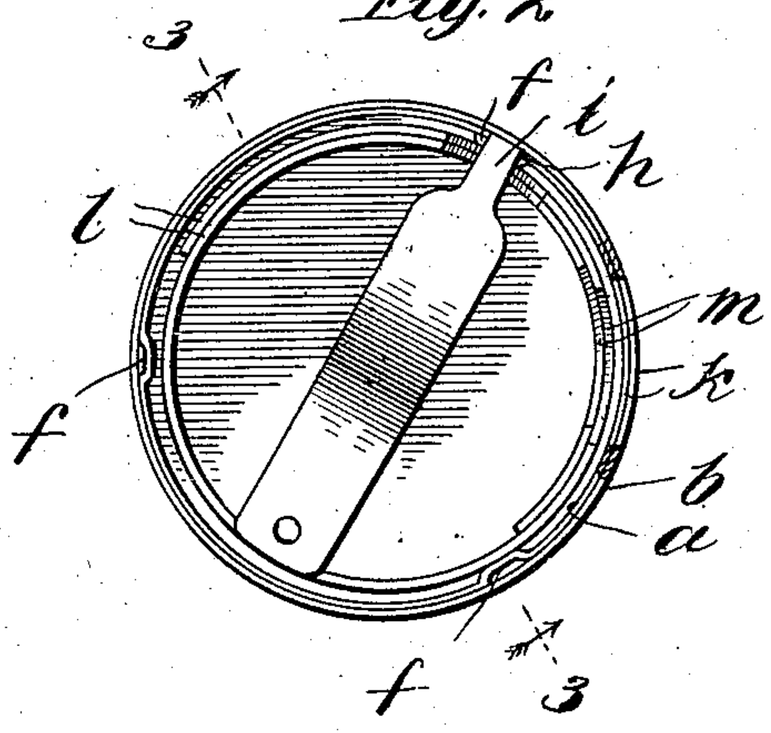


Fig. 3.

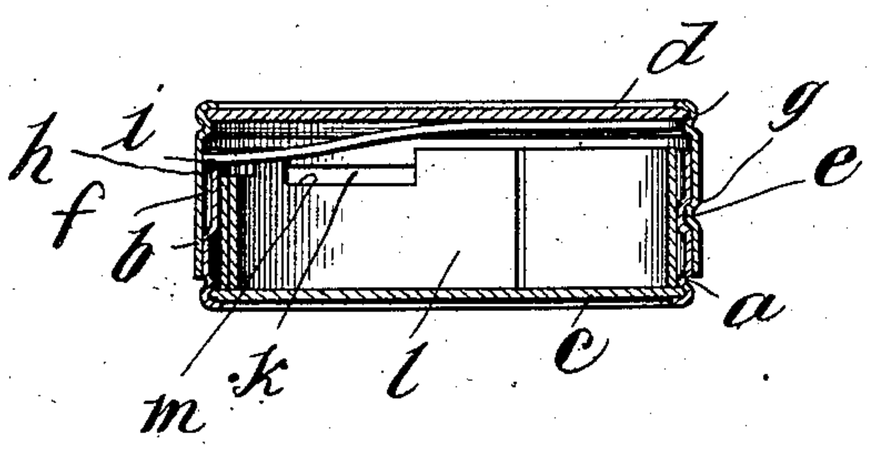


Fig. 4.

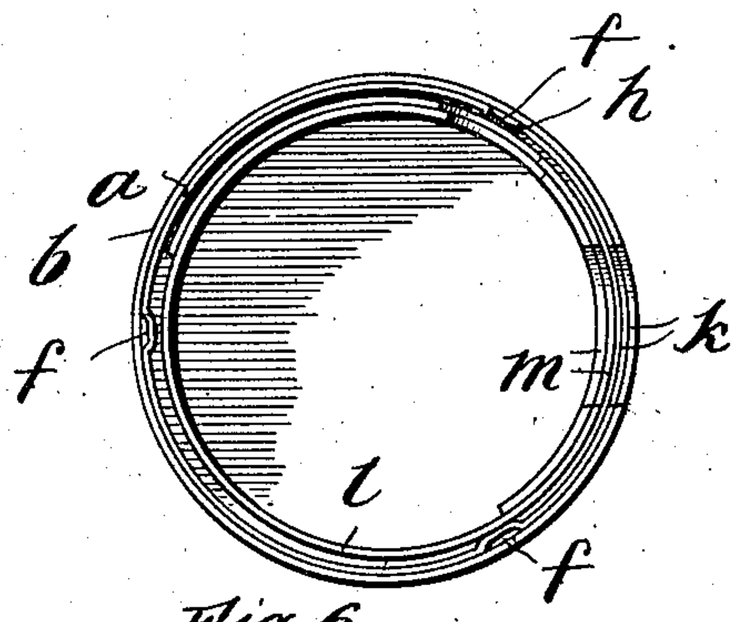


Fig. 5.

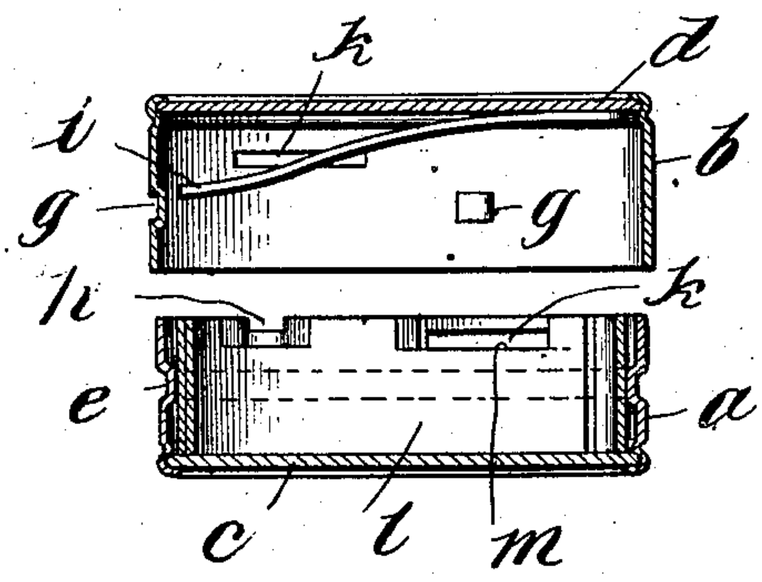
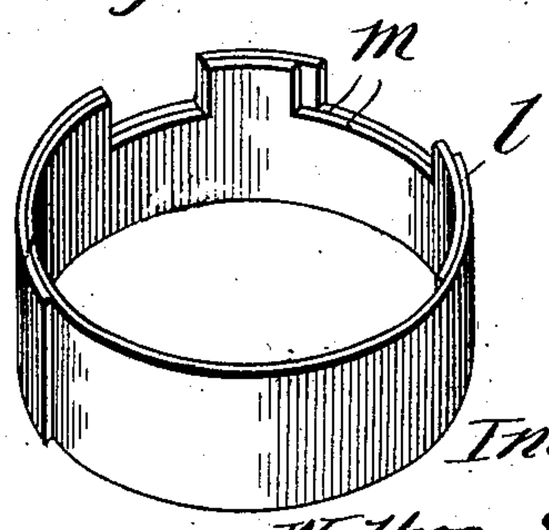


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SAVINGS-BANK.

No. 862,283. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 6, 1907.

Application filed May 2, 1906. Serial No. 314,781.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER SAMS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Savings-Banks, of which the following is a full, clear, concise, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

My invention relates to portable savings banks, and is of particular service in the manufacture of pocket size savings banks.

My invention has two general objects, one the provision of an improved construction whereby coin may be inserted into the bank while its removal from the bank is thereafter prevented, and, second, the provision of a locking device controlled in part by the coin, whereby the interior of the bank is rendered non-accessible until a predetermined quantity of coin has been supplied thereto.

In practicing my invention, I employ two overlapping members provided with openings or cut away portions that are normally sufficiently out of register to prevent the extraction of coin from the interior of the bank, which overlapping members are adapted to be sufficiently displaced by the passage of the coin to permit of a sufficient increase in the size of the coin passage to allow the coin to enter the bank. The overlapping members are desirably integral parts of a curved spring formed of sheet metal, which spring, in the preferred embodiment of the invention, is surrounded by a casing, though I do not wish to be limited to this construction. Where a surrounding casing is employed, the circular part thereof is provided with an opening for permitting the coin to traverse the passage defined by the overlapping members. In the preferred embodiment of the invention, the members move in the plane of the spring, said spring being normally under such tension that it will cause the aforesaid members thereof to occupy positions respecting each other that will so restrict the size of the coin passage defined by these members as to prevent the discharge of coin from the interior of the bank. When the coin is passed into the interior of the bank, these members move apart against the tension of the spring, to permit of the enlargement of the coin passage defined by the members thereof, this movement being, as stated, in the plane of the spring, the surrounding casing having sufficient clearance with respect to the spring when normal as to permit of this expansion of the spring. Where the other feature of my invention is employed, namely, the locking device, I desire to provide a tongue fastened at one end to an end wall of the bank and free at the other end to engage a notch provided in the cylindrical wall of the bank, this tongue being normally so directed that it will engage said notch, but having, when in such engagement, a clearance at its free end with respect to the wall upon which it is mounted. When the bank is sufficiently full of coin, this clearance will be removed to cause the free end of the tongue to clear the notch, whereafter the end walls of the bank may be separated.

I will explain my invention more fully by reference to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a view in elevation of the preferred embodiment of the bank of my invention. Fig. 2 is a plan view on line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a sectional view on line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is another plan view of the bank, with a top portion removed. Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 3, with the exception that certain of the parts are shown in separated relation. Fig. 6 is a perspective view showing the stiff spring employed within the interior of the bank structure.

Like parts are indicated by similar characters of reference throughout the different figures.

The figures of the drawing illustrate the preferred embodiment of the invention and disclose in this instance an external casing of cylindrical form formed in two telescoping sections *a* and *b*, the inner section having an end wall *c* while the outer section has an end wall *d*. The cylindrical wall of the inner section has a peripheral groove *e* provided with outlets *f*, desirably three in number, through which outlets lugs *g*, provided upon the outer section, may pass, whereafter a relative rotary movement of the sections *a* and *b* will cause the lugs *g* to enter portions of the groove *e* that do not communicate directly with the outlets, whereby separation of these sections of the bank is prevented until said lugs *g* are again brought into line with said outlets. The inner section *a* is provided with a notch at *h* adapted to receive the free end of the tongue *i* anchored at one end upon the interior of the section *b*, it being the free end of the tongue that is adapted for engagement with said notch. This tongue is desirably formed of strip spring metal and is normally under such tension that it will, when the bank is unfilled with coin, have its free end in engagement with the notch *h*, when said free end and said notch are adapted to register upon a suitable rotary movement of the sections *a*—*b* with respect to each other, the lugs *g* then being in locking relation with the groove *e* and sufficiently displaced from the outlets *f* that a separation of the sections *a*—*b* cannot occur. The tongue *i*, by engaging the notch or recess *h*, will prevent a re-registering of the lugs *g* with the outlets *f*, but when the bank is sufficiently full of coin, the free end of the tongue *i* will be moved close to the end wall of the section *b*, the coin thereby removing the free end of the tongue from engagement with the notch *h*, whereafter the desired rotary movement between the sections of the

casing may be effected to bring the lugs *g* into register with the outlets *f* to enable the removal of the contents of the bank.

The two sections of the casing are provided with coin slots *k* adapted to register when the tongue *i* engages the notch *h*.

In the embodiment of the invention shown, there is disclosed within the casing of the bank a coil-spring *l*, desirably formed of strip metal and normally having slight clearance with respect to the inclosing casing. The overlapping portions of this spring are provided with openings or recesses *m*—*m* which are normally slightly out of register and which are adapted to be brought into register by the passing coin, the opening jointly afforded by the overlapping ends of the spring being normally insufficient to permit of the passage of the coin but being automatically increased by the coin in its passage. When the coin has passed, the spring returns to its initial position, in which the recess *m*—*m* again restrict the size of the opening, whereby the coin after it has passed into the interior of the bank, is prevented from displacement. The recesses *m*—*m* are located in line with the slots *k*, for the purpose of the structure.

It will be seen that the passages *m*—*m* are normally out of register sufficiently to prevent coin from passing therethrough from the interior of the bank, these passages *m*—*m* being sufficiently placed in register by coin as it is passed into the bank, it being understood, of course, that the said passages are adapted to a single denomination of coin; as dimes, for example.

While I have shown the recesses *m*—*m* in the marginal portions of the overlapping parts of the spring *l*, I do not wish to be limited to this construction.

It is obvious that changes may readily be made in the device of my invention without departing from the spirit thereof, and I do not, therefore, wish to be limited to the precise construction shown, but,

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters-Patent the following:—

1. A bank structure including two cylindrical elements of a casing, one of said elements having a groove extending peripherally thereof and having an outlet at an angle with respect to the balance of the groove, while the other of said elements is provided with a lug adapted for passage through said outlet into said groove and thereafter adapted for passage along said groove upon relative rotation of said elements, whereby the said elements are then locked to prevent separation longitudinally of each other, a notch or recess provided in one of said casing elements, and a tongue provided upon the other casing element and adapted to extend into said notch when said elements are relatively rotated to prevent their longitudinal separation, said tongue then serving to prevent relative rotary motion between said elements, said tongue being displaceable from engagement with said notch by the coin passed into the bank in sufficient quantity, whereupon said elements may be rotated relatively and separated longitudinally to permit of access to the interior of the bank.

2. A bank structure including two self-restoring stiff overlapping members, each provided with a passage, said passages being normally out of register, said overlapping members being relatively movable by coin as it is passed through the coin passages to the interior of the bank, whereby the coin passage jointly afforded by the overlapping members is increased in size upon the passage of coin, said overlapping members being adapted to be restored to their normal positions when said coin has been deposited in the bank, whereby to reduce the size of the coin passage jointly afforded by said members to prevent discharge of the coin from the bank.

3. A bank structure including two self-restoring stiff overlapping members jointly affording a coin passage, said overlapping members being relatively movable by coin as it is passed through the coin passages to the interior of the bank, whereby the coin passage jointly afforded by the overlapping members is increased in size upon the passage of coin, said overlapping members being adapted to be restored to their normal positions when said coin has been deposited in the bank, whereby to reduce the size of the coin passage jointly afforded by said members to prevent discharge of the coin from the bank.

4. A bank structure including a coil-spring formed of strip metal and cut away to permit of the passage of coin through the spring, said coil-spring having overlapping ends where it is cut away, said overlapping ends maintaining the passage-way for the coin normally of a reduced size to prevent discharge of coin from the bank therethrough, said overlapping ends being relatively removable when the coin is passed from the exterior to the interior of the bank to permit enlargement of the coin passage.

5. A bank-structure including a coil-spring whose ends constitute overlapping members jointly affording a coin passage, said members being normally sufficiently out of register to prevent the passage of coin from the interior of the bank through said passage, said members being adapted to be sufficiently moved relatively by coin as it is passed into the bank structure to sufficiently increase the size of the coin passage to permit coin to pass.

6. A bank structure including a coil-spring whose ends constitute two overlapping members provided with passages normally out of register, said overlapping members being displaceable by coin as it is passed therethrough to the interior of the bank to permit an increase in the size of the opening through which the coin is received into the bank.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 26th day of April, A. D. 1906.

WALTER SAMS.

Witnesses:
LEON STROH,
G. L. CRAGG.