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W. P. WOOD & C. E. TEFFT.

IMPLEMENT FOR CLOSING THE DISCHARGE OPENINGS OF AUTOMATIC FIRE EXTINGUISHER SPRINKLERS.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 11, 1907.

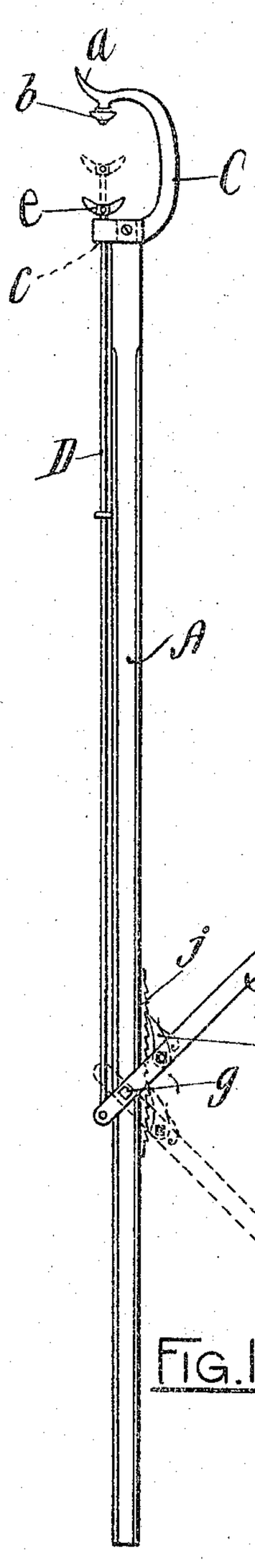

FIG. 1.

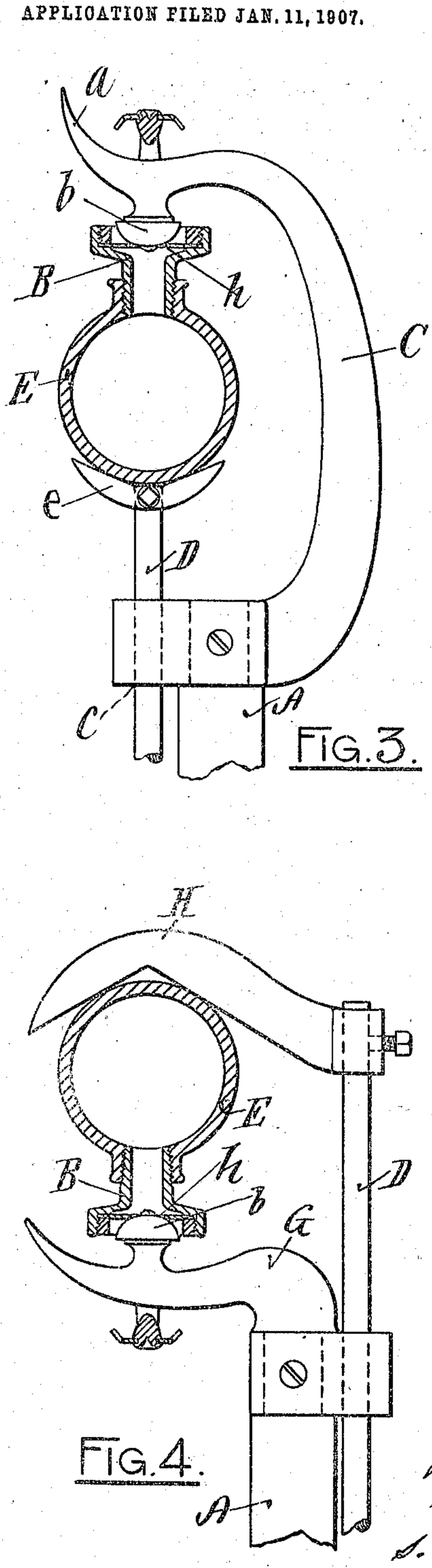

FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.

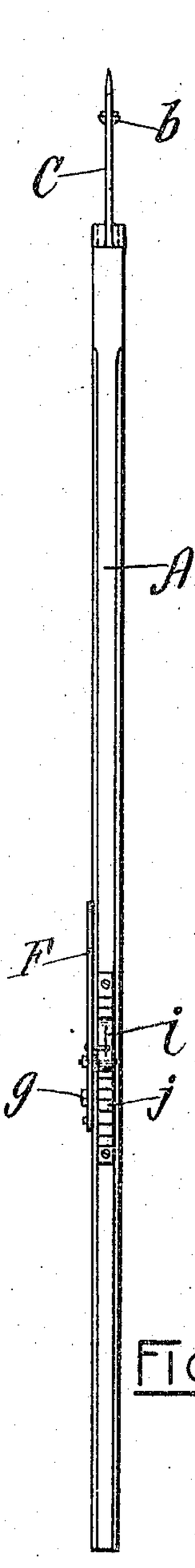

FIG. 2.

WITNESSES.

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IMPLEMENT FOR CLOSING THE DISCHARGE-OPENINGS OF AUTOMATIC FIRE-EXTINGUISHER SPRINKLERS.

No. 868,058. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 15, 1907.

Application filed January 11, 1907. Serial No. 351,890.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM P. WOOD and CHARLES E. TEFFT, citizens of the United States, residing at Pawtucket, in the State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Means for Closing the Discharge-Opening of Automatic Fire-Extinguisher Sprinklers, of which the following is a specification.

Upon the occasion of a fire in a building provided with an automatic sprinkler system, it often happens that loss is incurred from inability to shut off the water escaping from the few sprinkler heads which have been affected by the fire without being obliged to shut off the water from the whole system. For it often occurs that after a fire has been apparently extinguished by the action of the sprinklers, and the water has been turned off from the pipes, the fire which was smoldering, starts up afresh and causes much greater damage than that caused by the original fire. And it is the object of our invention to provide suitable means for closing the discharge opening of the sprinkler heads singly so as not to be obliged to shut off the water from the whole system. And our invention consists in an improved implement adapted for closing the discharge opening of the sprinkler heads, singly, by a person from the floor of the room, whereby the unnecessary escape of water and consequent damage may be avoided, and whereby the remaining sprinklers of the system will always be ready for instant action upon the possible renewal of the fire.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 represents a side view of one form of our improved implement for closing the discharge opening of a sprinkler head. Fig. 2 represents an edge view of the same. Fig. 3 represents an enlarged side view of the upper end of the implement and a section of the sprinkler-head and the water conveying pipe. Fig. 4 shows a modification of the implement, which is adapted for closing the sprinkler head when the same is located at the under side of the water conveying pipe instead of the upper side.

In the drawings, A represents a wooden pole by means of which a person standing on the floor may reach the sprinkler head from which the water has been caused to flow for extinguishing a fire in the room. To the upper end of the pole A is secured the clasping hook-member C, provided with the projecting horn *a* and the rubber stopper *b*. The hook-member C is also provided at its base with the eye *c*, through which, loosely passes the rod D, provided at its upper end with the curved shoe *e*, which rod and shoe form a clasping member arranged to oppose the hook-member C, the said shoe being adapted to bear against the side of the water conveying pipe E, as shown in Fig. 3. To the lower end of the rod D is jointed the hand lever F, which is pivoted to the pole A at the point *g*; and when the outer end of the lever F is carried down to its proper position for effecting the engagement of the stopper *b* of the movable clasping member C of Figs. 1, 2 and 3, with the discharge opening *h* of the sprinkler head B, the spring-actuated pawl *i* by engagement with the ratchet teeth of the bar *j*, secured to the side of the pole A, will serve to hold the implement in its proper position upon the pipe E and sprinkler head, to prevent the further flow of water from the opening *h*.

A modified form of construction adapted for operation when the sprinkler head is located under the pipe E, is shown in Fig. 4, in which the rubber stopper *b* is placed upon the clasping member G secured to the upper end of the pole A, and the movable clasping member H, which is adapted for engagement with the side of the pipe E is secured to the rod D. In both of the described forms of construction, the sprinkler head B, and the water conveying pipe E, are embraced between the stationary and movable clasping members.

The sprinkler closing implement when so constructed is adapted for convenient and rapid attachment to the pipe and sprinkler head, which is a very important feature in such devices, and constitutes a prominent characteristic of our invention.

We claim as our invention:

1. In an implement of the character described, the combination with the water conveying pipe of a sprinkler system, of the hand holding means of the implement, the clasping member adapted to bear against the side of the water conveying pipe, the opposite clasping member provided with the closing stopper, and means for holding the said clasping members in their engaged position with both the sprinkler head and the water conveying pipe embraced between the said clasping members.

2. In an implement of the character described, the combination with the water conveying pipe of a sprinkler system, of the hand holding means of the implement, the clasping member provided with a shoe adapted to bear against the side of the water conveying pipe, the opposite clasping member provided with the projecting horn, and the closing stopper, and means for holding the said clasping members in their engaged position with both the sprinkler head and the water conveying pipe embraced between the said clasping members.

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