

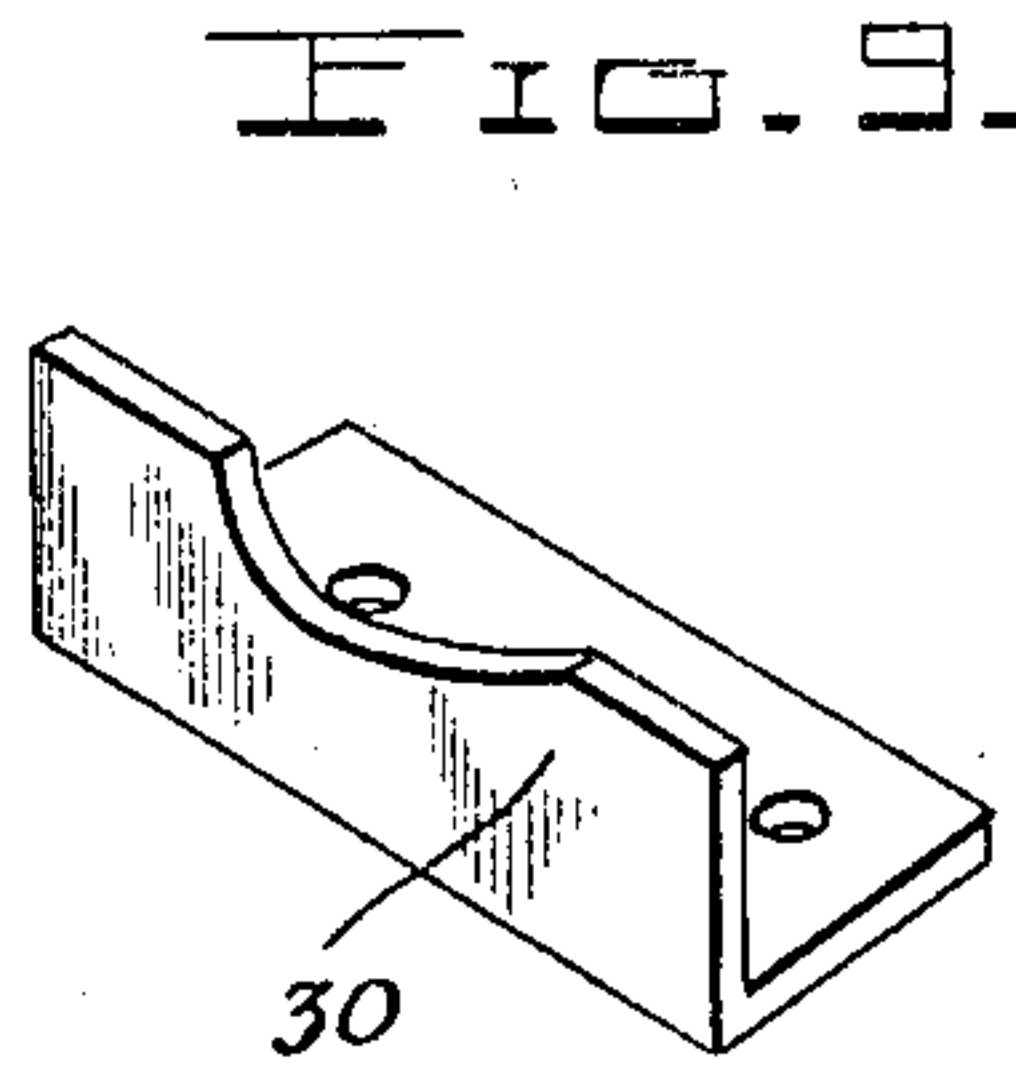
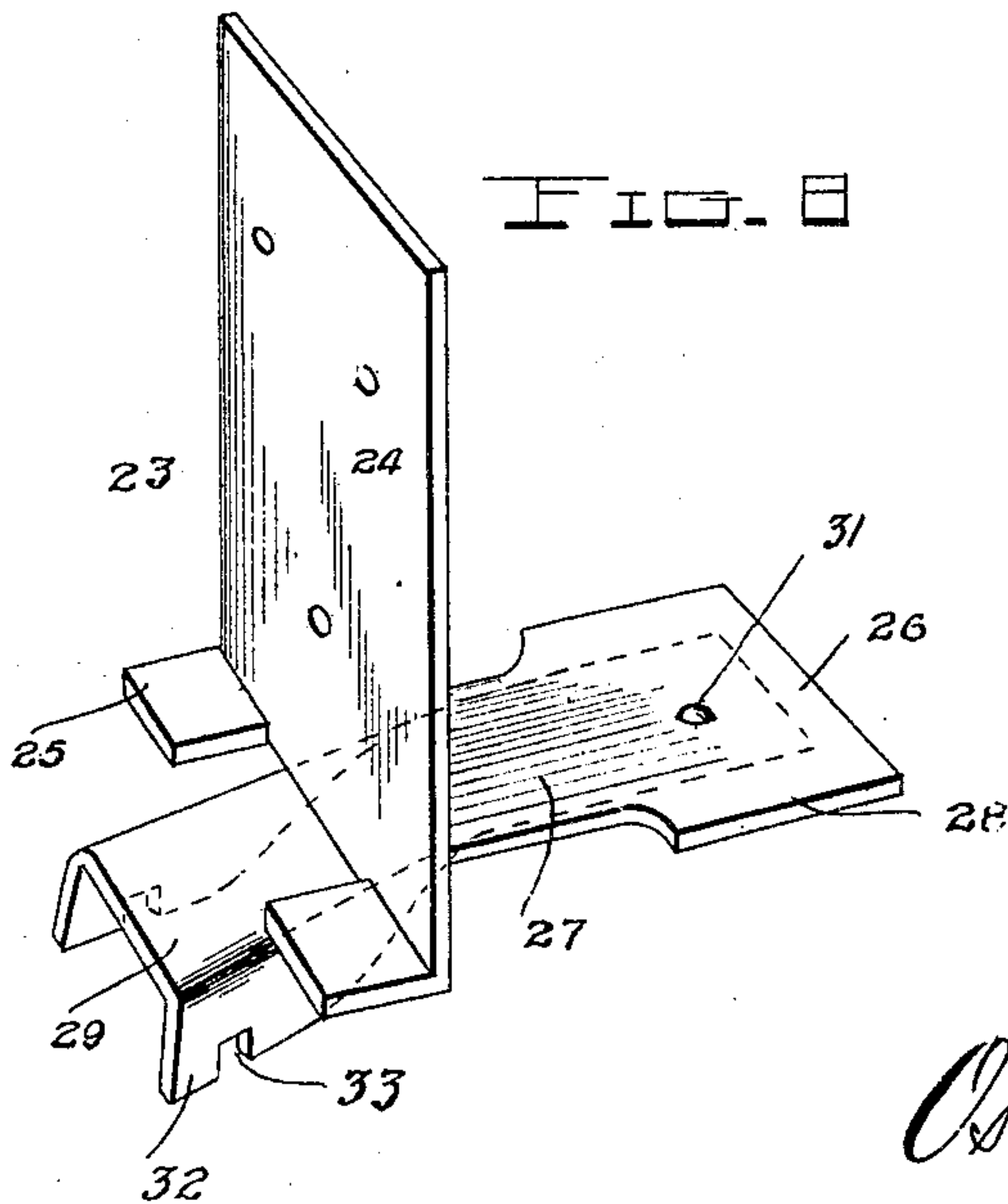
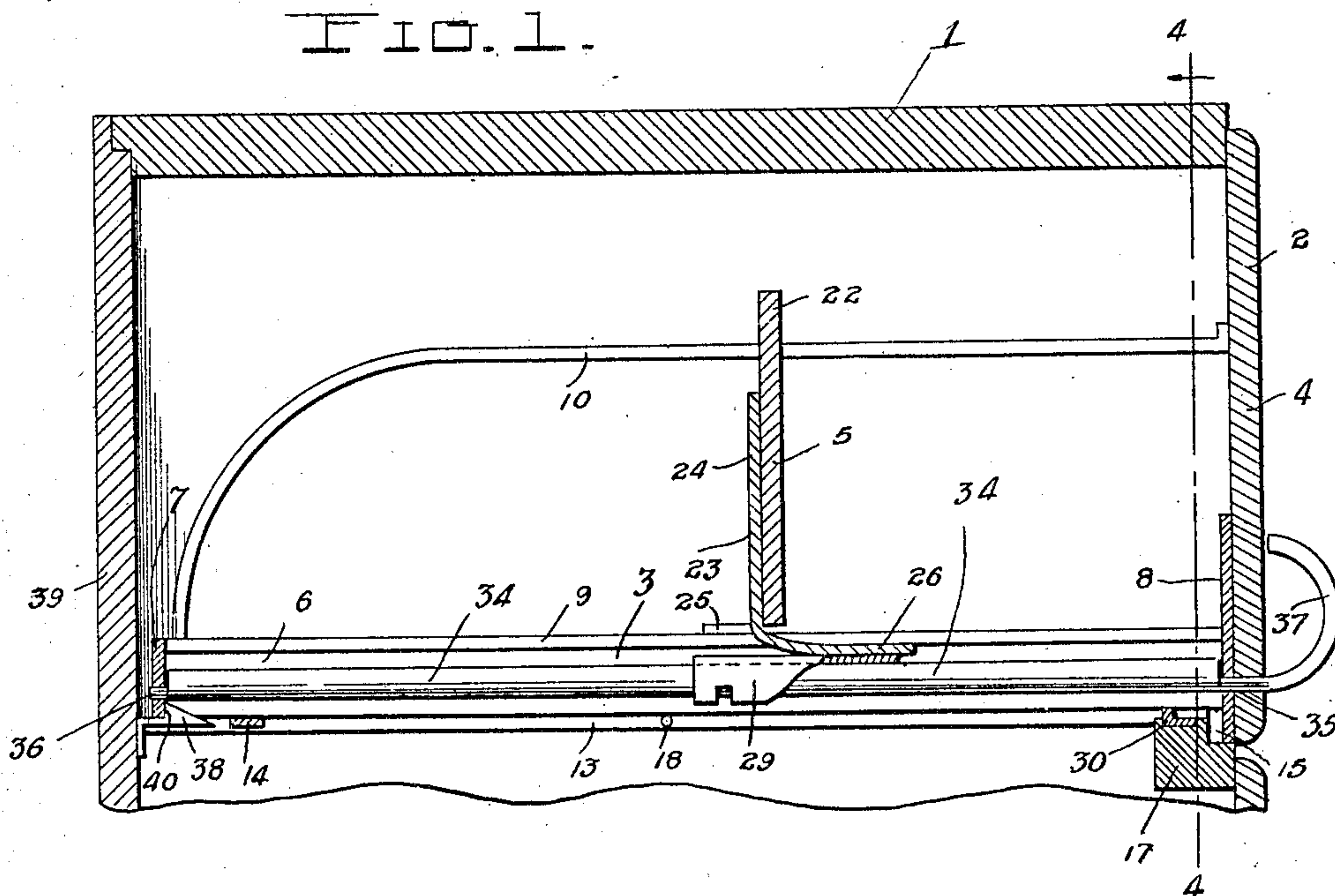
No. 871,372.

PATENTED NOV. 19, 1907.

O. L. SOLIE.
FILING CABINET.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 27, 1907.

4 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses

Chas. L. Griesbauer.
L. O. Little.

Oscar L. Solie Inventor

334 Watson E. Coleman

Attorney

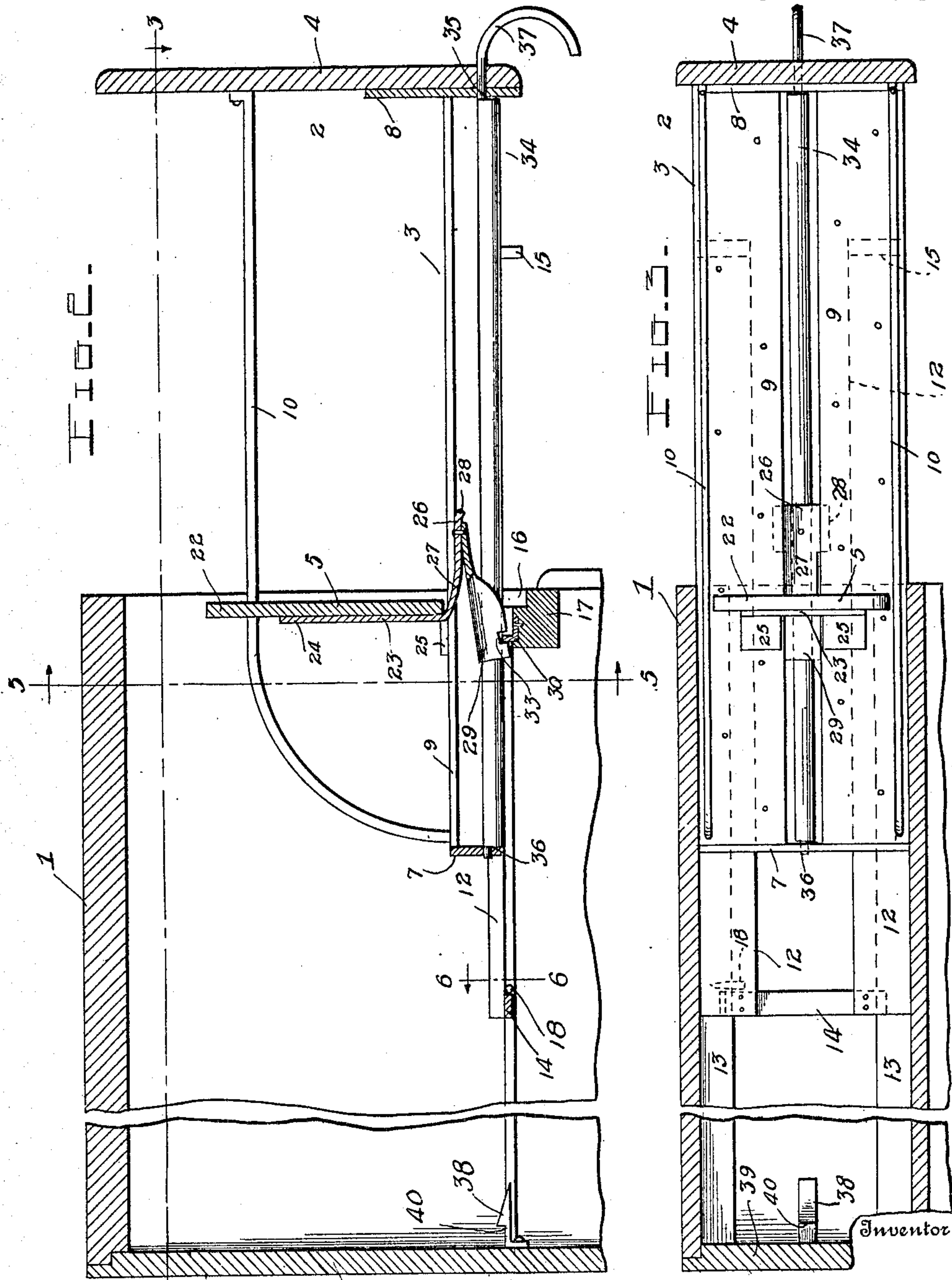
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4 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses

Chas. P. Griebauer.
L. O. Little.

By

Oscar L. Solie
Watson E. Coleman
Attorney

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4 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

FIG. 4.

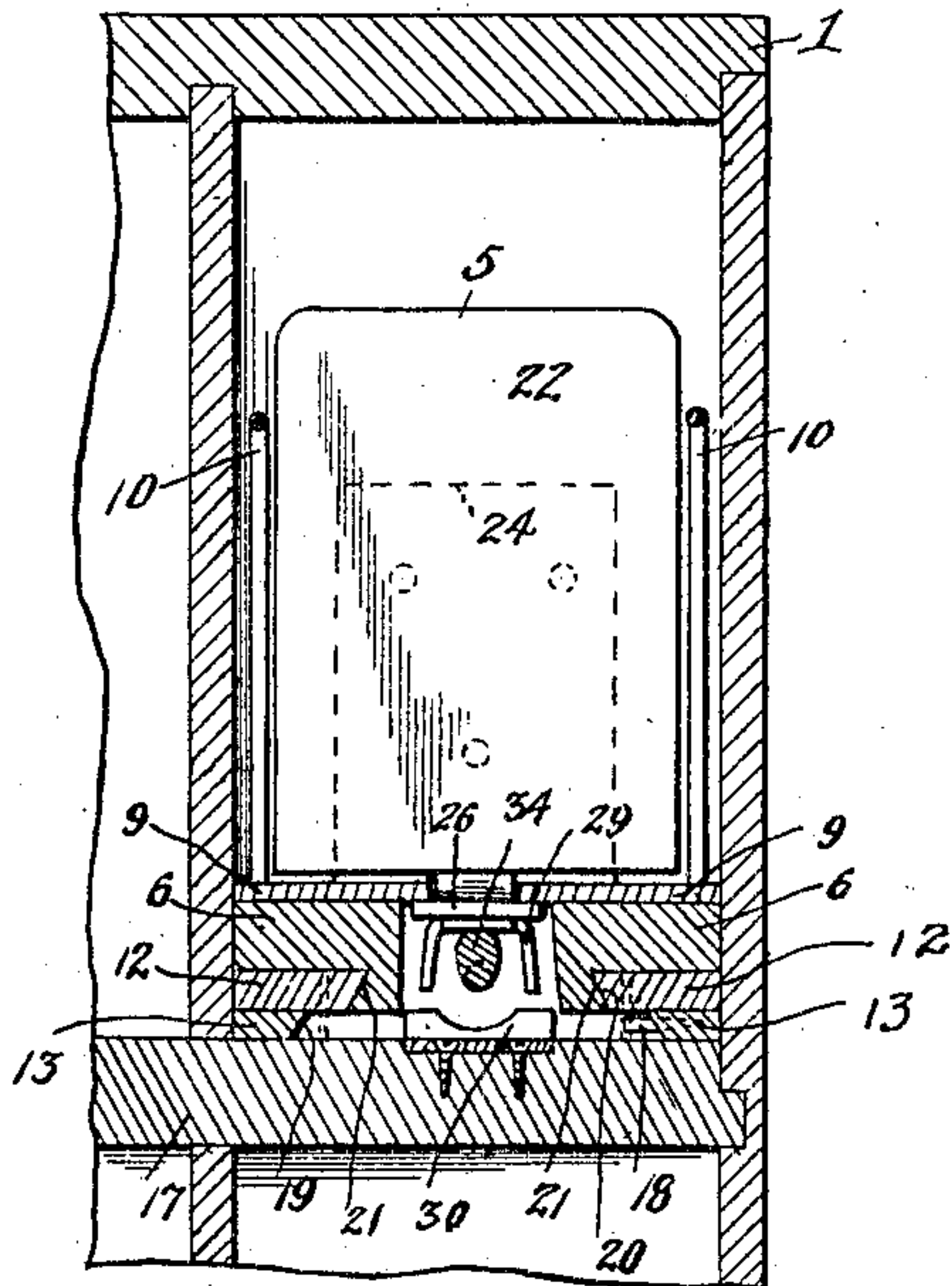


FIG. 5.

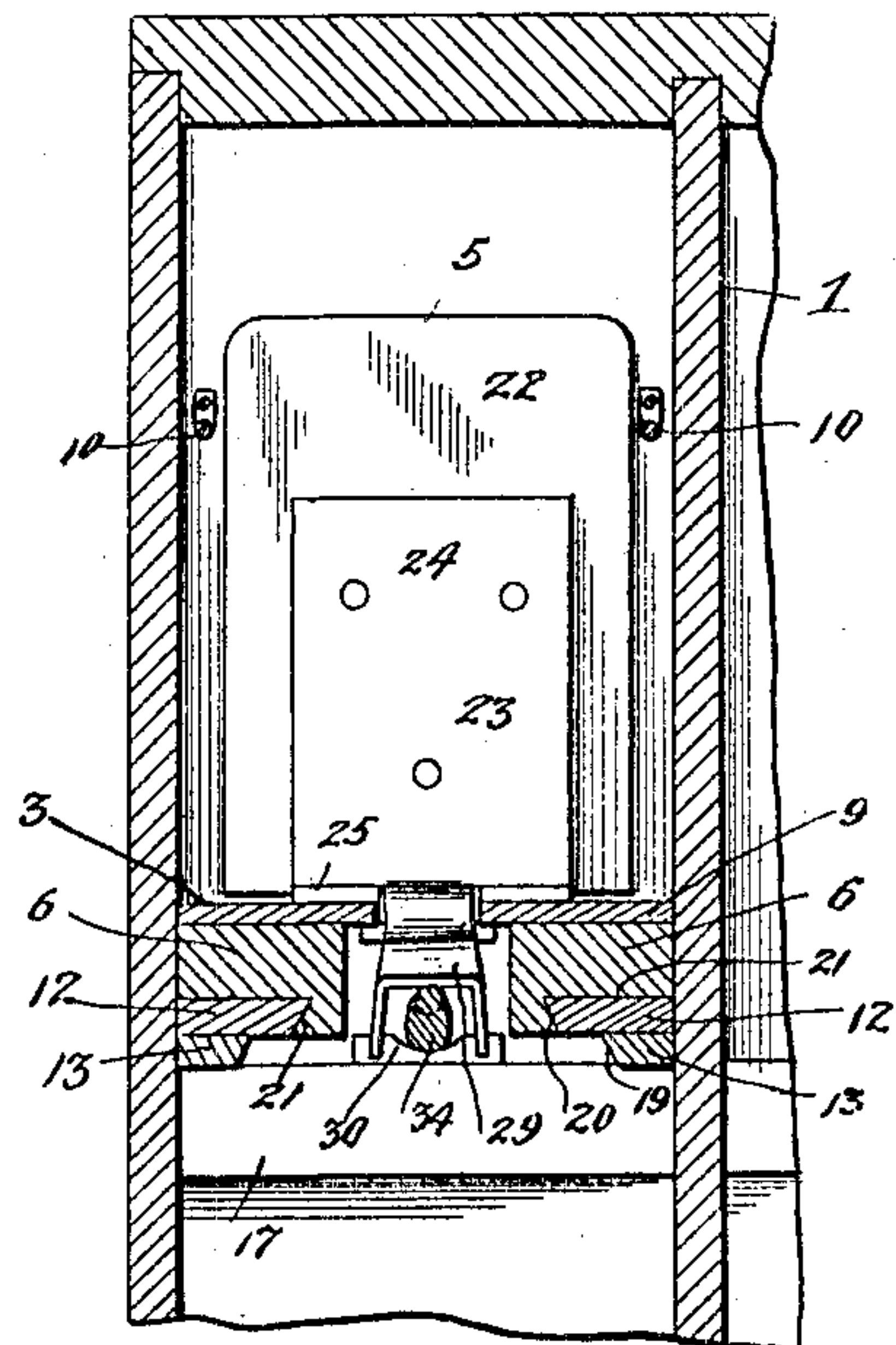


FIG. 6.

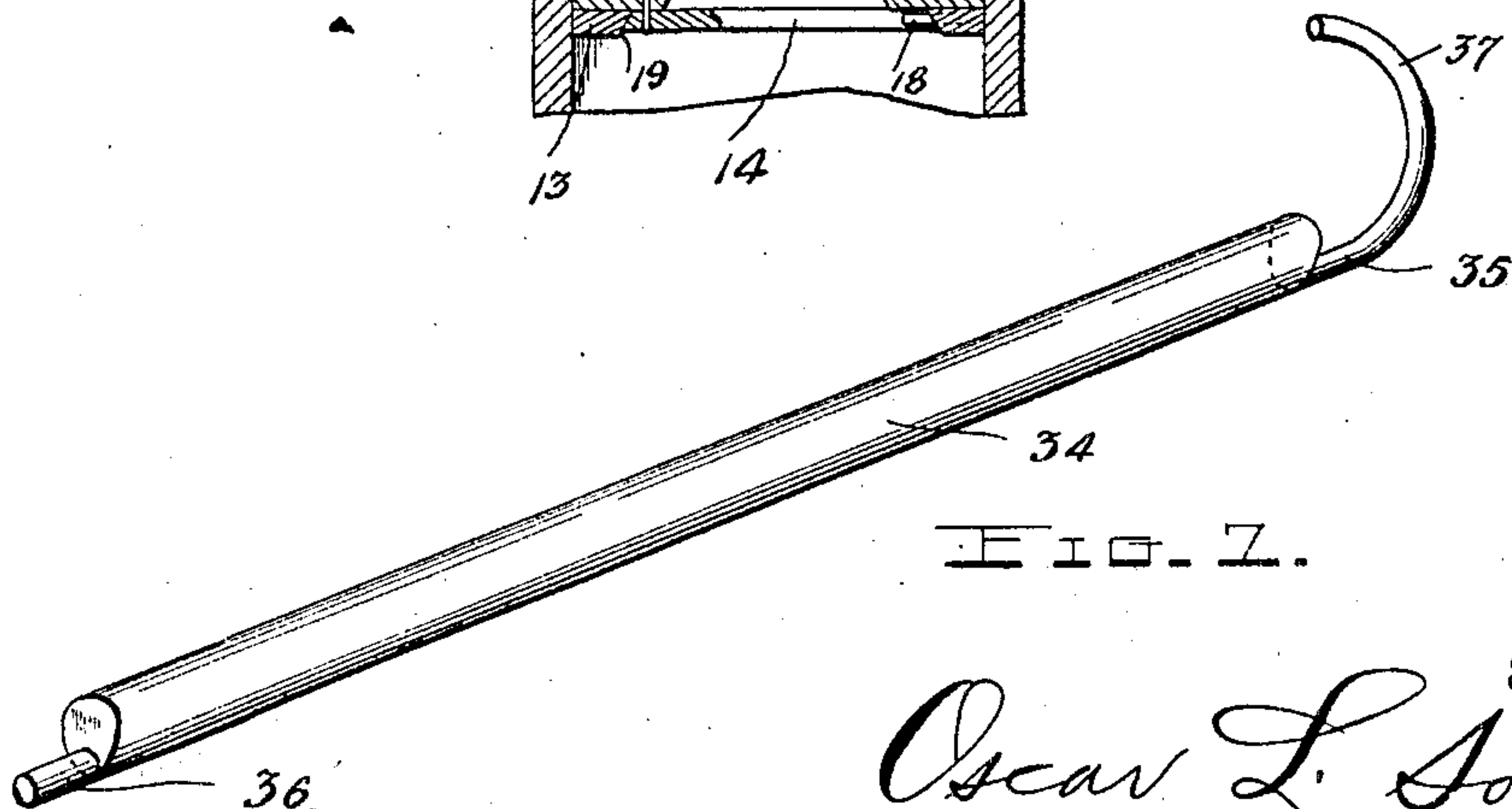
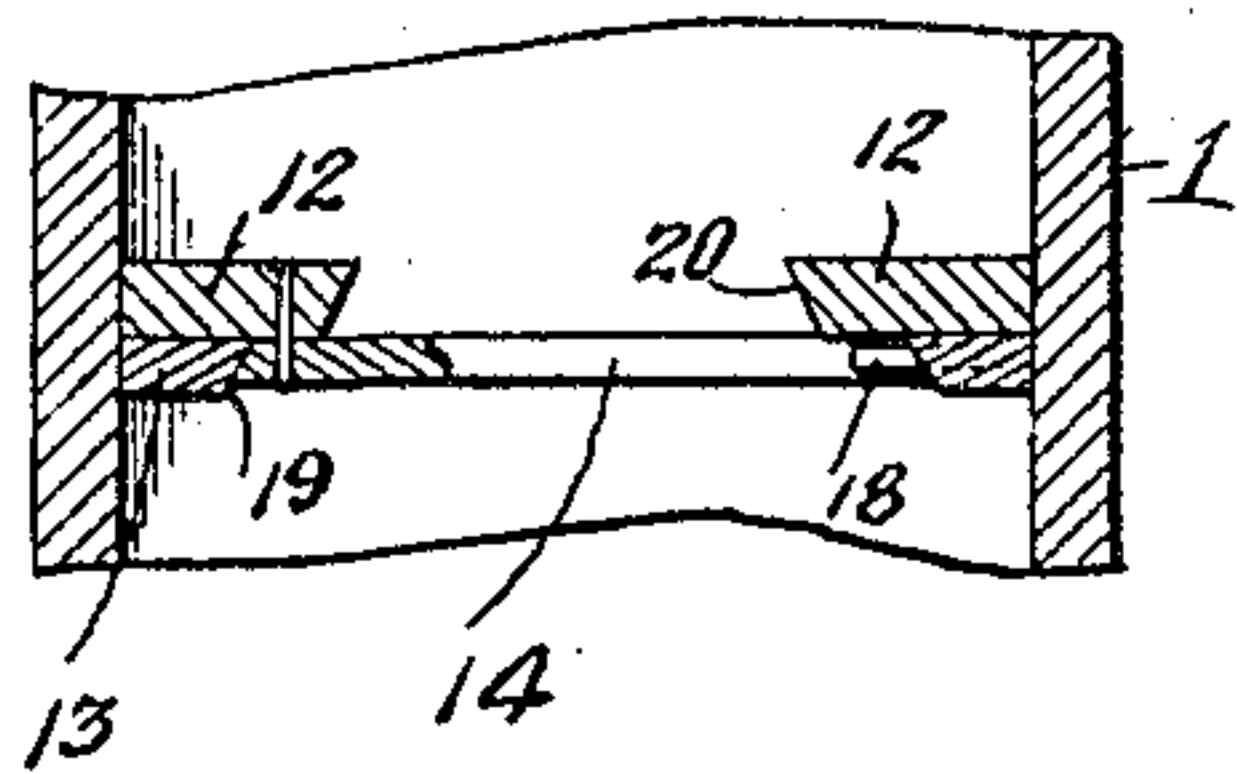


FIG. 7.

Witnesses

Chas. L. Griesbauer.
L. O. Little.

By

Inventor
Oscar L. Solie

Watson E. Coleman

Attorney

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4 SHEETS—SHEET 4.

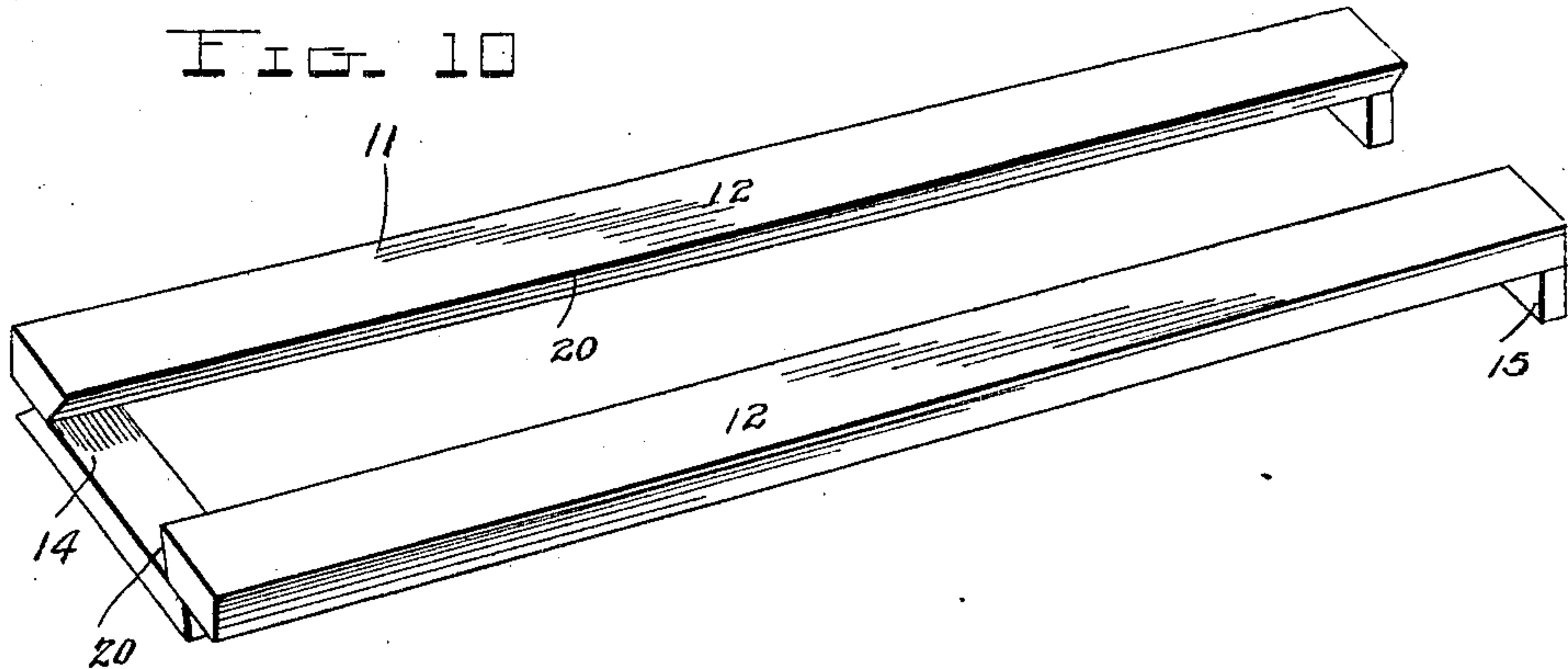


FIG. 11

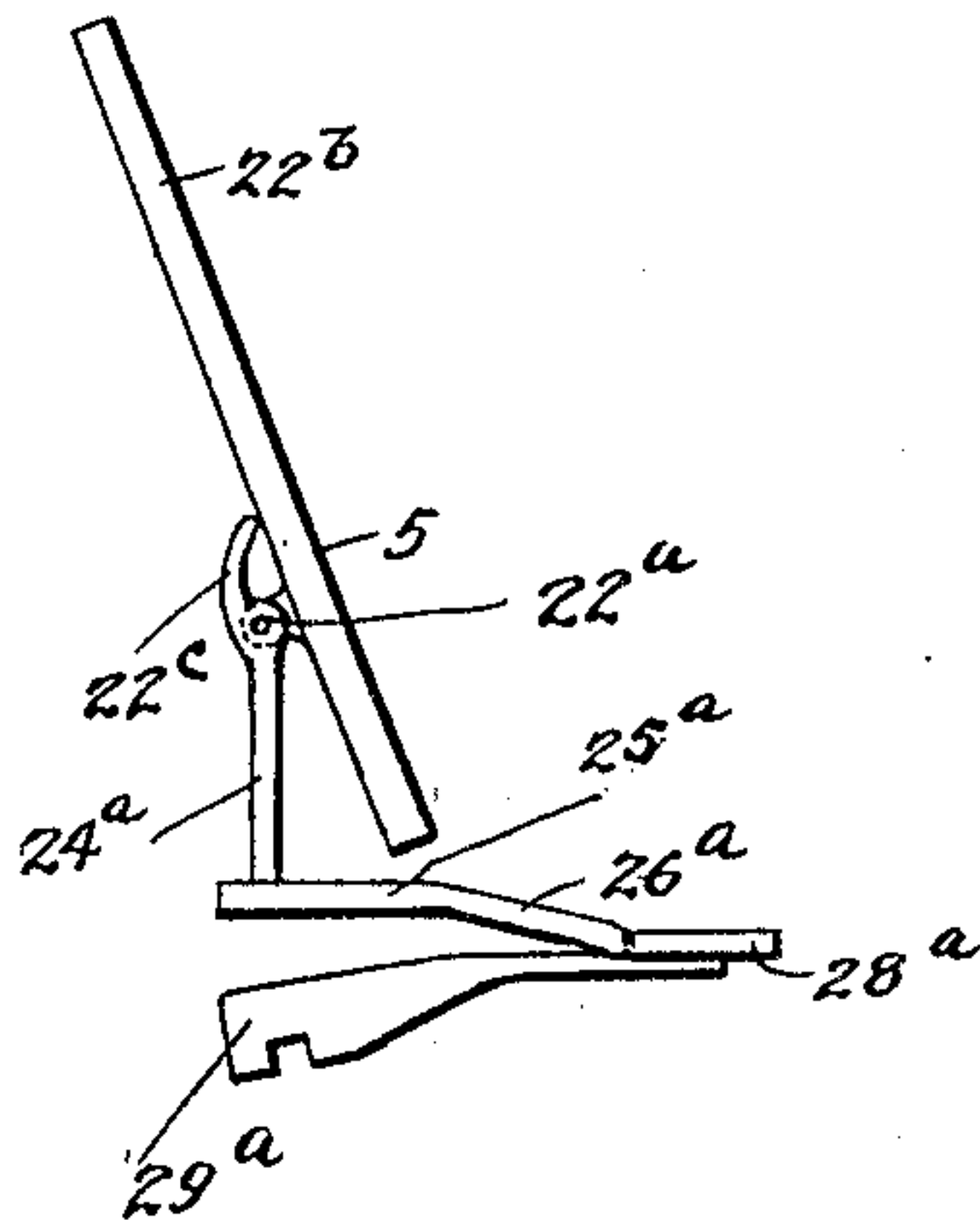
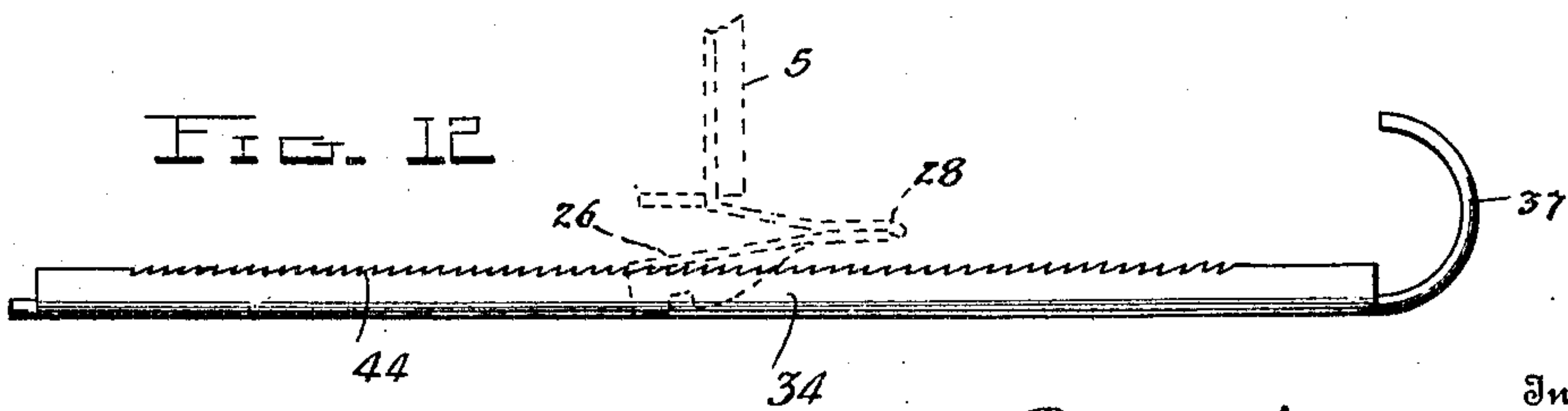


FIG. 12



Inventor

Oscar L. Solie

Witnesses

Chas. R. Griesbauer.
L. O. Little.

By

Watson E. Cleman

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OSCAR L. SOLIE, OF SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA.

FILING-CABINET.

No. 871,372.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 19, 1907.

Application filed April 27, 1907. Serial No. 370,675.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OSCAR L. SOLIE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Sioux Falls, in the county of Minnehaha and State of South Dakota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Filing-Cabinets, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

My invention relates to improvements in filing drawers and cabinets used for filing documents, index cards and the like.

One object of the invention is to provide a filing drawer or box with a simple and practical means whereby it may be locked and unlocked and moved into and out of its casing.

Another object of the invention is to provide a filing drawer or box with an operating device which will not only serve as a means for moving it into and out of its casing and locking and unlocking it, but also control the follower or adjustable back end of the drawer or box so that said end may be simultaneously released from the drawer and locked to the casing or vice versa.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a filing drawer or box with a follower or adjustable back end which may be locked to or held stationary in the casing in which the drawer or box is movable so that the latter may be moved independent of it, while the former is held stationary to permit the contents of the drawer or box to be either compressed or released.

With the above and other objects in view, which will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which

Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section through one of the drawers of the filing cabinet, showing said drawer in its closed and locked position, and the follower locked in said drawer; Fig. 2 is a similar view, showing the drawer partially out of the cabinet or casing and the follower locked to or held stationary in the latter; Fig. 3 is a horizontal section taken on the plane indicated by the line 3—3 in Fig. 2; Figs. 4 and 5 are vertical transverse sections taken respectively on the planes indicated by the lines 4—4 in Fig. 1 and 5—5 in Fig. 2; Fig. 6 is a detail section

on the line 6—6 in Fig. 2; Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the cam or eccentric handle bar; Fig. 8 is a perspective view of a portion of the follower and its latch or lock; Fig. 9 is a similar view of the keeper for said latch; Fig. 10 is a perspective view of the extensible or sliding support upon which the drawer rests and is supported when in its open position; Fig. 11 is a detail view of the slightly modified form of follower; and Fig. 12 is a detail view of the slightly modified form of the cam or eccentric handle bar.

The present embodiment of my invention is designed for filing legal folders, bills and similar papers and documents; and it comprises a suitable cabinet or casing 1 containing one or more of my improved filing drawers or boxes such as the one numbered 2. This casing or frame 1 may be of any suitable or preferred form and construction.

The sliding drawer 2 comprises an open or slotted bottom 3, a stationary front end 4 and a suitable back end or follower 5. The preferred manner of constructing the bottom 3 consists in providing two longitudinal pieces 6 of wood or metal and uniting their rear ends by a metal cross plate 7 and their front ends by a similar but larger plate 8 to which the upright front 4 is secured. The plate 8 may, however, be omitted, in which case the front 4 is connected directly to the front ends of the strips or pieces 6. Secured upon the tops of the pieces 6 are metallic plates 9 which extend longitudinally and have their opposing inner edges projecting inwardly beyond the inner vertical faces of the pieces 6, which latter are spaced apart, as seen in Figs. 4 and 5, to form a slot or longitudinal opening in the bottom 3 of the drawer. A longitudinally extending rod 10 is arranged upon each side of the drawer for the purpose of bracing the front 4 and also guiding the contents of the drawer and holding the same in an upright position between the front 4 and the follower 5. Each of the rods 10 has its forward end secured to the front and its rear end curved downwardly and secured to the bottom 3 adjacent to its rear end. In place of the rods 10, the drawer may have sides of any other suitable construction.

While any suitable means may be provided for guiding the drawer in its sliding movement and for supporting it when in an open or partially open position, I preferably provide for this purpose the extensible sup-

port 11 shown in Fig. 10. This support consists of two parallel strips 12 upon which the bottom pieces 6 slide and which in turn slide upon longitudinally extending guide or track strips 13 suitably arranged within the casing. It will be understood that for the strips 13 may be substituted any other suitable devices which will guide the extensible support. The strips 12 are connected together and spaced apart at their rear ends by a cross piece 14 and upon their front ends are depending stops 15 adapted to enter recesses 16 in the front portion or strip 17 of the casing when said extensible support is moved into the casing. The outward movement of said support may be limited by a stop pin 18 arranged on one of the guide or track strips 13 in the path of the cross piece 14, as shown in Figs. 2 and 6, or by a stop device of any other suitable form. To prevent the extensible support from tilting when drawn out of the casing, I preferably bevel the opposing inner edges 19 of the guide or track strips 13 and bevel in opposite directions the ends of the cross piece 14 for sliding engagement with the beveled edges 19, as clearly shown in Fig. 6, but any other suitable means may be provided for accomplishing the same result. To prevent the drawer from tilting upon the support when it is drawn out of the casing, I also preferably bevel the inner edges 20 of the stops 12 and the opposing walls 21 of the longitudinal recesses in the bottom pieces 6 in which recesses said strips 12 slide, as clearly shown in Figs. 4 and 5.

The follower 5 may be of any desired form and construction but, as illustrated, it comprises a metallic part 23 having an upright portion or plate 24 to which a body 22 of wood or other suitable material may be secured. If desired, however, the upright portion 24 may be made larger in which case the wooden part 22 may be dispensed with. The metallic follower 23 is preferably formed from a single plate of metal and has at its bottom adjacent to each edge rearwardly projecting and horizontally disposed feet 25 and a forwardly projecting tongue 26 preferably of substantially T-form. The feet 25 engage and slide upon the upper surfaces of the guide plates 9 and the tongue 26 has its longitudinal portion or neck 27 projecting through the opening between the plates 9 and its cross portion 28 slidably engaged with the bottom faces of said plates 9. While both the feet 25 and tongue 26 serve to maintain the follower in its upright position, said feet 25 may be dispensed with and the tongue 26 by being made of suitable length will be sufficient to accomplish this purpose. The tongue 26 is also adapted to serve as a locking member for holding the follower in an adjusted position or against longitudinal movement in the drawer, and it

accomplishes this purpose by being pressed upwardly against the bottom faces of the plates 9 by a cam or eccentric device, presently explained. The tongue 26 serves still further as a support for a locking device 29 by means of which the follower may be locked to the casing or cabinet for the purpose of permitting the front 4 of the drawer to be moved toward and from the follower to compress or release the contents of the drawer. If desired, the locking device 29 may be carried by any part of the follower other than the tongue 26 and while it may be in the form of a pivoted or swinging catch of any description, I preferably make it in the form of a spring or resilient latch adapted to engage a keeper 30 suitably arranged upon the front portion 17 of the casing. The latch or catch 29 is here shown constructed of a single piece of resilient metal having one of its ends suitably secured at 31 to the bottom of the portion 28 of the locking member or tongue 26 and its other end provided with depending flanges 32 so that it is of inverted U-form. These flanges 32 are provided with notches 33 for the reception of the keeper 30. The latter may be of any suitable form and construction but as illustrated it comprises a right angular plate, the horizontal portion of which is secured in the top of part 17 and the vertical portion of which is adapted to enter the notches 33.

While independent means may be provided for operating the two locking members 26, 29, I preferably provide a cam or eccentric device 34 which not only serves to simultaneously operate said locking members but also as a handle or operating member for the drawer itself. This device 34 is in the form of a bar or rod of circular, oval or other suitable form in cross section having at its ends pivots or trunnions 35, 36, which are longitudinally aligned or concentric with respect to each other, but eccentrically disposed with respect to the longitudinal axis of the bar 34. The latter is arranged in the slot or opening in the bottom of the drawer between the end plates 7, 8 and beneath the latch 29. The rear pivot 36 is mounted in a bearing aperture in the plate 7 and the front pivot 35 is similarly mounted in the plate 8 and the front 4. This pivot 35 carries a suitable hand piece 37 here shown in the form of a semi-circular loop formed by prolonging and bending said pivot. This mounting of the cam bar 34 permits it to be rotated, and its size and shape is such that when the hand loop 37 is turned upwardly to a vertical position the thick portion of the cam bar elevates the latch 29 above the plane of its keeper 30 and at the same time presses the locking member or tongue 26 upwardly against the plates 9; and when said hand loop 37 is turned so that it projects downwardly said thick portion of the cam

bar will be turned downwardly to permit the latch 29 and the locking tongue 26 to move downwardly. This downward movement of the locking tongue releases or unlocks the drawer and the similar movement of the latch 29 brings the latter into the horizontal plane of the keeper 30 so that when the drawer is pulled outwardly said latch may engage said keeper. Hence it will be seen that when the handle is turned upwardly, the follower will be locked in the drawer and the latch 29 held in an inoperative position; and when said handle is swung downwardly the follower will be released from its locked position in the drawer and the latch 29 will be permitted to engage its keeper 30 to lock or hold the follower stationary in the front of the casing. It will be understood that the disposition of the cam portion of the bar 34 and the hand piece 37 with respect to each other may be such that this locking and unlocking of said parts may be effected when the bar is turned to describe an arc of any size and when the handle is disposed at any other position or positions than the ones above mentioned.

To lock the drawer in its closed position in the casing I may provide any suitable locking mechanism but I prefer the one illustrated which comprises a spring catch 38 of suitable form secured to the back 39 of the casing or to any other support within the latter and adapted to engage the rear cross plate 7, as shown in Fig. 1. This spring catch has a shoulder 40 to engage the inner or forward face of said plate 7 and an incline leading up to said shoulder for the purpose of guiding the catch and swinging it downwardly so that the shoulder 40 may engage said plate. This catch is adapted to be retracted by the cam portion of the bar 34 and it is so shaped that when said portion of said bar is swung downwardly it will depress the catch and lower the shoulder 40 out of engagement with the plate 7. Thus it will be seen that the bar or element 34 and its attached handle 37 serves as a means for moving the drawer into and out of the casing, locking and unlocking the drawer and simultaneously locking the follower to the casing and releasing it from the drawer or vice versa.

In Fig. 11 of the drawings, I have shown the follower consisting of a base portion 25^a having the tongue 26^a and the latch 29^a and also an upright 24^a upon the top of which is pivoted at 22^a a follower body 22^b. The latter is adapted to swing forwardly and rearwardly and its rearward swinging movement is limited by a stop 22^c while its forward movement is limited by the engagement of its lower end with the uprights. As the drawer is pulled out this follower 22^b will tilt to its inclined position shown in Fig. 11 and as the drawer is pushed in to compress

the contents of the same, the said follower 22^b will be brought to its upright position by the contents of the drawer.

In Fig. 12 is shown a locking bar or element 34 having a longitudinal series of serrations or teeth 44 for the purpose of more effectively retaining the follower in an adjusted position, as will be readily understood.

As before stated, the embodiment of the invention illustrated and described is especially designed for filing bills and the like, but it will be understood that it may be embodied in a cabinet or filing device of any description. It will also be understood that I do not wish to be limited to the precise showing herein set forth and that various changes in the form, proportion, arrangement and details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, and means for locking said follower to the casing.

2. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, means for locking the follower to said drawer, means for locking the follower to said casing, and means for actuating both of said locking means.

3. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, means for locking the follower to said drawer, means for locking the follower to said casing and means for simultaneously throwing one of said locking means into operation and the other out of operation.

4. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, means for locking the follower to said drawer, means for locking the follower to said casing and a cam or eccentric device for actuating both of said locking means.

5. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, a locking member for frictionally clamping the follower to the drawer, a swinging locking member carried by the follower for engagement with said casing and a cam or eccentric device for simultaneously operating said locking members.

6. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, a locking member for frictionally clamping the follower to the drawer, a swinging locking member carried by the follower for engagement with said casing, a bar mounted for rotary movement in said drawer, a cam upon said bar for operating said locking members and a hand piece carried by said bar.

7. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, a

locking tongue carried by said follower and adapted to frictionally engage said drawer, a latch carried by said follower, a keeper for said latch mounted upon said casing, a cam bar for actuating said latch and said tongue and a handle upon said bar for actuating it and for moving the drawer into and out of the casing.

8. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, a locking tongue carried by said follower and adapted to frictionally engage said drawer, a latch carried by said follower, a keeper for said latch mounted upon said casing, a locking member carried by the casing for engagement with said drawer, and means for simultaneously operating said locking member, said latch and said tongue.

9. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, a locking tongue carried by said follower and adapted to frictionally engage said drawer, a latch carried by said follower, a keeper for said latch mounted upon said casing, a locking member carried by the casing for engagement with said drawer, and a cam or eccentric device for simultaneously operating said locking member, said latch and said tongue.

10. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, means for locking the follower to the drawer, means for locking the follower to the casing, means for locking the drawer in the casing, and means for simultaneously operating the said locking means.

11. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, means for locking the follower to the drawer, means for locking the follower to the casing, means for locking the drawer in the casing, and a cam or eccentric device for simultaneously operating the said locking means.

12. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, means for locking the follower to the drawer, means for locking the follower to the casing, a locking member carried by the casing for engagement with the drawer and an operating member for simultaneously releasing said locking member and operating said locking means.

13. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, means for locking the follower to the drawer, means for locking the drawer in the casing and means for simultaneously operating said locking means for the drawer and the follower.

14. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, means for locking the follower to the casing, means for locking the drawer in the casing and means for simultaneously operating said locking means.

15. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, means for supporting the drawer in its open position, a keeper carried by the casing, a latch carried by the follower for engagement with said keeper, a handle rod or bar rotatable in the drawer and a cam upon said rod for operating said latch.

16. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, a locking member carried by the follower for frictional engagement with the drawer, a cam or eccentric for actuating said locking member and means exterior to the casing and drawer for actuating said cam or eccentric, substantially as described.

17. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, a locking tongue carried by the follower for frictional engagement with the drawer, a handle rod mounted for rotation in the drawer and a cam upon said rod for actuating said tongue.

18. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer, a follower in the latter, a swinging latch carried by the follower, a keeper carried by the casing for engagement by said latch and a cam or eccentric device for actuating said latch.

19. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer having a slotted bottom, a follower in the drawer, a tongue carried by the follower to project into the slotted bottom and frictionally engage the same, a spring latch carried by said tongue, a keeper carried by the casing for engagement by said latch, a handle rod rotatable in the drawer and a cam upon said rod for actuating said latch and said tongue.

20. A filing device comprising a frame or casing, a drawer having a slotted bottom, a follower in the drawer, a tongue carried by the follower to project into the slotted bottom and frictionally engage the same, a spring latch carried by said tongue, a keeper carried by the casing for engagement by said latch, a spring catch carried by the casing for engagement with said drawer and a cam or eccentric rod rotatable in the drawer and adapted to simultaneously operate said catch, said latch and said tongue.

21. A device of the character described comprising a frame or casing, a drawer therein, a movable locking member carried by the casing for engagement with said drawer a handle for said drawer and means actuated by said handle for actuating said locking member.

22. A device of the character described comprising a frame or casing, a drawer therein, a spring catch having a shoulder to engage said drawer and lock it in said casing, a handle rod rotatable in said drawer and a cam upon said rod for engagement with said catch.

23. A filing device comprising a frame or casing having the guides 13, the sliding support, 11 engaged with said guides, means for limiting the outward movement of said support the sliding drawer mounted upon said support and having a slotted bottom, the follower slidably arranged in said drawer, means for locking said follower in the latter and means for locking the follower to the casing, substantially as described.

24. In a filing device, a drawer having a slotted or recessed bottom and the follower 5 having the upright portion 24, the forwardly projecting tongue 26 and the supporting feet 15 25, the locking member 29 and means for ac-

tuating said locking member and the tongue 26, substantially as described.

25. In a filing device, a drawer, a follower in the latter, the tongue 29 carried by said follower and having depending flanges 20 formed with notches, the angular keeper plate 30, and a cam or eccentric rod arranged in the drawer and extending through the locking tongue, substantially as described.

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

OSCAR L. SOLIE.

Witnesses:

JAY A. HAND,
M. BREINZER.