

J. O. & W. L. HUNTER & W. A. WYKEL.  
 PHYSICIAN'S MEDICINE CASE.  
 APPLICATION FILED APR. 29, 1908.

900,373.

Patented Oct. 6, 1908.

4 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

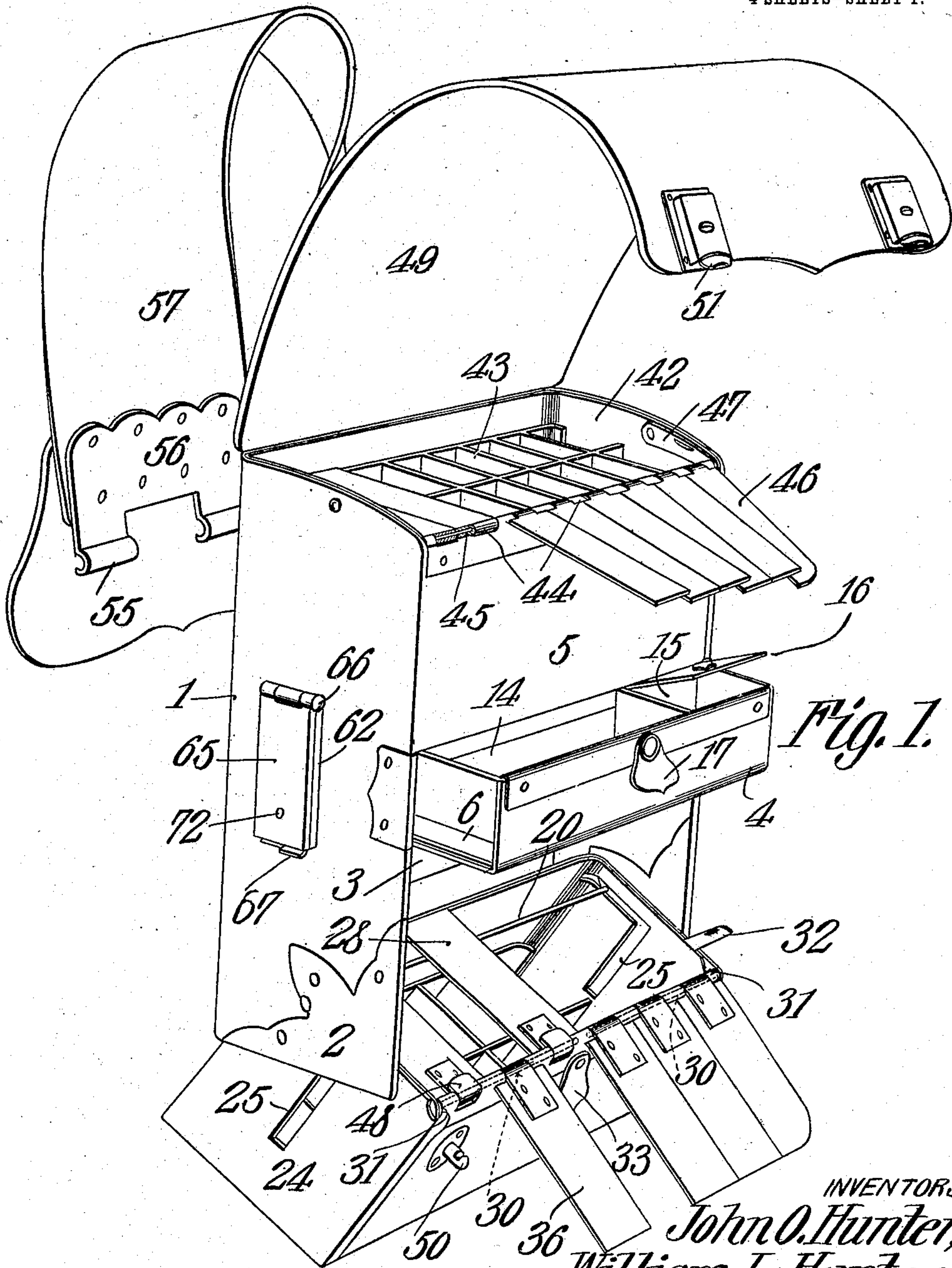


Fig. 1.

Witnesses  
*E. H. Hunt*  
*Hubert D. Lawson*

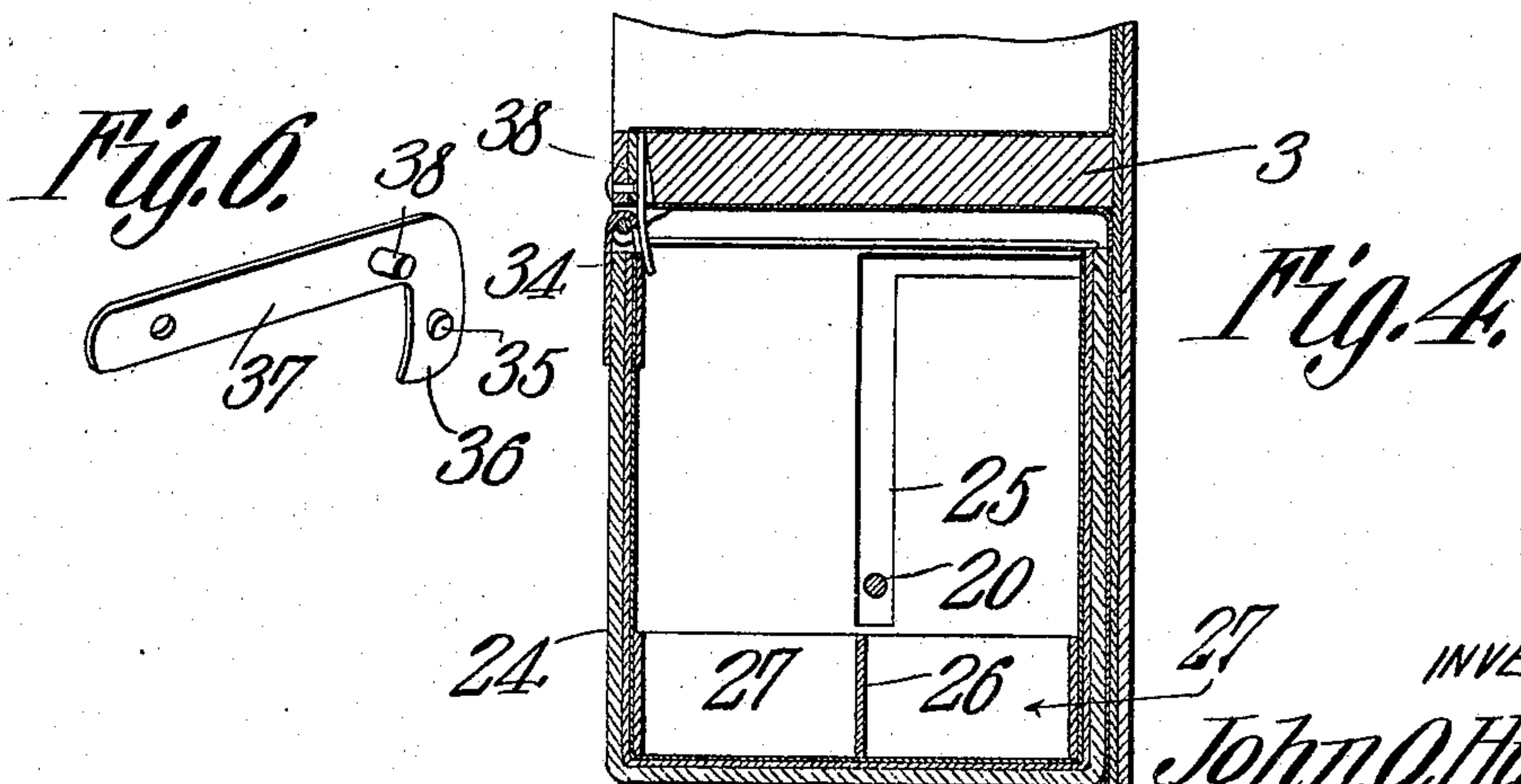
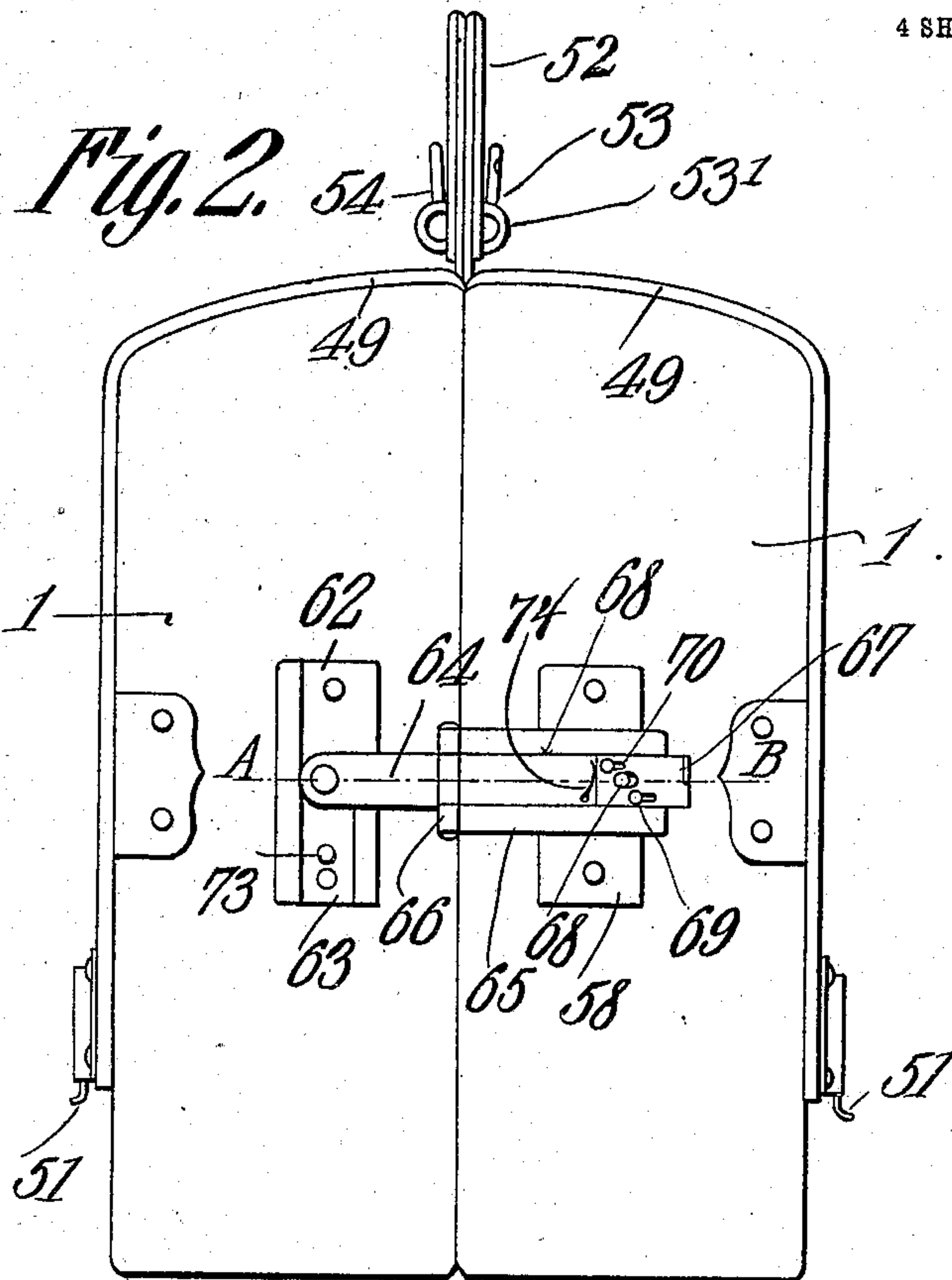
INVENTORS  
*John O. Hunter,*  
*William L. Hunter,*  
*William A. Wykel*  
 BY *C. Snow & Co.*  
 Attorneys

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4 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses  
*E. J. Hunt*  
*Herbert D. Lawson*

INVENTORS  
*John O. Hunter,*  
*William L. Hunter,*  
*William A. Wykel*  
 By *Chas. Snow*  
 Attorneys



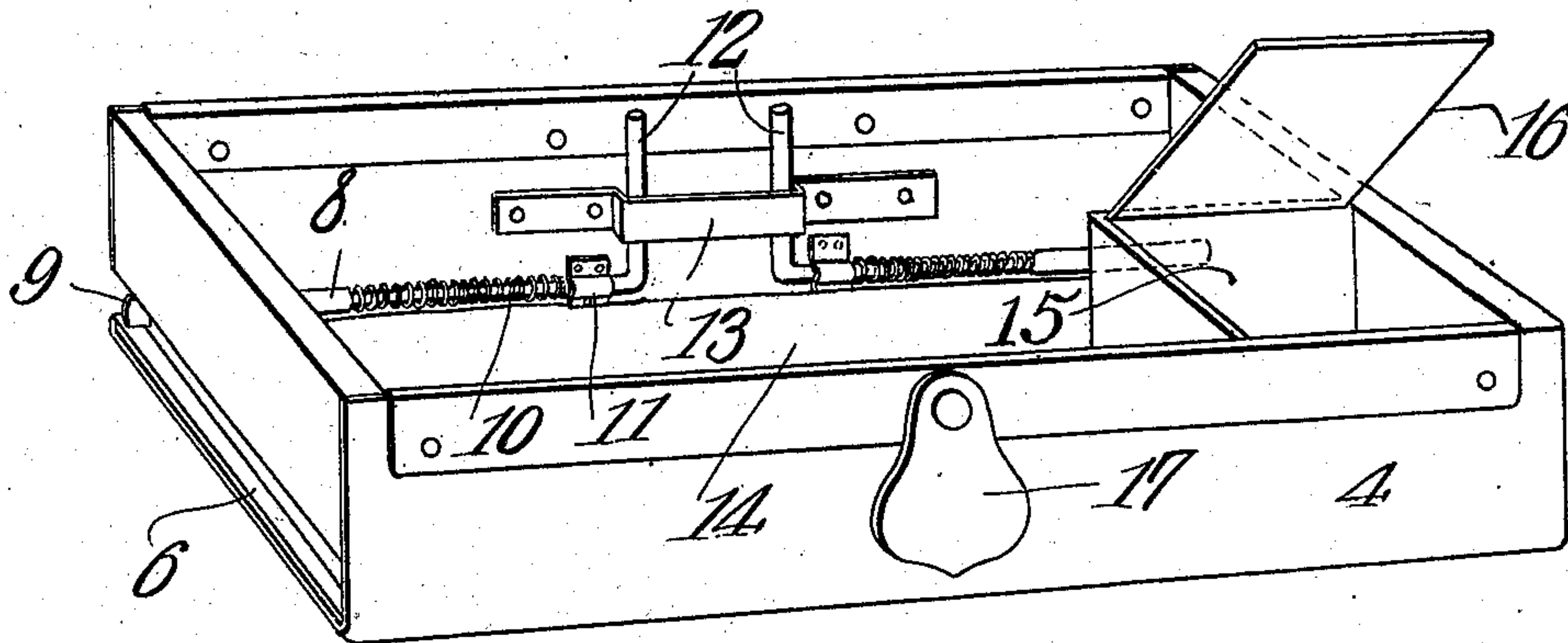
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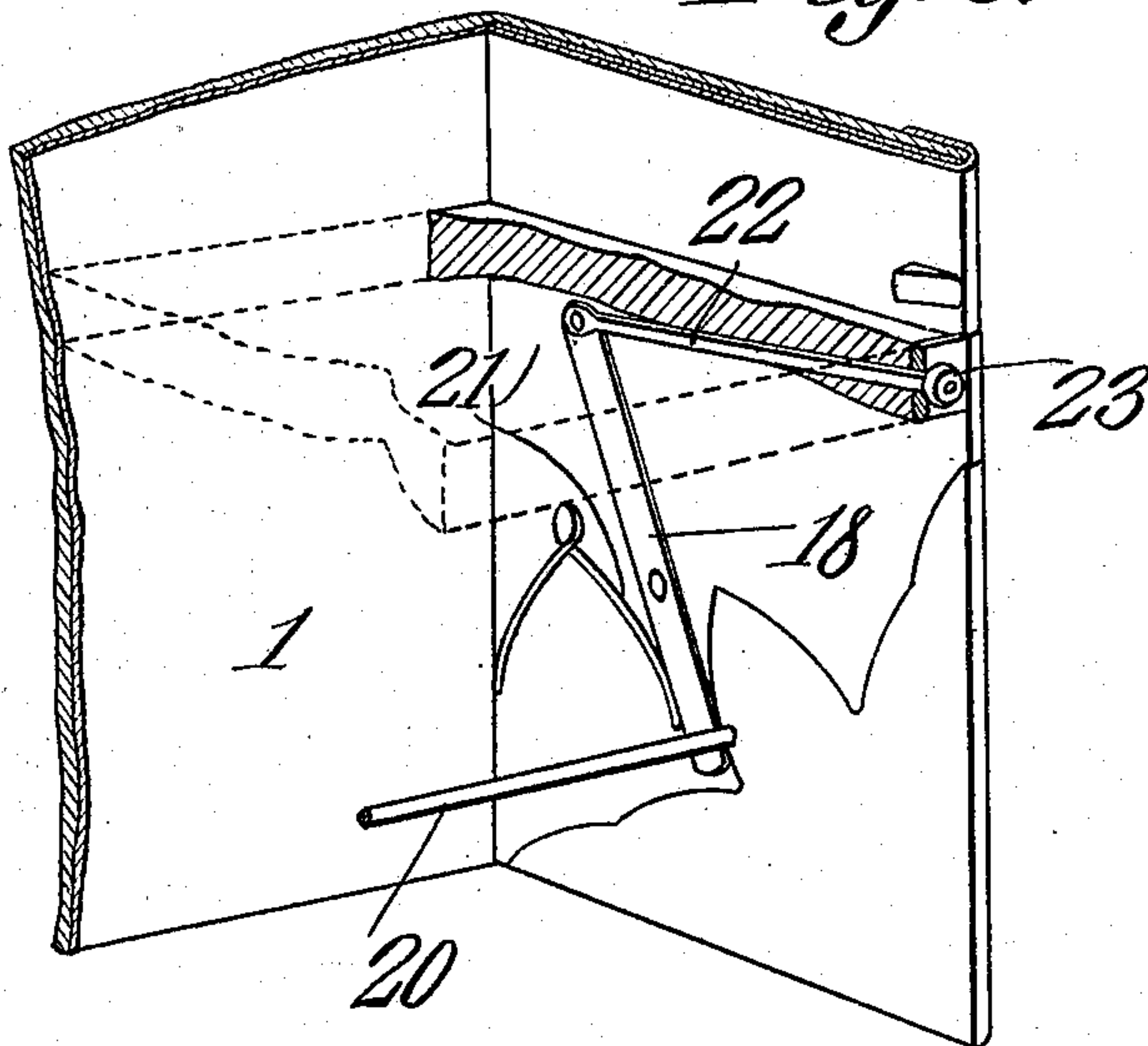
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4 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

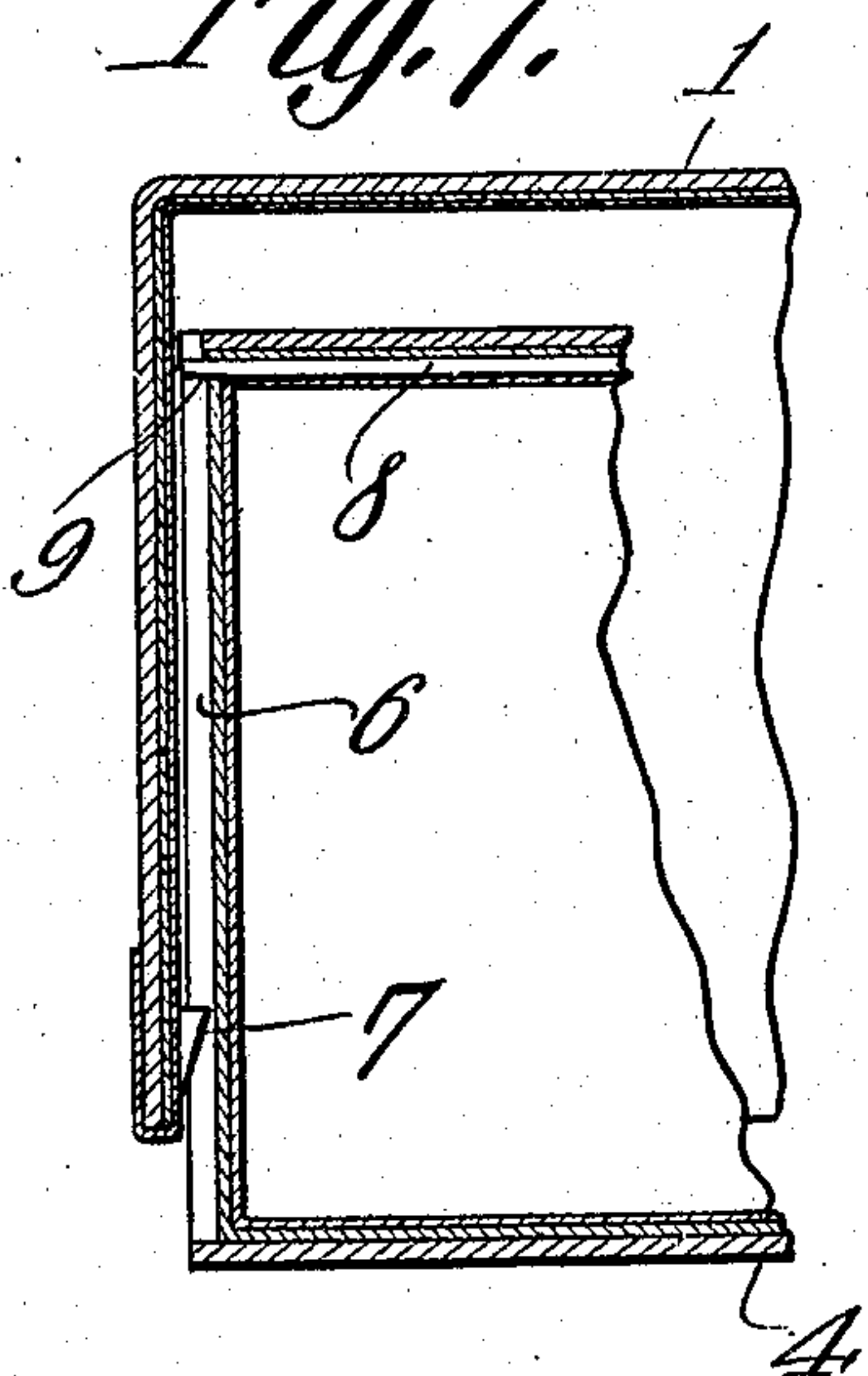
*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 5.*



*Fig. 7.*



Witnesses  
*E. J. Hunt*  
*Herbert D. Lawson*

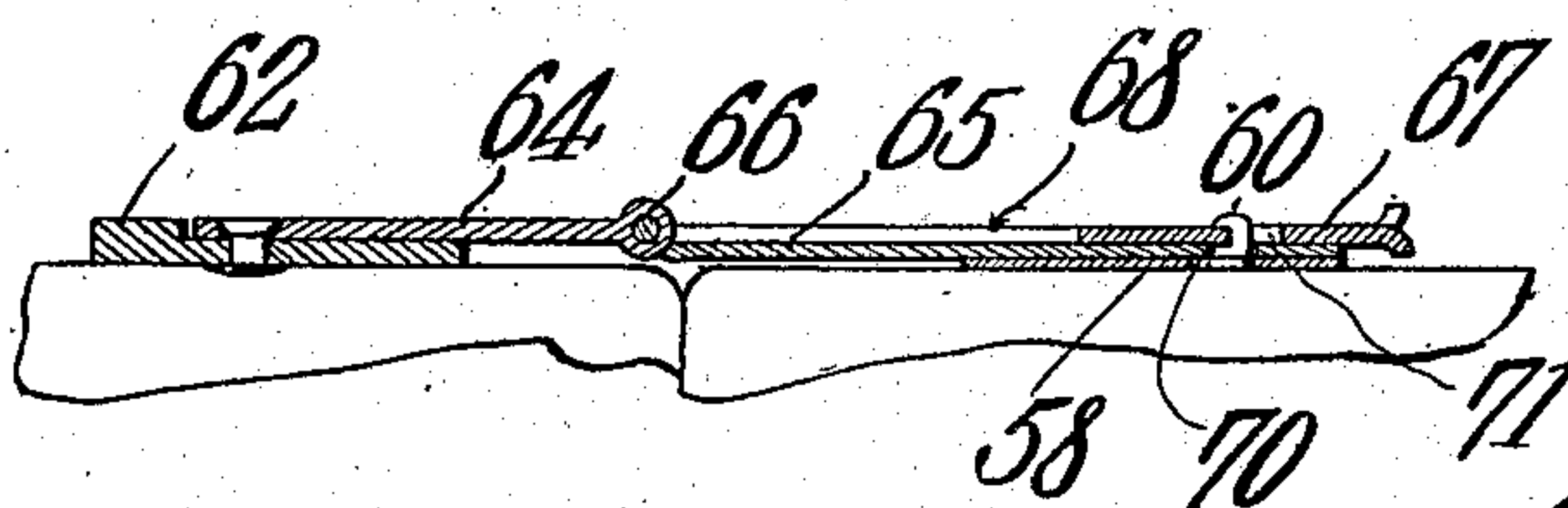
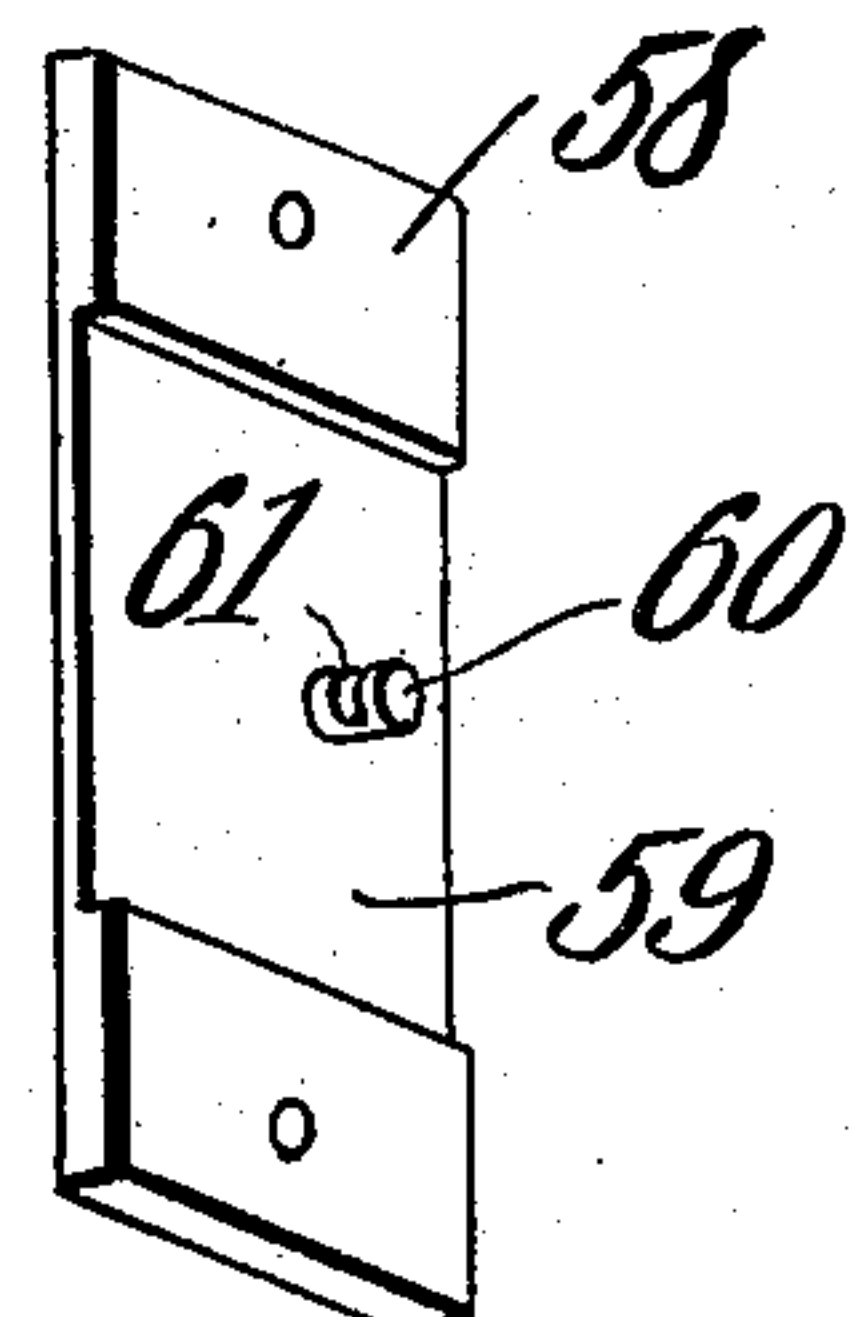
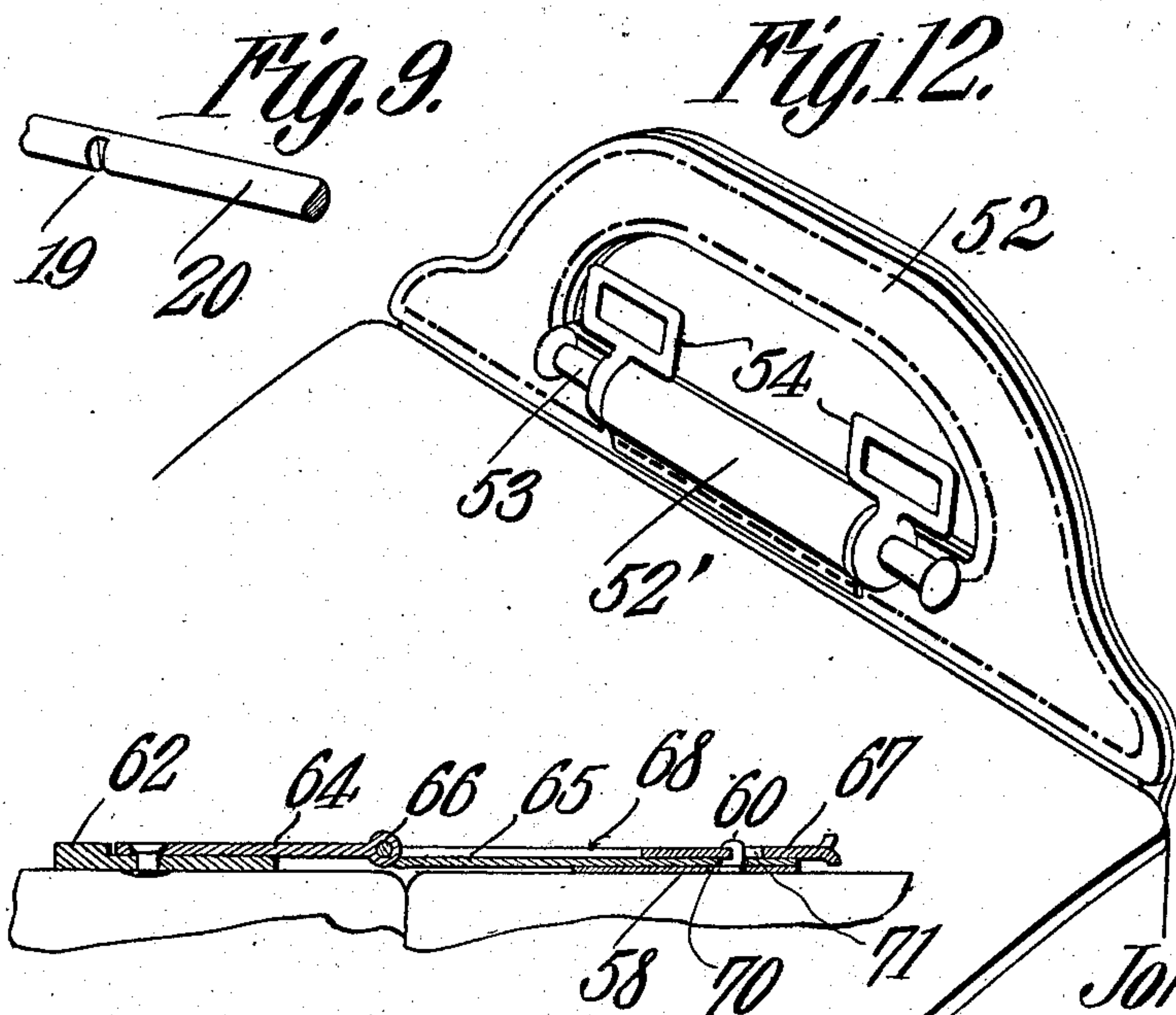
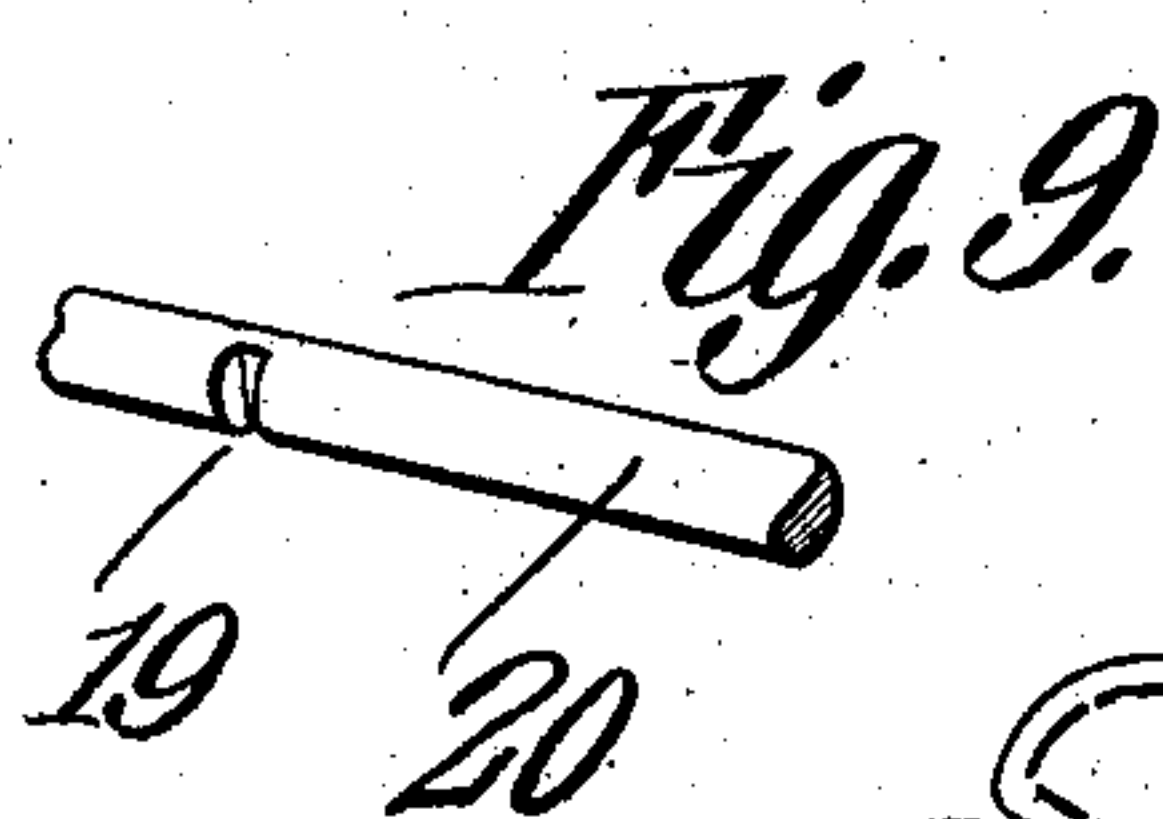
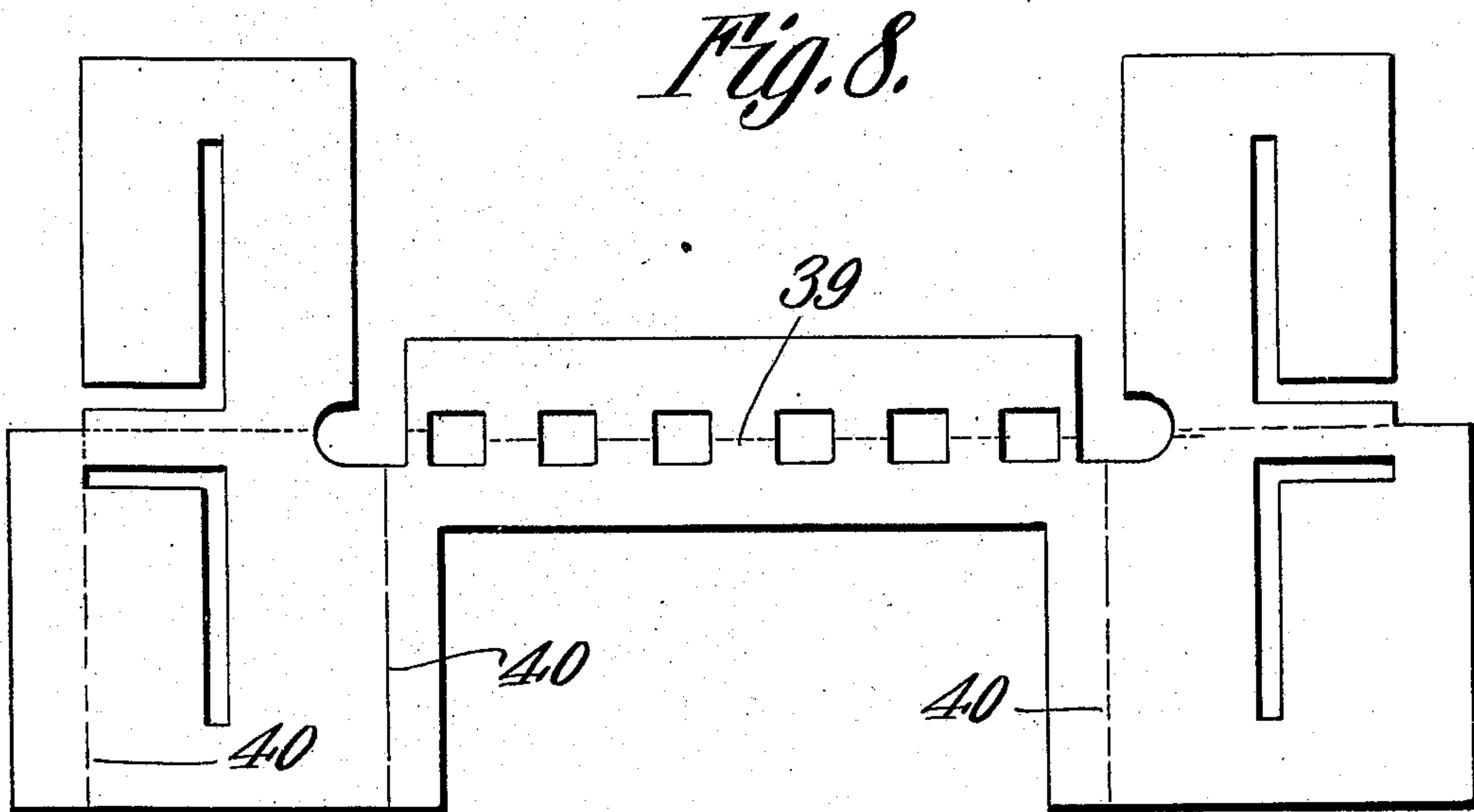
INVENTORS  
*John O. Hunter,*  
*William L. Hunter,*  
*William A. Wykel*  
 By *C. A. Snow & Co.*  
 Attorneys

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4 SHEETS—SHEET 4.



Witnesses

*Herbert D. Lawson.*

By

INVENTORS  
*John O. Hunter,*  
*William L. Hunter,*  
*William A. Wykel*  
*C. Snow & Co.*  
 Attorneys



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN O. HUNTER AND WILLIAM L. HUNTER, OF RED SULPHUR SPRINGS, AND WILLIAM A. WYKEL, OF HINTON, WEST VIRGINIA.

## PHYSICIAN'S MEDICINE-CASE.

No. 900,373.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 6, 1908.

Application filed April 29, 1908. Serial No. 429,938.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, JOHN O. HUNTER and WILLIAM L. HUNTER, citizens of the United States, residing at Red Sulphur Springs, county of Monroe, and State of West Virginia, and WILLIAM A. WYKEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hinton, in the county of Summers and State of West Virginia, have invented a new and useful Physician's Medicine-Case, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to physician's medicine cases and its object is to provide a durable and compact device of this character which can be used either as a saddle bag or as a hand case.

Another object is to provide a case having means whereby bottles containing medicines can be held firmly and compactly, there being a plurality of cells for the reception of the bottles and each cell having a label constituting a closure therefor, said label indicating the contents of the bottle contained within the cell.

Another object is to provide a case having superposed bottle containers the lower one being mounted in a novel manner whereby it can be opened so as to permit convenient access to all portions of the interior thereof.

A further object is to provide a case having one or more receptacles for holding various articles other than bottles, such for instance as bandages, paper, ligatures, cotton, etc., the same being provided with a closure for preventing the admission of dust, etc. to the receptacles.

A further object is to provide a durable device of this character having a metal framework covered with leather or other suitable material and having only one exposed seam.

A further object is to provide a case having rounded corners and which is not provided with exposed seams or rivets and which will not therefore cut or otherwise mar the saddle to which it is attached.

Another object is to provide novel means for securing two cases together so as to form a double case which can be conveniently carried in the hand.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists of certain novel features of construction and combinations of parts which will be hereinafter more fully described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings is shown the preferred form of the invention.

In said drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of the case, the same being shown open and attached to one end of a saddle strap. Fig. 2 is an end elevation showing two of the cases secured together and designed to be carried in the hand. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the drawer of the case and disclosing the mechanism employed for preventing the drawer from being withdrawn from the case. Fig. 4 is a central vertical section through the lower portion of the case from front to rear thereof and showing the lower bottle container in closed position. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one corner of the case and showing one of the devices employed for securing the pivot rod of the lower bottle container in position. Fig. 6 is a detail view of the catch utilized for securing the lower bottle container in closed position. Fig. 7 is a horizontal section through one end portion of the drawer and showing one of the stops employed in connection therewith. Fig. 8 is a detail view of a reinforcing plate used in connection with the lower bottle container. Fig. 9 is a perspective view of a portion of the pivot rod of said container. Fig. 10 is an elevation of one of the plates of the coupling used for fastening two of the cases together. Fig. 11 is a section on line A—B, Fig. 2, said section being taken solely through one of the coupling devices. Fig. 12 is an elevation of the handle and the adjoining eyes of the case.

Referring to the figures by characters of reference, 1 designates a substantially rectangular case formed of sole leather or other suitable material covering a non-flexible frame of metal or the like and preferably provided with metallic reinforces 2 at the corners and other desirable points upon the case. It is of course to be understood that these reinforces may be suitably ornamented so as to add to the attractiveness of the device. The case is open at the bottom and has a horizontal partition 3 therein removed a desired distance from the bottom of the case, said partition constituting a support for a drawer 4 preferably extending throughout the width of the case and designed to be moved outwardly from under the front wall 5 thereof. This drawer is provided in its sides with longitudinal grooves which are open at their rear



ends and projecting into each groove is a stop lug 7, the front face of which is beveled as shown in Fig. 7. The drawer is suitably lined with any desired material and arranged upon the back of the drawer and its lining are oppositely extending rods 8 formed with heads 9 which project into the rear end portions of the grooves 6 and are designed, when the drawer is open, to move against the projections 7 and thus prevent the drawer from being completely withdrawn from the case. The heads 9 are held normally projected into the grooves as by means of springs 10 which bear against guides 11 secured to the rear wall of the drawer and extending upwardly from the inner or adjoining ends of the rods are arms 12 mounted to slide between the rear wall of the drawer and guide strap 13 which is fastened to it. Obviously when these rods are in their normal positions the drawer can not be removed from the case. However, by drawing the arms 12 toward each other and compressing the springs 10 the heads 9 can be drawn out of the grooves 6 and the drawer can then be completely removed. As shown in the drawings the drawer of one case is preferably provided with a large main compartment 14 and a smaller compartment 15, said latter compartment being provided with a closure 16 connected to the drawer in any preferred manner. Compartment 15 is designed to hold sundries such as needles, ligatures, and other aseptic materials. The larger compartment 14 may contain papers, instruments, and other large articles such as customarily carried by physicians. A suitable device such as a tab 17 may be connected to the front of the drawer so as to facilitate opening the same.

That portion of the case 1 below the partition 3 is open at the front as well as the bottom and is designed to receive the lower bottle container of the case. The walls of the case are provided below the partition with linings of any suitable material and upon one of the end walls and its lining is located a lever 18 the lower end of which is designed to project into a notch 19 formed in one end portion of a pivot rod 20 which is insertible through the end walls of the case. A spring 21 is connected to the lever 20 and serves to hold it normally pressed into the notch 19 and as long as the lever is thus positioned it is obviously impossible to withdraw the rod 20 from the case. In order that this withdrawal may be effected, however, a rod 22 is pivoted to the lever 18 and extends through the front of the case and the partition 3, the same having a suitable head 23 in its outer end designed to be grasped and pulled outwardly. This will cause lever 18 to swing upon its fulcrum and release the rod 20 which can then be pulled longitudinally from the case. The rod 20 constitutes the pivot and support of

the lower container of the device. This container consists of a box 24 designed to slide and swing between the end walls of the case, said box being preferably formed of metal covered with leather and lined with any suitable soft material.

An inverted L-shaped slot 25 is formed within each end of the box and rod 20 heretofore referred to extends through these slots, the depending or perpendicular portions of which are arranged at the centers of the ends. Partitions 26 extend longitudinally and transversely within the box and below the lower ends of the slots 25 and these partitions form two parallel rows of cells 27 each being of sufficient size to receive the bottom portion of a bottle. When bottles are located within all of these cells they will extend upwardly at opposite sides of the path of rod 20 and will terminate below the upper or normally horizontal portion of the slots. These bottles may be of any desired form but are preferably provided with wide mouths so that instruments can be readily inserted into them. Hingedly connected to the front edge of the box 24 are diaphanous labels 28 formed of metal plates faced with celluloid, mica, or any other suitable material between which slips of papers with names of drugs thereon are designed to be inserted or the labels may have indicated thereon the names of the medicines contained in the bottles directly therebelow so that any desired bottle can be quickly located simply by reading the names upon the labels. Moreover, said labels may be made of different colors, one color indicating poisonous and the other color indicating non-poisonous medicines. The labels 28 are mounted on alining pivot pins or pintles 29 extending through the eyes 30 of the labels from opposite ends of the box, the outer end of each pintle being provided with a head 31. A retaining strip 32 is pivotally mounted in each end portion of the box and is designed to swing downward over the head of the adjoining pintle and when thus positioned said strips prevent longitudinal displacement of the pintles. It will be understood, however, that by raising the strips the pintles can be withdrawn longitudinally and the labels removed and new ones substituted therefor. In Fig. 1 one of the strips 32 is shown raised.

A tab 33 is secured to the front of the box 24 and any suitable means may be employed for securing the box in closed position. In Figs. 4 and 6 one form of fastening for this purpose has been shown. This fastening consists of a spring metal strip 37 secured at one end to the partition 3 and back of the leather covering upon the front of the partition 3. A tongue 36 extends downward from the free end of this strip 37 and has a stud 35 extending forward therefrom. An opening 34 is formed in the front of the box 24 near its upper edge and when the box is



slid upwardly into closed position its upper edge will ride over and push backward against the stud 35 until the opening 34 assumes a position in front of the stud whereupon said stud will spring forward into the opening as shown in Fig. 4 and thus prevent the box from sliding backward into open position. In order that the fastener may be released from the box a button 38 extends forward from the free end of strip 37 and this button is designed to be pushed inwardly to cause a corresponding movement of the tongue 36 and stud 35, said movement being sufficient to draw the stud 35 from the opening 34.

It is of course to be understood that when the box is closed and secured the rod 20 is in position in the lower portions of the slots 25 as shown in Fig. 4. When it is desired to obtain access to the contents of the box the same is unfastened in the manner hereinbefore described and pulled downward by means of tab 33 until the rod 20 assumes a position at the upper ends of the vertical portions of slots 25. Said box can then be drawn downward until the rod 20 is positioned in the upper ends of the slots, whereupon the box will be suspended in an inclined position as shown in Fig. 1 and any one or more of the labels 28 can be swung upward so as to permit the removal of the bottle thereunder.

It is to be understood that, if desired, the box 24 can be provided with a metal reinforce such as indicated in Fig. 8. This reinforce consists of a single piece of sheet metal designed to be folded along the dotted lines 39 and 40, thus producing not only the fixed hinge members of the labels 28 but also outer and inner reinforcing plates 41 for the end walls of the box, said plates having registering slots for the reception of the rod 20. This plate also serves to reinforce the corners of the box, as will be clearly apparent.

That portion of the case above drawer 4 constitutes the upper bottle container of the device. It consists of a compartment 42 on the bottom of which rests a series of longitudinal and transverse partitions 43 forming parallel series of bottle receiving cells. Eyes 44 extend upward from a metal strip on the front edge of the case and movably mounted within these eyes is a pivot rod or pintle 45 on which is hingedly mounted a series of labels 46 of any suitable diaphanous material and bearing thereon the names of the contents of the bottles directly therebelow. Longitudinal withdrawal of the pintle 45 is prevented by a retaining strip 47 pivotally connected to one end wall of the case and clearly shown in Fig. 1. Both the labels 46 and the labels 28 have upstanding finger pieces 48 close to their hinges whereby said labels can be readily swung upwardly to expose the bottles thereunder.

When all of the labels 46 are in position upon the partition 43, and the drawer 4 and the box 24 are closed and locked a flap 49 of leather or other suitable material and which extends from the upper edge to the back of the case can be swung downward over the top and front of the case and hooked onto notched stems 50 extending from the front face of the box 24. The flap 49 is preferably provided with apertured slides 51 for engaging the notched pins 50, these slides and pins both constituting members of a well known form of fastener detail description of which is not deemed necessary. A handle 52 in the form of a stiff leather loop preferably extends upwardly from the rear wall of the case and arranged below the handle or within the loop thereof is an eye 52' in which is mounted a rod 53 carrying metallic eyes 54. These eyes are designed to be engaged by hooks 55 extending from a plate 56 secured to one end of a saddle strap 57. One set of hooks is provided at each end of the strap so that two of the cases herein described can be supported from the saddle, one being located at each side thereof.

In order that the two cases connected to the ends of the saddle strap may be combined to form a single medicine case fastening devices of novel form have been provided upon the ends of the cases. As shown in the drawings each case is provided at one end with a plate 58 having a broad transverse groove in its outer face, as shown at 59, there being a pin 60 extending from the groove and notched as indicated at 61. The other end of each case has a plate 62 fastened to it and provided with a broad longitudinal groove 63 therein, the upper half of one wall of the groove being cut away. Pivotally mounted within this groove is a strip 64 designed to swing into position longitudinally of the groove 63 or at right angles thereto and a longitudinally grooved plate 65 is hinged, as indicated at 66, to the end of strip 64. This plate has a locking slide 67 mounted in its groove 68, said slide being limited in its movement and held against displacement from the groove by retaining pins 69 which extend from the plate 65 and into slots 70 in the slide. Another slot 71 is formed within this slide and is designed to receive the pin 60 of the adjoining case as hereinafter set forth, there being an opening 72 in the plate 65 for the reception of this pin 60.

When it is desired to fasten the two cases together so as to form a single case their backs are placed in contact and the two grips or handles 51 will register as shown in Fig. 2. The plate 65 is swung into alinement with strip 64 and said strip is moved at right angles to plate 62. The pin 60 can then be inserted through the opening 72 after which the slide 67 is shifted longitudinally by a spring 74 so as to be seated within the notch



61 and thus lock the parts together. To detach the two cases this operation is reversed, plate 65 folding downward onto strip 64 and plate 62 there being a pin 73 upon the plate 62 for projecting into opening 72. This pin is similar to the pin 60 and by shifting the slide 67 the parts can be secured together in the position shown in Fig. 1. The two handles 51 can then be grasped in the hand of the user and the two cases conveniently carried. When thus positioned they will have the appearance of a single case. The case can be lined throughout with a suitable soft material such as plush and the bottles are prevented from rattling by racks molded preferably in one piece of partly hardened rubber and which can be lifted out when desired for the purpose of cleaning them. The exterior surface of the case and the various parts mounted therein can be suitably ornamented so that the device will present an attractive appearance.

What is claimed is:

1. The combination with a case having an open bottom and front portion; of a longitudinally removable pivot rod extending through the case, and a container slidably and pivotally mounted upon said rod and movable within and beyond the case, said container having angular slots for the reception of the rod.

2. The combination with a case having an open front portion; of a container mounted to slide and swing within and beyond the case, said container having angular slots in the ends thereof, and a combined pivot and supporting rod mounted within the case and extending through the slots.

3. The combination with a case having an open front portion; of a container mounted to slide and swing within and beyond the case, said container having angular slots in the ends thereof, a combined pivot and supporting rod mounted within the case and extending through the slots, and means within the container for holding receptacles at opposite sides of the path of the rod within the container.

4. The combination with a case having an open front; of a container mounted to slide vertically and horizontally and to swing within and beyond the case, said container having angular slots in the ends thereof, a longitudinally removable pivot and supporting rod within the case and extending through the slot, and means for locking the rod against removal.

5. The combination with a case having an open front; of a container mounted to slide and swing within and beyond the case and having angular slots therein, a combined supporting and pivot rod removable longitudinally from the case and extending through the slots, a spring controlled locking lever within the case for engaging the rod, and

means projecting beyond the case for shifting the lever to release the rod.

6. The combination with a case; of a container therein, a plurality of receptacle-receiving cells within the container and a diaphanous name bearing label movably mounted above each receptacle and constituting a closure for its cell.

7. The combination with a case; of a container therein, said container having a plurality of receptacle receiving cells, and separate diaphanous indicating labels movably connected to the container and constituting closures for the respective cells.

8. The combination with a case; of a container therein, said container having a plurality of receptacle-receiving cells, and separate diaphanous indicating labels movably connected to the container and constituting closures for the respective cells, and a finger piece upon each label.

9. The combination with oppositely disposed contacting cases, and a handle common to the two cases; of means for coupling said cases together, said means comprising a strip pivotally connected to one case, an apertured plate hingedly connected to said strip, a locking slide upon said plate, and a pin projecting from the other case and into the aperture for engagement with the slot.

10. The combination with oppositely disposed contacting cases and registering handles extending therefrom to form a singled handle; of means at each end of the cases for coupling said cases together, said means comprising a plate upon one of the cases, a strip pivotally connected to the cases, a plate hingedly connected to the strip and having an aperture, a pin projecting from the other case and into the aperture, and means upon the apertured plate for engaging the pin to prevent its withdrawal from the plate, said apertured plate and strip being foldable upon the first mentioned plate.

11. In a case of the character described a container and a combined hinge member and reinforcing device connected thereto, said device comprising a sheet metal plate folded to embrace the upper edges of the front and end walls of the container and to cover the end walls, said end wall coverings having angular slots registering with slots in the end walls, that portion of the plate engaging the front edge of the container being apertured and forming a plurality of hinge eyes.

12. The combination with oppositely disposed cases, upstanding handles thereon, and eyes connected to each case adjacent its handle; of means upon the ends of the cases for coupling them together and in contact with the handles registering to form a single handle, and a saddle strap for detachably engaging the eyes to connect the cases when spaced apart.

13. The combination with a case having



an open bottom and front portion; of a container within, and disposed to slide and swing beyond the case, each end of the container having a transverse slot adjacent its  
5 upper edge and another slot extending perpendicularly from one end of each transverse slot, and a combined pivot and supporting rod extending through the slotted ends of the container and detachably fastened to the  
10 case.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own, we have hereto affixed our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN O. HUNTER.  
WILLIAM L. HUNTER.  
WILLIAM A. WYKEL.

Witnesses:

JOHN WILLEY,  
EMMA G. WILLEY.