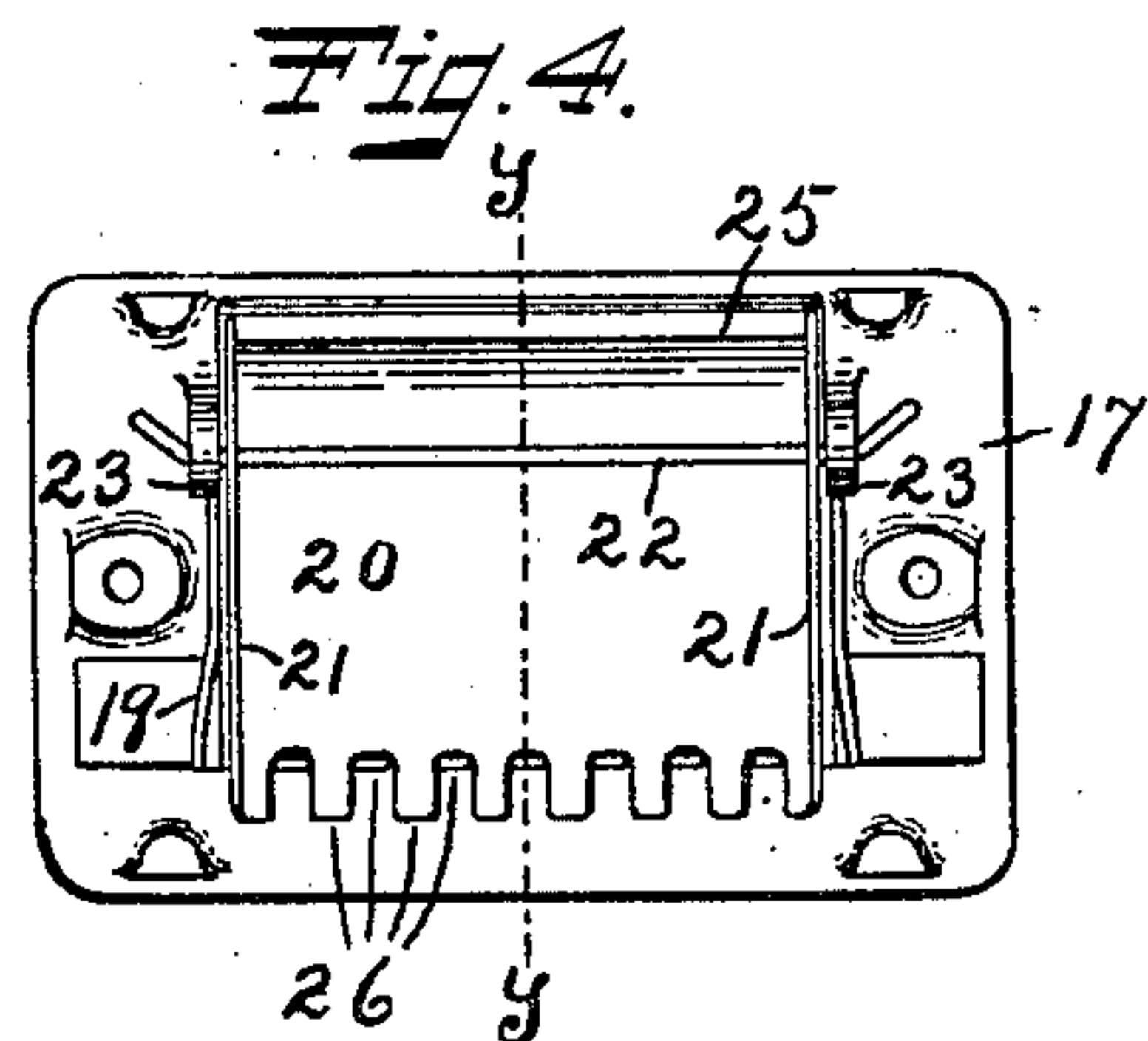
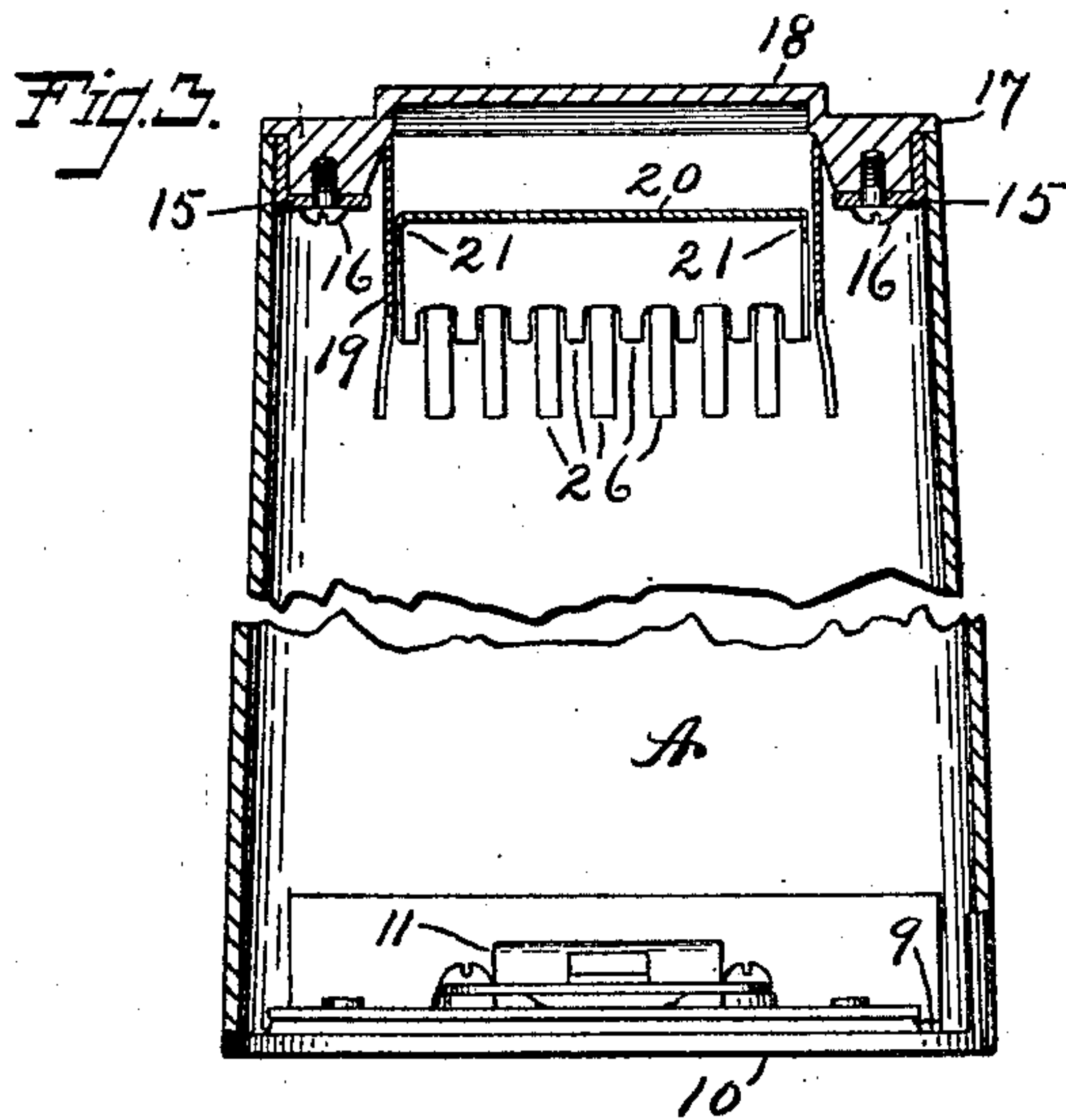
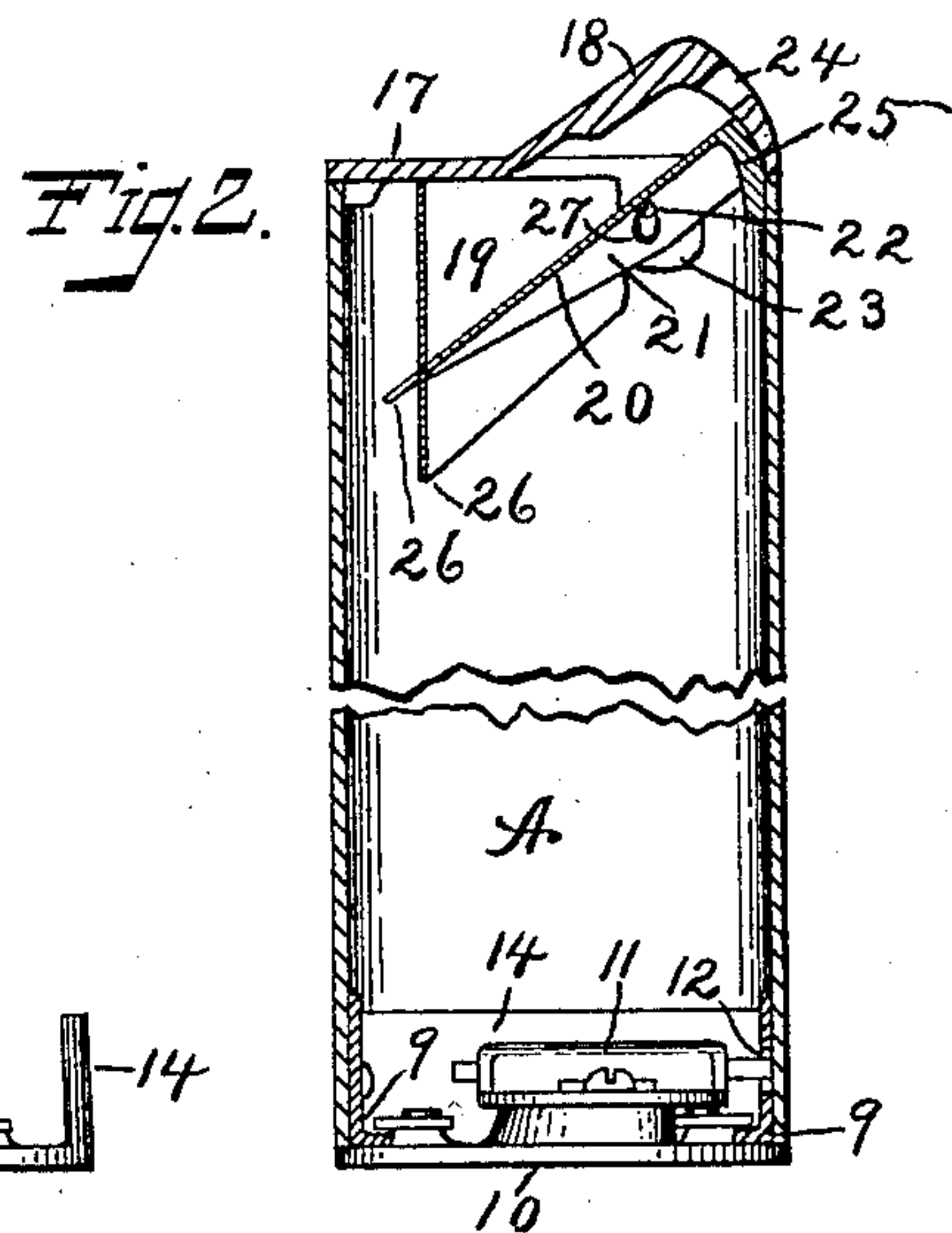
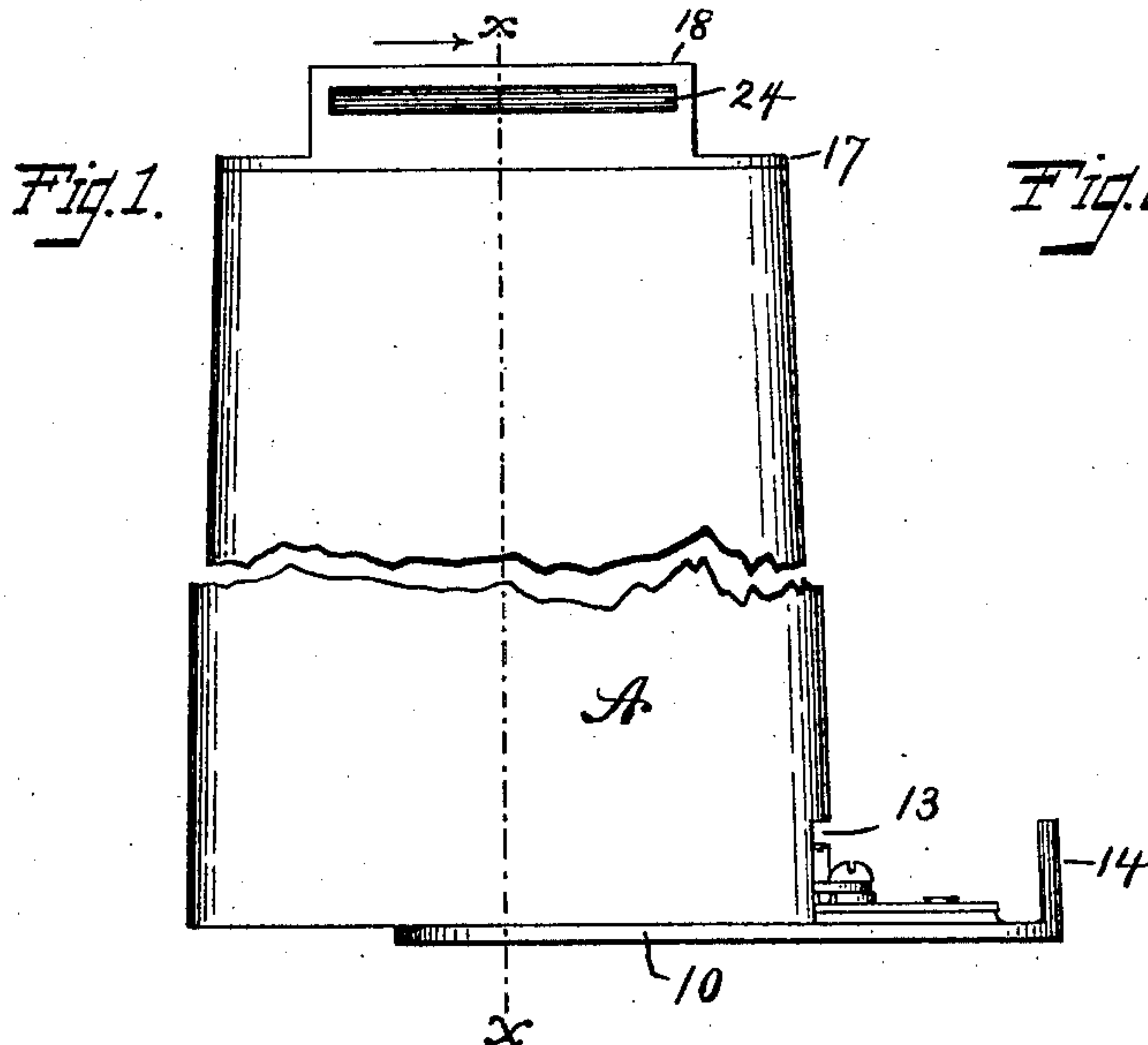


A. SHEPARD.  
SAVINGS BANK.  
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 10, 1907.

917,671.

Patented Apr. 6, 1909.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses.  
S. H. Clarke.  
O. J. Egan

Inventor.  
Amos Shepard.  
By James Shepard  
Att'y.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 5.

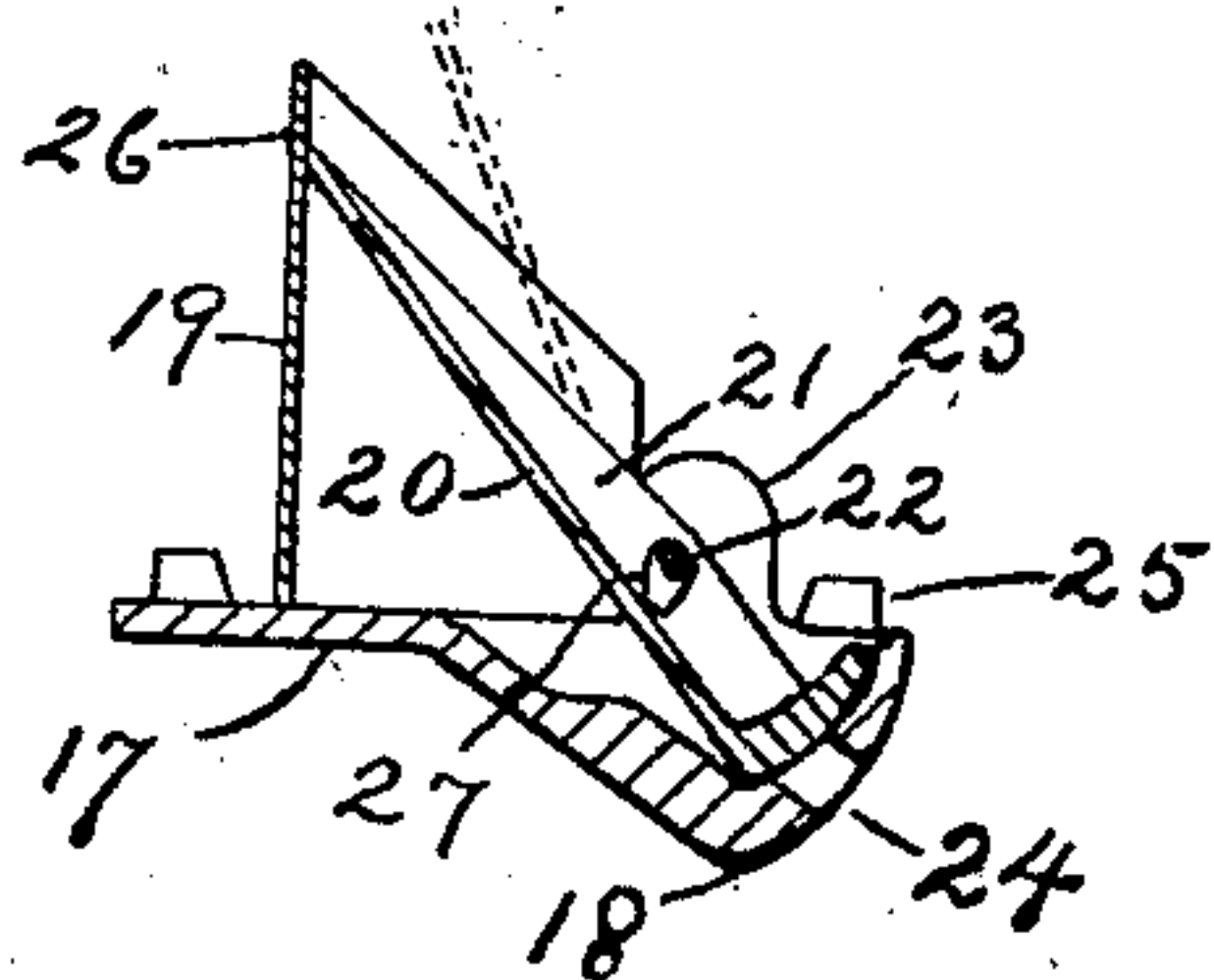


Fig. 6.

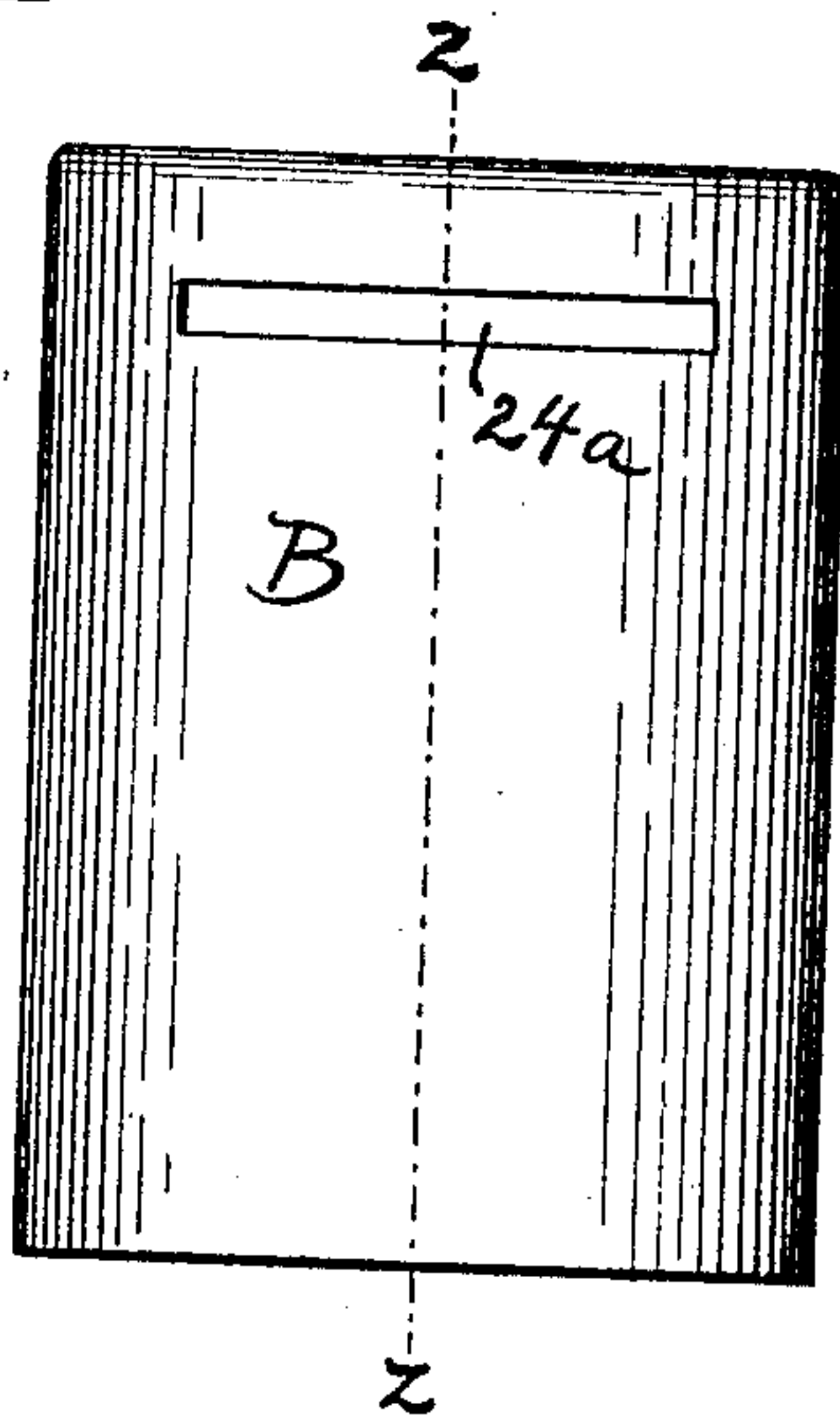


Fig. 7.

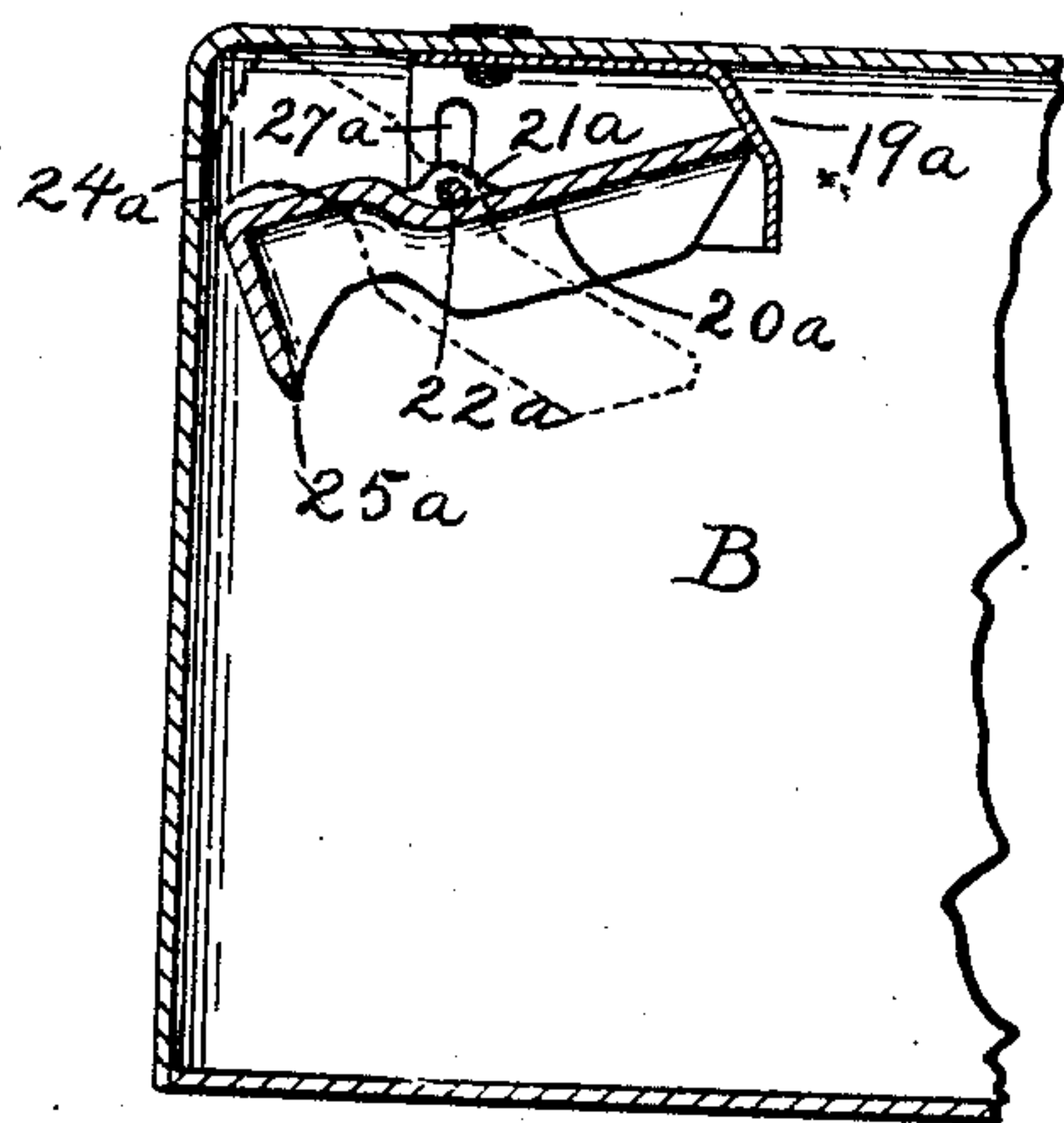
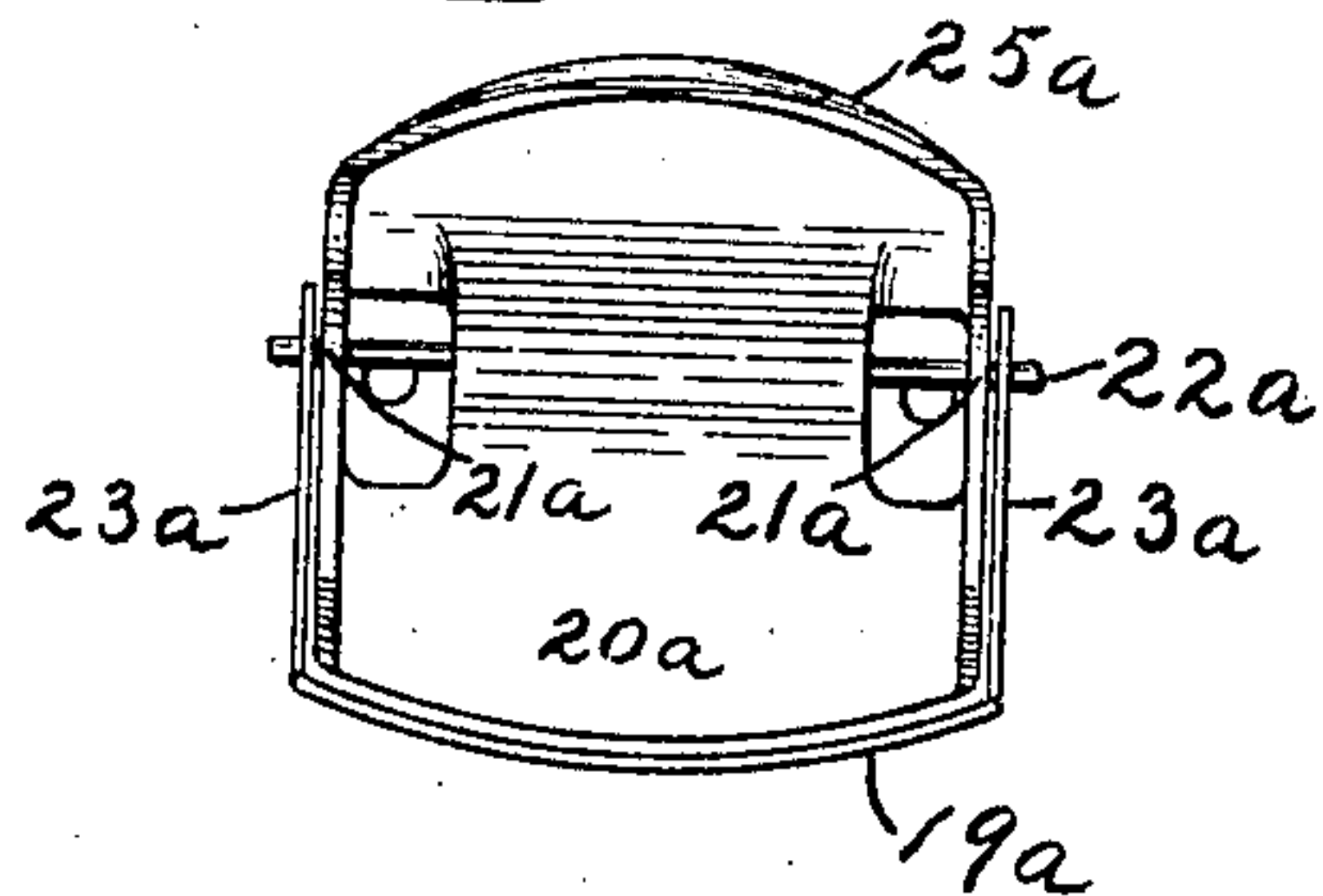


Fig. 8.



WITNESSES.  
S. H. Clarke  
P. J. Egan

INVENTOR.  
Amos Shepard.  
By James Shepard  
Atty.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AMOS SHEPARD, OF PLANTSVILLE, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO HOSEA MANN,  
OF TORRINGTON, CONNECTICUT.

## SAVINGS-BANK.

No. 917,671.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 6, 1909.

Application filed August 10, 1907. Serial No. 388,035.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, AMOS SHEPARD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Plantsville, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Savings-Banks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in portable savings banks or analogous receptacles, and the objects of my improvement are simplicity and economy in construction with efficiency and convenience in use.

In the accompanying drawing:—Figure 1 is a front elevation of my bank with the middle portion broken away, and with the closure plate at the bottom partially withdrawn. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the same on the line *x x* of Fig. 1, the closure plate being fully closed and shown in side elevation. Fig. 3 is a central vertical section of the same on a plane extending from side to side instead of from front to rear, as in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a reverse plan view of the top plate detached, with its connected coin chute box and trap. Fig. 5 is a transverse section of the same on the line *y y* of Fig. 4, the same being shown bottom side up to illustrate the operation of the trap. Fig. 6 is a side elevation or edge view, of my bank in a modified form. Fig. 7 is a vertical section of the main portion of the same on the line *z z* of Fig. 6. Fig. 8 is a detached reverse plan view of the trap.

The case A or body of the deposit and collection receptacle may be of any ordinary construction. It is provided with a closure at the bottom or lower end and a coin chute and gravity check at its upper end. As shown, the bottom is left open and is provided with ways 9 Fig. 2, on its two longest sides, upon which ways the closure-plate 10 is fitted to slide and close the said open end. In order that the lock 11 for securing this plate may be mounted thereon and lock into a keeper 12 on the inner side of the case or receptacle, I make the opening at the bottom extend into a contiguous opening in one side, as at 13, Fig. 1, and I close this side opening by a flange 14 that is formed on or rigidly mounted on one end of the closure-plate and completes that side of the case as shown. This flange 14 and the side opening are a little deeper than the upward projection of the lock 11 on the upper side of the said plate so that the lock will clear the edge of the

case above the side opening as the closure-plate is slid endwise into and out of its place in the bottom.

The upper end of the case is provided with side lugs 15 rigidly secured thereto, and provided with screw holes through which to pass the screws 16 into threaded holes in the cap or top plate 17, for holding it securely in place. This top plate is provided with an upward extension that forms the upper wall of the coin chute box 18, which box is provided on one side with the usual coin slot 24, for the introduction of coins. The case has its side walls closed against the admission of coins. The coin trap or gravity reverse check is mounted on the inner or under side of this top plate and chute box, which trap consists of the guard box 19 and a peculiarly mounted lever 20. The lever 20 forms the bottom of the coin chute and the guard box 19 incloses the chute on three sides. The lever 20 is provided with side flanges 21, through which the pintle 22 extends that hinges the said lever to the lugs 23, or other fixed support on the under side of the top plate. The short end of the lever 20 is toward the front, that is toward the coin slot 24 and at this short end the lever is thickened by means of a flange 25 so that the lever will close the coin slot 24 when the lever is tilted to raise this short end. The inner face of the coin chute at the coin slot is curved in substantially the arc of a circle of which the pintle 22 is the center, so that the said short end of the lever always closely fits the inner face of the wall having the coin slot 24. The lower end of the lever and the lower edge of the guard box 19 that meets the said lever are both formed with what may be called comb teeth 26, arranged to alternate or shut by each other in order to give the lever a greater range, but this particular feature is not of my invention. In order to give greater security against the withdrawal of coins through the coin slot when the bank is turned bottom side up, I hang the lever 20 loosely on its mountings so that it fulcrums on a given axis when the bank is right side up and on another axis, or else does not fulcrum at all, when the bank is turned bottom side up. This may be accomplished by enlarging the pintle orifice 27 in each of the flanges 21 of the lever 20, as shown in Figs. 2 and 5, or by enlarging the pintle orifice in each of the lugs 23, the lat-



ter construction, in a modified form of trap being shown in Figs. 7 and 8. Fig. 6 shows the form of bank B to which the latter construction is applied. In this case the bank is larger so that the coin slot 24<sup>a</sup> is made in the body of the bank instead of in a specially formed chute box on the top-plate. The trap comprises a guard box 19<sup>a</sup> and a lever 20<sup>a</sup> having end flange 25<sup>a</sup> and pivoted in the side flanges or lugs 23<sup>a</sup> of the box by a pintle 22<sup>a</sup>. This pintle is tight in the lugs or flanges 21<sup>a</sup> of the lever, while the pintle orifice 27<sup>a</sup> in each of lugs 23<sup>a</sup> is much larger vertically than the pintle so that the pintle and lever may move bodily within the said orifice when the bank is inverted. In both constructions the shorter end of the lever is the heavier end so that when the bank is right side up as shown in Figs. 2 and 7, the lever fulcrums on a given axis and stands with its short end far enough below the coin slot to receive a coin that is passed through the said slot on the upper side of the said lever.

When the coin passes beyond the lever axis the proper distance, it will overbalance the weight of the short end of the lever and tilt the lever as indicated by broken lines in Fig. 7, so that the coin will slide down from the long end of the lever into the bank. It will also be noticed that the coin slot is closed by the short end of the lever, when the lever is thus tilted, so that it is impossible for coins to be then extracted from underneath the lever. If however this single or simple lever, in either of the constructions shown, should always fulcrum on the same axis, then upon turning the bank bottom side up, the weighted or heavier short end of the lever would fall down in front of the coin slot while its long end would move up into the position indicated by the broken lines in Fig. 5, and leave an open mouth between the long end of the lever and adjacent wall of the guard box. By shaking the bank a little, coins might be worked into this open mouth, through the coin chute and out at the coin slot. I prevent such an operation by hanging the lever loosely in its mountings while at the same time I employ a simple or single lever which is as cheaply constructed and almost as cheaply hung as if its fulcrum was always the same. When the bank and its trap are inverted the lever moves so that both ends fall down into the position shown by the full lines in Fig. 5, thereby not only effectually closing the coin slot but also

effectually closing the long end of the lever against the guard box and making it impossible to pass a coin therethrough.

By forming the coin slot in one side of a projection or box on the top plate, I am enabled to easily construct the inner wall at the coin slot to fit the movement of the short end of the lever. I am also enabled to arrange a given sized trap in a narrower or thinner bank, while the plane of the coin chute is obliquely downward instead of upward or horizontal. By having the trap mounted upon or formed on the under side of an attached top plate, the construction is simple, convenient and inexpensive.

I claim as my invention:—

1. A bank comprising a case having a coin slot, and a trap comprising a simple lever loosely mounted within the said case in connection with the said coin slot to fulcrum on a given axis when the bank is right side up, and for moving on its mountings to prevent the said lever from fulcruming on the said axis when the bank is turned bottom side up.
2. A bank comprising a case having a coin slot therein, and a trap comprising a guard box, a simple lever and a pintle in connection with the said coin slot, the said lever being loosely hung by a pin and enlarged orifice mounting to fulcrum on a given axis, when the bank is right side up and for closing the coin slot and guard box at the respective ends of the said lever when the bank is turned bottom side up.
3. A bank comprising a case having side lugs rigidly secured thereto on its inner side near its upper end, a top plate having depending lugs on its under side and a coin chute box forming an upward extension having a coin slot in one side wall thereof, the said top plate being mounted on the upper end of the said case and secured thereto by means of the said lugs, a guard box mounted on the under side of the said top plate beneath the said upward extension, and a lever pivotally mounted on the depending lugs of the said top plate within the said guard box and forming the bottom of the coin chute box by extending obliquely downward from the said coin slot to the opposite wall of the said guard box.

AMOS SHEPARD.

Witnesses:

JAMES SHEPARD,

SHEFFIELD H. CLARKE.