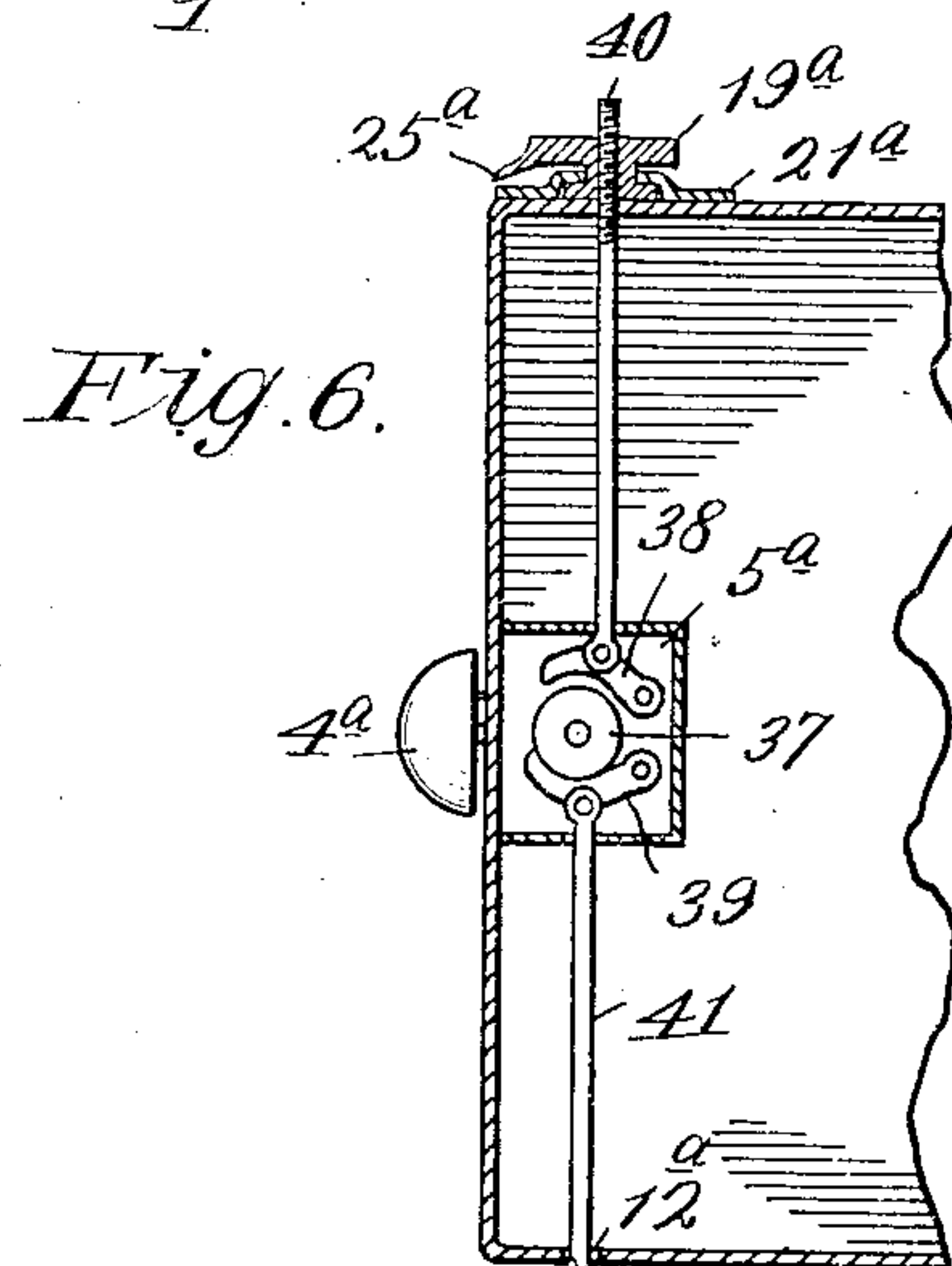
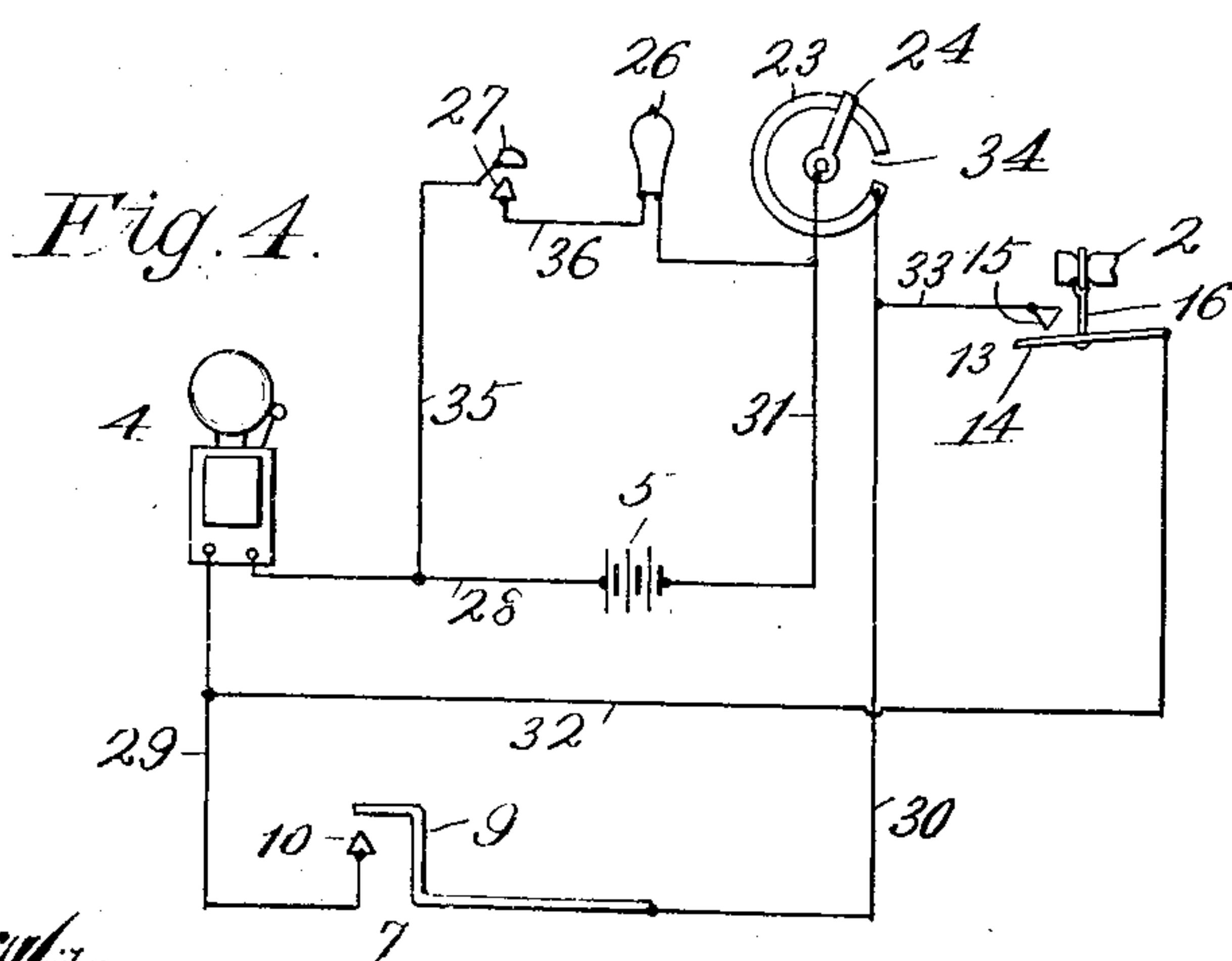
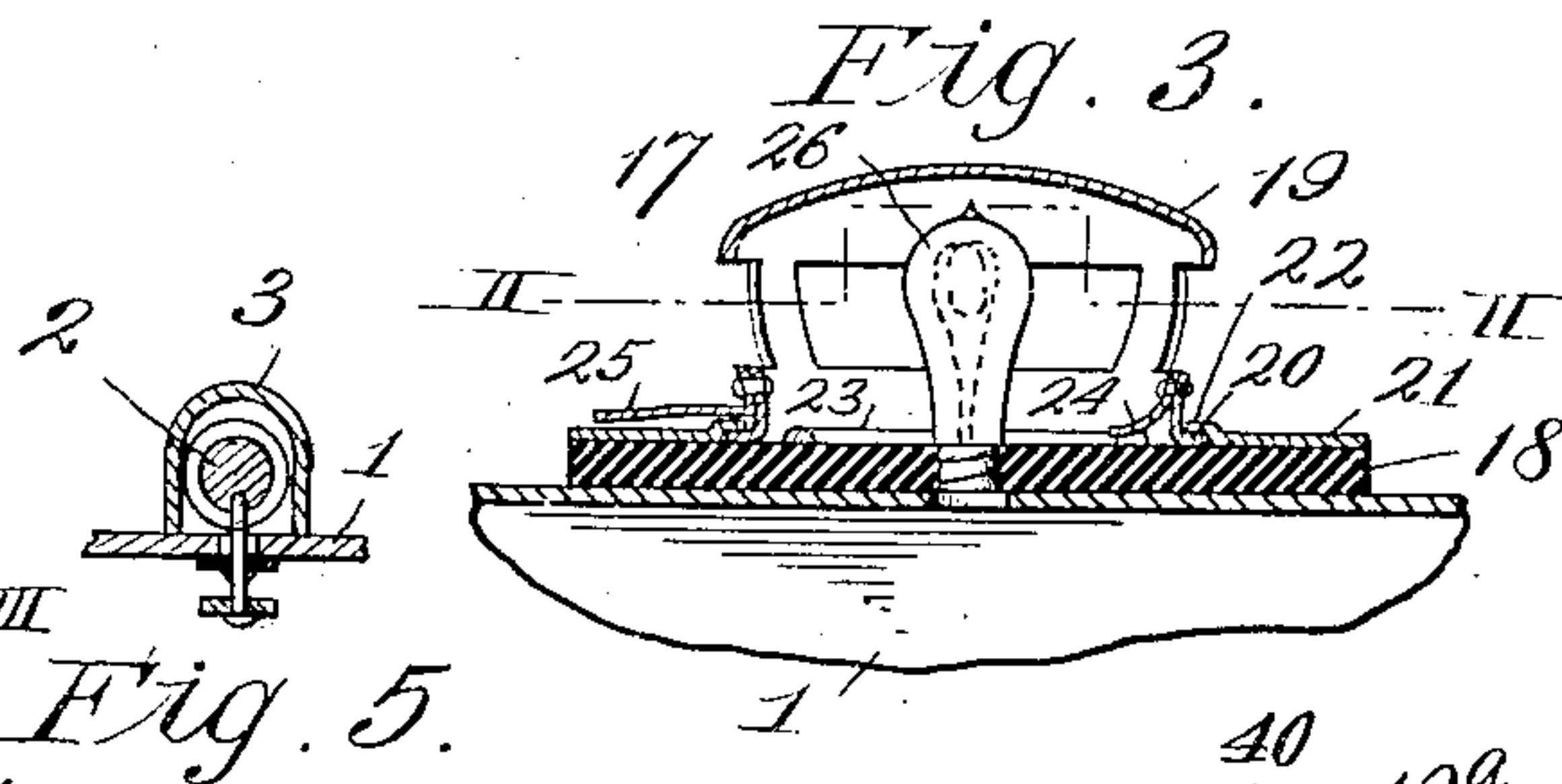
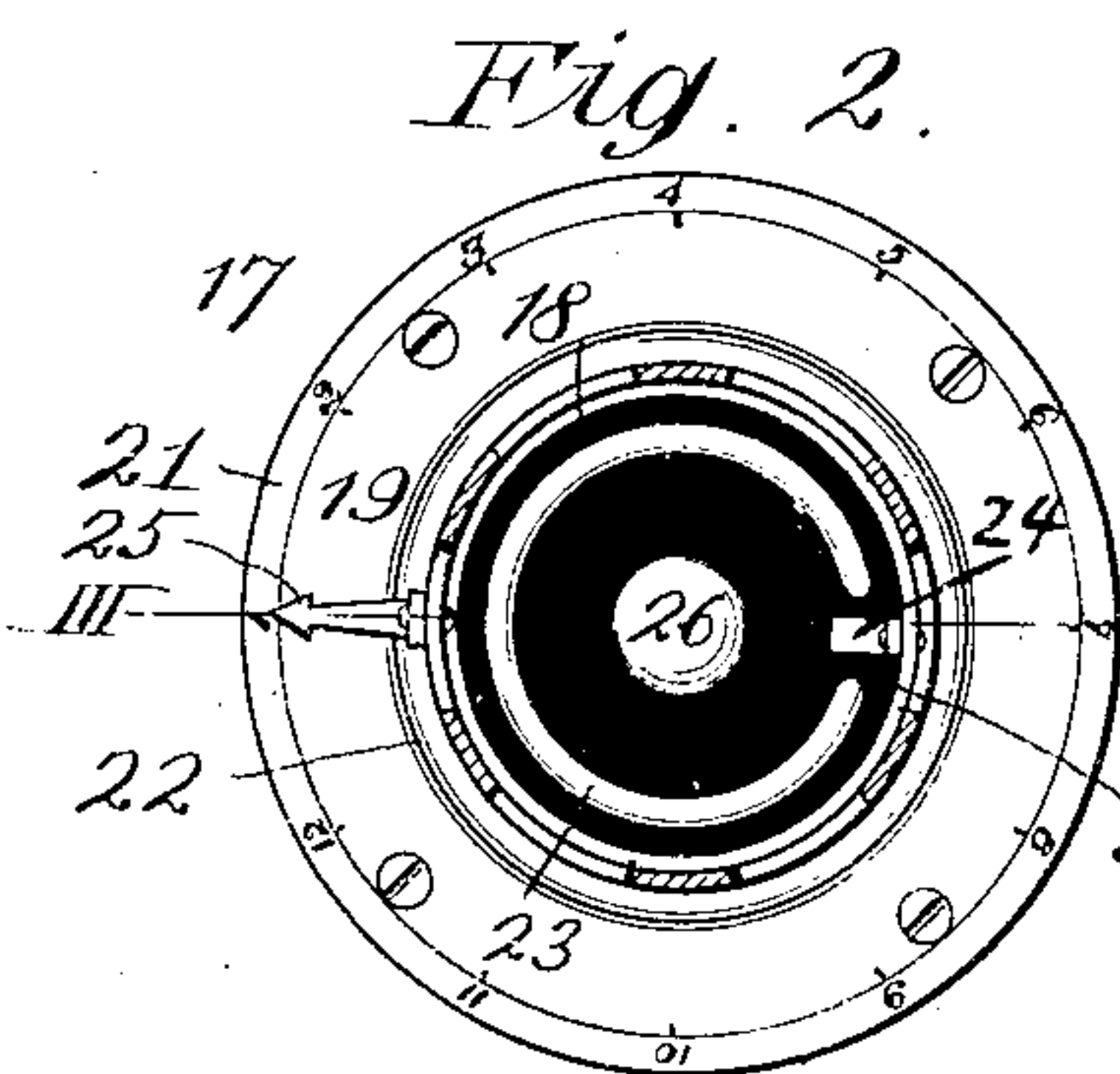
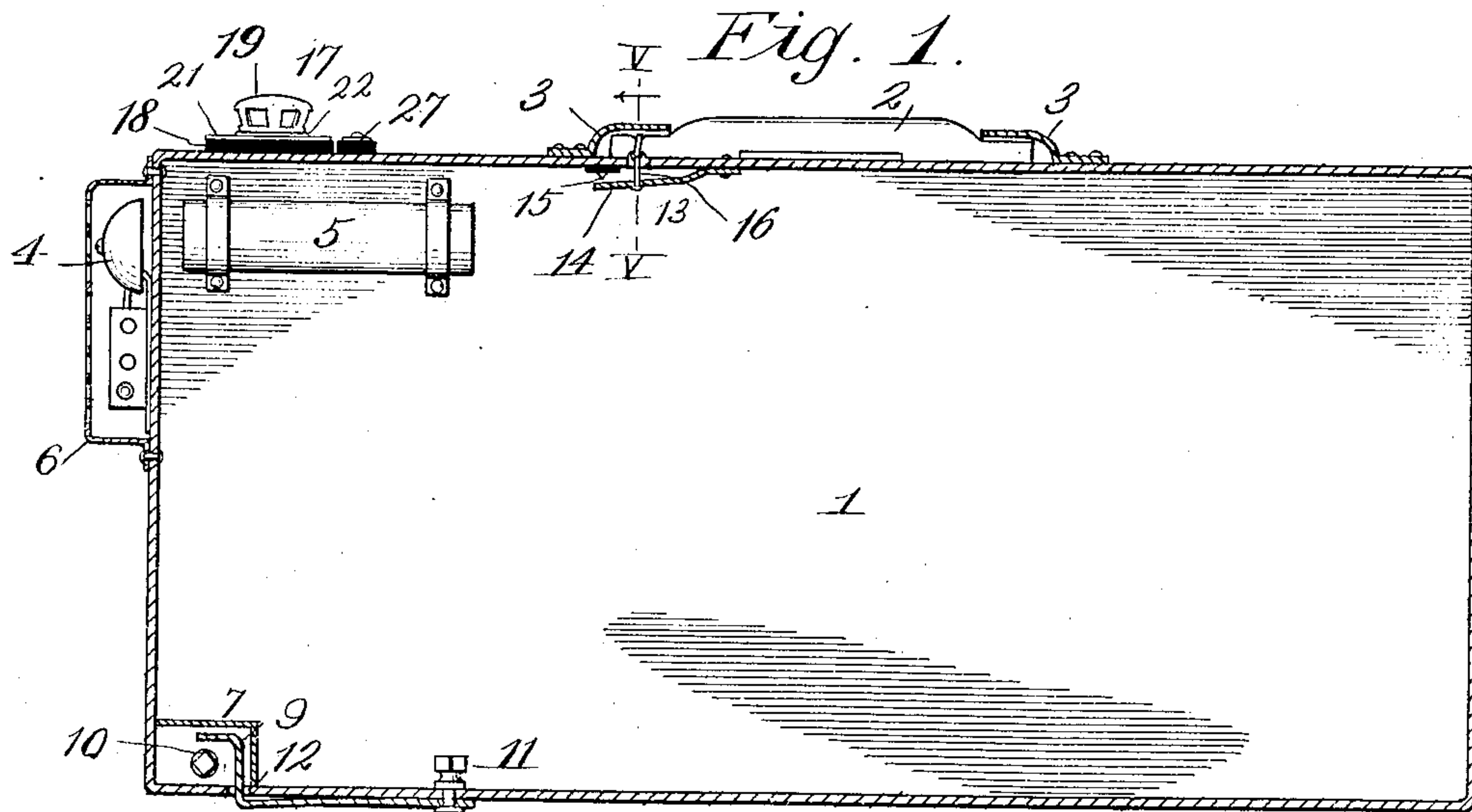


A. T. RUTHVEN.
BURGLAR ALARM FOR SUIT CASES, SATCHELS, &c.
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Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR T. RUTHVEN, OF TOPEKA, KANSAS.

BURGLAR-ALARM FOR SUIT-CASES, SATCHELS, &c.

No. 919,385.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR T. RUTHVEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Topeka, in the county of Shawnee and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burglar-Alarms for Suit-Cases, Satchels, &c., of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a burglar alarm for suit-cases, satchels, &c., and is arranged to give an alarm the instant the suit-case or satchel is picked up from its resting place.

My object is to prevent unauthorized persons from walking off with suit-cases or satchels without sounding an alarm and notifying the owner and others of the fact, and for that reason the invention is of especial advantage to travelers who frequently have occasion to leave their property unprotected in a car or depot for a few minutes.

The invention embodies secret means known to the owner for preventing the alarm from sounding, hence when said means is set the suit-case may be picked up without sounding the alarm.

In order that the invention may be fully understood, reference will now be made to the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 represents a vertical section of a suit-case provided with my invention. Figs. 2 and 3 are sections of a combination-switch taken on lines II and III, respectively. Fig. 4 is a diagram of the invention. Fig. 5 is a cross section on line V—V of Fig. 1. Fig. 6 is a broken vertical section of a suit-case, provided with a modified form of the invention.

1 designates the suit-case which is of ordinary construction and provided with a handle 2, the ends of which are pivotally arranged in bearings 3, secured to the top of the case.

4 designates an electric bell, or other audible signal, for giving the alarm. This bell is actuated by power from a source of motive force arranged, preferably, in the form of a battery 5. Bell 4 is preferably secured to the outside of the case, and when so arranged is protected by a shield 6 which is perforated so as not to muffle the sound of the bell.

7 designates a circuit-breaker consisting of a resilient brush 9 and a contact point 10. Brush 9 is secured to the bottom of the suit-case by a binding-screw 11, and its free end

extends upward through an opening 12 in the bottom of the suit-case and thence over contact point 10, it being held out of engagement with the same by the weight of the suit-case when the latter is at rest upon a floor.

13 designates a circuit-breaker in the upper portion of the suit-case and consisting of a brush 14 and a contact point 15. Brush 14 is secured to one end of handle 2 by a link 16, the end of the handle having sufficient play in its bearing 3 to permit it to move upward far enough to bring brush 14 into contact with point 15, when the suit-case is lifted from its resting-place.

17 designates what I term a combination-switch secured to the top of the suit-case upon a block of insulating material 18. Said combination-switch consists of a hollow, perforated, rotary knob 19 provided with an annular flange 20 at its lower end, a dial 21 provided with a flange 22 overlapping flange 20, a segmental contact 23 within the knob and secured to block 18, a brush 24 secured to the inside of the knob and adapted to engage the segmental contact 23, and a pointer 25 which coöperates with the dial 21 in setting the combination at the desired point.

26 designates a lamp, preferably of the incandescent style, which is screwed into block 18 and extends upward into knob 19.

27 designates a push-button for closing a circuit between lamp 26 and battery 5.

The operation is substantially as follows: When the suit-case is placed upon the floor, or other resting place, its weight will force brush 9 upward out of engagement with contact 10. Knob 19 is then rotated to bring brush 24 into engagement with the segmental contact 23. Should the suit-case then be picked up brush 9, being relieved of the weight thereof, will immediately spring into engagement with contact 10 and thus automatically close a circuit between battery 5 and bell 4 through a conductor 28 leading from the battery to the bell, a conductor 29 leading from the bell to contact point 10, a conductor 30 leading from brush 9 to the segmental contact 23, and a conductor 31 leading from brush 24 to battery 5. With the closing of the above circuit, another circuit independent thereof, is simultaneously closed by handle 2 moving upward in its bearing and bringing brush 14 into engagement with contact 15, so that a circuit will be established from battery 5 to bell 4 through

conductor 28, thence through conductor 29 to a conductor 32 leading to brush 14, a conductor 33 leading from contact point 15 to conductor 30, thence through the combination-switch 17 to conductor 31 and back to battery 5. When the above circuits are closed the bell will continue to ring until the free end of brush 24 is brought into coincidence with the opening 34 between the ends of the segmental contact 32. This may be easily accomplished through the aid of the dial and the pointer, by anyone familiar with the combination.

Should it be too dark to clearly read the dial, lamp 26 is illuminated by closing the push-button 27 and establishing a circuit between the battery and said lamp through conductor 28, a conductor 35, a conductor 36, and conductor 31. This circuit is independent of the two circuits above described, so that it may be closed before the same preparatory to manipulating the knob 19, through the perforation of which latter the rays of light will shine from the lamp upon the dial and the pointer.

In the modified form, Fig. 6, the alarm 4^a is actuated by a source of motive power emanating from a mechanical motor 5^a, provided with a disk 37 arranged between two brake-shoes 38 39, either of which are adapted to stop the motor. Brake-shoe 38 is actuated by a connecting-rod 40 and a knob 19^a, which latter is provided with a pointer 25^a and is rotatably mounted in a dial 21^a. Brake-shoe 39 is actuated by a rod 41 pivotally secured at its upper end to the brake-shoe and extending down through an opening 12^a in the bottom of the suit-case, so that when the latter is placed upon the floor rod 41 will move upward and force the brake-shoe 39 into frictional engagement with the disk. This locks the motor until the suit-case is picked up from the floor, when rod 41 drops and disengages the brake-shoe 39 from disk 37, allowing the motor to actuate the alarm. The alarm continues to sound until the motor is locked by forcing brake-shoe 38 into frictional engagement

with the disk, this is accomplished by turning knob 19^a in the proper direction.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:—

1. In combination with a suit case, having an alarm and an electrical circuit which includes said alarm, means whereby when said suit case is lifted from its support said alarm will be sounded, and means to render said circuit inoperative including a block of insulating material, a dial formed with a flange, a rotary knob having a pointer and an annular flange engaged beneath said first flange and seating on said block, a segmental contact on said block, and a brush on the knob to engage said contact, said brush and segmental contact being included in said circuit.

2. In combination with a suit case, an insulating block, a hollow perforated knob rotatably related thereto and carrying a pointer, a dial on the block to cooperate with said pointer, a segmental contact on said block, a brush carried by said knob to engage said contact, an alarm, an electrical circuit including said alarm and said knob and contact, and means included in said circuit and arranged on the interior of the knob to illuminate the dial.

3. In combination with a suit case, an alarm, means to sound said alarm upon said case being raised up from its support, second means to render said first means inoperative including a hollow perforated rotatable element, illuminating means on the interior of said hollow element arranged so that the rays from said illuminating means will be projected through the perforations of said element to permit operation thereof, and means to operate said illuminating means independent of said alarm sounding means.

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

ARTHUR T. RUTHVEN.

Witnesses:

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