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J. C. BUTNER

MESSENGER'S PORTABLE SAFE

Filed April 11, 1922

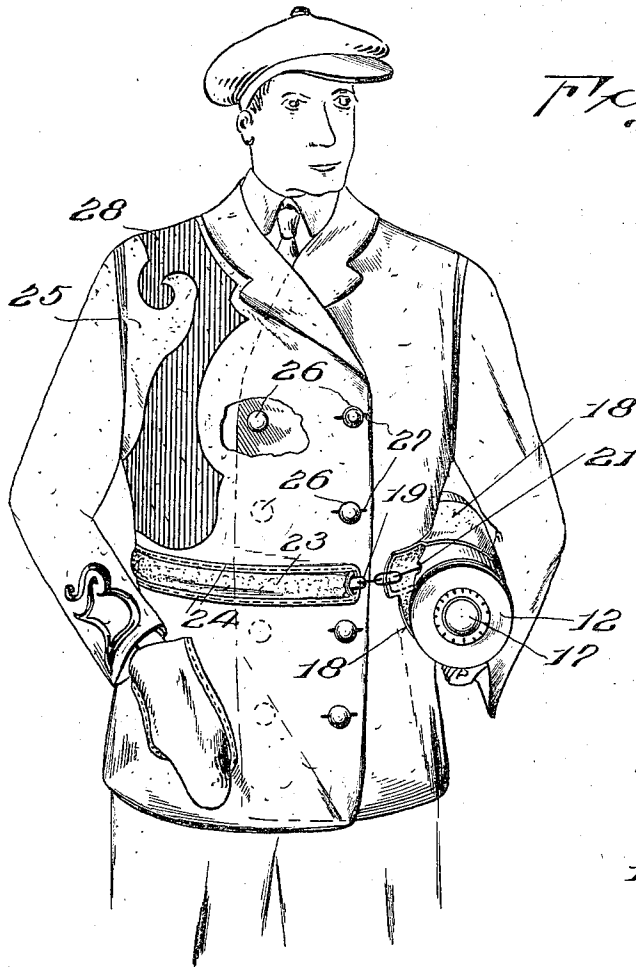


Fig. 3.

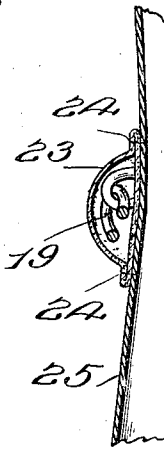
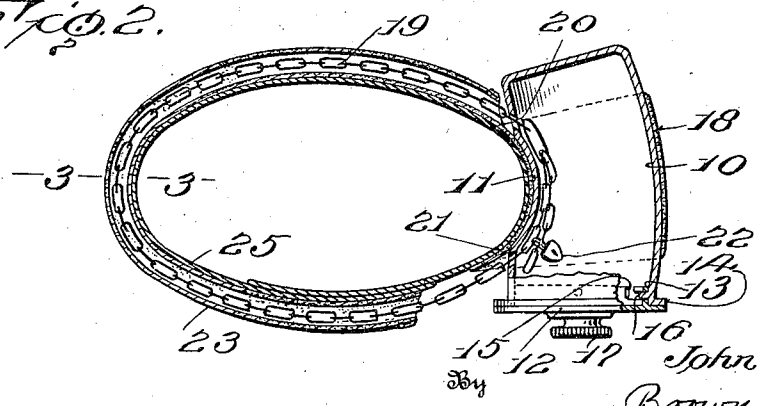


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MESSENGER'S PORTABLE SAFE.

Application filed April 11, 1922. Serial No. 551,521.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. BUTNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Greenville, in the county of Pitt and State of North Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Messengers' Portable Safes, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to portable safes to be carried by messengers and has as an object the provision of such a device which cannot be separated from the messenger. A further object of the invention is the provision of such a device which is attached to a garment rendered conspicuous by striking color or ornamentation or both, whereby the bodily removal of the messenger cannot go unnoticed, or attack upon him will be conspicuous.

An illustrated embodiment of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device in place upon the person of a messenger.

Figure 2 is a horizontal section of the garment and device removed from the wearer.

Figure 3 is a detailed vertical section on line 3—3, Figure 2.

As shown in Figure 1 the device comprises a metallic receptacle preferably of a special steel so as to be not readily perforated or indented. The device approaches the cylindrical in form and as shown is provided with a concavity to fit more closely to the side of the wearer. A cover 12 is shown as provided in the form of a cap having a flange 13 which is adapted to project within the open mouth of the safe. The mouth of the safe as shown is provided with an outwardly turned flange or bead 14 for the purpose of stiffening the mouth and the cover is shown as projecting outwardly so as to terminate flush with the edge of the flange 14.

To secure the cover to the receptacle, the flange 13 may be provided with bayonet slots 15 adapted to coact with inwardly projecting stubs 16 located adjacent the mouth of the receptacle and projecting radially therein. When the cover 12 is complete with the flange 13 entering the mouth of the receptacle, a slight turn will cause the slots to lock behind the stubs and prevent removal of the cover except upon retrograde movement thereof. To prevent such movement a bolt may be provided adapted to shoot be-

hind one of said stubs or into a recess provided therefor adjacent the mouth of the receptacle, an opening being provided in the flange 13 for passage of the bolt. The bolt referred to may be controlled by means of a combination lock 17 provided upon the exterior of the cover.

To secure the receptacle to the body of the wearer a chain or other flexible device may be passed around the body of the wearer and is shown as passing through holes 20, 21, in the receptacle 10 and is locked therein by means of a padlock 22. The device 19 is preferably made of a special steel not readily attacked by a hack saw or bolt cutters so that it cannot be quickly severed in order to separate the receptacle 10 from the body of the wearer.

To hold the device firmly in place upon the body of the wearer the flexible element 19 is shown as passing inside a belt 23 stitched as at 24 to the garment 25. The housing of the flexible element 19 as described not only secures the device to the garment, but prevents its removal by slipping the element 19 over the wearer's hips or shoulders. To more firmly attach the device and the garment together a flap 18 may be provided as an extension of the edges of the belt 23, and may pass completely about the receptacle 10 thereby preventing rusting and assist in supporting the weight thereof. As shown the garment is of a double breasted style, and provided with a plurality of rows of buttons 26. It is preferred to form the garment 25 of material of a brilliant color such as scarlet and to ornament the same in a striking manner as indicated at 28 so that the wearer cannot appear upon the street without attracting attention, and therefore if it be attempted to bodily remove or otherwise attack the wearer with the receptacle 10, attention of everyone within sight including the officers of the law will be attracted.

Minor changes may be made in the physical embodiment of the invention without departing from its spirit.

I claim:

1. A garment, a receptacle, a flexible element passed about and secured to said garment and passed into said receptacle and means to lock said element disconnectively within said receptacle whereby the same cannot be removed from a person wearing the garment.

2. A messenger's safe comprising in combination, a receptacle of refractory material, a flexible element of refractory material adapted to surround the body of the wearer, 5 said element passing through openings to the interior of the receptacle, means to lock said element disconnectively within the said receptacle and means to lock the receptacle closed whereby the receptacle cannot be 10 readily removed from the body of the user by unauthorized persons.
3. A messenger's safe comprising in combination, a garment, a belt stitched to said 15 garment at its edges, a flexible element of refractory material passed under said belt about said garment, a receptacle of refractory material having openings, the ends of 20 said element passing through said openings and secured together disconnectively within said receptacle, a cover for said receptacle and means for locking the cover closed whereby the receptacle cannot be readily removed from the body of the wearer of the garment.

JOHN C. BUTNER.