

H. W. PAPE.
 SAFE DEPOSIT BOX.
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1,050,487.

Patented Jan. 14, 1913.

Fig. 1.

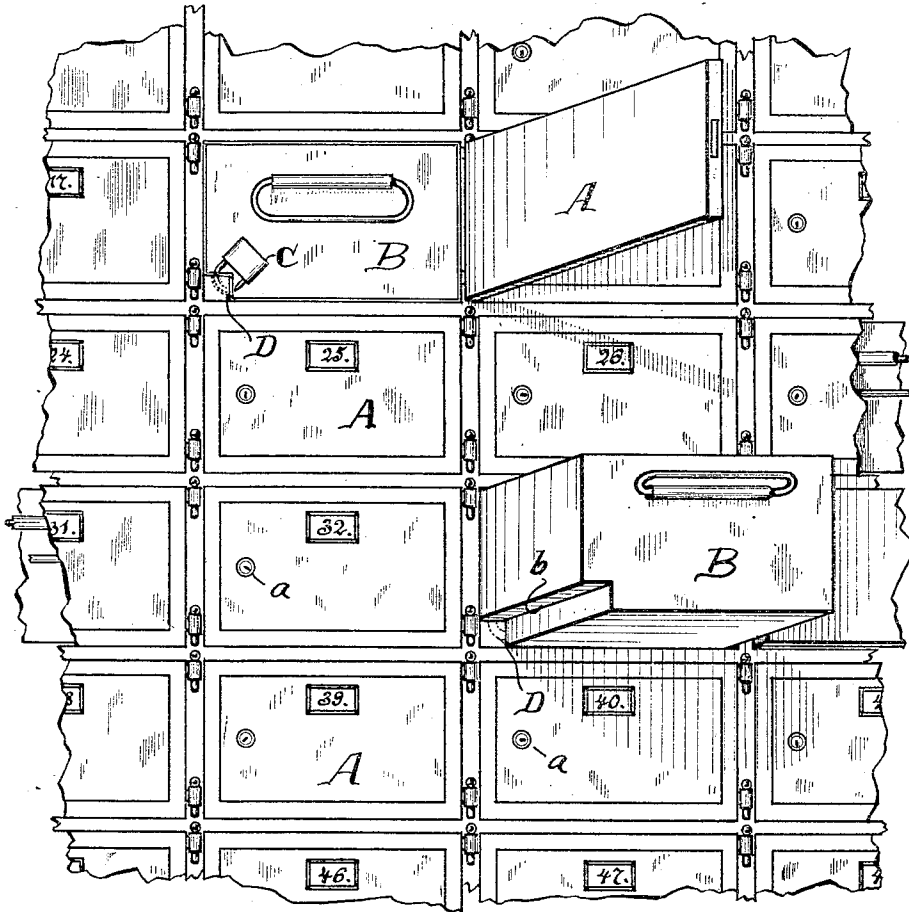
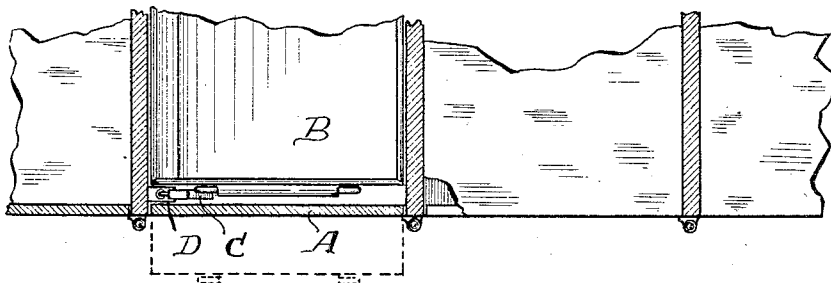


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SAFE-DEPOSIT BOX.

1,050,487.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 14, 1913.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY W. PAPE, a citizen of the United States, and residing at Cincinnati, Hamilton county, State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements Relating to Safe-Deposit Boxes; and I do declare the following to be a clear, full, and exact description of the invention, attention being called to the drawing which accompanies this application and forms a part thereof.

This invention relates to means for increasing the security of individual safe deposit boxes, such as are provided by banking institutions and safety deposit banks and rented out by them to individual users. Under usual conditions, as they generally exist, such boxes are contained in a vault which is in charge of an attendant, who admits the patrons. Access to the individual boxes requires the successive use of two keys, one in the hands of the vault attendant and the other in the hands of the renter of the box. Neither can gain complete access without the presence of the other. The use of the box renter's key which follows the use of the other key, completes the access to the box. Recent occurrences have shown that in spite of all precautions the possibility exists whereby a dishonest vault attendant may obtain a duplicate of the box renter's key, said key having been in possession of the attendant before it passed into the hands of the renter. It has also been found that duplicates may be obtained after the keys have been given out, inasmuch as renters frequently permit attendants to open their boxes for them, whereby the attendant gains temporary possession of the key. There are other ways not necessary to relate in detail whereby unauthorized access may be gained as for instance by co-action with a confederate who is also a box renter.

The object of my invention is to provide means entirely within the control of the box renter, not received from the attendant and having never been in his possession, so that unauthorized access in the manner before stated is rendered impossible.

In the following specification and particularly pointed out in the claims at the end thereof, will be found a full description of my invention, together with its manner of use, parts and construction, which latter is

also illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1, shows in front view a portion of a vault-section with a number of safe-deposit boxes. Fig. 2, is part of a horizontal section taken on a line between top and bottom of a row of boxes.

In the drawing, A indicates the doors hingedly secured and controlling access to recesses or boxes which contain receptacles B, serving to receive the matter deposited.

The manipulation of the door is controlled by a lock (not shown) of which *a* is the key-hole. The successive use of two keys is required on this lock to unlock a door. One of these keys is in the hands of the man in charge of the vault and used by him. The use of the other in the hands of the renter completes the opening of the door and gives him access to the box so as to permit withdrawal of receptacle B, as shown in Fig. 1. How this latter key or a duplicate thereof may be used in improper manner has been set forth. I propose to counteract the effects of such action by providing means whereby, even if a door has been successfully opened, the withdrawal of receptacle B is nevertheless prevented. These means are in the nature of an obstruction, the removal of which requires a certain length of time but which is more than is available to the vault attendant whose presence in a vault by himself, or beyond a reasonable time, would be apt to excite suspicion. A preferable way in which to provide this obstruction is in form of a pad-lock C, which the box renter may purchase himself anywhere, thus precluding the possibility whereby the vault attendant may place himself in possession of a previously made duplicate key. It is presumed of course that provision is made to permit connection of said pad-lock which may be a usual staple, or by preference an equivalent lug D which is immovably secured and provided with a perforation adapted to receive the bail of the pad-lock. If this lug projects into the space occupied by the receptacle B, it becomes necessary to shape this latter accordingly so as to clear the same. Observe formation of box as shown at *b* in Fig. 1.

It is of course understood that no burglar-proof security is necessary, merely sufficient of a barrier, the removal of which, considering the chances available, would retard and

hinder access to the receptacle to an extent which discourages the attempt.

Having described my invention, I claim as new:

5 1. In combination, a safe-deposit-box, a door for the same, a removable receptacle fitted to the box, a pad-lock adapted to occupy a position in which it extends over the front of the receptacle and a projection provided in the box to which the pad-lock may
10 be attached.

2. In combination, a safe-deposit-box, a door for the same, a lug provided in the box

back of the door, a receptacle closely fitted to this box and shaped to clear this lug and a locking device adapted to be removably attached to this lug and in a manner to project over the front of the receptacle after the same is in place. 15

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses. 20

HARRY W. PAPE.

Witnesses:

C. SPENGLER,
T. LE BEAU.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."