To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MONROE WOODARD GRINDLE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Santa Rosa, in the county of Sonoma and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Box Alarms, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in mail box alarms.

The primary object of this invention is to provide an attachment for ordinary mail boxes, and especially those used on rural routes, for sounding an alarm when a letter, postal card or other mail matter is deposited in the box.

The invention consists in the novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts illustrated in the drawings and more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a rural mail box equipped with my attachment, and Fig. 2 is a diagrammatic sectional view of the attachment.

Referring to the drawings for a more particular description of the invention, 1 indicates a mail box such as used on rural routes and 2 the alarm. The alarm comprises the tilting bottom 3, pivoted near one end upon the bearing rod 4, passing through bearing lugs 5 on the bottom of the tilting bottom and projecting into opposite sides, as 6, of the rectangular box-like frame 7. The frame 7 is placed in the bottom of the mail box, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings and is provided at one end with the inwardly projecting flange 8 engaged by and acting as a stop for the free end of the tilting bottom when in normal position. One end, as 9, of the tilting bottom, is provided on its bottom with the rectangular receptacle 10 to be filled or partially filled with shot 11, inserted through the opening 12.

In practice, enough shot is dropped into the receptacle 10 through the opening 12 to cause the pivoted end of the tilting bottom to exactly balance the free end thereof, so that even a postal card deposited in the mail box and falling on the tilting bottom will cause the free end of the latter to swing down and sound the alarm.

The alarm is sounded by the free end of the tilting bottom engaging the contact or post 13 which establishes the circuit through the battery 14, the feed and return wires 15 and 16, etc., and rings the bell 17.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the drawings it is thought that the construction and advantages of this invention will be readily understood without requiring a more extended explanation.

Having described the invention, what I claim as new is:

An alarm of the class described comprising a rectangular box-like supporting frame adapted to fit in the bottom of a mail box, a tilting platform pivotally mounted in and between the side pieces of the frame, an inwardly projecting flange at one end of the frame forming a stop to limit the upward swinging movement of one end of the tilting platform, a transversely disposed receptacle on the bottom of the opposite end of the tilting platform adapted to be filled with shot or other material to cause both ends of the platform to evenly balance each other, an alarm, and means for completing the circuit to sound the alarm when the first mentioned end of the tilting platform is swung down by reason of a letter or other mail being deposited in the box, the opposite end of the tilting platform having an opening therein immediately over the receptacle through which the shot or other material is passed into the receptacle.

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

MONROE WOODARD GRINDLE.

Witnesses:

GEORGE THORP,
NASH ENGLE.