J. E. LOUDENSLAGER, JR.

MAIL BOX.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 15, 1913.

1,141,806. Patented June 1, 1915.

Fig. 1

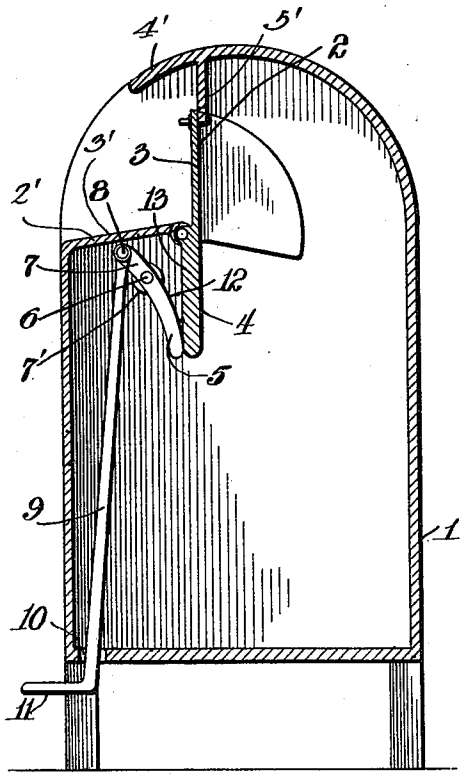
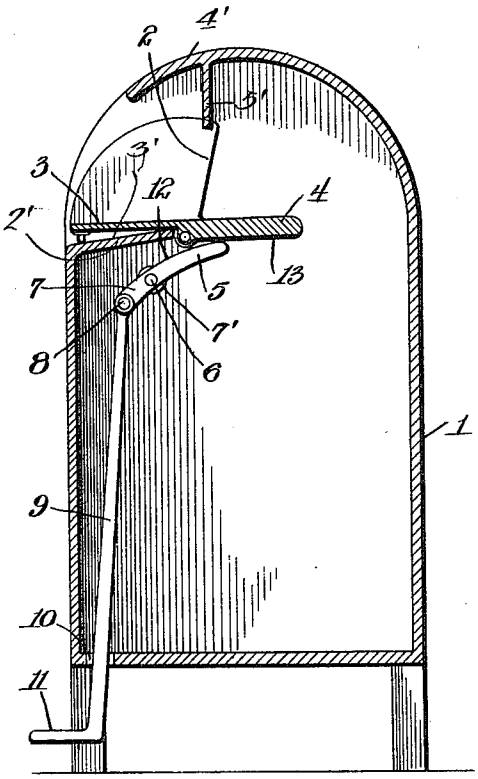


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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MAIL-BOX.

1,141,806. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 1, 1915.

Application filed January 15, 1913. Serial No. 742,251.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN E. LOUDENSLAGER, JR., a citizen of the United States, residing at Hagerstown, in the county of Washington and State of Maryland, have invented new and useful Improvements in Mail-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to mail boxes; and it has for its object the provision of adjusting mechanism which may be operated by the foot to control open adjustments of the chute at the receiving opening of the box.

Another object of the invention is to provide a controlling mechanism which will be gravitationally restored to an operative position to directly contact with a portion of the chute when the latter is in its initial closed position.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is a vertical section through a mail box, showing the application of the chute adjusting mechanism thereto and illustrating the normally closed position of the chute; Fig. 2 is a similar view, showing the mechanism operated to effect an open adjustment of the chute.

The mechanism is designed particularly for use upon mail boxes, which are adapted for the reception of packages, but it is to be understood that it may be associated with any form of article receiving receptacle wherein is included a movable closure for the receiving opening of the receptacle. In providing mechanism which may be positively controlled through the foot of the operator to thereby eliminate the necessity of a hand manipulation of the chute during the operation of depositing articles within the receptacle. The receptacle 1 is provided with an article receiving opening 2 and such opening is formed by the inward bending of the front wall 2′ of the said receptacle, whereby forming the closure with a horizontally disposed stop 3′. The top wall 4′ of the closure is provided with a vertically disposed stop 5′. Pivotally connected to the free transverse edge of the horizontally disposed stop 3′ is a swinging closure 3, which is provided with a gravitationally controlled chute 4, which extends downwardly and rearwardly in the direction of the bottom of the receptacle and relatively associated with the rocking arm 5 of the opening mechanism. It will of course, be understood that upon the closed position of the closure 3, the same engages with the stop 5′, whereby limiting any further inward movement thereof, and upon the extreme open position of the said closure, the same engages with the horizontally disposed stop 3′. The said rocking arm is pivoted at 6 to a suitable support 7 within the receptacle and as illustrated said arm is provided forwardly of its point of pivotal connection with the support with an extension 7, which is pivoted at 8 to the upper end of a controlling rod 9. Said rod is preferably extended downwardly and forwardly toward the front wall of the receptacle and as shown the lower end of the rod is movable in an opening 10 in the bottom of the receptacle, while beneath the bottom, the rod is provided with an integral foot treadle 11, which will be depressed by the foot of the operator so as to cause the curved actuating surface 12 of the rocking arm 5 to advance against the adjacent surface 13 of said gravitationally influenced chute 4, whereby to move the latter to the position shown in Fig. 2 and thereby effect an open adjustment of the closure portion 3 of the chute. From this construction, it is evident that the closure 3 may be conveniently opened without necessitating a direct manipulation thereof by the hand of the operator, thereby facilitating the operation of depositing the article in the receptacle, as is apparent.

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

1. In a device of the character described, a receptacle including top, bottom and front walls, the front wall of said receptacle being extended inwardly, forming the receptacle with a receiving opening and providing a horizontally disposed stop, a closure for said opening pivotally connected at its medial portion to the free transverse edge of said stop, a support disposed beneath said stop, and closure operating means pivotally mounted on said support and housed within the receptacle, and having a portion extended through an opening in the bottom of said receptacle to provide a manipulating portion for said operating means.

2. In a device of the class described, a receptacle including top, bottom and front

walls, the front wall of said receptacle being extended inwardly, forming the receptacle with a receiving opening and providing a horizontally disposed stop, a closure for said opening pivotally connected at its medial portion to the free transverse edge of said stop, a support disposed within the receptacle and beneath said stop, and closure operating means pivotally mounted on said support and having a portion thereof extended through an opening in the bottom of said receptacle to provide a manipulating portion for said operating means, a second stop formed at right angles to the first mentioned stop and adapted to limit the movement of the closure in one direction and the other of said stops limiting the movement of the closure in the opposite direction.

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

JOHN E. LOUDENSLAGER, JR.

Witnesses:

JOHN LOUDENSLAGER,

G. O. ANDERSON.

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