

W. A. & W. J. BARNEY.  
TIME INDICATOR FOR MAIL BOXES.  
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1,268,667.

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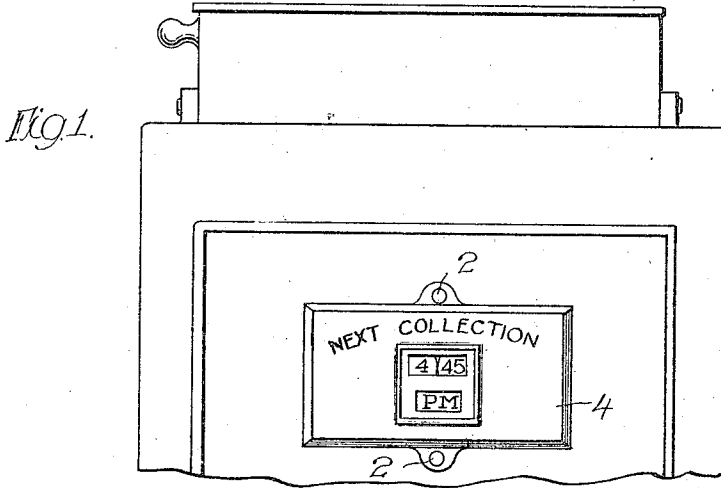


*Fig. 3.*

*Fig. 2.*

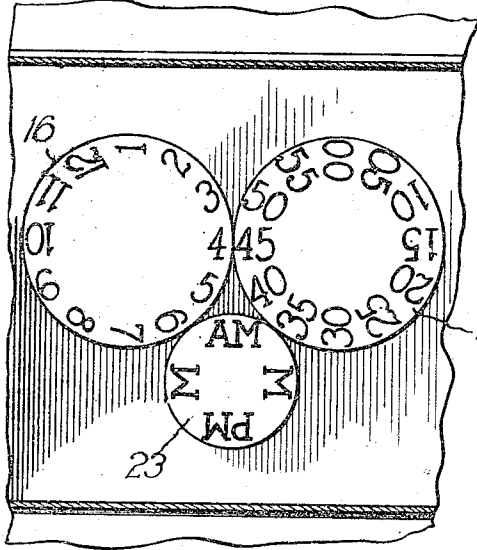
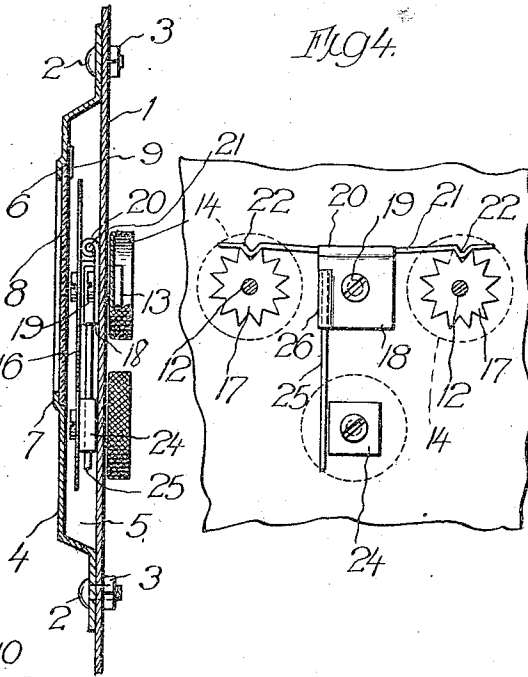
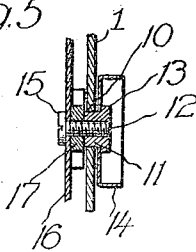


*Fig. 5.*



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. BARNEY AND WILLIAM J. BARNEY, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

## TIME-INDICATOR FOR MAIL-BOXES.

1,268,667.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 4, 1918.

Application filed January 7, 1914. Serial No. 810,903.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, WILLIAM A. BARNEY and WILLIAM J. BARNEY, citizens of the United States of America, residing at Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Time-Indicators for Mail-Boxes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to a time indicator for mail boxes, and our invention aims to provide a simple, durable and inexpensive indicator for mail boxes that permits of a collector or box inspector easily and quickly adjusting the indicator to designate the time of a collection, without any danger of the indicator being surreptitiously changed or tampered with.

To this end, we arrange a plurality of disks upon the wall of a mail box and inclose or house the disk whereby they are protected against the forces of nature, yet visible and capable of being adjusted from the interior of the mail box. Provision is made for holding the disks in adjusted position to indicate the hour and minute of a collection, before or after noon. The time indicator is applicable to various types of mail boxes and other receptacles and can be readily installed in connection with boxes at present in use.

Our invention will be hereinafter specifically described and then claimed, and reference will now be had to the drawing, wherein there is illustrated a preferred embodiment of our invention, but it is to be understood that the structural elements are susceptible to such changes, as in the size, shape and manner of assemblage as fall within the scope of the appended claim.

In the drawing,

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a portion of a mail box provided with our improved time indicator;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged vertical sectional view of a portion of a box and the indicator;

Fig. 3 is a front elevation of a portion of a box illustrating the disks;

Fig. 4 is a front elevation of a portion of a box illustrating the mechanism for holding the disks in adjusted position, and

Fig. 5 is a detail sectional view of a portion of the indicator.

In the drawing, the reference numeral 1 denotes a wall of a mail box and secured to

said wall by screws 2, nuts 3 or other fastening means is a pressed sheet metal housing 4 that has the front wall thereof spaced from the box wall 1 to provide a compartment 5. The front wall of the housing has a rectangular sight opening 6 and the material bordering upon the edges of said opening is off-set or flanged, as at 7, to provide a seat or frame for a transparent plate 8, which is retained in position by a clip 9 or other fastening means.

The box wall 1 is provided with openings 10 and revolvably mounted in said openings are nuts 11 mounted upon screws 12. The nuts 11 have the inner ends thereof flanged, as at 13, and soldered or otherwise secured to the flanges of said nuts are knurled buttons 14.

Mounted upon the screws 12 against the heads 15 thereof are disks 16 and mounted upon said screws, between the disks 16 and the nuts 11 are toothed wheels 17, the purpose of which will presently appear.

The disks 16 are arranged in a vertical plane with the edges thereof practically contacting, and printed or otherwise marked circumferentially of one of the disks are consecutive numbers 1 to 12 inclusive, representing hours of a day. Printed or otherwise marked circumferentially of the other disk are numerals representing every five minutes of an hour, together with zeros adapted to be positioned with one of the hour numerals to indicate "on the hour".

By adjusting the buttons 14 the disks 16 can be moved to indicate the time of the collection, for instance, at 45 minutes after four.

To hold the disks 16 in their adjusted position, a plate 18 is secured to the box wall 1 by a screw 19 or other fastening means. The plate is rectangular in elevation and the upper edge thereof is bent or rolled to provide a holder 20 for a transversely arranged resilient rod 21, which has the ends thereof bent to provide teeth 22 that normally engage the toothed wheels 17 and consequently hold the disks 16 in their adjusted position.

Located below and centrally of the disks 16 is a small disk 23 which has the outer face thereof provided with such designations as "A. M.", "P. M.", and "M". The designations are printed or otherwise marked upon the disk 23, and said disk is rotatably supported by the wall 1, similar to the disks 16, with

the exception that instead of using a toothed wheel 17, a nut 24 having flat faces is substituted therefor. The flat faces of the nut 24 are adapted to be engaged by a resilient  
 5 detent 25 having an end thereof mounted in the rolled edge or barrel 26 of the plate 18. The faces of the nut 24 correspond in number to the designations upon the disk 23, whereby the disk 23 can be set and properly held for displaying one of the designa-  
 10 tions thereof. The designations of the disks 16 and 23 can be observed through the transparent plate 8, which is preferably made of glass, and said transparent plate can be  
 15 painted or otherwise marked to separate the designations of the disks 16 from that of the disk 23, as shown in Fig. 1.

To adjust the disks 16 and 23 it is only necessary for the mail man, when collecting  
 20 mail, to insert his hand in the mail box and rotate the buttons 14 while observing the disks 16 and 23 from the outside of the box. The disks can be easily set to indicate the next collection and can be changed at each  
 25 collection, thus permitting of the indicator being used in such districts where the collection of mail matter is uncertain as to time.

Since it is only necessary to provide the

wall of an ordinary mail box with openings, 30 it is apparent that the indicator can be easily and quickly installed in connection with the present type of mail box.

What we claim is:—

In a time indicator for mail boxes, a 35 box wall, a nut rotatable in said wall and having the inner end thereof flanged and spaced from the inner side of said wall, a hollow knurled button on said nut confronting  
 40 the flange of said nut, a screw mounted in said nut and protruding from the outer end thereof, a disk on said screw against the  
 45 head thereof, a nut on said screw against the outer end of said rotatable nut retaining said disk against the head of said screw, and a flat detent engaging the facet of said  
 50 nut and exerting a pressure against the facet of said nut to hold both of said nuts against accidental rotation relative to said front wall.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM A. BARNEY.  
 WILLIAM J. BARNEY.

Witnesses:

P. C. DALDER,  
 G. E. McGRANN.

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