Dec. 21, 1937. H. S. GILMAN 2,102,620

MAIL BOX

Filed Feb. 25, 1937

Fig. 1.

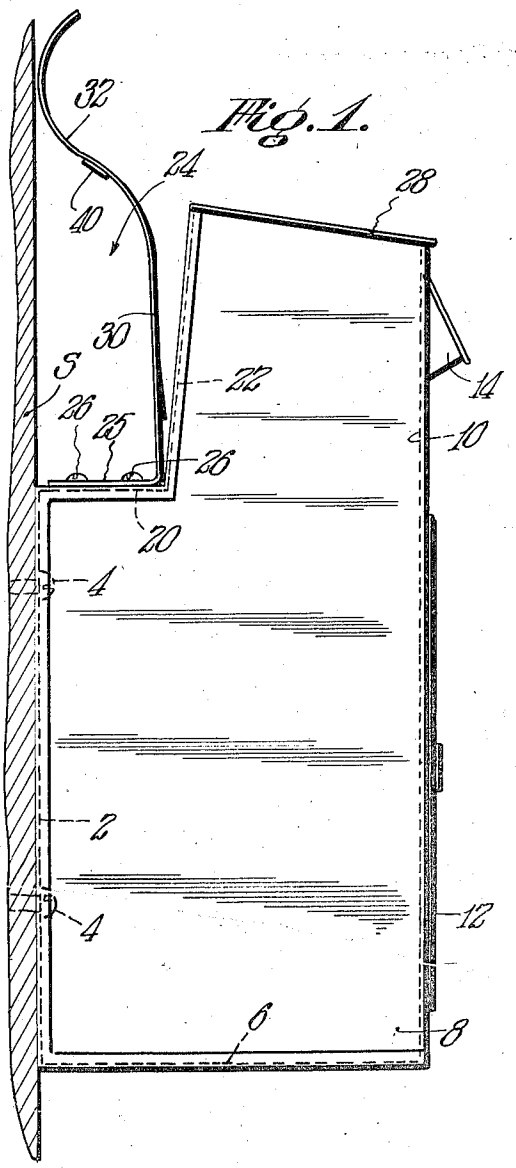
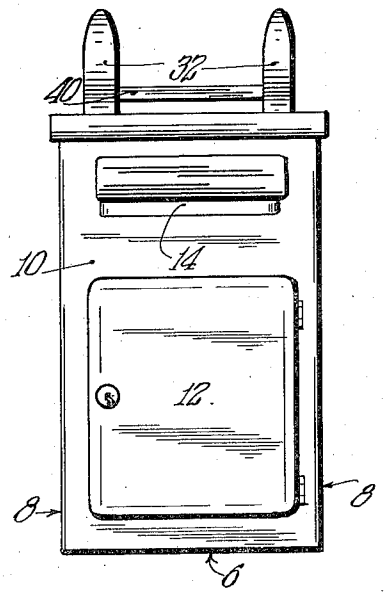


Fig. 2.



INVENTOR.

BY Henry S. Gilman

Wooster C. Rice Jr.

ATTORNEY.

Patented Dec. 21, 1937 2,102,620

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,102,620

MAIL BOX

Henry S. Gilman, Springfield, Mass.

Application February 25, 1937, Serial No. 127,654

2 Claims. (Cl. 232—33)

This invention relates to improvements in mail boxes and is directed more particularly to the provision of a novel mail box construction adapted to efficiently receive relatively heavy and bulky articles such as magazines, newspapers, and the like.

It is now common to associate with the forward face of present-day mail boxes some kind of a clip for retaining such articles, but I have found that such an arrangement is undesirable since the clips are necessarily small and inherently weak. They easily break and, being on the front of the box, they detract from the appearance of the construction and interfere with the proper access to the box.

It is one of the principal obects of this invention to provide a structure which is simple in form so as to be economical to manufacture and which is at the same time sturdy and rigid.

It is another object of the invention to provide a mail box having yielding means for retaining bulky articles at the rear of the box so as to be out of the way and not be unsightly. Furthermore, the retaining means is strong so that relatively heavy articles may be supported without fear of injury to the box.

Various other objects and advantages of the invention will become more apparent after a reading of the following description and reference being had to the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of the mail-box construction of the invention; and

Fig. 2 is a front elevational view of the mail box shown in Fig. 1.

Referring now to the drawing more in detail the invention will be fully described.

There is shown in Fig. 1 a support S which may be a wall or a post or the like. In any event it is adapted to have a mail box secured thereto as by screws 4 extending through the rear wall 2 of the box and into a support, all as shown.

The box itself generally includes in addition to a rear wall 2 a bottom wall 6 and upstanding side walls 8 and a front wall 10 co-operating to form a receptacle. If desired there may be a door such as 12 in the forward face thereof and it also is usual to provide a slot or opening such as 14 through which the letters may be inserted.

Although the shape and form of the box may be varied in many ways, the box of this invention is of such construction that it co-operates with the support to provide a socket 24. That is, there is provided at the rear side of the box intermediate the upper and lower edge thereof a ledge 20 with a rear wall part 22 extending upwardly from the inner edge thereof. A top wall such as 28 extends forwardly from the upper edge of part 22.

In this way, the space 24 between the support S and part 22 is adapted to receive, and the ledge 20 is adapted to support, newspapers, magazines, or other articles as may be desired. This is to be contrasted with the usual clips above referred to which are not strong and which are invariably incapable after little use of supporting the necessary weight.

I preferably provide what may be called a yielding retaining means within the socket 24 and this also may vary in form. It preferably consists of one or more spring-like members having foot parts 25 secured, as by rivets 26, to the ledge 20 as shown. Then body parts 30 extend upwardly from parts 25 to curved free end parts 32 which extend adjacent the wall or post S as shown.

The spring member is arranged so that its free end part is yieldingly urged toward the support S. In this way, entrance to socket 24 is normally barred by a member which may be readily moved to permit entrance. That is, a magazine or the like may be moved downwardly between the spring part 32 and support S into the socket so that it rests on the ledge.

Although I have shown a pair of spring members, one or more may, of course, be used. Also, while I have described the spring member as having a foot part 25, it is desired to point out that this part is not indispensable and the lower part of body 30 could be attached to wall 22, if desired.

If desired, there may be a cross bar such as 40 extending between the yielding members and it will have its opposite end parts secured to the yielding members, as by welding, rivets, or some other means. This facilitates pulling the springs away from the support S and also assures that, where two or more clips are used, both clips are pulled at the same time so as to open up the socket 24.

While I have described the invention in great detail and with respect to a preferred form thereof, it is not desired to be limited thereto since many changes and modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. What it is desired to claim and secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. The combination with a support of a receptacle secured thereto, said receptacle being formed to have a horizontal ledge part intermediate the upper and lower marginal edges of its rear side and a yielding spring member having one end

secured to said receptacle adjacent said ledge part and its other end extending freely away therefrom.

2. The combination with a support of a receptacle secured thereto, said receptacle being formed to have an upper part spaced from said support so as to form a socket having an open upper side and a lower horizontal wall, and yielding retaining means associated with said receptacle in such a way as to be within said socket, said retaining means consisting of a spring member having a lower foot part secured to said horizontal wall and its other end extending freely away therefrom towards said support.

HENRY S. GILMAN.