

Nov. 12, 1929.

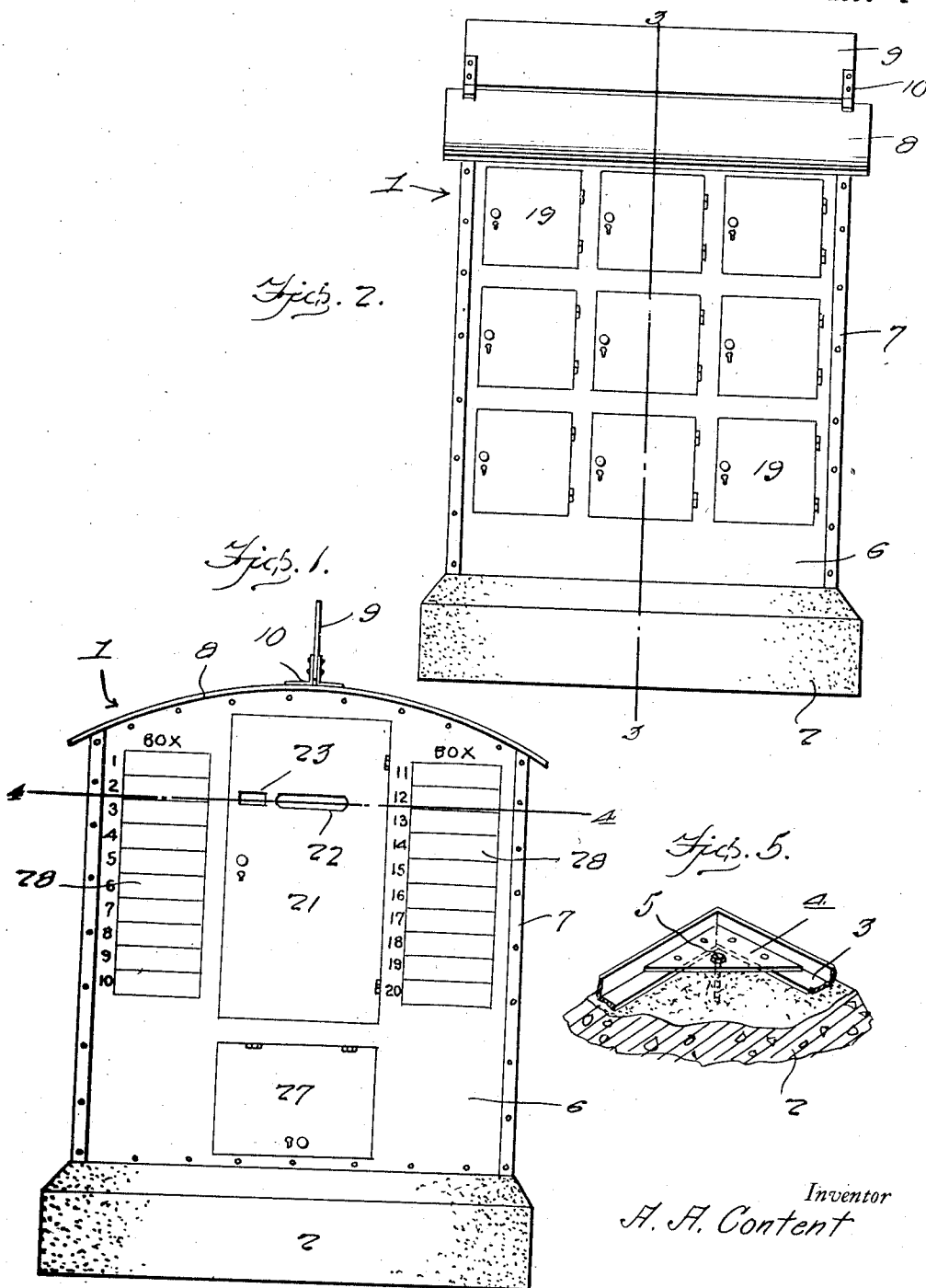
A. A. CONTENT

1,735,379

MAIL BOX

Filed Feb. 7, 1928

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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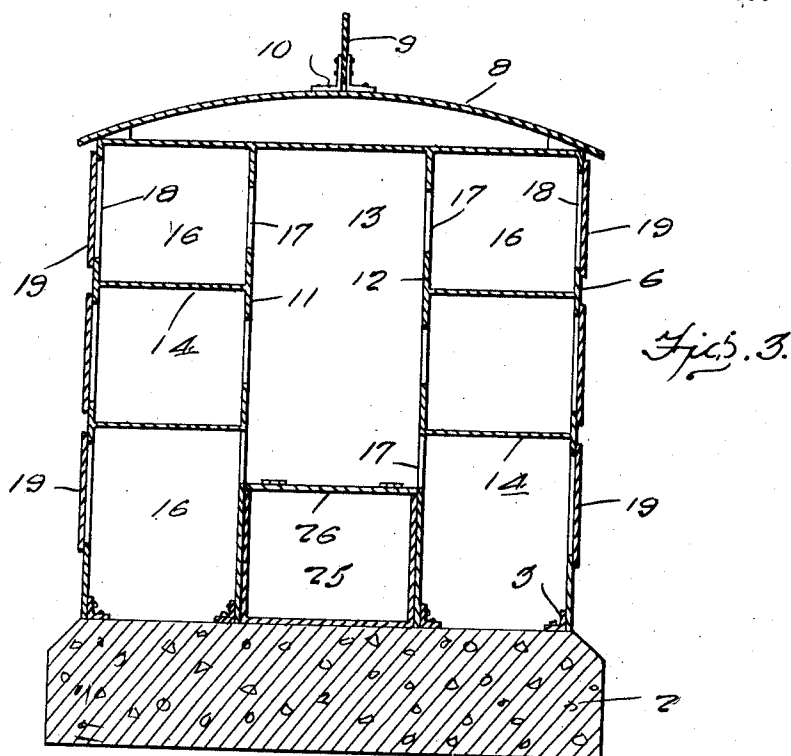
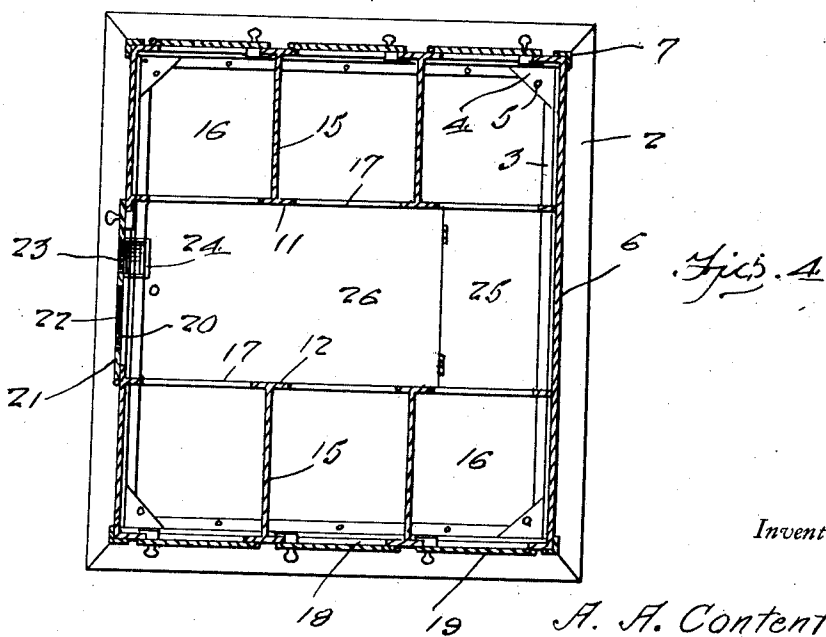
A. A. CONTENT

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MAIL BOX

Filed Feb. 7, 1928

2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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MAIL BOX

Application filed February 7, 1928; Serial No. 252,515.

The present invention relates to improvements in deposit and collection receptacles and has reference more particularly to a mail box adapted to be positioned in localities where, due to concentration of users, it is desirable to most conveniently unite the operations of depositing, collecting and distributing mail.

One of the important objects of the present invention is to provide a mail box of the above mentioned character which includes a mail depositing compartment to which access is had only by the mail carrier, individual distributing compartments being arranged on opposite sides of the collection compartment and accessible to the individual users of said compartments whereby the mail deposited therein may be removed by the respective individual users, said collection compartment being in communication with the inner ends of the respective distributing compartments whereby the mail carrier may properly distribute the mail in the respective distributing compartments.

A still further object is to provide a mail box of the above mentioned character which includes a means for enabling the individual users of a mail box to deposit money placed in envelopes in the collection compartment for the purpose of procuring stamps, the mail carrier having access to the money receiving box when the closure for the collection compartment is open.

A still further object is to provide a mail box of the above mentioned character which is mounted on a concrete base in a particular manner, the mail box being further reinforced whereby the same is rendered strong and durable.

Another object is to provide a mail box of the above mentioned character which will save considerable time and labor on the part of the mail carrier and furthermore the deposit compartments are so constructed as to preclude the users of said compartments from gaining access to any other of the deposit compartments other than their own.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent during the course of the following description when

taken in connection with the accompanying drawings.

In the accompanying drawings wherein like reference characters indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved mail box.

Figure 2 is a side elevation thereof.

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view taken substantially upon the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a horizontal section taken approximately on the line 4—4 of Figure 1, and

Figure 5 is a fragmentary detail of one corner of the angle iron frame showing the manner in which the same is reinforced and secured on the concrete base.

In the drawings wherein for the purpose of illustration is shown the preferred embodiment of my invention, the numeral 1 designates generally my improved mail box, the same comprising a concrete base 2 of substantially rectangular shape and arranged on the top of this base is the rectangular iron frame 3. A gusset 4 is secured at each corner of the angle iron frame and a bolt 5 that is initially set in the concrete base before the same has hardened extends through this gusset to provide a means for rigidly securing the frame on the top of the concrete base. In Figure 5 of the drawings, the particular construction of the frame and the gusset as well as the securing bolt for the same is clearly illustrated.

A substantially rectangular shaped casing 6 that is closed at its top is mounted on the concrete base and this casing is constructed of any suitable metal. The lower edge portions of the sides of the rectangular casing are adapted to be rigidly secured to the vertical portions of the respective sides of the angular frame 3 by any appropriate fastening means whereby to provide a rigid construction. Angle iron reinforcing elements 7 are provided for the corners of the rectangular casing as clearly illustrated in Figure 4.

An arcuate shaped roof 8 is secured on the top of the casing and a sign board 9 is

mounted on the central portion of the roof by means of the brackets 10 in the manner as clearly illustrated in the drawings.

The sign board 9 may have printed or otherwise arranged thereon suitable indicia such as the route number and the particular number of the mail box or post, it being understood that mail boxes of the character such as is embodied in the present invention are arranged at suitable distances along the postal route.

A pair of parallel spaced vertical partitions 11 and 12 extend between one pair of opposed sides of the rectangular casing 6 at the central portion thereof whereby to form or provide a central mail collection compartment 13, and these partitions extend for the full height of the casing as clearly illustrated in Figure 3.

A series of horizontal partitions 14 extend from the outer faces of the vertical partitions to the adjacent sides of the casing in the end compartments and also arranged in the end compartments are the vertical partitions 15 that cooperate with the horizontal partitions 14 to divide the outermost compartments formed by the central partitions 11 and 12 and the adjacent sides of the casing into a plurality of individual distributing compartments 16. This construction is clearly illustrated in Figures 3 and 4 of the drawings. The inner end wall of each of the individual distributing compartments is formed with an opening 17 that communicates with the mail collection compartment 13 and the outer or front sides of the individual compartments are each provided with an opening 18 which is normally closed by means of a swinging door 19 and a key controlled lock is associated with each door and each lock is slightly different in its construction so that each of the individual users of the compartments 16 can only obtain access to his particular compartment by the employment of the proper key in the manner well known in the art.

One end of the mail collection compartment 13 is provided with an enlarged opening 20 that is normally closed by the swinging door 21 and a key controlled lock is associated with this particular closure, and only the mail carrier has or is furnished with a key that will open the lock in order to permit access to the compartment 13. The door 21 is formed with a slot 22 whereby letters may be deposited in the central compartment 13 for collection by the mail carrier, and this door is furthermore formed with the slot 23 as shown very clearly in Figures 1 and 4. A box 24 is secured on the inner face or side of the swinging door 21 and is open at its top for disposition directly beneath the slot 23 for the purpose of receiving money placed in envelopes and deposited by the individual users of the distributing compartments 16

whenever such users are desirous of procuring stamps.

It is of course to be understood that the envelopes are properly marked so that the mail man can readily ascertain to whom the stamps are to be delivered. Arranged within the bottom of the mail collection compartment 13 is the package receiving receptacle 25, the same being open at the top for the greater portion thereof and an upwardly swinging door 26 is provided therefor which is accessible from the compartment 13, and furthermore this door 26 and the relatively small top portion of the receptacle 25 provides a bottom for the mail collection compartment.

The forward end of the receptacle 25 is open and the portion of the casing 6 which is disposed adjacent the open forward end of the package receiving receptacle is formed with an opening to permit the users of the individual compartments to gain access to the receptacle 25. A key controlled lock is associated with the swinging door 27 that provides a closure for the open forward end of the package receiving receptacle 25.

The names of the individuals having the use of the respective compartments 16 may be posted on the sign board 28 provided therefor on the side of the casing 6 which is provided with the swinging closure 21 that is accessible only to the mail carrier.

In use the mail carrier unlocks the door 21 and removes the letters that have been deposited in the compartment 13 through the slot 22 and also the envelopes containing the money for the stamps that are received in the box 24. He then lifts the door 26 upwardly whereby the packages placed in the receptacle 25 for collection may be removed by the mail carrier.

The letters destined for the individuals having compartments in the mail box are then deposited in the respective compartments 16 through the openings 17. The door 21 is then locked.

Individuals procure their mail from their respective compartments 16 by opening the door of their particular compartment and if desired, each door may be formed with a window in order that the user can readily ascertain whether or not there is any mail in his box or compartment without having to open the door. The door 27 for the package receptacle 25 is also opened by the individual users, so that they may obtain any packages deposited therein addressed to them.

The provision of a mail box of the above mentioned character will save considerable time and labor on the part of the mail carrier and furthermore due to its construction, the same will be compact and will also be further strong and durable.

While I have shown the preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood

that minor changes may be made in the size, shape and arrangement of parts without departing from the spirit of the invention and the scope of the appended claims.

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

10 1. In a mail box, a casing including a central mail collection compartment, mail distributing compartments on each side of the central collection compartment, one end of the collection compartment being open, a door for the opening, a key controlled lock for the door, the outer ends of the distributing compartments being open, doors therefor, a key controlled lock for each of the last mentioned doors, the inner ends of the distributing compartments being formed with openings for communication with the central mail collection compartment.

20 2. In a mail box, a casing including a central mail collection compartment, one end thereof being open, a series of individual mail distributing compartments arranged on opposite sides of the central compartment and communicating at their inner ends with said collection compartment, the outer end of each mail distributing compartment being open, a door therefor, a key controlled lock for each door.

30 3. In a mail box, a casing, a pair of parallel spaced vertical partitions arranged in the central portion thereof whereby to form a central mail collection compartment and end distributing compartments, horizontal and vertical partitions arranged in each of the end compartments for dividing the same into individual distributing compartments, the inner end wall of each of said individual distributing compartments being formed with a slot for affording communication between said compartments and the central collection compartment, the outer end of each individual mail distributing compartment being open, a closure therefor, one end of the collection compartment being opened and a closure therefor.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
ARTHUR ALFRED CONTENT.

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