

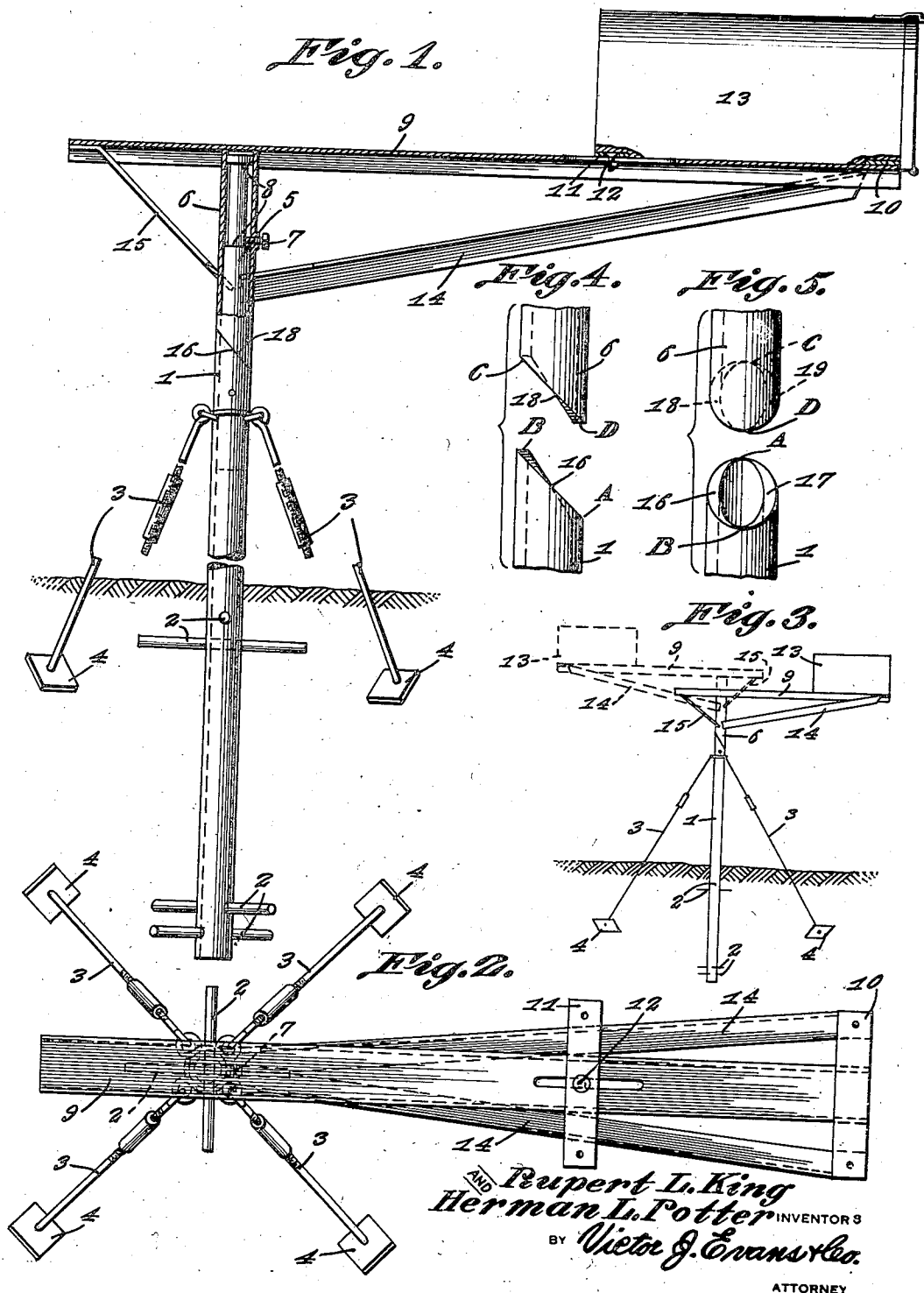
May 4, 1937.

R. L. KING ET AL

2,079,510

MAIL BOX SUPPORT

Filed June 4, 1935



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,079,510

MAIL BOX SUPPORT

Rupert L. King, Wilmington, and Herman L.
Potter, Hookerton, N. C.

Application June 4, 1935, Serial No. 24,936

1 Claim. (Cl. 248-145)

This invention relates to a mail box support especially adapted for supporting a mail box at an edge of a roadway so that a mail carrier may place mail therein or remove mail therefrom while in the roadway or seated in his conveyance. The invention has for its primary object the provision of a device of the above stated character which will normally maintain the mail box readily accessible to the carrier and will permit the mail box to swing away from the roadway and in either direction with respect to the support when engaged by a passing vehicle, person or the like to prevent damage to the mail box or its contents and which will automatically return the mail box to its normal position when disengaged.

With these and other objects in view, this invention consists in certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

For a complete understanding of our invention, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, in which

Figure 1 is a side elevation, partly in section, illustrating a mail box support constructed in accordance with our invention and showing a conventional type of mail box adapted thereto.

Figure 2 is a top plan view illustrating the mail box support.

Figure 3 is a side elevation illustrating in dotted lines the mail box swung away from the roadway.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary disrupted side elevation showing the cam arrangement employed in the construction of the support.

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 4 showing the cams when viewed from a different angle than that viewed in Figure 4.

Referring in detail to the drawing, the numeral 1 indicates a vertically arranged tubular post having anchoring elements 2 secured thereto for aiding in maintaining the post in an upright position when embedded in the ground. The post 1 is sunk in the ground adjacent to one edge of a roadway and is so located with respect to the roadway that traffic on the roadway will not contact therewith. A series of adjustable guy elements 3 are connected to the post adjacent its upper end and extend into the ground and are connected to anchors 4. A vertically arranged shaft 5 extends into the upper end of the post 1 and is secured thereto. A sleeve 6 is journaled on the shaft 5 and is capable of having a limited endwise movement on said shaft by a set screw 7 secured to said sleeve operating between spaced

shoulders 8 formed on said shaft. The set screw prevents the sleeve 6 from becoming accidentally disconnected from the shaft. However, when desiring to remove the sleeve from the shaft it is only necessary to detach the set screw from the sleeve.

The sleeve 6 is formed integrally with a platform 9, the latter being horizontally arranged with the sleeve 6 located adjacent one end thereof. Carried by the platform 9 are mail box attaching plates 10 and 11 which are arranged transversely of said platform. The plate 10 is fixed to the platform at one end thereof, while the plate 11 is adjustably secured to the platform, as shown at 12. A mail box 13 is suitably secured to the plates 10 and 11 and by having the plate 11 adjustably secured to the platform will permit mail boxes of different sizes to be readily adapted to the platform. Secured to the plate 10 and to the sleeve 6 are braces 14. Braces 15 are secured to the sleeve 6 and to the short end of the platform. The platform 9 will support the mail box 13 at the edge of the roadway so that a mail carrier while in the roadway may remove mail therefrom or place mail therein.

The upper end of the post 1 is cut at an angle to form camming faces 16 and 17 merging into one another at A and B. The meeting point A of the camming faces 16 and 17 is in a plane above the meeting point B. Each camming face is formed on an arc, rising from the point B to the point A. The camming face 16 curves in an opposite direction to the curvature of the camming face 17. The lower end of the sleeve 6 is cut at an angle to form camming faces 18 and 19 to match the camming faces 16 and 17. The camming faces 18 and 19 merge together at C and D. The portion D is disposed in a plane below the portion C. Normally the portion D is arranged adjacent the portion B with the portion C disposed over the portion A, with the camming faces 18 and 19 resting upon the camming faces 16 and 17 which positions the mail box as shown in full lines in Figure 3. However, should the mail box be struck by a passing vehicle, person or the like, the impact swings the platform relative to the post and the portion D rides upon one or the other of the camming faces of the post, traveling in the direction of the portion A. After the platform or mail box is free of the force of the impact, the portion D of the sleeve slides downwardly of the camming face of the post returning the mail box and platform to its initial or predetermined position. Should the impact be of force sufficient to swing the platform beyond one-half of the arc

of a circle, the portion D of the sleeve will still be in engagement with a camming face of the post and bring the platform or mail box back to the initial or predetermined position by completing the swinging of the platform in a complete circle. Also it will be noted that the platform can swing in either direction with respect to the supporting post and when free of the force of the swing will be automatically returned to its initial or predetermined position.

Having described the invention, we claim:

A mail box support comprising a hollow vertically arranged supporting post, a shaft extending into the upper end of the post and secured thereto, spaced shoulders formed on the shaft, a sleeve slidable and journaled on said shaft, with the shoulders located therein, a set bolt secured to said sleeve and adapted to engage the

shoulders for limiting the sliding movement of the sleeve on the shaft both towards and from the post, a box carried by and movable with said sleeve, said post having the upper end thereof cut at an angle to form a pair of camming faces merging into each other at the ends thereof and curving in opposite directions, one end of said sleeve being cut at an angle to form a pair of camming faces merging into each other and matching the camming faces of said post, said camming faces of the sleeve and post coacting to maintain the box in a selected position and to permit said box to swing in a path of a complete circle or to swing a part of said path and automatically return the box to said selected position.

RUPERT L. KING.
HERMAN L. POTTER.