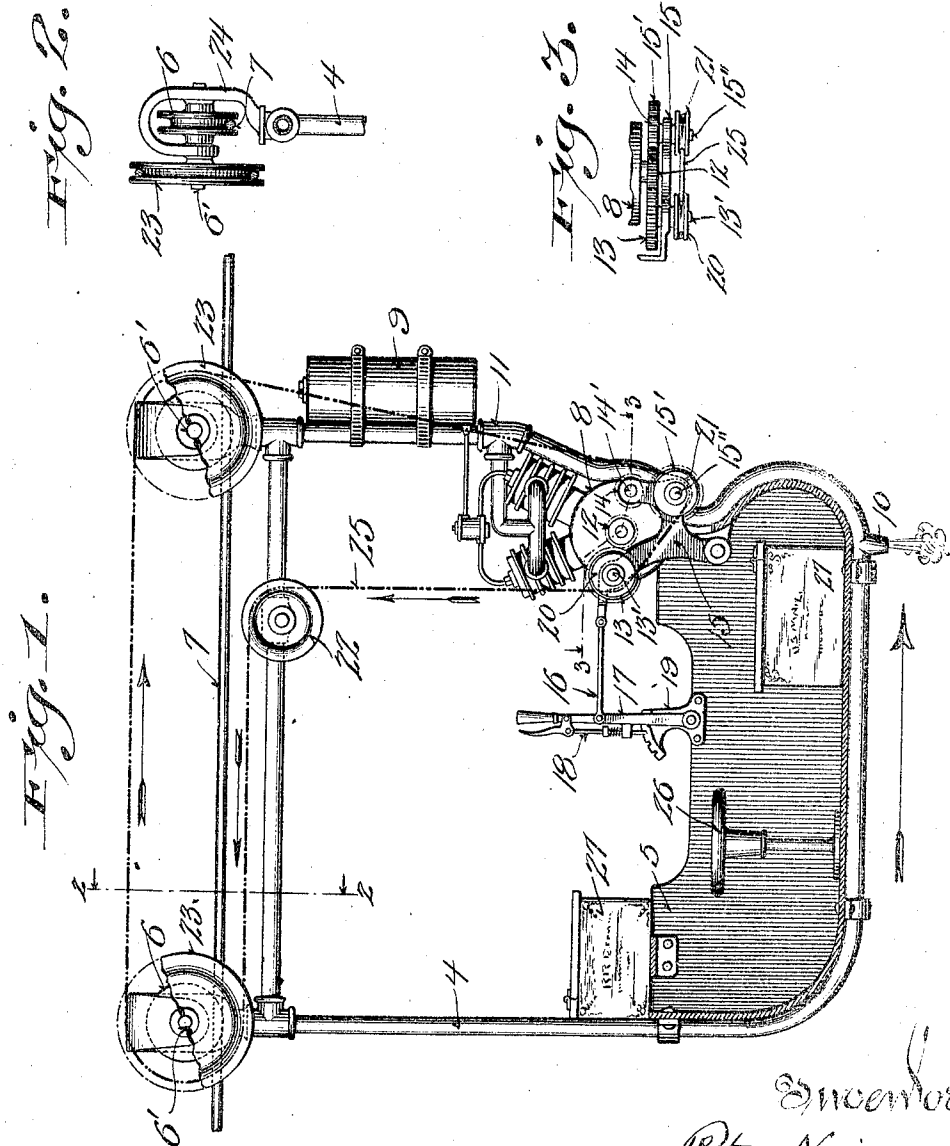


P. NEIS.
AERIAL CARRIER.
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1,030,423.

Patented June 25, 1912.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER NEIS, OF CALVARY, WISCONSIN.

AERIAL CARRIER.

1,030,423.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 25, 1912.

Application filed March 18, 1912. Serial No. 684,512.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PETER NEIS, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Calvary, in the county of Fond du Lac and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Aerial Carriers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention consists in what is herein particularly set forth with reference to the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the claims of this specification, its principal object being to provide for economical rapid distribution and collection of mail on rural delivery routes by the employment of aerial trolley-cars having the motive-power of each within itself under control of the mail-carrier therewith.

Figure 1 of the drawings represents a partly sectional view of an automaton car in accordance with my invention suspended by trolley-wheels thereof from an overhead track, and Figs. 2 and 3 partly sectional views of fragments of the car equipment, these views being generally indicated by lines 2—2 and 3—3 respectively in Fig. 1.

Referring by numerals to the drawings, 4 indicates tubular framework and 5 the body of a mail distributing car suspended by trolley-wheels 6 from an overhead track 7 of wire or other suitable material. Mounted in connection with the framework of the car is an internal-combustion engine 8 and its fuel-reservoir 9. The engine shown is of the type employed in the equipment of motor-cycles and has its exhaust at 10 of the framework 4, which frame work is closed above the coupling-joint 11 thereof. The engine-shaft is provided with a spur-gear wheel 12 for the engagement of one or the other of similar gear-wheels 13, 14, respectively, fast on arbors 13', 14', for which a rocker 15 is provided with bearings, and said rocker is connected by a link 16 with a lever 17 having a spring-latch 18 engageable with a notch quadrant bracket 19 fastened to a side of the car. The gear-wheel 14 is permanently in mesh with a similar wheel 15' fast on an arbor 15'' for which the rocker 15 is provided with a bearing.

Sheaves 20, 21, are fast on the gear-wheel arbors 13' and 15'' respectively, an idler sheave 22 is mounted in connection with the framework 4, and other sheaves 23 are fast

on the spindles 6' to which the trolley-wheels 6 are also rigidly secured, bearing-brackets 24 for said spindles being employed in connection with said framework. A power transmission belt 25 is trained on all the sheaves, and by manipulation of the lever 17, the rocker 15 is adjusted to bring the gear-wheel 13 or 14 into mesh with the one 12 on the engine-shaft, or to put both of the rocker-carried gear-wheels out of mesh with the engine-shaft gear-wheel, whereby the car may be run in either direction by means of the engine under control of the occupant of the car, and whenever necessary or desirable the power transmission may be cut-out without stopping said engine.

It is designed to have the car provided with a seat 26 for the mail carrier occupant, and with mail receptacles 27, and by having the overhead track in proximity to boxes of a free rural delivery route, the distribution and collection of mail will be greatly facilitated, regardless of weather conditions, without increasing the cost of the service, it being possible to provide trackage, car-equipment, maintenance and operation at a less cost than what is now paid rural route carriers. It is also possible with means in accordance with my invention to provide for each carrier covering more territory in the same time than can be done with a vehicle and a draft-animal or animals therewith.

From the foregoing it is to be noted that my apparatus eliminates an electric installation and conductors for furnishing the aerial trolley car with power, it being my purpose to employ a power generator in connection with each car, and said apparatus may be applied to uses other than that herein particularly set forth.

I claim:

1. The combination with an overhead track, of an aerial trolley-car in suspension from the track, a motor with the car to be controlled by an occupant of the same, a gear-wheel fast on a shaft of the motor, a lever-controlled rocker carrying a pair of gear-wheels to be one or the other thereof engaged with the one on said shaft according to the direction of travel desired for the car, and sheave and belt mechanism for transmitting power from either of the rocker-carried gear-wheels to the trolley-wheels of the car.

2. The combination with an overhead track, of an aerial trolley-car in suspension from the track, an internal-combustion engine with the car to be controlled by an
5 occupant of the same and having a gear-wheel fast on its shaft, a lever-controlled rocker carrying a pair of gear-wheels to be one or the other thereof engaged with the
10 direction of travel desired for the car, and sheave and belt mechanism for transmitting

power from either of the rocker-carried gear-wheels to the trolley-wheels of said car.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand at Milwaukee
15 in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin in the presence of two witnesses.

PETER NEIS.

Witnesses:

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