

P. REYNOLDS.
MAIL BOX.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 30, 1909.

960,583.

Patented June 7, 1910.

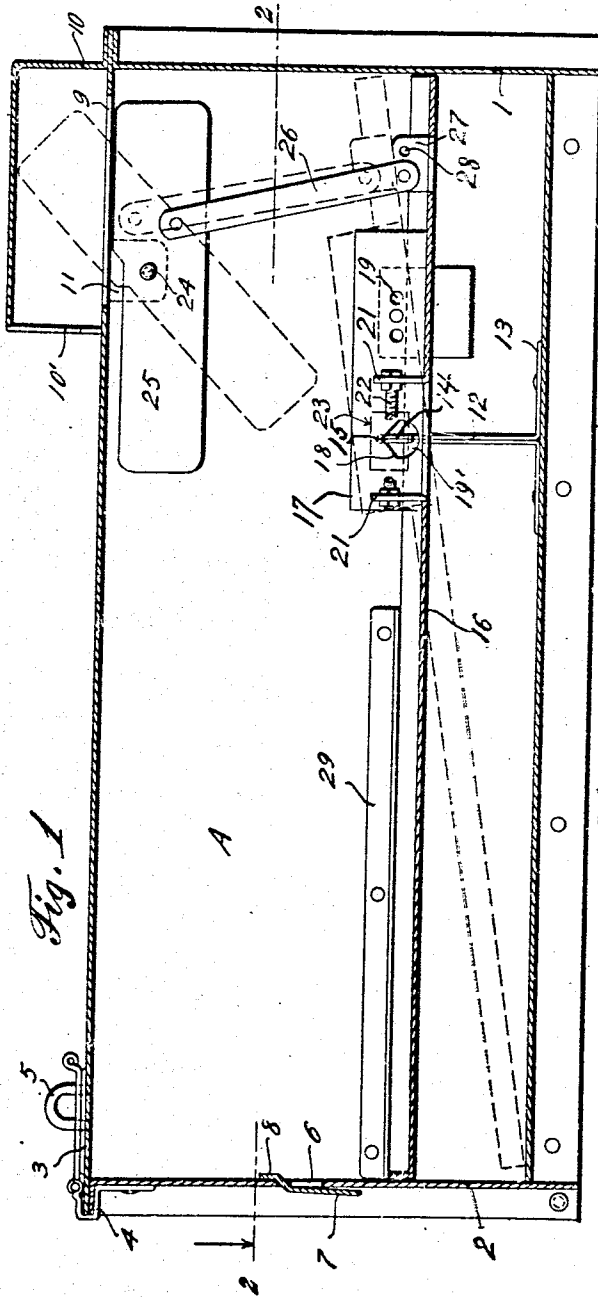


Fig. 1

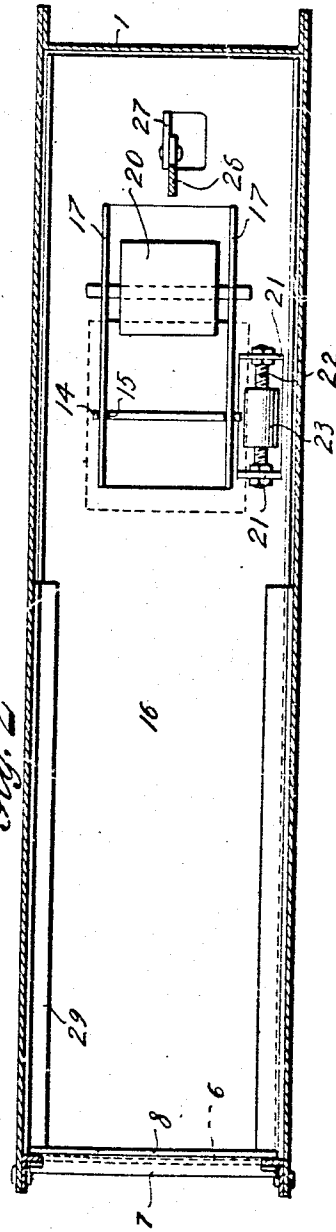


Fig. 2

Witnesses
Edgarson
Charles S. Wilson.

Inventor
P. Reynolds,
By Beiler & Robb
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

POSEY REYNOLDS, OF LEVEL RUN, VIRGINIA.

MAIL-BOX.

960,583.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 7, 1910.

Application filed December 30, 1909. Serial No. 535,545.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, POSEY REYNOLDS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Level Run, in the county of Pittsylvania and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to mail boxes adapted for use in the rural free delivery service and has for its object to provide a box which will raise and lower the signal flag in such a manner that it will at no time remain raised when there is no mail within the box.

A further object of this invention is to construct a box of this type and character which will operate upon the lightest article of mail being placed therein, raising the flag. Furthermore a protection is provided for the flag that will prevent ice or sleet from crusting over the opening and interfering with the operation of the flag, and also prevent rain, snow or the like from leaking into the box and damaging the mail.

With the above and other objects in view, this invention consists of the construction, combination and arrangement of parts all as hereinafter more fully described, claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a central longitudinal section of a device constructed in accordance with the present invention; Fig. 2 is a horizontal section taken along line 2-2 of Fig. 1.

Reference being had to the accompanying drawings, A indicates a box constructed in a manner somewhat similar to the rural free delivery boxes now in use, having one extremity thereof closed by the partition 1 and the other provided with the door 2. This door has secured thereto the hasp 3 which is bent angularly at 4 to insure its engagement with the top of the box A, and operates over the staple 5. A horizontal opening 6 is provided in the door 2 adjacent to the upper portion thereof, said opening adapted to be closed normally by a flap 7 retained in position by the flap 8 bearing against the interior of the door. A longitudinal opening 9 is provided in the upper side of the casing A and adjacent the rearward extremity thereof, said opening being provided with a housing 10 completely covering said opening and secured at each extremity thereof to the casing A. This housing 10 is of such

a construction that the sides thereof and the end 10' are open permitting an uninterrupted view to be had of any signal projecting through the opening 9 from the interior of the box. An inwardly and downwardly projecting lug 11 is formed on one side of the opening 9 and at the extremity thereof toward the opposite end of the casing.

Secured to the bottom of the box A and projecting upwardly at right angles thereto is the support 12 secured to the bottom by the laterally extending flanges 13. At the upper extremity of the support 12 are formed the transversely extending arms 14, said arms being provided with the recesses 15 in their upper edges.

The signal operating tray 16 is pivotally mounted on the arms 14 through the instrumentality of the upwardly extending flanges 17 formed from said tray adjacent said arms. A pair of coinciding openings 18 pierce the flanges 17, said openings having the lower sides 19 thereof curved to provide for the clearance of the tray when the latter swings. The upper sides of the openings 18 are approximately straight and converge, at the point of convergency bearing in the recesses 15 of the arms 14. This tray extends approximately the entire length of the box A and is so located that any mail whatsoever dropped through the slot 6 is caught on the forward extremity thereof. Adjacent the openings 18 and in the flanges 17 are formed a series of orifices 19, said orifices coinciding, forming a journal for the balance weight 20 pivoted between said flanges. In order that a means whereby the balance of the tray may be adjusted to suit various occasions and circumstances, a pair of flanges 21 are formed adjoining the flanges 17 and to one side thereof in which are rigidly secured the stationary screws 22. On these stationary screws is threaded the adjusting weight 23 which, through the instrumentality of said screws, may be located on either side of the center support 12 of the tray, and thus permit the minute adjustment of the tray in such a manner that the operation thereof is absolutely positive upon the slightest pressure being exerted at the forward extremity thereof.

Pivotally connected to the lug 11 by the pin or rivet 24 is the flag or signal 25, to be projected through the opening 9 into the housing 10 upon the dropping of the for-

ward extremity of the operating tray 16, as is illustrated by the dotted lines in Fig. 1 of the drawings. To permit this action a link 26 is secured to the flag or signal 25 at the rearward extremity thereof and to the lug 27 projecting upwardly from the tray 16 provided with a series of openings 28 which permit the adjustment of the link.

To prevent the forward extremity of the tray 16 from rising above the horizontal, a pair of flanges 29 are secured to the sides of the casing adjacent the forward extremity thereof and are adapted to bear against said tray when the same rests in a horizontal position.

The entire device is made out of sheet metal and the elements thereof are riveted together in such a manner that they form a firm and substantial casing. Approximately all of the flanges and lugs are stamped from the elements of which they are formed, thus

reducing the cost of manufacture and increasing the cheapness thereof.

Having thus fully described my invention, what is claimed as new is:

A mail box comprising a casing having an opening formed in one extremity thereof, a housing surrounding said opening, a signal pivoted on the interior of said casing and adjacent to said opening, a tray pivotally mounted in said casing, a connection between the rear terminal of said tray and said signal, and angle irons secured to the sides of the casing whereby the upward movement of the tray is limited.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

POSEY REYNOLDS.

Witnesses:

T. J. MAYS,
T. L. JACOBS.