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1,567,100

SIGNAL FOR MAIL BOXES

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Fig. 1.

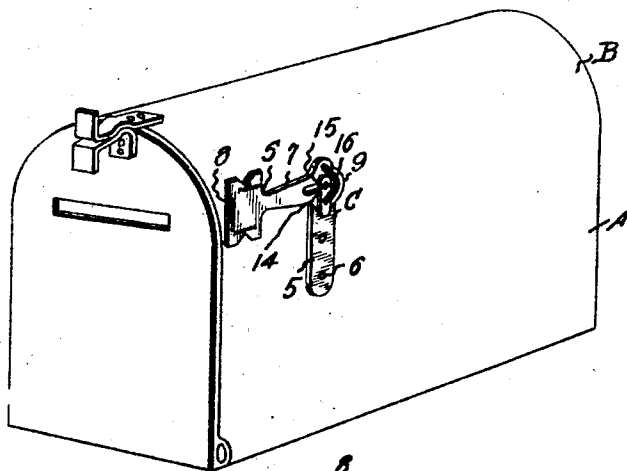


Fig. 2.

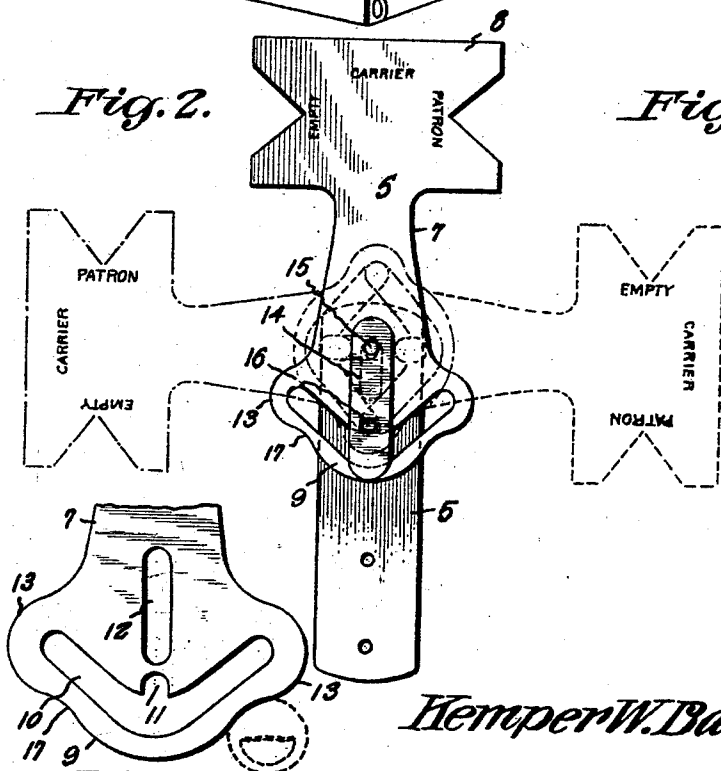


Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

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SIGNAL FOR MAIL BOXES.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, KEMPER W. BABER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Richmond, in the county of Henrico and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Signals for Mail Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention appertains to a signal for mail boxes and the like and has for its general object to provide a structure capable of being moved to different positions for indicating the condition of the mail box for instance whether or not the same is empty, or contains mail to be collected by the carrier or mail left by the carrier for the patron.

A very important object of the invention is to provide an indicating signal of this nature which may be moved to and maintained in any one of three positions so that the signal may be easily read from a considerable distance.

Another object of the invention is to provide a signalling device of this nature which is capable of easy and ready operation so that it may be moved to its different positions quickly and yet may not easily be moved from a position from which it has been moved accidentally.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a signalling device of this nature with a very simple and efficient structure, one which is reliable in operation, inexpensive to manufacture, handy, strong, durable, not likely to become easily out of order and otherwise well adapted to the purpose for which it is designed.

With the above and numerous other objects in view, as will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in certain novel features of construction and in the combination and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a rural mail box showing my signalling device mounted thereon,

Figure 2 is an elevation of the signalling device,

Figure 3 is another elevation thereof taken at right angles to that shown in Figure 2, and

Figure 4 is an enlarged detail view of the lower end of the signal arm.

Referring to the drawing in detail it will

be seen that the rural mail box is indicated generally at A and is provided with the usual cover B. The box and cover may be of any desired preferred or conventional form. My signalling device C is mounted on the box A in a convenient position so that it may be seen readily by both the carrier and the patron of the box.

This signalling device C includes a bracket 5 and a signal proper S. The bracket 5 is in the form of a plate riveted or otherwise fastened to the box A as at 6 so as to extend vertically. The signal proper S is movably mounted on the bracket 5 so as to take either of the two horizontal positions indicated in dotted lines in Figure 2 or the vertical position indicated in full lines in the same figure. The signal proper S includes the signal arm 7 and blade 8 mounted on the outer end thereof and preferably formed integral therewith. The inner end of the signal arm 7 indicated at 9 is provided with a curved transversely extending slot 10 substantially arcuate in formation and provided centrally with a notch 11. A slot 12 extends longitudinally of the arm 7 in alinement with the notch 11 and it is preferable that the distance from notch 11 to the upper or outer end of slot 12 be the same as the distance from said notch 11 to the extremities of the transversely disposed slot 10. A pair of vertically disposed pins are mounted on the upper end of the bracket preferably rivets or bolts as shown at 15 and 16 for holding the plate 14 in vertical alinement with the bracket and spaced therefrom.

The signal arm 7 is disposed between the bracket 5 and the plate 14 and pin 15 extends through slot 12 and through slot 10 extends pin 16. The distance between the pin 15 and 16 is preferably equal to the distance between notch 11 and the upper end of the slot 12. The arm 7 adjacent the terminals of the slot 10 is provided with projections 13 and the lower end 9 is constructed with curved portions 17.

Considering the device as it is illustrated in Figure 2 it will be seen that if a finger is placed under the projection 13 to the right (note Figure 4) and lifted upwardly the notch 11 will be disengaged from pin 16 and the signal allowed to move to the dotted line position as shown to the left in said Figure 2. This position would indicate that there was mail in the box for the patron thereof and a legend "Patron" is preferably printed

on the blade so as to be readable when the signalling device is thus positioned. To return the signalling device to a vertical position from that just described a finger is engaged with the uppermost projection 13 and moved downwardly thereby swinging the signal arm to a vertical position at which time the notch 11 will engage the pin 16. If the same projection 13 now to the right is pushed upwardly the signalling device will swing to the right and take the horizontal position shown to the right of Figure 2. The legend "Empty" is written on the blade 8 so as to be readable in this position. When vertically disposed the legend "Carrier" is readable on this blade 8.

It will now be apparent that I have provided a very simple and efficient device of this nature which can be easily and readily moved to any one of three positions and will be maintained from accidental displacement in these positions. The device consists of few parts not liable to get out of order, capable of being manufactured cheaply and insuring a long life of usefulness. The device as described in the present example thereof embodies all the features of advantage enumerated as desirable in the statement of the invention and in the above description and it is to be noted that numerous changes in the details of construction, and in the combination and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention as hereinafter claimed or sacrificing any of its advantages.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is:

1. In a signalling device for mail boxes or the like, a bracket, a pair of vertically alined pins extending transversely from the bracket, a plate connecting the pins and spaced from the bracket, a signal provided with a longi-

tudinally extending slot for receiving the uppermost pin and a transversely extending slot for receiving the lower pin.

2. In a signalling device for mail boxes or the like, a bracket, a pair of vertically alined pins extending transversely from the bracket, a plate connecting the pins and spaced from the bracket, a signal provided with a longitudinally extending slot for receiving the uppermost pin and a transversely extending slot for receiving the lower pin, a notch being provided in the transverse slot.

3. In a signalling device for mail boxes or the like, a bracket, a pair of vertically alined pins extending transversely from the bracket, a plate connecting the pins and spaced from the bracket, a signal provided with a longitudinally extending slot for receiving the uppermost pin and a transversely extending slot for receiving the lower pin, a notch being provided in the transverse slot, said transverse slot being curved with its notch centrally located, and the distance between the notch and the farther end of the longitudinal slot being at least equal to the distance between said notch and the extremity of the transverse slot.

4. In a signalling device for mail boxes or the like, a bracket, a signal mounted on the bracket for longitudinal sliding and swinging movements and having a transversely extending slot and a notch communicating with the intermediate portion of the slot, and a member rigid with the bracket and projecting therefrom to engage the ends of the slot or to engage in the notch for arresting the signal and maintaining the same in oppositely swung substantially horizontal positions or in an intermediate substantially vertical position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

KEMPER W. BABER.