

Oct. 1, 1940.

W. E. ELMER
SUPPORTING DEVICE

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2,216,408

Fig. 1.

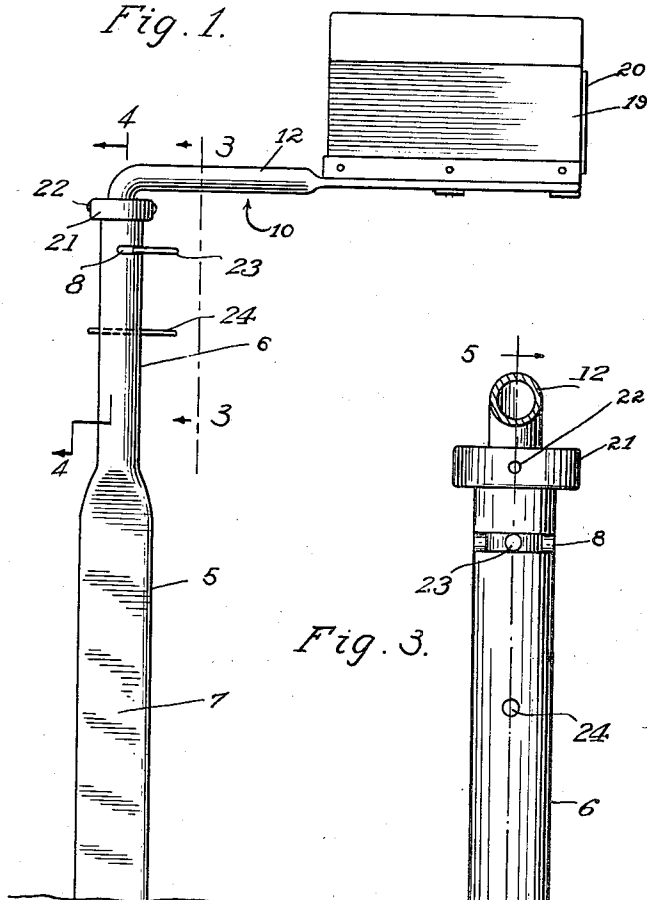


Fig. 4.

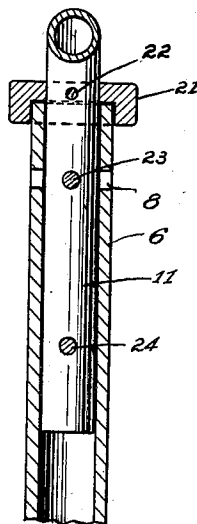


Fig. 3.

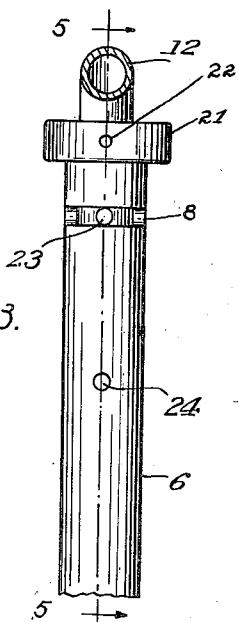


Fig. 2.

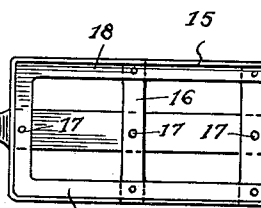


Fig. 5.

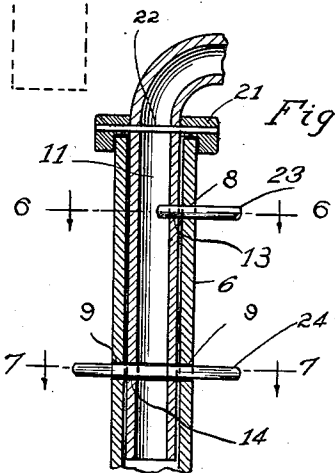


Fig. 6.

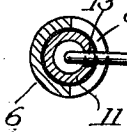
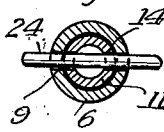


Fig. 7.



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2,216,408

SUPPORTING DEVICE

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Application June 6, 1939, Serial No. 277,725

2 Claims. (Cl. 248—145)

My invention relates to supporting devices for mail boxes and the like and more particularly to supporting devices equipped with means for protecting mail boxes supported thereby.

5 In rural districts it is the common practice to support mail boxes and the like adjacent the side of a highway whereby the rural carrier may have ready access thereto for delivery of mail. In thus positioning mail boxes, a standard is employed to which is secured the inner end of a horizontally extending arm, the outer end of the arm having attached thereto the mail box. The arm usually extends over an area adjacent the side of the highway and in the path of any traffic which may traverse a portion of the area. When thus arranged, the mail box is often struck and damaged by traffic due to the foregoing described proximity of the arm relative to the highway. Therefore, it is one of the principal objects of my invention to provide a device equipped with means, while permitting the mail box to be disposed in proximity to the highway, functions to protect the mail box and thereby eliminate damage thereto and which means includes a horizontally disposed medium to which the box is attached and which is capable of being rotated out of the path of traffic upon impact imparted to said medium.

Another object of my invention is to provide a device of the above described character which is simple in construction, durable in use, efficient in operation and economical in manufacture.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description, appended claims and annexed drawing.

Referring to the drawing wherein like reference characters designate like parts throughout the several views:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my invention.

40 Figure 2 is a top plan view thereof.

Figure 3 is a detail sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a similar sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 1.

45 Figure 5 is a detail sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 3.

Figures 6 and 7 are transverse sectional views taken on the lines 6—6 and 7—7 of Figure 5 respectively.

50 In practicing my invention as illustrated in the drawing, I provide a hollow standard 5 having upper and lower sections 6 and 7 respectively. The lower section is of a substantially square configuration in cross section while the upper section is of a substantially cylindrical configura-

tion fashioned with an arcuate horizontal slot 8 and with aligned apertures 9 extending therethrough and spaced subjacent said slot. Associated with the standard 5 is a hollow support member 10 having a pair of right angularly related arms 11 and 12. The arm 12 is journaled within the upper section 6 and is formed with an opening 13 registering with the slot 8. The arm 11, subjacent the opening 13, is also formed with a pair of aligned holes 14 registering with the apertures 9 of said section 6.

The outer end of the arm 12 is flattened and has mounted on the upper face thereof a guard frame 15 provided with inner and outer and intermediate transverse members 16 fixed to the arm by means of rivets 17 or the like. The inner transverse member 16 is of an angle iron construction provided with right angularly disposed end sections defining side members 18 riveted to the outer ends of the other transverse members 19. Positioned within the frame 15 is a mail box 19 equipped on the outer end with a door 20 whereby mail and the like may be placed therein. The side members 18 and the inner transverse member 16 are provided with vertically disposed side portions embracing the lower portion of the mail box and are adapted to guard and protect the latter from damage when the frame is subjected to impact.

A collar 21 is fixed to the arm 11 by means of a pin 22 extending therethrough and said collar engages and receives the upper end of the upper section 6 of the standard and maintains the arm 12 in a fixed horizontal plane above the standard. A shear pin 23 extends through the slot 8 and opening 13 and coacts with the end walls of the slot for limiting the rotation of the support relative to the standard. A detachable shear pin 24 extends through the apertures 9 and holes 14 and maintains the support fixed to the standard 5. The shear pin 24 is capable of being sheared upon impact imparted to the arm 12 or frame 15 to permit rotation of the support relative to the standard and thus enable the mail box to be rotated out of the path of the instrumentality initiating the impact. The shear pin 24 is adapted to be detached from the arm 11 and standard 5 to permit the mail box to be rotated relative to the standard when desired. The pin 24 is shearable upon sufficient impact imparted to the arm 12 or frame 15 to permit further rotation of the support relative to the standard to preclude damage to the mail box.

From the foregoing it will be apparent that I have provided a simple and efficient device for

supporting mail boxes and the like adjacent the side of a roadway and which is capable of operation to preclude damage to the mail box by passing traffic.

- 5 It is obvious that the invention is not confined to the herein described use therefor as it may be utilized for any purpose to which it is adaptable. It is therefore to be understood that the invention is not limited to the specific construction as illustrated and described, as the same is only illustrative of the principles of operation, which are capable of extended application in advance forms, and that the invention comprehends all construction within the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. A device of the character described, comprising, a standard, a support journaled in said standard and having an angularly disposed section, a guard frame mounted on said section and adapted to receive therein a mail box and protect the latter from impact, means connecting said support to said standard against relative movement and operable upon impact imparted to said frame for permitting rotation of said support relative to said standard, and means connecting said support to said standard for limiting rotation of said support relative to said standard and operable upon sufficient impact imparted to said frame to permit free rotation of said support relative to said standard.

2. A device of the character described, comprising, a standard having an upper hollow section fashioned with an arcuate horizontal slot and with aligned apertures extending there-through and spaced from said slot, a support member having a pair of angularly related arms with one of said arms journaled within said section and formed with an opening registering with said slot and with a pair of aligned holes registering with said apertures, a guard frame mounted on said other arm and adapted to receive a mail receptacle and protect the latter from impact, a collar fixed on said support and engaging the upper end of said section and coacting with the latter to maintain said last mentioned arm in a fixed horizontal plane above said standard, a shear pin extending through said slot and opening and coacting with the end walls of said slot for limiting rotation of said support relative to said standard, and a detachable shear pin extending through said apertures and said holes for maintaining said support fixed to said standard and shearable upon impact imparted to said last mentioned arm to permit rotation of said support relative to said standard, said first mentioned shear pin shearable upon sufficient impact imparted to said last mentioned arm to effect further rotation of said support relative to said standard.

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