

Oct. 29, 1940.

G. O. THAXTON

2,219,718

MAILBOX AND SIGNAL THEREFOR

Filed Oct. 3, 1939

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

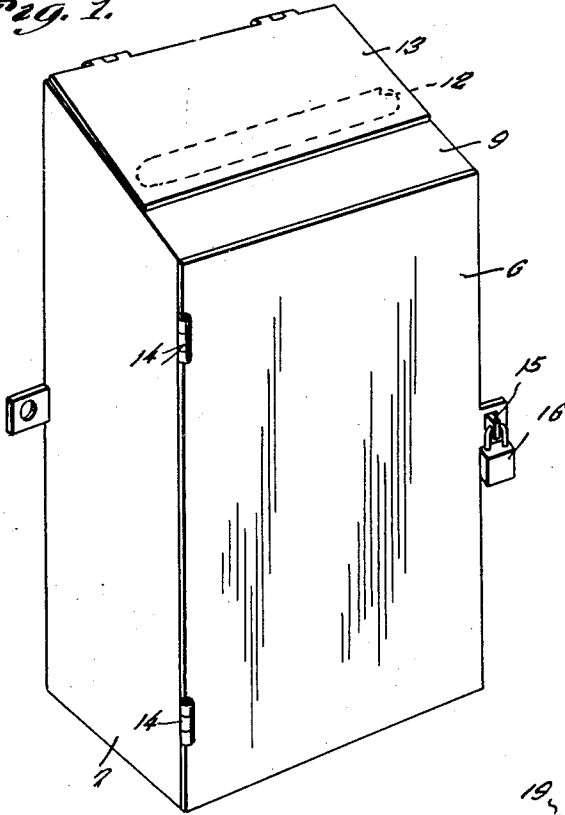


Fig. 7.

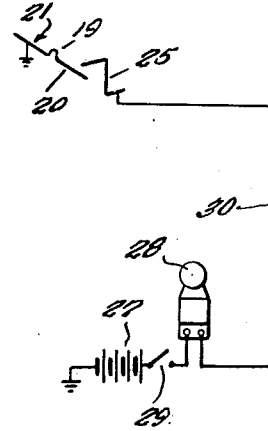


Fig. 6.

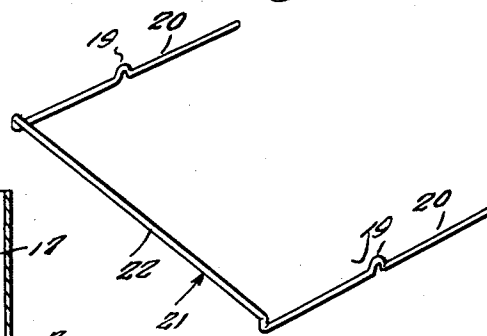
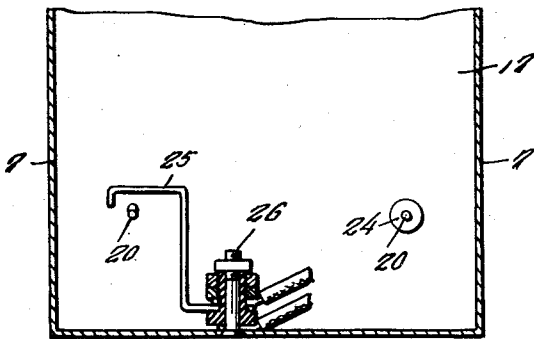


Fig. 5.

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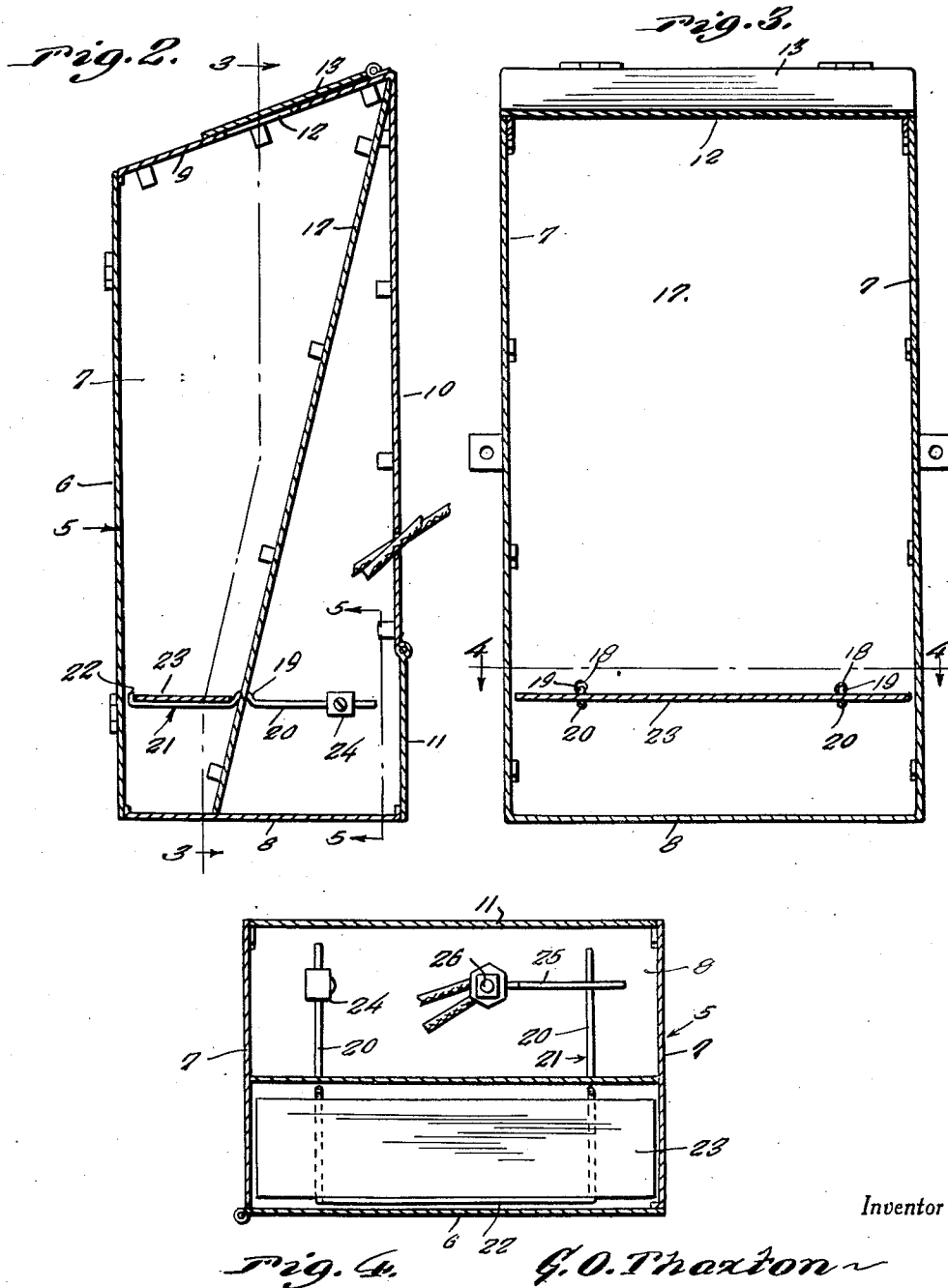
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,219,718

MAILBOX AND SIGNAL THEREFOR

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one-half to Isaac Lee Burton, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Application October 3, 1939, Serial No. 297,750

1 Claim. (Cl. 200—57)

This invention appertains to new and useful improvements in mailboxes and signal devices therefor.

5 The principal object of the present invention is to provide a mailbox in which switch means is located in conjunction with a signal circuit to the end that a signal will be rendered upon disposition of mail in the mailbox.

10 Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent to the reader of the following specification.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the mailbox.

15 Figure 2 is a vertical sectional view through the box.

Figure 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

20 Figure 4 is a horizontal sectional view on the line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a sectional view on the line 5—5 of Figure 2.

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the rocker frame.

25 Figure 7 is a diagrammatic view of the electric signal means.

Referring to the drawings wherein like numerals designate like parts, it can be seen that the numeral 5 generally refers to the mailbox which consists of the front wall 6, side walls 7, bottom wall 8, top wall 9 and back wall 10, having the switch means accessible closure 11 in the lower portion thereof.

30 The top 9 has the mail slot 12 over which the hinged closure 13 is disposable to prevent water and insects from getting into the box.

It can be seen in Figure 1 that the front wall 6 is hinged connected as at 14 to one of the side walls 7 and keeper means 15 and a padlock 16 are provided to prevent unauthorized access to the interior of the box.

40 A vertical inclined partition 17 is provided in the box, and this partition 17 is provided with a pair of horizontally spaced openings 18—18 in the lower portion thereof, through which are disposed the off-set fulcrum portions 19 of the leg

portions 20 of the rocker frame 21, which frame is of substantially U-shape. The upwardly off-set bight portion 22 of this frame 21 is forwardly disposed with respect to the partition 17 and between this upwardly off-set bight portion 22 and the off-set fulcrum portions 19 is disposed the plate 23 which catches the mail as it is dropped through the slot 12.

Obviously, the weight of a letter or other piece of mail on the plate 23 will tilt up the rear ends 10 of the leg members 20, one against the counterbalancing effect of the adjustable weight 24 thereon, and the other to engage the contact arm 25. This contact arm 25 is secured in place by the binding post 26.

15 As shown in Figure 5, this arm 25 is of substantially inverted L-shape.

A suitable source of current 27 is employed and connected to one side of an alarm 28. Between the alarm and the battery 27 is preferably a switch 29.

From the other side of the alarm 29 the conductor 30 extends to the contact arm 25. It can be seen that the frame 21 is grounded (see Figure 7).

25 While the foregoing specification sets forth the invention in specific terms, it is to be understood that numerous changes in the shape, size and materials may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed hereinafter.

Having described the invention what is claimed as new is—

35 A mailbox signal switch comprising a supporting wall, a U-shaped frame having offsets at the intermediate portions of its leg portions, said wall having openings therein for receiving the offset portions of the frame legs, one extremity of the frame defining a contactor, a counter-balancing weight adjustably disposed on the other extremity 40 of the frame, and a platform bridging the bight portion ends of the leg portions of the frame to a point adjacent the corresponding side of the wall.

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