J. BIHON.

LETTER BOX.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 8, 1914.

1,130,136. Patented Mar. 2, 1915.

Fig. 1.

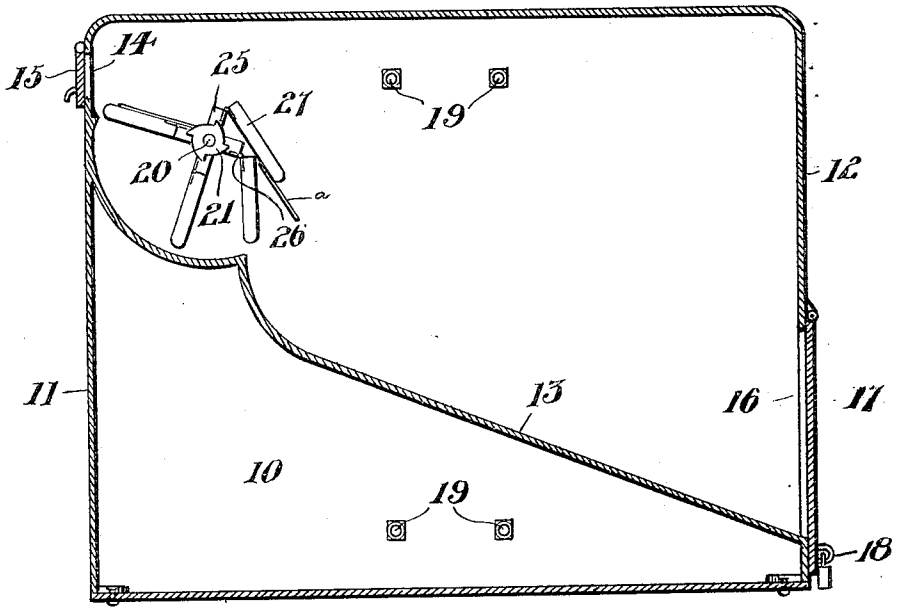


Fig. 2.

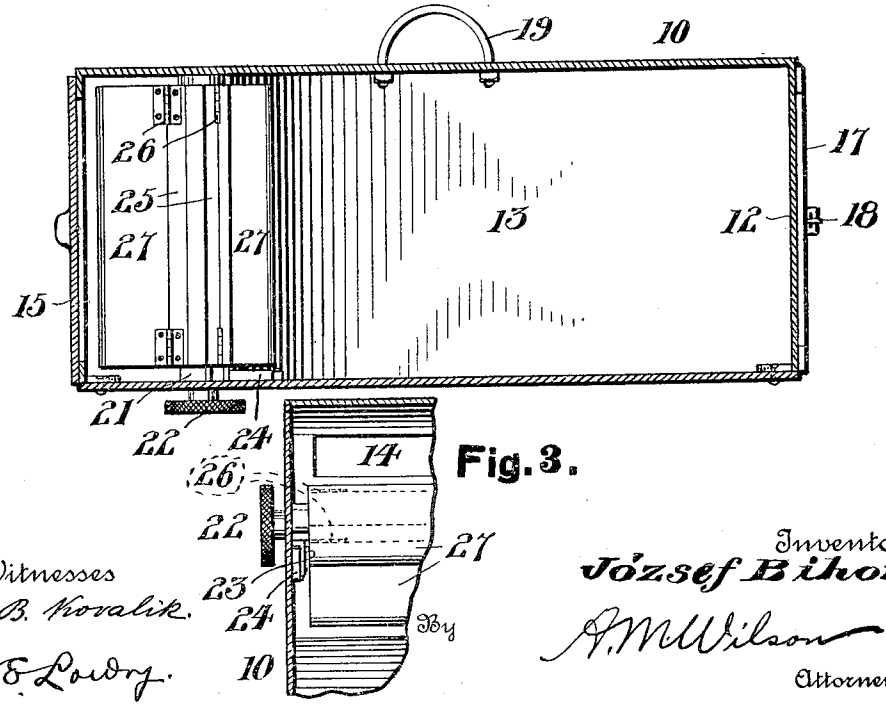


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

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LETTER-BOX.

1,130,136. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 2, 1915.

Application filed July 8, 1914. Serial No. 849,762.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JÓZSEF BIHON, a subject of the King of Hungary, residing at Daisytown, in the county of Washington and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Letter-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in letter boxes.

An object of the invention is to provide a letter box employing a revolving member comprising a plurality of hinged platforms arranged adjacent the entrance door to the box so that letters as indicated will be delivered to the lower end on an inclined bottom.

A further object of the invention is to provide a letter box with a guard device arranged adjacent the entrance opening and with means for operating the guard in one direction to deliver the letters to the bottom of the box and to prevent movement of the guarding means in the opposite direction so that the letters can not be removed.

With these general objects in view and others that will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this application and wherein like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views:—Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view of the letter box. Fig. 2 is a horizontal sectional view of the same, and, Fig. 3 is a detailed sectional view of a portion of the box illustrating the pawl and ratchet mechanism.

Referring more in detail to the accompanying drawing, the reference numeral 10 designates a letter box preferably formed of sheet metal and comprising the front wall 11 and rear wall 12. The receptacle 11 has preferably formed integral therewith the false inclined bottom 13 extending upwardly toward the front wall 11 to a point adjacent the letter entrance opening 14. This opening is controlled by the hinged door 15 while the rear wall 12 has an exit opening 16 controlled by the door 17 and locked as at 18, the opening 16 forming the passage through which the mail is taken from the receptacle. The receptacle 10 may be secured to a post or other suitable support by the fastening members 19, more clearly shown in Fig. 2.

A shaft 20 is arranged transversely of the receptacle 10 at a point adjacent the entrance opening 14 and has secured to one end thereof within the casing a ratchet wheel 21, while one end of the said shaft 20 extends through the casing and has secured upon the outer end thereof exteriorly of the casing, an operating handle 22. In order to provide for a single direction of rotary movement of the shaft 21, I provide a dog 23 pivoted to a side wall of the casing and spring-pressed as at 24 to be held into engagement with the ratchet wheel 21. The shaft 20 has secured thereto longitudinal bars 25 having hinged thereto as at 26 the lateral platforms 27, while in Fig. 1, a letter —*a*— is shown resting on one of the platforms 27 while another letter is shown leaving one of the platforms to be received on the inclined bottom 13, after the platform has been moved to a position whereby the same would move on the hinge 26 to a position as indicated in the said figure. It will be noted that as the letters are passed through the opening 14 they are received on the platforms 27 which move the same to a position whereby the letters are delivered to the bottom of the receptacle and prevented from being withdrawn by the pawl and ratchet mechanism.

While the forms of the invention herein shown and described are what are believed to be preferable embodiments thereof, it is nevertheless to be understood that various forms, modifications and arrangement of the parts as shown may be had without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

What I claim as new is:—

In a device of the class described, a receptacle having mail receiving and exit

openings therein, a shaft journaled transversely of the receptacle, a ratchet wheel on one end of said shaft, a spring-pressed pawl carried by the casing engaging said ratchet wheel, longitudinal bars secured to said shaft, letter platforms hinged to said bars, and means for revolving said shaft.

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

JÓZSEF BIHON.

Witnesses:
L. L. BANE,
JAS. CLINTON BANE.

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