

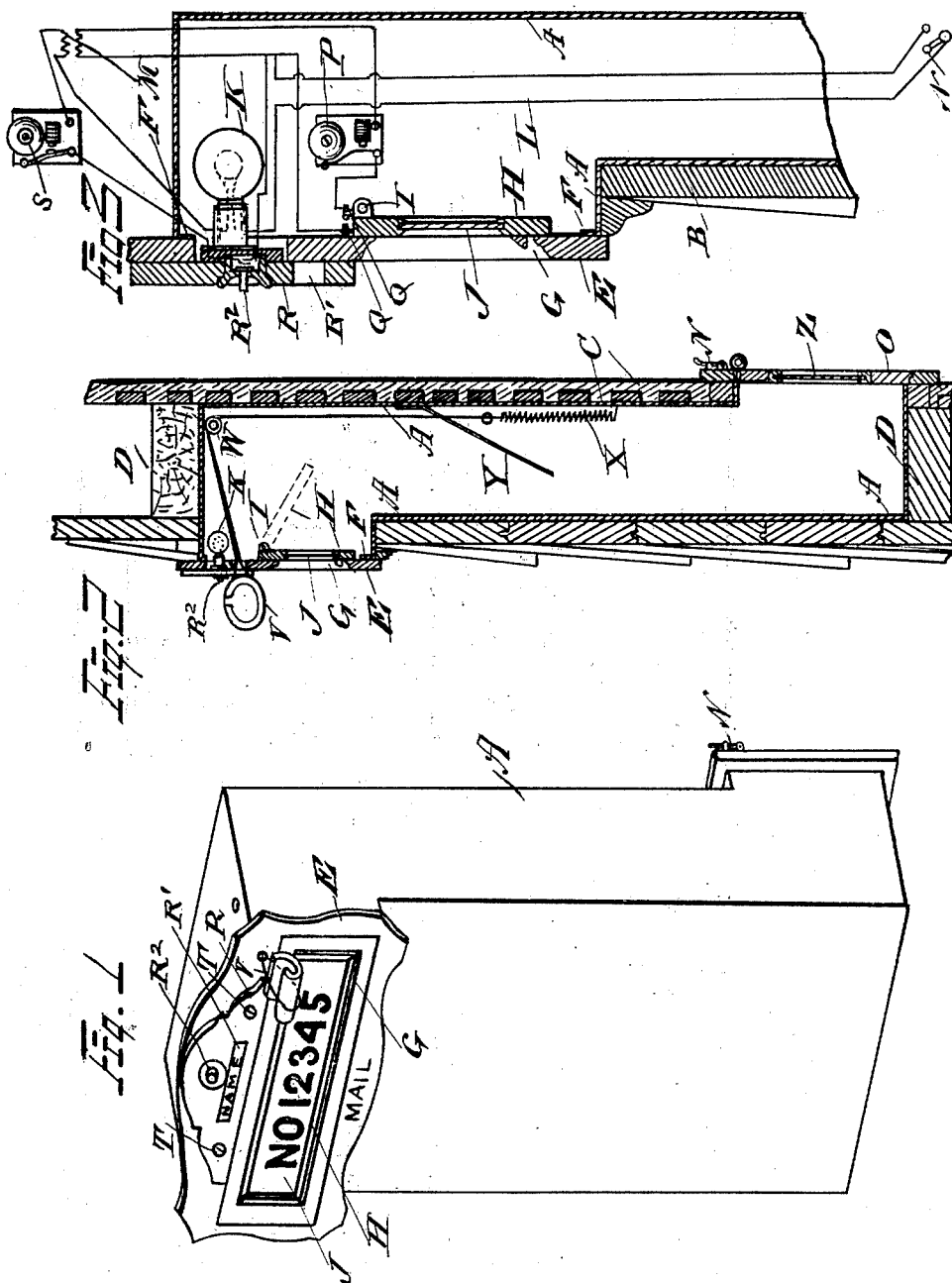
Nov. 11, 1930.

R. M. HULETT

1,781,282

MAIL CHUTE

Filed Sept. 5, 1928



Inventor
 Ralph M. Hulett
 by W. M. House
 Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

RALPH M. HULETT, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO

MAIL CHUTE

Application filed September 5, 1928. Serial No. 304,145.

The objects of the invention are to provide an improved practical and efficient form of construction for a built in mail chute, in which are combined the features of an external transparent illuminated swinging door over an opening for the receipt of mail which is of sufficient size to expose also the house number or name of the resident thereon, the device also includes a transparent illuminated door located at a lower level inside of the wall to which the mail chute is attached, and through which the mail is removed. Adjacent to the casing of the inner and lower door is provided a control switch accessible only from within the house, to the occupant thereof, which will regulate a light placed in the upper part of the mail chute for illuminating the house number, this light will also illuminate the vestibule or porch in the wall of which the mail chute is attached, and which is electrically connected with an electric circuit in which the door bell is included. A pleasant, and diffused light which will uniformly and clearly outline all the figures on the number plate is obtained by introducing a transformer in the house circuit.

In this manner is provided a constant porch light, an illumination for the house number, and an illumination for the lower portion of the chute, thus indicating to the occupant of the house that the light is in service.

The illumination of the lower door will also indicate to the occupant when there has been mail deposited in the box.

Also a second bell in the electric circuit may be connected with the upper door in such a manner that the bell will ring whenever mail is deposited in the box.

Also a baffle plate may be transversely positioned across the chute to prevent mail from being withdrawn from above from the chute.

Further, a separate flexible magazine holder is provided which may be filled out to introduce magazines or newspapers therein, and will automatically return to place.

The invention is hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying

drawings, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings Fig. 1 is a perspective of the device, Fig. 2 is a vertical section thereof in place in the house wall, Fig. 3 is an enlarged section thereof.

In these views, A represents the mail chute which is inserted between the sheathing B and covering C of the wall and is preferably attached to a cross beam D.

E is a front metal plate secured to flanges F on the open front of the chute.

This plate is provided with an opening G over which a door H is hinged at I, that is provided with a transparent insertion J, upon which the house number or name of the owner is placed, so that it can readily be illuminated at night by means of an electric light bulb, K, within the chute.

This lamp is small and hence of low voltage and is connected in the house circuit through a transformer M. A switch N inside the wall adjacent to the frame of the door O at the bottom of the chute is employed to light the lamp under the control of the house owner.

The lamp illuminates the house number with a modified glow that will not dazzle the eyes.

The lower door is employed for access to the chute to remove the mail therefrom and also has a glass panel Z inserted in its frame to permit the owner of the house to know that the lamp is illuminated. A bell P is connected in the battery circuit with terminals Q, Q, that close the circuit when the upper door is opened, so as to inform the occupant of the house when the mail has been deposited.

An external plate R is employed having a recess R' revealing the name of the occupant, and the electric lamp is attached thereto, and also a push button switch R² is employed by means of which the door bell S is sounded. This bell may be in the same electric circuit with the lamp.

By means of this construction the bell, button, lamp, and transformer may be accessible at any time for adjustment or replacement of the parts.

Screws T may be used to secure this plate in place.

A looped cord V passing over the pulley W is employed to hold a newspaper or magazine, this is first pulled out and the paper or package is placed in the loop and a spring X or weight pulls the loop tightly against the chute and retains the package in place.

A flexible baffle plate Y is inclined across the mail chute and has preferably a serrated edge. This plate will yield to permit mail to descend but the hand cannot pass it from above to remove mail.

Having described the invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a mail chute, a hollow body having oppositely directed upper and lower openings, a plate covering the upper opening, a swinging door in said plate, said door having a transparent portion for the reception of the house number, an external plate detachably secured to said covering plate, an electric lamp secured to said detachable plate and extending into said chute, a suitable source of power providing a circuit for said lamp, and a switch for said circuit adjacent to said lower opening, said switch being accessible only to the occupant of the building in which said chute is situated.

2. In a mail chute, a hollow body having oppositely directed upper and lower openings, a closure for the upper opening, a swinging door in said closure, said door having a transparent portion for the reception of the house number, an external plate detachably secured to said closure plate, an electric lamp secured to said detachable plate and extending into said chute, a suitable source of power providing a circuit for said lamp, a source of electricity therefor, a switch for said circuit adjacent to said lower opening, and a transparent door for said lower opening.

3. A vertical mail chute provided with an upper opening in its front wall and with a lower opening in its rear wall, a plate over the upper opening, a swinging door in said plate, said door having a transparent portion, a door in said lower opening provided with a transparent portion, an electric lamp in said chute, the transparent portion of said upper door being adapted to receive the house number, an electric circuit for said lamp connected with a suitable source of power, and a switch in said circuit adjacent to said lower openings.

4. In a built in mail chute, a hollow chute body having an outwardly extended upper end having a front opening therein, an inwardly extended lower end having a rear opening therein, swinging transparent doors covering both said openings, a house number upon the upper door, an electric lamp within said chute, said lamp serving to illuminate both said openings, a suitable source of power

providing an electric circuit for said lamp, and a control switch therefor adjacent to said lower door.

5. A built in mail chute having an upper outwardly directed portion and a lower inwardly directed portion, a plate covering the outer portion, a transparent door therein, a house number in said door, a detachable second plate secured thereto having an opening through which to observe a name upon the first plate, an electric bulb attached to the inner surface of said second plate and detachable therewith, a suitable source of power providing a circuit therefor, and a switch therein adjacent to said lower opening.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
RALPH M. HULETT.

85

90

95

100

105

110

115

120

125

130