

No. 875,366.

C. W. MOORE.
MAIL CABINET.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 8, 1907.

PATENTED DEC. 31, 1907.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

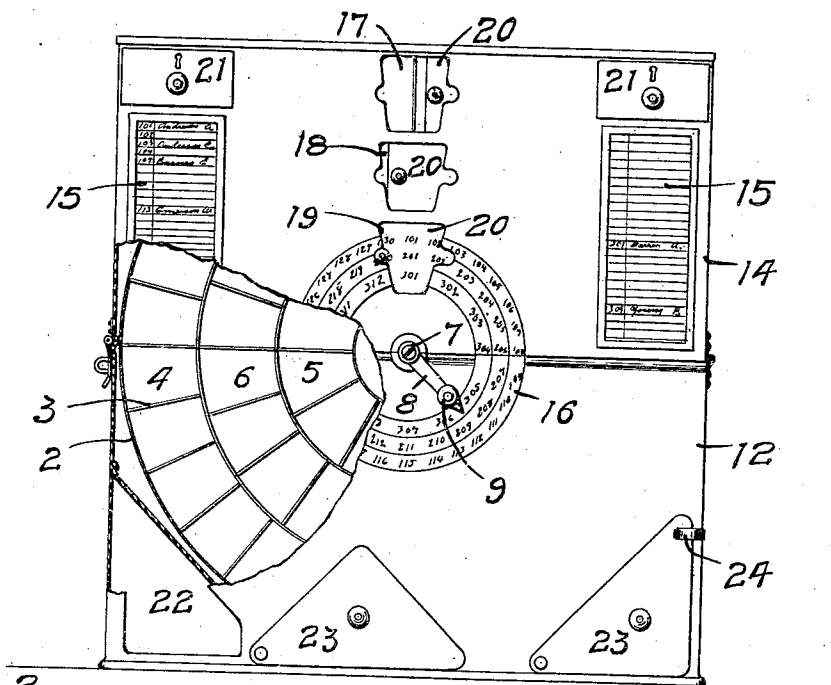


Fig. 1.

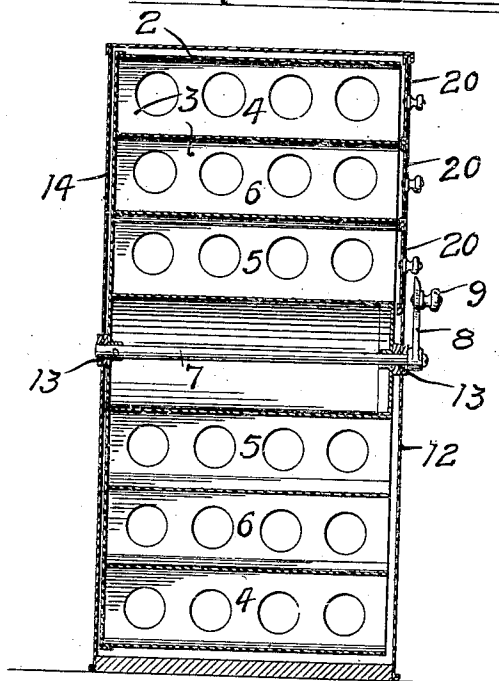


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES
M. Waldhorn
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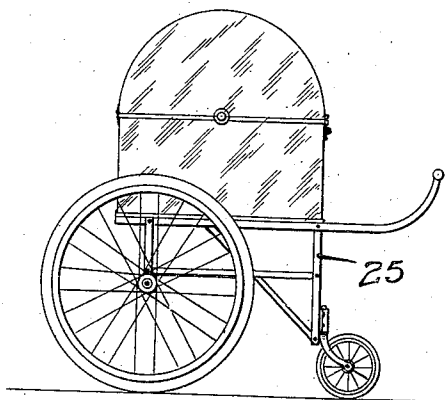


Fig. 6.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

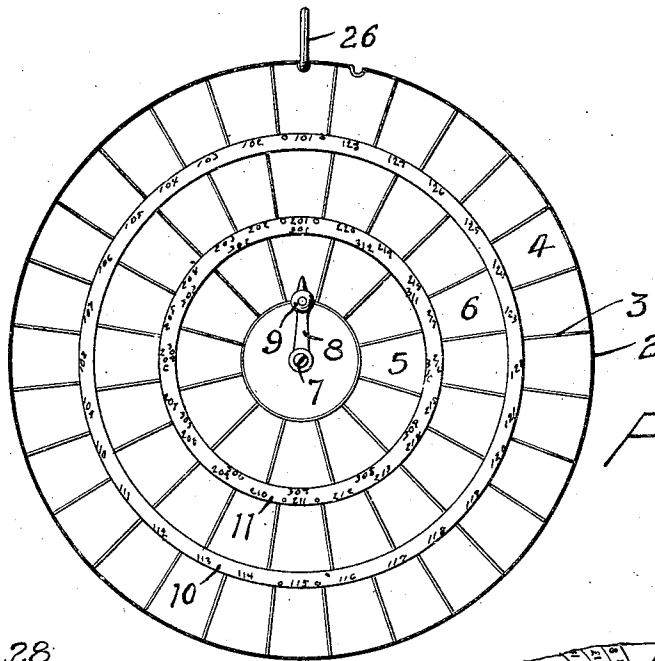


Fig. 3.

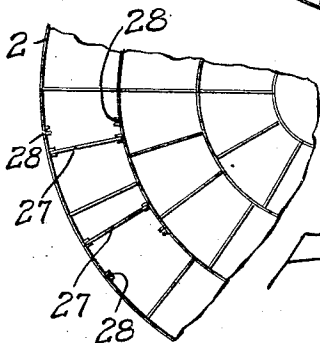


Fig. 4.

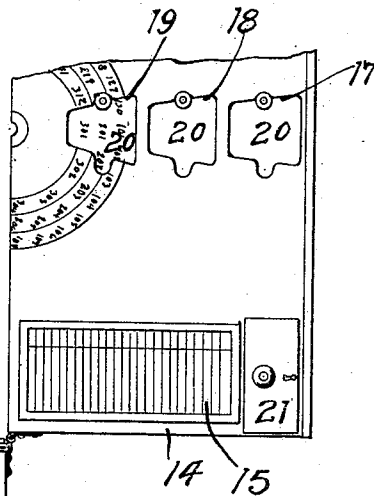
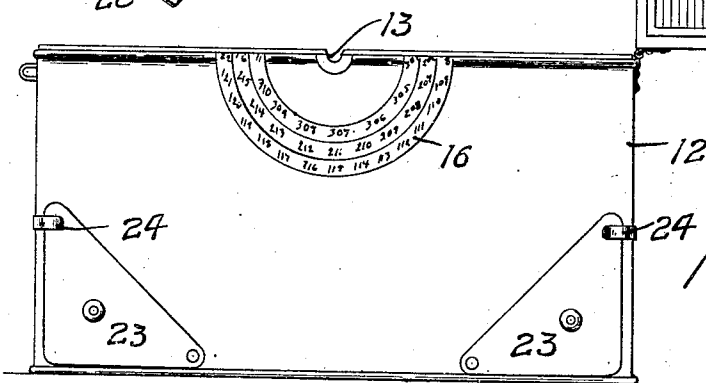


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHRISTOPHER W. MOORE, OF SPRING VALLEY, WISCONSIN.

MAIL-CABINET.

No. 875,366.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 31, 1907.

Application filed July 8, 1907. Serial No. 382,682.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHRISTOPHER W. MOORE, of Spring Valley, Pierce county, Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Cabinets, of which the following is a specification.

A mail carrier on a rural free delivery route is obliged to handle his mail over a good many times in the course of the delivery and it is often difficult in stormy weather to keep the mail matter dry and prevent it from becoming soiled or mutilated. Furthermore the necessity of looking over a mass of mail to find the letters or papers to be delivered at each farm house requires considerable time, and not only delays the delivery of the mail but renders it difficult for the carrier to make the trip in the appointed time.

The object therefore of my invention is to provide a cabinet having compartments or pockets in which the mail matter for each family is placed and easily and quickly removed without the necessity of handling the entire mail.

A further object is to provide a cabinet which will be dust and water proof and wherein the sorted mail may be kept clean and dry.

A further object is to provide a cabinet designed particularly for carriers on rural free delivery routes but capable of use also for city delivery.

The invention consists generally in various constructions and combinations, all as hereinafter described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a front elevation, partially in section, of a mail cabinet embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of the interior portion of the cabinet showing the pockets or receptacles therein. Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view illustrating movable partitions between the pockets for the purpose of adapting the pockets to different quantities of mail matter. Fig. 5 is a side elevation with the cover raised, of the outer casing of the cabinet. Fig. 6 is a side elevation of the apparatus mounted on a push cart and adapted for city delivery.

In the drawing, 2 represents a circular shell or drum preferably of sheet metal and divided by partitions 3 into a series of peripheral pockets or compartments 4. A

second series 5 is provided at the center of the drum and a third series 6 intermediate to those at the center and the periphery of the drum and separated from one another by the partitions corresponding to those employed with the first series. There may be any desired number of pockets in the different circles according to the quantity of mail to be delivered on the route and the diameter of the drums may be varied according to the length of the route and the volume of mail.

The drum is provided with a shaft 7 and an indicator hand 8 mounted thereon and a button 9 is mounted on said indicator hand for convenience in revolving it and the drum. Rings 10 and 11 are removably arranged on said drum and on these rings numerals or other characters are placed, one for each compartment or pocket. These rings are placed on the drum preparatory to sorting the mail and enable the carrier to determine in which pocket to place the letters or papers for the different families along the road. A casing 12 is provided in which the drum is placed having bearings 13 for the ends of the shaft 7. A hinged cover 14 is provided for the casing, and index cards 15 are mounted on the cover and bear the names of the persons living along the route, with the number of the pocket or compartment in which the mail for that person or family is placed.

As indicated in Fig. 3 the pockets directly above the indicator hand when it is turned to a vertical position, are marked "101", "201" and "301" from the periphery toward the center of the drum, and the numbers increase from right to left around the circle of the rings. A dial 16 is mounted on the casing, composed of concentric circles or rings bearing numbers corresponding to those on the drum rings, except that they are oppositely arranged, that is, the numbers increase reading from left to right. The cover of the casing is provided with a series of openings 17, 18 and 19 and doors 20 therefor, which when closed conceal the drum and pockets but when opened permit convenient access thereto for the purpose of removing the mail. It will only be necessary, therefore, for the carrier to open one of the doors in the front of the cabinet, having adjusted the indicator opposite the number corresponding to the one on the index card designating the family to which he is to deliver mail, and remove the letters or papers without handling any of

the other mail matter or opening the cabinet to expose its contents to the weather. A great deal of time will also be saved in the handling and delivery of the mail.

- 5 I have shown a square casing in connection with the circular drum and in the unoccupied spaces at the top of the cabinet I provide drawers 21 in which the carrier may keep stamps, postal cards, etc. In the bottom of
10 the cabinet small compartments or recesses 22 are formed, concealed by pivoted plates or doors 23 and in which packages too large for the pockets may be placed. These doors are normally held in place by spring clips 24.
- 15 In Fig. 6 I have illustrated a push cart 25 whereon the cabinet is mounted and adapted for use in delivering the mail. On a rural delivery route the cabinet is preferably placed in the front of the wagon or buggy and forms
20 the dash board, and can be conveniently reached by the carrier and the mail removed without the necessity of leaving his seat. The cabinet may be made of any suitable size and any preferred material. A suitable
25 handle 26 is provided for convenience in lifting the drum out of the casing.

- In Fig. 4 I have illustrated a modification which consists in providing partitions 27 which are capable of adjustment in the
30 guides 28 to permit the pockets to be increased in size whenever the volume of mail for any one family or person requires it.

I claim as my invention:—

- 35 A mail cabinet comprising a vertical casing having openings at intervals in its wall between its center and periphery, and suitable

doors for said openings, and a series of marks or characters arranged in concentric circles on said wall, a drum arranged to revolve in a substantially vertical plane within said casing and having its center concentric with said circles of marks or characters, the interior of said drum being provided with a series of concentric partitions at intervals between the center and circumference of the drum, and radial partitions dividing the spaces formed by said concentric partitions into a series of pockets or pigeon holes adapted to register successively with the respective openings in the wall of said casing as said drum is revolved, each pocket being marked when the mail is placed therein with numbers or characters corresponding to said marks on the casing but readable in the opposite direction, and the numbers on said casing corresponding to index numbers and designating certain families along the delivery route, an indicator hand carried by said drum and arranged to revolve past the numbers on said casing, whereby when the indicator hand is revolved with the drum in one direction and set opposite a certain number on the casing the pocket of the drum designated by that number when the mail is sorted, will be opposite the proper removal opening in the casing.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 27th day of June 1907.

CHRISTOPHER W. MOORE.

Witnesses:

J. B. ERA,

J. H. BALDWIN.