

April 21, 1942.

H. N. CALVERT

2,280,476

SUPPORT FOR RURAL MAIL BOXES, ROAD MARKERS, AND THE LIKE

Filed May 9, 1941

Fig. 3.

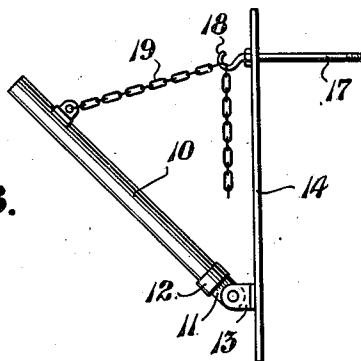


Fig. 2.

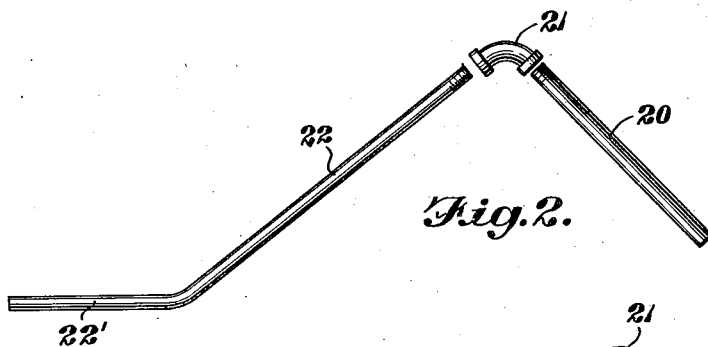
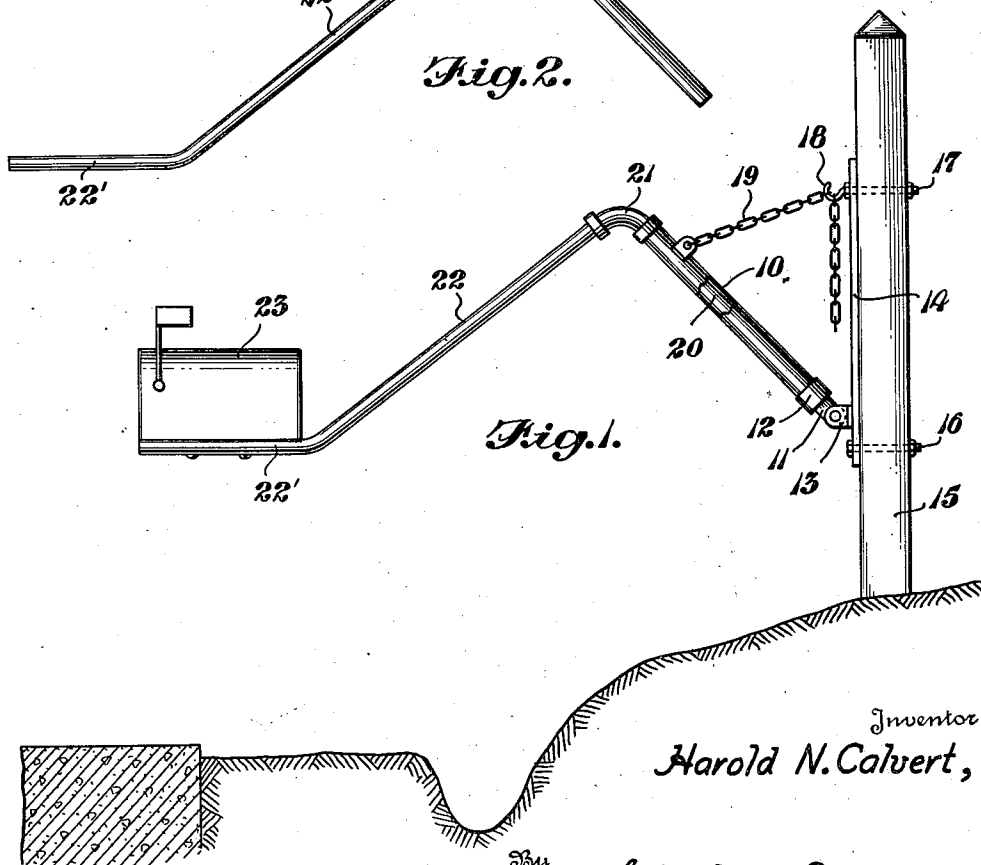


Fig. 1.



Inventor
Harold N. Calvert,

A. Yates Dowell
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,280,476

SUPPORT FOR RURAL MAIL BOXES, ROAD MARKERS, AND THE LIKE

Harold N. Calvert, Carrollton, Mo.

Application May 9, 1941, Serial No. 392,805

3 Claims. (Cl. 248—145)

This invention relates to supports for rural mail boxes, road markers and the like of that type permitting the box or marker to be supported in a position accessible from the side of the road with the main supporting post well back out of the way of traffic; and an object of the same is to provide a support of this character which is of simplified construction and is not only capable of swinging movement away from and back to normal position but is also readily adjustable as to height with respect to the road surface.

Another object of the invention is to provide a support of the type specified having the advantages above noted and which at the same time may be readily fabricated from simple structural shapes.

A further object is to provide a support for road markers and the like having an interchangeable swinging connection with a main supporting member set back from the side of the road.

The foregoing and other objects and advantages will become apparent in view of the following description taken in conjunction with the drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a device embodying the invention shown as supporting a rural mail box; and

Figs. 2 and 3 are disassembled views of parts of the support.

The support comprises a socket 10 in the form of a suitable length of pipe which at its lower end is connected to a hinge bracket 11 by means of a threaded coupling 12, said bracket in turn being pivoted to a hinge 13 forming part of or secured to a bracket 14. At its lower end the bracket 14 is secured to a main supporting post 15 by means of a bolt 16 and at its upper end by means of a bolt 17 terminating at its forward end in a hook 18. Connected to the upper extremity of the socket member 10 is a chain 19 adapted for adjustable connection to the hook 18, and whereby the angle of the socket member with respect to the post may be adjusted to thereby adjust the height of the box or marker carried by the support.

A pintle 20 preferably in the form of a length of pipe stock, is provided and is adapted for insertion in the socket 10 and accordingly should be of a diameter such as will permit a bearing fit within said socket. At its upper end the pintle or pipe length 20 is threaded into an elbow coupling 21 which in turn has connected thereto the one end of an arm 22 terminating at its op-

posite end in a horizontally bent portion 22' which carries a mail box 23 and which may be substituted by a road marker or the like.

With this type of support, the post 15 may be set well back off the shoulder of the road, thereby removing an unsightly driving hazard and permitting unhindered road shoulder maintenance. The adjustable chain and hinge connection allows for various slope conditions of the terrain back of the grade ditch, while at the same time should any moving object strike the mail box, it will swing out of the way and then automatically swing back to its normal position. This free swinging action also avoids damage to the hinge connection. Whenever it is desired to remove the mail box or other article supported by the arm 22, both the box and arm together with the coupling member 21 may be readily removed by simply pulling out the pintle or pipe length 20 from its socket 10. Furthermore, any number of articles may be interchangeably supported in this manner.

In devices of this character, economy in construction is an important factor, particularly where a large number of road markers or the like are to be utilized, and the assembly herein disclosed may be readily manufactured from ordinary pipe structure and simple structural shapes, all of which are interchangeable and may be dismantled and carried in stock in a compact arrangement.

It will be understood that certain limited changes in construction and design may be adopted without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A support for rural mail boxes, road markers and the like comprising in combination with a main supporting post adapted to be set back off the roadway, a length of pipe providing a socket hinged at its lower end to said post, a flexible member adjustably connecting the upper extremity of the pipe length to said post and holding the latter at an angle relative to the post, a pintle rod telescoped into said pipe length, and an arm connected to said rod and adapted to carry a mail box or road marker, said arm extending at an obtuse angle to said first named pipe length.

2. A support for mail boxes, road markers and the like comprising in combination with a main supporting post adapted to be set back off the roadway, a bracket secured to said post and having a hinge member connected thereto, a pipe

length providing a socket hinged for vertical swinging movement at its lower end to said hinge member, a chain connected at its one end to the upper extremity of said socket and its opposite end adjustably connected to said post and whereby the angle of said socket member may be adjusted with respect to said post, a pintle rod telescoped into said socket and having an elbow connected to the upper end thereof, and an arm secured at one end to said elbow and at its opposite end projecting substantially horizontally for carrying a mail box or road marker.

3. A support for rural mail boxes, road markers and the like comprising in combination with a main supporting post adapted to be set back off the roadway, a socket member hinged at its

lower end to said post and projecting upwardly and outwardly therefrom, flexible means adjustably supporting the said socket member from said post, an arm carrying a mail box or a road marker at its outer end and at its inner extremity being provided with a socket portion having a swivel connection with said socket member permitting the arm to swing in an arc if struck and return by gravity to normal position, said arm extending outwardly and downwardly at an angle with respect to the socket member, adjustment of said flexible member with respect to said supporting post determining the height of said box or road sign.

HAROLD N. CALVERT.