L. C. EASTMAN.

RURAL MAIL BOX.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 29, 1918.

1,332,818.

Patented Mar. 2, 1920.

Fig. 1.

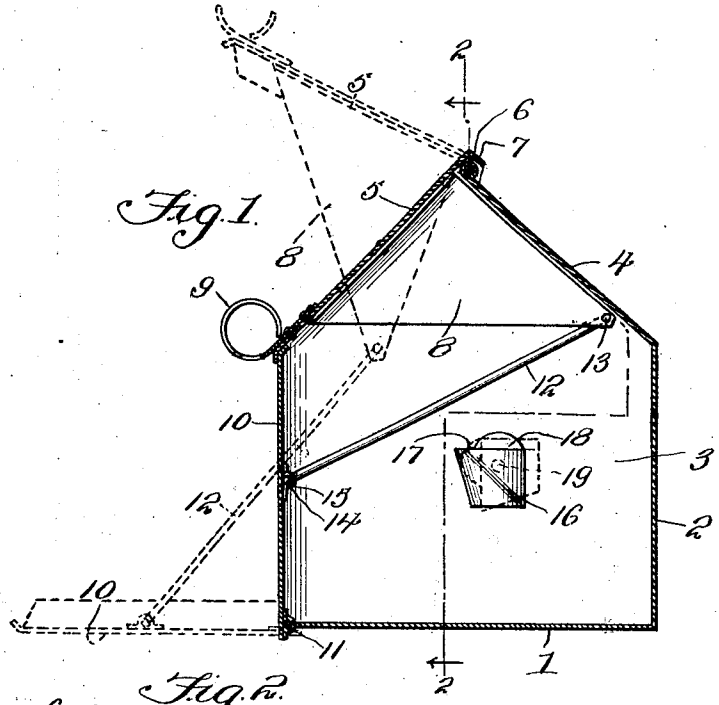


Fig. 2.

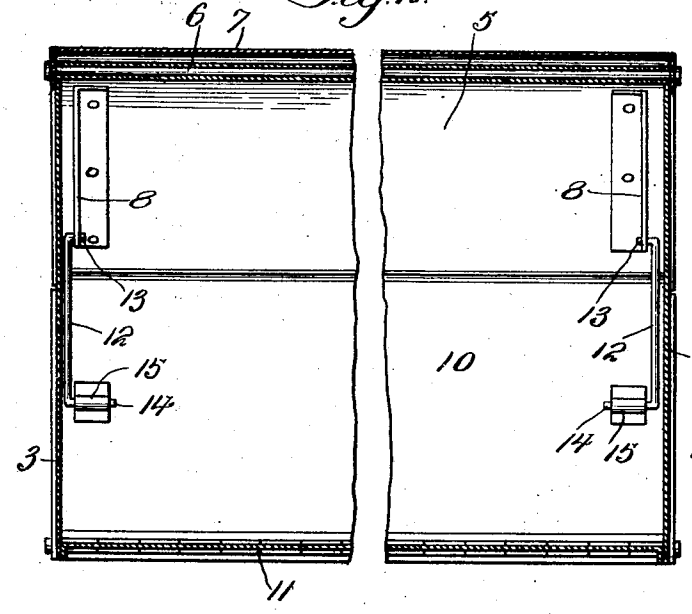
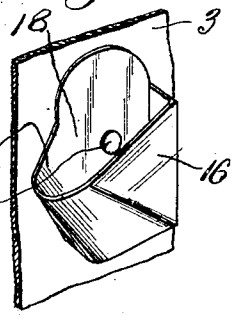


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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RURAL MAIL-BOX.

1,332,818. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 2, 1920.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LESTER C. EASTMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Silverton, in the county of Marion and State of Oregon, have invented new and useful Improvements in Rural Mail-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is an improved rural mail box, the object of the invention being to provide an improved mail box embodying a top door, a side door and connecting means between the doors whereby the top door and the side door are both enabled to be either opened or closed simultaneously, and whereby when both doors are open the entire interior of the box is exposed to the mail carrier without being exposed to the weather.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved mail box of this character which is simple in construction, is strong and durable, and which can be made of galvanized sheet iron or other suitable material.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved stamp and coin cup for use in connection with the mail box and which can be readily tilted and caused to drop coins therefrom into the palm of the hand.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction, combination and arrangement of devices hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings:—

Figure 1 is a vertical transverse sectional view of a rural mail box constructed and arranged in accordance with my invention, showing the doors in closed position in full lines and in open position in dotted lines.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same.

Fig. 3 is a detail of the stamp and coin cup.

My improved rural mail box may be made of galvanized sheet iron or other suitable material and may be made of any size or shape desired. As here shown the box comprises a bottom 1, a back 2, end walls 3, and a fixed inclined top 4, which covers one-half of the box. The other portion of the top is formed by a door 5 which is hinged at its upper edge to the upper edge of the top 4 as at 6, and said hinged top door 5 is provided near its pivotal edge with a semi-tubular portion 7 which serves to protect the ridge of the top or roof of the box and to prevent rain from entering between the top 4 and the top door 5. At its ends the top door is provided with downwardly extending triangular flaps 8 which are arranged on the inner sides of and in spaced relation to the end walls 3 of the box and in effect form operating levers for the top door. The said door is also provided at its free edge with its centrally arranged handle 9. The front side of the box is formed by a door 10 which is hinged at its lower edge as at 11. Rods 12 which are arranged in the ends of the box connect the levers 8 of the top door with front door 10 each of said levers having a bent rear end portion 13 which passes through and engages in an opening of one of the levers 8 and also having a bent front end portion 14 which is arranged to turn in a bearing 15 on the inner side of the front door.

When the top is turned upwardly to open position by means of the handle 9 the levers 8 thrust the rods 12 forwardly and cause said rods to turn the front door 10 outwardly and downwardly and to arrange the front door in horizontal, open position, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 1 and to maintain the same in such position, so that the entire interior of the box is exposed to the view of the carrier and that carrier is enabled to easily place mail matter in the box or remove the same therefrom. When the door is in lowered, open position, the pivotal connection 12^a between the rod 12 and the lever 8 is substantially in line with the pivot 6 of the top and the pivotal connection 12^b between the rod and the door 10. Hence the rod and the lever coact with the door 10 to hold the top in raised position, the top and its lever coact with the rod to limit the downward movement of the door and maintain the door in open position, the weight of the door and the levers causing the top to be held in such open position. When the top door 5 is turned downwardly to closed position the levers 8 which move therewith draw the rods 12 rearwardly and hence said rods raise the front door to a vertical, closed position as indicated in full lines in Fig. 1, so that the top and front doors are both caused to move simultaneously either to an open or to a closed position

and hence only a single movement is required on the part of the mail carrier to open or close the box as may be required.

In one end of the box I arrange a cup 16 which serves to hold stamps, coins and the like. This cup has a flat vertical wall or side 18 which is connected to one end of the wall by a box 19 which in practice may be a rivet and which is located above the vertical center of the coin cup so that the coin cup by its own gravity normally remains in vertical position. The coin cup is open on the upper side and has a mouth 17 which extends diagonally and forms an inclined overhang at the inner front corner of the cup so that when the cup is tilted forwardly on its pivot, the diagonally extending and overhanging mouth serves to drop coins or the like from the cup into the palm of the hand held under the cup.

While I have herein shown and described a preferred embodiment of my invention, I would have it understood that changes may be made in the form, proportion and construction of the several parts, without departing from the spirit of my invention and within the scope of the appended claim.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is:

A mail box of the class described comprising a bottom, a back and peaked ends, an inclined top member secured to the ends and back and covering one half of the box, a top door pivotally connected at its upper edge to the upper edge of the fixed top member, a semi-tubular projection on the door covering the upper edge of the fixed member, downwardly and rearwardly extending flaps connected with the top door and lying within the box when the door is in closed position, a front door hinged at its lower side to the bottom and rods connecting the lower ends of the flaps to the front door so that both the top and front doors are arranged for simultaneous movement to either closed or open position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

LESTER C. EASTMAN.