W. T. BENNER.

MAIL BOX.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 22, 1916.

1,213,792. Patented Jan. 23, 1917.

Fig. 1.

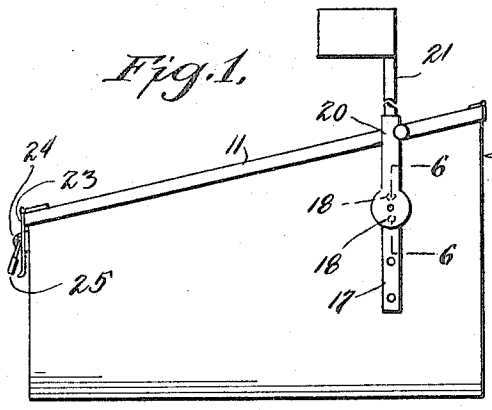
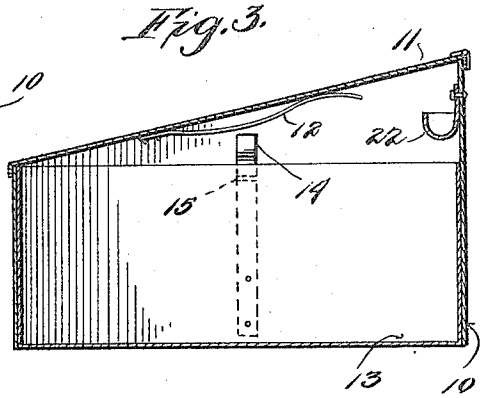


Fig. 3.



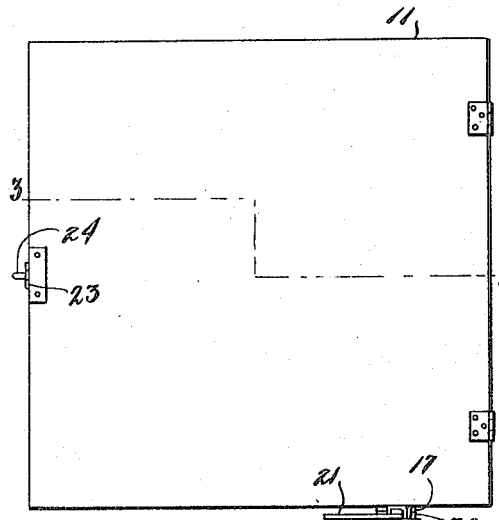


Fig. 2.

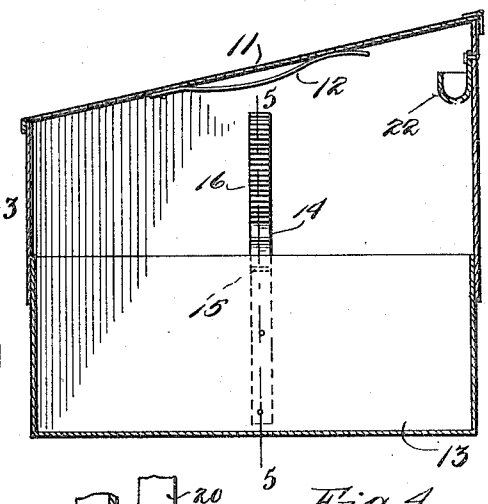


Fig. 4.

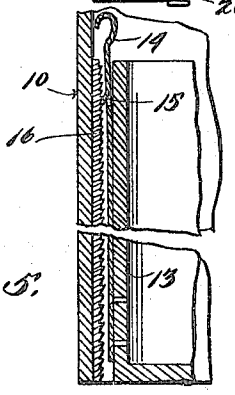


Fig. 5.

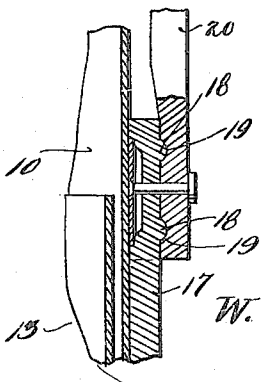


Fig. 6.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MAIL-BOX.

1,213,792. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 23, 1917.

Application filed March 22, 1916. Serial No. 85,905.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM T. BENNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Catasauqua, in the county of Lehigh, State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Boxes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in mail boxes, and particularly to mail boxes used in rural districts.

One object of the invention is to provide a mail box which is adapted to contain ordinary mail matter, but which may be adjusted to hold a large bulk of mail or large packages.

Another object is to improve and simplify the construction by means of which the device can be quickly and easily adjusted only when the lid is raised.

Another object is to provide a novel and simple signal which can be readily operated irrespective of the opening or closing of the box.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description when taken in connection with the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing: Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved mail box; Fig. 2 is a top plan view; Fig. 3 is a transverse section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is a similar section showing the box adjusted to hold large packages; Fig. 5 is an enlarged vertical section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4; Fig. 6 is an enlarged vertical section on the line 6—6 of Fig. 1.

Referring particularly to the accompanying drawing, 10 represents a casing having a bottom, the rear wall being higher than the front wall and having hinged to the former a cover 11. On the under face of the cover are secured spring fingers 12 under which newspapers or other articles may be held. Disposed within the casing is a box 13 on each end of which is secured a vertically extending spring member 14 having a struck up tongue 15 for engagement with the teeth of a vertical rack plate 16 secured to the inner face of the adjacent end wall of the casing. By this arrangement, the box 13 is suspended within the casing, and by pressing the springs inwardly toward the end walls of the box, the tongues 15 can be released from the teeth of the racks and permit the box to be moved downwardly, to any distance within the length of the racks. Thus the depth of the mail box can be readily regulated so as to contain the ordinary mail matter, or accommodate large packages. On the outer face of one end of the casing is mounted a vertically extending member 17 and on the outer face of this member are formed two projections or transverse ribs 18 for reception in recesses 19 formed in the stem 20 of the signal flag 21, which stem is pivotally mounted on the member 17 between said ribs and recesses. The recessed portion of the stem 20 is resilient so that the projections or ribs will snap into the recess when the same is turned on its pivot. Secured interiorly of the casing and to the rear wall is a coin receptacle 22. The cover is provided with a hasp 23 while the front wall of the casing is provided with a staple 24 for engagement therewith to receive the padlock 25.

What is claimed is:

A mail box comprising a casing having open upper and lower ends, a vertically movable receptacle disposed within the casing and adapted to be moved therewithin and through the open lower end thereof, a vertical ratchet-toothed bar secured to the inner face of each of the end walls of the casing, and manually operated vertical leaf springs secured to the ends of the receptacle adjacent the toothed bars and formed with struck-up lugs interchangeably engaging with the teeth of the bar to support the receptacle at different heights within the casing and through the open lower end thereof, thereby increasing the capacity of the receptacle.

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

WILLIAM T. BENNER.

Witnesses:

WM. J. ZERBAY,

J. H. SIMPSON.

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