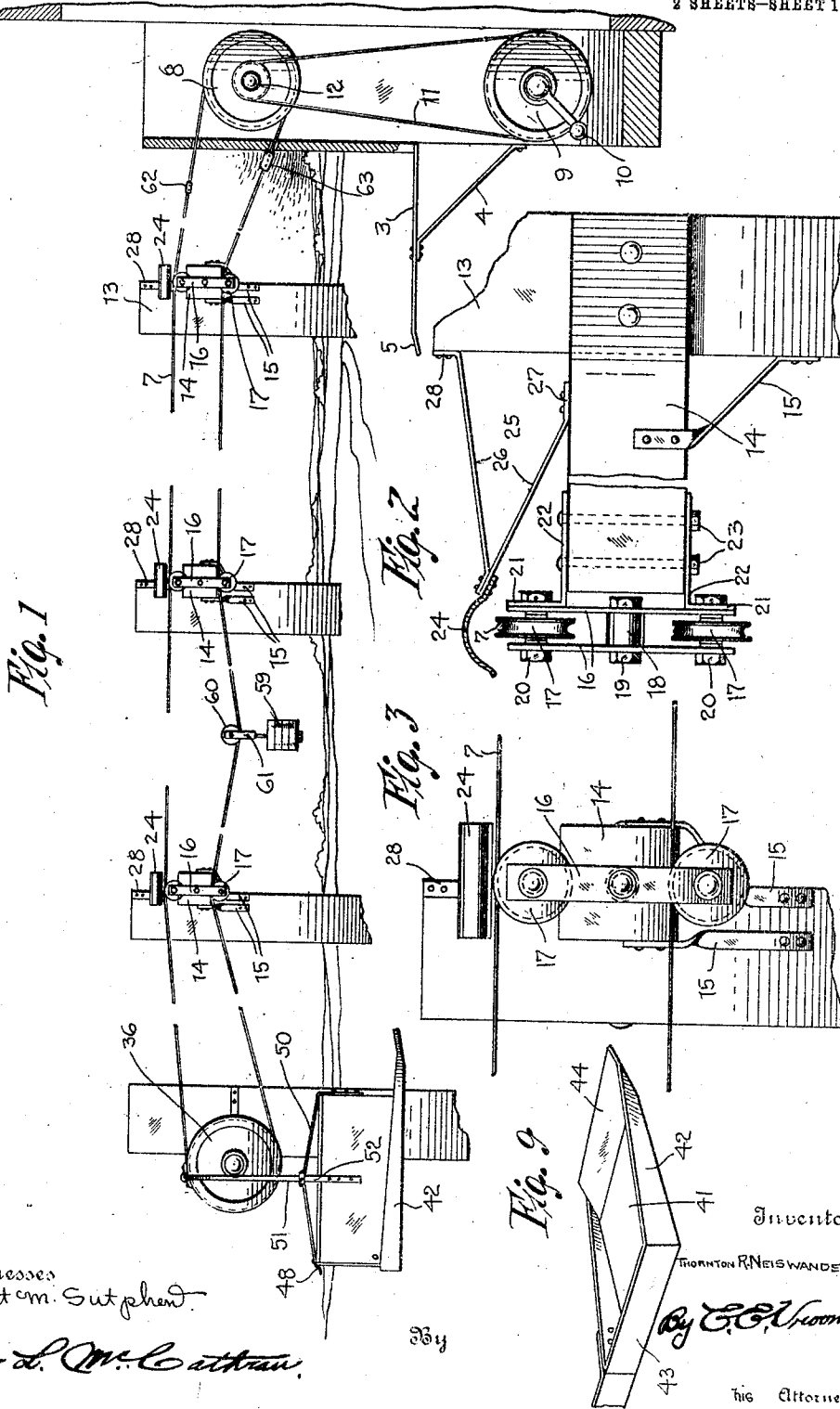


T. R. NEISWANDER.
MAIL CARRYING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 12, 1912.

1,034,282.

Patented July 30, 1912.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses
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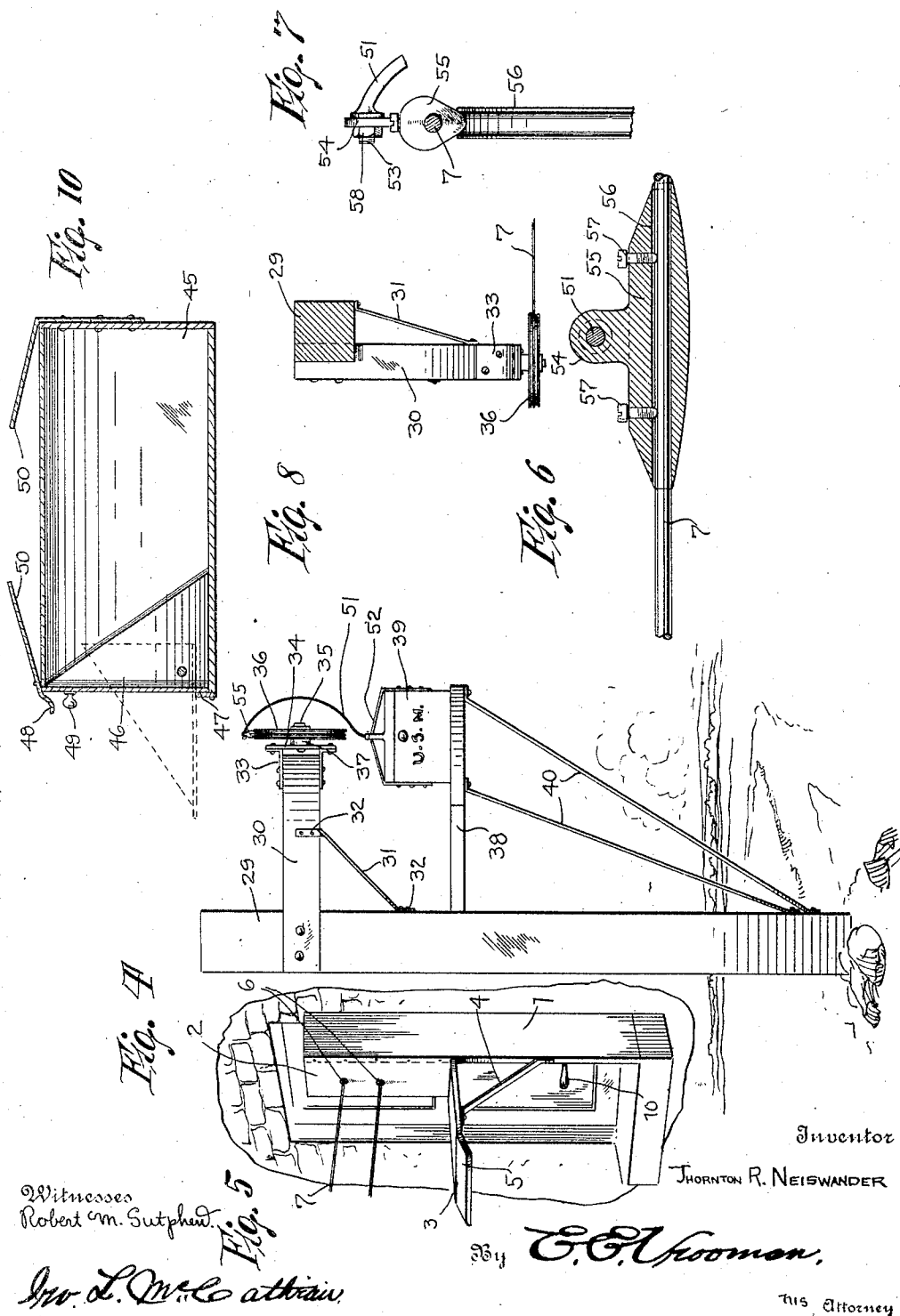
His Attorney

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THORNTON R. NEISWANDER, OF HOLMESVILLE, OHIO.

MAIL-CARRYING DEVICE.

1,034,282.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 30, 1912.

Application filed March 12, 1912. Serial No. 683,324.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THORNTON R. NEISWANDER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Holmesville, in the county of Holmes and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Carrying Devices, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention relates to mail carriers, and has particular reference to a mail carrier which may be used in connection with the rural delivery service.

The principal object of this invention is the production of an efficient carrier which may be employed for carrying the mail receptacle from a point distant from a dwelling house.

Another object of this invention is the production of an efficient means for connecting the carrier to the conveyer cable.

With these and other objects in view this invention consists of certain novel constructions, combinations, and arrangements of parts as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a side elevation of the mail carrying apparatus. Fig. 2 is a side view of one of the cable supporting brackets. Fig. 3 is an end view of the structure illustrated in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is an end view of the distant terminal of the mail carrying device. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view showing the mail receptacle support attached to the window of a dwelling. Fig. 6 is a longitudinal sectional view of the clamp for attaching the mail receptacle to the conveyer cable. Fig. 7 is an end view of the clamp attached to the conveyer cable. Fig. 8 is a top plan view of the post which constitutes the distant terminal of the conveyer system. Fig. 9 is a detail perspective view of the rest of supporting the mail receptacle at the distant terminal. Fig. 10 is a longitudinal sectional view of the mail receptacle used in connection with the present mail carrying system.

Referring to the drawings by numerals 1 designates the support or home terminal which is in the form of an upwardly extending bracket structure having a flange or angularly extending portion 2 near its upper end. The support 1 is preferably attached near a window or other opening of the de-

livery terminal and below this angularly extending flange 2 is carried a supporting bracket 3. This bracket 3 is braced by means of an angle brace 4 and is provided with a downwardly extending lip 5 for facilitating the admitting of the mail carrying receptacle upon the bracket 3. The flange 2 is provided with a plurality of apertures 6 through which apertures are adapted to pass the conveyer cable 7. This conveyer cable 7 passes over a drive pulley 8 which is journaled upon the support 1. An operating pulley 9 is also journaled upon the support 1 and is rotated through the medium of the crank 10. A belt 11 passes over the pulley 9, and over a small pulley 12 carried by the pulley 8 for imparting rotary movement to the pulley 8 when the pulley 9 is rotated.

A plurality of supporting posts or standards 13 are placed at intervals along the line of travel of the conveyer cable 7 and these posts carry supporting brackets over which is adapted to pass the conveyer cable 7. These brackets which are carried by the posts 13 are supported upon the outer end of the laterally extending arm 14. This arm 14 is braced by means of angle braces 15. The brackets over which the conveyer cable 7 passes comprise a pair of parallel strap members 16 between the outer ends of which are supported the pulley wheels 17. The conveyer cable 7 passes over the pulley wheels 17 as illustrated in Fig. 1, and it will, therefore be obvious that these pulleys 17 form a guiding means for the conveyer cable 7. The plates or straps 16 are held in their spaced relation through the medium of a collar 18, which fits over the connecting bolt 19.

The pulleys 17 are journaled upon the journal bolts 20 as illustrated in Fig. 2, and the inner ends of the bolts 20 pass through the laterally extending ends 21 of the angle brackets 22. These angle brackets 22 fit respectively upon the upper and lower faces of the outer end of the arm 14, and are held firmly upon the outer end of the arm through the medium of the securing bolts 23. For the purpose of shielding the cable supporting brackets, a shielding hood 24 is provided which hood overhangs the upper ends of the brackets and extends upon each side thereof so as to prevent ice or other obstruction from forming upon the upper

pulley which would tend to cause the conveyer cable 7 to be displaced therefrom. This hood 24 is supported by means of a pair of divergent arms 26 of the bracket 25, and the lower bracket 25 having its angle foot 27 secured to the upper face of the arm 14 while the bracket 20 has its angularly extending foot 28 engaging the side of the post or standard 13, as illustrated clearly in Fig. 2.

The distant terminal of the conveyer system comprises a post or standard 29 which, like post or standard 13 is provided with a laterally extending arm 30. This arm 30 is braced by means of an angle brace 31 which brace is provided with angularly extending feet 32 respectively engaging the arm 30, and standard 29. A pulley supporting frame is carried at the outer end of the arm 30 and comprises a pair of angle plates 33 to the angle feet of which is secured a connecting plate 34. A journal pin 35 is carried centrally of the plate 34, and upon this journal pin 35 is rotatably mounted a pulley wheel 36, said pulley wheel being spaced from the plate 35 through the medium of the collar 37.

A platform or shelf 38 is supported below the pulley 36 in such a manner as to support the mail carrying receptacle 39. This shelf or support 38 is braced by means of divergently extending braces 40 which braces engage the shelf or support 38 near its outer end and have their lower ends engaging the standard 29. The shelf or support 38 comprises a substantially rectangular body 41 which is provided with flanged sides 42, and a flanged end 43. The sides 42 taper toward their rear ends thereby constituting an open rear end for facilitating the entrance of the mail receptacle 39 into the shelf or support 41. The open end of the support 41 is turned slightly upward as indicated at 44 for preventing the mail receptacle from being unexpectedly removed from the support 41.

The mail receptacle which is used in connection with the present device comprises preferably a rectangular body 45 having an open end which is closed through the medium of a pivot door 46. The open end of the receptacle 45 is provided with a transversely extending strip 47, which extends across the lower edge of the opening and constitutes a stop for limiting the inward swing of the door 46 as illustrated in Fig. 10. The receptacle is also provided at its open end, upon the top edge thereof, with a transversely extending downwardly bent rib 48 which constitutes a shield for preventing moisture or other material from entering the receptacle 45 at the upper end of the door, and also constitutes the spring latch for holding the door 46 in a closed position. A knob 49 may be employed for fa-

cilitating the opening of the door 46 when it is so desired. The receptacle 45 is braced longitudinally by means of divergent braces 50 which braces are connected to the depending supporting arm 51. Transversely extending braces 52 are also connected to the sides of the receptacle and are in like manner connected to the depending arm 51. The arm 51 is bulged outwardly for a greater width than the pulley 36 for allowing the mail receptacle 45 to rest upon its support 38 when it is brought to this position, so that the arm 51 will clear the pulley and will not be obstructed while the receptacle 45 is being brought to rest at the distant terminal. The upper end of the arm 51 is reduced as at 53, and this reduced threaded end 53 passes through the apertured extension 54 of the clamp 55. This clamp 55 is provided with an aperture 56 through which the conveyer cable 7 passes, and this clamp is firmly held in engagement with the cable 7 by means of set screws 57. The nut 58 is threaded upon the end 53 for firmly holding the arm 51 in engagement with the clamp 55.

A tension weight 59 may be positioned between any two of the standards 13, and this weight is supported upon the lower portion of the conveyer cable 7 as illustrated in Fig. 1 through the medium of the pulley 10 which pulley is held in engagement with the weight 59 through the medium of straps 61.

A signal collar 62 is carried by the conveyer cable 7, and spaced a short distance ahead of this signal collar 62 is a stop collar 63, which is also carried by the cable 7. This collar 62 is of such a size as to pass through the apertures 6 formed in the flange 2 whereas the collar 63 is of such a thickness as to prevent the same from passing through the aperture. It will be obvious that the collar 62 will retard the movement of the cable 7 as this cable passes through the aperture 6, thereby signaling to the operator that the mail receptacle has nearly reached the opposite end of the line, or, in other words, is in position to be deposited upon the support 41. These collars are placed sufficiently close together as to allow the mail receptacle to have free movement from the home terminal to the distant terminal, and as the pulley 8 revolves counter-clockwise, it will be obvious that the collar 62 will pass over the pulley 8, and out through the aperture 6 and allow the mail receptacle 39 to be drawn to the home terminal. However, when the pulley 8 is revolved in the opposite direction, and as soon as the receptacle 45 takes the position shown in Fig. 1 the stop collar 63 will come against the side of the angular extension 2, and prevent further travel of the conveyer cable 7 over the pulley 8 since this collar 63 is of such a thickness as to

prevent the passage thereof through the aperture 6 formed in the flange 2, as above stated.

From the foregoing description, it will be obvious that a very efficient and durable construction has been produced whereby a signal may be obtained as soon as the mail receptacle has reached its destination thereby preventing the dumping of the receptacle which might be possible provided the pulley 8 were continued to be rotated even after the receptacle had reached its destination. Furthermore, it will be obvious that the flange 43 formed upon the support 41 will constitute a stop for the mail receptacle 45.

It will be obvious that the flange 2 will constitute an abutment against which the mail receptacle may be brought as the mail receptacle is conveyed toward the flange 2. It will be further obvious that the movement of the cable 7 will be somewhat retarded as the mail receptacle slides upon the supporting bracket 3, since the supporting bracket is so positioned as to readily engage the bottom of the mail receptacle as the mail receptacle is suspended from the cable 7.

What is claimed is:—

1. A mail conveying device comprising a plurality of standards, intermediate supporting pulleys carried by a set of said standards, a driving pulley carried by one of said standards, an idle pulley carried by one of said standards, a driving pulley carried by another of said standards, a conveyer cable passing over said pulleys and being adapted to travel over all of said pulleys when said driving pulley is rotated, a mail receptacle fixedly secured to said cable and being adapted to freely pass over said intermediate pulleys, and said idle pulley, a tension device carried by said cable, and signal means carried by said cable for retarding the rotation of said drive pulley.

2. A mail carrying device comprising a driving support, said support provided with an angularly extending member, said angularly extending member provided with a pair of alined apertures formed therein, a driving pulley, a cable passing through said apertures and over said driving pulley, and supporting means for said cable, a mail receptacle carried by said cable, a signal collar carried by said cable and of substantially the same size as said apertures formed

in said angle extension for causing the movement of said cable to be retarded when said collar passes through one of said apertures, a stop collar carried by said cable and being of greater size than said apertures, and being adapted to prevent the further travel of said cable through said apertures when said stop collar engages said angle extension.

3. A cable supporting device comprising a support, a plurality of angle brackets secured to said support, a pair of spaced parallel members secured to said brackets, pulleys between the spaced ends of said spaced parallel members, means passing through said parallel spaced members for holding the same together, and means interposed between said members for holding the same in spaced relation.

4. A device of the character described comprising a driving cable, a pulley, a mail carrying receptacle, a depending bracket carried by said conveyer cable, means for securing said bracket to said cable, a supporting shelf, said shelf provided with side flanges, an end flange being adapted to constitute a stop for said mail receptacle, and means for driving said conveyer cable.

5. A supporting shelf for a mail receptacle comprising a substantially rectangular body having flange sides and a flanged end, said shelf provided with an upwardly inclined rear open end, and said upwardly inclined rear open end constituting means for preventing accidental removal of a mail receptacle from said support.

6. In a device of the class described comprising a support, a conveyer cable, driving means, a mail receptacle, a mail receptacle supporting arm, a clamp fixedly secured to said cable and provided with an upwardly extending lip, said mail receptacle supporting arm passing through said upwardly extending lip for firmly securing said supporting arm to said clamp, and means passing through said clamp and engaging said conveyer cable for firmly holding said mail receptacle in engagement with said conveyer cable.

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

THORNTON R. NEISWANDER.

Witnesses:

R. L. MARQUIS,
M. MARQUIS.