No. 856,640. PATENTED JUNE 11, 1907.

S. E. HUNTTING.

OUTLET BOX.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 12, 1906.

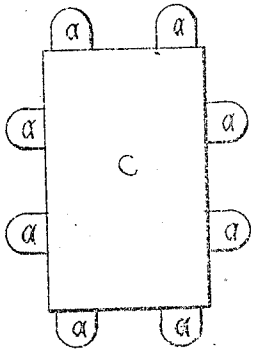


Fig. 1

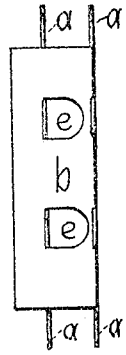


Fig. 2

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WITNESS:

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OUTLET-BOX.

No. 856,640. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 11, 1907.

Application filed April 12, 1906. Serial No. 311,401.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL E. HUNTTING, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of San Francisco, State of California, have invented a new and useful Article for Use in Connection with Electric Push-Buttons and Switches.

My invention relates to the installing of electric push buttons and switches of the "Flush" type in the walls of buildings in the course of construction.

The object of my invention is to cause an aperture of the size to receive the button or switch to be left in the wall, when it is being plastered, at the point where it is desired to locate the button or switch. When the wall is finished it will then be easy to install the button or switch in this aperture.

At present switches are installed in the walls of buildings in two different ways. The first method is by using iron boxes which are installed in the laths in much the same manner as I propose to use my frame. The objections to this method are the relatively high cost of the boxes and certain difficulties attending their use, such as difficulty with machine screws, cramped space in which to connect the wires into the switch, etc. In the other method, which is used in all cases except where these boxes are required by insurance underwriters, it is customary to leave the wires protruding through the lath and plaster and to cut an aperture in the wall when installing the switch. In this case it is very difficult to cut out the lath and plaster without breaking the latter, and even when the plaster is not broken, the switch is insecurely supported because of the severed lath or laths. This method is also expensive in the matter of time as such work is necessarily slow.

The following description in connection with the accompanying drawings is a specification of my invention.

In the accompanying drawings similar figures relate to corresponding parts throughout the several views.

b. is the strip of metal forming the body of the frame.

c. is the aperture left in the wall to receive the button or switch.

a. are the ears which in this form of construction are turned up to form flanges. This is done by punching out the curved side of a semi-ellipse and turning it back on the straight edge, leaving the hole *e.* in the body of the frame.

The ends of the strip are fastened securely together by such means as is best suited to the special construction used.

As you face the front of the frame, the flanges farthest from you are approximately flush with the farther side of the frame, while the other flange is distant from the former slightly more than the thickness of the lath, and from the edge of the frame toward you, slightly less than the thickness of the plaster.

To use my frame a lath is nailed across the studding and the frame is set down on it in such a way that the two flanges set astride of the lath. A lath is now nailed across the top of the frame in the same manner. The laths at the sides are then filled in, the ends being supported by the flanges on the sides of the frame. The frame may be further secured by nailing it to the laths through holes in the front flanges. In case a board is nailed between the studs just back of the lath in order to better support the button or switch, the frame may be securely fastened to the board by nailing through holes in flanges on the back side. This frame has the advantage of being cheaply manufactured and easily installed, while making it possible also to quickly install the switch without danger of breaking the plaster. It is also easy to remove the button or switch for repairs and replace again.

Having described my invention, I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A frame for push buttons and switches with flanges on the top and bottom between which the laths pass, thus supporting the frame.

2. A frame for push buttons and switches with flanges on each side which receive between them the ends of the laths on each side of the frame, thus giving support to such laths.

3. A frame having in front of the foremost flanges a rim slightly less in height than the thickness of the plaster, which rim supports the plaster at the edge of the aperture.

4. A frame with flanges approximately flush with the back side of the frame so that it may be nailed through its back flanges to a board fastened between the studs.

5. A frame having flanges on top and bottom by which it is supported, and having

flanges on both sides by which it supports other laths, so that it acts as a metal tie uniting several laths in such a manner as to give better support to the button or switch.

6. A frame so supported by laths at the top and bottom that the supporting screws at top and bottom of button or switch have the wood of the laths to screw into instead of going between the laths.

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Witnesses:
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