C. MURRAY.

RURAL MAIL BOX INSTALLATION.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 28, 1919.

1,337,089.

Patented Apr. 13, 1920.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

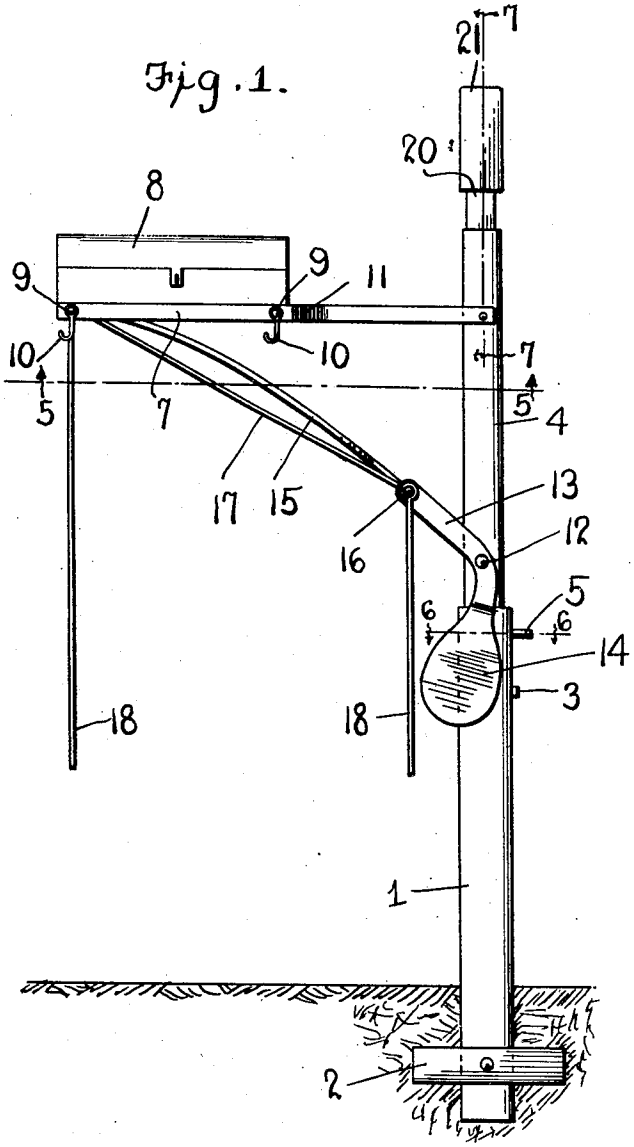


Fig. 2.

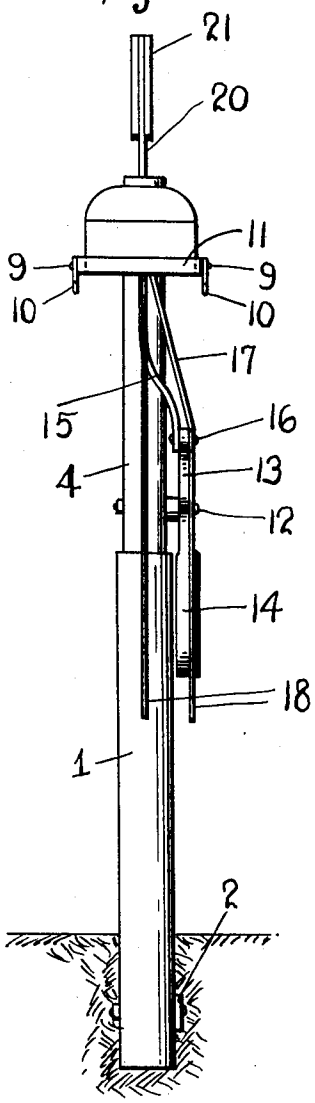
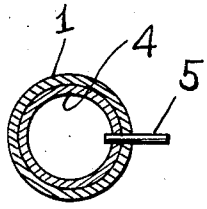


Fig. 6.



WITNESS:

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

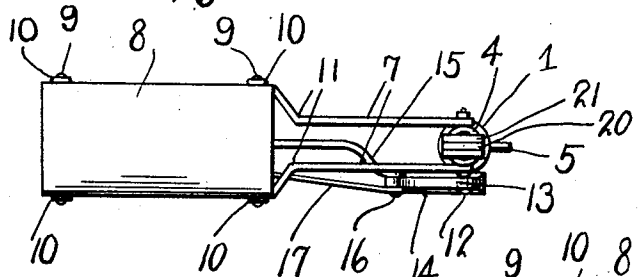


Fig. 5.

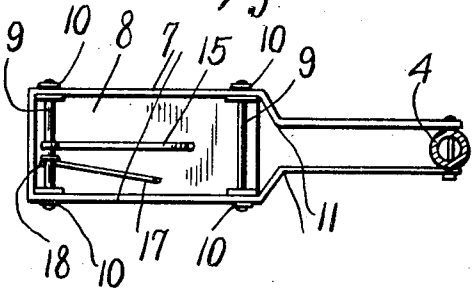


Fig. 4.

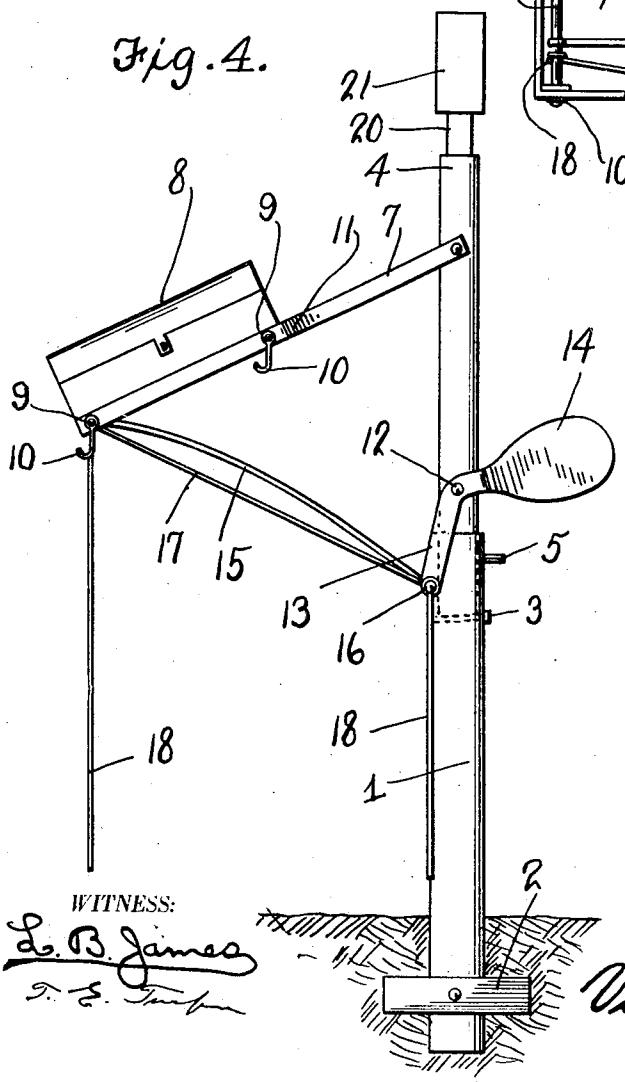
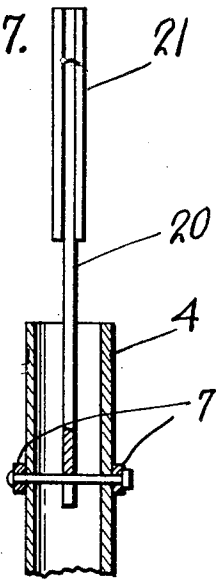


Fig. 7.



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RURAL-MAIL-BOX INSTALLATION.

1,337,089. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 13, 1920.

Application filed July 28, 1919. Serial No. 313,664.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CARL MURRAY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Curtis, in the county of Frontier and State of Nebraska, have invented new and useful Improvements in Rural-Mail-Box Installations, of which the following is a specification.

One object of my present invention is the provision of a rural mail box installation embodying such a construction that the box is securely maintained at a suitable height to enable a mail carrier passing in a vehicle to conveniently place mail in the box and yet may be expeditiously and easily lowered for the removal of mail from the box; the construction also being so arranged that when the box is released, it will be promptly returned to the elevated position.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a mail box installation embodying means for preventing breakage in the event of a vehicle striking the outwardly reaching arm of the construction.

Other objects and practical advantages of the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claims when the same are read in connection with the drawings, accompanying and forming part of this specification, in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the mail box installation constituting the best practical embodiment of my invention of which I am cognizant.

Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the device.

Fig. 3 is a top plan view; Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 1, but showing the box-carrying arm in the lower position.

Fig. 5 is an inverted section taken in the plane indicated by the line 5—5 of Fig. 1, looking upwardly.

Fig. 6 is a detail section taken in the plane indicated by the line 6—6 of Fig. 1, and showing the manner in which the weak pin which normally holds the upper member of the standard against turning about its axis rests in the lower member of the standard.

Fig. 7 is a detail section taken in the plane indicated by the line 7—7.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all of the views of the drawings.

The standard or post of my novel installation comprises a lower, tubular member 1 adapted to be sunk in the ground and held against turning through the medium of a blade 2. At 3 the said tubular member 1 is provided with a radially disposed screw, as shown. The standard or post also comprises an upper tubular member 4 socketed in the member 1 so as to bear on and be supported by the screw 3. In order to prevent turning of the upper member 4, I provide the weak pin 5 of wood or other appropriate material. The said pin 5 rests radially in registered apertures in the members 1 and 4, and is adapted to prevent turning of the member 4 about its axis, unless a vehicle or the like should strike the arm 7 on the member 4, in which event the pin will break and permit turning of the member 4 about its axis, and thereby avert serious injury to the device.

The mail box 8 is disposed above the arm 7, and is connected to the side bars of said arm 7 through the medium of transverse bolts 9 on which are preferably hung hooks 10, designed to hold packages that are too large to be placed in the box. The side bars of the arm 7 being sufficiently separated to receive the box 8 between them, it is necessary to provide the side bars 7 with the offset 11.

Provided at 12 on the standard member 4 is a lever 13, one arm of which is weighted, as indicated by 14. The other or unweighted arm of the lever 13 is connected through a rod 15 to the outer transverse bolt 9. The connection of the rod 15 to the lever 13 is a pivotal connection, and is preferably effected through the medium of a transverse bolt 16. The connection of the rod 15 to the bolt 9 is likewise a pivotal connection. At 17 is a cable passed loosely over the bolts 9 and 16 and having pendent end portions 18, as shown.

The weighted lever 13 serves to adequately support the arm 7 and the box 8 in horizontal positions, by virtue of the fact that the connection between the bolt 16 and the rod 15 rests as shown in Fig. 1 just about the dead center. When, however, it is desired to lower the arm 7 and box 8 for the placing of mail in or removal of mail from the latter, the same may be accomplished by a child when necessary; it being simply necessary for the child to draw downwardly on the end portions 18 of the said cable 17. Then when the arm 7 and box

8 are released, the weighted lever 13 will operate to raise the same to and maintain them in the horizontal positions illustrated.

In the preferred embodiment of my invention I employ in the upper member 4 of the post or standard a frame 20 that is adapted to rest inside the member 4 and is engaged with the member 4 in the manner shown in Fig. 7, so that turning of the frame 20 in member 4 is precluded. On the frame 20 is a blackboard 21, designed to be used for advertising or bulletin board purposes.

In practice all of the parts of my novel installation are adapted to be made of metal, with the exception of the weak pin 5 and the blackboard 20, and manifestly when the parts are standardized, the device may be produced in large quantities at a small cost for each device.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters-Patent, is:

1. In a rural mail box installation, the combination of a standard comprising a lower tubular member, an upper member sheathed and supported in the lower member, a weak pin engaging the lower and upper members to permit turning of the latter about its axis under shock or stress, an arm reaching laterally from the upper member, and a mail box carried by said arm.

2. In a rural mail box installation, the combination of a standard, an arm pivoted to and extending laterally from said standard, a mail box carried by said arm, a lever fulcrumed on the standard and having a weighted arm, and a rod interposed between and connecting the outer portion of the lateral arm on the standard and the unweighted arm of the lever.

3. In a rural mail box installation, the combination of a standard, an arm pivoted to and extending laterally from said standard, a mail box carried by said arm, a lever fulcrumed on the standard and having a weighted arm, a rod interposed between and connecting the outer portion of the lateral arm on the standard and the unweighted arm of the lever, and a cable passed over the connections of said rods and having pendent end portions.

4. In a rural mail box installation, the combination of a standard, an arm pivoted to and reaching laterally from the standard, a weighted lever fulcrumed on the standard, and means interposed between and connecting the weighted lever and the outer portion of the lateral arm; the lateral arm being adapted to carry a mail box and the connection between the weighted lever and the said arm being adapted when the arm and the mail box thereon are in raised position to raise above the dead center, whereby casual gravitation of the arm is prevented.

5. In a rural mail box installation, the combination of a standard, an arm pivoted to and reaching laterally from the standard, a weighted lever fulcrumed on the standard, and means interposed between and connecting the weighted lever and the outer portion of the lateral arm; the lateral arm being adapted to carry a mail box and the connection between the weighted lever and the said arm being adapted when the arm and the mail box thereon are in raised position to raise above the dead center, whereby casual gravitation of the arm is prevented, and means connected with the weighted lever whereby the said connection may be drawn downwardly to break the dead center.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

CARL MURRAY.