J. L. BRYFOGLE & J. B. KESTER.

COMBINED MAIL BOX AND MILK BOTTLE HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 26, 1917.

1,233,972.

Patented July 17, 1917.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

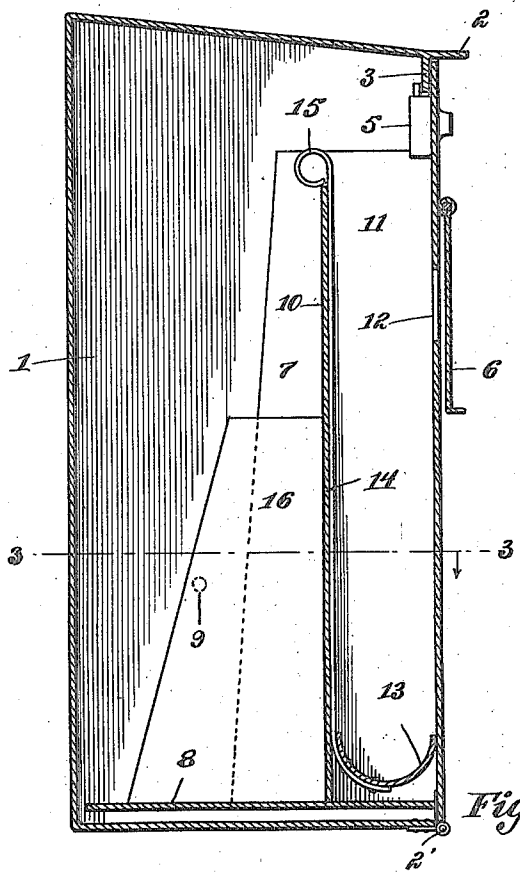
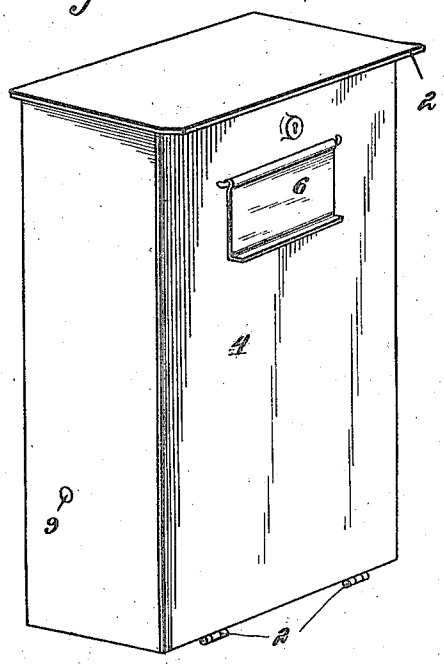


Fig. 2

Fig. 1



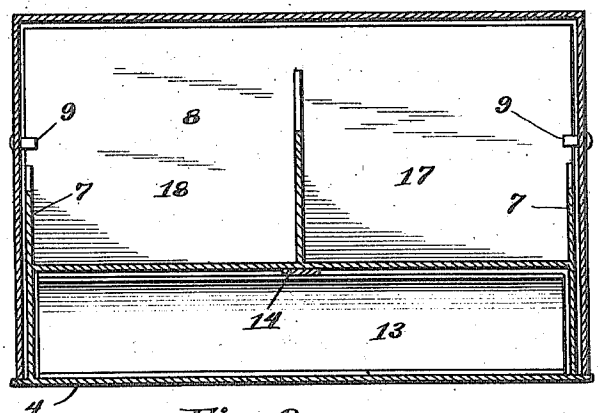


Fig. 3

WITNESS:
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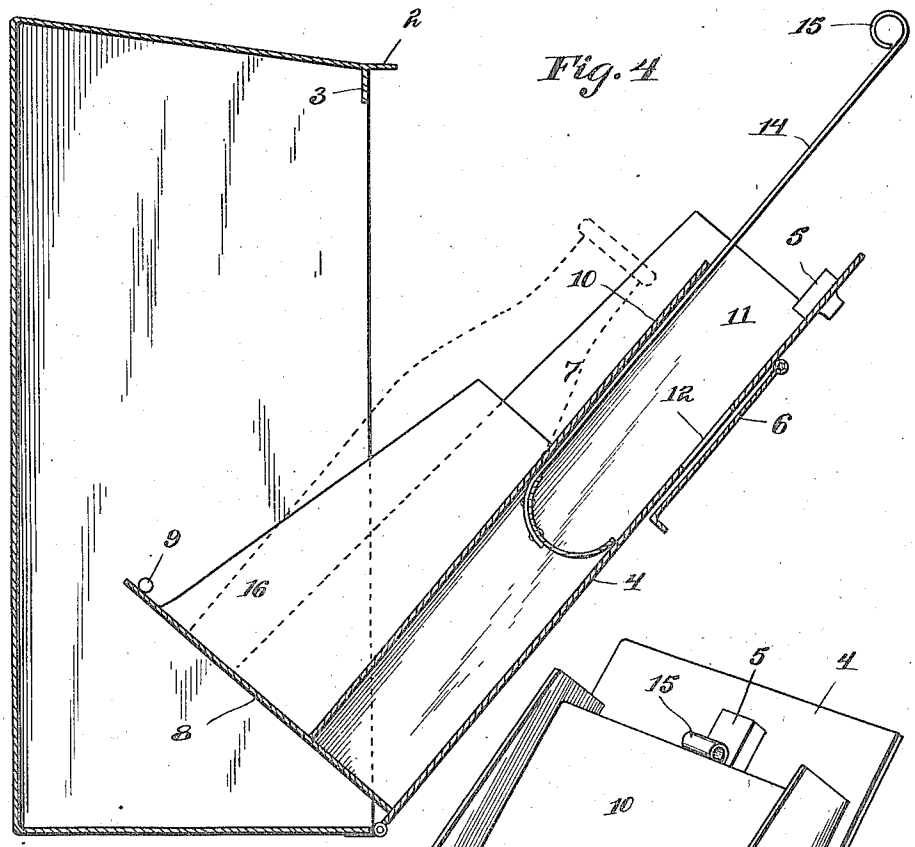


Fig. 4

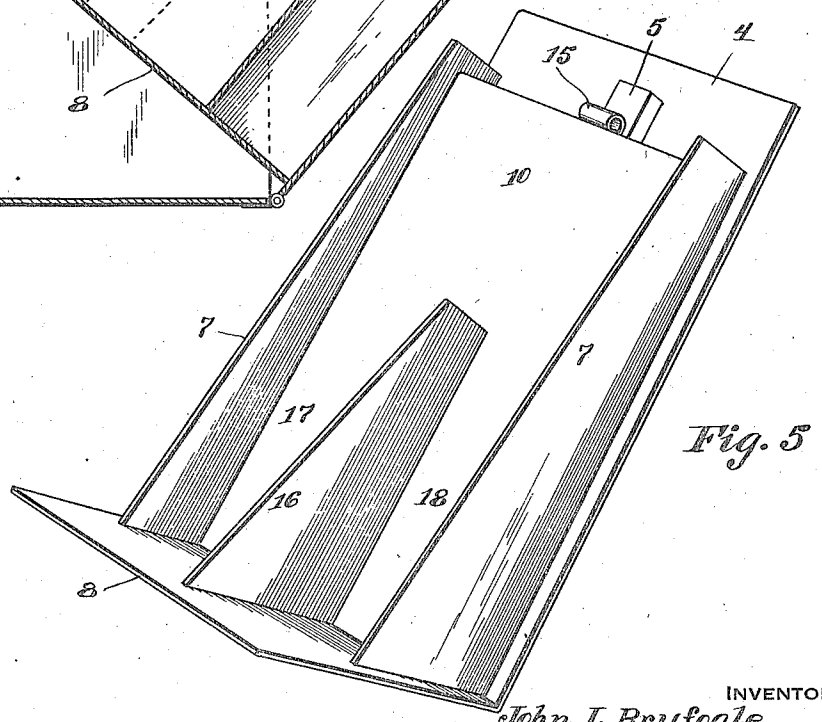


Fig. 5

WITNESS

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN LLOYD BRYFOGLE, OF NESCOPECK, AND JEREMIAH B. KESTER, OF MAINVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

COMBINED MAIL-BOX AND MILK-BOTTLE HOLDER.

1,233,972. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 17, 1917.

Application filed January 26, 1917. Serial No. 144,699.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN LLOYD BRYFOGLE and JEREMIAH B. KESTER, citizens of the United States, residing at Nescopeck, Mainville, respectively, in the county of Luzerne, Columbia, respectively, and State of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania, respectively, have invented new and useful Improvements in Combined Mail-Boxes and Milk-Bottle Holders, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to a combined mail box and milk bottle holder.

In carrying out our invention we propose to produce an extremely simple, cheap and novel construction wherein mail may be readily delivered into a compartment and effectively protected against surreptitious removal therefrom, and also whereby bottles containing milk or whereby other articles may be safely deposited by authorized persons and retained until removed by the owner of the device.

It is a still further object of the invention to produce a device of this character comprising a box having an open face; to hingedly secure to the bottom of the said case, a member designed to close the opening when moved to one position, said member being formed with a compartment to receive mail matter and having arranged to the rear of the said compartment a partition member adapted to provide separate compartments for milk bottles or for other merchandise.

It is a still further object of the invention to produce a device comprising a box-like structure having an open face; to provide a closure for the said open face in the nature of a hinged plate, said plate having side flanges and a base connecting the said flanges with the plate, a transverse partition being arranged between the plate and the side flanges, dividing the structure into a mail-receiving compartment, elevating means being arranged in the compartment whereby the mail matter may be brought to the top thereof and to the rear of the first mentioned compartment may be arranged a central partition that also connects with the base forming the rear of the closure with separate compartment for milk bottles or other merchandise, means being provided for limiting the outward swinging of the closure and the compartments formed therewith and means being also provided for locking the closure to the box when the same is moved in closing position with respect to the box.

It is a still further object of the invention to produce a device of this character which will embody the desirable features of simplicity in construction, cheapness to manufacture and thorough efficiency in operation.

With the above and other objects in view the improvement resides in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts set forth in the following specification and falling within the scope of the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a device constructed in accordance with the present invention,

Fig. 2 is a central vertical transverse sectional view through the same,

Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view approximately on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2,

Fig. 4 is a sectional view substantially similar to Fig. 2 but illustrating the face or closure plate of the box in its open position and also illustrating the mail-elevating member in its upper position as when mail matter is to be removed from the compartment therefor, and

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the face or closure plate and the compartments carried thereby.

In the drawings, like characters of reference designate similar parts throughout the several views.

In the drawings, the numeral 1 designates the box proper, the same being preferably, but not necessarily, of a substantially rectangular formation, having an open face and its top inclined from its back to its said face and projecting for a suitable distance over its face, as indicated by the numeral 2. The sides of the box at the open face thereof are connected by a transverse strip 3 which is also secured to the top of the box or receptacle. The numeral 4 designates the front plate or closure for the box 1, the same being hingedly connected, as at 2′, to the bottom of the box, and the plate adjacent the top thereof being provided with a suitable lock 5, the bolt of which being adapted to engage with the referred to strip 3 at the top of the box, whereby to retain the closure plate in locked condition. The

plate 4, below the lock, is provided with a substantially rectangular opening, and the numeral 6 designates a hinged plate that is adapted to be swung over the plate 4 to close the referred to opening, the said opening serving as a means whereby the mail matter may be inserted to within a suitable mail compartment, presently to be described.

Upon the inner face of the plate 4, and adjacent to the sides thereof, are arranged angular flange members 7—7, the same being in the nature of flat plates and being preferably gradually increased in width from the upper to the lower edges thereof, and also formed with the plate 4, at the bottom thereof, is a base plate 8 which is extended a suitable distance beyond the flanges 7 and which is adapted to contact with suitable inturned lugs 9 provided upon the sides of the box to limit the outward swinging of the plate 4 and to retain the said plate at a desired angle with respect to the box.

The numeral 10 designates a transverse partition plate that is connected with the flanges 7 and also with the base 8, and the said partition provides a compartment 11 directly to the rear of the plate 4, and communicating with this compartment is the referred to rectangular opening, designated for distinction by the numeral 12. The compartment 11 is adapted to receive the mail matter, and in order to facilitate the removal of the said matter from the compartment I have arranged therein a lift or elevating device. This device comprises a scoop 13 preferably constructed of a strip of metal or other suitable material and rounded upon itself to provide an outer concaved face, the said scoop being of a size to be snugly received in the compartment 11 and centrally formed with the scoop at the rear edge thereof is a flat handle 14, the outer end of the said handle being bent upon itself or otherwise formed with a finger piece 15, and this finger piece is adapted to engage with the upper edge of the partition 10 to retain the flat handle against said partition, and to also provide means whereby the scoop may be readily elevated.

Centrally secured to the partition 10 is a right angularly arranged plate or partition 16 which is also secured to the base 8 of the front of the construction, and this plate 16, being disposed centrally between the flanges 7, provides the device with two spaced compartments 17 and 18, and one or both of these compartments may be employed for receiving milk bottles or one of the compartments may be utilized for this purpose and the other compartment may receive other merchandise.

It is to be understood that both the merchant delivering the milk or other merchandise to the rear compartments of the device is provided with keys for operating the lock, and the weight of the merchandise upon the base of said rear compartments causes the front plate 4 to swing to its closed position. If desired the lock may be of the spring-actuated construction, whereby the bolt thereof will automatically engage with the keeper strip 3 when the plate 4 is swung against the outer face of the box 1.

From the above description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the simplicity of the device, as well as the advantages thereof will, it is thought, be perfectly apparent to those skilled in the art to which such invention appertains without further detailed description.

Having thus described the invention, what we claim is:

1. In a device for the purpose set forth, a box-like compartment having an open face and an inclined top projecting beyond the open face, a closure plate hingedly secured to the lower edge of the box at the open face thereof, said plate having a slot, a hinged plate closing the slot, a base upon the said plate extending inwardly therefrom, side flanges upon the plate, a transverse partition connected with the base and with the side flanges disposed to the rear of the slot in the plate, a longitudinal partition upon the base and to the rear of the first mentioned partition, and means for locking the closure plate to the box.

2. In a device of the class described, a box-like member having an open face, a plate hinged to the bottom of the box and adapted to close the face thereof, and means for locking the plate to the box, said plate having a slot, a hinged closure for the slot, flanges upon the plate adjacent to the side edges thereof, a base member arranged angularly of the plate and connected with the side flanges, studs upon the sides of the box in the path of swinging movement of the base designed to retain the latter at an angle with respect to the box when the hinged plate is swung outwardly of the box, a transverse partition connected with the flanges disposed to the rear of the opening in the closure plate, a centrally arranged plate upon the base to the rear of the partition and connected with the said partition, an elevating member between the transverse partition and the closure plate, and a handle for said member projecting above the partition plate.

3. The combination with a box-like structure having an open face, a closure plate hinged to the bottom of the said structure and designed to close the open face thereof; and means for locking the said closure plate to the structure, longitudinal and transverse partitions carried by the closure plate and arranged upon the inner face thereof, a base member for the compartments provided by

the said partitions, means upon the box-like structure to co-engage with the referred to base to retain the closure plate and compartments at an inclination with respect to the box-like structure when the closure plate is swung to its open position, said closure plate having an opening communicating with the compartment arranged adjacent thereto, a hinged member for closing the said opening, a scoop within the referred to partition, a handle for the scoop having its end bent to provide a finger piece and which is designed to normally rest upon the outer edge of the rear wall of the referred to compartment.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

JOHN LLOYD BRYFOGLE.
JEREMIAH B. KESTER.