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S. PETERSEN

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MAIL BOX ATTACHMENT

Filed Feb. 24, 1930

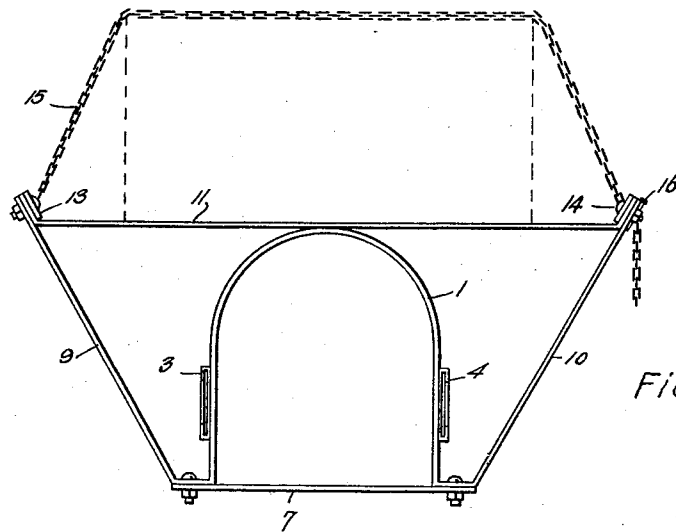


FIG. 1.

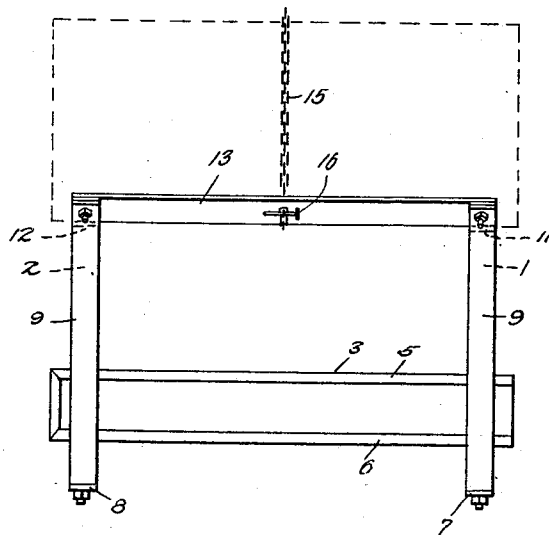


FIG. 2.

Inventor

Svend Petersen

by William W. Deane

his Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

SVEND PETERSEN, OF ASKOV, MINNESOTA

MAIL BOX ATTACHMENT

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This invention relates to package racks, and is intended particularly for use with rural mail delivery boxes.

From the point of view of this applicant, there is a need for a rack of the character herein described for the reason that, as he understands and believes, the United States Post Office Department has recently made a ruling that parcels for delivery along rural routes, which parcels are too large to go inside of the boxes ordinarily provided must not be deposited upon the ground adjacent to the boxes and left there. It is common practice of the rural carriers at present, if the parcel is too large to be introduced into the mail box to hang or place it upon the mail box. But, if for any reason that disposition of the parcel or package is considered inadvisable and if that cannot be done, then the carrier must leave a notice in the box notifying the owner of the box to meet him at the box the following day or next delivery. The carrier must then take the parcel back to the post office, and bring it out again along the route on the next delivery or following day. According to the present invention, all this additional labor, time and inconvenience to the carrier is avoided, and the parcel reaches the person addressed quicker, with less liability of loss and the service is thus greatly improved.

This invention is intended to be placed upon and supported by a rural mail box, and has for its object to construct a supplementary holder or rack of the nature stated comprising mutually connected strips of suitable metal, and having parts of special construction and arrangement whereby an inexpensive, serviceable and strong rack for the purpose is provided, wherein packages of almost any size or shape may be safely and securely held in a position immediately adjacent the box. The construction and arrangement of the parts of this invention are illustrated by the accompanying drawings of which:

Figure 1 represents an end view of all parts assembled.

Figure 2 is a side view of all parts.

Throughout the drawings and description

the same number is used to refer to the same part, and the terms by which the different parts are mentioned are only used for the explanation of the invention as herein set forth.

Considering the drawings, there is shown an attaching frame composed of two members 1 and 2 of inverted U-shape, and having vertical sides. The members are spaced apart at a proper distance, and the corresponding sides of the respective members are connected by the plates 3 and 4. Each of the plates has its edges, such as the edges 5 and 6 of the plate 3 turned over outwardly and back upon the plate, providing, in effect, a cord or name plate carrier. If necessary postal cards or letters in envelopes may be placed in the plates.

The lower ends of the legs of the members 1 and 2 are bent at right angles and joined by the strips 7 and 8. It is within the purview and intent of this invention to omit the parts or strips 7 and 8 if found necessary, leaving the inverted U-shaped members open at the bottom.

The extremities of the attaching members are extended outwardly and upwardly to provide inclined bracing strips 9 and 10, connected at their upper ends by supporting strips 11 and 12 which extend across the webs of the members 1 and 2 and form part of a parcel supporting frame.

The parcel supporting frame is further constituted by the connecting strips 13 and 14, the ends of the strips 11 and 12 being bent to engage the inclined brace members 9 and 10, and the several members being secured together at their points of engagement by suitable fastening means. In the arrangement shown, the strips 13 and 14 lie in an inclined position, affording stops for preventing parcels accidentally slipping over the ends of the strips 11 and 12.

In the construction of the supplementary holder or rack, strips of material of any preferred width and thickness may be employed and rivets, bolts, spot welding or any other means may be employed for uniting the strips to form a rigid and substantial construction. A chain or other flexible mem-

ber 15 may be secured to the medial portion of the strip 13 and is of such length as to pass over a parcel indicated in dotted lines in Figure 1 and through an opening in the other strip 14, the chain being held in adjusted position by headed pin 16 or the like passed through the chain links, or a hook (not shown) secured to strip 14 for a like purpose.

In use, the supplementary holder is applied to the conventional form of mail box and for that purpose the members 1 and 2 are shaped in conformity therewith. The length of the supplementary holder in the direction of the strips 13 and 14 may approximately correspond with the over-all length of the mail box to which it is to be applied or, if preferred, it may extend throughout only a part of the length of the box. The flanges 5 and 6 may be used for the retention of cards containing notices or identification data, and when the device is placed in position, it is firmly held in place with the supporting strips 11 and 12 above and transversely of the mail box in position to support parcels, packages of paper and the like. As a means of assuring against the accidental displacement of parcels so placed, the chain 15 is preferably passed over the parcel, and secured in position by the pin 16 or any other suitable fastening means. It is thus evident that the rack constitutes a holder supplemental to the conventional mail box, which may be conveniently employed by the mail carrier in the delivery of articles of such shape and size, as to prevent their insertion in the mail box. Aside from the increased convenience to the mail carrier, the device eliminates the delay which occurs incident to the necessity of the carrier being unable to leave the parcel at the location of the box and the return of such parcel to the post office.

What I claim is:

1. A supplementary mail holder for mail boxes including an attaching frame provided with box embracing members, and a parcel supporting frame supported by the attaching frame, the supporting frame being disposed in a position above a box to which the attaching frame is applied, said supporting frame being connected with the embracing members and retaining the latter in spaced relation, said attaching frame including members connecting the embracing members, and having the edges thereof turned over.

2. A supplementary mail holder for mail boxes including an attaching frame provided with box embracing members, and a parcel supporting frame supported by the attaching frame, the supporting frame being disposed in a position above a box to which the attaching frame is applied, a flexible retaining member attached at one point of

said supporting frame and adapted to pass over a parcel supported thereon, and means for securing the flexible member in position.

3. A supplementary mail holder for mail boxes comprising an attaching frame embodying inverted U-shaped members for disposition in straddling relation to a mail box, and a parcel supporting frame disposed directly above and supported by said members.

4. A supplementary mail holder for mail boxes comprising an attaching frame embodying inverted U-shaped members for disposition in straddling relation to a mail box, and a parcel supporting frame disposed directly above and supported by said members, the legs of said members being extended to provide lateral supports for said supporting frame, and straps spanning and detachably secured to the legs of said U-shaped members at their lower ends.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

SVEND PETERSEN.