

J. E. SHINN.
 COIN AND MAIL HOLDING DEVICE FOR MAIL BOXES.
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Patented May 13, 1913.

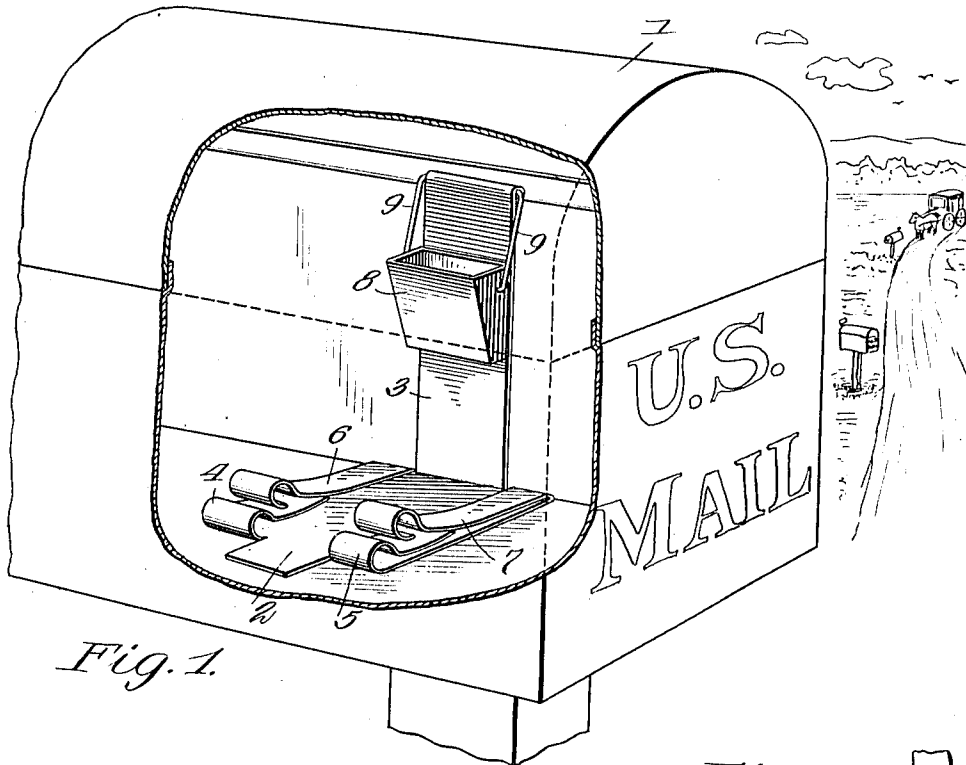


Fig. 1.

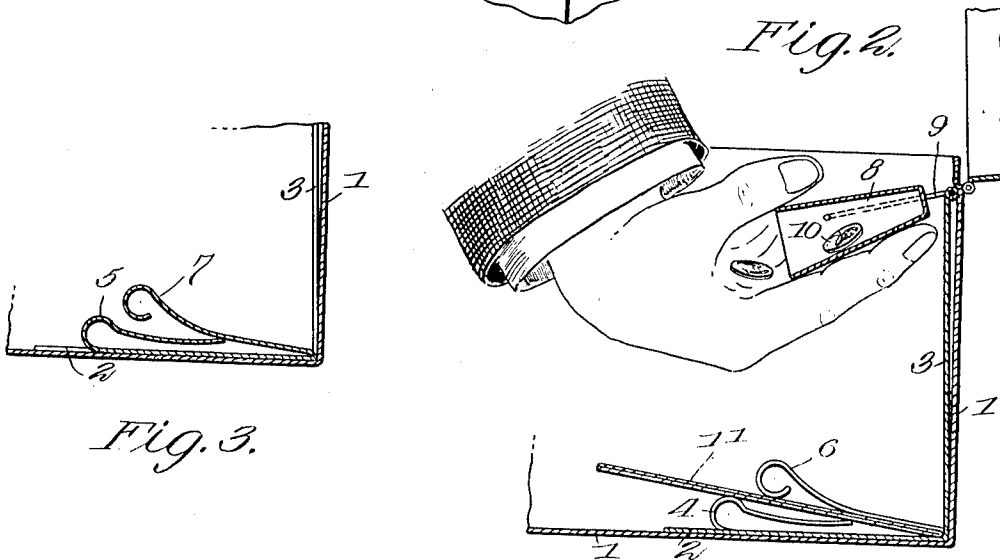


Fig. 2.

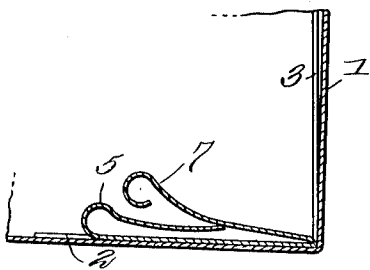


Fig. 3.

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COIN AND MAIL HOLDING DEVICE FOR MAIL-BOXES.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES EDDY SHINN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Conway Springs, in the county of Sumner and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Coin and Mail Holding Devices for Mail-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in devices for holding coins, post cards and letters in mail boxes, and it consists in the combinations, constructions and arrangements herein described and claimed.

An object of my invention is to provide a simple device which may be placed on the interior of any mail box, and which will permit a postman to pick up letters or postals or to take out the coin without the necessity of his removing his gloves to do so.

A further object of my invention is to provide a coin holder in which the delivery of the coins may be accomplished by one hand, thereby permitting the postman to have free use of the other.

A further object of my invention is to provide a simple device having spring clips arranged to hold the letters or postals in such a manner as to be raised from the floor of the box so as to permit them to be readily grasped by the hand.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the following specification, and the novel features of the device will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing forming part of this application, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the mail box, a portion being cut away to show the position of the coin and mail holding device on the interior of the box; Fig. 2 is a vertical section through a box and through the coin and mail holding device; and Fig. 3 is a detailed sectional view of the mail holding device.

In carrying out my invention I make use of any convenient mail box 1 such as that shown in Fig. 1. On the interior of the box I have placed the coin and mail holding devices. In the present instance I have shown such a device as consisting of a body portion 2 having an integral upwardly extending portion 3, rearwardly turned spring clipped members 4 and 5 at the forward end of said body portion 2 and forwardly bent spring clipped portions 6 and 7, the spring

clip 6 being in vertical alinement with the spring clip 4 and the clip 7 being in vertical alinement with the spring clip 5. The ends of the springs 6 and 7 are rounded downwardly and inwardly as shown in the figures. Pivottally secured at the upper end of the portion 3 is a receptacle 8 of the shape shown in the figure, this receptacle being suspended from the member 3 by means of the bail 9 which, as it will be noted is pivottally secured to the receptacle near its top. From the foregoing description of the various parts of the device the operation thereof may be readily understood. The device is placed inside a mail box in the position shown in the figure. If desired it may be secured directly to the box, but if made with a large enough base portion 2 it will remain in the position in which it is placed without further fastening. Many times a person will be out of stamps when he can place the coins in the receptacle for the postman to collect. The coins may be so placed for paying postage due or for any reason. When the postman opens the box all he needs to do is to place his fingers under the bottom of the receptacle and move it upwardly when it will swing on its bail in the manner shown in Fig. 2 and will deposit the coins in the hand of the operator. On releasing the receptacle it will again assume its normal position shown in Fig. 1. This may be accomplished by one who has mittens or gloves on without the necessity of removing them.

A letter or postal may be thrust between the spring clips 4—6, 5—7, and will be held as shown at 11 in Fig. 2. It will be observed that the end of the letter or postal is raised from the bottom of the box, and this permits the postman to grasp it without removing his gloves. Obviously more than one letter or postal could be thrust between the clips.

I am aware that other forms of the device based on the same general plan might be made, but I consider as my own all such modifications as fairly fall within the spirit and the scope of the invention.

I claim:—

1. A coin and mail holding device comprising a base portion, a vertically extending integral portion at one end of said base portion, a coin receptacle carried by said vertically extending portion, said base portion having a lower integral spring clip member on each side of said base portion, and an upper integral spring clip member, both of

said clip members having rounded jaws for receiving mail.

2. A coin and mail holding device comprising a base portion, a vertically extending integral portion at one end of said base portion, a coin receptacle carried by said vertically extending portion, said base portion having lower integral spring clip members cut from the base portion and bent
5
10 toward said upwardly extending support,

and a pair of upper spring clip members bent from the end of the base carrying the integral upright toward the lower spring clips, the engaging portions of said spring clips being rounded.

JAMES EDDY SHINN.

Witnesses:

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