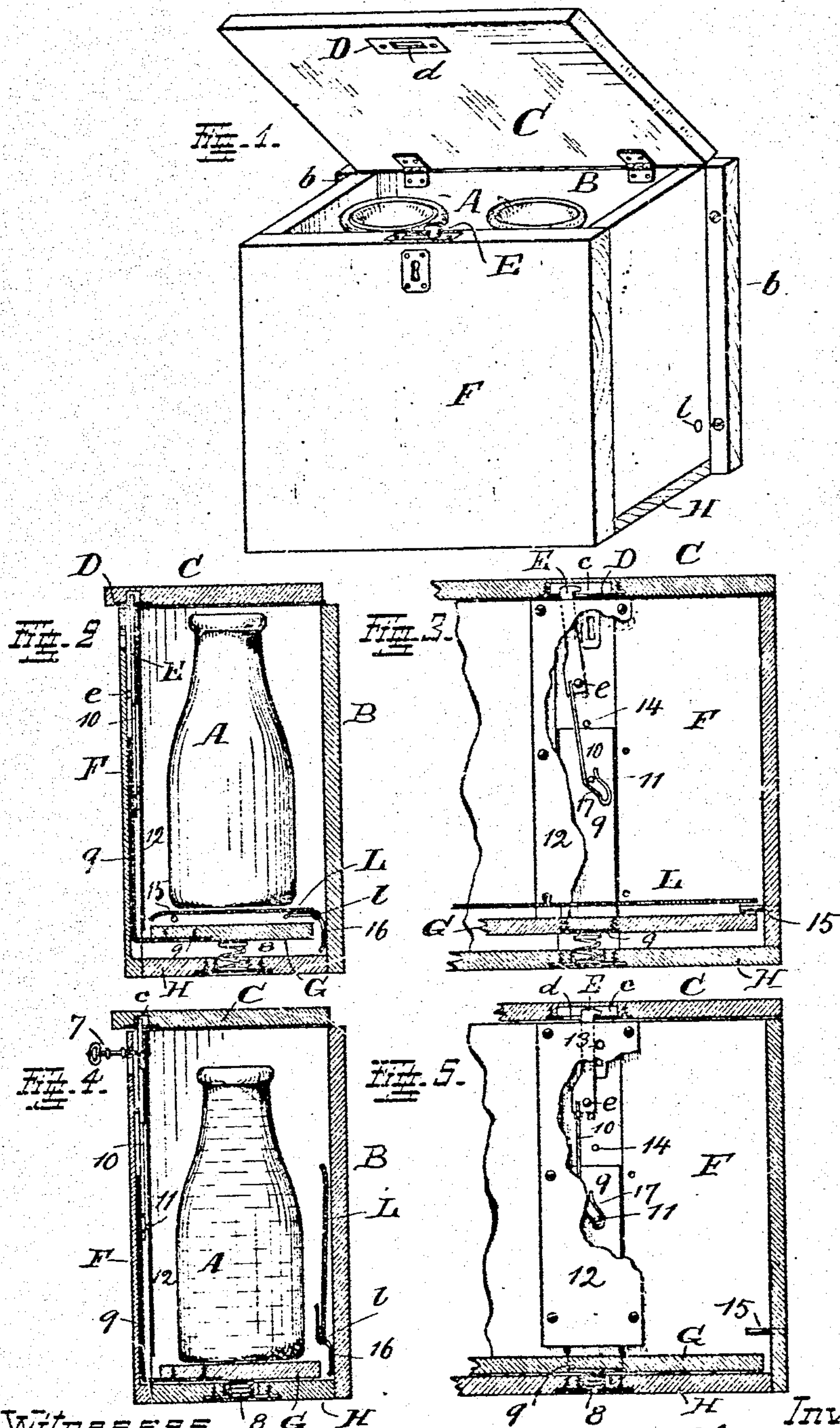


C. KECK.  
DELIVERY GOODS RECEIVER.  
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 7, 1909.

983,498.

Patented Feb. 7, 1911.



WITNESSES. 8 & H  
Harry A. Hyams  
T. L. Bear.

INVENTOR.  
Christian Keck  
by C. Spengel atty



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHRISTIAN KECK, OF CRESCENT SPRINGS, KENTUCKY, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO  
HARRY H. HYAMS, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

## DELIVERY-GOODS RECEIVER.

983,498.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 7, 1911.

Application filed August 7, 1909. Serial No. 511,691.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHRISTIAN KECK, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Crescent Springs, Kenton county, State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Delivery-Goods Receivers; and I do declare the following to be a clear, full, and exact description thereof, attention being called to the accompanying drawing, with the reference characters marked thereon, which forms also a part of this specification.

This invention relates to devices which might be designated as delivery-goods receivers and by which is meant a suitable receptacle or box adapted to receive commodities which are delivered at regular intervals, as for instance daily, the arrangement of the receiver being such as to make the presence of the recipient unnecessary when the goods are left, the delivered goods being meanwhile protected against theft until taken charge of by the recipient who is the only person outside of the deliverer having access to the box. A commodity well adapted to be delivered under such a system is milk which is frequently left at houses during the night or in the early morning hours before any of the inmates are about. By the use of such a receiver the milkman is enabled to leave his goods during the absence of the inmates of the house and without disturbing them at any time, the delivered goods being meanwhile protected until taken charge of.

Milk is most generally handled in bottles of certain fixed sizes and I have designed my invention for use in connection with such goods.

In the following specification and particularly pointed out in the claims at the end thereof, will be found a full description of my invention, together with its manner of use, parts and construction, which latter is also illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1, shows my receiver in perspective view, partly open. Fig. 2, is a vertical transverse cross-section through it midway between its ends, the receiver being in accessible condition. Fig. 3, shows the inner side of its front-wall with the receiver un-

locked, a cover-plate which serves to inclose the locking mechanism being partly broken away. Fig. 4, is a view similar to Fig. 2, the receiver being in locked condition. Fig. 5, is a view similar to Fig. 3, and shows the receiver locked.

The receiver is made in shape of a box, of a material and of a size suitable for its intended use. As shown in Fig. 1, it may accommodate two milk-bottles A A. Suitable means are provided to permit attachment of the box in a position preferably sheltered against the weather, but readily accessible to the one who delivers the goods. In the case shown, the back B of the box is extended at both of its ends to form flanges b, b, which, in connection with screws or nails, permit its attachment.

C is the lid of the box, hingedly attached.

D is a keeper affixed to the inner side of the lid rear its front edge and adapted to be engaged by a hook-shaped locking bolt E which projects above the upper edge of the front-side F of the box. The lid inside of the keeper is recessed as shown at c to clear the hook-shaped end of this bolt, after the same has passed through the slot d, of the keeper.

A key 7 in possession of the customer permits access to the box to enable him to obtain the goods left for him. It is necessary for practical purposes, to reduce to the utmost simplicity any manipulation required of the deliverer of such goods, particularly in the case of milk-men who have generally an extended route and are expected to pass quickly from place to place. The box is therefore arranged to be accessible to the deliverer who may open the same without requiring a key. After he has placed the goods into the box, he drops the lid, whereupon the bolt engages the keeper on the lid and locks the latter, the lock having been converted into one acting automatically by reason of the presence of the goods which effect this change by action of their weight. In the case of milk for instance, the empty bottles would be placed on top of the lid of the closed box. The milkman removes them, opens the box and sets the filled bottles inside. The weight of these bottles, as soon as deposited, at once affects the locking mechanism.



anism in a manner to cause the same to become automatic, so that, when the lid is dropped, it not merely closes the box, but also locks it at the same time. The means and their construction whereby this is accomplished are as follows:

G is a false bottom fitted inside of the box and supported above bottom H thereof, it being seated upon one or more springs 8, resting on the lower bottom. Normally the upper bottom, when nothing rests upon it, occupies its high position as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. It is connected to locking-hook E in a manner that at that time it holds the same in a position in which it is unable to engage its keeper D. Observe for instance Fig. 3. For the purpose of such connection I use a slide 9, which is attached to bottom G, and extends upwardly on the inside of front-wall F, it preferably occupying a recess, provided in the inner side thereof. Bolt E also occupies this recess and is pivotally supported therein at e. A tail-spring 10, shaped as shown, extends from the heel of bolt E and has a loop 17 at its free end which is engaged by a projection 11 on slide 9. When false bottom G is depressed by the weight of the delivered goods deposited thereon, projection 11 on slide 9, when this latter moves down, causes the locking bolt to swing into locking position, that is a position in which its hook-shaped end is enabled to engage keeper D automatically when the lid is lowered. This is due to the action of spring 10 which also holds the bolt yieldingly in such locking position, which position is further one in which the lower part of the bolt extends into reach of the wards of inserted key 7 to enable them to engage the bolt to permit unlocking of the lid. The recess which is occupied by this locking mechanism is closed by a cover-plate 12 which in proper position is provided with an opening 13, to support the stem-end of the inserted key. A stop 14 limits the upward movement of slide 9. This slide in combination with the recess to which it is fitted and the cover-plate which closes this recess serves as a means to guide the bottom during its movements and prevents it from tilting. It may be preferred to keep also the empty bottles inside of the box until taken away by the milkman. To prevent them from acting by their weight upon the slide in a manner which would lock the box, an additional false bottom is provided which may be in form of a swinging flap L, pivoted at l and upon which the empty bottles rest, said flap being prevented from acting upon bottom G by stops 15 which hold it up. After the empty bottles are removed, this flap is lifted up and the full bottles are placed upon bottom G, with the result of locking the box as before described. This flap may be caused to raise up automatically by means of

springs 16 which lift it as soon as the empty bottles are taken off.

Having described my invention, I claim as new:

1. In a delivery goods receiver, the combination of a box provided with a lid and with a recess on the inside of its front-wall which extends from the bottom of the box vertically upward, a keeper on the lid, a locking hook pivotally supported within the box and adapted to engage the keeper on the lid, a spring extending from the heel of this hook, a false bottom within the box, means to hold the same in a normally elevated position but permitting it to yield to the weight of goods delivered upon the same, a slide rigidly connected to the front edge of this bottom so as to move with it and fitted into the recess of the front-wall mentioned whereby both the slide and the connected bottom are guided in their movements and means whereby the same is operatively connected to the spring on the hook so that changes in position of the slide affect the position of the hook with reference to the keeper on the lid.

2. In a delivery-goods receiver, the combination of a box, a lid for it, a keeper thereon, an adjustable locking-device adapted to engage this keeper, but normally incapable of engagement therewith, a depressible false bottom inside of the box and susceptible to be acted upon by the weight of delivered goods when deposited thereon, operative connection between it and the locking-device whereby this latter is rendered operative when the false bottom is depressed and an additional false bottom adjustably supported above the bottom first mentioned and adapted to support articles without affecting the bottom below.

3. In a delivery-goods receiver, the combination of a box, a lid for it, a keeper thereon, an adjustable locking-device adapted to engage this keeper, but normally incapable of engagement therewith, a depressible false bottom inside of the box and susceptible to be acted upon by the weight of delivered goods when deposited upon it, operative connection between it and the locking device whereby this latter is rendered operative when the false bottom is depressed, an additional false bottom in form of a hinged flap provided above the bottom first mentioned and adapted to support articles without affecting the bottom below it, and means whereby this flap is normally held in an elevated position.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

CHRISTIAN KECK.

Witnesses:

HARRY H. HYAMS,  
C. SPENGLER.