This invention relates to fireproof office or like equipment and more particularly to a safe for housing and protecting card posting systems against fire.

Owing to the increasing use of card posting systems in banks, department stores and other mercantile establishments, the necessity of providing means for adequately protecting and storing these cards in a simple and practical manner becomes of particular importance since the cards contain records and statistics exceedingly vital to a business. Posting clerks usually work on these records all day, and heretofore, card systems have either been left open and unprotected at night, or if possible, the large trays of cards used during the day are carried to a fire resisting safe or vault for storage until the next day. This practice on one hand involves considerable risk, or on the other hand requires much extra labor and the occupation of otherwise valuable vault space.

Accordingly, it is desirable to provide a receptacle or container in which the cards may be permanently housed and yet made always readily available for use in a convenient manner while at the same time enabling them to be protected when not in use by merely closing the container or cabinet, and to that end the invention contemplates a fireproof container or safe built to specifications meeting Fire Underwriters' safe requirements, and at the same time providing means whereby the cards are not only readily accessible but raised to a convenient working height for the operator. In that connection the invention includes in its organization an insulating outer casing or housing having therein a shelf or support for the card tray which may be raised and lowered to bring the tray up to the level of or above the top edges of the housing to facilitate the making of records when the safe is opened, and on the other hand when the cards are completed for the day they may be readily lowered to avoid interfering with the closing of the doors.

A further object of the invention is to provide simple and practical means for raising and lowering the shelf or platform which carries or supports the card tray or holder.
the movement of the card holder or tray and also prevent the mechanism from becoming jammed should cards or papers accidentally be dropped into the chamber C. In that connection it will also be observed that a portion of the operating mechanism E is disposed below the shelf D so that all of the operating mechanism is effectually housed except perhaps that portion thereof to which power is applied to effect the movement thereof.

Referring now more particularly to the details shown in the drawings it will be observed that the shelf or platform D is provided with the depending leg members 15 whose lower ends receive the slideable pins or bolts 2 which project through vertical slots 3 in the panels or plates F to assist in guiding the movement of the shelf independently of the side walls of the insulated safe itself.

The said guide pins 2 have connected therewith the links 4 which together with the links 5 provide a toggle device. The links 5 are pivotally but permanently connected to the panels or plates F and the reinforcing strip 25 F* by the studs 6 and in turn the said links 4 and 5 are joined by the pivot pin 7 with a connecting rod 8 which joins the toggle devices at the same side of the safe so that they work in tandem.

In the embodiment of the invention shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3, the shelf D is automatically raised and lowered by a door of the safe. To that end the left-hand door B is provided with a bracket 9 having pivotally secured thereto, as indicated at 10, a curved slotted arm 11, the slot in said arm receiving a sliding pivot member 12 which also rides in the slot 13 of an intermediate actuating link 14. The lower end of this link is provided with a slot 15 for receiving the elongated shank portion of the pin 2 which projects through the slot 3, previously referred to.

With the arrangement above set forth it will be apparent that when the left-hand section of the door is opened, the shelf D on which the card-trays are placed will rise vertically a distance sufficient to bring the cards to a convenient working height or clear of the safe molding. The particular arrangement of members 11 and 14 is such that the shelf D commences to rise after the door reaches a vertical position due to the lost motion connection between the door and the toggles provided by the slots in the arm 11 and the link 14 so that the weight of the door to a certain extent counter-balances the weight of the shelf full of card trays and cards. In that way there are but two operations to be performed to obtain access to the cards, namely, opening the right-hand section of the door which merely opens one-half of the safe, and then opening the left-hand door which raises the cards to a convenient working height. In other words, due to the arrangement of the arm 11 and the link 14 and to the length of the slots in said arm and link as illustrated by the dotted line showing in Fig. 1 of the drawings, swinging movement of the left-hand door B in said figure to a substantially vertical position will result first in sliding movement of the arm 11 relative to the pivot member 12 until the end of the slot in said arm 11 engages said pivot member, and then in sliding movement of the pivot member, with the arm 11, along the slot 13 in the link 14 to the outer end of said slot, so that, until the door B reaches approximately a vertical or half-open position, no movement of the shelf D occurs.

However, during the final opening movement of the door, that is, after the ends of the slots in the arm 11 and in the link 14 have engaged the pivot member 12, and the lower end of the slot in the link 14 has engaged the pin 2, the arm 11, by engagement with the door, as shown by dot and dash lines at the upper left hand corner of Fig. 1, will be prevented from turning on its pivot 10 and as a consequence a pull will be exerted by the door through the arm 11 and the link 14 upon the connected toggles to elevate the shelf D to the dot and dash line shown.

In the embodiment of the invention shown in Figures 4 and 5 the essential features and characteristics of the invention are preserved, and, therefore, the same reference characters designate the same parts as in Figures 1 to 3 inclusive. The difference in these two constructions resides in the means for actuating the toggle devices 4 and 5. In this form of construction the said toggle members 4 and 5 are connected by an actuating member 8' positioned below the centers of the pivots 7—7 and having the upturned arm portions 8' at the ends thereof. The intermediate body portion of the actuating rod 8' is provided with a stud 16 adapted to ride in the slot 17 in the lower end of an actuating lever 18, having a square opening to receive a squared portion 19 of the rock shaft 20 which is pivotally journaled on the left-hand door of the safe so that when the lever is swung or oscillated, the lower slotted end thereof will move the actuating member 8' which will cause an upward thrust or push on the pivots 7 to expand the toggle members 4 and 5. The toggle members 4 and 5, are, as previously indicated, arranged in tandem on opposite sides of the safe so that when the rock shaft 20 is moved...
by the lever 18 all of the toggle units of the device will be operated in unison.

The upper end of the lever 18 is provided with an extensible hand grip 23 so that the same may be lengthened to project upward sufficiently to permit the operator to obtain a ready grip thereon when the card-tray is elevated as well as to facilitate the initial elevation of the shelf D. The said hand grip 23 is provided with slots 24 engaging with the headed studs 25 on the handle proper to permit of the extension referred to.

From the foregoing it will be apparent that the present invention provides an insulating safe for storing card posting systems in their entirety, that is, without removing the cards or card-trays from the safe for storage elsewhere over night or other periods when they are not in use. In that connection the invention embodies in its organization simple and practical means for supporting and elevating the card tray supporting shelf which is operated and actuated by simple and reliable toggle devices controlled either by the operation of a door of the safe or by a manually operated lever after the safe door or doors have been opened.

Without further description it is thought that the features and advantages of the invention will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art, and it will of course be understood that changes in the form, proportion and minor details of construction may be resorted to, without departing from the spirit of the invention and scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In combination with a receptacle having a door hinged for swinging movement from a position closing an open side of the receptacle through an arc of approximately 270° to a position overlying an adjacent side of the receptacle substantially parallel thereto; a support within said receptacle, means mounting said support for movement towards and from the open side of the receptacle comprising a slotted guide member fixed within the receptacle, a pin carried by said support and extending through the slot in said guide member, a toggle arm pivotally connected at one end to said pin, and a second toggle arm having a fixed pivot at one end within the receptacle and pivotally connected at its other end with the second end of said first mentioned toggle arm, and a connection between said door and said support whereby the final portion at least of opening movement of said door is effective to move said support towards the open side of the receptacle, said connection comprising an arm pivoted to the door, and a lost motion link connection between said arm and said pin.

2. In combination with a receptacle having a door swingable to and from open and closed positions with respect to an open side thereof, a guide member within the receptacle having a pair of vertical slots, a pair of pins carried by said receptacle and disposed within said slots, respectively, a pair of toggle arms one of which is pivoted at one end to one of said pins and the other of which is pivoted at one end to the other of said pins, a second pair of toggle arms each having a fixed pivotal connection at one end with said guide member and respectively having pivotal connections at their other ends with said first mentioned toggle arms, a link connecting the arms constituting one toggle with the arms constituting the other toggle, and a connection between one of said toggles and said door whereby opening movement of the latter actuates said toggles to elevate said support.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

GEORGE C. BRAINARD.