J. WELBON.

CARD INDEX.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 10, 1918. RENEWED MAY 16, 1921.

1,388,080. **Patented Aug. 16, 1921.**

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1

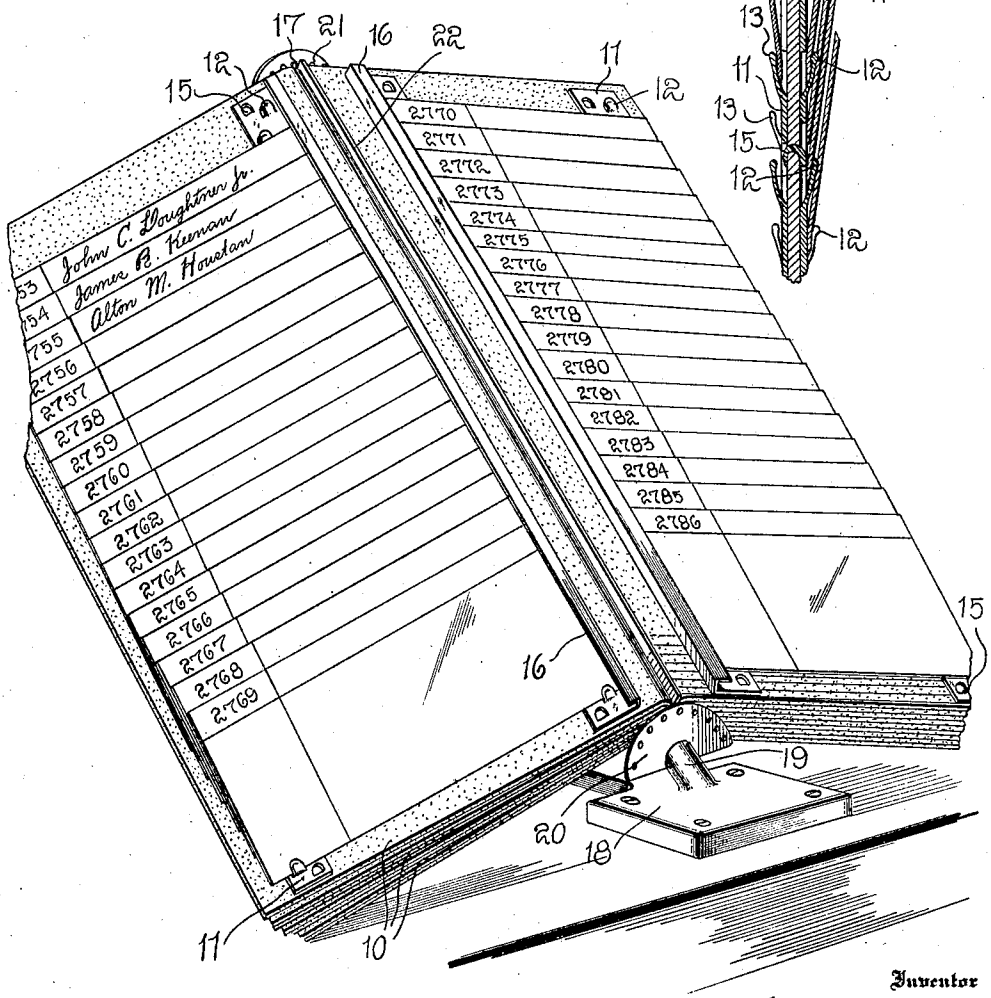


Fig. 6

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2

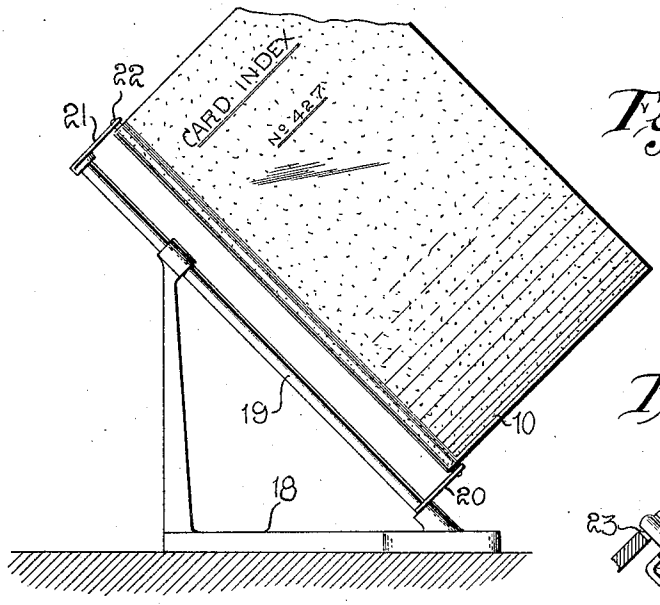


Fig. 3

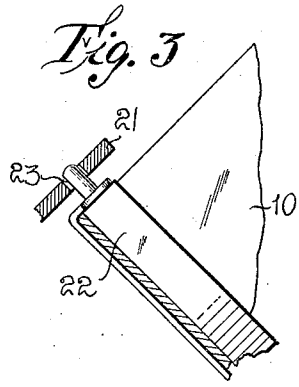


Fig. 4

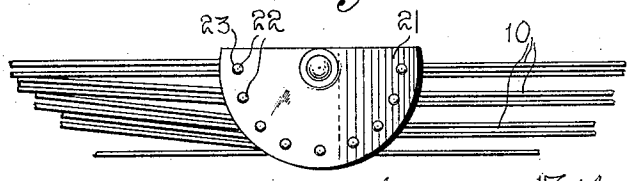
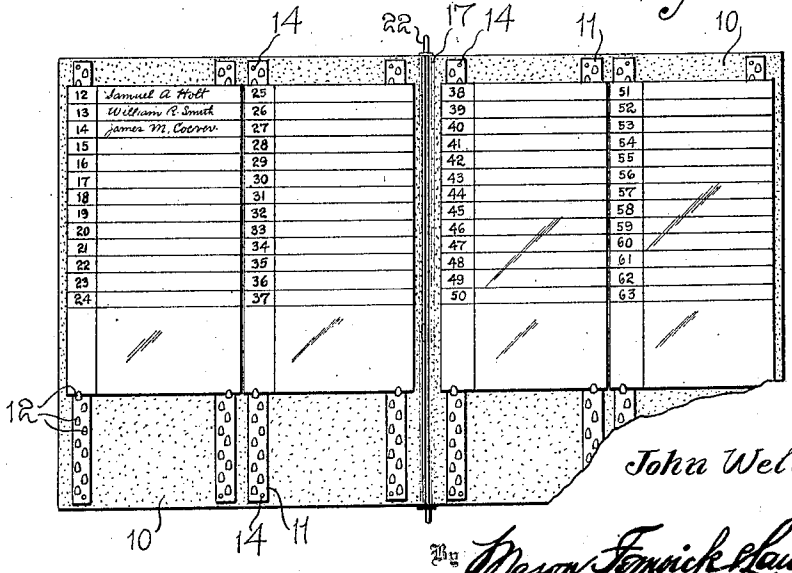


Fig. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CARD-INDEX.

1,388,080. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 16, 1921.

Application filed July 10, 1918, Serial No. 244,291. Renewed May 16, 1921. Serial No. 470,203.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN WELBON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Utica, in the county of Oneida and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Card-Indexes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to card indices and has for an object to provide an index embodying new and improved means for maintaining cards in proper relation with sheets or leaves folded into book form.

A further object of the invention is to provide sheets or leaves capable of being folded into substantially book form having strips of material secured thereto with improved means carried by said strips for maintaining the cards in relation to the sheet.

A further object of the invention is to provide a strip of material adapted to be secured to a sheet such strip having struck up and outwardly directed tongue of new and improved form adapted to engage the edge of a card inserted between the tongue and the strip body.

A further object of the invention is to provide a strip of material adapted to be secured to a sheet, said strip embodying outwardly projecting tongues with an edge flange adapted to engage with the edge of a card to hold such cards from bending outwardly.

With these and other objects in view the invention comprises certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangements of parts as will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the drawings;

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of one of the improved card indices complete, showing position upon the page for only a single tier of cards.

Fig. 2 is a view in side elevation of the improved card index with the sheets or leaves closed in book form.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary view showing the manner of securing the leaves in the supporting structure.

Fig. 4 is a top plan view showing the relation of the leaves with the holding structure.

Fig. 5 is a plan view of two of the leaves opened up showing two rows or tiers of cards.

Fig. 6 is a sectional view through one of the pages showing the strips upon opposite sides of the page with cards inserted therein.

Like characters of reference represent corresponding parts throughout the several views.

The improved card index which forms the subject matter of the present application comprises sheets of material as heavy paper or other approved material indicated at 10, to which leaves or sheets are secured two or more holding strips 11. The sheet 10 may be of any size found convenient and the strips 11 may be of any number found convenient to be placed upon such sheet depending upon the size of the cards employed and the number of rows of cards desired upon a page. At Fig. 1, two of such strips are employed showing room for a single row of cards while at Fig. 5, four of such strips are employed upon each page providing for two rows of cards. It is obvious that any number of rows of cards may be employed by increasing the number of strips as desired.

The strips 11 are of preferably sheet-metal having tongues 12 struck up upon one side and preferably though not necessarily in staggered relation as shown particularly at Fig. 5. The extremities of the tongues 12 are upset as shown at 13 in Fig. 6 such thickening being for the purpose of preventing the cards catching upon the extremities of the tongues.

The strips 11 are secured to the sheet of material in any approved manner as by the rivets 14 shown at Fig. 5 but preferably by striking up from the opposite side of the strip 11 prongs 15 which are inserted through the material of the sheet 10 and clenched upon the opposite side.

Also preferably the strips are provided along one side with an upstanding inturned flange 16 which may be located to engage either end of the card as indicated at Fig. 1, it being intended to employ only one of the strips with the flange for each row of cards the end of the card opposite thereto being free. It is not necessary under all

conditions to provide the flange. The strips shown at Fig. 5 are without such flange, it being understood that the strips either with or without the flange are within the scope of the present invention.

The strips either with or without the flange are intended to be made in indeterminate lengths and to be cut up to be attached to the leaves or sheets as occasion may demand.

It is found desirable that the sheet 10 provided with the strips 11 be mounted in some form of holder for which purpose it is also desirable to fold the sheet 10 along a medial line having two leaves comprising four pages connected together by a central or middle fold line as indicated at 17. It is also desirable to mount the several leaves or pages thus folded into substantially book form at an inclination for which purpose a supporting member comprising a base 18 is employed having an inclined rod 19 with upper and lower plates 20 and 21. As shown in the drawing the plates 20 and 21 are substantially semi-circular but it is understood that the form is immaterial to the present invention and may be more or less than a semi-circle. The plates 20 and 21 are preferably provided with means for engaging rods 22 which rods may preferably though not necessarily be flat bars having their ends engaged in opening 23 in such plates 20 and 21. It is obvious that by inserting the opposite ends of the rod 22 into the plates 20 and 21 in any approved manner and engaging such rods in the fold of the leaves 10 such leaves will be held against displacement and capable of being folded into book form as indicated at Fig. 2 or to open out substantially flat as indicated at Fig. 1. By removing one of the rods 22 the connected pages may be removed from the support and other pages inserted.

I claim:

1. A card index unit comprising a strip of material having a plurality of tongues stamped to project upon one side of the strip and penetrating means stamped and projecting from the opposite side of said strip.

2. A card index unit comprising a strip of material having a plurality of tongues stamped and projecting from one side and with its edge turned to overhang a portion of the strip and penetrating means struck out and extending from the opposite side of said strip.

3. A card index unit comprising a strip of material having a plurality of tongues stamped to project upon one side of the strip, penetrating means stamped and projecting from the opposite side of said strip and the said tongues being so arranged upon the strip as to permit a plurality of cards to be mounted upon the strip in overlapped relation whereby only a small portion of each card will be exposed.

4. A card index unit comprising a strip of material having a plurality of tongues stamped and projecting from one side thereof and with its edge turned to overhang a portion of the strip, penetrating means extending from the opposite side of the strip and the tongues being so arranged whereby to support a plurality of cards in overlapping relation to expose only a small portion of each card.

5. A device of the class described including a supporting element, a card index unit carried by the supporting element and comprising a strip of material having a plurality of tongues stamped to project upon one side of the strip, penetrating prongs stamped out from the strip and engaging the supporting element and the tongues being so arranged whereby to support a plurality of index cards in overlapped relation and expose only a small portion of each card.

6. A device of the class described including a movable supporting element, a pair of strips secured to the supporting element in spaced relation, tongues stamped out from said strips and adapted to project upon one side of the same to support index cards in overlapped relation and one edge of one of said strips being overturned to engage one end of the cards to retain them in their respective positions.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JOHN WELBON.