Aug. 13, 1940. S. STERN 2,211,034

FOLDER DEVICE

Filed July 10, 1939

Fig. 1.

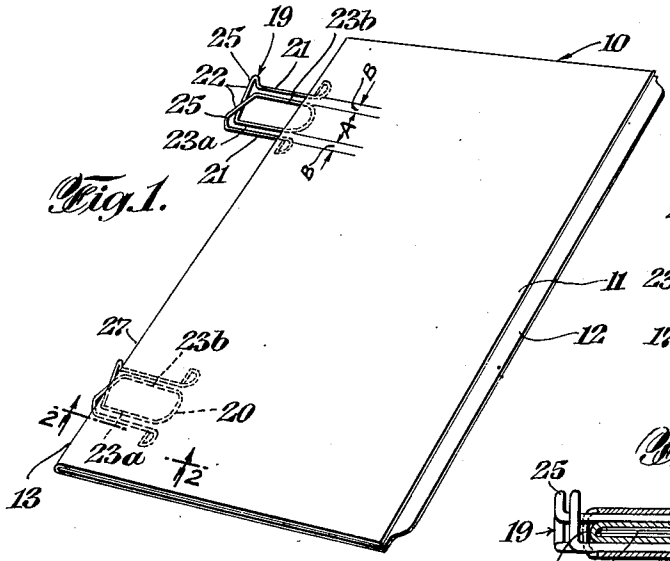


Fig. 6.

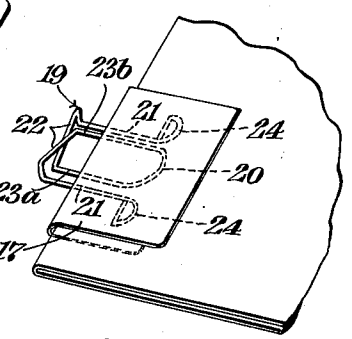


Fig. 2.

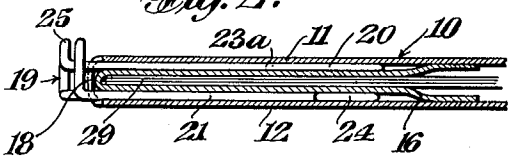


Fig. 3.

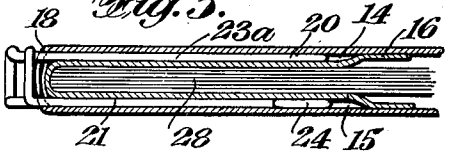


Fig. 5.

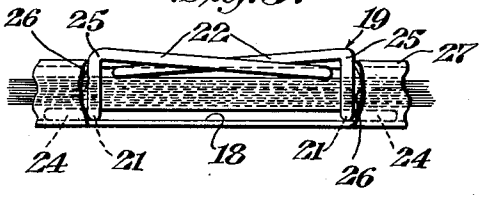


Fig. 4.

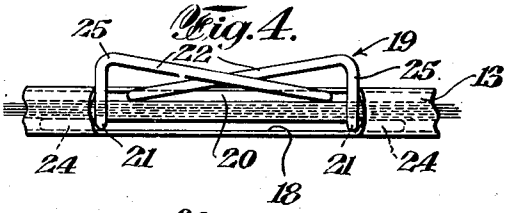


Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.

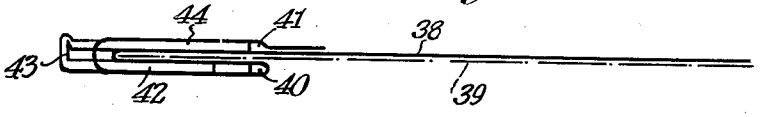
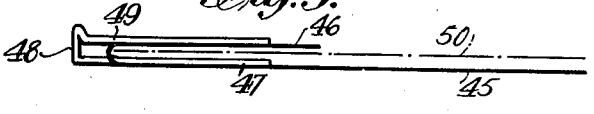


Fig. 9.



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Patented Aug. 13, 1940 2,211,034

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,211,034

FOLDER DEVICE

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Application July 10, 1939, Serial No. 283,587

8 Claims. (Cl. 129—37)

This invention relates to folders employed in business and professional offices for filing letters, legal papers, and the like, and particularly to devices of this category employing means for detachably retaining the contents of the folders in place.

Most folders are made of a flexible cardboard material, the folded edge portions being frequently made expansible to accommodate various thicknesses of papers; and in many instances special devices are employed in order to neatly and firmly hold the contents in place. Among these devices are wire clips of the type that require their complete detachment from the folder in order to insert or remove a sheet, and various other types of clips that constitute permanent appurtenances of the folder but which are not capable of conveniently accommodating more than a very few sheets. There are also other types of folder fasteners which require the punching of holes through the folders and the papers to be filed and the insertion of flexible binding strips therethrough. Fasteners of this last mentioned type are not only relatively expensive and time-consuming in effecting an insertion and removal of sheets, but are also undesirable because of the necessity of mutilating the inserts. It is primarily within the contemplation of my invention to overcome these shortcomings by providing a simple and relatively inexpensive clip, adapted for permanent attachment to a folder, for yieldably and firmly retaining therein various thicknesses of sheet inserts.

More specifically, it is an objective of this invention to enable folders of the conventional cardboard type to adjustably accommodate therein various thicknesses of papers, to hold the papers firmly in place, and to enable sheets to be quickly inserted and removed by a simple manual operation and without any mutilation thereof.

Other objects, features and advantages of this invention will appear from the drawing and the description hereinafter given.

Referring to the drawing,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a folder containing my invention, two resilient holding members being shown thereon, one in an operative projected position and the other in an inoperative retracted position.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary section of Figure 1 taken substantially along line 2—2, showing several inserts in place.

Figure 3 is a view similar to Figure 2, showing the same device operatively accommodating a thicker stack of sheet inserts therein.

Figure 4 is a rear view of the wire clip constituting a part of my invention, the dot-dash lines representing a stack of sheets positioned between the clamping portions of the clip.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary rear view of a folder and clip including several sheet inserts in place.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary perspective view of a conventional form of folder provided with a folded strip containing the resilient clip of my invention, and

Figures 7, 8 and 9 are diagrammatic end views of three forms of folders provided with my invention.

In the drawing the folder 10 comprises two sides or covers 11 and 12 joined at the folded portion 13 in conventional manner, these sides being provided with pockets 14 and 15 formed by adhesively attaching the folded sheet 16 to the said sides. In the form of my invention illustrated in Figures 1 to 3, the sheet 16 is disposed on the inside of the folder, whereas in the form illustrated in Figure 6 the strip 17, equivalent to sheet 16, is shown straddling the sides of the folder. The sheet 16 has certain portions thereof adhesively secured to the adjacent sides, other portions thereof being unattached to leave the spaces or pockets 14 and 15 which communicate with the openings 18 at the folded edge 13 of the folder.

The resilient holding member or wire clip 19 contains the inner looped section 20 flanked by the two outer legs 21, and the two intersecting connecting portions 22 extending transversely from said legs to the opposite lateral portions 23*a* and 23*b*, respectively, of the said looped section. The preferred arrangement is such that said lateral portions are closer to their respective adjacent legs than to each other, the length of each connecting portion 22 being greater than the distance between the leg to which it is connected and the nearest of said lateral portions of the looped section. Thus, in the form illustrated in Figure 1, the space A is greater than either of the spaces B, and the length of each connecting portion 22 is obviously greater than either A or B. The inner terminal of each leg 21 is provided with a laterally extending stop portion 24, both of said portions being preferably of looped configuration and in one plane. And in a preferred form of my invention, at least one of the connecting portions 22 is bent out of the plane of the leg to which it is connected, the drawing showing both connecting portions provided with such bent portions 25.

The resilient clip 19 is operatively secured to

the folder 10 by first compressing the legs 21 inwardly towards each other to permit the stops 24 to clear the lateral sides 26 of the opening 18, the looped section 20 being placed in one pocket 14 and the legs 21 in the other pocket 15. Upon a release of the legs 21, they will spread out laterally to their normal positions adjacent said sides 26 of the opening 18. In the preferred arrangement the opening 18 is so proportioned that the legs 21 of the clip, when in their normal positions, will be in slidable engagement with sides 26 of the opening.

It is thus evident that by grasping the bent portions 25, the clip can be slidably projected inwardly along the sides of the folder, and slidably retracted outwardly. Due to the relative proportions of the opening 18 and the distance across the extreme points of the stops 24, it is also apparent that the folded edge portions 27 of the folder adjacent the opening 18 thereof will serve as a stop to limit the outward movement of the clip and hold it against detachment from the folder.

When it is desired to insert sheets into the folder, the clips 19, of which there may be one or more, are retracted to substantially the position shown in the upper portion of Figure 1, whereupon sheets can be readily inserted within the folder. Then the clips are pushed inwardly to the position shown in the lower portion of the same figure, whereupon the inserts will be held firmly clamped in place within the folder between the looped section 20 and the legs 21, as clearly shown in Figures 2, 3 and 4.

Due to the resiliency of the clip and particularly of the connecting portions 22, stacks of sheets of various thicknesses can readily be accommodated between the looped sections and the legs, the relatively thick stack 28 of Figure 3 being as readily accommodated as the thinner stack 29 of Figure 2. This feature of adjustability of the clip is particularly due to the relatively long connecting portions 22 which constitute levers of extended length to permit a considerable separation between the looped section 20 and the legs 21. By means of my invention, the maximum lever length can be obtained for a clip of given width.

By referring to Figures 2, 3 and 6, it will be seen that the pockets are formed by separate folded sheets or strips adhesively secured to the sides of the folder. Figures 7, 8 and 9 illustrate folders formed of a single sheet of flexible cover material, so folded as to form suitable pockets for operatively accommodating the above-described form of clips. In Figure 7 a single continuous sheet is employed forming two sides 30 and 31, each being folded back upon itself and containing an additional return bend, thereby providing pockets 32 and 33 into which the looped section 34 and the legs 35 of the clip 36 extend, the inserts 37 being positioned between sides 30 and 31. In the form of Figure 8, the folder contains only a single side 38 leaving the sheet inserts 39 exposed to view except for the portion between the pocket portions 40 and 41 into the former of which extend the legs 42 of the clip 43, and into the latter the loop section 44.

In all the forms hereinabove described, the resilient clips are completely out of engagement with the inserts. In the form of Figure 9, however, consisting of a single cover portion 45 with a partial return bend 46, the leg portions 47 of the clip 48 are contained between said portions 45 and 46 of the folder and are engageable with the nearest adjacent of the inserts 50, the loop section 49 being exposed to view.

It is thus seen that with the use of any of the forms of my invention above described, various thicknesses of papers can be conveniently and firmly accommodated, the sheets being readily insertable and removable and without the necessity of performing any mutilating operations on the inserts or the folder.

It is of course understood that the various embodiments above described and shown in the drawing are illustrative of my invention and not employed by way of limitation, inasmuch as numerous changes and modifications may be made within the scope of the appended claims without departing from the spirit of this invention.

What I claim is:

1. In a folder of the class described, a resilient wire holding member in slidable embracing engagement with the sides of the folder adjacent the folded edge thereof and comprising a looped section flanked by two outer legs, two intersecting connecting portions each extending transversely from one of said legs to a portion of said looped section adjacent the opposite leg, the sides of the folder being straddled by said looped section on one side thereof and the said legs on the opposite side, the inner terminals of the legs being provided with laterally extending stop portions, and stop means on the folder engageable with said stop portions for limiting the outward slidable movement of the holding member.

2. In a folder of the class described, the combination according to claim 1, at least one of the said connecting portions being bent out of the plane of said legs, whereby it may be manually grasped for slidably manipulating the member.

3. In a folder of the class described, a resilient wire holding member in slidable embracing engagement with the sides of the folder adjacent the folded edge thereof and comprising a looped section flanked by two outer legs extending inwardly along the sides of the folder, said looped section containing two substantially similarly extending lateral portions each being adjacent one of said legs, and two intersecting connecting portions each extending transversely from one of said legs to a portion of said looped section adjacent the opposite leg, the sides of the folder being straddled by said looped section on one side thereof and the said legs on the opposite side, at least one of said connecting portions being bent out of the plane of the leg to which it is connected whereby it may be manually grasped for slidably manipulating the member, the inner terminals of the legs being provided with laterally extending stop portions substantially in one plane, and stop means on the folder engageable with said stop portions for limiting the outward slidable movement of the holding member.

4. In a folder of the class described, a resilient wire holding member in slidable embracing engagement with the sides of the folder adjacent the folded edge thereof and comprising a looped section flanked by two outer legs, two intersecting connecting portions each extending transversely from one of said legs to a portion of said looped section adjacent the opposite leg, the sides of the folder being straddled by said looped section on one side thereof and the said legs on the opposite side, the inner terminals of the legs being provided with laterally extending stop portions, and a pocket for both of said legs adjacent one side of the folder and having an opening in

the region of the folded edge thereof through which said member slidably extends, the width of said opening being less than the extreme distance between said laterally extending stop portions for limiting the outward slidable movement of the member.

5. In a folder of the class described, the combination according to claim 4, said pocket being formed by two layers of material adhesively attached together at certain portions thereof and unattached at other portions, one of said layers being the side of the folder in engagement with the legs of the member, the said opening communicating with an unattached portion.

6. In a folder of the class described, a resilient wire holding member in slidable embracing engagement with the sides of the folder adjacent the folded edge thereof and comprising a looped section flanked by two outer legs, two intersecting connecting portions each extending transversely from one of said legs to a portion of said looped section adjacent the opposite leg, the sides of the folder being straddled by said looped section on one side thereof and the said legs on the opposite side, the inner terminals of the legs being provided with laterally extending stop portions, and a pocket for both of said legs and another pocket for said looped portion, said pockets being on opposite sides of the folder, each pocket being adjacent one side thereof and having a common opening in the region of the folded edge thereof through which said member slidably extends, the width of said opening being less than the extreme distance between said laterally extending stop portions for limiting the outward slidable movement of the member.

7. In a folder of the class described, the combination according to claim 6, said pockets being formed by a folded sheet attached to the sides of the folder adjacent the folded edge thereof, the folded edge of the sheet extending parallel to the folded edge of the folder, the said common opening of said pockets being at the folded edge of said sheet.

8. In a folder of the class described, a resilient wire holding member in slidable embracing engagement with the sides of the folder adjacent the folded edge thereof and comprising a looped section flanked by two outer legs, two intersecting connecting portions each extending transversely from one of said legs to a portion of said looped section adjacent the opposite leg, the sides of the folder being straddled by said looped section on one side thereof and the said legs on the opposite side, the inner terminals of the legs being provided with stop portions, and stop means on the folder engageable with said stop portions limiting the outward slidable movement of the holding member.

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