

C. & W. LIEBERT.
FILING CABINET.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 18, 1912.

Patented Aug. 10, 1915.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

1,149,999.

Fig. 1.

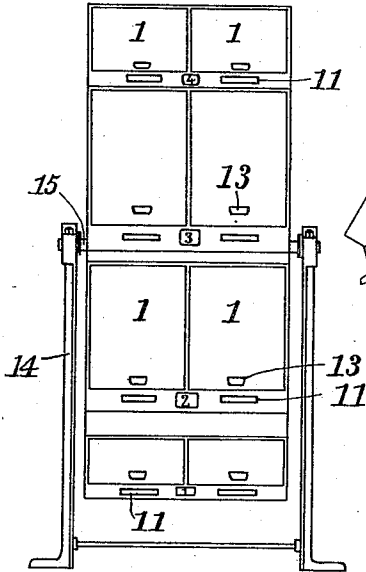


Fig. 2.

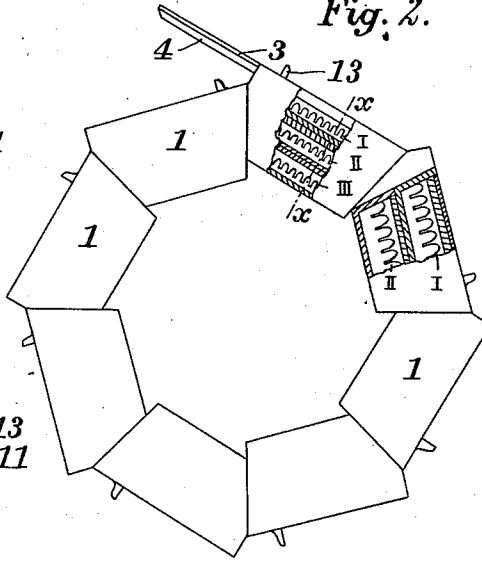


Fig. 3.

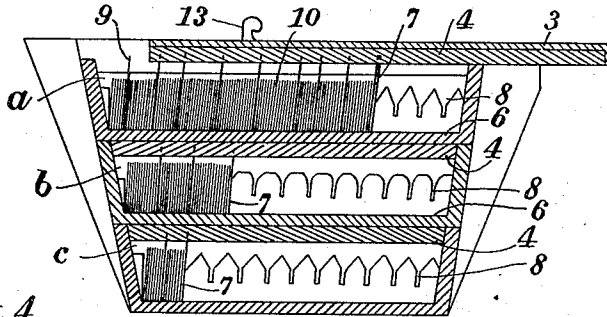


Fig. 4.

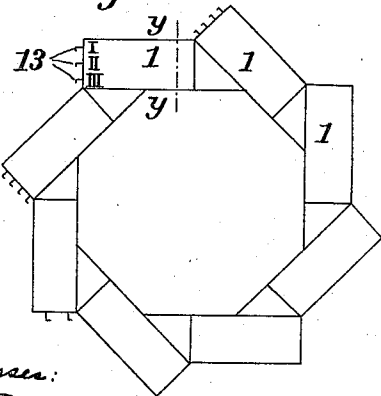
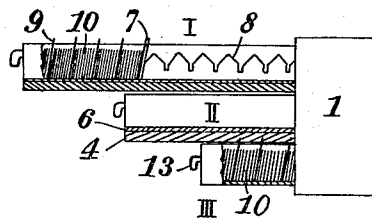


Fig. 5.



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Fig. 6.

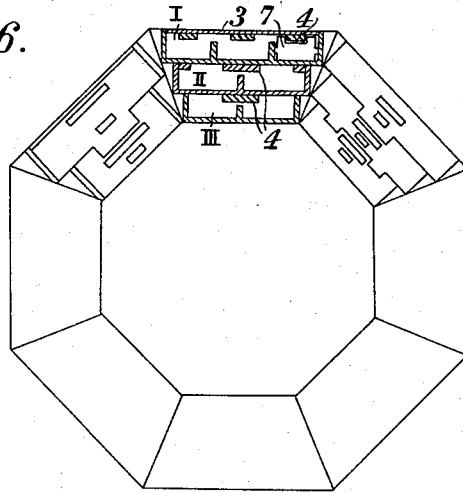
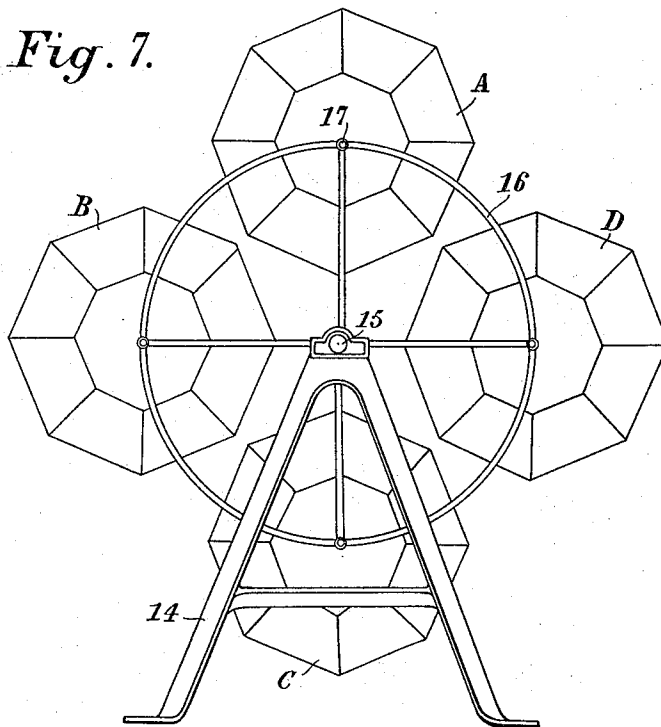


Fig. 7.



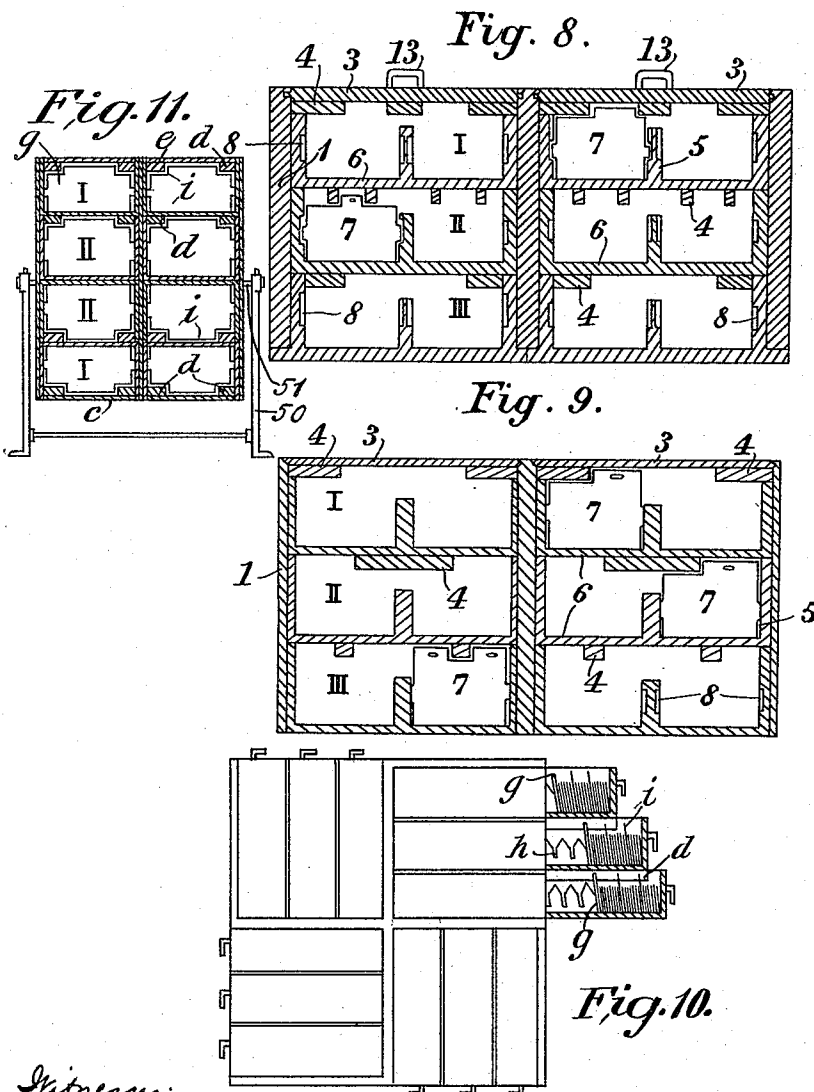
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CONSTANTIN LIEBERT, OF WARSAW, AND WACLAW LIEBERT, OF MOSCOW, RUSSIA.

FILING-CABINET.

1,149,999.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CONSTANTIN LIEBERT and WACLAW LIEBERT, subjects of the Czar of Russia, and respectively residing at Warsaw, Russian Poland, and Moscow, Empire of Russia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Filing-Cabinets, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to a filing cabinet rotatable about a horizontal axle and having compartments arranged like the rim of a wheel.

Many attempts have already been made to construct filing devices for documents by connecting together a number of filing compartments to form a rotatable wheel-like body; in particular we have heretofore proposed to from devices suitable for filing files of documents by assembling a number of compartments in the form of the rim of a wheel, the covers of these compartments being provided with ribs or ledges to keep the piles of papers filed in each compartment in the vertical position.

A primary object of our invention is to further improve the devices just referred to by increasing their capacity, this being effected by arranging a number of compartments radially above one another, the rim-like formation of the indexing compartments being deepened toward the center.

By our invention the inner compartments can be made accessible owing to the outer compartments forming independent boxes, being removable, or owing to the various compartments forming drawers being removable either laterally or tangentially. In each case not only is the lid of one box provided in known manner with ribs or ledges to keep the set of records in its upright position and to prevent derangement of the records, but in addition ribs or ledges of this kind are arranged on the underside of the bottoms of the superposed or radially arranged boxes which engage and hold the records on an adjacent box, or, when drawers are used on the lower side of the top of the case containing them, and on the bottoms of the superposed boxes, whereby the sets of records in the lower compartments or boxes are secured in position by these ledges and so cannot be deranged. By this arrangement a greater economy in space is therefore effected than has been previously possible, and yet the vertical position when

filing with the attendant advantages can be retained.

In another embodiment of our invention a considerably greater capacity is obtained by arranging at least four or more rectangular compartments with their sides parallel to two axes at right angles to one another, one corner of each of these compartments thus being adjacent to the usual axle of the rotatable cabinet. Various forms of this arrangement are possible. In particular, several boxes may be arranged radially above one another, it being possible to form either the individual compartments as drawers guided in a correspondingly formed case, or the outer compartments on a radius as removable or slidable boxes, so that they can be taken away when access is desired to the inner compartments. In this case also the folding or sliding lids have ribs or ledges on the lower side which lie upon the sets of records in their particular cases, but leave the index cards free. In addition, the bottoms of the cases have ribs or ledges to protect the records in the box below against radial displacement.

Several illustrative embodiments of our invention are represented by way of example in the accompanying drawings, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of one form of cabinet, Fig. 2 a side elevation of the wheel-like body with compartments above one another in rows of rim-like form, and Fig. 3 a longitudinal section through a number of compartments thus arranged above one another; Fig. 4 is a side elevation of a second form of rotatable filing cabinet with drawers arranged radially above one another, and Fig. 5 is a side elevation, partly in section, showing a portion of one of the compartments on a larger scale; Fig. 6 is a side elevation, partly in section, showing a third form of rotatable filing cabinet having drawers radially above one another and removable from the side of the cabinet; Fig. 7 is a side elevation of a large combined cabinet containing a number of rotatable cabinets; Fig. 8 is a cross-section taken on the line X—X in Fig. 2; Fig. 9 is a cross-section taken on the line Y—Y in Fig. 4; Fig. 10 is a side elevation of one embodiment of the invention showing drawers of one compartment in vertical section and partially pulled out. Fig. 11 represents a vertical section thereof.

The filing cabinet as such has the known general form.

On a horizontal shaft axle 15 journaled in floor-frames 14 is mounted a wheel-like body comprising a number of receptacles 1 arranged adjacent to one another in the form of the rim of a wheel. According to our present invention these receptacles 1 are formed as cases and normally contain a number of indexing boxes I, II, III and so on. In the forms shown by way of example in Figs. 1-3 and 8, each of the cases 1 is closed by a sliding lid 3, the boxes I, II, III being so arranged one above another in the case that they can be removed one after another (see Fig. 3). Each box is arranged to receive the set of records 10 in a vertical position, for which purpose plates or retainers 7 are used at the ends of each set of records and, by insertion in suitable V-shaped recesses 8 in the side walls, can be set at different distances from the front wall, thus serving to press together the set of records 10 in each compartment and prevent them from falling down. Index cards 9, known in themselves, facilitate a search being made among the vertically disposed records. The individual boxes in each case 1 are so made that on their being placed one over another, the sliding lids 3, having known ledges or ribs 4 on their lower faces, come above the set of records in the upper box *a*, so that when the cabinet is rotated these records cannot be displaced radially, and neither do the index marks become covered up, nor do the records themselves get out of order. At the same time the sliding lid secures all the boxes in one case in their normal relative positions. The bottoms 6 of the upper and middle boxes I and II also have on their lower sides ribs or ledges 4 which lie above the records in the box immediately below, so that no displacement of the records in the lower boxes can occur when the entire cabinet is rotated. The grip 13 is for sliding the lid 3. In consequence of this construction the cabinet has a considerably greater capacity because the interior space is better utilized. The middle and lower boxes II and III can easily be rendered accessible after removing one of the lids by taking out the upper or middle box and then making the desired search in the middle or lower box. The ledges or ribs 4 on the lower face of the lid 3 or the bottom 6 are so formed that they do not damage or turn down the index cards standing above the records.

In the embodiment of our invention illustrated by way of example in Figs. 4-6 and 9, the upper and middle boxes are not lifted out as in Figs. 1-3, but formed as drawers. In Figs. 4, 5 and 9 this is effected by making the case 1 nearly tangential to the wheel-like body, so that the front of each

case rises from the rear edge of the neighboring one. In this case also two or more record boxes, I, II, III and so on, lie one above another and, as seen in Figs. 5 and 9, are arranged similar to those in Figs. 1-3 already described in detail. To keep the records in place in each box both the top of the case and the bottoms of each of the covering boxes have on their lower sides ribs or ledges 4 which prevent radial displacement of the records immediately below them. In Figs. 4 and 5 the various boxes are arranged tangentially and can therefore be made individually accessible for filing or searching the records without having previously to manipulate any of the boxes not then required.

The embodiment of our invention illustrated in Fig. 6, wherein two or more indexing boxes I, II, III are disposed radially above one another, differs from that shown in Figs. 4, 5 in that the boxes constitute drawers which can be drawn out, not tangentially, but sidewise from the wheel-like body. In other respects the form of drawer is similar to those already described, the cover of the case and bottoms of the drawers being provided with ledges or ribs 4 on their undersides to retain in place the records in the boxes immediately below them.

By means of the above described device a combination cabinet can be arranged as shown in Fig. 7, when it is desired to economize space as much as possible. The horizontal shaft 15 journaled in the floor-frames 14 here carries a frame 16 comprising rings in which are mounted a number of horizontal shafts 17, on which a number of indexing cabinets A, B, C, D and so forth are individually and collectively rotatable. In this way not only is the entire apparatus rotatable about the horizontal shaft 15, but each individual cabinet is rotatable about its shaft 17.

In the embodiment shown in Figs. 10 and 11 the filing cabinet is in the form of a rotary case supported on a horizontal rod 51 of the stand 50. The boxes are in four sets or groups of drawers, the sets which are disposed in diagonal relation having drawers sliding out in opposite directions on lines which run in horizontal planes. These drawers are provided as in the other forms with transverse record separating plates *g* and index cards *i*. The outer boxes I cover the inner boxes II. The outer boxes may be closed by a fixed top *e* of the case or hinged lid *c* both provided with ribs *d* to engage separating plates and index cards of said outer boxes. These outer boxes I are provided on their bottoms with ribs *z* which engage the index cards and separating plates of the inner boxes II. The inner boxes II are rendered accessible by withdrawal of the outer boxes I.

It will be thus understood that in an indexing cabinet as just described the space at disposal is completely utilized, while it is possible to file the records in the vertical position.

In all the forms shown it is preferable to provide the wheel-like body or the rotatable shaft with a brake which, when the weight is unevenly distributed owing to the records not being symmetrically arranged, allows the cabinet to be turned at will, but firmly holds it in any desired position.

The described apparatus, on the one hand, has a remarkably great capacity owing not only to the boxes being arranged radially one over another, but also to the records being filed vertically in every case, and, on the other hand, all its parts are so clearly arranged that as compared with known devices the filing process is both considerably improved and expedited.

We claim:—

1. A rotary file cabinet comprising a supporting frame, a horizontal shaft, a plural-

ity of groups of filing compartments symmetrically arranged around said shafts, each group being composed of separate superposed record boxes, and means on one record box for holding the sets of records in an adjacent record box in position.

2. A rotary file cabinet comprising a supporting frame, a horizontal shaft, a plurality of groups of filing compartments symmetrically arranged around said shaft, each group being composed of separate radially disposed superposed record boxes, and means on one record box for holding the sets of records in an adjacent record box in position.

In testimony, that we claim the foregoing as our invention, we have signed our names in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CONSTANTIN LIEBERT.
WACLAW LIEBERT.

Witnesses:

KAROL SACZEWEK,
FRANCIS TREMBICK.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."