June 6, 1933. J. ADLER 1,913,137

FILING DRAWER

Filed Sept. 21, 1931

Fig. 1.

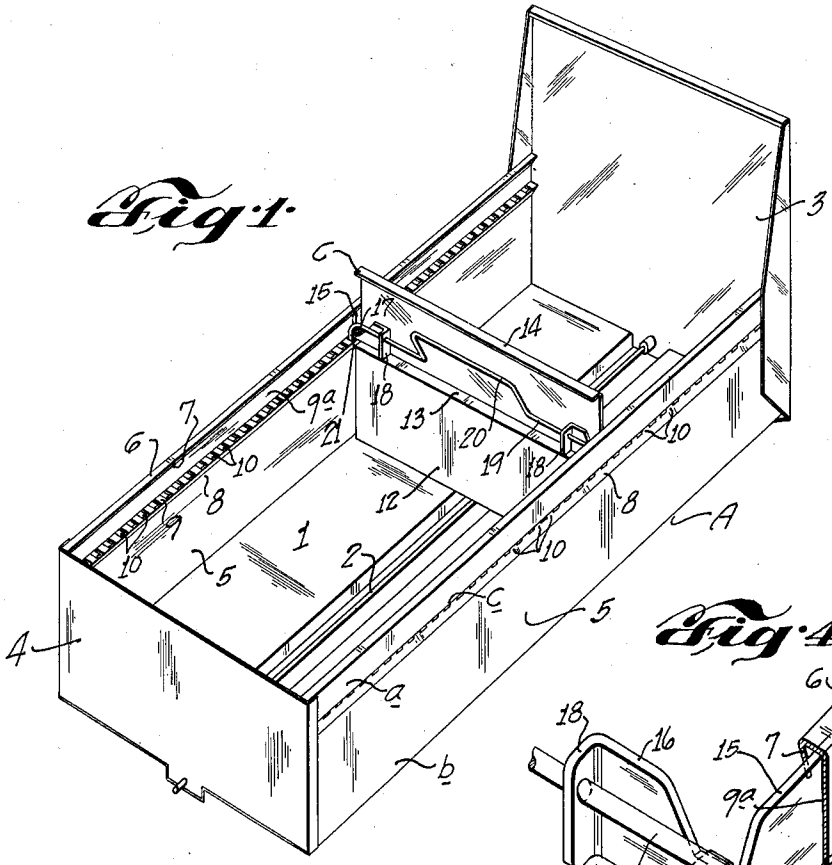


Fig. 4.

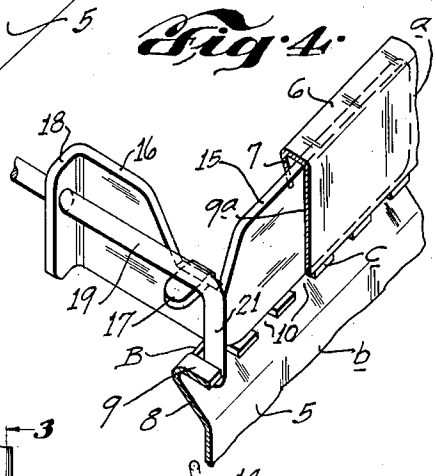


Fig. 2.

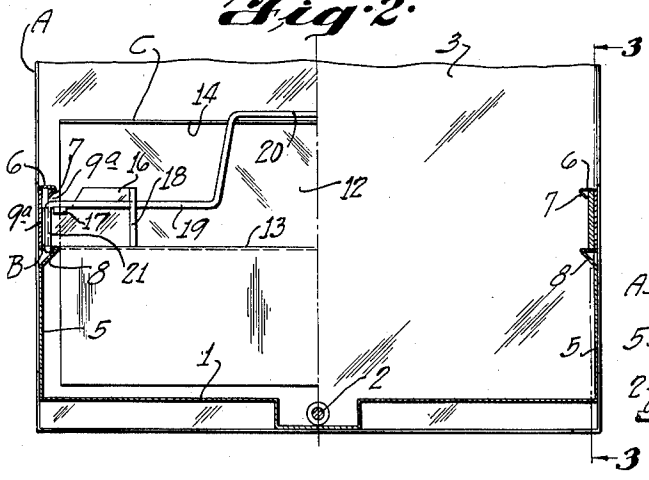
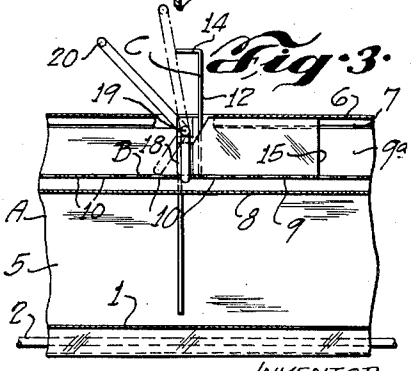


Fig. 3.



INVENTOR
Jack Adler.
By Ralph Reeves
ATTORNEY

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JACK ADLER, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

FILING DRAWER

Application filed September 21, 1931. Serial No. 563,947.

This invention relates generally to filing drawers. More particularly, my invention relates to a certain new and useful improvement in the followers for use in and in connection with such drawers.

My invention has for its prime object the provision in a filing-drawer of an efficient, durable, inexpensive follower shiftably suspended in the drawer for convenient manipulation for paper or document retaining purposes, the drawer and follower being provided with readily disengageable members cooperable for adjustably securing the follower shaftably in the drawer; and to generally improve the construction of filing-drawers of the shiftable follower type.

And with the above and other objects in view, my invention resides in the novel features of form, construction, arrangement, and combination of parts hereinafter described and pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawing,—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a filing-drawer and follower construction of my invention;

Figure 2 is an enlarged transverse sectional view of the drawer and follower, showing a half-rear elevational view of the follower and its locking-apparatus and a half-sectional view forwardly of the follower through one of the follower-supporting shoes;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary longitudinal sectional view taken approximately along the line 3—3, Figure 2; and

Figure 4 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective sectional view of the drawer-provided way and rack therein and the follower-supporting-shoe with its bracket-carried shaft, other parts, including the follower-plate, being omitted.

Referring now more in detail and by reference characters to the drawing, which illustrates a preferred embodiment of my invention, A designates a filing drawer, which, as is usual, is in the form of an oblong-rectangular open-top receptacle or box, and which includes a bottom wall 1 having the customary recessed index-retainer rod 2, and upstanding from the bottom wall 1, are the usual front wall 3, rear wall 4, and side walls 5. While not here specifically shown, the drawer A, it will be understood, is adapted for disposition slidably in any suitable filing-cabinet and is of such dimensions as may be desired for the particular installation.

The side walls 5 are each provided with a top marginally inturned longitudinal flange 6 having a depending leg 7 spaced inwardly from the wall 5, and suitably formed in the walls 5, as best seen in Figures 2 and 4, are opposed inwardly presented longitudinal ribs 8, each of which includes a horizontal shelf-like wall 9 parallel to and spaced vertically from the flange 6 for providing a shoe-receptive way, as at 9^a, therebetween.

Preferably the side walls 5 are each composed of upper and lower sections *a*, *b*, respectively, welded or otherwise suitably permanently conjoined, as at *c*, at the way-bottom wall 9 for convenience in providing or forming in the latter a series of spaced slots or apertures 10, which with the intervening or interdental transverse portions of the wall 9, provide a way-presented rack B, as best seen in Figure 4.

Transversely disposed in the drawer A, is a follower C, which includes a vertically disposed rectangular plate 12 rearwardly transversely offset intermediate its upper and lower margins, as at 13, for plate-stiffening purposes. The plate 12 has preferably a greater height dimension than the drawer side-walls 5 and at its upper margin is also preferably formed with a rearwardly turned stiffening flange 14.

At its side and bottom margins, the plate 12 is suitably spaced from the bottom wall 1 and side walls 5 of the drawer for freely shifting non-binding movement therein, and is supported in vertical position for longitudinal shiftable movement in the drawer A by means of suitably elongated shoes 15 disposed non-tiltably in the ways 9^a and rigidly fixed to the plate 12 as by means of brackets 16 preferably integrally extending right angularly from the rear ends of the respective shoes 15 and spot-welded or otherwise permanently secured flatwise to the rear face of plate 12 above the offset flange 13, as best seen in Figure 1. As so fixed to the plate 12,

the shoes 15 are slidably disposed on the apertured walls 9 and guidingly engaged between the upper flange-legs 7 and the adjacent drawer-walls 5 for preventing transverse twisting movement of the follower-plate 12 in the drawer A.

The opposed brackets 16, in turn, are formed suitably adjacent the shoes 15 with rearwardly presented shelf-like lugs 17 and at their respective inner ends with rearwardly presented ears 18, and mounted for oscillatory or rotatory movement in and through the ears 18, is a transverse shaft or bar 19 having an intermediately formed upstanding bail or handle 20, the shaft 19 at its respective opposite ends being supported on and by the bracket-lugs 17 and provided with lug-overhanging depending rack-engaging arms or levers 21 obliquely disposed on the shaft 19 relatively to the handle 20.

The arms 21 are adapted when swung, on actuation of the shaft 19, to vertical position, for side-wise impingement with the shoe-connected corner of the bracket 16 and endwise presentation into the particular subjacent apertures 10 for co-operative follower-locking engagement with the rib 8, the bail 20 being then in normal rearwardly swung position widely spaced from the follower-plate 12, as shown in full lines in Figure 3.

However, when the bail 20 is forwardly swung to approximately vertical position in engagement with the follower-plate-flange 14, the arms 21 are, in turn, rearwardly swung for lifting the arm-ends from the particular apertures 10 for wholly disengaging the arms from the rack B and hence releasing the follower C for freely sliding movement in the drawer A, the bail 20 then projecting most conveniently for bail-grasping purposes substantially above the follower C, as shown in dot-dash lines in Figure 3.

In use and operation, the papers or the like to be filed are disposed between the drawer front wall 3 and the follower C, and the bail 20 is grasped for drawing the same forwardly against the follower plate 12, thus releasing the arms 21 from the rack B for shiftable manipulation of the follower C in the drawer, such manipulation being with facility, ease, and convenience accomplished especially for forward movement in the drawer by simply pulling on the bail 20 until the follower is in its desired file-supporting position.

On release of the bail 20, the latter tends to return to normal follower-locking position, which may be manually expedited, if desired, although usually the expansion of the filed papers or the like will automatically rearwardly shift the follower C for engaging its carried arms 21 firmly in locked relation with the rack B.

Thus the follower C may be readily shiftably manipulated and secured in adjusted or shifted positions to accommodate the filed papers or the like, and it might be added that the bail 20 may also most conveniently be employed, in conjunction with the usual drawer-handle (not shown), for liftingly transporting or carrying the drawer from one place to another.

The drawer A and its follower C are simple in construction, inexpensive in manufacture, strong, sturdy, durable and reliable in operation, and accomplish the objects stated in a highly satisfactory and efficient manner.

It will be understood that changes and modifications in the form, construction, arrangement, and combination of the several parts of the structure may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without departing from the nature and principle of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is,—

In combination, a filing-drawer having spaced upstanding parallel side walls each provided with a marginal inturned longitudinal flange and an inwardly presented rib, said flanges and ribs forming parallel opposed ways each including a longitudinal shell-like wall longitudinally provided with a series of spaced apertures, a follower disposed for shiftable movement longitudinally of the drawer intermediate said side walls, shoes non-tiltably disposed for movement in said ways, brackets extending right-angularly from the respective rear ends of the shoes fixed flatwise to and upon the rear face of the follower, ears presented rearwardly from the respective inner ends of the brackets, a shaft journalled for oscillatory movement in said ears, arm-extensions projecting right-angularly from, and at the opposite ends of, the shaft and normally downwardly presented in said ways rearwardly of the shoes for endwise engagement with respective apertures for retaining the follower in shifted position, and lugs presented rearwardly from the brackets intermediate the ears and side walls for supporting the shaft and its said extensions for rocking movement.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

JACK ADLER.