Nov. 15, 1960 G. SHUGART 2,960,090

RETAINER FOR LEAFLETS OR THE LIKE

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FIG. 2. FIG. 1.

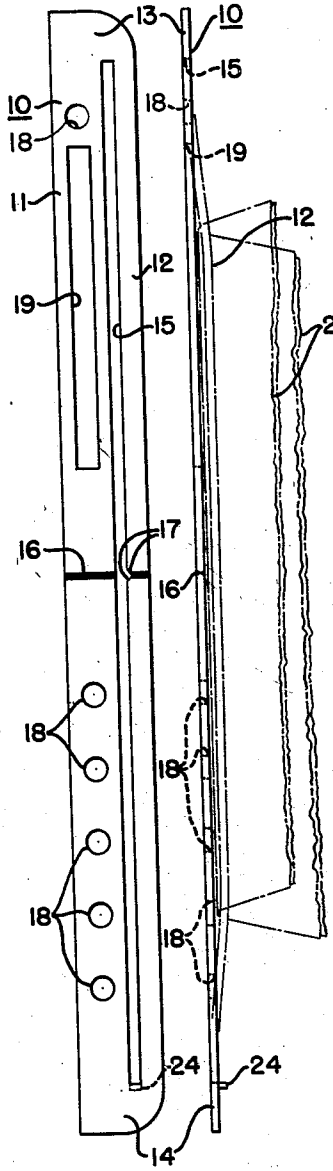


FIG. 4.

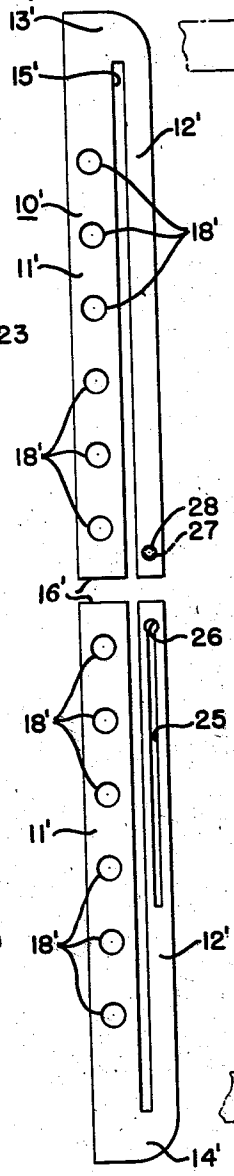


FIG. 6.

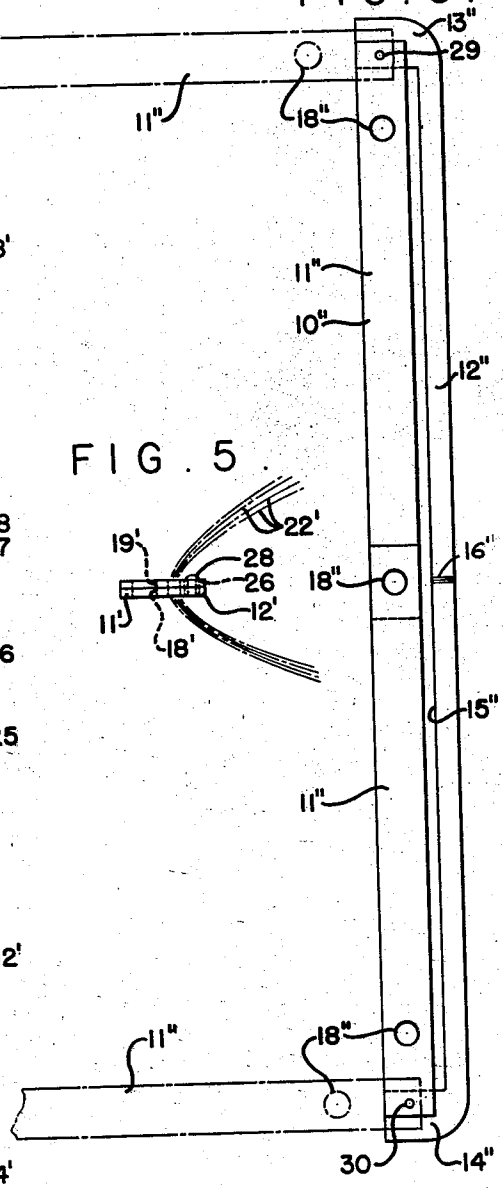


FIG. 5.

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FIG. 3.

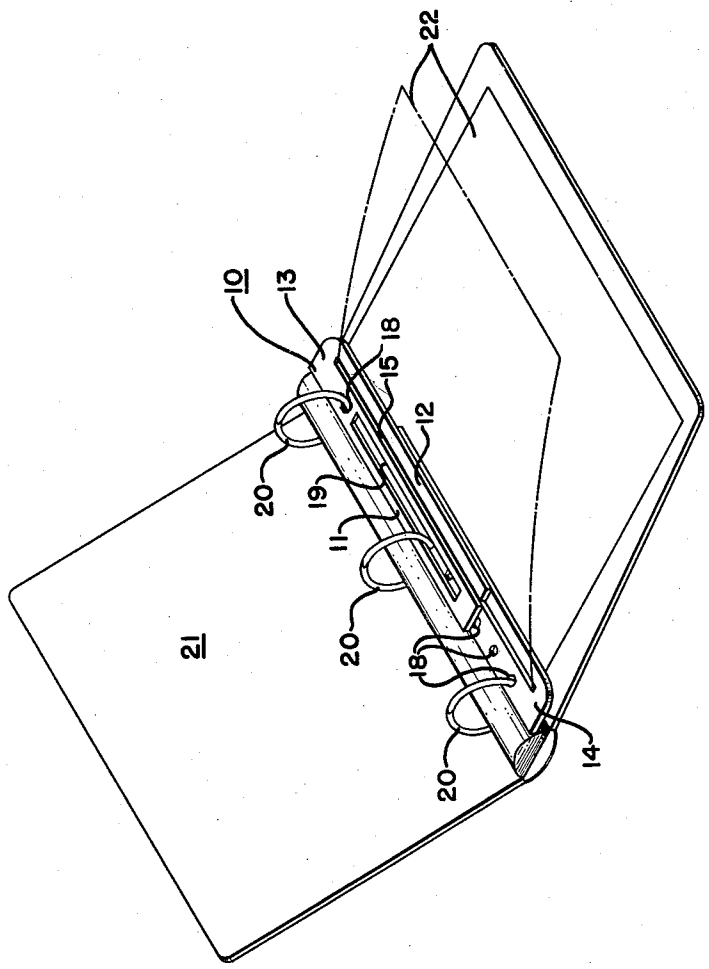
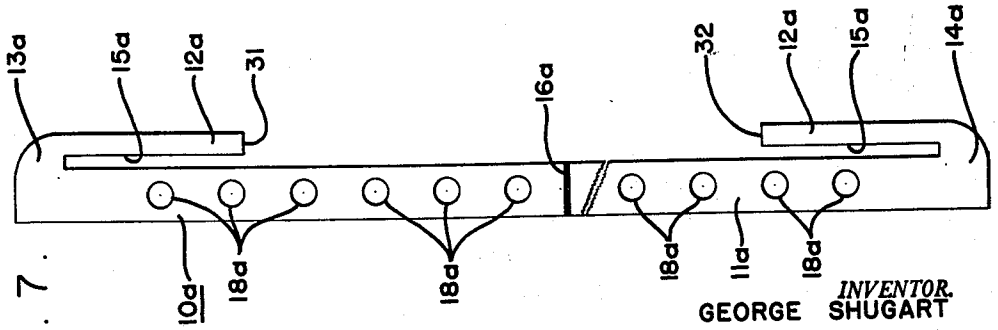


FIG. 7.



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RETAINER FOR LEAFLETS OR THE LIKE

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Filed Oct. 11, 1956, Ser. No. 615,349

3 Claims. (Cl. 129—40)

The invention relates to a new retainer for leaflets and the like. More particularly, my invention pertains to such retainers, preferably flexible, having a slot to receive and hold the back of such retainers or the like and cooperate with a ring or post binder for that purpose.

Many publications are issued in other than book form, such as leaflets, pamphlets, booklets, gathered sections and journals, which comprise one or more double leaves having a vertical fold intermediate the vertical edges to form such a publication. When such comprehends a plurality of double leaves, the vertical folds are commonly nested in a "V" manner and bound by stapling or sewing through all of the aligned vertical folds, or by applying adhesive at that location to make such a publication generally of a thickness appreciably less than that of a book. In some cases, such leaflets or the like may be formed of a number of such double leaves with the vertical fold lines in registry from the inside double leaf to the outermost double leaf without any fastening being employed. Such publications, moreover, are issued in numerous heights and widths including those of the somewhat more usual sizes like quarto and octavo. The problem of holding such publications in binders, generally of the removable type, has long been a problem for librarians and others interested in accumulating and preserving such items in an orderly and readily accessible manner both for reference thereto and for storage thereof, either as active or inactive items.

By means of the new retainer articles of this invention, those problems are solved without requiring that publications in the form of leaflets or the or the like be permanently fastened together. Hence related additions or reorganization of the order thereof may, for example, be made thereto from time to time. Moreover, a practice of my invention enables such leaflets to be firmly held in a binder, preferably of a removable type, in an orderly manner and readily accessible to the user. Further, such new articles are convenient for storage of items without adding materially to the aggregate thickness of such leaflets and the like so bound. Furthermore, embodiments of my invention enable such publications having varying heights to be closely accommodated with the result that each item in a particular group is relatively precisely held. Removal of such leaflets and the like from retainers made in accordance with this invention are, if desired, as equally and readily accomplishable as is the insertion thereof into such retainers.

Other objects and advantages of my invention will be apparent from the following description and from the accompanying drawings, which are illustrative only, in which:

Figure 1 is a side view of one flexible retainer embodiment of this invention;

Figure 2 is a plan view thereof;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the embodiment shown in Figure 1 separated at the scoring line and with the parts overlapped and in a ring binder to accommodate and retain a pamphlet which is shorter than the full height of such retainer embodiment;

Figure 4 is a side view of a modified retainer embodiment of this invention originally made in two parts with means therein for clasping such parts together when overlapped;

Figure 5 is an end view of the retainer embodiment shown in Figure 4 with the parts thereof in overlapped clasping relation;

Figure 6 is a view of still another modification of this invention in which the holding strip is originally made in two parts and pivotally connected to the remainder of said retainer embodiment; and

Figure 7 is a still further flexible retainer embodiment of my invention characterized by opposed front members extending from the respective yokes an amount sufficient to hold the top and bottom of a relatively stiff leaflet or the like.

Referring to Figures 1 to 3 of the drawings, a new retainer **10** may be stamped, punched or otherwise shaped out of relatively thin flat stock. The stock material may be made of plastics like acrylic or vinyl resins, superpolyamides or polystyrene, or other plastic of suitable strength and firmness; or such retainers may be made of thin metal or of cellulosic compounds or "hardboard" materials. In the retainer **10** embodiment, a back member **11** serves as a holding strip and a front member **12** serves as a retaining strip for leaflets and the like. Such strips are connected by a yoke **13** at the top and a yoke **14** at the bottom so constructed and arranged as to define a retainer slot **15** parallel to and between the members **11** and **12** and the yokes **13** and **14**. A recessed line **16** extends transversely across retainer **10** on one or on both sides, if desired, of such retainer to form a weakened section or scoring line which will permit the upper and lower parts to be separated to accommodate shorter leaflets and the like where such are to be held, as illustrated in Figure 3.

As shown, the front edge of slot **15** may include a notch **17** on each side of line **16** on front member **12** to provide a bevel entry corner for the upper and lower parts of retainer **10** if and when they are so separated. The terms "upper" and "lower" as well as the terms "top" and "bottom" will be recognized as relative terms since retainers made in accordance with this invention can be turned end for end and side for side without changing their construction or functioning.

The lower part of retainer **10**, that is the part below line **16**, may be provided with a series of openings **18** therethrough spaced in accordance with the spacing of standard makes of ring binders; common forms having two, three or even more such rings. The upper part of retainer **10** above line **16** may be provided with like openings in suitably spaced arrangement, usually symmetrical, to the series of openings on the lower part, or may be provided with a holding slot **19** to serve such purpose. Thus, as shown in Figure 3, rings **20** of a ring binder **21** are in cooperating holding engagement respectively with holes **18** and holding slot **19** to hold retainer **10** in such binder.

It will be apparent that the matter of inserting retainer **10** into binder **21** and removing it therefrom is a simple matter and readily accomplishable. Moreover, whether retainer **10** is used with the upper and lower parts remaining unseparated, or whether such parts separated are lapped as shown in Figure 3, a publication **22** held thereby is precisely held so that it will not move up and down relative to the binder but will be retained as a gathered section in a book would be retained and withal it is readily accessible for reference. At the same time if one should wish to insert another such publication in front or in back of the publication **22**, the accomplishment of that object is facilitated by this invention. Although a ring binder is illustrated in

Figure 3 it will be recognized further that binders of the straight or bent post type may also be utilized in place of a ring binder such as binder **21**.

Preferably, retainer **10** is made of a flexible material. As shown in dotted outline in Figure 2 it will be seen that front member **12** can be flexed or sprung out of the plane of retainer **10** if desired to more easily accommodate the insertion of a double leaf publication so that half of the leaves will be on one side of front member **12** after insertion and the remainder on the other side, the nested V's of the vertical folds of the double leaves of the publication **23** forming a spine which is held in slot **15** between members **11** and **12**.

In the event that retainer **10** is broken into two parts at line **16** by bending one or both of such parts out of the plane of the retainer, such parts may be overlapped as shown in Figure 3 to accommodate a publication having a shorter height than the original height of the slot **15** in that retainer. At the same time, the binder **21** will cooperate with the holding openings **18** and slot **19** as shown in that figure to accomplish the objects of this invention. If desired, in constructing retainer **10** the bottom of slot **15** may have a little tongue **24** left therein so that it may be bent over as shown in Figure 3 and provide a rest for the more thin of flimsy leaflets. On the other hand, a rest may be provided by adding a little piece of additional thickness at the bottom of slot **15** for such purpose by cementing in the case of plastics or cellulose-containing materials or by soldering or brazing in the case of metal retainer embodiments of this invention. It will be noted also that when a publication is in position in retainer **10** as shown in Figure 3 the sides of the publication **22** fold over and help maintain the overlap between the free ends of front member **12** adjacent the scored lines **16**.

A further embodiment of my invention is illustrated in Figures 4 and 5 wherein parts corresponding generally in construction and functioning to parts shown in Figures 1 to 3 are provided with the same reference numerals with the addition of a prime factor thereto.

Preferably, retainer **10'** is originally manufactured in two parts to be used in overlapping relation as illustrated in the Figure 5 view where such parts have been overlapped and the upper and lower parts of the front member **12'** clasped together. Such clasping is obtained by providing in the lower part of the front member a clasping slot **25** which is provided at its upper end with an enlarged portion **26** adjacent line **16'**. On the upper part of front member **12'** adjacent line **16'** a head **27** is provided in the form of a small rivet fastened to such part. The diameter of the cap **28** of head **27** is larger than the neck thereof extending to part **12'**. The cap **28** will fit through opening **26** so that when the lapped upper and lower parts of retainer **10'** are foreshortened to shorten slot **15'**, the overlapped ends of front member **12'** will be clasped together since the narrower portion of clasping slot **25** will be caught between cap **28** and the part of front member **12'** to which head **27** is affixed, as shown in Figure 5.

The head **27** may be made relatively low particularly since the thickness of the material of retainer **10** is thin not exceeding a thickness of 1/64 to 1/32 of an inch in some cases. The upper and lower parts of the holding strip **11'** will cooperate with rings or posts of a binder, one of which rings or posts will preferably extend through two superposed openings **18'** in the overlap area along back member **11**. If desired, the upper and lower parts of retainer **10'** may be made of a rigid material like metal without significant flexibility.

When a relatively sizable pamphlet is to be held by a retainer of my invention, such retainer may be constructed of thin flat flexible stock in the mode shown in Figure 6. Therein, parts corresponding generally in construction and functioning to previously described embodiments are provided with the same reference numerals with the addition of a double-prime factor thereto. Therein, the upper and lower parts of holding strip **11''** are pivotally connected at the outer ends respectively by hollow rivets **29** and **30** to the yokes **13''** and **14''**. The insertion of a publication into retained relation to retainer **10''** may take place when the parts **11''** are opened for example to the dotted line position shown in Figure 6. With the spine of the booklet in place in slot **15''**, the upper and lower parts of back members **11''** are swung to the full line position shown in Figure 6 with the inner ends of such parts overlapped, each having an opening **18''** in registry at the free end for interlocking engagement by a ring or post in a binder into which the retainer **10''** is placed with the publication retained thereby. Such hollow rivets may be made of thin metal and of low height to maintain the relative flatness of retainers of this invention.

The embodiment illustrated in Figure 7 is like that shown in Figures 1 and 2 and is provided with the same reference numerals for corresponding parts with the addition of the lower case letter "*a*" thereto. In the case of some double leaf nested V-fold publications there is sufficient stiffness therein so that if the spine is retained at the top and bottom of the pamplet, that will constitute sufficient retention force. In retainer **10*a***, which preferably is stamped from a single sheet of stock, the upper and lower parts of front member **12*a*** extend only respectively from the yokes **13*a*** and **14*a*** a part of the distance toward the center of retainer **10*a***, terminating respectively at **31** and **32**. Thereby the upper part of front member **12*a*** forms an upper part of a slot **15*a*** and the lower part forms a lower part of a slot **15*a*** in the manner of a bight within a hook. Insertion of a publication into such respective parts of the slots **15*a*** may be performed in the same manner as described above and retainer **10*a*** will retain such publication. Further, if and when the upper and lower parts of strip **11*a*** are parted along a scored line **16*a***, the upper and lower parts of member **12*a*** may be overlapped for like retention thereby of shorter sized publications as generally illustrated in Figure 3 hereof.

Various other embodiments and modifications in details of the illustrated embodiments may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention or the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A retainer for leaflets or the like, comprising, in combination, an elongated flat back member, an elongated flat front member substantially in the same plane as the back member, yokes at the top and bottom of said retainer integral with the upper and lower parts respectively of said members, a plurality of holding openings extending along said back member for engagement by cooperating parts of a binder to hold said leaflets or the like when in said retainer, said back and front members defining a retainer slot therebetween for engagement by the back of said leaflets or the like, the upper and lower parts of said retainer being separable to be overlapped to adjust the height of said retainer slot to correspond generally to the height of said leaflets or the like, a clasping slot in one part of said front member of a given width and extending generally parallel to said retainer slot, said clasping slot having an enlarged portion adjacent the end thereof nearer the other of said parts, a head projecting from the front member of said other part of said retainer, said head being insertable through said enlarged portion of said clasping slot and slidable but not removable relative to the remainder of said clasping slot to clasp said parts of said front member together when said retainer parts are overlapped.

2. In a thin removable retainer for leaflets and the like to be held in a binder having a plurality of fastener members, in combination, a holding strip having an upper portion and a separable lower portion, a retaining strip having an upper and a lower portion in respective spaced

relation to said upper and lower portions of said holding strip to define a retaining slot, the upper and lower portions of at least said holding strip being originally continuous and connected together across a weakened portion intermediate the top and bottom of said holding strip to enable said retainer to be foreshortened when said upper and lower portions are separated and overlapped, a yoke rigidly connecting the tops of said upper portions of said strips respectively, a further yoke rigidly connecting the bottoms of said lower portions of said strips respectively, each portion of said holding strip having at least one fastener member engaging opening and at least one portion of said holding strip having a spaced plurality of such openings, whereby said upper and lower portions of said strips may be adjusted in respect to the height defined by the distance between said tops and bottoms to fit the height of said leaflets or the like and at the same time accommodate holding of said retainer.

3. In a thin removable retainer for leaflets and the like to be held in a binder having a plurality of fastener members, in combination, a holding strip having an upper portion and a separable lower portion, a retaining strip having an upper and a lower portion in respective spaced relation to said upper and lower portions of said holding strip to define a retaining slot, at least said retaining strip being made of flexible material and having a rest positioned at the bottom of said retaining slot, said rest being wider than the normal thickness of said retainer, a yoke rigidly connecting the tops of said upper portions of said strips respectively, a further yoke rigidly connecting the bottoms of said lower portions of said strips respectively, each portion of said holding strip having at least one fastener member engaging opening and at least one portion of said holding strip having a spaced plurality of such openings, whereby said upper and lower portions of said strips may be adjusted in respect of the height defined by the distance between said tops and bottoms to fit the height of said leaflets or the like and at the same time accommodate holding of said retainer.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Patent No. 2,960,090 November 15, 1960

George Shugart

It is hereby certified that error appears in the printed specification of the above numbered patent requiring correction and that the said Letters Patent should read as corrected below.

Column 1, line 25, for the syllable "only" read -- monly --; line 44, strike out "or the", first occurrence; column 3, line 26, for "of" read -- or --; column 5, line 15, for "to" read -- of --.

Signed and sealed this 25th day of April 1961.

(SEAL)
Attest:

ERNEST W. SWIDER
Attesting Officer

DAVID L. LADD
Commissioner of Patents