F. E. KUNKEL.

FILING DRAWER AND CARD HOLDER.

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1,382,429. Patented June 21, 1921.

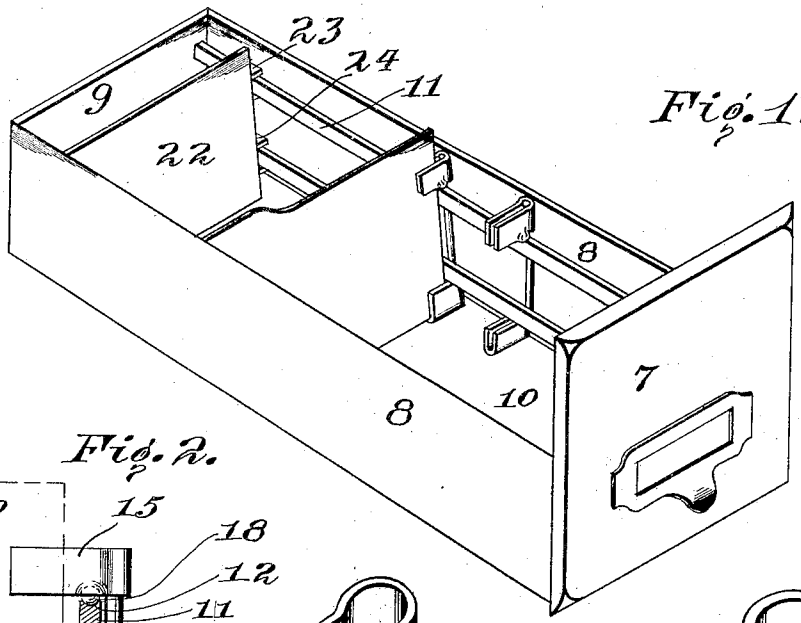


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

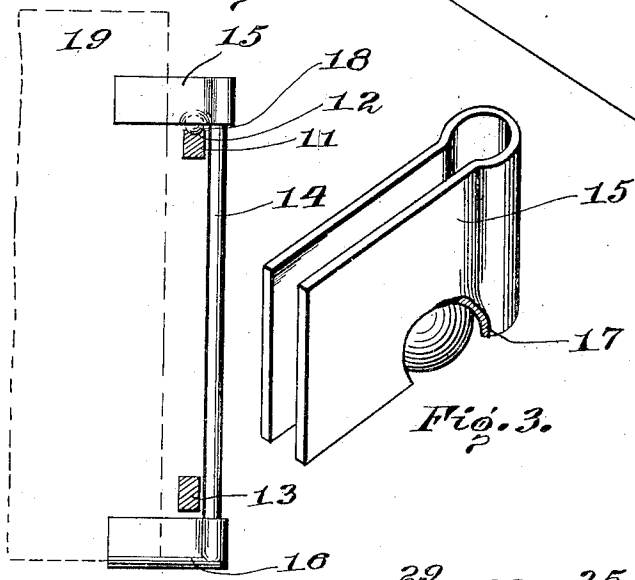


Fig. 3.

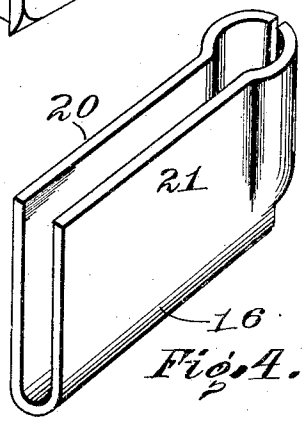


Fig. 4.

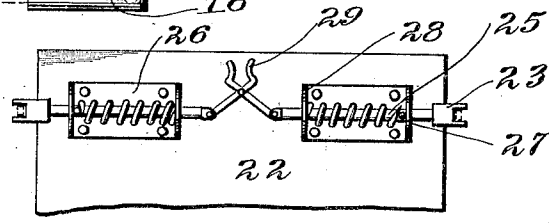


Fig. 5.

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FILING-DRAWER AND CARD-HOLDER.

1,382,429. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 21, 1921.

Application filed October 20, 1919. Serial No. 331,787.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK E. KUNKEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Filing-Drawers and Card-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

Where it is desired to hold a large number of filing cards or other papers in a drawer it has been customary to maintain these articles in position by means of guide cards. These guide cards are perforated in the center of their lower edge to receive an eyelet. Longitudinal of the bottom of the drawer and spaced therefrom is provided a rod which passes through the eyelet of the several cards and the follow-up block. This rod may be above the plane of the bottom of the drawer but in many instances it is found necessary to construct a longitudinal channel within the bottom of the drawer and to receive this rod, in order that the latter may not interfere with the papers or cards placed in the drawer.

With the construction above described it has been found that considerable difficulty arises in maintaining the guide cards normally vertical. It is also a matter of difficulty to maintain the guide cards at a definite distance from the front wall of the drawer, as cards so mounted are readily displaced by the movements of the papers or the act of opening and closing the drawer. When the follow-up block is not brought up tight against the papers the guide cards and folders containing the papers will fall over in the drawer.

My improvement is addressed to the provision of guide cards and their retaining means which will maintain the position in which they are adjusted longitudinally of the drawer.

It is a further object of my invention to utilize a guide card retaining means independent of the bottom of the drawer. As will be evident from the disclosure my invention further provides against the guide card or its retaining means interfering with movements of the papers or cards contained in the drawer.

It is a further object of my invention to construct a guide card retaining means susceptible of adjustment and of being locked readily in adjusted position, and adapted for ready inspection.

A further object of my invention resides in the provision of means to restore the guide cards to the normal vertical position by the mere act of closing the drawer in the cabinet.

My invention further includes a follow-up block of novel construction and coöperating with the guide cards and their retaining members. Further objects of my invention will be evident from the following description and drawings in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a filing drawer, embodying my improvement;

Fig. 2 is an elevation of the retaining means for the cards;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view, partially broken away, of the upper portion of the retaining member;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the lower portion of the retaining means, and

Fig. 5 is a partial elevation of the follow-up block.

The filing drawer, 7, includes the side walls, 8, the rear wall, 9, and bottom, 10. Spaced from the inner surface of each side wall, 8, are two rods. The upper rod, 11, is rectangular in cross-section and suitably fastened to the front and rear walls of the filing drawer. The upper surface of the rod, 11, is channeled to provide a concave track, 12, for a purpose to be hereinafter described. The lower rod, 13, is suitably spaced from the side wall, 8, directly beneath the rod, 11. The rod, 13, is likewise above the plane of the bottom, 10.

A retaining means is provided for engagement with the rods, 11, and 13, and consists in the vertical rod, 14, the upper clip, 15, and the lower clip, 16. The upper clip, 15, is formed of sheet metal bent into U-shape, the bight of the metal being clamped around the end of rod, 14, as the latter projects above the member, 11. The lower edge of the member, 15, is suitably flared at, 17, to form a spherical bearing. A bearing ball, 18, is held in the flared recess and is free to turn therein. The flared surface, 17, extends sufficiently below the horizontal diameter of the roller to prevent the accidental dislodgment of the latter. The metal, of which the member 15 is made, is sufficiently thin not to interfere with the filing of papers or cards. The space between the two arms of the clip, 15, is only so wide as will be necessary to accommodate a guide card, 19, of customary thickness, and the arms

may be outwardly flared to facilitate entry of the card.

The lower end of the rod, 14, carries the clip or stirrup 16, so designated as it supports the lower edge of a guide card. This member consists of two branches, 20 and 21, which extend vertically and provide an opening sufficiently wide to receive a guide card, 19. The portions 20 and 21 meet at their lower edge in a common curved channel which forms a stirrup for the guide card, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. One edge of the members, 20 and 21, is clamped around the lower end of the rod 14 and maintains the clip, 16, parallel with the clip, 15. The portions, 20 and 21, may have flaring lips as above described.

The greatest width of the members 15 and 16 is such as to permit the clips to be held parallel to a wall, 8, and slipped between the latter and the bars 11 and 13. As the clip, 16, is slid past the bar 11, and the bar, 13, it may be given a quarter-turn inward bringing the roller bearing, 18, over the curved track in the bar 11. The retaining means is now free to travel back and forth upon the bar, being retained in a vertical condition by engagement with the side of the bar 13. As will be evident from Fig. 2 the upper edge of clip 16 and the lower surface of the bar 13, are spaced from each other. It follows that movement of the retaining member along the rod 11 is without interference. If the retaining member is mounted in its normal vertical position a guide card, 19, may be inserted between the arms of the clips 15 and 16.

It is sometimes desirable to lock a guide card in an adjusted position longitudinally of the bar 11 and at a slight inclination from the vertical. This is readily accomplished by a slight tilting movement around the ball bearing, 18, as a fulcrum. This serves to draw the clip, 16, up into frictional engagement with the lower surface of bar 13 and thus locks the guide card and its two retaining members in adjusted position. This position will be retained until, either the hand or the impact of the adjacent guide cards and folders, during the operation of closing the drawer, or tightening the follow-up block, frees the clip, 16, from the bar, 13, and restores the guide card to the vertical position.

It will be obvious that retaining members and guide cards may be inserted at any place in the file wherever desired.

To serve as a follow-up member and to prevent undue movement of the guide cards and the contents of the drawer there is provided a follow-up member, 22. This follow-up block consists of a suitably shaped plate extending between the side walls of the drawer. Projecting beyond the vertical edges of the plate and oppositely disposed with respect to the bars 11 and 13, are the upper and lower yokes 23 and 24. The upper yokes 23 form extremities for the rods 25 suitably journaled in the brackets 26 of the plate 22. A pin, 27, on the rod 25, serves as an abutment for the spring 27, the opposite end of which rests against an abutment, 28, of the bracket. The inner extremity of each rod, 25, carries a lever and finger grip, 29, pivoted at their point of intersection by which the rod and its parts may be drawn inward against the force of the spring, 27. Similar brackets may hold the yokes 24 opposite the bars 13, but without resilient engagement therewith. The follow-up block 22 may be lowered into the drawer and when the yokes 24 and 23 are opposite the respective bars 11 and 13 the plate is turned to a position transverse of the drawer. By means of the grips, 29, the yokes, 23, are retracted and this permits the movement of the follow-up block longitudinally of the drawer, it being supported by the engagement of the yokes with the top surface of the rods 11 and 13. Releasing the grips 29 forces the yokes into frictional engagement with the bars 11 and thus prevents further movement of the follow-up block.

It will be evident from the above description that means is herewith provided to insert a plurality of retaining means for guide cards without interference with the free use of the bottom of the drawer. My improved guide card retaining means is adapted for ready adjustment longitudinally of the drawer and for stable engagement in adjusted position. A slight pivotal movement of the guide card serves to bring its label in clear view and to retain it thus as long as is desired. The ordinary movements of filing papers or in closing the drawer will be sufficient to restore the guide card to normal vertical position. The follow-up block likewise leaves the full area of the interior of the drawer unobstructed and serves to readily hold the contents of the drawer in the desired position.

The particular embodiment of my invention shown is, of course, susceptible of considerable variation without departing from the spirit of my invention, and it is to be understood that many changes may be made by those skilled in the art within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. In a filing drawer, guide card retaining means including a member parallel to each side of the drawer and having a track, a member disposed beneath each of said first named members and parallel to the side of the drawer, and a holder for a guide card, adapted for insertion between the members

and the side of the drawer, and means on the holder to rest upon the track of the upper member.

2. In a filing drawer, guide card retaining means including a member parallel to each side of the drawer and having a track, a member disposed beneath each of said first named members and parallel to the side of the drawer, a holder for a guide card, adapted for insertion between the members and the side of the drawer, means on the holder to rest upon the track of the upper members, and card holding means on said holders.

3. In a filing drawer, a member parallel and adjacent to each side of the drawer and having a track, a member disposed beneath each of said first named members, and spaced from the bottom of the drawer, a holder for a guide card adapted for insertion between each of the members and the adjacent side of the drawer, and card supporting means on said holders.

4. In a filing drawer, a member parallel and adjacent to the side of the drawer and having a track, a member disposed beneath said first named member and spaced from the bottom of the drawer, a holder for a guide card adapted for insertion between the members and the side of the drawer, said holder including upper and lower card receivers, the lower receiver frictionally engaging the lower member when the holder is tilted.

5. In a filing drawer, a member parallel to the side of the drawer, and having a track, a member disposed beneath said first named member and spaced from the bottom of the drawer, a movable vertical holder for a guide card insertible between the members and the side of the drawer, said holder adapted to be tilted into locking engagement with the lower member.

6. A card holder, including an upper bifurcated member, a lower bifurcated stirrup, a rod connecting the member with the stirrup, and anti-friction means for supporting the member.

7. A card holder including an upper bifurcated member, a lower bifurcated stirrup, a rod maintaining the member and stirrup in parallelism and antifriction supporting means mounted between the bifurcations of the upper member.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FRED. E. KUNKEL.