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LEDGER TRAY AND CARD HOLDER

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Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.

Fig. 8.

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My improvements relate to loose-leaf accounting systems, in which loose leaves containing the entries are held in a tray in convenient position for inserting additional items when and as desired.

In banking, and some other mercantile offices, it is convenient or desirable to keep cards, or other records containing signature and information connected with the different customers and their accounts.

The object of my present invention is to provide suitable means for holding these cards in a convenient and accessible relation to the accounts to which they relate, providing quick and ready access by the bookkeeper or other clerk or official in relation to the ledger account.

Another object of my invention, is to provide a suitable tray in which the ledger or other account sheets may be held and also to provide additional means for holding the cards for signature or other purpose adjacent each ledger sheet.

Another object is to provide a card holder, and means in the tray for holding the card holder in a substantially upright position, but free to fall forward, or rearwardly as desired in use.

With the above, and other objects in view, which will more particularly be set forth in the following specifications, I have illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and described in the specification, one embodiment of my said invention, it not being my intention to confine myself to the exact details of construction herein shown, but adapt my said invention to varying uses as required.

In the accompanying drawings, in which like numerals of reference indicate the same parts throughout the various views.

Figure 1 is a vertical section view of a tray showing my card holder in position for use.

Figure 2 shows a variation of the tray which may be employed and will be found more economical.

Figure 3 is a section view of the card holder taken along the line a—a of Figure 1.

Figure 4 shows a cardboard form designed to receive the information and insertion in tray in lieu of card holder.

Figure 5 is a detail view showing special means employed for retaining cards upon the card holder.

Figure 6 shows a card holder having a slotted opening at the bottom for engagement with the locking rod.

Figure 7 is an end view from bottom of Figure 6, showing the lips of the opening slightly turned.

Figure 8 shows the rod, with knob, groove, and slide locking same in tray.

In the accompanying drawings, I have shown one embodiment of my invention as adapted for use in banking houses, and the like offices, where it is necessary to keep signature cards, and cards containing other necessary information in position to be quickly consulted and compared with checks or other items being entered in the customer's account. It will be apparent that the specific style and arrangement may be varied to meet the necessities of different classes of business without departing from the spirit of my invention.

In Figure 1 I have shown at 1 a ledger tray of a usual form in use in banks, but having a false bottom 2 located at a suitable elevation above the floor of the tray. This false bottom 2 is provided at 3 with a groove which may be in the form of a semi-circle, as shown, or any other shape adapted for the purpose herein described. For a purpose as hereinafter explained, I have provided a rod 4, passing through the front and rear walls of the tray 1, and located midway in the semi-circular groove 3 as shown. This rod may be circular in cross section, as shown herein, or square, oblong, or rectangular as may seem best suited to the purpose for which it is employed. At the forward end of the rod I have provided a knob 5, for convenience in operation, and at the rear I have provided said rod with a groove around it, as 6, and the end has been pointed as shown at 7 for convenience in insertion through the card holders hereinafter described.

At 8 in Figure 1 I have shown one of my preferred card holders, which I preferably make of some light sheet metal, as aluminum. At the lower extremity, it is formed to conform to the false bottom of the tray, the semi-circular portion 9 being of the same shape as the cross-section of the groove 3. Above the semi-circular portion 9, the lower edge is extended horizontally on each side, to conform to the said false bottom 2, upon which it is designed to rest. At 10, mid-way of the semi-circular portion 9 I have pro-
vided an opening preferably rounded at the lower and upper extremities of the opening, and with parallel sides, and having a width approximately the diameter of the rod 4 which is intended to pass therethrough for retaining said card holders securely in said tray. At the upper portion of said card holder, I have provided guide flanges 11, 11 to form a guide way in which the card 12 may be inserted and retained during the pleasure of the accountant. Below said guide way 11, 11 I have provided means for holding additional cards when required. At 13, 13, I have shown V shaped portions cut from the card holder, the points being raised above the level of the surface of the card holder sufficiently for insertion of the card as 14. The points of said V shaped holders, I have turned inwardly toward the card 14, and when pressed downward, the sharp points engage the said card 14, and hold it against accidental removal. At the lower portion of the card holder I have provided additional means for holding another card as 15, which is retained between ears 16, 16, formed on the side of the card holder, and ears 17, 17 formed on the lower edge of said card holder. By this means, it will be seen that three cards are held on the front of said card holder, and if it is required to hold more cards, it will be apparent that exactly the same means may be employed on the reverse side of said card holder to hold three additional cards, or if preferred, a cardboard card of the same shape as the card holder may be employed, as shown at 18 in Figure 4, in which case desired memoranda may be placed upon both the front and reverse of said card as desired. If it is desired to make the card holders readily removable, they may be constructed as shown in Figures 6 and 7, in which the opening engaging the rod 4 is extended to the bottom as shown at 19. By making the opening slightly less in width than the diameter of the rod 4, and by turning the lips of the opening 19 slightly in opposite directions as shown in Figure 7, the card holder can be forced into engagement with the rod 4 by using slight force, and will be retained upon said rod, until it is forced out of engagement by use of an equal amount of force, but will be retained against accidental disengagement.

As the bottom of the tray serves no useful purpose excepting to provide a surface upon which to rest the tray, it may be omitted, and the false bottom as at 20 in Figure 2 may serve the double purpose of supplying the groove 3 and the bottom, in which case it will be found convenient to provide an additional groove as 21 on the opposite side of the tray to provide two feet upon which the tray will rest in a horizontal position.

In practice, the signature or other cards are placed in the card holders, and these card holders are placed in the tray in the position shown in Figure 1, in alphabetical or numerical order, as preferred by the accountant. The rod 4 is passed through all of the card holders and the rear of the tray, and is then suitably locked in place, either by screw threading into the tray, or by a slide engaging the notch 6 as shown at 22 in Figure 8. Loose leaf ledger sheets of a height of approximately the height of the card holder above the false bottom are provided, and after the desired entries are made thereon, the ledger sheets are placed in the tray with each ledger sheet directly in front of the card holder containing the information relating to that particular transaction. By this means, when making an entry or consulting the ledger sheet, if it is desired to also consult the signature card, or other information, it is merely necessary to turn the ledger sheet forward, and the information desired is directly in view. By making the opening 10 at the lower portion of the card holder which engages the rod 4 of an elongated shape as shown, it permits the card holder to readily fall backward, or forward to facilitate the examination of the other ledger sheets or card holders located forward or in rear of it, while the contact of the sides of the opening 10 with the rod 4, and the contact of the horizontal portion of the lower edge with the surface of the false bottom on either side of the groove 3, hold said card holders against falling to right or left which would be inconvenient in operation.

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

1. In a device of the character described, a tray having a bottom provided with a groove close to one side thereof, a card holder provided at one end with a projection adapted to fit in said groove and provided with an opening, a rod passed longitudinally through said groove and through the front and rear of the tray and through the opening in the projection of the holder, whereby the holder may be swung upwardly close to one side of the tray to enable a memorandum card to be associated therewith, said holder having independent sets of struck up portions for the mounting of separate memorandum cards on the holder.

2. In a device of the character described, a tray having a bottom provided with a groove close to one side thereof, a card holder provided at one end with a projection adapted to fit in said groove and provided with an opening, a rod passed longitudinally through said groove and through the front and rear of the tray and through the opening in the projection of the holder, whereby the holder may be swung upwardly.
close to one side of the tray to permit a memorandum card to be associated therewith and readily viewed thereupon, said holder having independent sets of struck up portions for the mounting of separate memorandum cards, the outer end of the holder having guide flanges at its sides.

3. In a device of the character described, a tray having a bottom provided with a groove close to one side thereof, a relatively narrow sheet metal card holder provided at its inner end with a slotted projection disposed in said groove, a rod passing through the front and rear of the tray and through the slotted projection of the holder on which the holder may be swung upwardly close to one side of the tray to permit a memorandum card to be associated therewith or viewed thereupon, the holder at its outer end having guide flanges along its sides and also having struck up portions whereby to secure a card in position in the holder between said guide flanges.

4. In a device of the character described, a tray having a bottom provided with a groove close to one side thereof, a relatively narrow sheet metal card holder provided at its inner end with a slotted projection disposed in said groove, a rod passing through the front and rear of the tray and through the slotted projection of the holder on which the holder may be swung upwardly close to one side of the tray to permit a memorandum card to be associated therewith or viewed thereupon, the holder at its outer end having guide flanges along its sides and also having struck up portions whereby to secure a card in position in the holder between said guide flanges.

In testimony whereof, I have duly signed the foregoing specification.

FRANK J. MARGESON.