Feb. 7, 1928.

1,658,223

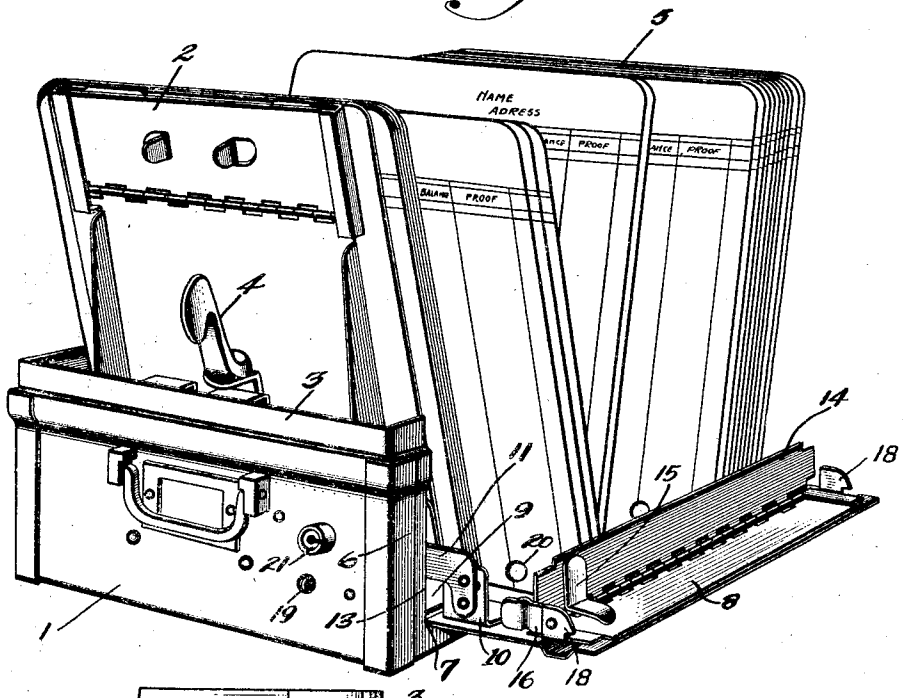
C. C. CARPENTER

FILING CABINET

Filed Feb. 27. 1926

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1



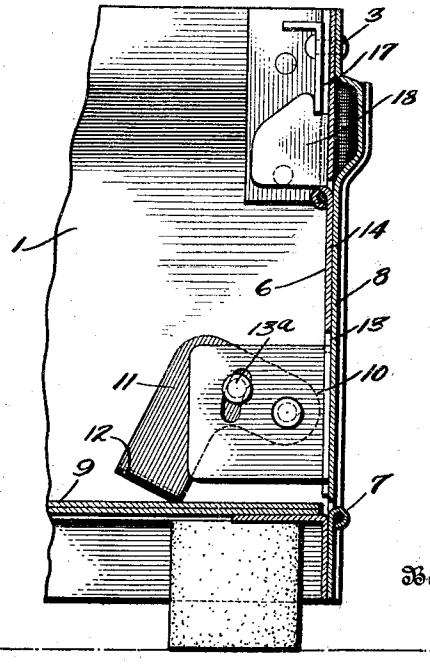


Fig. 2

Inventor

Charles C. Carpenter

By Wood & Wood

Attorneys

Feb. 7, 1928.

1,658,223

C. C. CARPENTER

FILING CABINET

Filed Feb. 27. 1926

2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 3

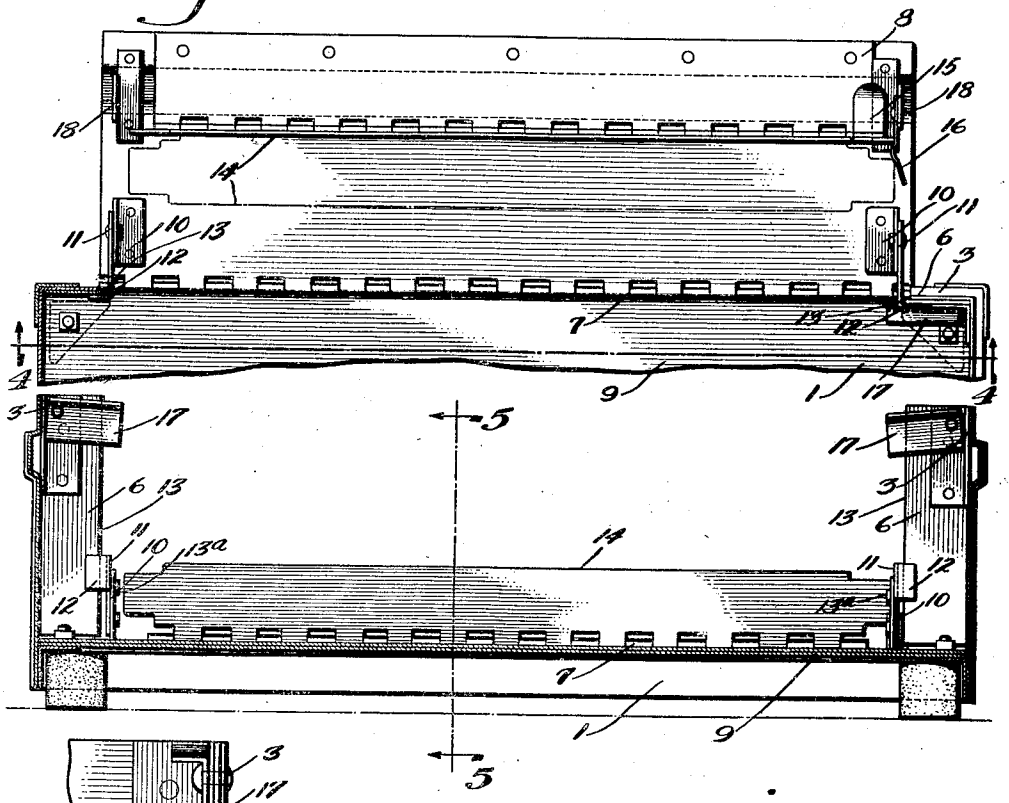


Fig. 4

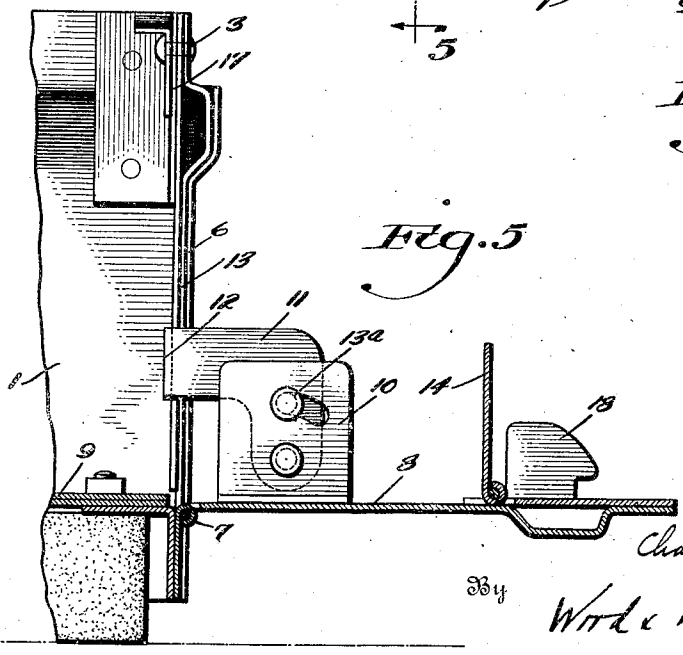


Fig. 5

Inventor

Charles C. Carpenter

By Wirt & Wirt

Attorneys

Patented Feb. 7, 1928. 1,658,223

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES C. CARPENTER, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO WILSON-JONES COMPANY, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, A CORPORATION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

FILING CABINET.

Application filed February 27, 1926. Serial No. 91,245.

This invention relates to improvements in filing trays and particularly to a tray having a hinged side adaptable either as a tray side or as an extension to the base of the tray for supporting and aligning filed sheets in offset work.

Efficient filing and auditing maneuvers require to a certain extent facility to quickly and easily handle and arrange the sheet stack. The sheets are generally enclosed well within the outline of the tray body and for this reason are difficult to see and handle, and auditing frequently requires the removal of sheets and consequent filing disorder.

Trays of sufficient size to allow manipulation of the filed sheets within the tray would naturally be bulky, taking up too much space and would not permit the sheets to be placed well within the vision. It is extremely desirable to be able to offset filed sheets a certain amount from the sheet stack and to align the same for ease in checking and reading.

An object of the present invention is to provide a filing tray which has a side hinged for forming an extension to the base of the tray, adapting the filed sheets to be pulled out beyond the tray outline and supported upon the extended side to expose a portion of the sheet and also to provide means for limiting the amount of offset of the sheets and aligning the same for ease in reading and handling.

Further objects and advantages will be more fully set forth in the description of the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which:

Figure 1 is a general perspective view illustrating the improved form of tray and showing the drop side in use.

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken through the drop side and showing it in closed position.

Figure 3 is a top plan view of a portion of the tray showing the drop side in swung-down position.

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Figure 5 is a sectional view taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 4, and similar to Fig. 2, but showing the drop side in swung-down position for offsetting filing sheets.

The type of tray in which the improvement is embodied is formed of metal, rectangular in shape, and contains mechanism for stacking the sheets, the particular structure shown representing merely one of the forms of tray construction to which the improvement may be applied.

Referring to the drawings, 1 indicates the body of the tray and 2 the stacking mechanism mounted within the tray. The tray is constructed of sheet-steel welded together to form a rigid box-like structure and has the shouldered rim 3 for receiving a cover (not shown).

The stacking mechanism when released by means of the handle 4, loosens the stack of sheets 5 and permits the sheet stack to be manipulated with ease during filing operations. The side 6 is cut away near its ends, the cut-away portion being hinged at its base as at 7, the hinge portion 8 of the side constituting the drop side. The drop side when extended forms a continuation of the base or floor 9 of the tray, being in the same plane therewith. Means for limiting the drop of the hinged portion and supporting the same is provided at each end thereof in the form of brackets 10 secured to the inner surface of the drop side. These extending brackets 10 have pivoted thereto, latch members 11 which have flanges 12 integral therewith for engaging the inner surfaces of the side 6 at the cut-away edges 13.

An abutment member 14 for limiting the offsetting of the sheets 5 is provided on the inner or upper surface of the drop side. This abutment member extends the greater part of the length of the drop side and is hinged thereto. When the abutment member is in use as an offset-limiting means, it extends upwardly at right angles to the upper surface of the drop side and when not in use lies flat thereagainst. Means for sustaining the abutment member in upright position is provided in the form of a stop 15 which prevents outward movement, and a spring detent 16 secured to the upper surface of the drop side and engaging the end of the abutment member, for sustaining the abutment member in upright position.

Latches 17 are pivoted to the inner surface and at the top of the fixed portions of the side 6 and overhang the edges 13 for engaging the notched members 18 on the inner surface of the drop side as a locking means when the drop side is in closed position. A rod (not shown) extends through the aper-

ture 19 in the tray front and the apertures 20 in the sheets when the sheets are placed back in filed position within the outline of the tray, and is locked within the aperture 19 by means of the lock 21 for preventing removal of the filing sheets. The drop side has the shouldered rim 3 extending along its upper edge so that when it is in closed position there is a continuous shouldered rim around the entire upper edge of the tray for receiving a cover.

A base extension is thus provided as a part of the tray structure for offsetting and aligning filed sheets. When the operator desires to do work requiring offsetting, he unlatches the drop side allowing it to extend itself, sets up the abutment member on the drop side and removes the rod for locking the sheets within the tray. Since the means for locking the sheets within the tray is of no importance in the present invention, these parts have not been shown in detail.

Having described my invention, I claim:

1. A filing tray comprising a sheet-filing compartment having one side adapted to form an extension to the tray base for supporting offset filed sheets, and an abutment member on said side for aligning said offset filed sheets.

2. A filing tray comprising a sheet-filing compartment having one side hinged at its base and movable to form an extension to the base of said compartment for supporting filed sheets, a foldable abutment member hinged to said movable side, said abutment member adaptable for aligning said filed sheets, and latching means for sustaining said movable side in tray-side or base-extension relation to said tray.

3. A filing tray, comprising, a sheet-filing compartment having a side hinged at its base and swingable thereon to form an extension to the base of the filing compartment as a support for filing sheets offset from the sheets stacked within the tray, an abutment member hinged to the upper or inner face of the hinged side and adapted to be set in upright position on the swung-down tray side for aligning offset filing sheets.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name.

CHARLES C. CARPENTER.