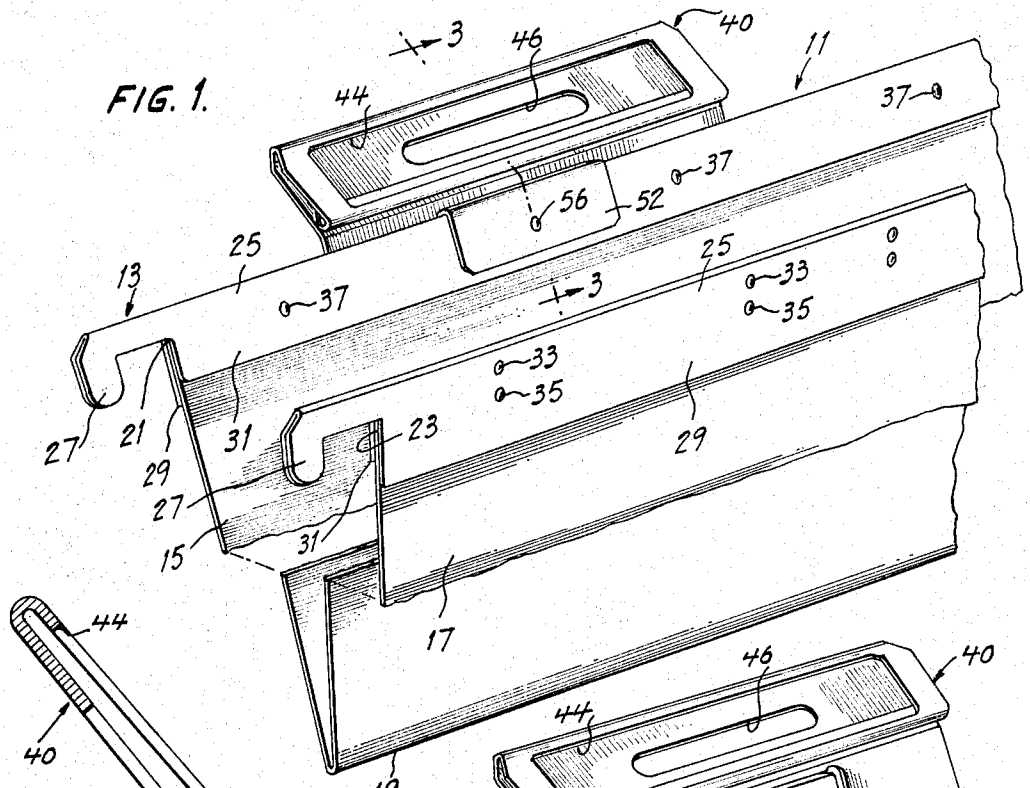
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FILING MEANS

Filed Dec. 2, 1963 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.



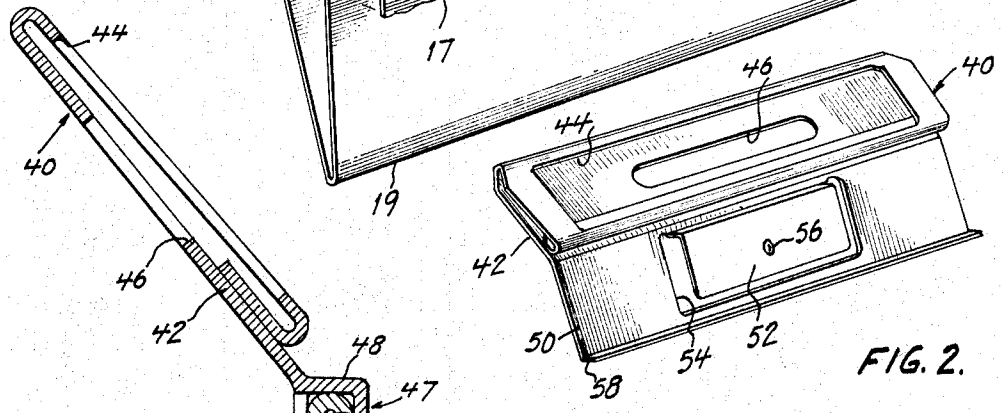


FIG. 3.

FIG. 2.

INVENTOR.
WALTER G. ANDERS.

BY C. W. Miranda
ATTORNEY

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FIG. 4.

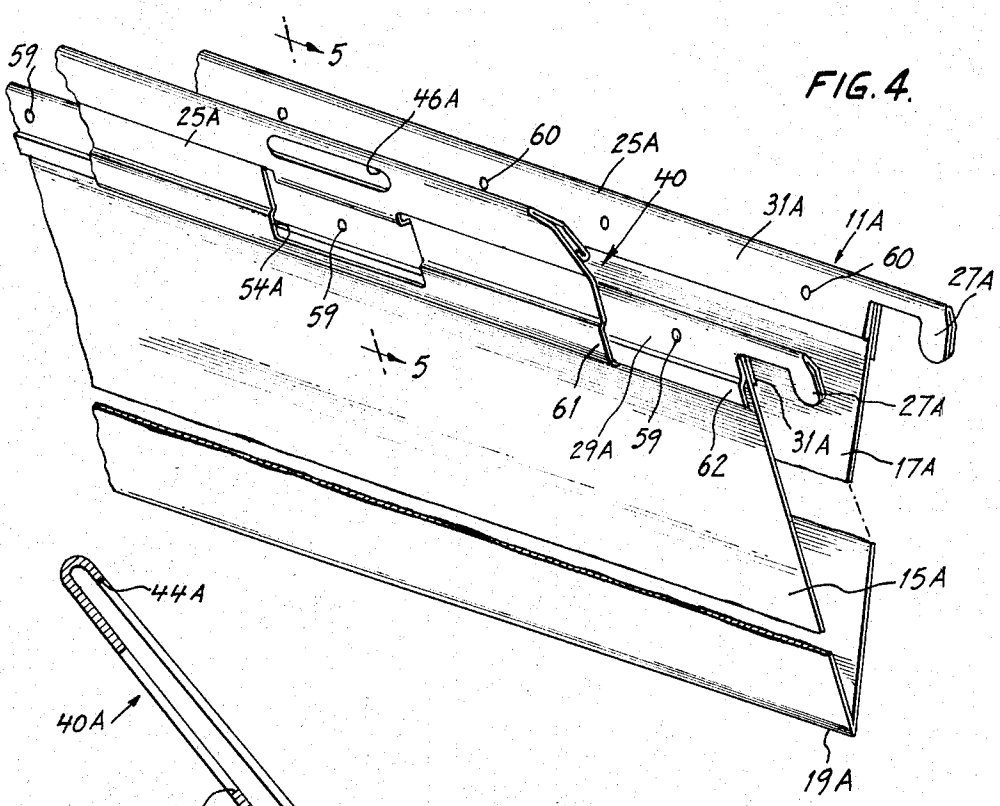
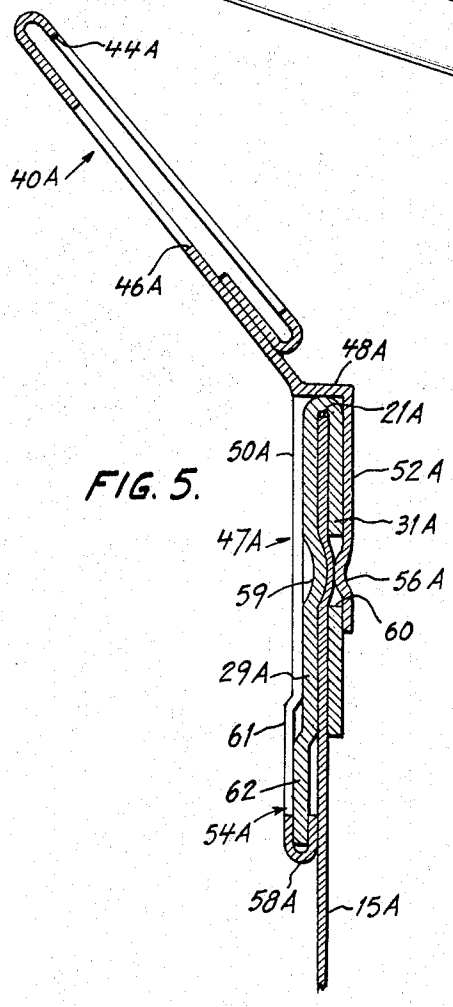


FIG. 5.



INVENTOR.
WALTER G. ANDERS.

BY C. H. Miranda

ATTORNEY

United States Patent Office 3,263,688 Patented August 2, 1966

3,263,688

FILING MEANS

Walter G. Anders, Tonawanda, N.Y., assignor to Sperry Rand Corporation, New York, N.Y., a corporation of Delaware

Filed Dec. 2, 1963, Ser. No. 327,434
2 Claims. (Cl. 129—16.7)

This invention relates to filing devices and more particularly to filing means which provide indexing information to documents and the like stored in filing cabinets or drawers.

An object of the present invention is to provide novel filing means wherein an index tab adapted for sliding engagement on a reinforcement member secured to the edge of a file folder, index card and the like, is easily and quickly mounted and detached from the reinforcement member.

Another object is to provide novel filing means wherein a simple and inexpensive index tab is adapted for slidable and selective positioning along a bar or reinforcement member secured to the edge of a file folder, index card and the like.

Still another object is to provide filing means wherein a reinforcement member or bar is securely fastened to the edge of a file holder, index card and the like, and an index tab is adapted to ride on said bar and positively retained in selected positions thereon by cavities formed in the bar which cooperate with means on the index tab.

The present invention contemplates novel filing means wherein an edge of a file folder, index card and the like, is provided with a longitudinally extending reinforcement member or bar which has deformed portions or depressions thereon to securely fasten the bar to the file folder or index card. Some of the depressions formed serve as stops which cooperate with an indentation or projection on an index tab whereby the latter may be selectively positioned along the edge of the folder or card. The index tab has a pair of legs which straddle the reinforcement member or bar and a leg thereof has a right angle toe portion in engagement with an adjacent leg of the reinforcement member to prevent movement of the index tab in a direction transversely of the reinforcement member and away from the file folder or index card. In a second embodiment of the invention, a leg of the index tab has a toe portion which is bent in substantially U-shaped manner and extends into a space between a leg of the reinforcement member or bar and the file folder to securely mount the tab on the reinforcement member.

The above and other objects and advantages of the present invention will appear more fully hereinafter from a consideration of the detailed description which follows, taken together with the accompanying drawings, wherein two embodiments of the invention are illustrated.

In the drawings, wherein like reference characters refer to like parts throughout the several views.

FIG. 1 is a perspective and fragmentary view of the filing means of the present invention as employed in a hanging type file folder;

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the index tab alone utilized with the reinforcement member or bar of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a sectional view taken along the line 3—3 of FIG. 1 and enlarged for clarity;

FIG. 4 is a perspective and fragmentary view of a filing means constituting a second embodiment of the present invention; and

FIG. 5 is a sectional view taken along the line 5—5 of FIG. 4 and enlarged for clarity.

Referring now to the drawings for a more detailed description of the present invention and more particularly to FIG. 1, the filing means of the present invention is disclosed as utilized in a hanging type file folder although it will be readily understood that the present invention is as well applicable to index cards, and the like. The filing means of FIG. 1 is generally designated by the reference numeral **11** and comprises a file holder **13** having folder leaves **15** and **17** joined at **19**. Folder leaves **15** and **17** have upper edges **21** and **23**, respectively, and mounted on each of said edges are identical reinforcement members or bars **25** having hooks **27** for mounting folder **13** on parallel rods (not shown) in a file drawer (not shown) in a manner well understood to those skilled in the art. Member **25** may be made of metal or plastic and is formed in a U-shaped manner to provide a pair of legs **29** and **31** (FIG. 3) which straddle the upper edges **21** or **23** and adjacent portions of the folder. Two rows of depressions **33** and **35** are formed in leg **29** which do not extend completely through the leg but which serve to distort or deform the adjacent portions of folder leaf **15** in the manner shown in FIG. 3 to clinch leg **29** to the folder leaf. Depressions **33** and **35** extend longitudinally of member **25** (FIG. 1) in horizontal alignment and associated pairs of said depressions are in vertical alignment. A row of depressions **37** is formed in leg **31** of member **25** and extend longitudinally of the latter and in horizontal alignment. Each of the depressions **37** has associated therewith a pair of vertically aligned depressions **33** and **35** in leg **29** and each depression **37** is disposed in vertical alignment with and intermediate the depressions **33** and **35**. Depression **37** in similar manner to depressions **33** and **35** does not extend through leg **31** but deforms the adjacent surface of folder leaf **15** and cooperates with the adjacent pair of depressions **33** and **35** to securely clinch the member **25** to the folder leaf.

An index tab **40** is provided for detachable mounting on reinforcement members or bars **25** and comprises a substantially upright label carrying portion **42** which is slightly inclined to the horizontal as seen in FIG. 3. Portion **42** is provided with a window or opening **44** through which a label (not shown) bearing indexing information may be viewed and a smaller opening **46** which together with opening **44** permits the fingers of the user to grip the label (not shown) for removing same from portion **42**. Formed integrally with index tab **42** is a depending portion **47** of substantially U-shaped configuration in transverse cross section along a portion thereof and having a bight portion **48** and flexible parallel legs **50** and **52** which straddle reinforcement member or bar **25**. As best seen in FIG. 2, leg **52** is struck out of leg **50** forming an opening **54** in leg **50**. An indentation or projection **56** is formed on leg **52** and has a convex surface (FIG. 3) which is adapted to seat in any one of the depressions **37** on leg **31** of reinforcement member or bar **25**. Legs **50** and **52** of portion **47** of index tab **40** extend parallel to each other and are in engagement with their associated legs **29** and **31**, respectively, of member **25**. The lower edge of leg **50** is bent at right angles to form a toe portion **58** (FIG. 3) which engages the lower edge surface of leg **29** whereby movement of tab **40** in a direction upwardly (as seen in FIG. 3) is prevented.

By reason of the foregoing construction, tab **40** may be readily mounted on member **25** by first placing the

toe portion **58** of leg **50** in engagement with leg **29** of bar **25** and moving index tab **40** downwardly until leg **52** engages its associated leg **31**. Due to the flexible nature of legs **50** and **52** the latter spread apart until toe **58** moves below the lower edge of leg **29** to snap into place at such point, whereby tab **40** is located as shown in FIG. 3. With tab **40** positioned on bar **25** as seen in FIGS. 1 and 3 the tab may be moved longitudinally along the bar until projection **56** seats itself in a depression **37**. Thus, tab **40** may be selectively positioned along folder leaf **15**, the position being determined by the locations of depressions **37**. Since the reinforcement member **25** on folder leaf **17** is identical to that on folder leaf **15** described hereinabove, index tab **40** is adapted for use on each reinforcement member so as to increase the possible usage and versatility of file folder **13**. The index tab **40** may be readily detached from reinforcement member **25** by grasping portion **42** and moving same clockwise as seen in FIG. 3, until toe **58** is withdrawn from the lower edge of leg **29**. Thereafter, the tab **40** is moved vertically until it is free of member **25**.

A second embodiment of the present invention is shown in FIGS. 4 and 5 and identical reference characters with a sufflx A are used to indicate like parts in both embodiments. Reinforcement member **25A** differs from member **25** in that one row of depressions **59** are provided on leg **29A**. In addition, depressions **60** in leg **31A** extend completely through the leg rather than terminate short of the opposite surface of leg **31A**. Further, the depressions **59** and **60** are in horizontal alignment with each other so that portions of folder leaf **15A** deformed by formation of depressions **59** protrude into depressions **60**. Depressions **60** serve in the same manner as depressions **37** to selectively and positively position index tab **40A** by accommodating the seating of projection **56A** therein. Leg **29A** of reinforcement member **25A** and leg **50A** of tab **40A** differ from legs **29** and **50** of the first embodiment in that both have lower portions **61** and **62**, respectively, bent in a direction away from their integral legs **31A** and **52A**. The toe portion **58A** in this embodiment is of substantially U-shaped configuration with the portion closer folder leaf **15A** being disposed in the space between leg portion **62** and the folder leaf.

In the construction of the second embodiment just described, index tab **40A** is mounted on reinforcement member **25A** by first inserting a hook **27A** between legs **50A** and **52A** and engaging toe portion **58A** with leg **62**, thence moving index tab **40** longitudinally of reinforcement member **25A** until leg **52A** engages leg **31A** whereby the index tab is thus mounted on member **25A**. Thereafter, index tab **40A** is moved until projection **56A** on leg **52A** seats itself in the desired depression **37A**.

It may now be understood that the present invention provides a novel filing means wherein an index tab of simple construction is easily and quickly mounted and detached from a reinforcement member or bar of similar simple construction.

Although two embodiments of the present invention have been illustrated and described in detail it is to be understood that the invention is not limited thereto. Various changes can be made in the design and arrangement of the parts without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as the same will now be understood by those skilled in the art.

What is claimed is:

1. Filing means comprising in combination, a sheet of material having an upper edge portion, a reinforcement member for said upper edge portion including a pair of parallel disposed first and second vertical legs straddling and extending commensurate with said upper edge portion, a pair of parallel rows of horizontally aligned depressions formed in the first leg of the reinforcement member with each pair of adjacent depressions of said parallel rows arranged in vertical alignment, a single row of depressions formed in the second leg of the reinforcement member with each depression in said single row being associated with a pair of vertically aligned depressions on said first leg of the reinforcement member and intermediate the upper and lower depressions of said pair of vertically aligned depressions, an index tab including a plate member having a substantially upright portion having a folded over marginal portion for carrying indexing information therein, said plate member having a pair of spaced lower and parallel resilient vertical legs formed integrally with and depending from said upright portion and straddling said reinforcement member for sliding relationship therewith, the associated legs of said index tab and said reinforcement member having their adjacent surfaces in sliding contact with each other, one of said legs of the index tab being struck out of the other leg of the plate member, said one leg of the index tab having an upper portion extending at right angles to the other leg of the index tab and in sliding contact with the upper edge of said reinforcement member, an inturned lower edge portion of the other leg of said index tab being in engagement with a bottom edge portion of the first leg of the reinforcement member to prevent movement of said index tab in a direction toward the upright portion of the index tab, and a single projection formed on said one leg of the index tab for engaging one of said depressions on the second leg of the reinforcement member to provide for selective and positive positioning of said index tab along the upper edge of said sheet of material.

2. Filing means comprising in combination, a sheet of material having an upper edge portion, a reinforcement member substantially U-shaped in transverse cross section for said upper edge portion including a pair of first and second parallel vertical legs straddling and extending commensurate with said upper edge portion, said first leg having a lower edge portion bent out of the plane of the remainder of the leg and spaced from said sheet, a single row of horizontally aligned depressions formed in said first leg of the reinforcement member, a row of horizontally aligned depressions formed in the second leg of the reinforcement member with each of said latter depressions aligned with a companion depression in said first leg of the reinforcement member, the depressions in the second leg of said reinforcement member extending through said second leg to accommodate material of said sheet pushed into the depressions on said second leg by the depressions in said first leg, an index tab having a substantially upright folded over marginal portion for carrying indexing information therein, said index tab having a pair of spaced lower and parallel resilient vertical legs formed integrally with and depending from said upright portion and straddling said reinforcement member for sliding relationship therewith, the associated legs of said index tab and said reinforcement member having their adjacent surfaces in sliding contact with each other, one of said legs of the index tab being struck out of the other leg of said index tab, said one leg of the index tab having an upper portion extending at right angles to the other leg of the index tab and in sliding contact with the bight portion of said reinforcement member, the lower edge portion of said other leg of the index tab being bent in U-shaped manner to straddle the lower edge portion of the first leg of the reinforcement member whereby the said lower edge of said other leg of the index tab is disposed between the sheet and the lower edge of said first leg of the reinforcement member, and a single projection formed on said one leg of the index tab and having a convex surface adapted for seating in one of said depressions in the second leg of the reinforcement member to provide for selective and positive positioning of said index tab along the upper edge of said sheet of material.

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JEROME SCHNALL, *Primary Examiner.*