

Dec. 16, 1930.

P. A. FRAZIER

1,785,408

ROTATABLE INDEXING TABLE

Filed Nov. 10, 1928

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

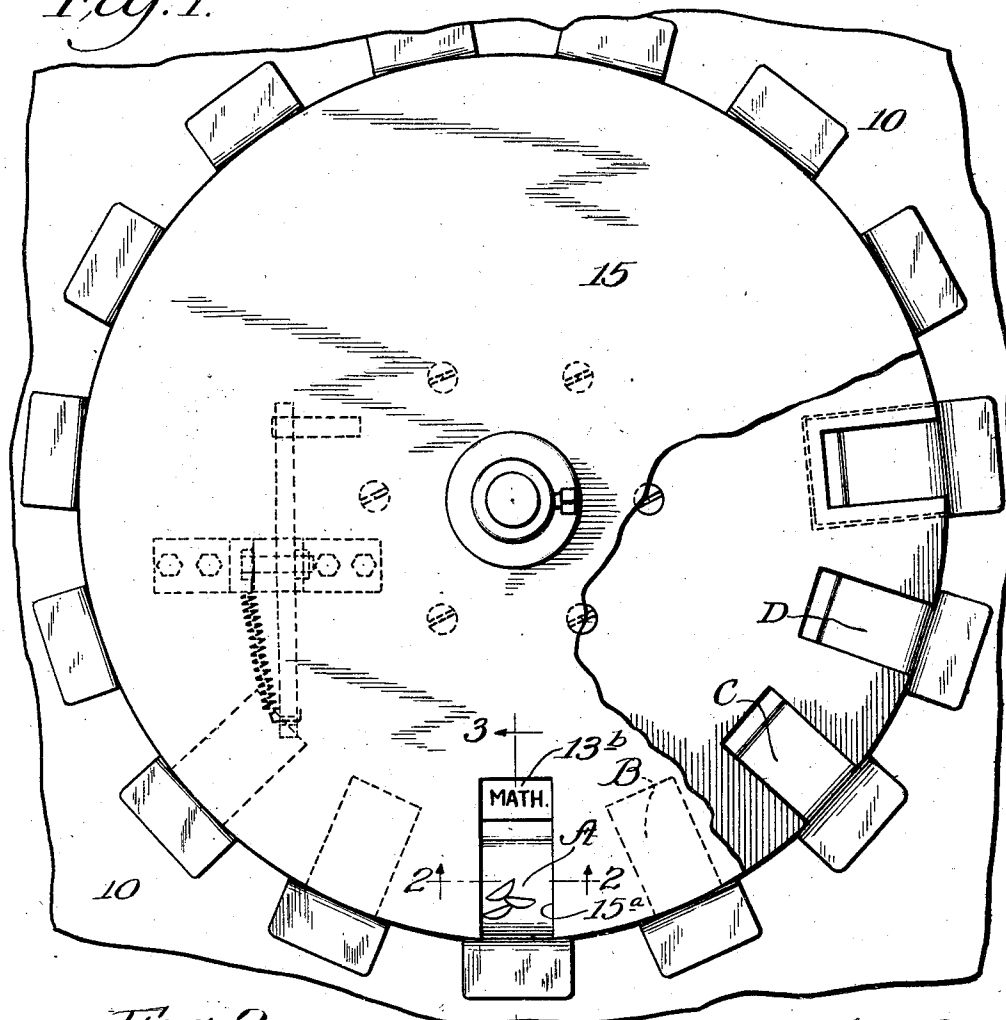


Fig. 2.

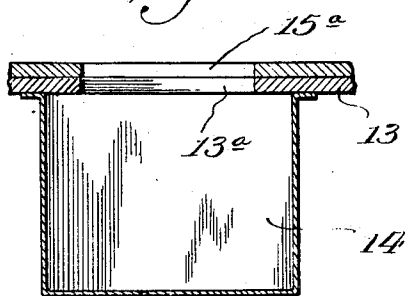
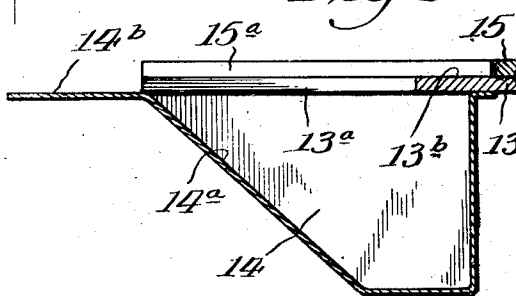


Fig. 3.



Inventor
Philip A. Frazier
By Dunning & Dunning Attys.

Dec. 16, 1930.

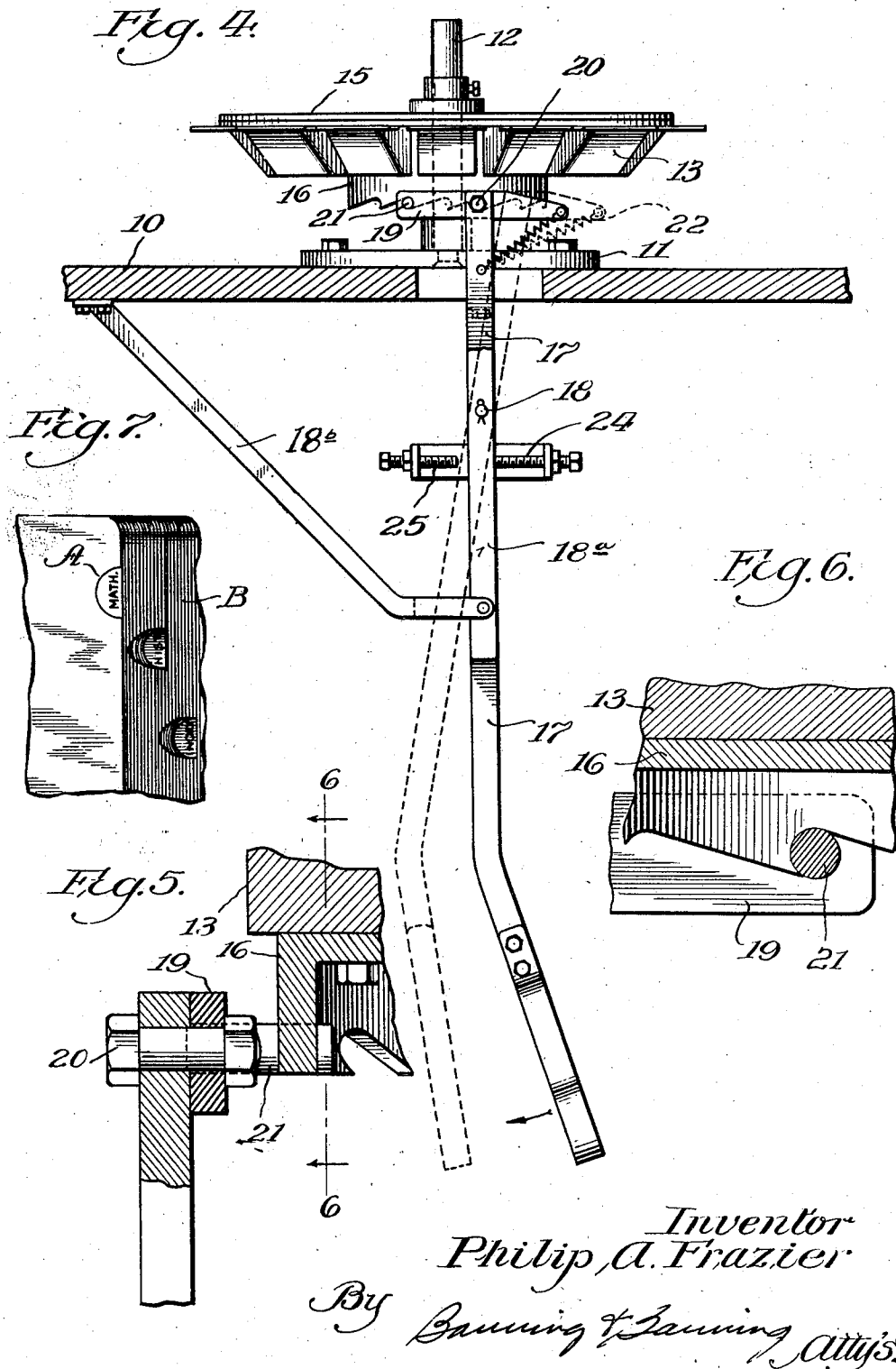
P. A. FRAZIER

1,785,408

ROTATABLE INDEXING TABLE

Filed Nov. 10, 1928

2 Sheets-Sheet 2



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

PHILIP A. FRAZIER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO R. R. DONNELLEY & SONS COMPANY, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, A CORPORATION OF ILLINOIS

ROTATABLE INDEXING TABLE

Application filed November 10, 1928. Serial No. 318,383.

This invention relates particularly to mechanism for simplifying the work of indexing books. An object of the invention is to provide a means for assisting in the operation of placing index tabs on thumb-index books by presenting them to the operator in the proper order so that the operator will not be required to select the proper tab for each thumb-index opening.

This and other objects, as will later appear, are accomplished by this invention which presents the index tabs in proper order and one at a time, and which is fully described in the following specification, and shown in the accompanying drawings in which—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a table equipped with the invention and showing the stationary top partly broken away;

Figs. 2 and 3 are enlarged vertical sections on the lines 2—2 and 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a side elevation partly in section;

Figs. 5 and 6 are enlarged details of the ratchet mechanism; and

Fig. 7 is a partial view of a book having a thumb index.

The embodiment illustrated comprises a table 10 suitably mounted at a suitable height above the floor (not shown) on supports (not shown), before which the operator is preferably seated. Upon the table 10 is mounted a casting 11 to which is secured a stub axle 12 upon which is journaled a rotatable member 13. This member has a series of openings 13^a and beneath each of these is secured a pocket 14 preferably of sheet metal soldered or spot-welded to the member 13. The outer portion of the pocket 14 has a sloping surface 14^a terminating in a flat horizontal portion 14^b which preferably extends beyond the circular rotatable member 13 for a purpose later to be described.

Above the rotatable member 13 is a stationary plate 15 having a single opening 15^a facing the operator, and which is adapted to register successively with the openings 13^a as the member 13 is rotated.

The rotatable member 13 has a circular ratchet 16 secured thereto on the under side and this has a series of ratchet teeth, preferably one for each of the pockets 14. An

operative lever 17 is fulcrumed at 18 between brackets 18^a depending from the table 10 and steadied by a brace 18^b. This lever has a ratchet arm 19 pivotally mounted at the upper end by means of a pin 20. This arm carries a ratchet finger 21 which is urged toward the ratchet by means of a spring 22, which is connected at one end to the lever 17, and at the other to the outer end of the arm 19. This spring serves the double purpose of urging the finger 21 on the outer end of the arm 19 into engagement with the teeth of the ratchet 16, and of normally returning the operating lever 17 to the full line position shown in Fig. 4. The movement of the lever 17 is regulated by means of the adjusting screws 24 and 25, the former serving to place the openings 13^a in registration with the upper openings 15^a.

The tabs, as A marked "Math.", are located in one of the pockets, as the one shown in the uncovered position Fig. 1. It will be noted that the opening 15^a is deeper than the opening 13^a thereby providing a space 13^b on the member 13 which can be labeled, as by the term "Math.", to indicate what tabs are contained in that pocket.

The operator sits in front of the table 10 opposite the opening 15^a and places the book B to be indexed on the table in front of her. Having opened the book to the page to receive the tab A, she turns the member 13 by means of the lever 17 until the appropriate index tab appears. In the present position of the book B and of the member 13, it is the tab bearing the word "Math." This tab is then drawn up the inclined portion 14^a of the pocket by the moistened finger of the operator and turned to the proper position on the lip 14^b. The gummed tab is then moistened as by means of a moist sponge (not shown), and pressed upon the top leaf of the book B (Fig. 7) at a point previously marked so that it will register with the thumb index opening previously cut in the edges of the preceding pages.

The operator then actuates the lever 17 thereby bringing before the opening 15^a the next pocket 14 containing tabs. It may happen that all of the pockets are not used, in

which case blank pockets are interspersed between the filled pockets. When it happens that a blank pocket appears, the operator actuates the rotatable member 13 once more, thereby bringing the next pocket into registration with the opening 13^a. These pockets are filled with the appropriate tabs so that the tabs are presented to the operator one after the other in a predetermined order which is followed in opening up the book so that the operator knows which tab will be presented next, and places a finger upon the thumb opening of the book where the next tab is to be inserted.

Thus it will be seen that a very simple yet effective means is provided for presenting the tabs to an operator in the order in which they are to be inserted in a book, so that the operator is no longer required to choose between different tabs in order to find the correct one for any particular insertion.

While I have shown and described but a single embodiment of my invention, it is understood that it is capable of many modifications. Changes, therefore, in the construction and arrangement may be made which do not depart from the spirit and scope of the invention as disclosed in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. An indexing table comprising a stationary top having an opening therein, a movable member beneath said top having a series of pockets each adapted to hold indexing tabs of a given kind and each having an outer wall inclined to facilitate the removal of the tabs upwardly through the opening, and means on said movable member uncovered by said opening for identifying each of said pockets.

2. An indexing table comprising a stationary top having an opening therein, a rotatable member beneath said top having a series of pockets each adapted to hold indexing tabs of a given kind and each having an outer wall inclined to facilitate the removal of the tabs upwardly through the opening, and a treadle-operated ratchet for advancing said rotatable member so as to bring these pockets into registration with said opening in a predetermined order.

3. An indexing table comprising a stationary top having an opening therein, a rotatable member beneath said top having a series of pockets each adapted to hold indexing tabs of a given kind, a treadle-operated ratchet for advancing said rotatable member so as to bring these pockets into registration with said opening in a predetermined order, and means for adjusting the movement of the ratchet by which the rotatable member is advanced.

4. An indexing table comprising a stationary top having an opening therein, a movable member beneath said top having a series of pockets each adapted to hold indexing tabs of a given kind, and means for bringing these

pockets into registration with said opening in a predetermined order, each pocket having an outer sloping side terminating in a lip upon which the tabs may be drawn from the pocket by the finger of the operator.

5. An indexing table comprising a stationary top having an opening therein, a member rotatable beneath said top and having a series of pockets therein, each adapted to hold indexing tabs of a given kind and each pocket having an outer sloping side terminating in a lip whereby the tabs may be drawn from the pocket by the finger of the operator, a series of ratchet teeth on said rotatable member, an operating lever, an arm pivotally mounted on said lever and having a finger adapted to traverse a portion of said ratchet to move the same, and a spring for keeping said arm in operative relation to said ratchet.

6. An indexing table comprising a stationary top having an opening therein, a member rotatable beneath said top and having a series of pockets therein, each adapted to hold indexing tabs of a given kind and each pocket having an outer sloping side terminating in a lip whereby the tabs may be drawn from the pocket by the finger of the operator, a series of ratchet teeth on said rotatable member, an operating lever, an arm pivotally mounted on said lever and having a finger adapted to traverse a portion of said ratchet to move the same, and a spring for keeping said arm in operative relation to said ratchet, said spring also urging said lever toward a retracted position.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 31st day of October, 1928.

PHILIP A. FRAZIER