June 6, 1933. J. P. ANDREWS ET AL 1,912,508

INDEX HOLDER

Filed April 18, 1931

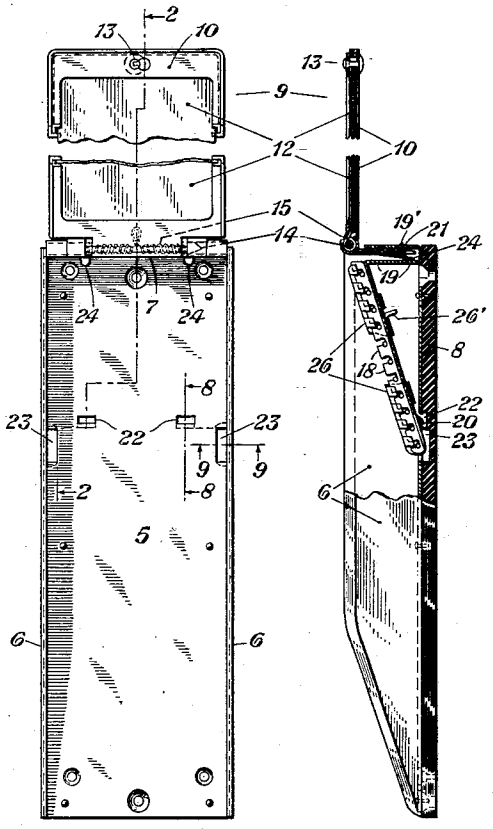


Fig. 1

Fig. 2

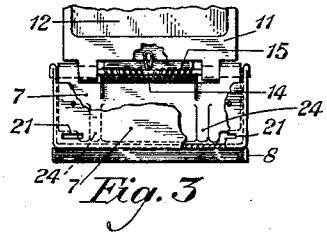


Fig. 3

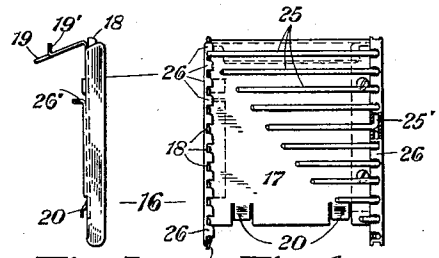


Fig. 5 Fig. 4

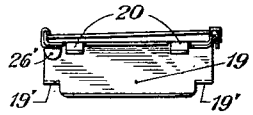


Fig. 7

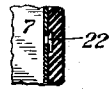


Fig. 8

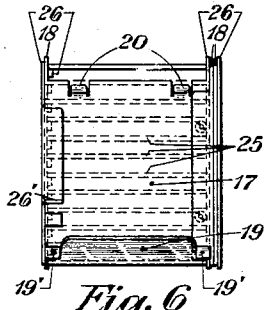


Fig. 6

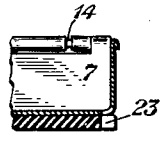


Fig. 9

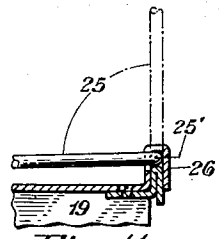


Fig. 11

Fig. 10

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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INDEX HOLDER

Application filed April 18, 1931. Serial No. 531,226.

This invention relates to improvements in holders for containing bulletins, cards or the like, in such manner that they may be easily and quickly consulted, or removed and replaced when desired. It consists of a base having a removable carriage provided with a rack on which transverse rods or pintles are arranged in a parallel series, and one or more hinged clips attached to said rods are adapted to receive and support bulletins, cards or the like in a convenient manner.

These and further features of the invention will be apparent from the following description, when considered in connection with the accompanying drawing in which one modification of the invention is illustrated.

Referring to the drawing in which the improved device is shown, Figure 1 is a plan view of a casing and cover between which the various elements are mounted; Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof partly in section taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, and showing the casing and a carriage removably mounted therein; Fig. 3 is a detail showing the hinge connection and retractable spring of the cover for the casing; Fig. 4 is a plan view of the carriage removed from the casing, and showing the various positions assumed by the transverse rods when rotated from the normal position of the upper rod to the extreme rotated position of the lower rod; Fig. 5 is a left side view of Fig. 4; Fig. 6 is a bottom view of the carriage; Fig. 7 is a rear end view of the carriage; Fig. 8 is a section taken on the line 8—8 of Fig. 1; Fig. 9 is a section taken on the line 9—9 of Fig. 1; Fig. 10 is a perspective view of the improved holder in assembled formation, and Fig. 11 is a detail showing the hinged connection of the rods.

In the drawing in which similar elements of the improved device are referred to by like characters throughout, the numeral 5 is applied to the casing. The casing is shown as substantially rectangular in form and provided with a bottom portion. Parallel side walls 6 and a rear partition comprising two slightly separated walls 7 extend upwardly from the bottom portion, and the forward portions of the side walls are beveled as more clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 10. The casing is made of any suitable metal such as nickel-silver and the bottom portion is secured to a base 8 of insulation of the character of phenol fibre to provide protection from electrical shocks in the event the improved device is mounted on telephone switchboards or the like. Suitable mounting screw holes are provided through the base.

A cover 9 in the form of a rectangular frame is hingedly connected to the top of the rear partition of the casing 5. This cover includes two separable portions 10 and 11 which are adapted to hold card 12, having a transparent protective sheet on each side thereof, in clamped relation between them. Each side of the card 12 may have suitable designations printed thereon. These transparent sheets may be made of cellulose acetate or the like. The portions 10 and 11, together with the clamped designation card and protective sheets therefor, are held together by locking means such as a sliding button 13. The bottom portion 10 of the cover is hinged to a pintel 14 which passes through coinciding bearings or loop portions provided in the casing and in the portion 10. A spring 15 carried by the pintel has its ends held between the two plates which constitute the rear partition 7 of the casing while a central loop portion of the spring rests on the upper surface of the hinged end of the bottom portion 10 and exerts a downward pressure thereon. The upper portion 11 of the cover is also hinged on the pintel 14 in like manner to the portion 10, but is not tensioned by the spring 15. The cover 9 when closed fits between the edges of the casing 5, and extends forwardly to the beveled front portion thereof. The cover exerts a downward pressure on cards mounted within the casing.

A carriage 16 is removably positioned within the casing 5 and its cover 9, and is made of a punching of any suitable metal. The carriage includes a bottom plate 17 which is of substantially rectangular formation, and side rails 18 turned upwardly from said plate form a support or rack as will presently appear. A rear plate 19 extends

at an angle to the base of the carriage and angular lugs 19′ are cut from each side thereof and at the bottom of the carriage base additional lugs 20 are provided. The lugs 19′ register in slots 21 provided in the rear partition 7 of the casing, and the lugs 20 register in slots 22 in the base of the casing. The forward ends of the side rails 18 of the carriage enge slots 23 also in the base of the casing. When the carriage is pushed back into the casing its rear plate 19 bears against spring tongues 24 which extend inwardly from the partition 7 of the casing and cause these tongues to be compressed. When tension is released the lugs 19′ and 20 and also the ends of the side rails 18 are forced into their corresponding slots and lock the carriage in place. Thus in order to engage the carriage, it is merely necessary to push it against the rear partition 7 of the casing and exert a downward force at the same time. To remove the carriage it is necessary to push it in and downward in the casing and then upward. This action permits the lugs to be disengaged from their corresponding slots in the casing so that the carriage may be removed. When the lugs of the carriage are in engagement with their respective slots, the bottom plate 17 and its side rails 18 will be held in an inclined position as more clearly shown in Fig. 2 of the drawing.

The side rails are provided with a series of equally spaced and corresponding slots on each side. A series of parallel horizontal and transversely positioned rods 25 are held in these slots. These rods have angularly bent portions 25′ at one end, as shown in Fig. 4 which fit in the slots on one of the side rails 18 in such hinged manner that the rods are free to rotate in a clockwise direction for a distance of approximately 90°. The other ends of the rods fit in corresponding slots on the opposite said rail 18 (Fig. 4), and a laterally slidable member 26 positioned on the top of the last mentioned rail serves to close or open the slots into which the ends of the rods fit to lock or release the rods. A tugger 26′ forms a finger hold by which the slidable member may be reciprocated.

Each of the rods 25 carries two cards 27, upon which suitable designations appear for instance of the character shown in Fig. 10 of the drawing. These cards are each fastened to their respective rods by two metallic clips 28 attached to the tops of the cards, and the clips are provided with hinged portions through which the rods extend so that the cards may slide on and off the rods and be rotated with the rods. The clips for one card of a pair are staggered with respect to the clips of its companion card as shown in Fig. 10 of the drawing. The clips appearing in full lines carry the top card of a pair, and the clips appearing in dotted lines carry the bottom card of the pair.

The cards 27 are made of suitable thickness and material to permit designations on both of their surfaces. The bottom edges of the cards 27 are provided with indexing tabs 29 which are faced on both sides with a transparent substance 30 such, for instance, as cellulose acetate sheeting for protective purposes. The ends of the tabs are profiled to combine them for variance in length so that the two cards of a pair, and independent pairs, can be readily lifted without interference with adjacent cards. The position of the cards when mounted on the carriage, as shown in Fig. 2, will cause them to assume the stepped relation shown in Fig. 10. In this relation the index matter on the tab of each card may be readily identified, and by opening the card index to the selected point the information desired may be easily and quickly obtained.

What is claimed is:

1. An index holder including a case, a cover hinged thereto, tension means at the rear of said case, a carriage adapted to be removably mounted in said case and having means to interlock with the bottom of said case, said carriage being held in interlocking position by tensional engagement with said tension means, and a series of cards mounted on said carriage in stepped relation.

2. An index holder including a case, a cover hinged thereto, a carriage removably mounted in said case, means for holding said carriage in normal interlocked position in the case by tensional engagement therewith, a series of rods pivotally connected with the carriage and mounted in horizontal and parallel positions thereon, a series of cards mounted on said rods in stepped relation, and means for locking and releasing said rods and cards.

3. An index holder including a case, a tensioned cover hinged thereto, a carriage removably mounted in said case and held in normal position by tensional engagement therewith, a pair of side members for said carriage, a series of rods mounted in horizontal and parallel positions on said side members and pivotally connected at one end to one of the side members, locking means movable on the other of said side members for controlling the retention and release of said rods, and cards rotatably mounted on said rods.

4. An index holder including a case, a cover hinged to the case, a carriage removably mounted in the case, said carriage including a plate member having an angular extension and held in normal position by tensional engagement of said extension with the case, supports extending upwardly from each side of the plate member and having corresponding slots provided therein, a se-

ries of horizontal rods mounted in said slots, a series of cards slidably mounted on said rods, and means for locking said rods and cards on the supports.

5. An index holder including a case, a cover hinged thereto, a carriage removably mounted in said case and held in normal position by tensional engagement therewith, and a series of cards arranged in stepped relation, and each hingedly mounted at one end, and means whereby each card is pivotally mounted at one corner.

6. An index holder including a case, a cover hinged thereto, a carriage removably mounted in said case, means for holding said carriage in normal interlocked position in the case by tensional engagement therewith, a series of rods pivotally connected with the carriage and mounted in horizontal and parallel positions thereon, a series of cards slidably and rotatably mounted on said rods in stepped relation and means for locking and releasing said rods and cards.

7. An index holder including a case, a tensioned cover hinged thereto, a carriage removably mounted in an inclined position in said case and held in normal position by tensional engagement therewith, a pair of side members for said carriage, a series of rods mounted in horizontal and parallel positions on said side members and pivotally connected at one end to one of the side members, locking means movable on the other of said side members for controlling the retention and release of said rods, and cards slidably and rotatably mounted on said rods.

8. An index holder including a case, a cover hinged to the case, a carriage removably mounted in the case, said carriage including a plate member having an angular extension and held in normal position by tensional engagement with the case, a pair of supports extending upwardly from each side of the plate member and having corresponding slots provided therein, a series of horizontal rods pivotally mounted in slots on one of said supports, a series of cards slidably and rotatably mounted on said rods, and means for locking said rods and cards on the supports.

9. An index holder including a case, a cover hinged thereto, a carriage removably mounted in said case and held in normal position by tensional engagement therewith, a series of rods pivotally connected with the carriage and mounted in horizontal and parallel positions thereon, and a series of cards pivotally mounted in pairs on each rod in stepped series relation, one card of each pair being partly cut away at the end distant from the rod in order to expose the designation.

10. An index holder including a case, a cover hinged thereto, a carriage removably mounted in said case and held in normal position by tensional engagement therewith, a series of rods pivotally connected with the carriage and mounted in horizontal and parallel positions thereon, a series of cards pivotally mounted in pairs on each rod in stepped series relation, the upper card of each pair being partly cut away at the end distant from the rod to form a tab and expose the designation on the card beneath, and the card beneath being partly cut away under the tab to readily permit of lifting the tab.

In testimony whereof, we have signed our names to this specification this 17th day of April 1931.

JOHN P. ANDREWS.
JULIUS S. POPPER.