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1,866,968

INDEXED BOOK

Filed Jan. 10, 1930

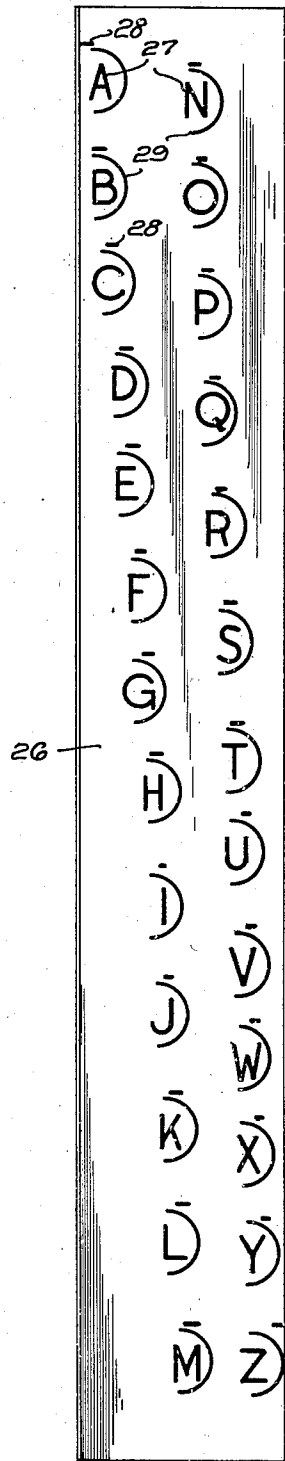


Fig. 1.

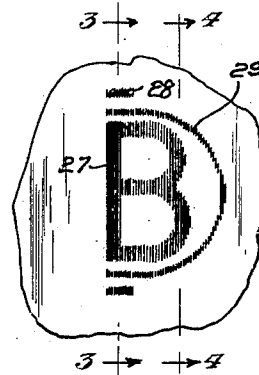


Fig. 2.

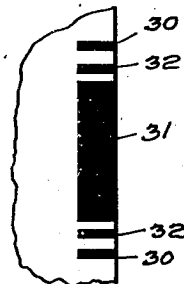


Fig. 3.

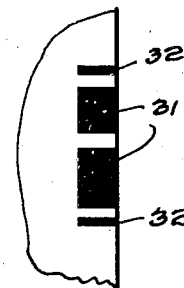


Fig. 4.

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INDEXED BOOK

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My invention relates to an indexed book, a method of producing the same, and apparatus to be used in the practice of the method.

It is customary to index books or files, for ready reference. One method consists in cutting away the edge of the book to produce a stepped border and to print letters in alphabetical order upon the stepped border. Another method is to cut finger holes or depressions in the edge of the book and to provide such edge at the depressions with letters arranged in alphabetical order. It is also old to secure tabs to the edges of books, with or without the stepped arrangement or depressions and these tabs carry the letters. Indexing of this character is expensive and many books are placed upon the market without any index arrangement at the edge of the same, with the result that considerable time is lost in the use of such books. Telephone directories, which are frequently used, are manufactured as cheaply as possible and it is not generally customary to equip the same with an index at the edge.

In accordance with my invention, I am able to form an alphabetical index upon the edge of a book, such as a telephone directory, without materially increasing the cost of production of the same, by printing the characters or lines upon the pages of the book as they are being printed, and the characters are so co-related that when the leaves of the book are assembled in the complete book, the alphabetical index will be produced. In connection with the alphabetical index, I provide depth lines, defining or indicating the area or thickness of the sections of the book designated by the index letters, thus enabling the user to readily open the book within the proper section designated by the index letter.

In the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same,

Figure 1 is an edge elevation of a book showing the alphabetical index, which is formed during the printing of the book,

Figure 2 is an enlarged fragmentary elevation of the edge of the book, showing one index letter,

Figure 3 is a fragmentary side elevation of one leaf of the book, as viewed from line 3—3 of Figure 2,

Figure 4 is a similar view as viewed from line 4—4 of Figure 2.

In Figure 1, the numeral 26 designates a book having an alphabetical index formed upon the edge of the same, embodying index letters 27. Associated with these letters are depth lines 28 and thumb indicating lines 29, preferably curved, as shown. Satisfactory results are obtained by employing one depth line 28 arranged near and above each index letter 27, although two depth lines may be employed, if desired, as shown in connection with Figure 2. The index letters and associated elements shown in Figure 1, are formed during the printing of the book. To accomplish this, the leaves of the book, see particularly Figures 3 and 4, have lines 30 printed thereon, preferably upon both sides of the same, and this printing extends to the free edge of the leaf. The lines 30 throughout the same alphabetical section or unit of the book are in transverse alinement and hence produce, when the leaves are assembled in the closed position, the depth line 28, for that alphabetical section, precisely indicating the exact thickness of such section. The index letter 27, is produced by printing lines 31, preferably upon both sides of the leaves, and upon a sufficient number of the leaves to produce the index letter, the printed lines upon the several leaves being so co-related that they will produce the index letter 27 when the leaves of the book are in the closed position. The thumb indicating line 29 is produced by lines 32, preferably printed upon both sides of a suitable number of leaves and these lines 32 are so co-related that the line 29 will be produced when the leaves are in the closed position. In printing the several lines 30, 31 and 32, upon the leaves, at the edges thereon, such lines may vary in depth, within the limits of the margin of the leaves, thus rendering it possible to cut the edge of the book, within variations without liability of destroying the index.

The printed characters 30, 31 and 32 extend to or over the free edge of the paper,

and since these characters are preferably printed upon both sides of the sheet, the ink thoroughly penetrates into the sheet and the printing is, therefore, upon the free edge
5 and is visible from the same.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:—

1. A plurality of assembled leaves producing a stack, successive leaves having marks
10 upon their faces extending to the edges of the leaves and visible at such edges, the arrangement of the marks being such that the assembled marks produce a character.

2. A plurality of assembled leaves producing a stack, some of the successive leaves each having a single mark printed upon the face thereof and other of the assembled leaves each having a plurality of spaced marks
15 printed upon the faces thereof, all of the marks extending to the edges of the leaves
20 and visible at the edges, the arrangement of the marks being such that the assembled marks produce a letter.

3. A plurality of assembled leaves producing a stack, some of the successive leaves having a single mark upon the faces thereof, and other of the assembled leaves having a plurality of marks upon the faces thereof, all of the marks extending to the edges of
25 the leaves and visible at the edges, the arrangement of the marks being such that the assembled marks produce a letter, said leaves being also provided with separate marks extending to the edges thereof, and arranged
30 near the letter, the separate marks when assembled producing a depth gauge.
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In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FRANK H. ELLISON.

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