H. E. DAVIS.

FILING CASE OR THE LIKE.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 1, 1913.

1,103,945.

Patented July 21, 1914.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

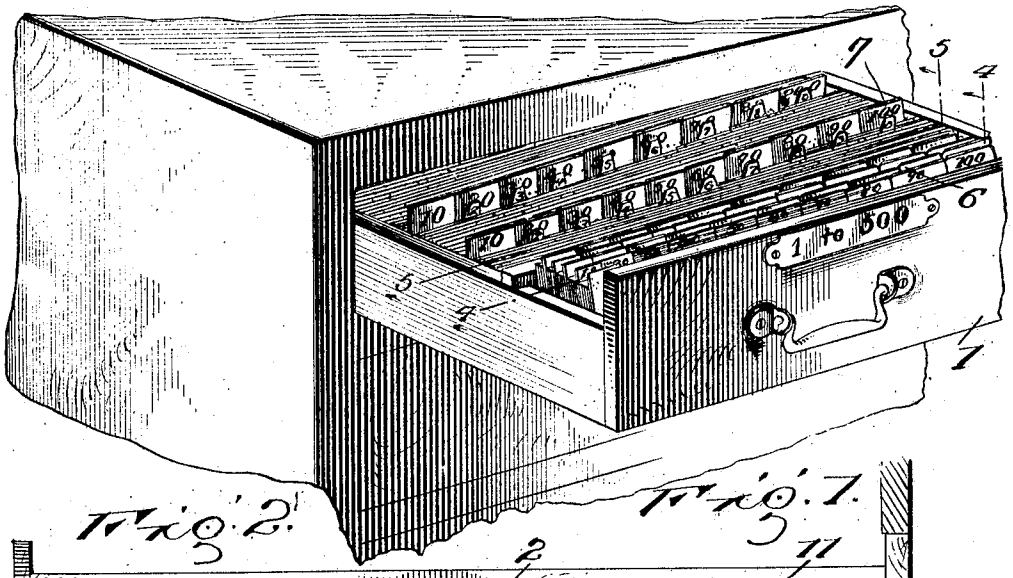


FIG. 2.

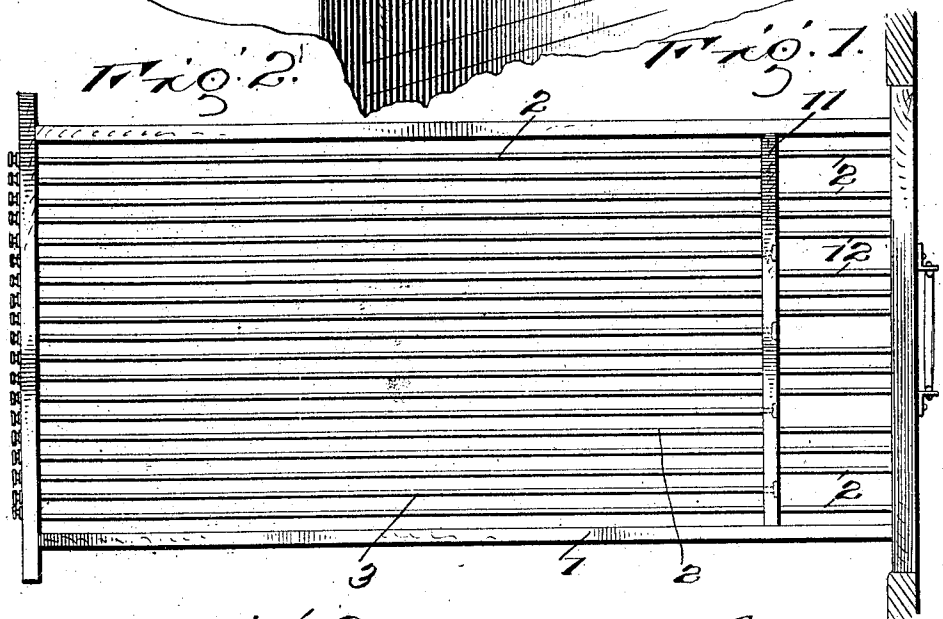


FIG. 1.

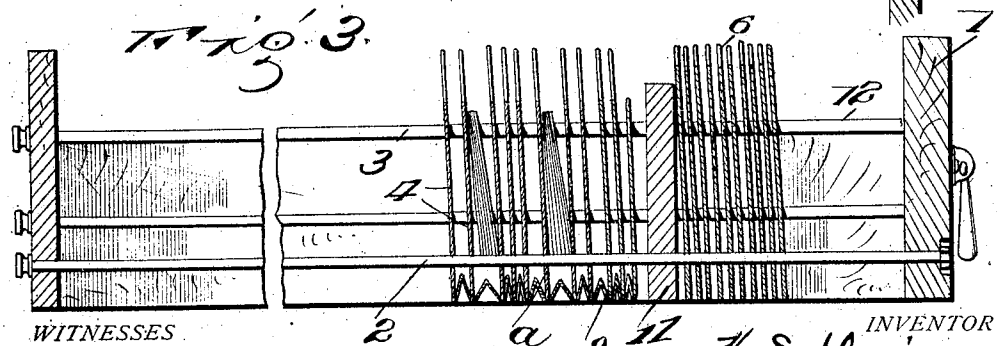


FIG. 3.

WITNESSES

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

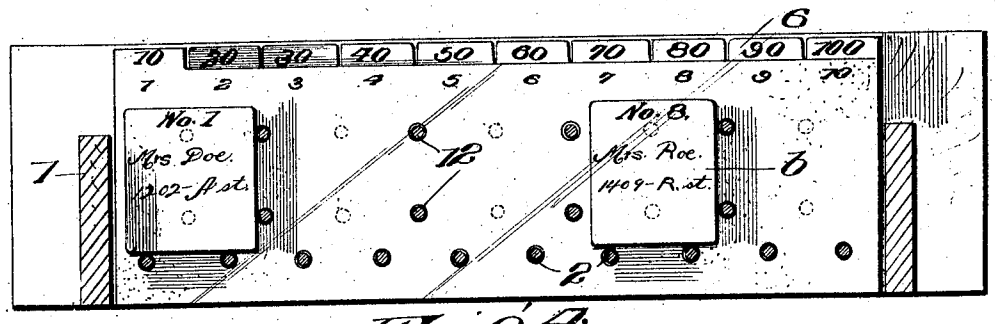


FIG. 4.

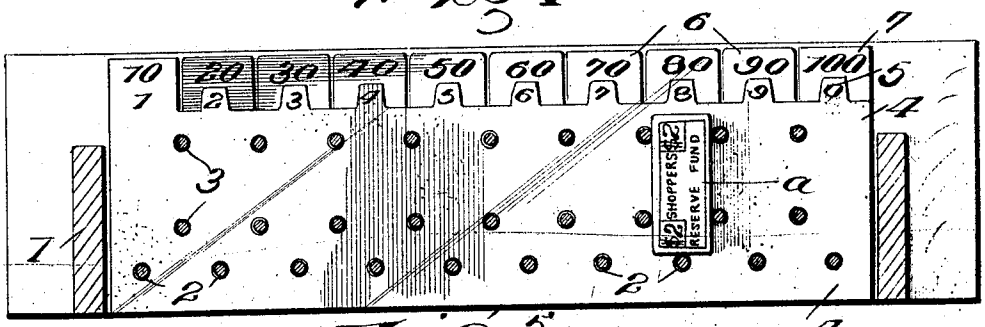


FIG. 5.

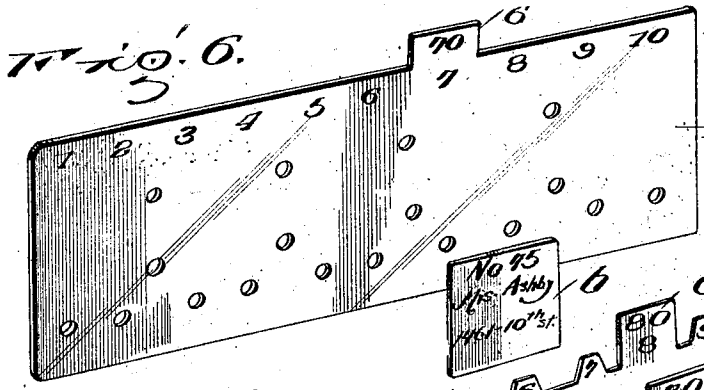


FIG. 6.

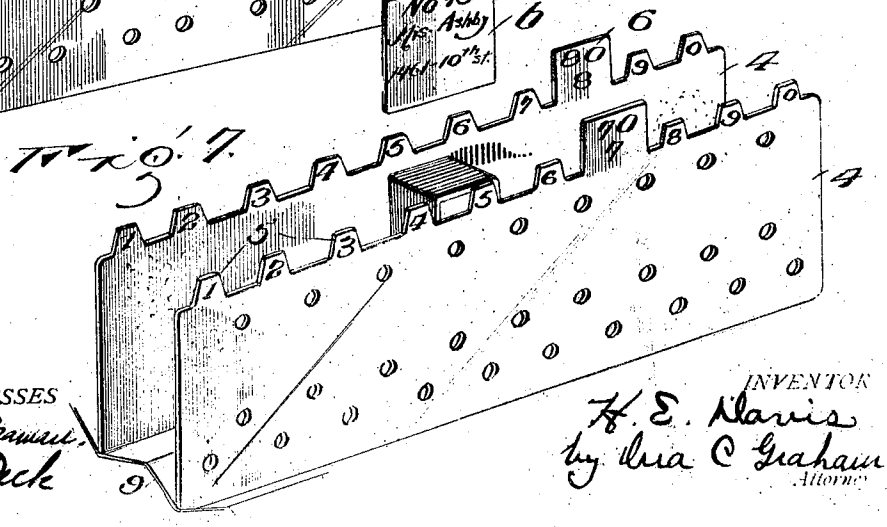


FIG. 7.

WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FILING-CASE OR THE LIKE.

1,103,945. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 21, 1914.

Application filed November 1, 1912. Serial No. 729,173.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY E. DAVIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Filing-Cases or the like, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain improvements in filing or record cases or the like, and the objects and nature of the invention will be readily understood by those skilled in the art in the light of the following explanation of the accompanying drawings illustrating what I now believe to be my preferred embodiment from among other constructions, arrangements and formations.

An object of the invention is to provide a record filing system or arrangement of the card index type wherein parallel transverse rows of record receiving pockets, receptacles or compartments are provided, with said pockets of the transverse rows forming parallel longitudinal rows, in connection with parallel guide or index cards interposed between said transverse rows and arranged transversely with respect to said longitudinal rows, whereby a minimum number of guide or index cards are required in indexing a given number of said pockets and whereby any pocket can be easily and quickly located.

A further object of the invention is to provide certain improvements in filing or record systems whereby credit indicating tickets or the like, can be readily filed under various numbers or other indications, and whereby all such tickets belonging to a certain number or identification can be readily filed in one place and thus assembled under said number or identification, and whereby the filing point or location under any number or identification can be quickly and easily located.

The invention consists in certain novel features in construction, arrangements and combinations as will be more fully and particularly pointed out hereinafter.

Referring to the accompanying drawings:— Figure 1, is a perspective view showing a portion of a case equipped with filing means in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2, is a top plan view of the drawer of Fig. 1, with the index or guide cards removed. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section through said drawer having a few guides arranged therein. Fig. 4, is a cross section in the plane of the line 4—4, Fig. 1. Fig. 5, is a cross section in the plane of the line 5—5, Fig. 1. Fig. 6, is a detail perspective view of a guide or partition of the numerical index. Fig. 7, is a detail perspective of several guide cards or partitions of the filing device.

In the specific construction illustrated merely as an example for purposes of explanation and illustration, I show a filing case in this instance, consisting of a drawer 1, having end and side walls and an open bottom. The floor of the drawer (case) is formed by or composed of a number of parallel spaced rods 2, arranged longitudinally of the drawer and secured to or in the end heads thereof. The interior of the case (drawer) between the sides and ends thereof is sub-divided into a series of parallel similar longitudinal compartments, spaces, receptacles or the like by laterally-spaced longitudinal partitions. In the present instance, I show these partitions formed by longitudinal spaced rods 3 arranged above the horizontal plane occupied by the floor rods 2.

Each partition can be composed of several spaced rods 3, arranged in the same vertical plane. The partitions are preferably uniformly spaced from the side walls of the case and from each other to provide compartments of uniform width and with one or more floor rods at the bottom of each compartment. In the particular example illustrated, I show the partitions arranged to provide ten longitudinal compartments. These longtitudinal compartments are transversely divided into transverse rows of expansible pockets or receptacles by series of parallel partitions arranged transversely of the case and movable on and longitudinally of the partition rods and traversing all of the longitudinal compartments. I show these movable partitions formed by guide cards 4, perforated to receive the partition and floor rods, and to slide longitudinally thereof and between the side walls of the case.

It will be observed that each partition

forms the rear vertical walls of a transverse row of pockets in front of the partition and the front vertical wall of a similar transverse row of pockets behind such partition, by traversing the longitudinal compartments formed by the longitudinal partition rods. These pockets can receive flat paper or cardboard slips, or the like, such as discount or dividend tickets *a*, or other tokens. Such flat tickets or tokens *a*, can be arranged vertically in the pockets between the guide cards or transverse partitions and parallel therewith, with their lower edges resting on the floor rods and their vertical edges engaging the partition rods. The tickets can be easily dropped into any pocket and can be readily lifted vertically therefrom. Any number of tickets can be arranged in any pocket as the pockets are rendered expansible by sliding the transverse partitions on the rods. Each pocket is preferably provided with a distinguishing designation or indication, so that all tickets or other data or tokens belonging to a particular designation can be located in the pocket bearing such designation.

The pocket indications or designations are arranged on the transverse partitions and are suitably indexed so that any particular pocket can be quickly and easily located. For instance, where the pockets are indicated by a series of successively progressing numbers, say 1, 2, 3, and so on up to say 500, or 1000 each transverse partition at the upper portion of its front face can have the numerals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, visibly located thereon above the ten pockets successively from left to right. These numerals can be located on short tabs 5, if so desired. The transverse partitions and pockets can be indexed by a system of units, tens and hundreds. Each partition will bear the row of ten unit indications 1, 2, etc., over the ten pockets, so that each pocket will be under and designated by a particular unit number. Each movable partition will also be provided with a longer or larger upwardly projecting visible tab 6, indicating tens. For instance, the front or first partition will have a tab 6, at its left hand end bearing the "tens" indication "10", and the next partition to the rear will have its tab 6, provided with the indication 20, and the next partition 30, and so on up to "90", and these tabs will be so located on their partitions from left to right that all will be visible from the front.

Every tenth partition from the front will have a large projecting tab 7, at its right hand end bearing a hundred indication. The first partition from the front having a tab 7, will bear the indication "100", the next partition having tab 7, will have indication "200", and so on successively up to the last card having tab 7, which will bear the indication "500", if the particular case is provided with five hundred pockets, or 1000 if the case is provided with 1000 pockets.

If pocket 15, is sought, such pocket will be opposite or under the numeral "5", on the partition bearing the tens indication "10", in front of the hundreds indicating partition bearing number "100".

If pocket 76, is sought, such pocket will be under or behind the number "6", on the partition bearing the tens indication "70", in front of hundreds indication "100". If pocket 259, is sought, such pocket will be in front of or behind the unit numeral "9", on the partition bearing numeral "50", in the group of ten partitions at the rear of the hundreds division or guide card or partition bearing number "200".

If so desired, each group of ten partitions and the "hundred" indicating partition belonging to such group can be expansively confined together by suitable means. For instance, I show a bellows-fold like sheet of flexible material 9, arranged beneath the floor rods and the lower edges of the cards (partitions) of a group and at its ends cemented or otherwise attached to the lower edges of the front and rear cards of such group. The sheet 9, of flexible material formed with a multiplicity of short parallel transverse folds so as to expand and contract as the cards or partitions are moved longitudinally of the rods. These flexible sheets are preferably arranged under the floor rods and are protected thereby. These expansible bottoms will catch and hold any tickets or tokens that might drop between the floor rods of the pockets.

I do not wish to limit all features of my invention to a case having an open floor, nor to a case having longitudinal partitions formed by rods, nor to movable transverse partitions, nor to the particular numerical indexing system described. Obviously my invention is not limited to the flexible connections between cards of a group, nor to any particular number of longitudinal spaces or compartments or to the provision of any particular number of pockets.

If the case is formed by a drawer, any suitable number of pockets can be provided therein and any suitable number of drawers can be used having visible designations on the front thereof indicating the numbers of the pockets therein. For instance, the first drawer can carry accounts (pockets) from 1 to 1000 and the next from 1000 to 2000, or from 1 to 500, and th next from 500 to 1000, and so on.

It is obvious that this system can be expanded to any limit, using the same cards and only changing the designations on the drawers and in some cases those of the hundreds tab cards. This is a big advantage in

that it simplifies the printing of the designations on the partitions.

In the particular example of my invention illustrated by the accompanying drawings, I show an apparatus adapted for the quick and economical filing or recording of what might be termed voucher tokens or tickets in carrying into effect certain business agreements between retailers and their customers under which the customers are to secure certain dividends or discounts according to the amounts of their purchases. For instance whenever a purchase is made, a ticket or tickets can be given to the customer indicating the amount of the purchases, and duplicate tickets or tokens are retained by the retailer and placed to the credit of the customer so that at the end of any given period the retailer can add up the gross amount of the customers' purchases as shown by such tickets and figure out the dividend or discount to which the customer may be entitled according to the particular business agreement between the retailer and his customers.

It is an object of my present invention to provide apparatus for retaining these tickets, or the like, so as to avoid recording items by hand, book keeping or accounting on the part of the retailer in carrying out the business agreement with his customers. Each customer's name and address can be entered on a small card or slip bearing the number by which the customer is designated. A separate filing device is preferably provided for these name cards or slips. This last mentioned filing device can be arranged numerically, and the slips or cards can be removably or loosely arranged therein. If so desired, an alphabetically arranged filing device can be provided for said slips or cards instead of one numerically indexed or if so desired, in addition thereto.

The numerically indexed filing device hereinbefore described has the pockets, receptacles, compartments, or the like, for the reception of said tickets or tokens retained by the retailer and indicating the amounts of purchases.

Each customer is represented by a pocket or receptacle in said system and this pocket or receptacle is designated by the number assigned to the customer and appearing on his or her slip in the name slip index. These pockets, receptacles, or the like, are preferably formed as hereinbefore described, to contain a considerable number of tickets or tokens inasmuch as whenever a sale is made to a customer who is a party to the business agreement, the retailer places the tickets or tokens indicating the amount of such purchase in the pocket or receptacle bearing such customer's number or other designation. Hence, at the end of a month, or other period of time, the tickets or tokens in the pockets or receptacles, will indicate the gross amounts of the purchases of the customers whose numbers or other designations appear on or are represented by such pockets and can be removed and computed. Any suitable filing and indexing system can be provided for the name slips. Such file can be separate from the ticket or token file, or can be included in the same case therewith.

In the particular example illustrated, I show the name slip file arranged in the front end of the case containing the ticket or token file. A comparatively small compartment is provided at the front end of said case by the fixed partition 11, and the floor rods are continued through this partition to provide a floor or supports for the name slips in said front compartment. This front compartment is partitioned off into several longitudinal spaces or channels by spaced parallel longitudinal partitions 12. I can utilize the partition rods of the ticket file for this purpose by continuing them forwardly through the fixed partition 11, although I show only the rods of every alternate partition carried forward into the name slip file so as to provide wider and a smaller number of longitudinal compartments or spaces than in the ticket file. For instance, I show but five longitudinal compartments in the name slip file. These compartments are traversed by transverse partitions or cards 14, perforated to receive the floor and partition rods and longitudinally movable thereon. These movable partitions provide rows of five pockets each across the name slip case to receive the name slips as will be readily understood from the description of the ticket file. These partitions 14, can be provided with numerals forming a numeral index, as described in connection with the ticket file, and the name slips will be filed in the pockets according to the identifying numbers appearing on said slips. For instance, name slip *b*, bearing the number "75" will be deposited in pocket "75–6" of the name slip file. This name slip will bear the name and address of the customer designated by number "75." An alphabetical name slip file and index can also be provided so that if the customer's name is known, his or her name slip can be located in the alphabetical file and such slip will show the customer's number. If the customer's number is known, the corresponding slip giving the customer's name and address can be found in the numerical file.

The name slip file will take up comparatively small space (even though the name slips are usually larger than the tickets or tokens) as there will be, for instance, but five hundred name slips for a ticket file of

five hundred pockets or sub-divisions. I can arrange the name slip file pockets to each receive two name slips. For instance, referring to Fig. 6, the first pocket would receive name slips Nos. 71 and 72, and the next slips Nos. 73 and 74, and so on as will be readily understood.

I do not wish to limit my invention for use in connection with the particular business system briefly outlined, nor for filing and indexing the particular articles described, and it is obvious that various changes, modifications, and variations might be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention and hence I do not wish to limit myself to the exact disclosure hereof.

What I claim is;—

1. A filing device including a case having longitudinal compartments and a plurality of partitions traversing said compartments to form pockets arranged in transverse rows, each of said partitions bearing "unit" designations for the individual pockets and "tens" designations for the rows.

2. A filing device comprising a case having longitudinal parallel compartments and series of parallel partitions traversing said compartments to form pockets arranged in transverse rows and longitudinal series, each of said partitions bearing "unit" designations for the individual pockets and "tens" designations for the rows.

3. A filing device comprising a case having transverse rows of pockets, and partitions intervening between said rows of pockets and bearing unit designations for the pockets and "tens" designations for the rows.

4. A filing device comprising a case having transverse rows of pockets, and partitions intervening between said rows of pockets and bearing unit designations for the pockets.

5. A filing device comprising a case having longitudinal parallel compartments and series of parallel partitions traversing said compartments to form pockets arranged in transverse rows and longitudinal series, said partitions being movable longitudinally so as to vary the capacity of said pockets, each of said partitions bearing "unit" designations for the individual pockets and "tens" designations for the rows.

6. A filing device comprising a case having longitudinal parallel compartments and series of parallel partitions traversing said compartments to form pockets arranged in transverse rows and longitudinal series, said partitions being movable longitudinally so as to vary the capacity of said pockets, and having a flexible and extensible bottom connecting certain of said partitions.

7. A filing device comprising a case having a longitudinal series of transverse rows of pockets, and partitions intervening between said rows, each partition bearing visible designations for the pockets of the adjacent row, and indexing means whereby the rows are divided into designated groups.

8. A filing device comprising a case having a longitudinal series of transverse movable partitions and rows of pockets arranged transversely of the case and between the partitions, each partition having visible designations for the row of pockets adjacent thereto, and indexing means whereby said rows of pockets are divided into differently designated groups.

9. A filing device comprising a case having a longitudinal series of transverse movable partitions and rows of pockets arranged transversely of the case and between the partitions, each partition having visible designations for the row of pockets adjacent thereto, and flexible expansible sheets confining said partitions together in groups.

10. A filing device comprising a case having spaced parallel longitudinal partitions sub-dividing the interior thereof, and series of parallel partitions arranged transversely of the case and traversing the spaces between the longitudinal partitions and movable longitudinally of said partitions and each having a series of unit designations for the row of adjacent spaces between said partitions, said transverse partitions also provided with progressive "tens" designations, and with "hundreds" designations at proper intervals.

11. A filing device including a case having a plurality of rods or members extending from end to end therein and arranged in spaced pairs to form a plurality of longitudinally extending compartments, additional rods or members extending longitudinally of said case and located below said first mentioned rods or members to form the bottoms of said compartments and partition members extending transversely of said case to divide said compartments into pockets.

12. A filing device including a case having a plurality of rods or members extending from end to end therein and arranged in spaced pairs to form a plurality of longitudinally extending compartments, additional rods or members extending longitudinally of said case and located below said first mentioned rods or members to form the bottoms of said compartments and partition member extending transversely of said case to divide said compartments into pockets, said partition members being movable to vary the capacity of said pockets.

13. A filing device including a case having a plurality of rods or members extending from end to end therein and arranged in spaced pairs to form a plurality of longitudinally extending compartments, addi-

tional rods or members extending longitudinally of said case and located below said first mentioned rods or members to form the bottoms of said compartments and partition members extending transversely of said case to divide said compartments into pockets, said partition members being movable to vary the capacity of said pockets and flexible and extensible bottom members connecting certain of said partition members in groups.

14. As an article of manufacture, an indexing partition, having the ten "unit" designations arranged thereon in sequence and having a "tens" designation thereon.

15. A filing device including a case having a plurality of rods or members extending from end to end therein and arranged in spaced pairs to form a plurality of longitudinally extending compartments, additional rods or members extending longitudinally of said case and located below said first mentioned rods or members to form the bottoms of said compartments and partition members extending transversely of said case to divide said compartments into pockets, a stationary partition or division member dividing the case into a main or filing portion and a supplementary or index portion.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HARRY E. DAVIS.

Witnesses:
CHAS. CHAVERIAT, Jr.,
JOHN J. LIST.