Jan. 31, 1956 R. C. LOUDON 2,732,842

BINDER FOR PAPERS, PAMPHLETS, CATALOGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES

Filed May 27, 1953

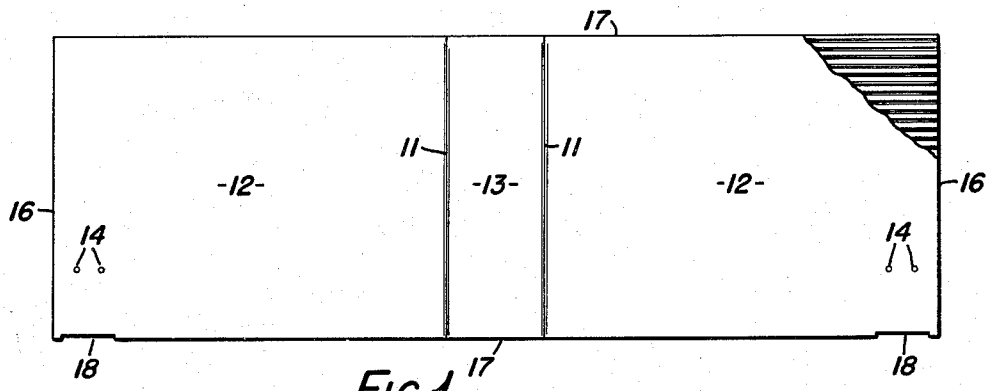


FIG. 1.

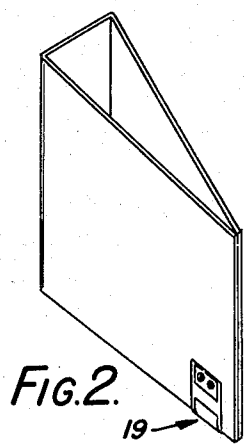


FIG. 2.

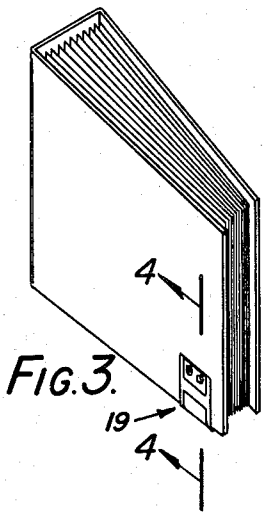


FIG. 3.

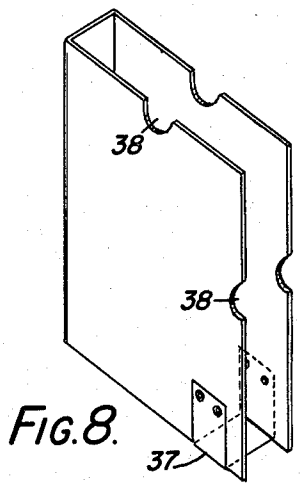


FIG. 8.

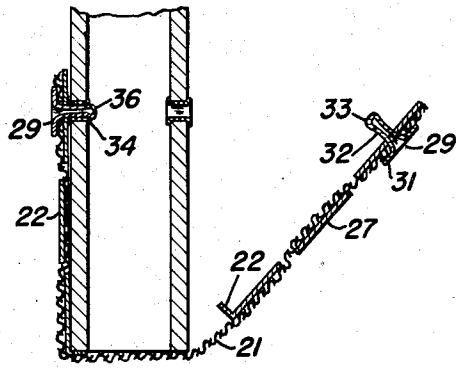


FIG. 4.

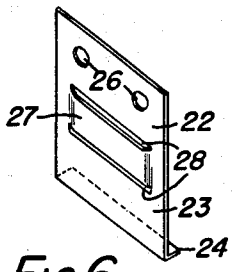


FIG. 6.

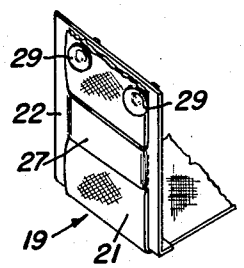


FIG. 7.

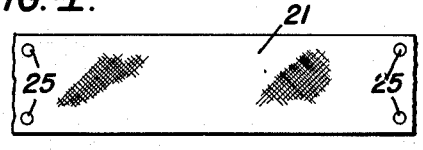


FIG. 5.

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BINDER FOR PAPERS, PAMPHLETS, CATALOGS, AND SIMILAR ARTICLES

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Application May 27, 1953, Serial No. 357,656

2 Claims. (Cl. 129—1)

My invention relates to a binder for miscellaneous papers, pamphlets, magazines, catalogs, brochures and similar material.

All types of businesses receive during an interval of time a large quantity of miscellaneous papers, pamphlets, magazines, catalogs, and price lists which are not provided with heavy binder covers so that they may be stacked vertically or otherwise arranged in an easily stored manner for ready reference. The binders now available for storing such material and indexing it are relatively expensive and quite frequently because of the expense involved the company does not purchase binders for such material. The result is that the papers, pamphlets or catalogs are stored loosely and when reference to them is desired, a great amount of time is consumed in finding the desired material.

While large segments of the magazine purchasing public desire to retain, store and index magazines, no inexpensive binder is available on the market. Professional people such as accountants, lawyers, engineers and doctors in particular have a distinct problem in properly storing and indexing material or treatises on various subjects received in the mail gratuitously or ordered from a publishing house. For example, a lawyer during the course of a year may obtain a large number of pamphlets or treatises on various subjects such as taxes, anti-trust laws, price control, labor regulations, and other subjects, the law of which is in a state of flux and rapidly changing. No convenient, inexpensive means is available at present to a lawyer to segregate the pamphlets and other material relating to a particular subject and store them in a separate indexed binder available for ready reference. The result is that the pamphlets are lost or stored in such confusion that the desired pamphlet is not readily available. Other types of publications, for example, mail order catalogs, telephone books, and classified advertising books are not furnished with hard, serviceable covers due to the expense involved. Many large business firms maintain a library of telephone books for convenient reference which are either loosely stored or considerable expense is incurreed to provide suitable binders. Most of such binders require heavy metal elements at the inside back of the book for the reception and holding of the back of the telephone book or other catalog.

An object of my invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive binder for the reception, storing and indexing of papers, pamphlets, brochures, magazines, catalogs, telephone books, to the end that the binder may if desired be stored in an upright position and in an orderly fashion so that the contents are available for quick and easy reference.

More specifically my invention contemplates a binder made preferably of corrugated paper board which is scored to provide two covers and an integral back together with means for holding the covers together and at least partly retaining the material in the binder.

My invention further contemplates the provision of a binder of corrugated paper board which may be shipped

in a scored flat condition and to which the user may apply a strap for maintaining the covers in superimposed relation and at least partially assisting in retaining the stored material in the binder.

Other objects and advantages of my invention will be particularly set forth in the claims and will be apparent from the following description, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a sheet of corrugated paper board scored and cut to form a binder and illustrating the condition in which the blank is shipped;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the covers of the binder secured together by a detachable strap;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view similar to Fig. 2 showing the binder in use and containing papers, pamphlets or magazines;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a plan view of the elastic strap;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view showing the binder cover mounting plate for the reception of the elastic strap;

Fig. 7 is a partial perspective view showing how the strap is applied to the mounting plate; and

Fig. 8 is a view showing a modified form of the invention particularly useful for containing catalogs or telephone books.

The binder of my invention is preferably made of corrugated paper board although other paper board or plastic impregnated paper stock may be employed. The major factor is to provide a relatively strong cover of inexpensive material. As shown in the drawings, double face single wall corrugated paper board is employed with the corrugations extending in the longitudinal direction of the sheet as shown in Fig. 1. The blank is divided into three sections by transverse score lines **11** to provide two covers **12** and a back **13**.

For a purpose which will presently appear, two or more apertures **14** are punched in each of the covers **12** pereferably adjacent the free edges **16** of the covers. The apertures **14** are also preferably located adjacent one of the transverse edges **17** of the blank. A notch or cut-out **18** is cut in each of the covers **12**, the notches being approximately in transverse alignment with the apertures **14**.

For the purpose of holding the covers in superimposed relation to each other a strap assembly, generally indicated by the numeral **19**, is provided. The strap assembly comprises a strap **21** (Fig. 5) and a mounting plate or bracket **22** (Fig. 6).

The strap **21** is of elastice material and is preferably of interwoven strands of rubber and fabric although other stretchable or resilient materials may be employed. Adjacent its ends the strap **21** is provided with apertures **25** corresponding in size and spacing to the apertures **14** in the covers **12**.

The mounting plate or bracket comprises a thin sheet of metal or other suitable materials, such mounting plate including a planar portion **23** and a flange portion **24** extending preferably at right angles to the planar portion **23**. The plate is provided with two apertures **26** spaced from the flange **24** a distance equal to the distance between the bottoms of the notches **18** and the apertures **14** in the covers. The apertures **26** are also spaced apart a distance corresponding to the spacing of the apertures **14** in the covers.

The mounting plate **22** has a part **27** struck upwardly above the planar portion **23** and slotted as shown at **28**. The width of the slot **28** is such as to receive the width of the strap **21**, the strap being threaded through the slot **28** above the planar portion **23** and below the struck up part **27**.

In Fig. 7, I have shown the strap threaded with respect

to one of the mounting plates. It will be understood that the strap is threaded with respect to the other mounting plate in the same manner. For the purpose of holding the strap and mounting plates in assembled relation, a pair of preferably metal buttons **29** are provided which comprise an enlarged flattened part **31**, a stem **32** and a slightly enlarged head **33**. The buttons are extended through the apertures **25** and **26** to assemble the strap wtih respect to the mounting plates.

A grommet **34** (Fig. 4) is secured in the margins of each of the apertures **14** located in the covers **12** for the reception of the buttons **29**. Upon reference to Fig. 4, it will be apparent that when the strap is in the condition shown in Fig. 7, the buttons may be pressed into the grommets so as to apply the strap assembly **19** to the binder. The slightly enlarged heads **33** of the buttons will extend slightly beyond the inner ends of the grommets to lock the buttons in position. Other types of fastening elements may be provided. Preferably the type of fastening element desired is such as to provide an essentially smooth surface on both the inner and outer faces of the covers. For example, instead of employing a button having a head **33**, the stem **32** may have longitudinal cuts therein so as to exert a spring action when located in the grommets to avoid the projection shown at **36** in Fig. 4. It will be particularly observed that the flange **24** of the mounting plate lies in the notches **18** so that the edge **17** is substantially straight when the strap is assembled on the binder as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3. Thus the edge **17** is essentially free of obstruction, the strap being essentially flush with the edge so that the binder may be supported on and slide over a flat surface such as a shelf to stand upright in the manner of a book.

In its preferred form the binder is assembled by the user. The blanks are preferably shipped flat in the condition shown in Fig. 1. The strap, mounting plate and fastening elements may be packaged separately and the binder easily assembled by the user without the use of any tools. Moreover, the user may detach the strap assembly from the binder covers at any time if he so desires.

The relative size of the covers and back is optional in accordance with the sizes of the pamphlets, papers, magazines or other material which the user desires to bind. For example, a user may desire to bind for future reference a year's issue of a monthly magazine. In such case the covers would be slightly larger in length and width than the corresponding dimensions of the magazine and the back **13** will be of sufficient width to accommodate **12** issues. Thus the binder can be made up in a number of different standard sizes and the user can select the size best suited to accommodate the particular material he desires to bind.

The surface of the binder may be covered with a sheet of colored paper to present a more attractive appearance or the currugated paper board may be made in color if desired. The exterior of the back **13** may carry suitable legends for the purpose of identification of the material stored within the binder.

One fact of importance will be noted in connection with the binder of my invention. As shown in Fig. 2, the free edges **16** of the covers are pulled towards each other by the elastic strap **21**. When material is placed in the binder as shown in Fig. 3, the binder expands and the material bound is engaged by the inner faces of the covers adjacent the free edges **16** of the covers. Thus the covers tend to hold the material in the binder aided

by the strap **21**. In normal usage, the material stored in the binder will not slip out of the binder and an orderly and convenient storing and indexing of pamphlets, advertising literature, catalogs, magazines and other material may be made.

In Fig. 8, I have illustrated a modified form of my invention in which the elastic strap is omitted and a U-shaped continuous strap of metal or other material is provided, as indicated by the numeral **37**. Fastening elements such as those previously described may be employed to enable the metal strap to be removably secured to the cover.

The binder shown in Fig. 8 is primarily designed to receive material of a fixed thickness, for example, a telephone book or a mail order catalog. The binder of Fig. 8, for example, provides a convenient means for storing a number of telephone books of different cities which is common in hotel lobbies and large industrial concerns. The binder of Fig. 8 may be provided with finger holes or cutouts **38** enabling the telephone book or catalog to be easily grasped and removed from the binder for reference purposes.

It will be appreciated that I have provided a novel binder which is inexpensive to manufacture and convenient to use for the storing of various miscellaneous material and also for storing of issues of magazines, pamphlets, and catalogs.

It will be further understood that various changes may be made, particularly in the form and relation of parts, without departing from the spirit of my invention as set forth in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A binder comprising, in combination, a pair of covers and a back integrally joined to the covers adjacent two transverse hinge lines whereby the covers may readily be placed in superimposed relation, said covers each having apertures formed therein adjacent one longitudinal edge and having notches cut therein at each of said longitudinal edges, a strap, a pair of plates, means formed in said plates enabling the strap to be threaded with respect to the plates, each of said plates having a flange which lies in one of said notches and an essentially flat part which lies against the outer face of the cover, said plates further having apertures which are in alignment with the apertures in the covers when the binder is assembled, and means extending through the apertures in the plates and the apertures in the covers for removably securing the strap to the covers.

2. A binder in accordance with claim 1 in which the apertures in the covers are provided with grommets, the back and covers may be shipped in a flat planar condition, and snap means are provided in connection with the strap whereby the plates may be applied when the binder is to be assembled so that the flanges lie in the notches and the snap means may be snapped in the grommets to enable the user to conveniently assemble the binder.

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