A. MARTIN.

FILING CABINET.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 15, 1912.

1,124,775. Patented Jan. 12, 1915.

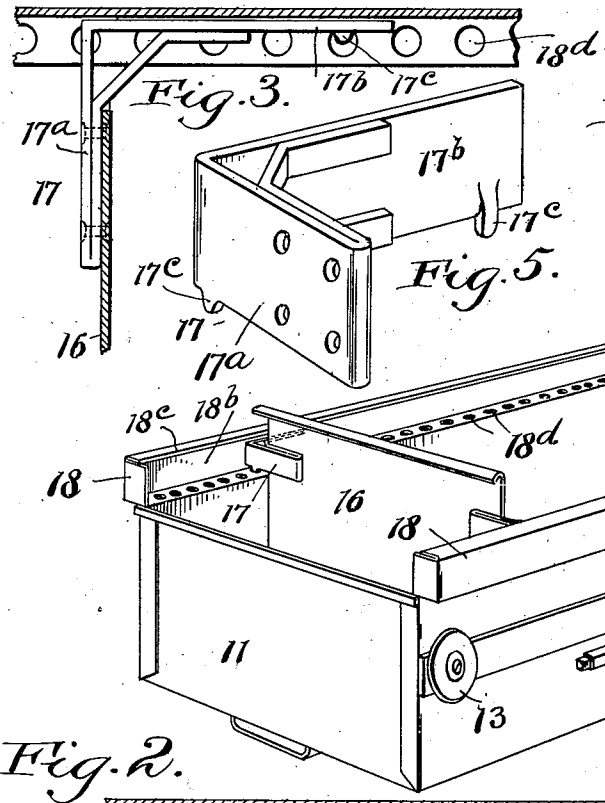


Fig. 3.

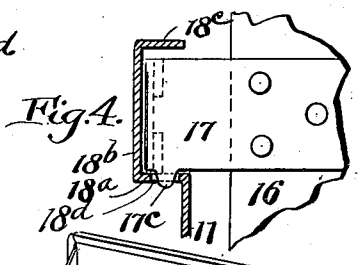
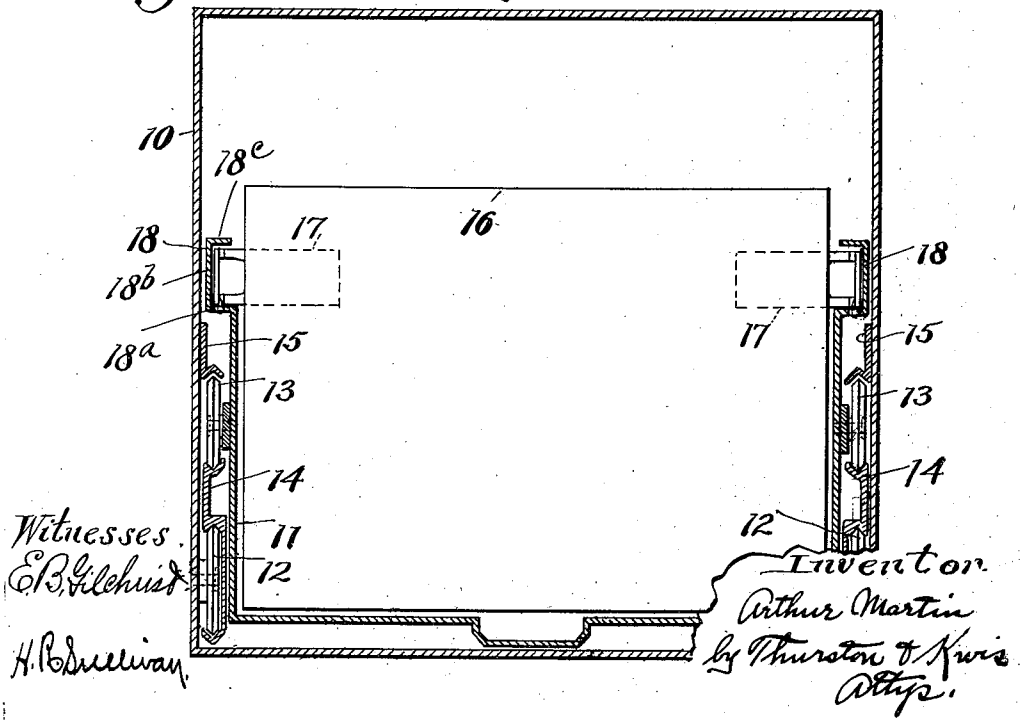


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FILING-CABINET.

1,124,775. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 12, 1915.

Original application filed April 14, 1911, Serial No. 620,974. Divided and this application filed April 15, 1912. Serial No. 690,694.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR MARTIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Filing-Cabinets, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to filing cabinets and especially to certain improvements in a compressor for such cabinets which may be arranged transversely of a drawer and is adapted to be adjusted lengthwise thereof to increase or decrease the effective filing space.

The present application is a division of my prior application Serial No. 620,974, filed April 14th, 1911, for filing cabinets.

One of the objects of my invention is to provide a compressor which can be locked or released and adjusted very easily and quickly and regardless of its position in the drawer.

Further, the invention aims to do away with and provide a distinct improvement over the locking or latching means which is usually provided at the rear side of the compressor, and which not only takes up considerable space and prevents the use of the full length of the drawer, but is frequently inaccessible when the compressor is arranged near the rear wall of the drawer.

The invention aims to overcome these objections by providing along the sides of the drawer and of the compressor, very effective guiding and locking means, which being preferably arranged in the spaces provided between the sides of the drawer and cabinet walls for the drawer suspension, do not lessen the effective width of the drawer nor require any increase in the width of the cabinet or drawer compartment.

These and other objects are accomplished by my invention which may be briefly summarized as consisting in certain novel details of construction and combinations and arrangements of parts described in the specification and set forth in the appended claims.

In the accompanying sheet of drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a drawer removed from a cabinet or casing and provided with my improved compressor; Fig. 2 is an enlarged transverse sectional view through the drawer and through the casing for the latter, parts being broken away; Fig. 3 is a horizontal detail sectional view through a portion of the compressor and a portion of the drawer; Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view of the same; and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the supporting brackets or shoes for the compressor.

In the drawings, I have shown a cabinet consisting of a single drawer unit comprising a case or casing 10 and a drawer 11 which is adapted to be moved into and out of the compartment of the casing, both the casing and the drawer being in this case formed of sheet metal. It will be understood of course that my invention is applicable equally well to a cabinet or unit with any number of drawers. Although any suitable drawer suspension may be employed with my present improvements in the compressor, in Fig. 2 I have shown a portion of the drawer suspension which is illustrated in and forms the subject matter of my parent application above referred to, and to which reference may be had for a more complete disclosure of the suspension than is necessary to be here given. This suspension which is of the roller-bearing extension-slide type is located between the side walls of the drawer and the side walls of the casing, and in brief, the suspension includes rollers 12 supported on the side walls of the casing, rollers 13 supported on the side walls of the drawer and arranged above the rollers 12, extension slides 14 which engage the rollers 12 and 13 and rails 15 secured to the side walls of the casing above the rollers 13.

The drawer is provided with a transversely arranged compressor 16 which is adjustable forwardly or rearwardly of the drawer and is adapted to be locked or securely held against accidental movement in any of its adjusted positions. To support and securely hold the compressor in any desired position, and to admit of its adjustment lengthwise of the drawer, the compressor is provided near the top thereof with laterally projecting supports in the form of brackets 17, and the drawer is provided along its sides and preferably along its top edges with longitudinally extending guideways 18 which receive the outer ends of the brackets, and in which the latter are adapted to slide. Preferably these guide-

ways are integral with the side walls of the drawer and are in the form of lateral extensions each including an outwardly bent horizontal base 18[a], an upright portion 18[b] which is adjacent the corresponding side wall of the casing, and an inwardly bent horizontal flange 18[c] which is parallel to the base 18[a]. In the base or lower flange 18[a] of each of the guideways are a series of equally spaced openings 18[d] arranged substantially the length of the guideway.

Preferably, the compressor brackets 17 are substantially L-shaped, each including a portion 17[a] which projects laterally beyond the vertical side edge of the compressor and a forwardly projecting portion 17[b] which is in the form of a shoe and is adapted to move lengthwise in the channel or guideway formed by one of said extensions 18. Furthermore, each of the brackets is provided with a pair of downwardly extending lugs 17[c] which are adapted to enter into the openings 18[d] of the corresponding guideway. The spacing of these lugs lengthwise of the shoe is such that when one enters one opening the other enters another opening. The distance between the upper and lower horizontal flanges 18[a] and 18[c] of the guideways is slightly greater than the distance between the upper and lower edges of the shoes of the brackets,—the difference in heights being such that the compressor may be lifted so as to cause the lugs to clear the openings 18[d]. The compressor may then be shifted lengthwise of the drawer, the shoes sliding freely in the guideways. On the other hand, if the compressor is released or lowered at any part of the drawer, the lugs will drop into the openings and securely lock the compressor in that position. The length of the shoes 17[b] is such that when the compressor is moved backward or forward, there is no tendency for it to bind. Furthermore, because of the length of the shoes and the small clearance between the shoes and the top flanges of the guides, the compressor is held against any material swinging movement about the shoes as an axis.

Not only can the compressor be moved very easily lengthwise of the drawer, but it can be very easily and quickly released for movement, and as quickly locked or fastened against movement in its adjusted position, regardless of the position that it occupies in the drawer, and furthermore, the compressor can be placed substantially flush with the rear or end wall of the drawer and practically the entire length of the drawer can be utilized, if so desired. A further point to be noted is that I am enabled to employ the construction and to obtain the advantages above mentioned, without decreasing the effective width of the drawer or increasing the width of the casing over that which would be otherwise required, for the reason that these guideways formed by the lateral extensions on the sides of the drawer project into the spaces which are provided for the drawer suspension.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. In a filing cabinet, a drawer having guideways along its sides, a compressor arranged transversely of the drawer, and provided with laterally projecting rigidly attached combined supports and guides engaging in said guideways and movable along the same, said guideways and supports having coöperating means for holding the compressor in any adjusted position including openings in one part and means rigid with the other part adapted to enter the openings.

2. In a filing cabinet, a drawer having guideways along its sides, an adjustable compressor arranged transversely of the drawer and provided with rigid laterally projecting supports provided with shoes engaging in and extending lengthwise of the guideways and movable along the same, the guideways each having a series of spaced openings and the shoes having fixed projecting means adapted to enter said openings to hold the compressor in adjusted positions.

3. In a file cabinet, a drawer having guideways along its sides, each provided with a series of spaced openings, a compressor arranged in the drawer and adjustable lengthwise of the same, said compressor having laterally projecting rigid supports provided with guide shoes engaging in said guideways, each shoe having two projections which are spaced apart lengthwise of the guideway and are adapted to engage in said openings of the guideway to hold the compressor in adjusted positions.

4. In a file cabinet, a drawer, a compressor in said drawer, guideways arranged along the sides of the drawer, supports projecting laterally from the compressor into the guideways, said guideways and supports having parts which are adapted to interlock, and said guideways permitting said supports to have a limited vertical movement so that when the compressor is lifted until the interlocking parts clear each other, the compressor may be moved freely lengthwise of the drawer.

5. A drawer for filing cabinets provided along the sides thereof with guideways each having a series of spaced openings, a compressor having supports projecting laterally therefrom into said guideways and provided with portions adapted to enter certain of said openings to hold the compressor against movement in the drawer, said guideways permitting a limited vertical movement of said supports so that when the

compressor is lifted, said projections may clear the openings and permit the compressor and supports to be moved freely along the guideways.

6. A drawer for file cabinets having along the sides thereof outwardly projecting guideways, each provided in the base thereof with a series of spaced openings, a compressor arranged in said drawer and provided at the ends with shoes located in the guideways and provided with projections adapted to enter the openings when the shoes rest on the guideways, and said guideways permitting a limited upward movement of the shoes so that the compressor may be lifted until the projections are clear of the openings and may then be moved lengthwise of the drawer.

7. A drawer for file cabinets provided along the sides thereof with lateral extensions each including an outwardly bent base portion, an upwardly extending side portion and an inwardly bent top portion, a compressor in said drawer having on the sides thereof brackets provided at the ends with shoes which extend in said guideways lengthwise thereof, each of said shoes having at points spaced lengthwise of the shoe lugs which are adapted to engage in two of the openings of the corresponding guideway when the shoe rests on the base thereof, and the height of the guideways from the base to the top flange being sufficiently greater than the height of the shoes to permit the compressor to be lifted so that the lugs are free of said openings.

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

ARTHUR MARTIN.

Witnesses:
A. R. SULLIVAN,
A. F. KWIS.