

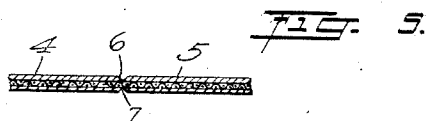
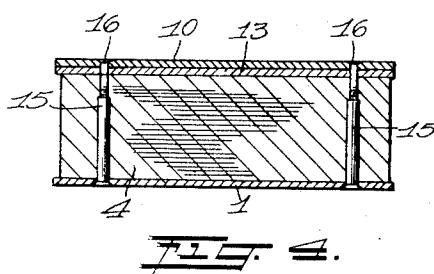
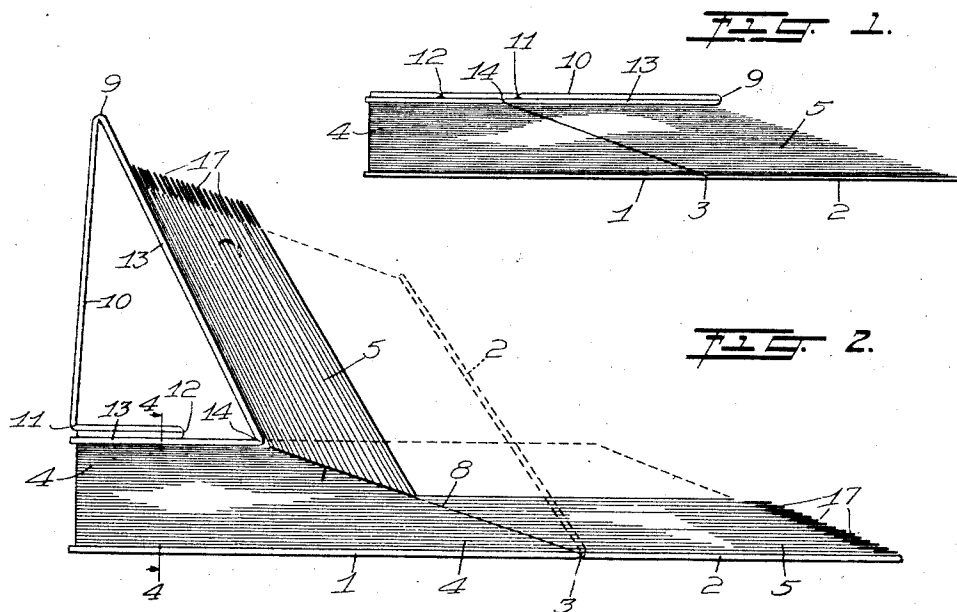
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C. A. MEILICKE

INDEX BOOK

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INVENTOR
C. A. MEILICKE
BY *Munn Leo*
ATTORNEYS

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CARL A. MEILICKE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

INDEX BOOK.

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My invention relates to improvements in index books, and it consists in the combinations, constructions, and arrangements herein described and claimed.

5 An object of my invention is to provide an index book having a base and a cover with cards disposed therebetween so as to take up a minimum of space, portions of these cards being foldable upwardly and rearwardly and the cover portion being so constructed as to
10 instantly form a back for supporting the card portions in their turned-back position.

A further object is to provide an index book in which tabs are provided for each card,
15 each card being hinged so that either in the turned-up position or in the normal closed position of the holder all of the tabs are readable.

A further object is to provide a device of
20 the type described in which a base portion is provided, the base portion being hinged to swing upwardly and rearwardly and to constitute not only a means for swinging all the cards upwardly, but also constituting a cover
25 when the cards are in their upturned position.

A further object is to provide a device for holding cards in a horizontal position, whereby one face of the card may easily be seen, or
30 in a position inclined to the vertical, whereby the other face of the card may be easily seen, the adjacent cards having overlapping tabs of transparent material so that the figures, letters or other indicating characters
35 on the tabs may all be seen without the necessity of moving the cards to any particular position.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the following specification, and the novel
40 features of the invention will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming part of this application, in which

45 Figure 1 is a side view of the holder closed, Figure 2 is an enlarged side view showing the holder in its opened position.

Figure 3 is a front view of the device showing certain of the cards turned back,

50 Figure 4 is an enlarged sectional view along the line 4-4 of Figure 2, and

Figure 5 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional view of a portion of one of the cards, showing the scoring to permit the cards to
55 swing.

In carrying out my invention, I provide a

base portion 1 of any suitable material, such as stiff cardboard, leatherette, or similar material. This base portion has an extension 2 which is hinged thereto at 3 so as to fold up-
60 wardly and rearwardly into the position shown in dotted lines in Figure 2.

Upon the base is disposed a series of cards of progressively shorter length. Each of these cards consists of a rear portion 4 and
65 a front portion 5 hinged to the rear portion. I prefer to use cards which have a fabric inner portion and which are finished on both sides thereof with a paper face. Such a card I have shown in section in Figure 5. In this
70 connection, it will be observed that the upper face is provided with a scored line 6, the lower face being provided with a slightly scored line 7. This will permit the card portion 5 upon which the data is to be entered to
75 be swung upwardly and rearwardly in the manner shown in Figure 2. The scored lines 6 form a line of hinges 8 which is parallel to the plane defining the front edges of the cards when the latter are in their closed position.
80 It is therefore apparent that the portions 5 of the cards are all of the same size, while the portions 4 are progressively shorter.

The top is composed of a double thickness of cardboard or similar material, comprising
85 upper and lower strips which are hinged together at their forward edges, as shown at 9. The upper strip 10 is also hinged together at 11 and at 12, while the lower strip 13 is hinged together at 14. The rear ends of the
90 upper and lower strips 10 and 13 are arranged for holding the cards in position. To this end, posts 15, see Figure 4, are passed through the cards and screws 16 are provided for securing the card portions 4 between the base
95 portion 1 and the rear sections of the cover members 10 and 13. Referring to Figures 1 and 2, it will be noted that the upper layer of the cover comprises two movable portions and a fixed portion, while the lower layer
100 comprises a movable portion and a fixed portion. The proportions of the movable portions of the upper and lower layers are such that when the cover is moved upwardly and rearwardly, the movable portion 13 of the
105 lower layer will form a substantially upright support for the cards as shown in Figure 2. The short movable portion of the upper layer folds back upon the fixed portion of the lower layer and rigidly supports the portion 10
110 which supports the portion 13. It will thus be seen that I have provided a cover which

when the latter is moved upwardly and rearwardly, the movable portions of the cover will assume a supporting position for the cards.

At the forward edges of each of the card portions 5 are transparent tabs 17. These tabs, as will be observed, overlap, but, being transparent, the numerals or characters on one tab may be seen through the one in the front or the rear of it.

From the foregoing description of the various parts of the device, the operation thereof may be readily understood. The normal closed position of the device is that shown in Figure 1. When it is desired to open the holder, the base portion 2 may be raised and swung into the dotted line position and this will raise the portions 5 of the cards and also the cover portion. The latter will open up so as to form an inclined support of a portion of the member 13 and a brace of a portion of the member 10, as shown in Figure 2 at an angle to the vertical; i. e., in the angle for easiest inspection of the cards.

Since the cards are held by the cover portion, there is no need of providing an additional support. When the cards are in their upper turned-back position, one face of the card is in view and when that particular card is turned down, the opposite face is in view. The device, as stated, obviates the necessity of a separate holder for the cards. When it is closed, as shown in Figure 1, the cards are flat and in a compact arrangement and the holder then forms a book having the tabs so arranged that instant access may be had to the card desired so that by turning the card back those cards that are above, together with the cover portion, will be moved into the position shown in Figure 2, and there will be held stationary in an inclined position.

It will be noted that the tabs are so arranged that when the holder is closed those tabs on the lowermost sheets project out farther, and the tabs on the other sheets are arranged in a series of steps, each succeeding tab being set inwardly from the end of the device. When, however, the hinged portions of the cards are turned to their upper position, then the tabs of the uppermost sheets project out farther than those of the lowermost sheet and the tabs are exposed in steps extending from the uppermost to the lowermost sheet. This tends to expose the data on the tabs to the same extent either in the upper or lower positions of the cards.

I claim:

1. In an index book having a plurality of cards provided with movable portions, a cover having an upper layer and a lower layer hingedly secured together at their forward ends, said upper layer having a stationary portion and two movable portions, said portions being secured together by flexible hinges, the lower layer comprising a stationary portion and a movable portion

hingedly secured together, all of the movable portions of said cover being adapted to be moved upwardly and rearwardly for forming an upstanding support for the movable portions of said cards.

2. An index book comprising a base having a movable portion, a cover having an upper layer and a lower layer hingedly secured together at their forward ends, said upper layer having a stationary portion and two movable portions, said portions being secured together by flexible hinges, the lower layer comprising a stationary portion and a movable portion hingedly secured together, a plurality of superposed cards, all of said cards having a movable hinged portion of the same area adapted to be moved to an upright position and a stationary portion, the stationary portions of the cards being progressively shorter from the lowermost to the uppermost card, the movable hinged portion of the cards being substantially the same area as the movable portion of the base, said cards being scored to form a line of hinges intersecting the hinged connection between the stationary and movable portions of the lower layer and the hinged connection of the base, said movable portions of the cover being movable upwardly and rearwardly to form an upstanding support for any or all of the hinged portions of said cards, the hinged portion of said base being movable to an upper position to cover the hinged portion of the lowermost card when the latter has been moved to its upright position.

3. An index book comprising a base, a plurality of jointed cards and a cover with means binding the base, card and cover together at one end, said cover having separate upper and lower layers hingedly secured together at their forward ends, said upper layer comprising a short fixed portion, a short movable portion adjacent the fixed portion and a long movable portion, said lower layer comprising a fixed portion longer than the fixed portion of the upper layer and a long movable portion, whereby when the two short portions of the upper layer are superposed the two long portions assume a substantially upright position.

4. An index book comprising a base having a portion hingedly secured thereto, a plurality of cards carried thereby, all of said cards having a movable hinged portion of the same area adapted to be moved to an upright stationary position, a cover having an upper layer and a lower layer hingedly secured together at their forward ends, said upper layer having a stationary portion and a pair of movable portions, said portions being secured together by flexible hinges, the lower layer comprising a stationary portion and a movable portion hingedly secured together, the movable portions of said cover being movable upwardly and rearwardly for

forming a support for the movable hinged portions of said cards when the latter are moved upwardly, and means passing through the stationary portions, the cards and the base
5 for holding the book together.

5. An index book comprising a base having a portion hingedly secured thereto, a plurality of cards carried thereby, all of said cards having a movable hinged portion of the same area adapted to be moved to an upright stationary position, a cover having an upper layer and a lower layer hingedly secured together at their forward ends, said
10 upper layer having a short fixed portion and two movable portions, one of said movable portions being also short and the other considerably longer, said portions being
15 hingedly secured together, the lower layer

comprising a fixed portion and a movable portion hingedly secured together, the movable portion of the lower layer being slightly longer than the longest portion of the upper layer, said movable portions being movable upwardly and rearwardly for forming an inclined support when the short movable portion is laid back upon the fixed portion, and
20 means passing through said fixed portions, said cards and the base for rigidly securing said index book together, the hinged portion of the base being of the same area as the movable hinged portions of said cards and movable to an upright position to cover the hinged
25 portion of the lowermost card when the latter has been moved to its upright position.
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CARL A. MEILICKE.