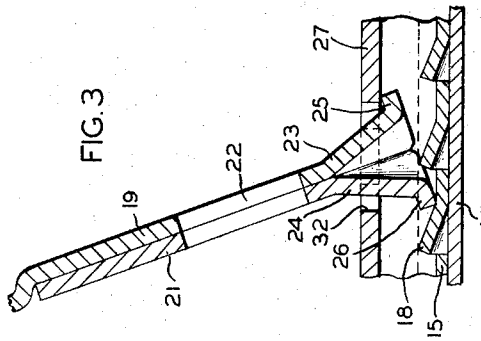
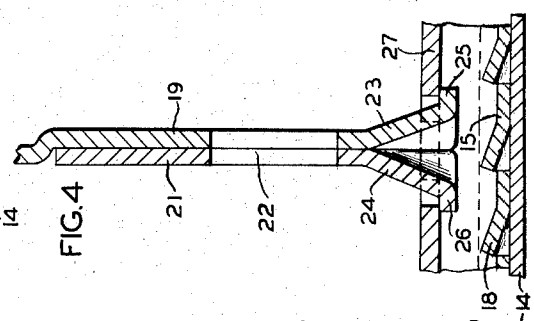
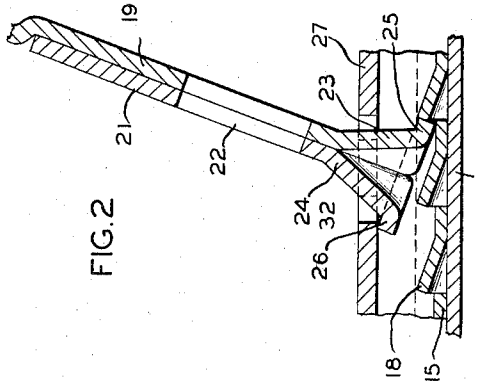
Nov. 18, 1958 W. R. SENECHAL 2,860,643

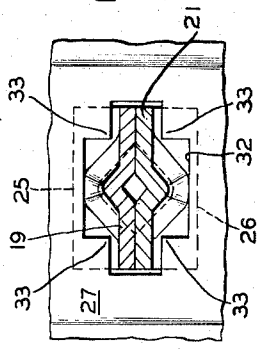
TILTABLE DIVIDER PLATE

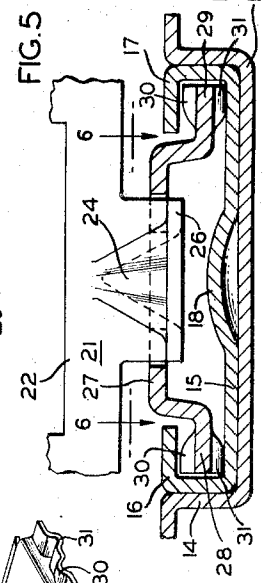
Filed Nov. 19, 1956

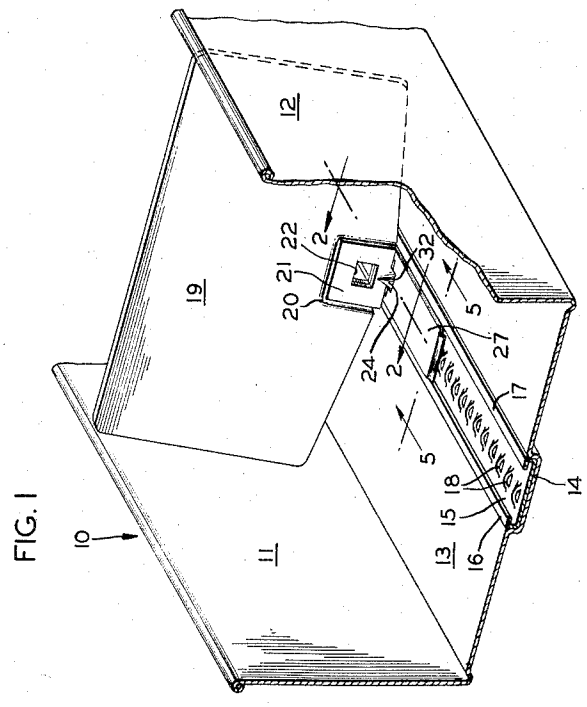


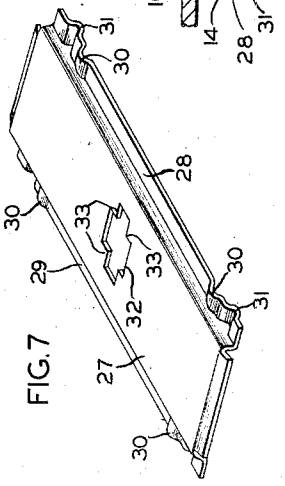












INVENTOR
WALLACE R. SENECHAL
BY Clyde A. Norton
Robert J. Hulsizer
ATTORNEY

United States Patent Office 2,860,643
Patented Nov. 18, 1958

2,860,643

TILTABLE DIVIDER PLATE

Wallace R. Senechal, North Tonawanda, N. Y., assignor to Sperry Rand Corporation, New York, N. Y., a corporation of Delaware

Application November 19, 1956, Serial No. 623,127

4 Claims. (Cl. 129—31)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in divider plates for file drawers and similar receptacles.

The main object of the invention is to provide a simple, efficient, and economical construction of mechanism whereby a divider plate can with the utmost ease be manipulated to be disposed in any desired position within the drawer and maintain said position automatically.

In general and brief terms the invention includes a track member disposed longitudinally along the bottom of the receptacle with a series of spaced stop members thereon, a guide plate held within the track member for slidable movement therealong, said guide plate having an aperture through which a lower portion of the divider plate extends, said opening permitting the tilting of the divider plate, and means on the lower portion of the divider plate to engage the stops when the plate is tilted said means being free of said stops when the plate is moved to a vertical raised position whereby the divider plate and the guide plate may be freely and easily moved along the bottom of the drawer to a desired position and then tilted one way or the other to maintain this desired position.

The present preferred form of the invention is illustrated in the drawings, of which,

Fig. 1 is a partial perspective view of the plate within the file drawer;

Fig. 2 is a partial vertical cross section through the divider plate taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the divider plate tilted in another direction from that shown in Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a similar view showing the divider plate in a vertical position;

Fig. 5 is a partial vertical cross section taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 6 is a horizonal cross section taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5; and,

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the divider guide plate.

As shown in the drawings, the device is employed in a file drawer **10** or similar receptacle, having side walls **11** and **12** and a bottom wall **13**. The bottom wall **13** of the drawer is provided with a longitudinal recess **14** formed integrally out of the material of the bottom wall. In this recess is tight-fitted a track member **15** having upper side edges inwardly turned to form flanges **16** and **17**. The bottom of the track member **15** is struck up at spaced intervals to form projecting teeth **18**, which act as stops for the divider plate **19**.

The divider plate **19** near the bottom on one face is provided with a recessed portion **20** in which is disposed an auxiliary plate **21** preferably welded therein. The lower portions of the plates **19** and **21** are apertured to provide a passage **22** through which, if desired, a card retaining rod may be passed. The lower ends of the plates **19** and **21** are flared outwardly as at **23** and **24**, and at their bottom edges are bent horizontally to form flanges **25** and **26**.

The lower portions of the plates **19** and **21** pass through a cross-shaped opening in a guide member **27**. This member has its top surface lying slightly above the inwardly turned flanges **16** and **17** of the track member **15** as seen in Fig. 5. The side longitudinal edges of this guide member **27** are bent downwardly as flanges **28** and **29** (Fig. 5) and extend under the flanges **16** and **17**. At each end of the side flanges **28** and **29** they are curved upwardly as at **30** and downwardly as at **31** so as to lie closely adjacent the flanges **16** and **17** and the bottom of the track member **15** so as to prevent undue displacement of the guide member as it moves along the track. The cross-shaped opening in the top surface of the guide plate is longer in the transverse direction than in the longitudinal direction as clearly shown in Fig. 7. The four inner corners such as **33** of the surface **27** around this opening **32** clearly prevent the flanges or feet **25** and **26** from tilting beyond a predetermined amount as clearly shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 6.

In the operation of the device, when the divider plate is lifted to a vertical position as shown in Fig. 4, the feet or flanges **25** and **26** are in a plane above the tops of the teeth **18** so that the plate and the guide **27** may be easily slid forward or backward to any desired position. When the desired position is thus reached the plate is allowed to be lowered and tilted in one direction or the other and will be held in that position. As shown in Fig. 2 the plate is tilted so that the flange **25** bears against an upraised tooth **18** and the other flange **26** limits the undersurface of the guide surface **27**. In the other position of the plate shown in Fig. 3, the flange **25** limits against the undersurface of the guide surface **27** and the other flange **26** rests on the upper sloping surface of one of the teeth **18**. In either tilted position of the plate which may be caused by pressure thereagainst of material in the drawer **10** it is clear that the plate will be maintained in this position. On the other hand it is clear that the plate only need be lifted to a vertical position whereupon it may be easily slid back and forth as desired.

While I have described what I consider to be a highly desirable embodiment of my invention, it is obvious that many changes in form could be made without departing from the invention, and I therefore, do not limit myself to the exact form shown herein and described, nor to anything less than the whole of my invention as hereinbefore set forth, and as hereinafter claimed.

What I claim is:

1. In combination with a file drawer having a bottom, a track in the bottom of the drawer and extending longitudinally thereof, said track having a series of spaced upwardly projecting stop elements, a guide plate slidable along and above said track, means on said track and guide plate cooperating to permit the plate to slide along and above said track, said guide plate being apertured, a divider plate having a portion extending through said aperture but disconnected from said guide plate, and having at its lower end outwardly and oppositely flared flanges and capable of being tilted in one direction or another in said aperture, the vertical distance between the stop elements on the track and the under surface of the guide plate permitting the tilting of the divider plate, the flanges at the bottom of the divider plate when tilted respectively engaging the stop elements and the underside of the guide plate to hold the divider plate in this position when tilted.

2. The invention of claim 1, in which the vertical distance between the stop elements on the track and the under surface of the guide plate is such that the divider plate may be lifted in the aperture of the guide plate to a vertical position in which the flanges on its bottom are disposed in a plane above the stop elements in the track

and the divider plate and guide plate may be easily moved along the track to any desired position.

3. The invention of claim 1 in which the track has inwardly turned flanges on its opposite edges and the guide plate has lateral flanges which lie beneath the flanges on the track to hold the guide plate within the track but allows it to be slidable therein.

4. The invention of claim 1 in which the track has inwardly turned flanges on its opposite edges and the guide plate has lateral flanges which lie beneath the flanges on the track to hold the guide plate within the track but allows it to be slidable therein, the guide plate flanges at each end thereof having downwardly and upwardly projecting portions to lie closely adjacent the respective bottom of the track and the underside of the

flanges on the track to limit the vertical displacement of the guide plate within the track.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

1,289,525	Nussey	Dec. 31, 1918
1,918,765	Lombardini	July 18, 1933
2,669,237	Straubel	Feb. 16, 1954
2,759,480	Parent	Aug. 21, 1956

FOREIGN PATENTS

27,117	Great Britain	Dec. 14, 1908
933,880	France	Jan. 5, 1948
444,986	Italy	Feb. 3, 1949