March 2 1943. C. HUENLICH 2,312,907

CABINET

Filed Jan. 7, 1941

Fig. 1

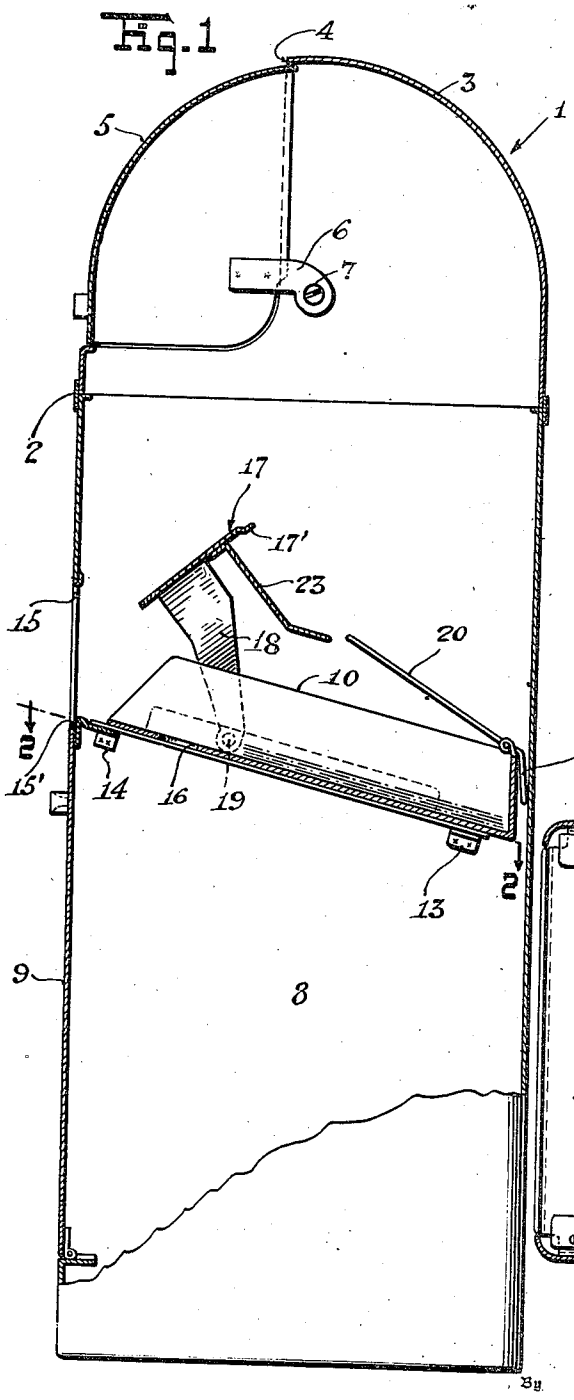


Fig. 3

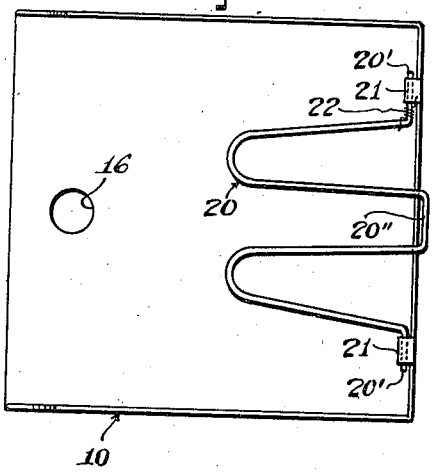
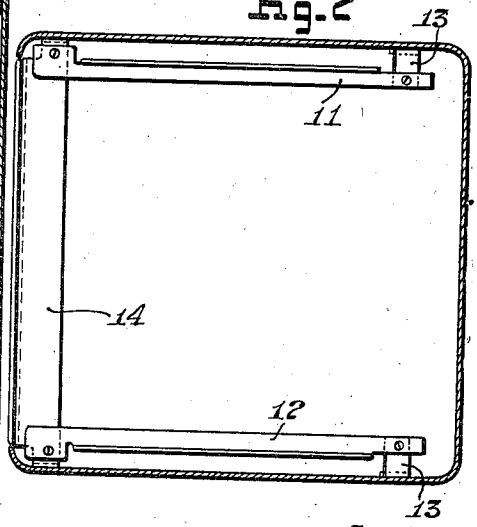


Fig. 2



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2,312,907

CABINET

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Application January 7, 1941, Serial No. 373,381

11 Claims. (Cl. 45—2)

This invention relates to cabinets and more particularly to improvements in cabinets for correspondence, memoranda or other papers. While my invention has particular utility, and is herein illustrated and described, in connection with a cabinet for a phonographic dictating machine, it will be understood that no unnecessary limitation of my invention to such a cabinet is intended.

Cabinets for dictating machines have been provided with interior containers for correspondence, memoranda or other papers such as may relate to the subject matters to be dictated. These containers are very desirably mounted so that they may be readily removed from the cabinet in order to permit ready access to and handling of the entire contents of the container. The removal, and installation, of the container from and into the cabinet is preferably made by way of the cabinet opening through which access is had to the interior of the container, the container being typically supported in line with the cabinet opening to permit its ready removal from the cabinet. The side of the container adjacent the cabinet opening is thus removed to permit insertion of papers into the container; the walls of the container, when the same is in mounted position, may however not extend to the edge of the cabinet opening—for example, in order to permit the use of a closure for the cabinet opening which may move inwardly of the cabinet into open position. Particularly in such arrangements, there is the possibility that papers, as they are inserted in the cabinet opening, will not suitably enter the container and will therefore become misplaced with a resultant inconvenience and loss of time to the operator of the machine.

It is an object of my invention to provide the container with movable means which is positionable to effectively guard against such misplacement as is above mentioned.

It is another object to control the positioning of this movable guard means so that the same will not interfere with the removal and installation of the container from and into the cabinet.

It is a further object of my invention to fulfill the above-stated objectives with a form of container which will permit ready inspection of the contents thereof when the container is removed. To this end there is preferably employed a container in the form of a tray. To prevent papers as they are inserted into the cabinet opening from becoming misplaced in—as through the same sliding over the sides, particularly the back, of the tray—the tray is provided with a suitable guard attachment.

It is another object to provide the tray with movable means biased to releasably hold the contents of the tray therein while the tray is removed from the cabinet.

It is another object to fulfill the above-stated guarding and holding functions both by means of a unitary attachment on the tray.

It is a further object to control this attachment to effect its respective functions in response to installing and removing the tray into and from the cabinet.

A further object is to cause this attachment to be held in constrained position, wherein the same is effective to fulfill its guarding function, through a biasing of the tray into its mounted position in the cabinet.

A still further object is to provide a further guard means which will effectively cooperate with the guard means of the correspondence container when the closure for the cabinet opening is in open position.

Other and allied objects of my invention will more fully appear from the following description and the appended claims.

In the description of my invention reference is had to the accompanying drawing of which:

Figure 1 is a vertical section of a cabinet embodying my invention, a lower portion of the cabinet being, however, shown in full;

Figure 2 is a partial, sectional view taken substantially on the line 2—2 of Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the correspondence container shown in Figure 1.

The instant invention is illustrated in the accompanying figures in connection with a cabinet 1 for a commercial phonograph of the dictating-machine type. This cabinet has upper and lower portions fitted together as at 2. The upper cabinet portion, which typically houses the phonograph unit (not shown), comprises a closure section 3 having a front opening 4 closeable by means of a cover 5. The cover 5 is provided at its sides with support arms which are pivoted to the sides of the closure section 3, there being for instance on the left side of the machine the arm 6 pivoted as at 7 to the side of the closure section, as shown in Figure 1. The lower cabinet portion serves principally as a place for the storage of materials used in connection with the phonograph. The bottom part of this lower cabinet portion is, for example, usually arranged to form a compartment 8 for the storage of phonograph records, access to the interior of which is had by way of a front door 9 on the cabinet. In the present case, the space between the upper cabinet portion and the compartment 8 is used for the storage of correspondence or other papers, the containing means for which is now described in detail.

The container for such correspondence or other papers is preferably provided in the form of a tray 10 made for example of sheet metal with open top and front sides. The tray is mounted within the cabinet preferably in a position wherein the same inclines downwardly from front

to back, as shown in Figure 1. The tray extends laterally across the cabinet and is supported in the position here indicated by means of two downwardly inclined angle irons 11 and 12 respectively disposed along opposite side walls of the cabinet but at a small distance in from these side walls. The angle irons are carried at their rearward ends by brackets 13 and at their forward ends by a bracket 14 which extends laterally along the front wall of the cabinet, the brackets 13 and 14 each having turned-down lugs suitably secured to the walls of the cabinet as by welding. The tray 10 rests slidably on the angle irons 11 and 12; and, in view of the downward inclination of these angle irons, the tray is biased inwardly by its own weight into a fully mounted position wherein it bears against the back wall of the cabinet.

Access to the interior of the tray 10 from the outside is had through an opening 15 in the front wall of the cabinet. This opening is preferably made large enough to permit the tray to be passed therethrough from and into the cabinet, the opening extending laterally across the front of the cabinet and upwardly from the bracket 14 to a height somewhat greater than that of the tray. To facilitate handling of the tray, particularly the removal of the tray from the cabinet, there is provided a finger-hole 16 in the bottom of the tray near the open end thereof, as shown in Figure 3.

The opening 15 is provided with a closure 17 which is arranged to open inwardly of the cabinet. The mounting for the closure comprises a pair of arms extending rearwardly of the closure and pivoted at their ends to the side walls of the cabinet, there being for instance the left arm 18 pivoted to the cabinet as at 19, as shown in Figure 1. When the closure is in closed position, it seats on the bottom edge 15' of the cabinet opening, and forms an overlap joint with the top edge of the cabinet opening as because of an offset 17' provided in the upward portion of the closure. When the closure is in open position, it overlies the tray and is hidden from view, as shown in Figure 1.

It will be seen in the structure above described that the use of a correspondence container in the form of a tray—that is, without a top—makes the problem much easier of insuring that papers, as they are inserted in the cabinet opening 15, will suitably enter the container. There is however the possibility of papers becoming misplaced and lost, at least temporarily, by way of the same sliding over the back of the tray and falling down into the bottom of the cabinet. To overcome the possibility of such misplacement of the papers, there is pivoted on the back of the tray a guard member 20. This guard member suitably comprises a wire bent substantially in the form of a double U, as seen in Figure 3; the ends 20' of the guard member are however bent outwardly to pivotally engage the brackets 21 provided at the top of the back wall of the tray, and the central portion of the guard member is extended to form an arm 20'' which projects down over the back of the tray. When the tray is in mounted position within the cabinet, this arm 20'' bears against the back wall of the cabinet and serves to hold the guard member in effective position—that is, in an upwardly inclined position wherein the tip of the guard member is, for example, at a distance above the bottom of the tray which is somewhat greater than the height of the cabinet opening 15. As so arranged the guard member will however not interfere with the removal and installation of the tray from and into the cabinet since the guard member will move downwardly into the tray in response to its own weight as the tray is removed from the back of the cabinet and will be moved upwardly into effective position only as the tray is restored to fully mounted position within the cabinet.

It is a feature of my invention to use the guard member above described also as a means to releasably hold the contents of the tray in place while the tray is removed from the cabinet—that is, the guard member is used as a paper weight. While the weight of the guard member may in itself be sufficient to fulfill this function, I preferably bias it down against the bottom of the tray by means of a torsional spring 22 coiled about the guard member and hooked thereon at one end and to the tray at the other end. Thus, as the tray is removed from a fully mounted position within the cabinet to an extent sufficient to free the arm 20'' from the back wall of the cabinet, the member 20 becomes operative to releasably hold the contents of the tray in place, but as the tray is restored to mounted position the member is raised into an upwardly inclined position wherein it is effective to fulfill its guard function above described. In view of the downwardly inclined position in which the tray is mounted, the weight of the tray is effective to hold the same in a fully mounted position against the force which the arm 20'' will exert against the back of the cabinet.

In order to prevent a misplacement of papers through the cabinet opening 15 over the top of the guard member 20 the closure 17 is provided with inward projection 23 which is adapted to cooperate with this guard member when the closure is in open position. For instance, when the closure is open the projection 23 is held in a downwardly inclined position above the tray and to the front of the guard member 20 with the extremity thereof terminating at a level slightly below the tip of the guard member, as shown in Figure 1.

Although I have herein shown and described my invention in terms of a single preferred embodiment, it will be understood that this embodiment is illustrative and not limitative of my invention as the same is subject to many changes and modifications without departure from the scope of my invention, which I endeavor to express according to the following claims.

I claim:

1. In a structure comprising a cabinet having an opening therein: the combination of a container removably mounted in said cabinet, said opening serving as a passageway through which correspondence or other papers may be placed into and out of the container; means movably connected to said container for movement from the container into an outwardly projecting position wherein the same is effective as a guard against a misplacing of papers through said opening in relation to the container; means for urging said guard means downwardly; and means connected with said guard means and cooperating with the cabinet against the action of said urging means for causing the guard means to be held in said outwardly projecting position while said container is in mounted position.

2. In a structure comprising a cabinet having an opening therein: the combination of a container mounted in said cabinet and adapted to

be removed from and installed into said cabinet through said opening, the opening also serving as a passageway for correspondence or other papers to and from the interior of the container when the same is in mounted position; a member on said container movable into an outer position wherein the maximum distance of the member from the side of the container opposite the member is greater than the corresponding dimension of said cabinet opening, said member serving when in said outer position as a guard against a misplacing of papers through said opening in relation to the container; and means to cause said guard member to be moved to said outer guard position as the container is placed into mounted position within the cabinet and to be moved towards the container within the dimensions of said opening as the container is removed from mounted position.

3. In a structure comprising a cabinet having an opening in a side wall thereof: the combination of a tray movable through said opening into and out of a mounted position in said cabinet, said opening also serving as a passageway through which correspondence or other papers may be placed into and removed from said tray; a member movably connected to the back portion of said tray; and means, actuated automatically in response to the movement of said tray into its said mounted position, for moving said member into an upwardly inclined position wherein the same is effective to guard against a misplacing of papers over the back of the tray.

4. The structure as claimed in claim 4, further including a closure for said opening movable inwardly of the cabinet into an open position wherein the same is above said tray; and means moved with said closure, in the opening of the latter, into a cooperating relationship with said guard member wherein to prevent a misplacing of papers through said opening over the top of the guard member.

5. In a structure comprising a cabinet having an opening in a side wall thereof: the combination of a tray movable through said opening into and out of a mounted position within said cabinet, said opening serving as a passageway through which correspondence or other papers may be inserted into and removed from a mounted tray; a member pivoted to the back portion of the tray and biased to bear against matter contained therein to hold the same in place; and means to move said member into an upwardly inclined position out of the tray as the tray is placed into mounted position within the cabinet.

6. In a structure comprising a cabinet having an opening in the front side wall thereof: the combination of a tray removably mounted in said cabinet at said opening, the opening serving as a passageway through which correspondence or other papers may be inserted into and removed from said tray and through which the tray may be removed from the cabinet; a member pivoted to the back portion of the tray and biased against the bottom thereof to bear against matter contained therein whereby to hold the same in place in the tray; and a rearward extension on said member bearing against the back wall of the cabinet when the tray is in mounted position for holding said member in an upwardly inclined position, said tray being movably mounted in a downwardly inclined position whereby the weight of the tray will normally retain the tray in mounted position and said member in its said raised position.

7. In a cabinet structure provided with an opening: the combination of a tray mounted in said cabinet and removable therefrom through said opening, said opening serving as a passageway for inserting papers or the like into said tray; and a member pivoted to the tray having one part overlying the tray and another part overhanging the tray, said other part being adapted to impinge against a wall of the cabinet as the tray is installed into the cabinet through said opening and to cause said one part to be moved into raised position wherein it serves to guide the papers into the tray.

8. In a cabinet of the character described: the combination of a container in the cabinet for papers or the like, said cabinet having an opening through which the papers may be passed and through which said container may be removed; and a wire member pivoted to said container and including a main part overlying the container and biased theretowards and a secondary part overhanging the container and impinged against the wall of the cabinet as the container is installed into the cabinet, the impingement of said secondary part against said wall serving to move said main part into a raised position wherein the same is effective to guide the papers from said opening into said container.

9. In a cabinet structure having an opening in the side wall thereof: the combination of a container removably mounted in said cabinet at said opening, said opening serving as a passageway through which correspondence or other papers may be placed into and removed from said container; a movable member on said container adapted to direct the papers, which are passed through said opening, into the container, said member being urged inwardly of the container into ineffective position; and means, coacting with the cabinet when the container is in mounted position, to hold said member in effective position.

10. In a cabinet structure having an opening therein: the combination of a container removably mounted in said cabinet, said opening serving as a passageway through which correspondence or other papers may be placed into and removed from the container; means movably connected to said container and adapted to be held in an outwardly projecting position, in relation to the container, wherein the same is effective as a guard against a misplacing of papers through said opening relative to the container; means to move said guard means into effective position in response to mounting the tray in the cabinet; a closure for said cabinet opening; and means on said closure adapted to cooperate with said guard means when the closure is in open position.

11. In a cabinet structure having an opening therein: the combination of a tray removably mounted in said cabinet in position to receive correspondence or other papers by way of said opening; a movable member on said tray biased downwardly to retain the papers in the tray when the tray is removed; and means operatively interposed between said member and the cabinet when the tray is in mounted position for holding said guard member in a raised position wherein the same is effective to direct the papers into the tray which are inserted into said opening.

CHARLES HUENLICH.

CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION.

Patent No. 2,312,907. March 2, 1943.

CHARLES HUENLICH.

It is hereby certified that error appears in the printed specification of the above numbered patent requiring correction as follows: Page 3, first column, line 34, for "claim 4" read --claim 3--; and that the said Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein that the same may conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed and sealed this 9th day of November, A. D. 1943.

Henry Van Arsdale,
Acting Commissioner of Patents.

(Seal)

