

Sept. 4, 1945.

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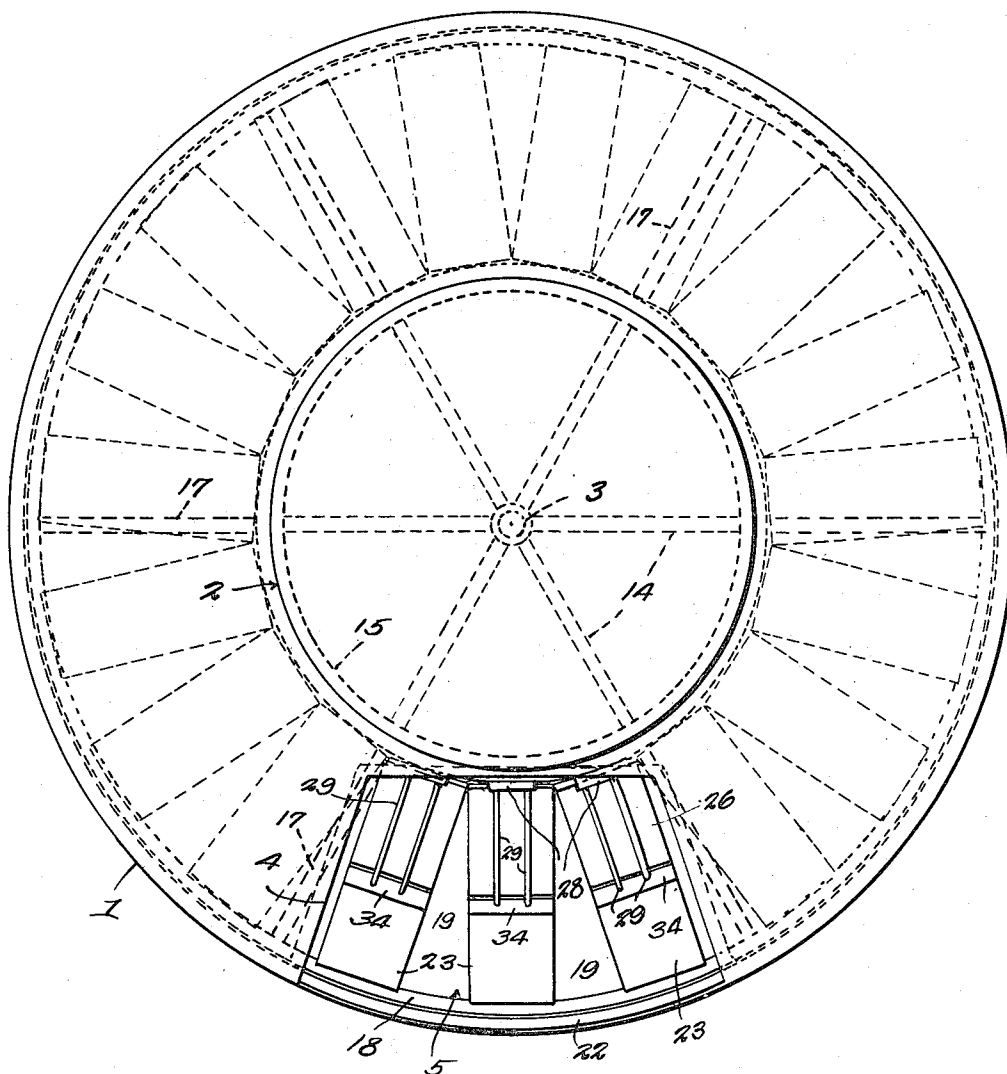
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ROTARY FILE

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4 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.



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Fig. 2.

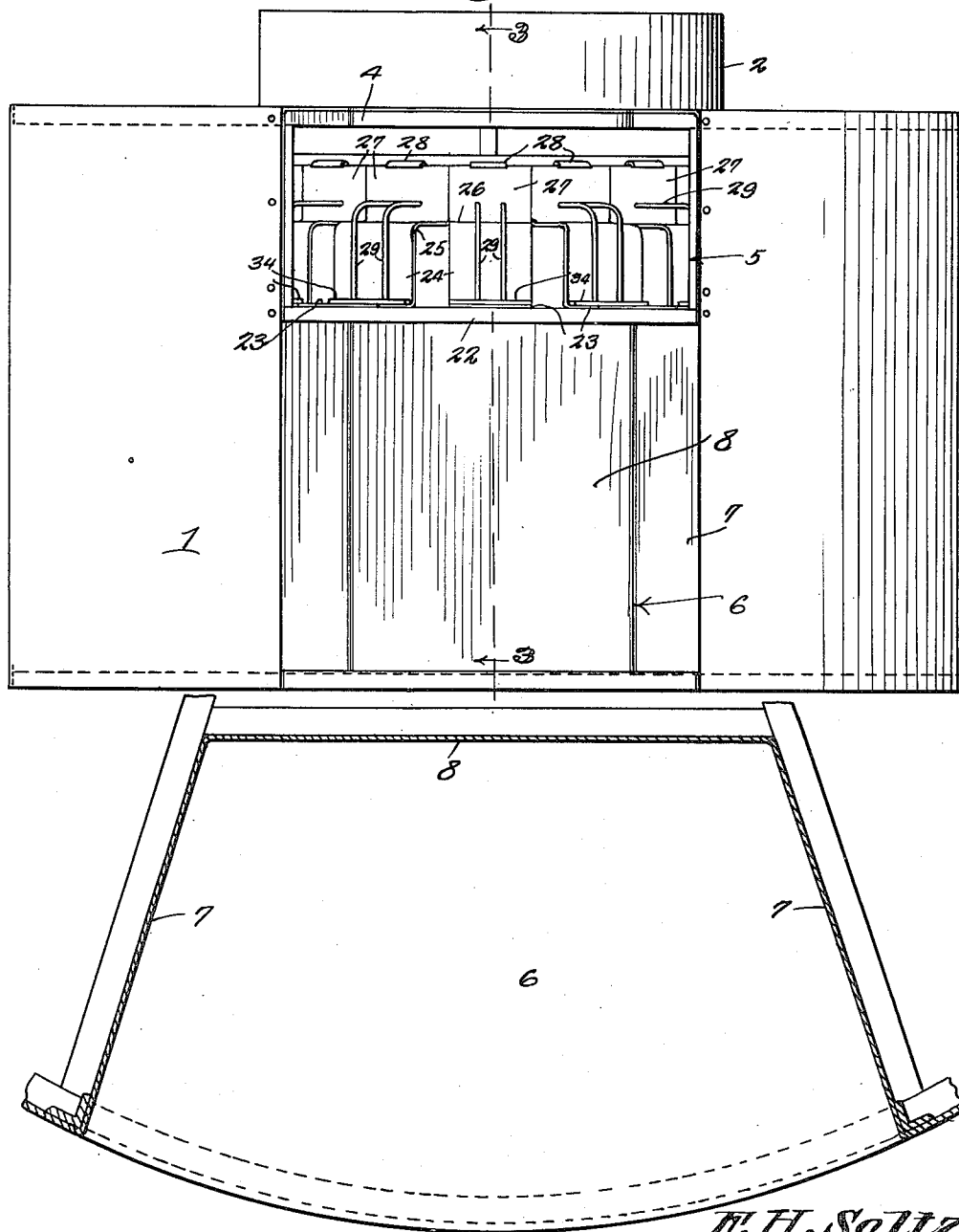


Fig. 4.

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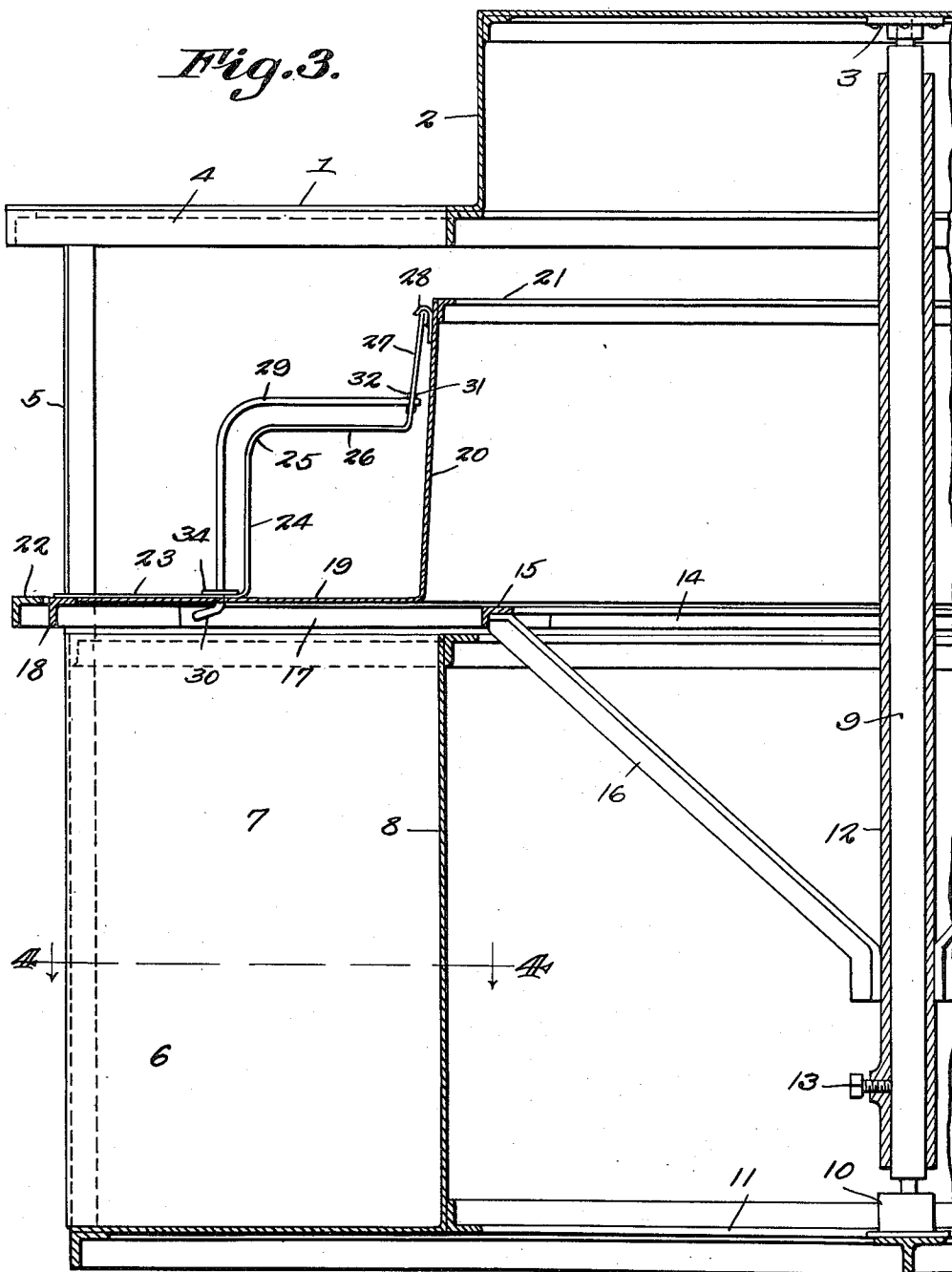
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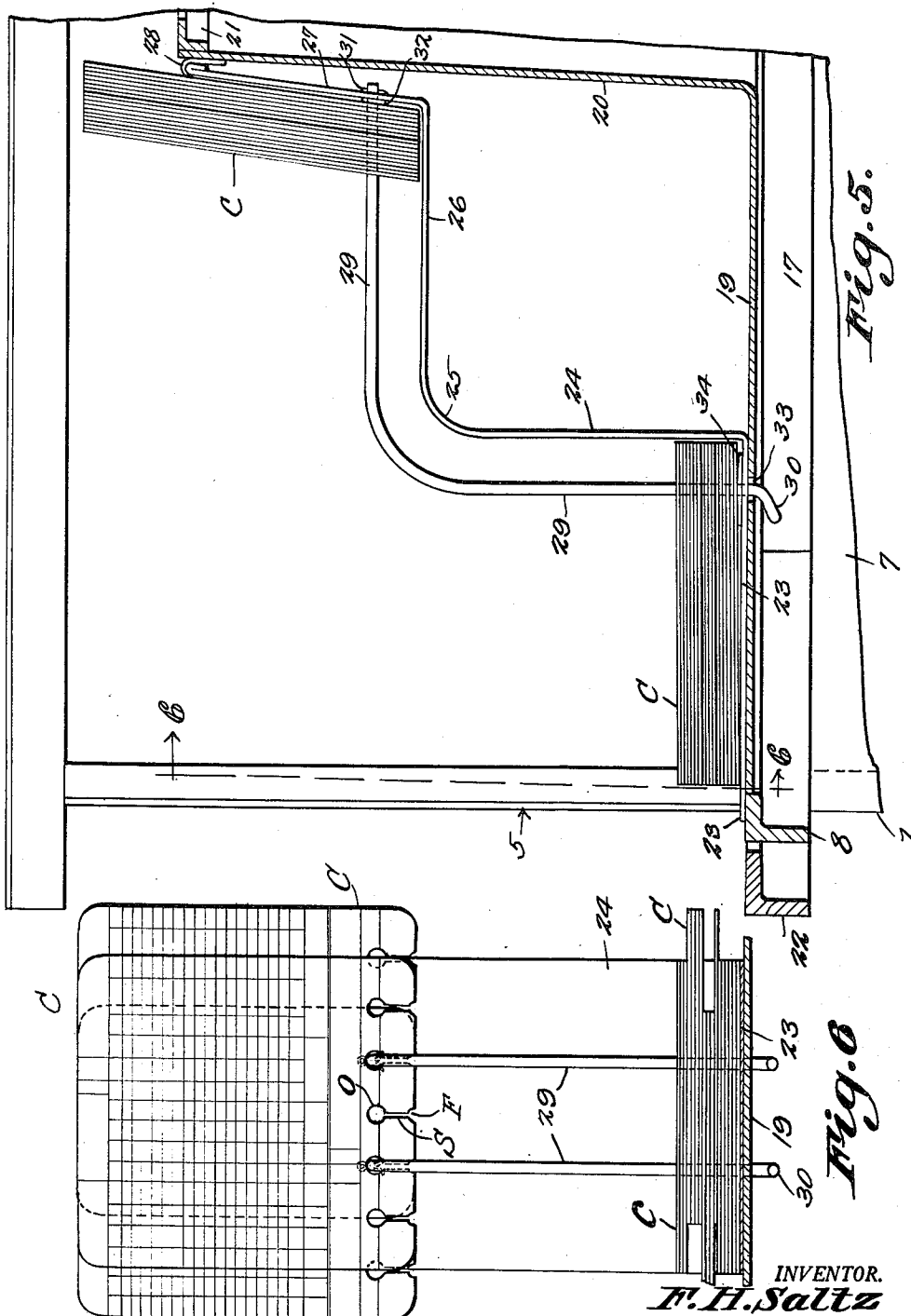
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ROTARY FILE

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7 Claims. (Cl. 45—3)

This invention relates to a rotary file, one of the objects being to provide a cabinet in which an annular series of file sections is mounted for rotation whereby any one of the sections can be brought readily into position for use at a point where the user has convenient access to the cards carried by a selected section.

A further object is to provide a file each section of which is of new and novel construction whereby the cards thereon can be brought either to horizontal or to upstanding positions without disconnecting them from the means engaged thereby.

A still further object is to provide a file section the parts of which can be assembled and disconnected readily but will not readily get out of order.

A still further object is to provide a file section having parallel rods cooperating with a supporting plate, the rods and plate being so shaped as to permit engaged cards to move either to horizontal or upstanding positions therealong.

A still further object is to employ in connection with each file section cards so constructed that they can be placed on or removed from the rods and can be positioned with either end projecting a predetermined distance beyond the corresponding ends of other cards in the same section.

A still further object is to provide a new and novel construction of file and cards applied therewith whereby a rotary perpetual inventory can be maintained for the purpose of following the movement of merchandise, and for other purposes where filing cards are used in considerable quantities.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists of certain novel details of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter more fully described and pointed out in the claims, it being understood that changes may be made in the construction and arrangement of parts without departing from the spirit of the invention as claimed.

In the accompany drawings the preferred form of the invention has been shown.

In said drawings

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the file constituting the present invention.

Figure 2 is a front elevation thereof.

Figure 3 is an enlarged vertical section on the line 3—3, Fig. 2, only one of the file sections being shown.

Figure 4 is a section on line 4—4, Figure 3, said section being on an enlarged scale.

Figure 5 is an enlarged vertical section showing one of the file sections in side elevation.

Figure 6 is a vertical section through a portion of the file taken on line 6—6, Fig. 5, one of the file sections and the cards thereon being shown in elevation.

Referring to the figures by characters of reference, 1 designates a housing preferably cylindrical and provided at the center of the top thereof with a raised portion or dome 2 in which is housed a bearing 3. A portion of the top of the housing is cut away, as at 4 and the front wall of the housing is similarly cut away under the opening 4 so as to provide an upper work recess or opening 5 and a lower recess or knee-hole 6. This knee-hole is closed at the sides and back as shown at 7 and 8 respectively.

A shaft 9 is journaled at its upper end in the bearing 3 and at its lower end in another bearing 10 mounted on the base frame 11 of the housing. This shaft is concentric with the housing and is provided with an elongated sleeve 12 held thereto by a set-screw 13 and adapted to rotate therewith. To this sleeve are secured radial arms 14 the outer ends of which are joined to an inner ring 15 concentric with the sleeve and which, in turn, is braced and reenforced by strips 16 extending downwardly and inwardly from the ring and welded or otherwise connected to the sleeve as shown. Thus ring 15 is held rigidly centered relative to the sleeve and will rotate therewith. Additional radial arms 17 connect ring 15 to an outer ring 18 and mounted on these arms 17 and flush with the top of the ring 18 is a circular plate 19 at the inner end of which is an upstanding cylindrical portion 20. This cylindrical portion is reenforced at the top by a stiffening ring 21.

Plate 19 provides a desk top which is circular and ring 18 forming the outer edge of this desk top is adapted to travel close to the inner surface of the wall of housing 1. A guard rail 22 which is parallel with the adjacent portion of the ring 18 bridges the opening in the wall of the housing and has its top surface flush with the corresponding surface of ring 18 and plate 19.

The file sections are arranged radially on the plate 19. Each of these sections includes a broad flat strip 23 resting on plate 19 and having an upwardly extended portion 24 which merges, along curved lines at 25, into a horizontal or upper portion 26. From the back of this horizontal or upper portion is extended an upwardly projecting wing or terminal 27 the upper end of which is removably seated in an inverted hook 28 attached to the upper portion of cylinder 20. A pair of

rods 29 are provided as a part of each file section. These rods are spaced from but parallel with the portions 24, 25 and 26 of strip 23. The lower ends of the rods are extended through strip 23 and are bent forwardly as indicated at 30, these bent portions being at an acute angle to the bottom of the strip 23. The other ends of the rods are extended through the portion 27 of the strip where they are held by removable cotter-pins 31 or the like, there being a stop-pin or shoulder 32 on each rod so that the portion 27 will be held between this stop and the pin 31 as shown for example in Fig. 5. Thus the rods 29 will be held against accidental displacement relative to the strip 23 and the upwardly and backwardly extending portions 15 of the strip.

A pair of openings 33 are provided in the plate 19 for each of the file units and these openings are located where the forwardly and downwardly bent ends 30 of the rod can be inserted downwardly into them. Thereafter the file section is swung downwardly and moved forwardly relative to plate 19 and the upwardly extending portion 27 is sprung under the hook 28. Thus the unit is held assembled with the plate 19 and drum 20. Any desired number of these units may be radially disposed on the plate 19, depending upon the capacity of the file. All of the units are so located, however, that any one of them can be brought readily into position at the opening 5 so that the user of the file can have quick and convenient access to any card on any one of the file sections.

The cards used in connection with the file sections are preferably of the type illustrated in Fig. 6 wherein each card C is provided along one edge with five regularly spaced openings O each having a slit S leading therefrom to the edge of the card, the outer end of the slit being flared as shown at S. These openings are so spaced that the distance between ultimate openings is equal to the distance between the rods 29 of the file section or unit. Thus the cards can be placed on the rods in staggered relation, some cards being extended greater distances to the right than others, other cards being extended greater distances to the left than others and some of the cards being centered. Thus the cards can be positioned for indicating various conditions or classifications. All of the cards on the rods can be slid downwardly into horizontal positions on strip 23 as shown at the left of Fig. 5 or they can be slid upwardly along the rods into upstanding positions against the portion 27 of the unit. Any card can readily be removed simply by pulling it forcibly off of the rod and a card can likewise be easily placed on the rod because of the use of the flared portion F of the slit S.

Guard rail 22 and plate 19 are located at the standard desk top level so that the user of the file can be seated at the knee-hole 6, thus bringing the forward or exposed file sections or units above the lap of the user.

Any one of the units can be removed readily simply by swinging it out of engagement with the hook 28 and then swinging it forwardly and upwardly to allow for withdrawal of the forwardly extended ends 30 of the rods 29.

For the purpose of supporting the rods 29 within the strip 23 they can have stop strips 34 connected to them, these strips resting on the strip 23, as shown.

What is claimed is:

1. A file including a housing having an opening in the front wall thereof, a rotary structure within the housing including a top plate and a

cylinder extending upwardly from the top plate, said top plate extending close to and across the opening in the housing and dividing the interior of the housing adjacent to the opening into an upper work recess and a lower knee-hole recess, and a plurality of file sections mounted on the top plate and extending radially from the cylinder, each of said sections including parallel upwardly extended rods merging into portions extending backwardly toward the cylinder, said rods constituting means for engaging and guiding index cards, and a strip connecting the rods at their ends and having portions spaced from but parallel with the rods, said top plate being movable over the knee-hole recess to bring any selected file section into position within the work recess.

2. A file including a housing having an opening in the front wall thereof, a rotary structure within the housing including a top plate and a cylinder extending upwardly from the top plate, said top plate extending close to and across the opening in the front wall of the housing and dividing the interior of the housing adjacent to the opening into an upper work recess and a lower knee-hole recess, and a plurality of file sections mounted on the top plate and extending radially from the cylinder, each of said sections including parallel upwardly extended rods merging into portions extending backwardly toward the cylinder, said rods constituting means for engaging and guiding index cards, a strip connecting the rods at their ends and having portions spaced from but parallel with the rods, said rods having projecting lower end portions, there being apertures in the top plate for the reception of said end portions, and means on the cylinder for detachably engaging one end portion of the strip, said top plate being movable over the knee-hole recess to bring any selected file section into position within the work recess.

3. A file including a housing having an opening in the front wall thereof, a rotatable element within the housing including a top extending across the opening and dividing the interior of the front portion of the housing into an upper work recess and a lower knee-hole recess, a cylinder upstanding from the top and concentric therewith, and a plurality of file sections mounted on the top and radiating from the cylinder, each of said sections including a single strip of material bent to provide a bottom, an upstanding portion, a horizontally extending portion, and an upwardly extending terminal, means on the cylinder for detachable engagement by said terminal, rods secured to said terminal portion and extending along lines parallel with the upwardly and horizontally extending portions of the strip, said rods having ends extending through the bottom of the strip, there being openings in the top for receiving said ends, the said rods constituting means for engaging and guiding index cards and cooperating with the strip to support the cards in either horizontal positions on the bottom portion of the strip or in upstanding positions on the upper portion of the strip said top being movable over the knee-hole to bring any selected file section into position within the work recess.

4. A file including a housing having an opening in the front wall thereof, a rotatable structure in the housing extending across the opening, said structure including a top and a concentric upwardly extended cylinder, said top extending close to and across the opening in the front wall of the housing and dividing the interior of the housing adjacent to the opening into an upper work recess and a lower knee-hole recess, and a plurality of

radially disposed file sections or units mounted on the top, each including a single length of sheet material bent to provide a bottom, an upstanding portion, a horizontally extending portion and an upwardly extended terminal, means on the cylinder for engaging the respective terminals to hold them detachably against the cylinder, rods anchored detachably in the terminal portions of the strips and extended along lines parallel with the upstanding and horizontal portions of the strips, said rods being spaced from the strips and having hooked ends projecting downwardly beyond the bottom portions of the strips, there being openings in the top for the reception of the hooked ends, said hooked ends and the terminal-engaging means cooperating to hold each section detachably in position on the top and relative to the cylinder, said top being movable over the knee-hole to bring any selected file section into position within the work recess.

5. In a file, the combination with a stationary housing having an opening in the front wall thereof, of a desk including a rotatable top mounted within the housing and exposed through and across the opening, said top dividing that portion of the interior of the housing adjacent to the front opening into an upper work recess and a lower knee-hole recess, and an annular series of card-holding units radially disposed upon the desk top and movable therewith into the work recess for successive exposure through the opening in the housing.

6. In a file the combination with an apertured desk top, of a filing unit including a single length

of sheet material bent to provide an apertured bottom removably mounted on said top, an upstanding portion, a horizontal portion merging into the upstanding portion along curved lines, and an upwardly extending apertured terminal portion, parallel rods extending through the apertures in said bottom portion and the apertured desk and providing terminal hooks extending under said bottom portion and desk constituting means for holding them together, and means for detachably anchoring the rods in the apertures of the apertured terminal portion, said rods being spaced from the strip and cooperating therewith to stiffen the strip and detachably engage and support index cards.

7. In a file the combination with an apertured desk top and a retaining element above and fixed relative to the desk top, of a filing unit including a single length of sheet material bent to provide an apertured bottom removably mounted on said top, an upstanding portion, a substantially horizontal portion merging along curved lines into the upstanding portion, and an upwardly extended apertured terminal portion removably engaging said retaining element, parallel card-holding rods removably seated in the apertures in the bottom and terminal portions, and spaced from the upwardly extending and horizontal portions, hooks on the rods extending through and under the desk top and constituting means for holding the desk top and apertured bottom detachably connected, and means for detachably connecting the rods to the upstanding portion.

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