No. 898,034. PATENTED SEPT. 8, 1908.

H. BRUNN.

CARD CHAIN FOR SYSTEMATIC FILING OF MEMORANDA.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 8, 1907.

Fig. 1.

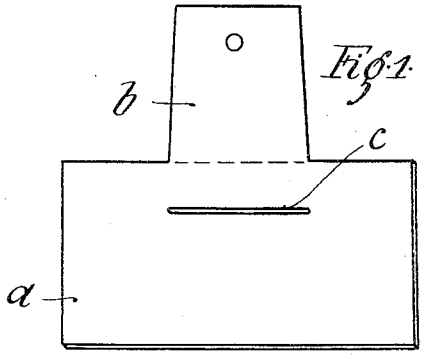


Fig. 2.

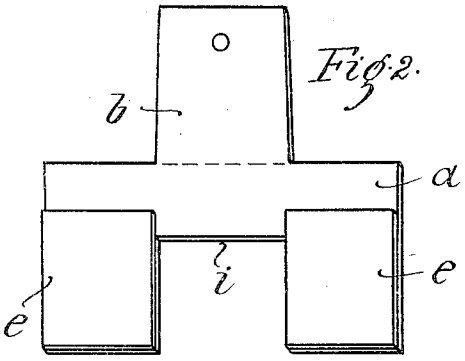


Fig. 3.

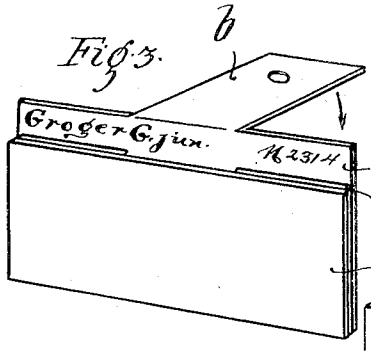


Fig. 4.

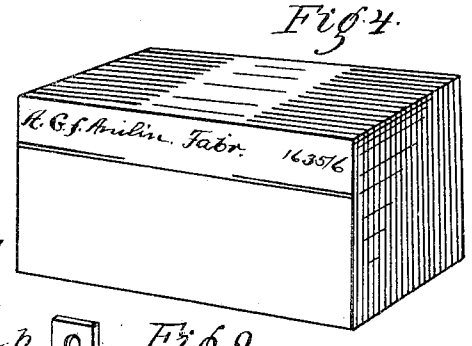


Fig. 9.

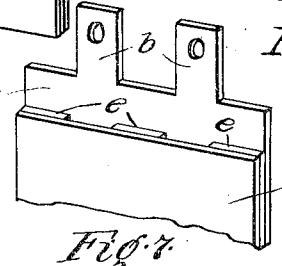


Fig. 5.

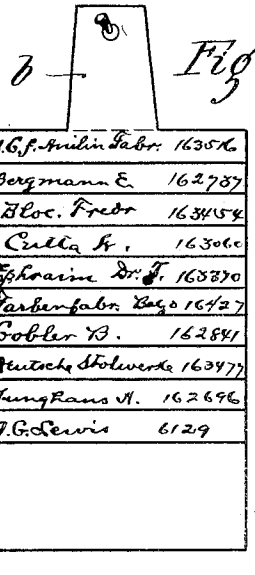


Fig. 6.

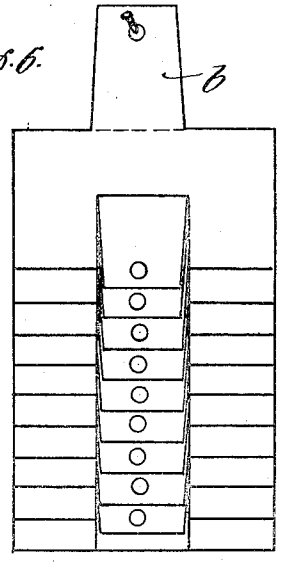


Fig. 7.

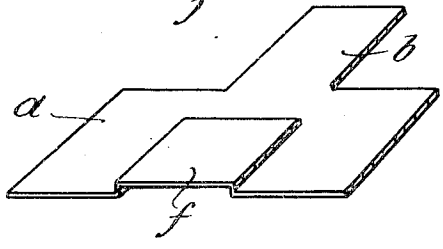
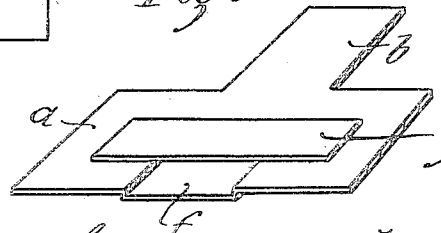


Fig. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERMANN BRUNN, OF MUNICH, GERMANY.

CARD-CHAIN FOR SYSTEMATIC FILING OF MEMORANDA.

No. 898,034. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 8, 1908.

Application filed January 8, 1907. Serial No. 351,388.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERMANN BRUNN, professor, citizen of Bavaria, residing at Munich, Bavaria, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Card-Chains for Systematic Filing of Memoranda; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The present invention relates to chains of cards for the systematic filing of memoranda and the like, and to improved means for collecting and filing the same.

It is already known that receptacles of any kind, in the form of pockets, frames, boxes, etc., themselves containing memoranda-cards or the like, may be linked together by means of buttons or hooks sliding in slots in such a way that a connected chain is formed, the several links of which may be either pushed together for the purpose of storing, or pulled apart to make the whole easier to survey.

It is also known that any desired number of memoranda-cards may be connected in the form of a chain, of which the separate units may at any time be linked in any desired order.

The chain of cards forming the subject of the present invention is distinguished from the above-mentioned known devices by each single memoranda-card having at the top a tongue and further a slit or loop parallel to the upper edge, through which the bent-down tongue of the preceding card can be passed, so that each card can slide up and down over the surface of the preceding card without disengaging the chain.

A chain of cards may advantageously be employed in all cases where it is necessary to arrange systematically registers, memoranda or the like which undergo a constant change, or where it is desired to file a constantly accumulating amount of short notices, the final bulk of which will not be too great. But the use of card-chains for more voluminous material is in no way excluded. Thus the chain of cards may be employed with especial advantage in a library for the formation of a temporary catalogue of books newly added, or for making a separate catalogue of smaller divisions of larger collections of books (theses, treatises and lists of those books which are still incomplete), further for all kinds of registers of addresses, lists of members, for compiling programs, announcements, bills of fare, tableaux, etc., which undergo a change every day, but yet consist on the whole of a certain number of fixed components in daily differing arrangements. These are a few of the principal uses to which such a card-chain can be put. Its use, however, is not limited to written memoranda, for every group of differing units which can be arranged singly within the space of one line without perceptibly increasing the thickness of the card and which require and are adapted for systematic filing may be filed by means of card-chains; for instance, collections of patterns, color-samples, etc.

The essential advantage of this card-chain as compared with other known similar devices lies in the fact that the cards can slide over each other without becoming disengaged, so that the chain of cards when not in use can be pushed together and will then take up very little space.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 is an elevation of a unit of a card chain embodying the invention; Fig. 2 is a similar view of another form of unit; Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a unit according to Fig. 1 with its tongue partially bent; Fig. 4 represents the card chain closed; Figs. 5 and 6 are respectively a front and rear elevation of the chain extended; Figs. 7 and 8 represent in front and rear view another form of unit; and Fig. 9 is a fragmentary view of a further modified form.

Referring to the drawings, in Fig. 1 is shown a plan view of such a card unit of a chain in its simplest form of construction with a tongue *b* and slit *c*.

Figs. 2 and 3 show another form of such a card unit in two different stages of construction; in this form the opening for the tongue consists of a slit in the form of a pocket made by pasting or otherwise attaching two pieces of cardboard *e e* to the front of the card *a*, an open space being left in the middle equal to the width of the tongue, (Fig. 2); upon the pieces *e e* a strip of cardboard or the like is pasted, its width being equal to the width of the card *a*, and its upper edge forming with the help of the side-pieces *e e* the upper boundary of the opening or groove for the tongue *b*.

Figs. 4 to 6 show a card-chain composed of several such cards or card units, in Fig. 4

closed or pushed together in the form of a pack for convenience of storing when not in use, and in Figs. 5 and 6 open or pulled out for use and hung up on a nail by means of the hole in the tongue of the last card, Fig. 5 being a front and Fig. 6 a back view of the card-chain. Yet another form of such a card unit is shown in perspective in Fig. 7 (front view) and Fig. 8 (back view). In this form the slit for the tongue is made by raising the central portion of the card *a* by pressing or other suitable means. A strip of card *g* (Fig. 8) is fixed across the back of the groove to prevent the tongue from rising and thereby breaking the chain.

Referring again to Fig. 2, it will be seen that the free space *i*, which is provided to reduce bulk and prevent undue friction, does not extend to the uppermost limit of the groove for the tongue; a part of the card *a* extends across the top of the back of the groove, thereby also preventing a rising of tongue in that the form of construction shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

It will be obvious that the examples given above are not the only possible forms of construction for such card units of a card-chain, but the essential features in all forms of construction will always be the tongue and the slit, pocket, groove, loop of wire or metal or similar spring or device, however formed for the reception of the tongue. Obviously also each card-chain unit may be provided with two tongues *b'* and two openings *c'*, grooves or the like instead of one as indicated in Fig. 9; this arrangement may advantageously be adopted in the case of large-sized cards.

A card-chain is formed from a number of card units by pushing the tongue of the second card into or through the groove or slit of the first card, then the tongue of the third card through the slit of the second, and so on for all cards, the order of precedence of course being decided by the inscriptions on the cards. If now the pack of cards thus formed is pulled out or opened by lifting the first card by means of its tongue (Figs. 5 and 6), a space on each card equal to the distance of the slit from the upper edge of the card will become visible (Fig. 5); this space alone is intended for the inscription, memorandum, etc., and therefore the opening out of the pack will result in all inscriptions becoming at once visible.

A single card of a chain can be easily removed or a new card inserted at any desired point if the chain is disengaged by lifting the tongue out of its groove at this point. This can be most conveniently accomplished if the chain is hung up as shown in Fig. 5, both hands being then free to manipulate the cards; a better supervision of the whole is also hereby possible. But it is also practicable to take the pack in the left hand and to draw it slightly apart with the right, which method has the advantage of making it possible for the operator to sit at a table when working.

Having now described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A card chain unit consisting of a card having a tongue and an opening parallel to and at a distance from the tongue-bearing edge and of a length at least equal to the width of the tongue.

2. A card chain unit consisting of a card having a tongue projecting from its upper edge and an opening parallel to and at a distance from the tongue-bearing edge in line vertically with the tongue and of a length at least equal to the width of the tongue.

3. A card chain unit consisting of a card having a plurality of tongues and openings parallel to and at a distance from the tongue-bearing edge and of a length at least equal to the width of the tongues.

4. A card chain unit consisting of a card having a plurality of tongues projecting from its upper edge and openings parallel to and at a distance from the tongue-bearing edge in line vertically with the respective tongues and of a length at least equal to the width of the tongues.

5. A card chain unit consisting of a card having a perforated tongue projecting from its upper edge and an opening parallel to and at a distance from the tongue-bearing edge in line vertically with the tongue and of a length at least equal to the width of the tongue.

6. A card chain comprising units each consisting of a card having a tongue and an opening parallel to and at a distance from the tongue-bearing edge and of a length at least equal to the width of the tongue, the cards arranged one in front of the other with the tongues of each card bent back upon the card and extending through the corresponding opening in the card next to the rear to link the several cards together.

7. A card chain comprising units each consisting of a card having a tongue projecting from its upper edge and an opening parallel to and at a distance from the tongue-bearing edge in line vertically with the tongue and of a length at least equal to the width of the tongue, the cards arranged one in front of the other with the tongue of each card bent back upon the card and extending through the corresponding opening in the card next to the rear to link the several cards together.

8. A card chain comprising units each consisting of a card having a plurality of tongues and openings parallel to and at a distance from the tongue-bearing edge and of a length at least equal to the width of the tongues, the cards arranged one in front of the other with the tongues of each card bent back upon the

card and extending through the corresponding opening in the card next to the rear to link the several cards together.

9. A card chain comprising units each consisting of a card having a plurality of tongues projecting from its upper edge and openings parallel to and at a distance from the tongue-bearing edge in line vertically with the respective tongues and of a length at least equal to the width of the tongues, the cards arranged one in front of the other with the tongue of each card bent back upon the card and extending through the corresponding opening in the card next to the rear to link the several cards together.

10. A card chain comprising units each consisting of a card having a tongue and an opening parallel to and at a distance from the tongue-bearing edge and of a length at least equal to the width of the tongue, the cards arranged one in front of the other with the tongues of each card bent back upon the card and extending through the corresponding opening in the card next to the rear to link the several cards together, and means to retain the tongues in their bent position.

11. A card chain comprising units each consisting of a card having a tongue projecting from its upper edge and an opening parallel to and at a distance from the tongue-bearing edge in line vertically with the tongue and of a length at least equal to the width of the tongue, the cards arranged one in front of the other with the tongue of each card bent back upon the card and extending through the corresponding opening in the card next to the rear to link the several cards together, and means to retain the tongues in their bent position.

12. A card chain comprising units each consisting of a card having a plurality of tongues and openings parallel to and at a distance from the tongue-bearing edge and of a length at least equal to the width of the tongues, the cards arranged one in front of the other with the tongues of each card bent back upon the card and extending through the corresponding opening in the card next to the rear to link the several cards together, and means to retain the tongues in their bent position.

13. A card chain comprising units each consisting of a card having a plurality of tongues projecting from its upper edge and openings parallel to and at a distance from the tongue-bearing edge in line vertically with the respective tongues and of a length at least equal to the width of the tongues, the cards arranged one in front of the other with the tongue of each card bent back upon the card and extending through the corresponding opening in the card next to the rear to link the several cards together, and means to retain the tongues in their bent position.

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

HERMANN BRUNN.

Witnesses:

LOUIS F. MUELLER,

ABRAHAM SCHLESINGER.