United States Patent [19]

Stasio et al.

[11] **3,758,219**

[45] **Sept. 11, 1973**

[54] **LOOSE LEAF NOTEBOOK SHEET LIFTER**

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[22] Filed: **Mar. 23, 1971**

[21] Appl. No.: **127,137**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **402/80 L,** 402/24

[51] **Int. Cl.** **B42f 3/00**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 281/42; 402/80 L, 402/80 R, 4, 24

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A device for lifting or turning the pages of a loose leaf notebook simultaneously so that the openings of the individual pages do not get caught and torn by the notebook rings, the device consisting of tensioning hook units which at one end are anchored to the notebook rings and at their other ends are hooked over the notebook edges so that when the notebook is closed, all the pages move on the rings simultaneously as one unit to prevent individual sheets or pages getting hung up on the hooks.

1 Claim, 5 Drawing Figures

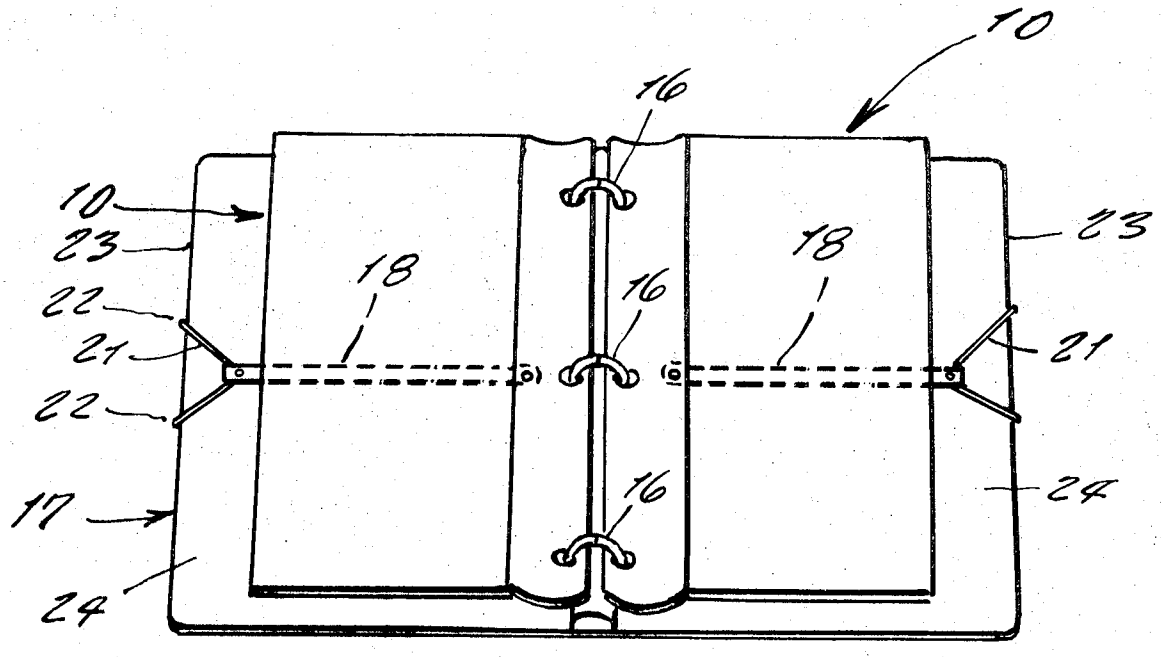


Fig. 1

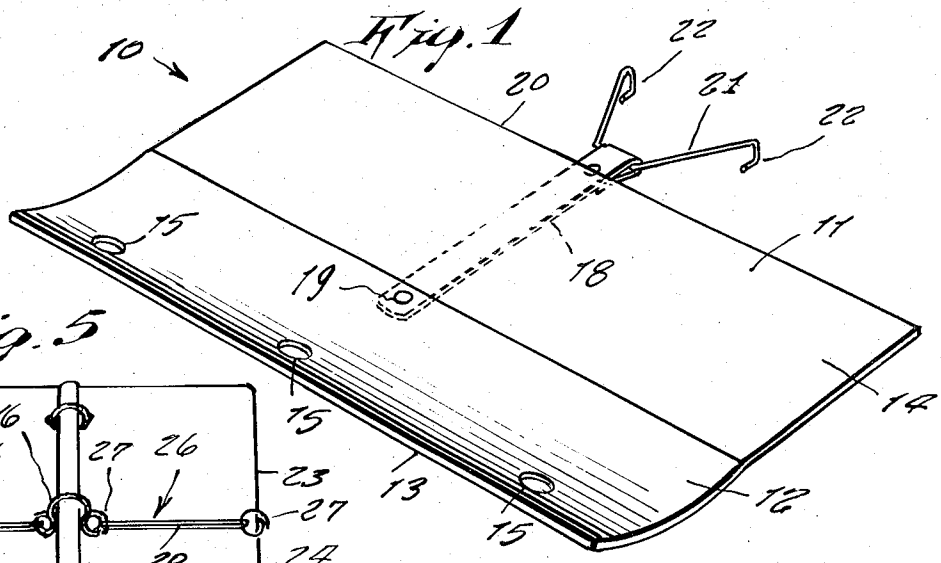


Fig. 5

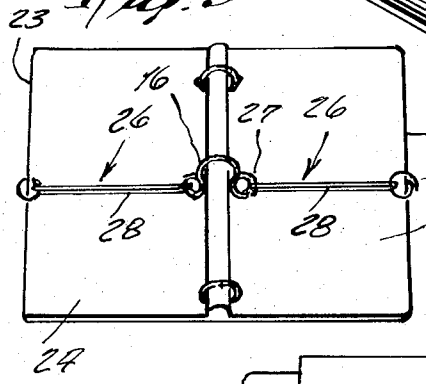


Fig. 2

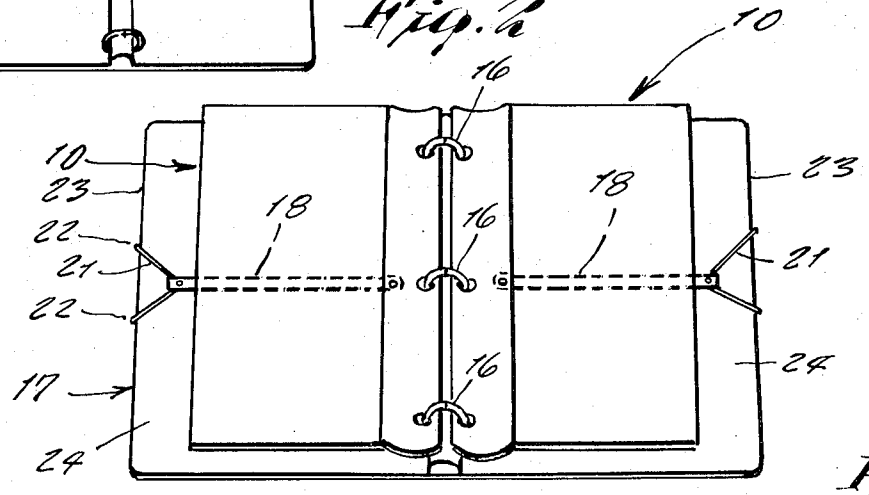


Fig. 4

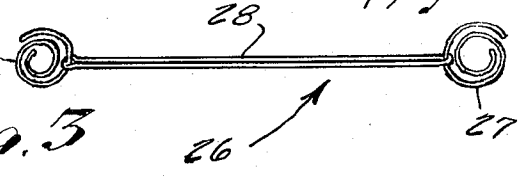
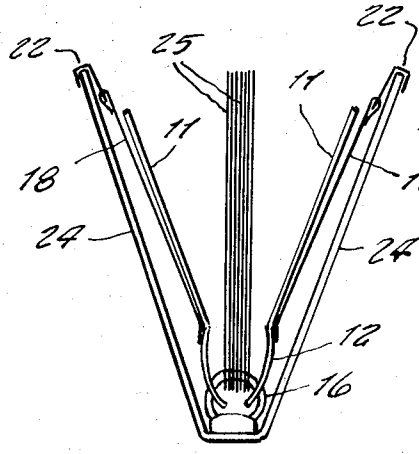


Fig. 3



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LOOSE LEAF NOTEBOOK SHEET LIFTER

This invention relates generally to loose leaf notebooks.

It is generally well known that when a loose leaf notebook containing many sheets of pages is closed from a flat open position, that the pages do not travel simultaneously on the notebook rings, so that some of the pages do not travel the full distance as the others toward a fully closed position of the notebook. This in time causes the openings of pages that do not travel fully to gradually become torn on the notebook rings, as such pages tend to slide relative to each other so that the opening edges of each page, unprotected by the opening edges of adjacent pages, get caught on the ring partings and gradually get torn by them. This situation is accordingly in want of improvement.

Accordingly, it is a principle object of the present invention to provide a means whereby the notebook pages are turned or lifted together as one unit so to prevent damage to the individual page openings.

Another object is to provide a sheet lifter which holds the pages together while the notebook is being closed.

Yet another object is to provide a sheet lifter which prevents the outer pages to drag behind and separate from the other pages during a notebook closing operation so that when the notebook is closed none of the pages has travelled only a part distance on the rings and separated from the others.

Further objects of the invention will appear as the description proceeds.

To the accomplishment of the above and related objects, my invention may be embodied in the form illustrated in the accompanying drawings, attention being called to the fact, however, that the drawings are illustrative only, and that changes may be made in the specific construction illustrated and described within the scope of the appended claims.

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of one form of the invention.

FIG. 2 is a view of a loose leaf notebook shown in open position and incorporating the invention that is illustrated in FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is an edge view thereof.

FIG. 4 is a side view of a modified design of the invention.

FIG. 5 is a view of a loose leaf notebook shown in open position and incorporating the form of the invention that is illustrated in FIG. 4.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, and more particularly at this time to FIGS. 1 to 3, the reference numeral 10 represents a page lifter according to the present invention wherein there is a stiff panel 11 of plastic, hard surface cardboard or the like, the panel 11 having a transverse curve 12 along one end edge 13 while the remainder 14 thereof is flat. A series of openings 15 along the edge 13 serve to receive rings 16 of a loose leaf notebook 17. A flat band 18 of metal or plastic is secured at one end by a rivet 19 to the curved portion of the panel, the opposite end projecting beyond an opposite edge 20 of the panel and being secured to a center of a V-shaped spring wire 21 which has a hook 22 at each opposite end for tension securement over the edge 23 of the notebook cover 24.

In operative use, it is now evident that when a sheet lifter 10 is secured to each cover 24 of the notebook and the pages 25 are placed between the two sheet lifters, such pages are urged to keep together during a notebook closing operation because tension on the curved portion of the panel causes this portion to travel close adjacent the endmost page 25 and prevent the page to lag behind the others so that when the notebook is closed all the pages are together and aligned with one another on the notebook rings.

In FIGS. 4 and 5, a modified design of sheet lifter 26 is shown to comprise a pair of spiral shaped hooks 27 made of spring steel or equivalent other material so that they can be springly flexed. The hooks are connected together by a rubber band 28. One hook is secured to a ring 16 of the notebook 17 and the other hook is secured over the notebook edge 23 of the cover 24.

In operative use, the tension of the rubber band causes the hook on the ring to urge the endmost pages 25 to stay adjacent the other pages during a notebook closing operation as above described.

While certain novel features of our invention have been shown and described and are pointed out in the annexed claims, it will be understood that various omissions, substitutions and changes in the forms and details of the device illustrated and in its operation can be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What we claim as new and desire to secure by U.S. Letters Patent is:

1. A sheet lifter for a looseleaf notebook, for turning a group of pages together simultaneously as one unit, so to prevent individual turning and hanging up of a single page on the notebook rings and becoming torn thereby, said sheet lifter comprising a panel made of stiff material of uniform thickness, said panel being rectangular and having a singular cylindrically arcuately curved portion along one longitudinal end of said panel, and which extends the entire length thereof, while the entire remaining other longitudinal end forms a singular flat portion that starts adjacent said curved portion so that a longitudinal corner is formed between said cylindrically arcuate portion and said flat portion, said arcuate portion being entirely on one side of a flat plane of said panel flat portion, said arcuate portion being displaced from said flat plane in a transverse direction towards its convex side so that the concave side faces the flat plane, and the longitudinal panel edge that is adjacent the curved portion is approximately alined with said flat plane said cylindrically arcuate portion having a series of openings along an edge of said panel for being engaged by said notebook rings, a narrow transversely extending flat band of stiff material being secured at its one end to a convex surface of said arcuate portion by a single rivet in the vicinity near which it is adjacent said flat portion, a major part of said band extending adjacent one side of said panel flat portion and extending transversely thereacross beyond an opposite edge of said panel, the oposite end of said band being looped and secured to a center of a V-shaped spring steel wire which has a hook formed at each opposite end for being engaged around the outer side edges of a notebook cover; said panel in operative use being positioned between an inner side of said notebook cover and said pages of said notebook, whereby tension of said spring steel wire draws said panel in a direction toward said hooks so that said arcuate portions prevent said single pages to lag behind other pages when said notebook is being closed.

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