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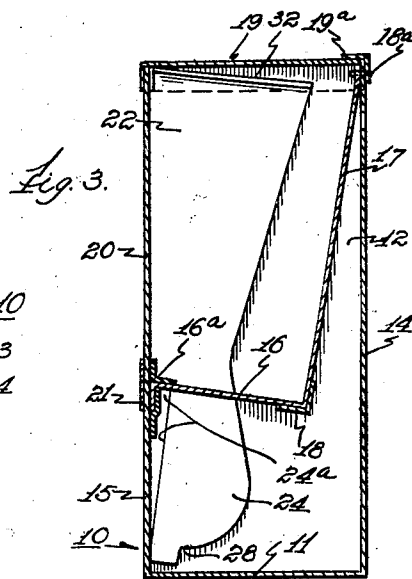
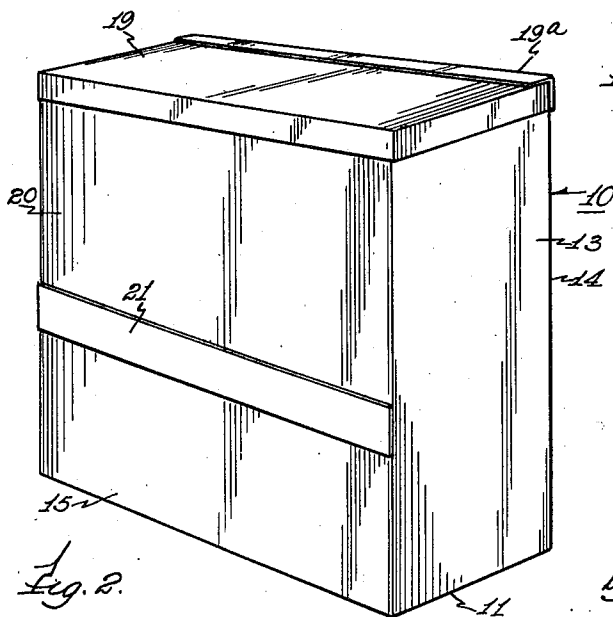
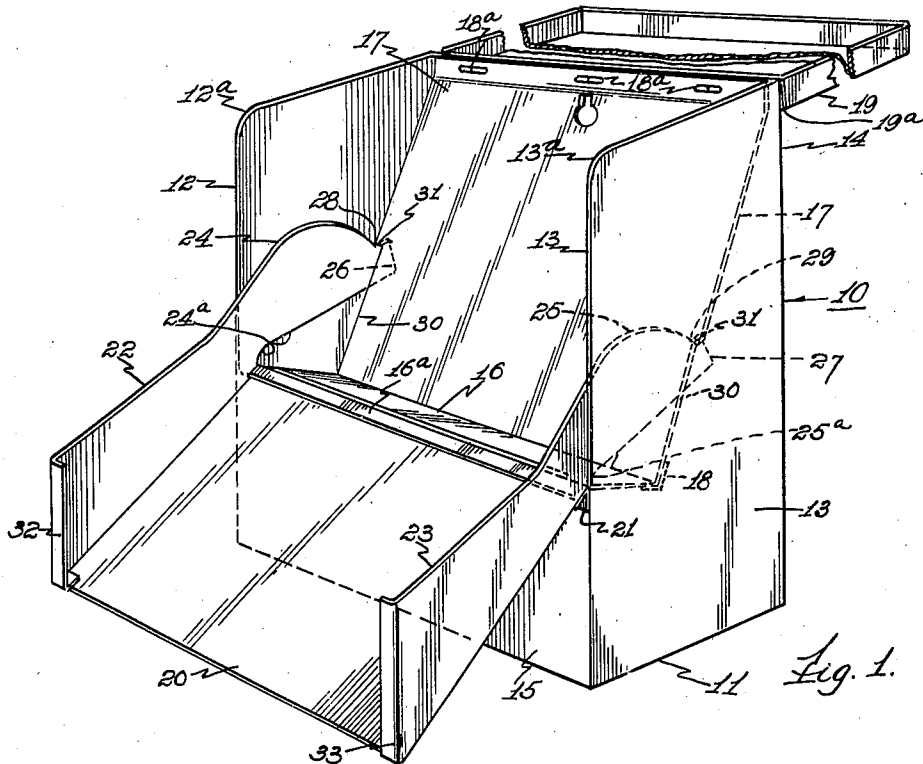
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2,331,472

COMBINATION FILING CABINET AND DESK UNIT

Filed May 14, 1943

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

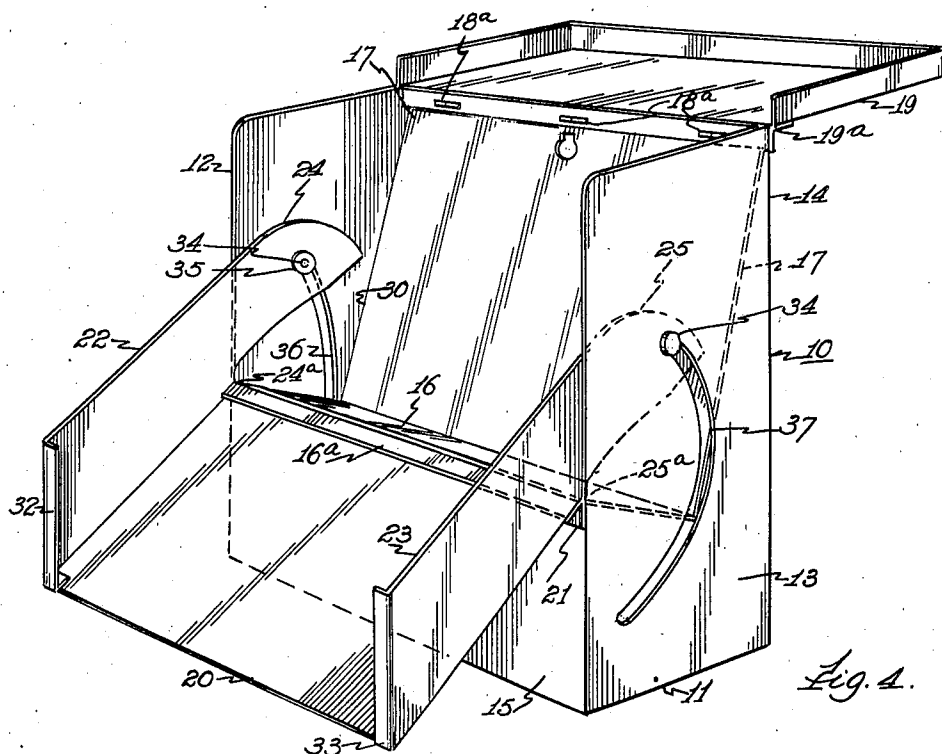


Fig. 4.

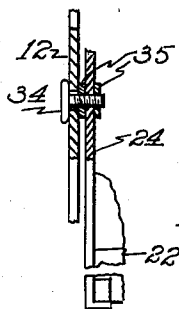


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COMBINATION FILING CABINET AND
DESK UNIT

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7 Claims. (Cl. 129—43)

This invention relates to a portable filing and posting cabinet or box and desk unit of the general type wherein record-bearing cards or paper blanks are periodically posted and maintained for the purpose of maintaining a systematic, accurate record which may be conveniently referred to.

It is an object of this invention to provide a novel filing and posting cabinet for cards or blanks wherein the closable receptacle is substantially of rectangular cross section, and having an inner inclined bottom or shelf and a sloping, or inclined inner back panel or support against which the cards or blanks normally rest when in upstanding positions upon said inner bottom or shelf, and wherein a hingedly mounted work or desk panel which, when in non-use, forms a portion of the receptacle or cabinet, is pivoted in downwardly inclined position to form an incline convenient work surface and support for the hand as in usual posting.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a card and record cabinet adapted for use in connection with record bearing cards on which entries are to be made on either or both sides thereof, and wherein the larger portion of one of the side walls of the cabinet is hingedly mounted to permit opening and closing movement thereof, and which is provided with guards or guide flanges and braces extending into the cabinet and which guides of said pivoted work or desk panel have inwardly turned end flanges adapted to stop the cards from sliding entirely off said panel.

A further object of my invention includes the provision of a portable posting and filing cabinet for record-bearing cards consisting of a receptacle or cabinet openable at its upper end having the side panel pivotally mounted and provided with upwardly extending side flanges or guides and braces whereby said pivoted work panel will be supported in open inclined position, and wherein the cabinet has an inner inclined supported bottom extending rearwardly from the point of pivotal connection of said pivotally mounted work panel.

A further object of the invention is the provision of posting and filing cabinets of the general type referred to in the preceding paragraphs wherein one or more of the side or end walls of the receptacle or cabinet are provided with arcuate guide slots wherein projections secured on the braces of the pivoted work panel slide during opening and closing movement of said work panel.

Other and further important objects of my invention will be apparent from the following description and claims.

This invention (in one preferred form) is illustrated in the accompanying drawings and said illustrated form is herein described by reference to reference numerals.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a preferred form of my novel combination filing and posting cabinet and desk unit, portions of the cover being partially broken away.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view thereof with the posting panel or desk unit closed and with a cover closed thereon.

Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view taken on a vertical plane through the center of the unit.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of said filing and posting cabinet and desk unit wherein guide slots are provided in the end panels of the unit which cooperate with projections of inwardly extending braces to support the work panel or desk unit in open and work position.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged cross sectional view illustrating the mounting, in the braces or arms, of headed guide elements which slide in slots of the cabinet end walls.

Referring to the drawings, reference numeral 10 generally designates a cabinet or receptacle of any suitable material such as wood, paper, fibre board, metal, or other cellulosic or equivalent material, and which is defined by a substantially flat bottom 11, and upwardly extending end walls 12 and 13, a connecting back wall 14, and a relatively shorter connecting front wall section or panel 15. Said bottom, said walls and wall section or panel are connected at their respective junctures in any presently known suitable manner, as for example, in the case of cardboard or fibre board, such secureance may be by adhesive or overlapping and connecting cemented strips, or fastening elements or the like. The stationary front wall section 15 extends upwardly from bottom 11 preferably less than one-half of the distance to the upper edges of the container. The upper corners of the end walls 12 and 13 are preferably rounded or beveled substantially as indicated at 12a and 13a respectively.

Reference numeral 16 designates an upper inner bottom or shelf, hereinafter also designated as the inner bottom or panel, which is preferably secured and supported in inwardly inclined position though having its forward edge areas secured in position along the upper edge of the stationary front wall section 15 by any suitable

means, as for example, cement or suitable fastening elements. To facilitate securance of said forward edge of inner bottom 16, the forward edge may optionally be bent angularly and downwardly as illustrated in the cross sectional view of Fig. 3 and suitably cemented to the inner surface of stationary front wall section 15. Said inner bottom 16 is preferably, though optionally, secured or connected to the edge portion of the hinged or pivoted work panel 20, hereinafter described, by an adhesive strip of fabric or paper 16a which is secured in position overlying the joint or juncture between the aforesaid parts.

Said inner bottom 16 is preferably slightly inclined inwardly as indicated in the drawings, and its inner portion is connected to or joined with the lower edge portion of an inner inclined back panel 17 which may be made of paper, fibre, wood, metal or other suitable relatively stiff material. Said inner back panel 17 lies in an inclined plane as indicated and extends upwardly to the upper edge of the back wall 14 to which back wall it is secured in any suitable manner, as for example, by a plurality of optional staples designated as 18a, or by cement or other fastening means.

It will be noted that the inner bottom or shelf 16 in combination with the inclined inner back 17 will normally hold cards or other record blanks in upstanding position and in slightly inclined position so that the same will not of themselves tip over toward the user, though they may conveniently be tipped or pivoted as desired upon the work panel or desk unit 20 for convenient entries thereon. In instances where the inner bottom 16 and inner back panel 17 are made of separate pieces of material, the same may be connected together at their angular junctures by any suitable fastening elements or means, as for example, an adhesive flexible strip 18 as illustrated in Fig. 3.

A suitable outer adhesive fabric or fibrous strip designated as 21 may optionally be secured between the pivoted work panel 20 and lower wall section 15 to form an additional optional hinge element, it being understood that the cemented fabric strip 16a functions similarly as a hinge means.

I have illustrated in this preferred form an optional hinged cover designated generally by reference numeral 19 having optional angularly extending flanges or flaps and one edge area of said cover 19 being hingedly pivoted to the upper edge portion of the cabinet back wall 14 by any suitable hinge element, as for example, a flexible fabric gummed strip 19a as illustrated in Fig. 3.

Reference numerals 22 and 23 designate upwardly extending guide members or side walls or side wall sections which extend upwardly from the lateral edges of the pivoted work or desk panel 20, and these being preferably perpendicular with reference to said pivoted work panel 20. Said guides, flanges, or side walls 22 and 23 may optionally be formed integral with the pivoted work panel 20 by suitable cutting and bending of a sheet or blank of suitable material. Formed integral with the side flanges, guides, or side walls 22 and 23 are inwardly extending tongues, projections, or braces 24 and 25 respectively which terminate at the inner ends in integral extensions 26 and 27 respectively, the edges of said extensions forming recessed shoulders 28 and 29 respectively at the junctures thereof with the upper edges of said braces. The extensions or braces 24 and 25 are preferably recessed at

their normally inner or lower edges so as to maintain such edges, designated as 24a and 25a, slightly spaced from the front wall section 15 to thereby provide for easier closing of said work panel or desk unit.

The inner inclined back panel 17 has the lower parts of its opposite lateral edge areas recessed or cut away as illustrated particularly in Fig. 1 to form openings or slots 30, each of which terminates at its upper end in right angled shoulder 31. The opposite ends of the inclined inner bottom 16 terminate short of the side walls 12 and 13 so as to provide spaces forming continuations of the slots 30.

The shape and lengths of the braces 24 and 25 are such that their inner integral extensions 26 and 27 will not contact either the rear wall 14 or bottom 11 when said pivoted work panel 20 is opened or closed, and the location of the shoulders 23 and 29 forming parts of the edge areas of said braces are such that said shoulders will engage the respective shoulders of inner inclined back 17 to thereby brace and hold the desk or work panel 20 in inclined position and in such positions which are most convenient for the user and to conveniently support the cards or blanks, and in some instances also the hand.

In some posting upon cards or blanks, entries are made upon the reverse sides of the cards and in such instances the user may quickly and easily grip one or more cards and tip them forward and down, i. e., face downward upon the pivoted work panel 20 and in superposed position, successively making the respective entries. Either in the aforesaid manual movement of the cards or in any other desired movement of the cards, whichever side thereof is to have entries affixed thereto, the cards are moved between the side walls or guide flanges 22 and 23 which guide them and cause them to be positioned and superposed upon the pivotal work panel 20 in uniform and accurate position with respect to each other. In order that convenient means may be provided for uniformity in stacking the successively moved cards upon which entries have been made, and so that a completed group or stack thereof may be easily placed upon the inner bottom panel 16, I provide inwardly extending stop flanges 32 and 33 respectively which are preferably formed integrally with guides or side flanges 22 and 23 respectively by turning the end portions thereof inwardly toward each other so that the end edges will lie closer together than the distance between the end edges of the record cards to be utilized.

As the cards or blanks are successively placed upon the pivoted work panel 20, they will be gradually normally slid to the lowest possible point wherein their opposite end portions contact the stop flanges 32 and 33. This results in the successive cards becoming uniformly superposed and positioned to maintain an even stack so that when a series of postings have been made the entire stack or group thereof may be quickly and easily moved back and stood in position upon the inner inclined bottom 16 merely by closing of the pivoted work panel 20 to closed position, as illustrated in Fig. 3.

I have illustrated in Figs. 4 and 5 the aforesaid combination record cabinet and desk unit wherein each of the integral pivoted braces 24 and 25 has securely mounted therein a headed or flanged bolt or screw 34 by means of opposed threaded nuts 35 which are positioned on opposite sides of each of said braces so as to hold the headed or flanged portion of the bolt in substantially

perpendicular position with respect to the brace in which it is mounted. Where this bracing means is employed, the end walls 12 and 13 of the container or cabinet are provided with suitably positioned arcuate slots 36 and 37 in substantially the location indicated in Fig. 4 and with the point of the hinge means of the pivoted work panel 20 as the axial point. The head or flange portions of the bolts 34 are adapted to slide in slots 36 and 37 respectively, the flanges 10 or heads thereof engaging the outer surfaces of end walls 12 and 13 respectively.

I am aware that various changes may be made in the embodiment of the invention herein specifically described without departing from or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention or any features thereof, and nothing in the above description shall be construed as limitations upon the invention, its concept or structural embodiment as to the whole or any part thereof as set forth in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a combination card filing cabinet and portable posting desk unit, a substantially cube-shaped box having a bottom and a perpendicularly extending outer back wall and parallel side walls extending upwardly from said bottom, and having a relatively short front wall section connecting said side walls and merging with said bottom; an inner inclined back panel connected at its upper edge with the outer back wall and extending downwardly to points above the container bottom and having extensions on its lateral edges; an inclined bottom panel connected to the upper edge areas of said front wall section and extending to the lower edge portions of said inner inclined back panel whereby the card units normally supported thereon will be held substantially parallel to said inner back panel; a substantially rectangular front panel hingedly connected to the upper edge portion of said front wall section and adapted to close the front opening of said container; upwardly extending side walls on said hinged front panel having inwardly extending flanges on their outer ends adapted to form retaining stops for cards or the like; inwardly extending tongue-like braces integral with the inner end portions of said side walls of said hinged front panel, the ends of said last mentioned braces being adapted to engage the extension of said inclined inner back panel.

2. In a card filing and posting unit of the described class; a substantially cubicle box having parallel side walls and connecting back wall extending upwardly from the bottom thereof and having a lower front section connecting the lower parts of said side walls; an inwardly inclined shelf extending inwardly from the upper edge of said lower front wall section; an inner inclined back panel extending from the upper edge portion of said back wall to form a juncture with said shelf at points between said back wall and said front wall section, said inner back panel having its lateral edges cut away over a portion of its length to form slots adjacent the container side walls; a supporting and work panel hingedly connected along one edge to the upper edge portion of said lower front wall section; upwardly extending guides connected to the lateral edges of said hinged work panel and having their inner ends extending into said box and in positions to engage the end portions of said slots to brace said work panel in open position; and inwardly extending stop flanges on the outer ends of said

guides adapted to limit the downward movement of the cards on said work panel.

3. In a card record filing cabinet and posting unit of substantially rectangular cross section and including parallel side walls and vertical back wall and a lower front wall section; an inner bottom panel extending inwardly from the upper edge portion of said front wall section; an inclined inner back panel extending from the upper edge portion of said front wall section to the inner bottom panel; a front wall panel hingedly connected along one edge to said lower front wall section; parallel guide flanges extending upwardly from said hinged front wall panel and flange-like stop means extending angularly with respect to the outer ends of said guide flanges and adapted to limit the downward movement of cards on said hinged panel.

4. In a card record filing cabinet and posting unit of substantially rectangular cross section and including parallel side walls and vertical back wall and a lower front wall section; an inner bottom panel extending inwardly from the upper edge portion of said front wall section; an inclined inner back panel extending from the upper edge area of said vertical wall to the inner bottom panel; portions of the lateral edges of said inclined back panel being spaced from the box side walls to form openings; a front wall panel hingedly connected along one edge to said lower front wall section; parallel guide flanges extending upwardly from said hinged wall panel; braces extending inwardly from said guide flanges and movable in said openings, and a stop member extending inwardly from the outer end of each of said guide flanges and adapted to limit the downward movement of cards on said hinged panel.

5. In a card record filing cabinet and posting unit of substantially rectangular cross section and including parallel side walls and vertical back wall and a lower front wall section; an inner bottom panel extending inwardly from the upper edge portion of said front wall section; an inclined inner back panel extending from the upper edge area of said back wall to the inner bottom panel; a front wall panel hingedly connected along one edge to said lower front wall section; parallel guide flanges extending upwardly from said hinged wall panel; inwardly bent stop flanges on the outer ends of said guide flanges adapted to limit the downward movement of cards on said hinged panel; lateral extensions on said inclined inner back panel forming shoulders upon the lateral edges thereof and forming slots adjacent thereto; and integral extensions on said guide flanges forming braces adapted to engage said shoulders to support said hinged front panel in downwardly inclined position, said braces being adapted to move in said slots and to engage said shoulders to hold said hinged front panel in inclined open position.

6. In a portable filing cabinet for cards or the like, a cubicle container having back and side walls and a bottom and removable cover; a lower stationary front wall section extending upwardly from the container bottom to points below the central area of the container; a pivotal front section hinged along one edge to said lower wall section and, when lowered, being adapted to form a support for card units and for the worker's hand; side wall sections extending upwardly from the two lateral edges of said pivotal front section; inwardly bent flanges on the outer ends of said side wall sections and adapted to form stops for card units; and inwardly extending exten-

sions integral with the inner ends of said side wall sections and adapted to form braces; an inclined shelf secured in said container above the bottom thereof; an inclined inner back panel connecting said shelf and the upper portion of the back wall of said container and having lateral extensions thereon; said extensions of said side wall sections being adapted to engage said inner back panel extensions to support said pivotal front section in open inclined position.

7. In a card record filing cabinet and posting unit of substantially rectangular cross section and including parallel side walls and vertical back wall and a lower front wall section, said side walls having arcuate slots therein; an inner bottom panel extending inwardly from the upper edge portion of said front wall section; an in-

clined inner back panel extending from the upper edge area of said vertical wall to the inner bottom panel; a front wall panel hingedly connected along one edge to said lower front wall section; 5 parallel guide flanges extending upwardly from said hinged wall panel, inwardly bent stop flanges on the outer ends of said guide flanges adapted to limit the downward movement of cards on said hinged panel; braces on said guide flanges extending inwardly; and a pair of laterally projecting stud elements secured in said braces and adapted to move in said side wall slots, the en- 10 gagement of said studs with the upper ends of said slots being adapted to support said hinged front wall panel in open position. 15

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