March 15, 1927. 1,621,304

A. H. ANDERSSON

FILING CASE

Filed Feb. 16, 1924

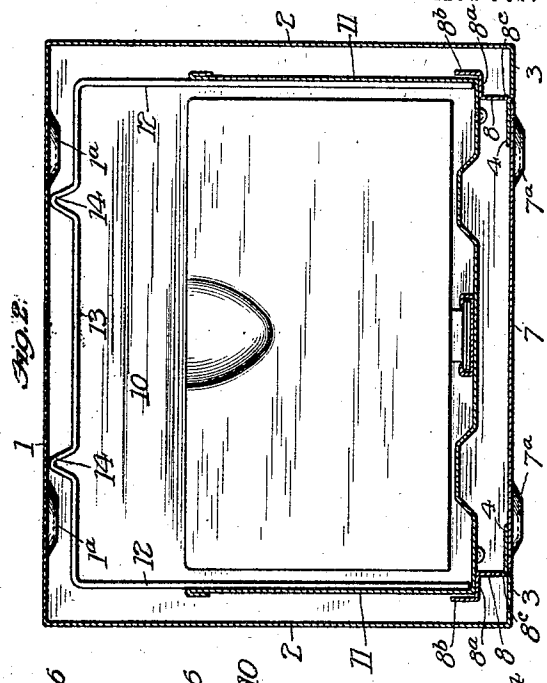

Fig. 2.

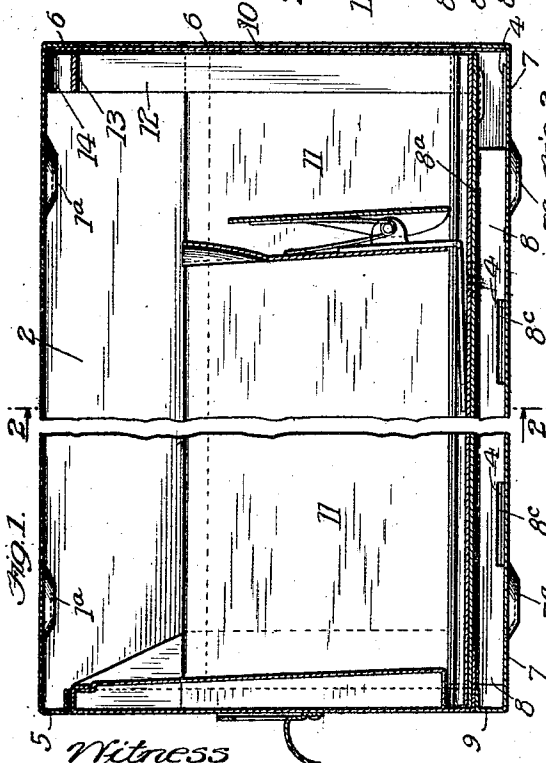

Fig. 1.

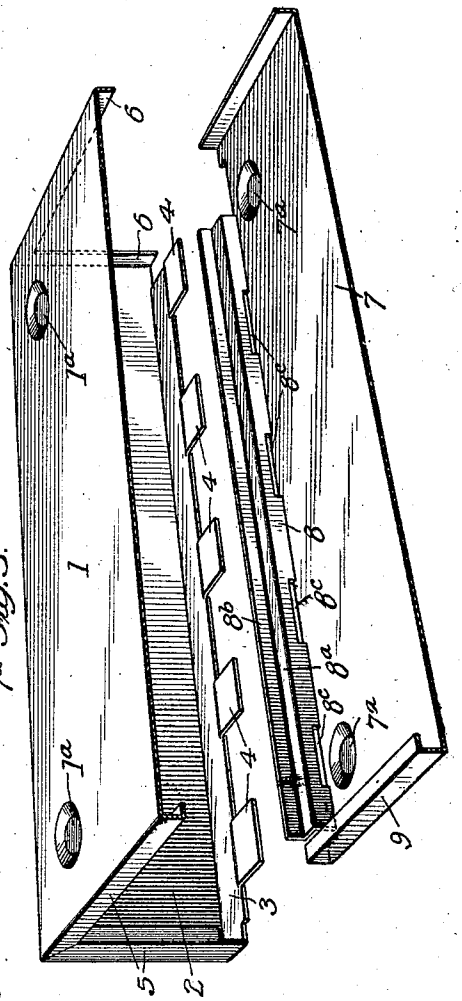

Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FILING CASE.

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My invention relates to sheet metal filing case units consisting of a body casing and a drawer for the reception of cards and the like, generally classified and indexed according to the requirements of the particular use made of them in business offices, libraries, etc., the units being usually adapted to be stacked together in any number desired, to provide for growth of the filing or indexing system. The object of my invention is to provide a novel and desirable formation and construction of the drawer and casing members which together form a filing case unit, wherein the casing member shall be strong and simple in construction and economical to manufacture, the casing and drawer members formed with track and guide members making provision for accurate movement of the drawer without undue friction, and which shall possess advantages of construction and arrangement which shall render the case desirable and well adapted to meet the requirements of users of such articles. With these purposes in view I have devised and invented the filing case hereinafter described in detail, the essential elements of my invention being more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating a filing case unit embodying my invention in a preferred form, Figure 1 is a broken vertical longitudinal section of the unit; Fig. 2 is a transverse section of the same on line 2—2 of Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 is a view showing in perspective the top and bottom members of the casing member of the unit, the side towards the observer being broken away.

Like reference characters indicate the same parts in all the figures of the drawing.

The casing member of my new filing case unit is formed of sheet metal, and consists of three parts, a top member, a bottom member and an end member, each formed from a single blank, bent to shape and welded to the other parts. The top member (see Fig. 3) includes the casing top 1, sides 2—2, bottom flanges 3—3 and offset welding tongues 4 extending inwardly from such flanges, and also includes the L-shaped front finishing flanges 5 extending inwardly from the top and sides, and welding flanges 6 bent inwardly from the top and sides of the top member. The bottom member includes a bottom portion 7, from the sides of which rise upwardly-extending flanges 8 bent on longitudinal lines to provide a track or slideway, each flange 8 having an intermediate horizontal drawer-supporting portion 8^a and a vertical marginal guide portion 8^b. The flanges 8 are perforated at 8^c for the reception of the welding tongues 4 before mentioned. The bottom casing member is also provided with a front finishing flange 9 similar to the finishing flanges 5, and at the rear is formed with a vertical rear welding flange similar to the welding flanges 6 of the top casing member.

To provide for stacking the units vertically and restraining them from lateral disengagement, the top 1 of each casing member is formed with a plurality of downwardly pressed locking seats in the form of shallow depressions 1^a, in the present instance one depression near each corner of the unit; and the bottom member is formed with corresponding protuberances 7^a arranged to seat in such depressions.

The casing members above described are assembled in the relation shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and the rear casing member 10, which consists of a rectangular piece of sheet metal, secured to the flanges 5 and 9 in a suitable manner, as by spot welding. The welding tongues are united similarly to the bottom portion 7 of the bottom member, the upwardly-extending offset arrangement of the flange portions 8, 8^a, 8^b providing a track for supporting and guiding the drawer member of the unit.

The drawer 11 is formed with a bottom, sides, and a front, and may be constructed of sheet metal or other material cut and fitted as desired to provide a drawer which slidingly engages the track of the casing member and presents a neat finish at the front of the unit. At its rear end this drawer is provided with a frame member which may conveniently be formed of a strip of malleable iron and includes side members 12 and a top cross member 13 which is positioned somewhat below the inner or lower face of the top 1, and is formed with two short upward bends 14 which lie adjacent the face of the top member so as to form a loose sliding fit therewith. The arrangement is such that the depressions 1^a of the top of the casing are out of path of movement of the bends 14,

while the linear horizontal portions of the cross member 13 lie just below the plane of the bottom of such depressions. The bends 14 thus provide relatively smooth running contact points cooperating with the top of the casing to prevent the front end of the drawer from tipping downward when drawn partly out of the casing, while the drawer may be withdrawn entirely from the casing by lifting its front end to permit its rear bottom edge to clear the track members and the bottom finishing flange 9, when the drawer may be lowered so that the bends 14 of the cross member 13 will clear the upper finishing flange 5 of the casing.

It will be understood that ordinarily the drawer of a filing unit of the character described is provided with a slidingly mounted follower as illustrated in the drawing.

I claim:

1. In a filing case, a sheet metal casing member including a top member formed with a top and opposite sides and inwardly-extending bottom flanges, and a bottom member formed with opposite upwardly-extending flanges forming a track, said bottom flanges of the top member being secured to said bottom member.

2. In a filing case, a sheet metal casing member including a top member formed with a top and opposite sides and inwardly-extending bottom flanges and welding tongues projecting therefrom, and a bottom member formed with opposite upwardly-extending flanges forming a track, said upwardly-extending flanges being orificed to receive said welding tongues and said tongues being welded to said bottom member.

3. In a filing case, a sheet metal casing member including a top member formed with a top and opposite sides and inwardly-extending bottom flanges and offset welding tongues projecting therefrom, and a bottom member formed with opposite upwardly-extending flanges forming a track, said upwardly-extending flanges being orificed to receive said welding tongues and said tongues being welded to the top face of said bottom member.

4. In a filing case, a sheet metal casing member including a top member formed with a top and opposite sides and inwardly-extending bottom flanges, and a bottom member secured to said bottom flanges and formed with opposite upwardly-extending flanges bent on longitudinal lines to form a slideway.

5. In a filing case, a sheet metal casing member including a top member formed with a top and opposite sides and inwardly extending bottom flanges, and a bottom member secured to said bottom flanges and formed with opposite upwardly-extending flanges bent on longitudinal lines to each provide an intermediate horizontal drawer-supporting surface and a marginal guide portion.

6. In a filing case, a sheet metal casing formed with a top having a plurality of downwardly pressed locking seats and at least one longitudinal contact surface in its inner face, and a drawer provided at its rear end with a strap metal frame having a horizontal portion disposed below the plane of said locking seats and at least one upward bend extending to a plane adjacent a contact surface and arranged to cooperate therewith.

7. In a filing case, a sheet metal casing formed with a top having a plurality of downwardly pressed locking seats and having on its inner face a plurality of unobstructed longitudinal paths of contact, and a drawer provided at its rear end with a strap metal frame having a horizontal portion disposed below the plane of said locking sheets and a plurality of short upward bends extending to a plane adjacent said paths of contact and arranged to cooperate severally therewith.

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