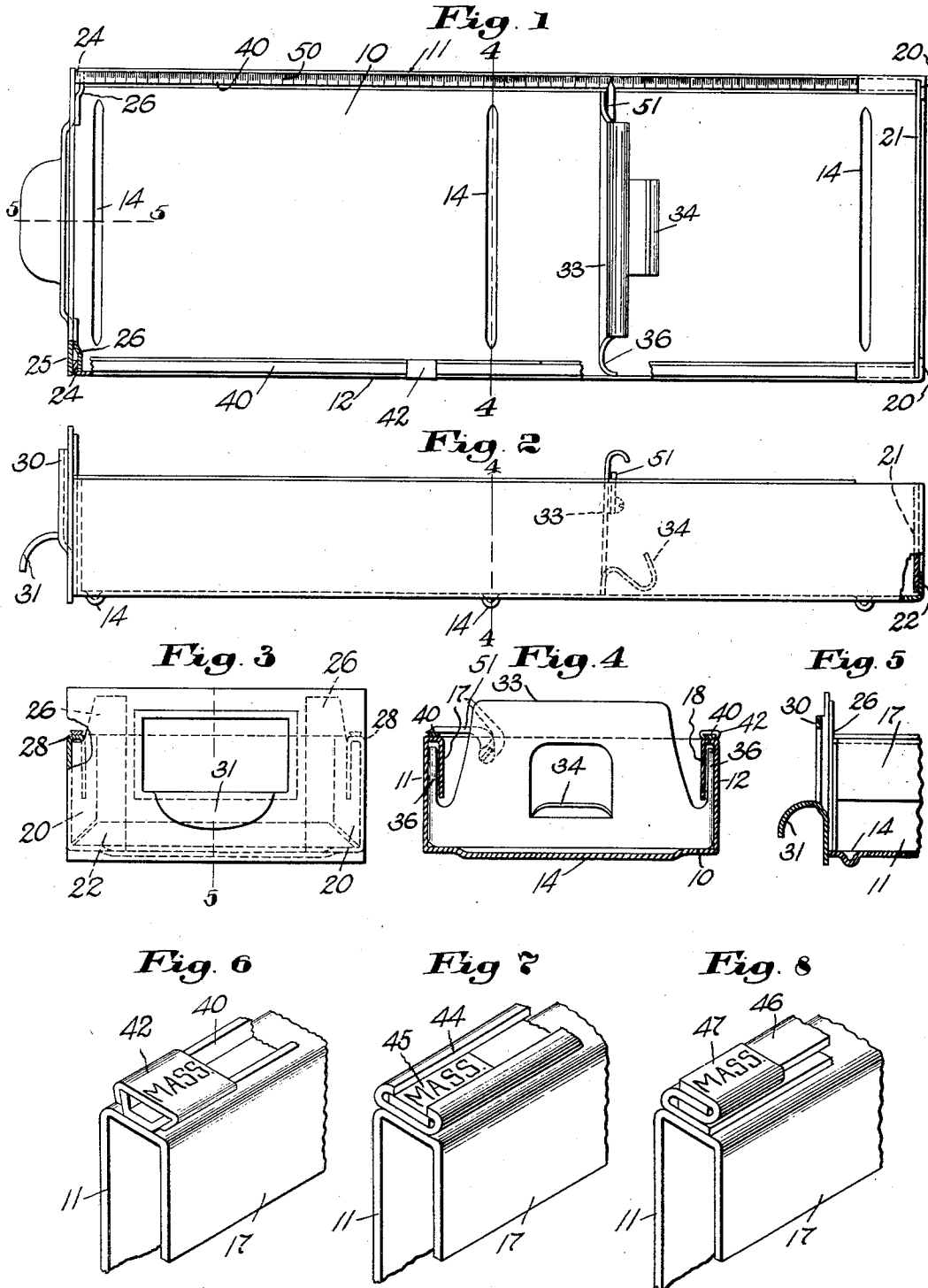


W. E. CHOATE.
FILING APPARATUS.
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1,063,657.

Patented June 3, 1913.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FILING APPARATUS.

1,063,657.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. CHOATE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Melrose, in the county of Middlesex, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Filing Apparatus, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention relates to filing receptacles and the like and accessories therefor; and consists in various features which will appear in the course of the succeeding description and will be defined in the annexed claims.

The character of the invention may be best understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, which show a convenient embodiment of the invention selected for purposes of illustration.

In the drawings,—Figure 1 is a plan view of a filing drawer; Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof; Fig. 3 is a front end elevation; Fig. 4 is a transverse section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1; Fig. 5 is a detail longitudinal section on the line 5—5 of Figs. 1 and 3; and, Figs. 6, 7 and 8 are detail perspectives hereinafter described.

In the drawer of Fig. 1 the bottom 10 and sides 11, 12 are preferably integral, as shown in Fig. 4. The bottom may have strengthening ribs 14 struck up therein. The sides 11 and 12 are preferably turned inwardly and downwardly to form depending flanges 17, 18, which not only strengthen and stiffen the sides, but may also serve other purposes hereinafter pointed out. At its rear end (on the right, Fig. 1) the edge of each side is turned inwardly to form flanges 20, 20, against the inner faces of which the back 21 of the drawer is brazed, soldered, riveted or otherwise secured. A similar flange 22 is turned up on the bottom 10 as added support for the back 21. The flanges 20 and 22 are shown in dotted lines in Fig. 3. The sides 11 and 12 have at their front ends flanges 24, 24, similar to the flanges 20, which are engaged between the front 25 of the drawer on the outside and clips 26, 26 fixed to the front 25 on the inside. The clips 26, 26 are of considerable area, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 3, and when securely fastened, as by soldering or riveting to the front 25, serve to reinforce and stiffen the latter. Each clip 26, where it engages the flange 24,

abuts at its upper edge against the over-turned shoulder 28 of one of the sides 11 or 12. Thus the front 25 is prevented from sliding upwardly. If desired, however, the front 25 may be moved downwardly and withdrawn, the front 25 and clips 26 being guided by the flanges 24, 24 of the sides 11 and 12. The material of the front 25 is preferably struck up to form a label receiving seat 30 and a lug 31, which may be turned down as shown to supply a handle of the drawer.

Within the drawer is a follower consisting preferably of an integral face member 33 and heel 34. As shown in Fig. 4, the face member 33 is preferably provided with fingers 36, 36 to extend upwardly between the depending flange 17 and side 11 and the flange 18 and side 12, respectively. With this arrangement, while the follower is entirely loose and unconfined as regards its normal and intended adjustment, it is positively held against escape from the drawer until it is laid substantially flat upon the bottom of the drawer and lifted obliquely out.

As illustrated in Fig. 1, the fingers 36, 36 may be turned or bent out of the plane of the face member 33, so that they may bind yieldingly against the sides of the drawer. This serves to hold the follower in adjusted position, against the usual tendencies to shift it, while permitting it to be moved readily by hand when desired.

On the shoulders 28, 28 of the sides 11 and 12 may be placed tracks 40, 40, intended, as shown in Fig. 6, to support adjustable indexing devices, such as the rider 42. The particular described construction of drawer supplies a very convenient seat for a track such as the track 40. Any practical number of riders 42 may be provided; and the tracks 40 may be duplicated on opposite sides of the drawer with represented or different indexing riders.

Fig. 7 shows a modified form of track 44, having a rider 45 shown therewith.

Fig. 8 shows a third form of track 46, having a rider 47. In this instance the track is merely a U-shaped piece lying on its side, its upper arm being embraced between the arms of the U-shaped rider 47. Preferably the arms of either the rider or track or both are slightly sprung together, so that when assembled the rider will be snugly gripped. This arrangement is particularly convenient

in that the riders may be readily withdrawn individually. If it be desired for any reason to hold one or more of the riders or their substitutes stationary (if they be movable), this may be done in any practicable manner.

Fig. 1 shows a convenient form of indexing means exemplified by a scale 50, disposed on any convenient part of the drawer, as on a track 40. To cooperate with the scale 50 an index finger 51 may be mounted on the follower 33. The finger 51 may be pivoted to the follower, so as to be movable toward the scale and into contact therewith, if desired. With this arrangement the exact number of filing cards or index units contained in the drawer may be readily determined by moving the follower 33 toward the front of the drawer until all the filing units are closely packed therein. The scale 50 being graduated from zero at the front end of the drawer, toward the rear and having its graduations proportioned to the thickness of cards or filing units, the registration between the index finger 51 and the scale 50 will give a convenient direct reading of the number of units in the drawer. Of course the rearmost card in the drawer may itself serve as an index finger to cooperate with a properly positioned scale, but an accurate direct reading may be provided for by the means suggested.

The advantages of the described constructions will be apparent to those skilled in the art, who will likewise appreciate the various changes and modifications which may be made in said constructions within the proper scope of this invention as defined in the subjoined claims.

The invention is of course not limited to the specific forms or embodiments disclosed; nor is it essential that all of the features be employed conjointly since they may be used to advantage otherwise.

Claims—

1. The combination of a filing receptacle having suitable side members and a bottom member, with a follower having integral yielding means to engage said side members and integral yielding means to engage said bottom member.

2. The combination of a filing receptacle having sides formed to engage a follower against withdrawal, with a follower engaging said sides thereof and yieldingly and slidably pressing against them.

3. In a filing receptacle the combination of a bottom member and side members, with a follower supported on the bottom member, and opposite yielding means forming a part of said follower pressing against each side member to position the follower on the bottom member and to hold it positioned frictionally without obstructing the receptacle while permitting the follower to slide along the receptacle.

4. The combination of a card filing receptacle having an open top with indexing means therein adjustable to indicate the number of filing cards in the receptacle, and graduated means to cooperate therewith.

5. The combination with a card filing receptacle having an open top, of scale means for measuring the number of filing cards contained in the receptacle; and movable index means to cooperate therewith.

6. The combination of a card filing receptacle having suitable side members, a bottom member and an open top permitting the ready visualization of cards in the receptacle, with a follower adjustable to different positions in the receptacle; an index carried by the follower; and scale means carried by the receptacle to cooperate with the index for measuring the contents of the receptacle by reference to the position of the follower.

7. The combination of a filing receptacle having suitable side members and a bottom member, with a follower having yielding means to engage the members of the receptacle for holding the follower in position; index means carried by the follower; and scale means carried by the receptacle to cooperate with the follower index for measuring the contents of the receptacle.

8. In a filing receptacle the combination of side members having depending guide flanges within the receptacle; and a follower having fingers beneath said flanges, flexed somewhat out of the plane of the body of the follower, and pressing yieldingly and horizontally against the side members of the receptacle, to hold the follower in adjusted position while leaving the interior of the receptacle free from any supporting means for the follower.

9. In a filing receptacle the combination of side members having depending flanges within the receptacle; and an integral sheet metal follower having integral yielding fingers beneath said flanges to engage the side members of the receptacle.

10. In a filing receptacle the combination of side members having depending flanges within the receptacle and a follower having fingers beneath said flanges, said fingers being constructed to press yieldingly in opposite directions against the side members of the receptacle.

11. In a filing receptacle, the combination of suitable side members and a bottom member to receive articles for vertical filing; and adjustable and removable selective means mounted for adjustment horizontally along a side member of said receptacle, said means serving as a key or mechanical index to the relative positions of different parts of the vertically filed contents of the receptacle.

12. The combination of a filing receptacle having suitable side and bottom members

for vertical filing; a follower to maintain the vertically filed contents in proper position; a track disposed lengthwise a side member of the receptacle; and selective means mounted and adjustable on said track and held against transverse movement thereon, said means serving as a key or mechanical index to the relative positions of different parts of said vertically filed contents.

10 13. The combination with a filing receptacle of a contents-indicating or selective device supported thereby independently of the contents but in position to distinguish part of said contents from the remainder; and
15 contents-measuring means adjustable by reference to the contents, indicating the contents of the box by a direct numerical reading.

14. The combination of a filing receptacle

having suitable bottom and side members; 20 selective means carried by one of the side members and adjustable thereon as a key or mechanical index to the relative positions of different parts of the contents of the receptacle; a scale on the other side member 25 graduated in thicknesses of the individual devices contained in the receptacle; and means adjustable by reference to the contents to indicate on said scale the numerical contents of the box. 30

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

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Witnesses:

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