Nov. 16, 1926. 1,606,982

I. H. WENGER

ATTACHMENT FOR FILING CABINETS

Filed Nov. 19, 1923 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

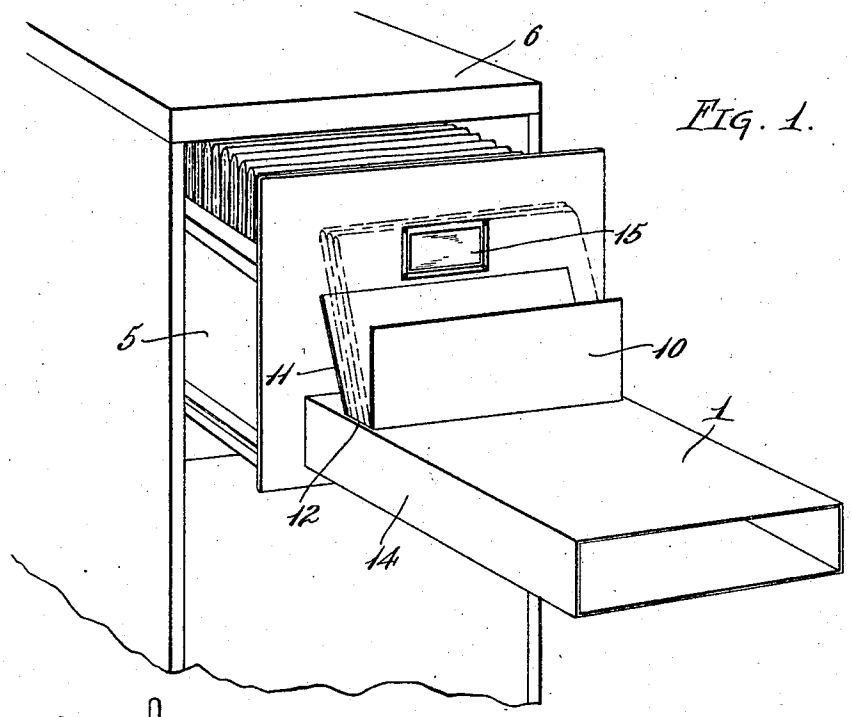


FIG. 1.

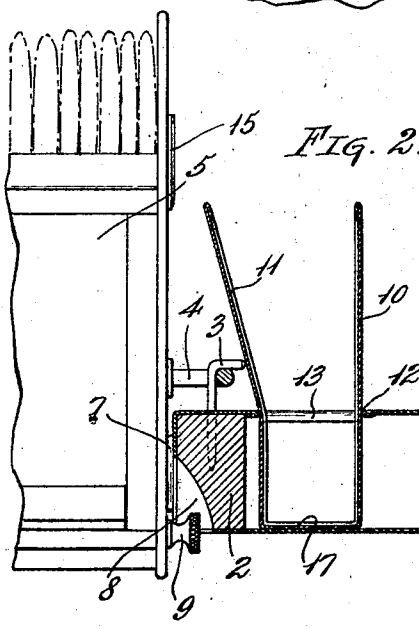


FIG. 2.

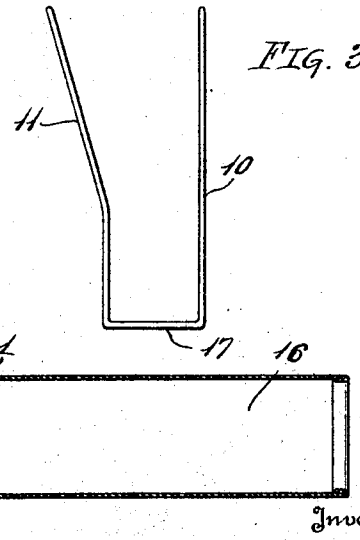


FIG. 3.

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FIG. 4.

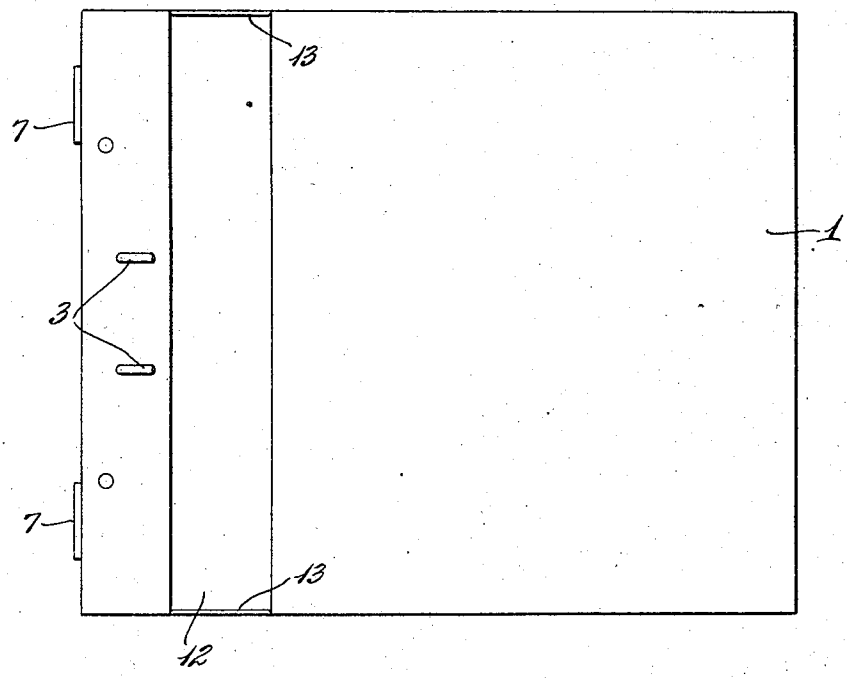
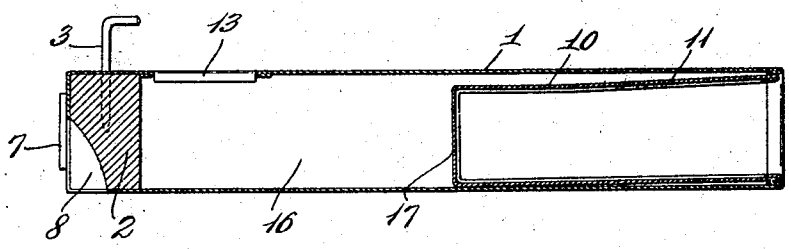


FIG. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ATTACHMENT FOR FILING CABINETS.

Application filed November 19, 1923. Serial No. 675,772.

This invention relates to attachments for filing cabinets and more particularly, to devices for supporting letters, folders, etc., in convenient position relative to a filing cabinet preparatory to filing them within or upon removing them from the cabinet.

The object of the present invention is to provide an improved device of the character described which is of simple and inexpensive construction, comprising a hollow sheet metal member adapted to be removably secured in substantially horizontal position to a drawer of a filing cabinet, and an open-ended sheet metal rack adapted when in use to be mounted in substantially vertical position in the rear end portion of said hollow member. The papers or other material to be filed or inspected may be placed edgewise in the rack where they may be conveniently "thumbed over" and withdrawn in irregular order, or they may be placed flat upon the top portion of said hollow member or within the same, the spaced within said member being especially suitable for use as a storage compartment for papers withdrawn from the cabinet or for papers to be filed in other drawers than the one to which the device is then secured. When the device is not in use or the rack is not needed, the rack is placed within the hollow member with the bottom portion of the rack toward the rear of said member, so that when in this position, it does not interfere with the use of this space as a storage chamber for papers, etc. The device is therefore exceedingly compact, enabling it to be readily handled and shipped.

Further objects of the invention are in part obvious and in part will appear more in detail hereinafter.

In the drawings, which represent one suitable embodiment of the invention, Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a filing cabinet with my device secured to the upper drawer thereof; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view thereof; Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the rack; Fig. 4 is a plan view of the hollow supporting member; and Fig. 5 is a longitudinal sectional view of the device, with the rack within the hollow supporting member, the position of the parts when the device is not in use.

Referring to the drawings, the device comprises a hollow, rectangular sheet metal member 1, the rear end of which is closed by a transversely disposed wooden block 2, the rear face of which is substantially flush with the rear edges of said rectangular member. Extending down through the rear top portion of said member into said block are one or more centrally disposed hooks or hanger members 3, two being shown, which are adapted in use of the device to engage the handle 4 of a drawer 5 of a filing cabinet 6, and thereby removably secure said member in substantially horizontal position to said drawer. To guard against marring of the cabinet, the rear face of the end block 2 is preferably provided with suitable felt pads 7 or the like. The rear face of said block is also provided with a centrally disposed recess 8 to receive the usual drawer rod head 9.

10 indicates an open-ended rack for holding papers, etc., in substantially vertical position, said rack being also of sheet metal and bent into substantially channel shape, with the upper portion 11 of one of the two walls of the rack inclined outwardly or away from the other wall, as clearly indicated in Figs. 2 and 3.

In use of the device, said rack is seated in substantially vertical position in the rear end portion of the hollow supporting member 1, adjacent the end block 2 thereof, the top portion of said member being provided with a transversely extending opening 12 for this purpose. Said opening extends substantially the full width of said member, the metal thereof being preferably bent down at the ends of said opening, as at 13, to provide increased bearing surface for the rack, the side walls 14 of said member serving as the side walls of the rack in use thereof. In the device illustrated in the drawings, the hollow supporting member 1 and the rack 10 are of letter size, although obviously the size of either or both might be changed to better adapt them for particular or special use. The opening 12 is of such size as to snugly receive the rack so that the latter is mounted in member 1 without appreciable lateral movement, thereby enabling the device to be handled as a unit. By seating the rack down in the horizontal supporting member in the manner described the side walls of the rack may be made of sufficient height without covering the usual indicating card holder 15 when the device is in use, as clearly shown in Fig. 1.

When the device is not in use, or when the rack is not needed, the rack is placed

within the chamber 16 of the hollow supporting member, with the inclined wall portion 11 of the rack yieldingly but firmly engaging the top or bottom wall of said member, as clearly shown in Fig. 5. The bottom portion 17 of the rack is placed toward the rear of the chamber, as indicated, so that the rack in this position does not interfere with the use of this space as a storage chamber for papers, etc.

The papers or other material to be filed in the cabinet drawer to which the device is secured or to be filed in adjacent drawers may be placed edgewise in rack 10, as indicated in dotted lines, Fig. 1, where they may be easily and conveniently "thumbed over" and withdrawn in irregular order, or they may be placed flat upon the top portion of the hollow supporting member or within the chamber 16 thereof, said chamber being especially suitable for use as a storage chamber for papers, etc., withdrawn from the cabinet or to be filed in other drawers or cabinets. In use of the rack, the inclined wall portion 11 thereof is to the rear, as indicated in Fig. 1, the inclination of said wall portion providing increased space between the upper end portions of the rack walls, with the result that the papers, etc., therein may be more readily seen and handled.

It will thus be seen that I have provided a device of the character described which is of simple construction and easily and inexpensively formed so that it may be made and sold at low cost; which is exceedingly compact, of neat and pleasing appearance, and which provides plenty of space for letters, etc., to be supported preparatory to filing them in a cabinet or upon their withdrawal therefrom.

What I claim is:—

1. A device of the character described, comprising a supporting member provided with a chamber, said chamber being provided with an opening in its top wall, means for removably securing said supporting means to a drawer of a filing cabinet or the like, and a second supporting means adapted when in use to be removably mounted in the chamber opening of said first named supporting means and when not in use to lie within the chamber thereof.

2. A device of the character described, comprising a hollow sheet metal supporting member provided with an opening in its top portion near the rear end thereof, means for removably securing said member in substantially horizontal position to a drawer of a filing cabinet or the like, and a substantially channel shaped sheet metal rack adapted when in use to be removably mounted in the opening of said hollow supporting member and when not in use to lie within said member.

In testimony whereof I hereby affix my signature.

IVAN H. WENGER.