C. I. WAGNER.

VERTICAL FILE.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 11, 1914.

1,229,552.

Patented June 12, 1917.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

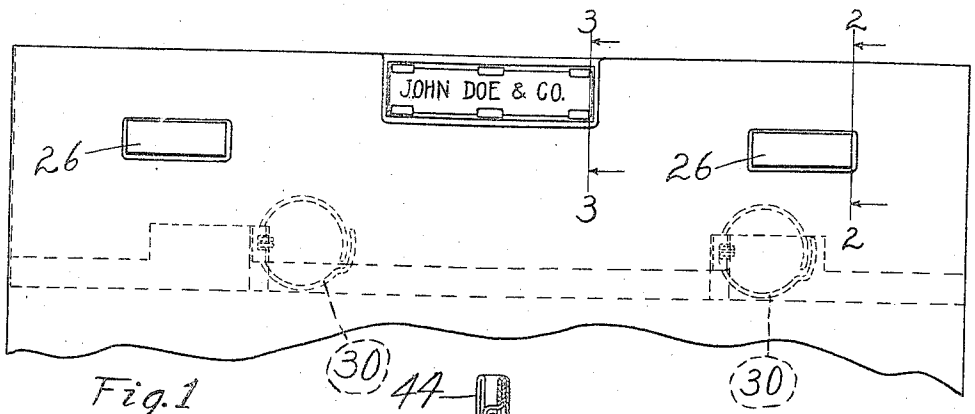



Fig. 1

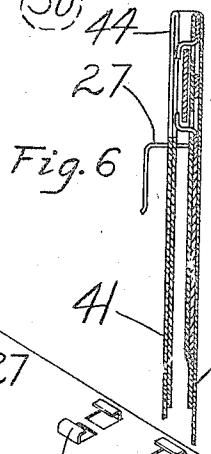



Fig. 6

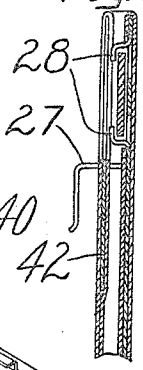



Fig. 3

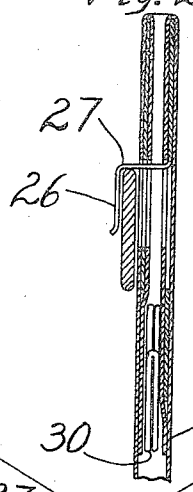



Fig. 2




Fig. 4

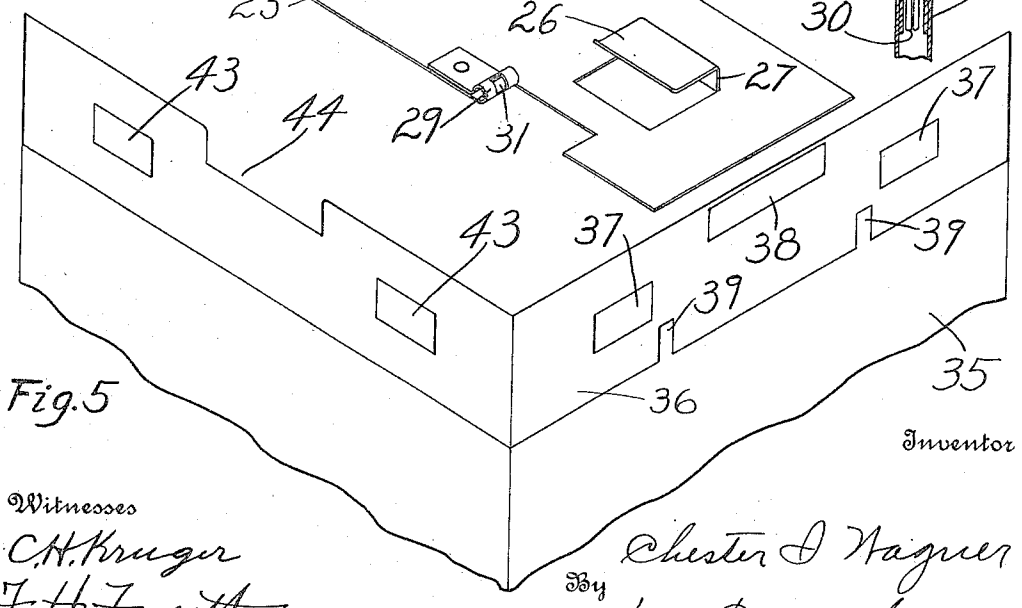



Fig. 5

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Witnesses

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 7

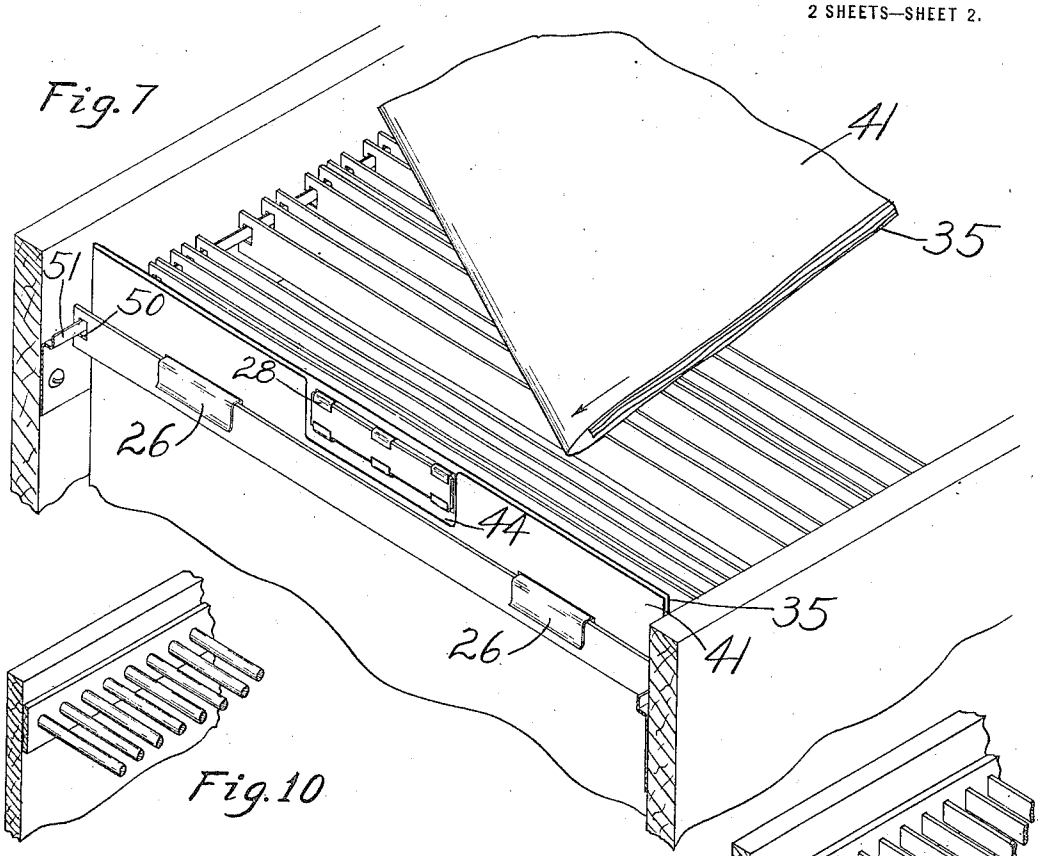





Fig. 10

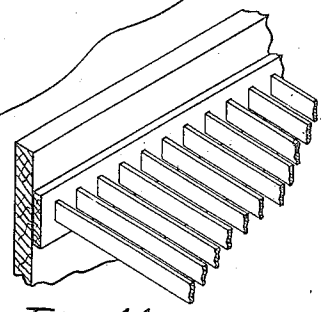


Fig. 11

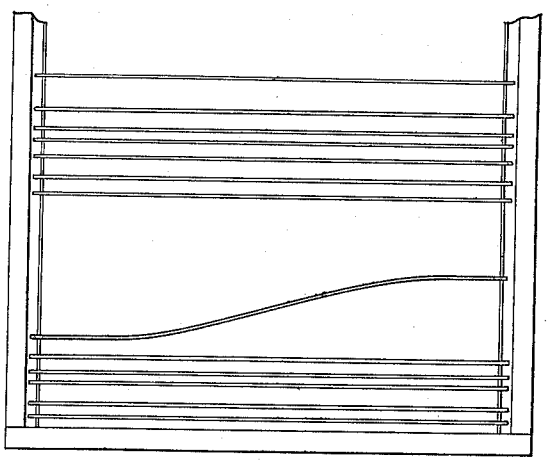


Fig. 8

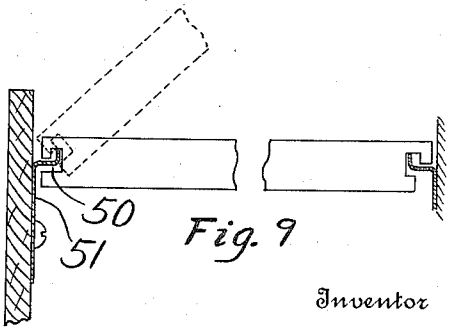



Fig. 9

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHESTER I. WAGNER, OF AKRON, OHIO.

## VERTICAL FILE.

1,229,552. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 12, 1917.

Application filed March 11, 1914. Serial No. 824,074.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHESTER I. WAGNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Akron, in the county of Summit and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Vertical Files, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to devices for filing records and has for its principal objects to suspend the records in vertical folders, which are themselves suspended in a suitable receptacle. Among other objects accomplished are securing the folders in closed position; providing each with a label holder which will be visible whether the folder is open or closed; to provide suitable attaching devices whereby the folders may be suspended in the receptacle; to provide suitable supports in the receptacle for folders; to provide for varying the number and position of said supports; and to produce a convenient, practical, elastic and inexpensive system for vertical filing.

Vertical files have qualities which commend them, for many purposes, above all other system. These qualities have usually been accompanied. however, by certain more or less serious defects, which the invention herein described overcomes. Among the defects referred to is the tendency to "slump". That is, where the folders are stood instead of suspended in the receptacle in which they are kept there is a marked tendency for them to sink down into a heap, the papers they contain contributing to and participating in this condition. Suspension of the papers in the folders and of the folders in the receptacle entirely removes this tendency. In folders stood in the receptacle there is a strong tendency for them to gape open, which tendency must be overcome by confining them in a limited space. This, however, only partially removes the trouble, and it does not remove the difficulty of inserting other folders. All of this is prevented by the suspension system. Other advantages will become manifest as we proceed.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 shows the upper portion of a folder, closed and ready to be suspended in the receptacle.

Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation on line 2—2, Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a sectional elevation on line 3—3, Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 shows the metallic part which is incased in the top of the folder.

Fig. 5 is the folder prepared to receive the part shown in Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a sectional elevation of a modified form of folder.

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a portion of a receptacle with a folder in place and another being inserted.

Fig. 8 is a plan of the receptacle showing the manner of inserting or removing the beams.

Fig. 9, is a detail of construction showing the manner of supporting the beams.

Fig. 10 shows a modified supporting structure, and

Fig. 11 shows another modification thereof.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Referring more particularly to Fig. 4, 25 is a metal strip from which tongues 26 are sheared and offset to form hooks, the hooks having horizontal tops 27. Clips 28 are similarly sheared and offset to form a label holder. Another shearing operation is performed at the lower edge thereby forming clips 29 to carry rings 30, suitable apertures 31 being provided. As these rings are fully described in my co-pending application, Serial No. 755,299 no detailed description of them or the manner of using them need here be given.

The folder 35 has its upper margin 36 doubled over on itself, said margin having apertures 37, 38 and 39. The strip is laid under the margin, the lower edge being then pasted to the folder as at 40, the hooks and clips passing through the apertures above referred to. The cover of the folder, 41, is folded over and pasted down, but with a piece of cloth or other tough material, 42 interposed, after which apertures 43 and a notch 44 are formed. Fig. 6 shows a folder

having nothing interposed. The upper edges of the apertures are so positioned that when the folder is closed they rest upon the tops 27 of the hooks, while the notch 44 exposes the label in the label holder.

The hooks on the folders are adapted to hook onto a beam. Fig. 7 shows a sort of cabinet provided with a plurality of beams, each having notches 50 at its ends by which it is mounted on strips 51, the latter being secured to the sides of the cabinet. A folder in place shows the manner of suspending them, and further back the lower corner of a folder is shown in position for entering a space between beams. By this method a folder which is quite full may be readily dropped into the space without regard for any tendency there may be for the papers in the folder to bulge apart. And here it will be well to point out the advantage derived from the upper margins of the folders being held close together as shown. It affords more space between the folders, thereby facilitating the insertion of folders, and it also keeps dust from the inside of the folders. It is not necessary that the folders be the full width of the cabinet, as two or more smaller ones may be hung from a single beam. If the aggregate width of several folders exceeds the width of the cabinet they may overlap as far as the hooks will permit.

Figs. 10 and 11 show stationary beams, the former being round. The movable beam is preferred, however, as it enables each folder to have the amount of room it requires, without allowing unnecessary room for any. This, manifestly, increases the capacity of the receptacle. Another advantage possessed by the movable beam is removability. Fig. 9 shows, in dotted lines, one end of a beam being attached to or detached from the strip 51. The form of the ends of the beams is slightly different as is shown in this figure, the lower prong of the right hand end being shortened. This enables beams to be put in or removed at will by springing them slightly as shown in Fig. 8. The advantage of this arrangement is that perfect alphabetical arrangement of the folders may be maintained without disturbing those already in place. For example; when a new folder is to be put in, a beam may be inserted between the two folders that the new one should separate and a place thereby provided for the new folder. In like manner the beam which has supported a folder may be removed if the folder is permanently removed.

Suspension of the folders, and of the records in the folders, has the advantages already pointed out, advantages which are very much enhanced as the size of the folders increases. While suspension of the records is a very valuable feature it is not essential, however, and it is not to be understood that I regard it as such. While the folder here disclosed is folded at one vertical edge it may, if preferred, be folded at the bottom. In either case the value of suspending the cover of the folder from the tops of the hooks is obvious. By making the folder of a rather stiff structure and having its fold at the bottom, suspension of the records within might be omitted without serious loss. But for very large records,— drawings, for example—suspension in the folder is very desirable. On the other hand with provision made for suspending the records the folder is not essential. It is plain that with the metal strip alone records could be attached to the rings, and the strip hung on a beam. All of the essentials for filing records are therefore available without the folder. Again; as it is plain that any relatively fixed device on which the folders, or the strips without folders, may be hung will serve the purpose of the beams herein shown, the word "beam" should be accorded a meaning broad enough to include any device capable of performing its function.

The operation of my system is very simple and may be quite rapid. With the labels in plain view at the tops of the folders, any desired one may be found very quickly. When found the folder may be laid upon a table, or even on the top of the cabinet, and the cover lifted just like the cover of a book. No special or peculiar movement is necessary. When done with it the cover may be thrown over, the hooks just naturally coming through the apertures 43 as the folder is lifted by the upper margin, which is the natural place by which to grasp it. The fastening and unfastening of the cover is therefore practically automatic.

Any suitable style of receptacle or cabinet may be adopted. For example, the beams may be mounted in a drawer similar to those used for vertical filing. The strips 50 may be placed on an incline, and, if desired, their upper edges serrated. All of these things are matters of detail which do not affect the broad aspects of my invention, and it is understood that various departures may be made without exceeding the scope or violating the substance of the appended claims.

What I claim is as follows:

1. A filing device comprising a beam, a support therefor, a folder, and hooks thereon adapted to hook over the beam.

2. A filing device comprising a supporting frame, a plurality of beams attached to and supported thereby, folders, and means for detachably suspending one of them from each of the beams.

3. A filing device comprising a supporting

frame, a plurality of beams, means which attaches the beams to the frame but permits lateral movement of each beam with reference to the other and to the frame, folders, and means for suspending them from the beams.

4. A filing device comprising a supporting frame, flanged metallic strips secured to opposite sides thereof, beams having notches in each end mounted on the strips, the flanges thereof passing through said notches, thereby permitting the beams to slide on the strips but normally preventing their detachment therefrom; folders, and means for suspending them from the beams.

5. A filing device comprising a supporting frame, metallic members attached at opposite sides thereof, beams mounted to slide on said members, whereby they are supported; folders, and means for suspending them from the beams.

6. In a filing device, the combination of a beam and a folder, the latter having hooks on one margin and apertures on the margin which becomes contiguous thereto when the folder is folded said apertures being adapted to permit the hooks to extend therethrough and hook on the beam.

7. In a filing device, the combination of a beam and a folder, the latter having hooks on one margin and apertures on the margin which is contiguous thereto when the folder is folded, said apertures being adapted to permit the hooks to extend therethrough and hook on to the beam, the upper edges of the apertures resting on the tops of the hooks, thereby affording support for the apertured portion.

8. A filing folder comprising a sheet of suitable material folded in such manner that one part lies upon the other, devices mounted on one of said parts adapted to attach to a support wherefrom the folder may be suspended, and devices within the folder from which to suspend papers to be filed.

9. A filing folder comprising a sheet of suitable material folded in such manner that one part lies upon the other, and devices mounted on one of said parts adapted to attach to a support wherefrom the folder may be suspended, the other part of the folder having apertures through which the attaching devices pass when the folder is folded, the attachment to said support being effected by the portion of the attaching devices which has passed through said apertures.

10. A filing folder comprising a sheet of suitable material folded in such manner that one part lies upon the other, devices mounted upon one of said parts adapted to attach to a support wherefrom the folder may be suspended, means for attaching a label to the part on which said devices are mounted, the other part of the folder having a portion cut away for the purpose of exposing the label when the folder is folded, and apertures through which the attaching devices pass when the folder is folded, the attachment to said support being effected by the portions of the attaching devices which have passed through said apertures.

11. A filing folder comprising a sheet of suitable material folded in such manner that one part lies upon the other, and a strip of metal having tongues sheared and offset from the body thereof to form hooks, said strip being secured to the folder, and adapted to engage a support for the folder by means of said hooks.

12. A filing folder comprising a sheet of suitable material folded in such manner that one part lies upon the other, and a strip of metal having tongues sheared and offset from the body thereof to form hooks, said strip being attached to the upper margin of one part of the folder with the hooks extending toward the other part, said other part having apertures through which the hooks extend, thereby permitting the hooks to hook over a suitable supporting member with the apertured portion of the folder between said support and the strip.

13. A filing folder comprising a sheet of suitable material folded in such manner that one part lies upon the other, and a strip of metal having tongues sheared and offset from the body thereof to form hooks, said strip being inclosed in a casing formed by the upper margin of the folder being doubled over on itself, apertures being provided through which the hooks extend toward the other part of the folder, said other part also having apertures to permit passage of the hooks therethrough, whereby they are enabled to hook on to a suitable supporting member.

14. A filing folder comprising a sheet of suitable material folded in such manner that one part lies upon the other, and a strip of metal having tongues sheared and offset from the body thereof to form hooks, said strip being inclosed in a casing formed by the upper margin of the folder being doubled over on itself, apertures being provided through which the hooks extend toward the other part of the folder, said other part having apertures to permit the passage of the hooks therethrough, whereby they are enabled to hook on to a suitable supporting member, said other part of the folder being supported by the upper margins of its apertures resting on the tops of the hooks.

15. A filing folder comprising a sheet of suitable material folded in such manner that one part lies upon the other, and a strip of metal having tongues sheared and offset from the body thereof to form hooks, and having clips sheared and offset from its body

to form a label holder, said strip being attached to the upper margin of one part of the folder with the hooks extending toward the other part, said other part having apertures through which the hooks extend, thereby permitting the hooks to hook over a suitable supporting member with the apertured portion of the folder between said support and the strip.

16. A filing folder comprising a sheet of suitable material folded in such manner that one part lies upon the other, and a strip of metal having tongues sheared and offset from the body thereof to form hooks and having clips sheared and offset from its body to form a label holder, said strip being inclosed in a casing formed by the upper margin of the folder being doubled over on itself, apertures being provided through which the hooks and clips extend, the former toward the other part of the folder said other part having apertures to permit passage of the hooks therethrough whereby they are enabled to hook on to a suitable supporting member.

17. A filing folder comprising a sheet of suitable material folded in such manner that one part lies upon the other, and a strip of metal having tongues sheared and offset from the body thereof to form hooks, and having clips sheared and offset from its body to form a label holder, said strip being inclosed in a casing formed by the upper margin of the folder being doubled over on itself, apertures being provided through which the hooks and clips extend toward the other part of the folder, said other part having a portion cut away to expose a label held by the clips, and having apertures to permit passage of the hooks therethrough, whereby they are enabled to hook on to a suitable supporting member.

18. In a filing device, a beam, a strip of metal having tongues sheared and offset from its body to form hooks adapted to be hooked onto the beam, and means for suspending records from said strip.

19. In a filing folder, a beam, a strip of metal having tongues sheared and offset from its body to form hooks whereby the strip may be hung on the beam, means for suspending records from the strip, and a label holder for attaching a label to the strip.

20. In a filing device, a beam, a strip of metal, hooks secured thereto whereby the strip may be hung on the beam, and means for suspending records from the strip.

21. A filing device comprising a beam, a folder, means for attaching the folder to the beam, and means for suspending records in the folder.

22. In a filing device, a beam, a strip of metal having tongues sheared and offset from its body to form hooks adapted to be hooked onto the beam, means for suspending records from the strip, and means for attaching a label to the strip.

23. A filing device comprising a beam, a folder, means for attaching the folder to the beam, means for suspending records in the folder, and means for attaching a label to the folder.

24. A filing device comprising a beam, a folder, and devices attached to the folder whereby to suspend the folder from and parallel to the beam, said devices being so constructed that two or more folders may be suspended from a single beam.

25. A filing device comprising a beam, a support therefor, a folder, and hooks thereon adapted to hook over and suspend the folder parallel to the beam.

26. A filing device comprising a supporting frame, a plurality of beams supported thereby, and folders adapted to attach and hang parallel to the beams, said beams being adjustable as to their position upon the frame so that no space will be lost between the folders.

27. A filing device comprising a supporting frame, a plurality of beams supported thereby, and folders adapted to attach and hang parallel to the beams, said beams being adapted to be individually removed from the frame without removing adjacent beams or folders.

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Witnesses:
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