May 15, 1923. 1,455,192

J. R. DUMONT

INDICIA CARRYING RACK

Filed June 26, 1922 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

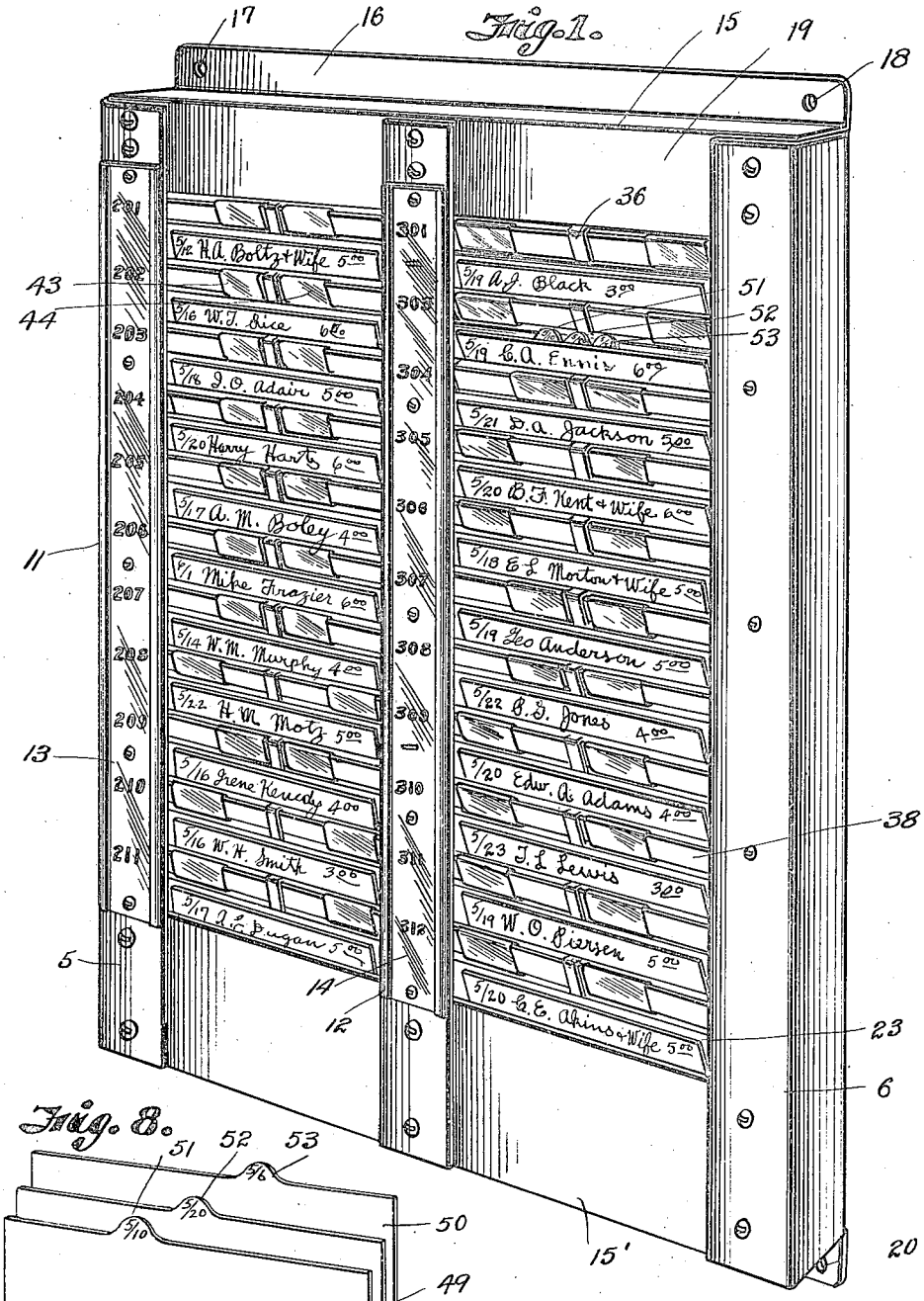
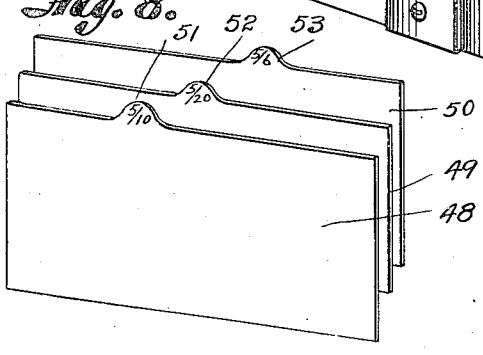


Fig. 8.



INVENTOR
Joseph R. Dumont.
BY Wm. C. Brooks.
ATTORNEY

May 15, 1923. 1,455,192

J. R. DUMONT

INDICIA CARRYING RACK

Filed June 26, 1922 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 2.

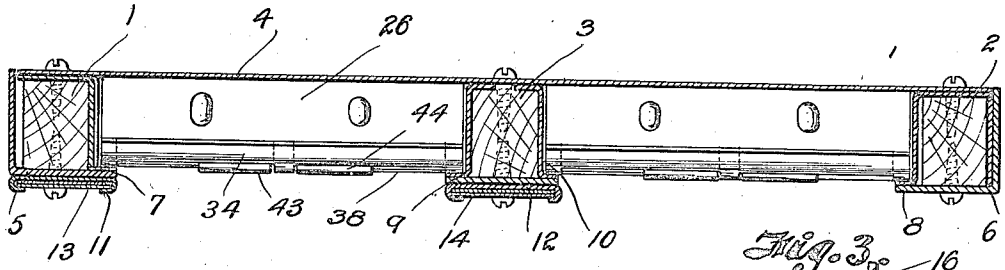


Fig. 3.

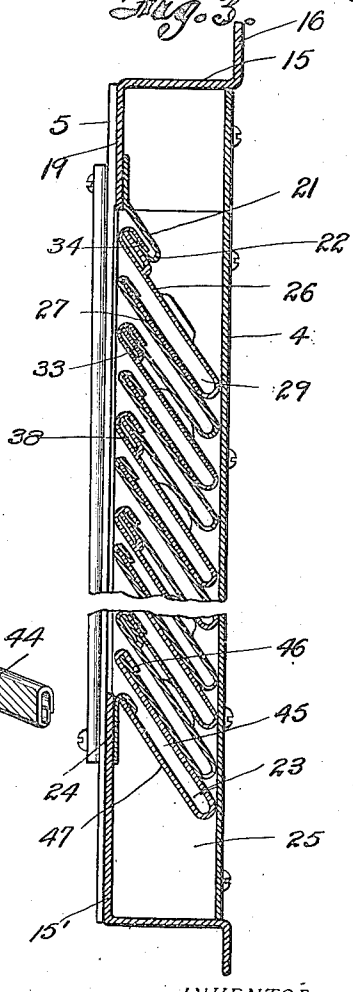


Fig. 4.

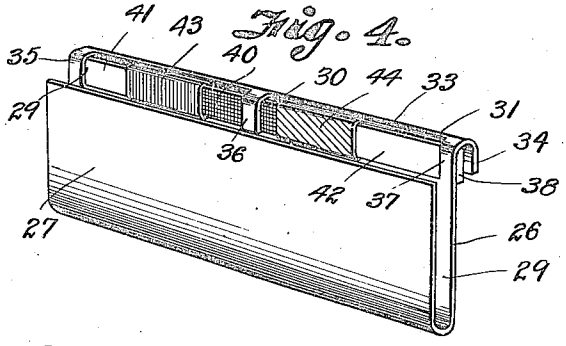


Fig. 5.

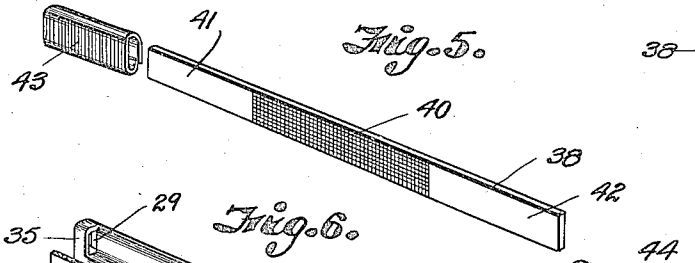


Fig. 6.

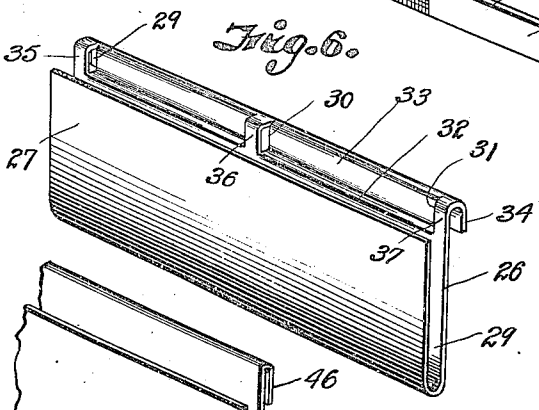
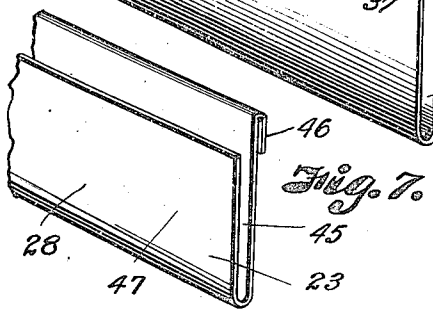


Fig. 7.



INVENTOR
Joseph R. Dumont.
BY Arthur C. Keen.
ATTORNEY

Patented May 15, 1923. 1,455,192

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH R. DUMONT, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

INDICIA-CARRYING RACK.

Application filed June 26, 1922. Serial No. 571,005.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH R. DUMONT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Indicia-Carrying Racks; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to indicia-carrying racks, the primary object being to provide a convenient construction of rack adapted to support indicia-carrying cards or strips, the cards being received in such a manner as to have certain significance with respect to the subject matter thereon. For example, the cards may indicate certain data to be used at a future date.

While the rack is especially adapted for use in connection with hotels as a room rack, it is not necessarily limited to that particular use. I will refer to it hereinafter, however, as a hotel room rack with the reservation that it may be employed in any capacity in which it may find utility.

The rack is so constructed that the clerk may, at a glance, determine whether a reservation has been made for the room for a future date, whether a guest has been assigned to the room, whether the guest has paid his bill, whether the baggage has been removed, if the room is in condition to admit another guest and, in fact, practically all the information that is required by a clerk in handling the day's business.

The novel construction and arrangement of the parts and various details of construction will be apparent by reference to the following description in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a rack constructed in accordance with my invention.

Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view through the same.

Fig. 3 is a vertical, longitudinal, sectional view through the rack.

Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of one of the signal pockets.

Fig. 5 is a disassociated view of the signal bar and two sliding sleeves carried thereby.

Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of the signal pocket with the guide bar and slides removed.

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary detail perspective view of one of the card pockets, and

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of a plurality of cards to be received in the card pocket.

The rack frame is shown as constructed for two columns of signal pockets and card pockets, it being obvious, however, that the number of columns may be varied to suit the capacity of the hotel in which the rack is installed.

The rack frame is shown as consisting of two side posts 1 and 2 and an intermediate vertical post 3. Fastened across the back of the frame is a plate 4 which connects the posts 1, 2 and 3. The posts 1 and 2 are provided with covering members shown as angles 5 and 6, the front portions of the angles overlapping the front faces of the posts slightly to provide guide portions 7 and 8 co-operating with the Z-bars 9 and 10 to constitute guides for the signal pockets and card pockets to be referred to hereinafter. The posts 1 and 3 are provided with grooved members 11 and 12, which carry indicia-supporting slides 13 and 14, the indicia-carrying slides having for hotel construction the numbers of the rooms of the hotel.

There is a Z-shaped top cover member 15, the upstanding flange 16 of which may have perforations 17 and 18 to receive the nails, screws, hooks or similar means by which the entire rack may be suspended, the vertical portion 19 of the member 15 constituting a front top face plate, as will be clearly seen by reference to Fig. 1.

A similar member 15′ is at the bottom and it may be provided with perforate portions 20 so that the rack may be fastened to the wall.

Depending from the plate or portion 19 is a suspension member 21 having a hooked portion 22 to receive either the signal pocket or the card pocket. I have shown one of the signal pockets suspended from the hook 22 and card pockets suspended from the signal pockets; the card pockets and signal pockets being arranged in alternate relation, the lowermost pocket being a card pocket 23, which has its lower edge bearing against the over-turned edge of a baffle plate 24 so that the cards will be guided into the lowermost pocket instead of into the space 25, which might occur if the baffle 24 were not used.

The signal pockets are best illustrated in

Figs. 4, 5 and 6. Each signal pocket is shown as consisting of a plate 26 having its lower portion bent back upon itself to provide a front wall 27, spaced from the rear wall to provide a card-receiving pocket or a suspending bracket for a card-receiving pocket, such as 28 (Fig. 7).

The upper end of the rear wall of the signal pocket is slitted at 29, 30 and 31 and then die-pressed to provide guide ledges or shoulders 32 by offsetting the portion 33, which has its upper edge bent over to form a hook 34. The offsetting action provides guide loops 35, 36 and 37 to receive a signal or indicia-carrying bar 38 which may pass through the loops 35, 36 and 37 and rest upon the shoulders 32.

The bar 38 is preferably provided intermediate its ends with a color different from the colors of its ends; for example, the intermediate portion of the bar may be colored black, as at 40, and the respective ends of the bar may be white, as indicated at 41 and 42.

The ends of the bar receive signal sleeves or slides 43 and 44, preferably of different colors; for example, the slide 43 may be red and the slide 44 may be green.

The looped portion 36 when the bar is in place constitutes a stop for the sleeves 43 and 44 when they are moved in one direction and when they are moved in an opposite direction they may abut against the loops 35 and 37 respectively. The sleeves are of a length approximately equal to that of the white portions or ends 41 and 42 of the bar and half the length of the black portion 40. Therefore, the sleeves may both be moved over the black portion 40, entirely covering it, or either may be moved over its complementary white portion. This will be explained hereinafter.

When the two sleeves 43 and 44 are over the black portion 40, that is, when their inner ends approximately abut against the stop and guide loop 36, the clerk will know that the room is ready for a guest. While the guest is occupying the room, the slides will be over the black portion and the name of the guest will be received in the space 45 of the card pocket 28. The card pocket 28 has a rear wall provided with an overhanging edge 46, which is received on the upper edge of the member 27 of the signal pocket 26 and by reference to Fig. 7 it will be observed that the card pocket consists of a plate having a bent-over upper edge to form the hook 46 and a bent-up front edge to form the plate 47. The card in the card pocket will indicate, of course, that although the room is in proper condition, it is being occupied.

If, during the occupancy by a particular guest, the bill for that room is paid, the clerk may move the sleeve 43 from right to left or toward the stop 35 to expose half of the black portion 40 and cover up the white portion 41. This will indicate that the guest's account has been paid.

It sometimes happens that the guest pays his bill prior to leaving the room and his baggage may still remain after the bill has been paid. If he moves his baggage, indicating that he is checking out or giving up the room, the sleeve 44 will be moved from left to right or toward the stop and guide loop 37. Then the slide 44 will cover up the white portion 42 of the bar 38 and uncover its half of the black portion 40, leaving the black portion entirely exposed.

The two slides are now at opposite ends of the bar 38 and the room is ready to be renovated or re-conditioned for another guest. As soon as the maid has set the room in order, this information is conveyed to the clerk who now moves the slides 43 and 44 again toward the center to cover up the black portion of the bar 39 to indicate that the room is again ready for a guest.

The space 45 in the pocket 29 is sufficient to accommodate a number of cards, such as 48, 49 and 50, as shown in Fig. 8. These cards are reservation cards upon which the name of guests who have reserved rooms for future dates are placed. The cards have date-containing tabs 51, 52 and 53 respectively, which may be staggered or offset with respect one to the other so that if a number of reservations have been made for a particular room, the clerk can observe this by a glance at the tabs on the cards.

Under certain conditions where an inexpensive rack is to be used, I may employ the signal pockets 26 without the card pockets 28 and put the cards in the space 29; or, in some cases, the signal pockets may not be used and instead the pockets 28 may be employed to the exclusion of the signal pockets. Of course, there are certain disadvantages in either of these alternatives and I prefer the arrangement shown in the drawings on account of the convenience in handling and the capacity for the cards. Where the rack is constructed as shown in the drawings, however, two holders or pockets are required for each room and in some of the smaller hotels this may be considered a useless expense. In the larger hotels, however, the rack as indicated is generally recommended.

The examples of the information to be conceived from the positions of the slides are only illustrative because, obviously, the slides might be used for conveying other information.

It will be apparent from the foregoing that the rack is simple in construction, that it can be easily manufactured and that it is compact, the signal and card pockets lying one upon the other in alternative rela-

tion, that is, a card pocket lies flush against the front of a signal pocket and the signal pocket in turn lies flush against a card pocket and so on down to the bottom where the last card pocket is engaged by the overhanging card or plate 24 so that liability of cards being introduced into the wrong space, for example 25, will be eliminated.

The rack may be made in any number of sections or columns desired, dependent upon the requirements.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters-Patent is:

1. An indicia-carrying rack comprising a frame, signal pockets carried by said frame having card-receiving means, a bar carried by each signal pocket and having differently colored portions, and sleeves slidable on said bar to expose and cover said portions dependent upon the positions of the sleeves.

2. An indicia-carrying rack comprising a frame, signal pockets carried by said frame having card-receiving means, a bar carried by each signal pocket and having differently colored portions, and differently colored sleeves slidable on said bar to expose and cover said portions dependent upon the positions of the sleeve.

3. An indicia-carrying rack comprising a frame, signal pockets carried by said frame having card-receiving means, a bar having ends of the same color and an intermediate portion of a different color, the intermediate portion being approximately coextensive with the combined lengths of both ends, and sleeves on the bar coextensive in length with the lengths of the ends.

4. An indicia-carrying rack comprising a frame, signal pockets carried by said frame having card-receiving means, a bar carried by each signal pocket and having differently colored portions, sleeves slidable on said bar to expose and cover said portions dependent upon the positions of the sleeves, and separate indicia for each bar.

5. A rack comprising a frame, signal and card pockets in said frame, the card pockets alternating with the signal pockets and the successive pockets interengaging whereby each pocket except the first is supported by the pocket above it.

6. A rack comprising a frame, a signal and card pockets in said frame, the card pockets alternating with the signal pockets and the alternate pockets interengaging whereby each pocket except the first is supported by the pocket above it and sliding signal means in each alternate pocket.

7. A rack comprising a frame having a plurality of signal pockets therein, each signal pocket consisting of a plate having an offset portion to support a bar and provided with loops to receive the bar, a bar in the loops and resting upon the support, and sliding signal sleeves on the bar.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JOSEPH R. DUMONT.