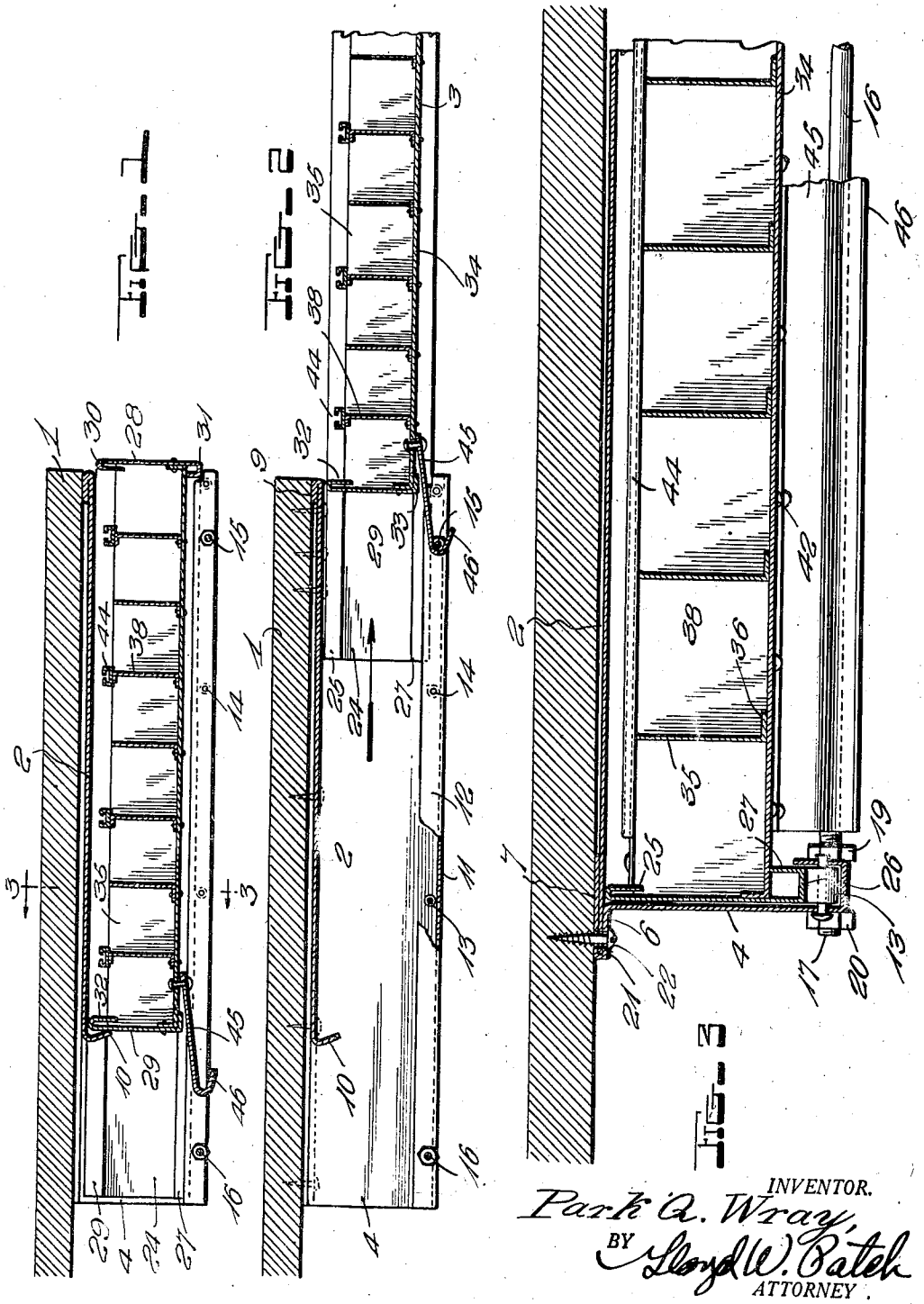
Jan. 28, 1941. P. Q. WRAY 2,229,785

ARTICLE CONTAINER DRAWER

Filed Dec. 2, 1937 3 Sheets-Sheet 1



INVENTOR.
Park Q. Wray,
BY Lloyd W. Batch
ATTORNEY.

Jan. 28, 1941. P. Q. WRAY 2,229,785

ARTICLE CONTAINER DRAWER

Filed Dec. 2, 1937 3 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 5

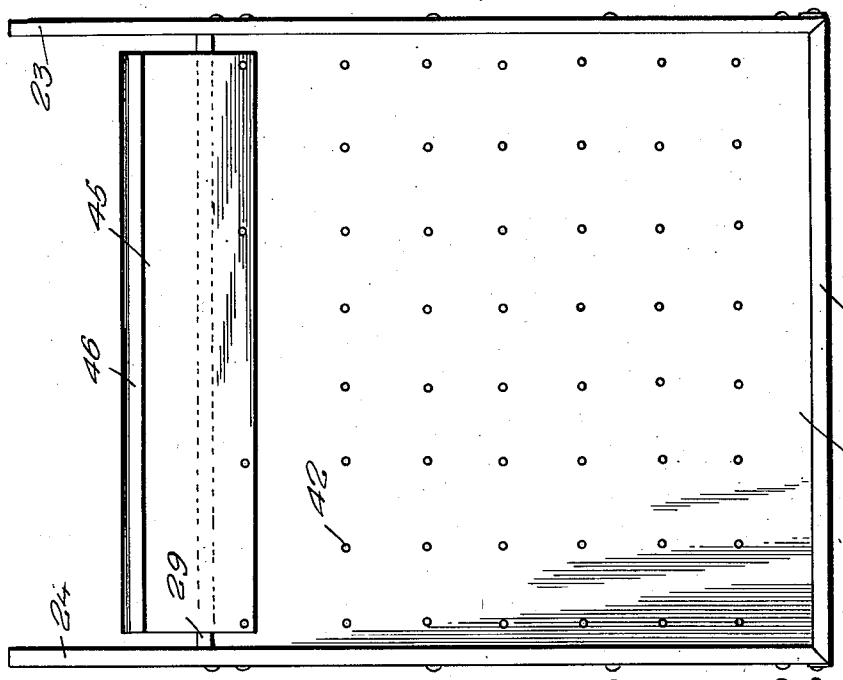
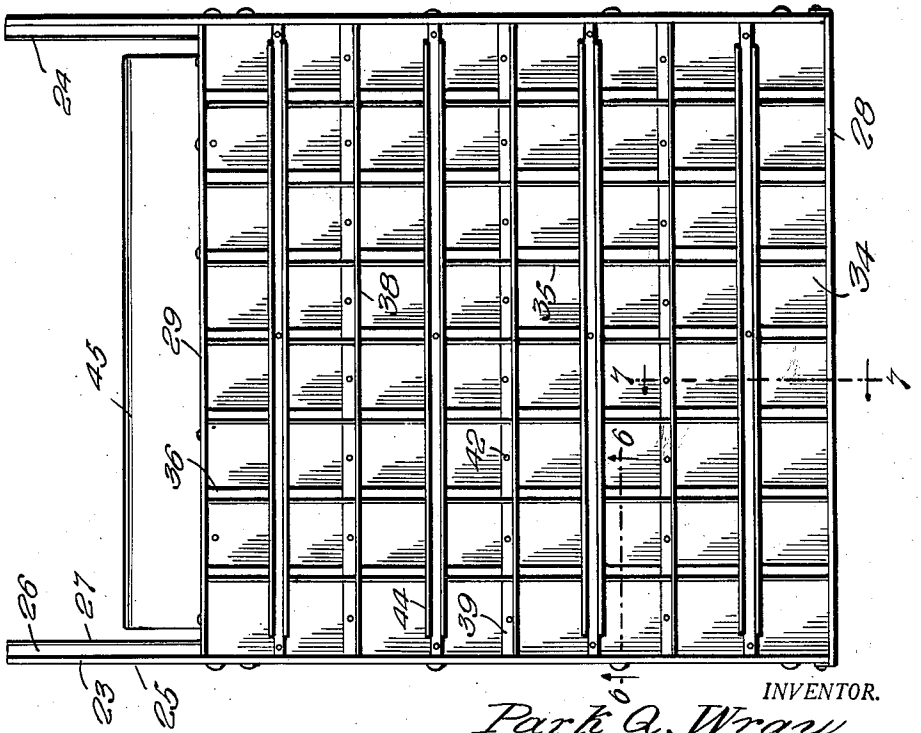


FIG. 4



INVENTOR.

Park Q. Wray

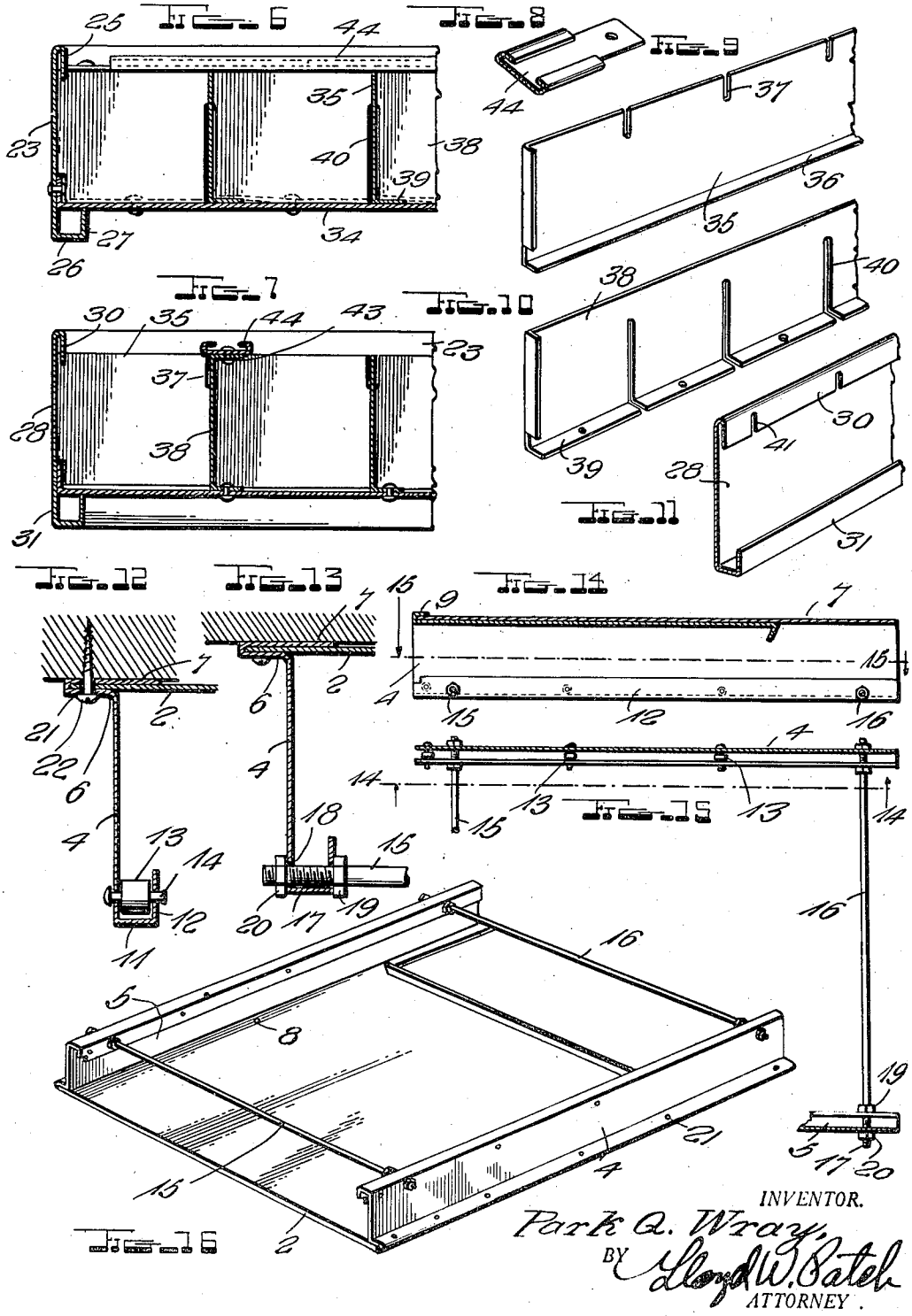
BY Lloyd W. Bateh

ATTORNEY.

Jan. 28, 1941. P. Q. WRAY 2,229,785

ARTICLE CONTAINER DRAWER

Filed Dec. 2, 1937 3 Sheets-Sheet 3



Patented Jan. 28, 1941 2,229,785

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,229,785

ARTICLE CONTAINER DRAWER

Park Q. Wray, Chicago, Ill., assignor to E. Edelmann & Co., Chicago, Ill., a corporation of Illinois

Application December 2, 1937, Serial No. 177,802

3 Claims. (Cl. 45—77)

My invention relates to improvements in article container drawers, and particularly to a drawer structure intended and adapted to be attached to and used with any table, counter, shelving, storage bin, work bench, or other supporting structure, to contain brass fittings, cotter pins, lock washers, carburetor parts, contact points, condensers, starter parts, distributor parts, brushes, screws, nuts, bolts, pins, nails, or other small articles or parts, and to present these articles or parts in separate compartments to thus be readily available and accessible.

An object of this invention is to provide a compartmented article container drawer which can be mounted and used in stores, in shops, in service departments, and in fact wherever and whenever there are shelves, storage bins, tables, counters, benches, or other supporting structures that will mount and carry the storage drawer, and which article container drawer is of such construction that it can be readily, conveniently and expeditiously fitted and attached to the storage structure in relatively limited space and locations where ordinarily space may be wasted or unoccupied.

Another object is to so construct the drawer that a compartmented drawer portion, guides or guideways, and a cover or top portion, are associated as a unitary construction to thus permit ready handling and shipping and convenient and expeditious attachment at the point or position of use.

Still another purpose is to provide guide or guideway portions for the drawer which will give rigid and substantially non-yielding support for the drawer, in both opened and closed positions, even when the drawer is loaded or filled with brass fittings, metal parts, or other heavy articles.

Yet another object is to provide means by which the guideways are definitely and rigidly held in properly disposed and spaced relations to allow free sliding and movement of the drawer, and yet parts are provided to positively stop the movement of the drawer when brought to fully closed and fully opened positions, to thus preclude the possibility of accidental removal or displacement of the drawer from the guideways.

A further object is to provide a friction reducing structure to facilitate movement of the drawer in opening and closing the same.

A still further object and purpose is to provide a compartmented drawer structure with which the parts forming the compartments cooperate with each other and with the body portions of the drawer to reinforce and strengthen the structure so that a rigid and yet light drawer construction is accomplished, and to provide for marking or indication of various compartments to designate the compartments or the materials or articles contained therein.

Still another object is to provide a drawer of the above character which is capable of being made up with the main portions thereof of sheet metal, to thus be of simple and inexpensive construction, and which is yet of such rigid construction that the drawer portion will hold and support a considerable weight of metal or other heavy parts, and that the drawer structure having a portion serving as a top over the several compartments can be used as a shipping container for the parts in the several compartments.

With the above and other objects in view, which will be apparent to those skilled in the art, my invention includes certain novel features of construction and combinations and arrangements and assemblies of parts which will be hereinafter set forth in connection with the drawings, and then pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view taken from front to back through a drawer structure embodying my invention, and showing the drawer closed.

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Figure 1 showing the drawer opened to its fullest extent.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical section taken transversely through one side of the drawer and supporting structure, substantially on line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Fig. 4 is a view in top plan of the drawer body portion.

Fig. 5 is a view in bottom plan of the drawer body portion.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view taken substantially on line 6—6 of Fig. 4 to better show the construction and association of the compartment separators.

Fig. 7 is a view similar to Fig. 6, taken on line 7—7 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary perspective view of one of the marker or card display strips.

Fig. 9 is a fragmentary perspective view of one of the compartment dividing strips extending from front to back of the drawer.

Fig. 10 is a fragmentary perspective view showing one of the transverse compartment dividing strips.

Fig. 11 is a perspective view of a fragmental section of one of the side walls of the drawer.

Fig. 12 is a fragmentary detail sectional view taken through the drawer supporting and mounting structure to show one of the friction reducing rollers.

Fig. 13 is a view similar to Fig. 12 to better show the connection of one of the brace rods.

Fig. 14 is a sectional vertical view taken from front to back, on a reduced scale, showing the drawer supporting structure, being taken on a line substantially 14—14 of Fig. 15.

Fig. 15 is a fragmentary horizontal sectional view taken substantially on line 15—15 of Fig. 14.

Fig. 16 is a perspective view of the drawer supporting guide and mounting structure as this will appear when viewed from the under side.

As has been stated, my improved drawer structure is adaptable for use to be attached to and supported by a counter, table top, or any other suitable supporting member, and in the present instance I have generally illustrated the top portion of such a supporting structure at 1, it being understood that this top supporting structure might be supported by legs, or is carried by or associated with any cabinet, counter, table, or other supporting structure.

The drawer mounting and slide structure is illustrated in Fig. 16 with the drawer removed, and in other figures of the drawings with the drawer in place, and this supporting structure has a top member 2, of sheet metal or other suitable material, formed to be slightly larger than the body portion 3 of the sliding drawer. This top member 2 has at its side edges the drawer guide and slide members 4 and 5. The guide and slide members are at their upper edges each provided with an outwardly disposed flange 6 and an inwardly extending return flange 7, these flanges being sufficiently separated to receive and hold the side edges of the top member 2 of the supporting structure. The guide and slide members 4 and 5 can be rigidly and permanently connected with the top member 2 by means of rivets 8 passing through the top member and through the flange 7, by spot welding, or by any other desired and suitable fastening. The forward edge of the top member 2 is provided or formed with an inturned flange 9, perhaps best shown in Figs. 1 and 2, so that this edge is reinforced, stiffened and strengthened, between the two drawer slide or guide members 4 and 5. At its inner edge the top member 2 is provided with a down turned flange portion 10 which serves to reinforce and strengthen and stiffen the top member at the rear edge between the drawer slide and guide members 4 and 5, and also this down turned flange is interposed in the path of sliding movement of the drawer, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth, and the flange 10 will serve as a stop to limit inward sliding movement of the drawer.

At their lower edges, the drawer slide or guide members 4 and 5 have inturned and upturned flange portions 11 and 12 which form open trackways. Anti-friction bearing rollers 13 are mounted on pins 14 within these open trackways to thus be presented as anti-friction bearings to carry the drawer when in place in the supporting structure.

It is perhaps preferable that the drawer slide and guide members 4 and 5 be made somewhat longer than the top portion 2, but as the main portion of the weight of the drawer will be carried substantially beneath this top portion 2, it will probably be found sufficient to provide rollers 13 only in the forward portion of the length of each of the members 4 and 5, or in the portion beneath the top member 2. To hold the drawer slide and guide members 4 and 5 in proper spacing and to assemble the supporting structure into a substantially rigid unitary structure, I provide spacing rods 15 and 16 and mount these transversely adjacent to the lower edges and the forward and rear ends of these members 4 and 5. As shown in Fig. 13, the rods 15 and 16 have their ends externally screw threaded, as at 17, and the screw threaded ends of the rods are fitted through aligned openings 18 formed through the trackway portions of the members 4 and 5, clamp nuts 19 and 20 being turned onto the screw threaded portions 17 to bear on opposite sides of the trackway portions and to consequently securely clamp and rigidly hold the transverse cross bars 15 and 16 in substantially unitary mounting and assembly with the members 4 and 5.

The overlapping and outwardly extending portions of the flanges 6 and 7 and of the top member 2 are provided with openings 21 spaced at suitable and desirable intervals along the length of each of the members 4 and 5, and screws 22, or other suitable fastening means, can be inserted through these openings to secure the drawer supporting and slide and guideway structure upon the under side of the table top or other supporting member 1. In the present instance I have shown the fastenings 22 as wood screws, but it will be understood and appreciated that bolts, rivets, or in fact any other form of fastening can be employed, depending somewhat upon the particular use and installation. The securement of these mounting and fastening members through the aligned openings 21 further insures a rigid and unitary association of the top member 2 and the members 4 and 5, and the drawer portion and supporting structure as a whole is thus further supported and is made even more rigid by the top portion 1.

The drawer structure has the body portion 3 thereof carried by the side slide members 23 and 24. As perhaps best shown in Fig. 3, these side slide members have their upper edges folded over to provide reinforcing and stiffening flanges 25, and at their lower edges the members 23 and 24 are bent inwardly and then upwardly to provide flange portions 26 and 27 which are loosely received to slide within the guideways formed by the flanges 11 and 12 of the members 4 and 5, and to be supported upon the friction reducing bearing rollers 13. The upper flanged edge 25 of each of the members 23 and 24 is presented in close proximity to the under side of the top member 2, adjacent to the drawer slide and guide members 4 and 5, and as these members 23 and 24 are made longer, at their inner ends, than the forward-to-back length of the body 3 of the drawer, the extensions of these members 23 and 24 will slide into the rearwardly extending ends of the members 4 and 5.

A drawer front 28 is mounted on the forward or outer ends of the members 23 and 24, and a drawer back 29 is secured transversely between the members 23 and 24 forwardly of the rear ends thereof. It is preferable that the drawer front be provided with reinforcing flange portions 30 and 31 at its upper and lower edges, and the drawer back 29 is also preferably provided with flanges 32 and 33, at its upper and lower edges. A drawer bottom 34 is fitted within the confines of the members 23, 24, 28 and 29, and rests at

its edges upon the flange portions 27, 31, and 33. This drawer bottom 34 is secured in place by means of rivets, spot welding, or any other suitable fastening, and with the drawer front and back and the side portions makes up the substantially rectangular drawer body 3.

It is desirable that the drawer body 3 be divided off to provide a plurality of compartments so that provision is made for reception, storage and display of several different types or varieties or characters of materials or parts or items in the several compartmented spaces of the drawer body, and to accomplish this division or compartmenting of the drawer structure, and yet provide a rigid partition structure that will resist displacement or damage from shocks and forces incident to use, and will at the same time reinforce and strengthen the body portion, it is perhaps preferably that the partition members dividing the body into compartments be interfitted and interassociated, and be interconnected and interassociated with the sides of the drawer body. To divide the drawer body into compartments, I provide a plurality of partition members 35 adapted to be fitted within the drawer body to extend from front to back and substantially parallel with the side members 23 and 24. These partition members 35 are preferably provided with flanges 36 at their lower edges, and at their upper edges have slots or slits 37 spaced at points corresponding to the desired location of transverse partitions. The transverse partitions 38 have flanges 39 at their lower edges, and these partitions 38 are provided with slots or slits 40 which will register with the lateral parallel spacing of the front-to-back partitions 35. The formation of the slots or slits 37 and 40 is such that when the partitions 35 and 38 are fitted in place within the drawer body 3, these partitions will interfit substantially after the manner shown in Figs. 6 and 7, and consequently the several partition members are interfitted and are interassociated to brace and hold one against the other. The flanges 25, 30 and 32 are preferably provided with slots or slits at their lower edges, as shown at 41, and the upper edges of the partition members 35 and 38 will thus be held in proper spacing and will be rigidly secured against being bent out of or otherwise displaced from the desired and proper spacing and location. Rivets 42 can be clinched through openings provided in flanges 39 and in the bottom member 34, and in this way the partition members 38 and 35 are positively secured and are held against shifting or movement at their lower edges. Obviously, these flanges might be spot welded and other approved and desired means of securement might be employed in lieu of the rivets 42.

Where the several compartments have parts or items of different character contained or stored or displayed therein, some difficulty may be experienced in properly locating the particular item in one of the unmarked compartments, and therefore I provide means for holding identifying tags or markers adjacent to each of the several compartments. On some of the transverse partitions 38, I provide outwardly bent flanges 43, as shown in Fig. 7, and the slip portions 44 are secured upon these flanges by means of rivets, by spot welding, or in any other desired manner. These clip strips 44 have side flanges adapted to hold in place guide or index or identification cards, or other sheets or strips having thereon matter or material desired to be displayed adjacent to the several compartments. In the present instance I have shown these clip strips 44 mounted on alternate transverse partitions 38, and in such a construction and assembly a single guide strip can have marked thereon two identifying indications to show adjacent to the two compartments on opposite sides of the location of the clip strip 44.

As stated, the flange 10 is disposed to project into the path of movement of the drawer 3 to thus serve as a stop to limit inward or closing movement of the drawer, and if desired the flange portion 33 of the drawer front 28 can also serve to stop and strengthen the drawer when brought to the closed position. This flange portion 31, extending below the bottom 34 of the drawer body 3, also presents a convenient flange or projection to be grasped in opening the drawer.

As the transverse spreader rods 15 and 16 are spaced below the bottom 34 of the drawer body 3, these rods will not ordinarily interfere with free sliding movement of the drawer to opened and closed positions. However, as the structure has been described above, the drawer body portion can be pulled forwardly or outwardly to be entirely disengaged from the slide or guide portions 4 and 5, and to avoid accidental displacement of the drawer and consequent spilling of the contents, it is desirable that means be provided to stop or limit outward movement of the drawer while the extensions of the side members 23 and 24 are still slidably or telescopically received within the members 4 and 5 a sufficient distance to support the weight of the drawer body 3, such position being indicated in Fig. 2. With this in mind, I provide a plate 45 which is swingably mounted on the under side of the bottom portion 34 adjacent to the drawer back 29. This plate or stop member 45 has a hooked flange 46 bent downwardly and forwardly at its rear edge, and as the drawer body 3 is pulled out, this flange 46 will catch upon the spacing rod 15 and will prevent further outward movement of the drawer. Where it is desired to remove the drawer, this swingably mounted plate or stop member can be swung up so that the hook portion 46 will clear and pass over the top of the rod 15, and then the drawer can be entirely removed. As illustrated in Fig. 2, it is perhaps desirable that this stop portion or plate 45 be so formed and mounted that outward movement of the drawer body 3 will be stopped when the drawer back 32 is adjacent to the forward edge of the top member 2.

With the drawer structure made up and constructed and assembled in the manner set forth, it will be possible to place brass fittings or other parts in the several compartments of the body, and then when the drawer is closed the top member 2 will serve as a top to close the several compartments and to prevent spilling and intermixing of the contents thereof. If the clearance be too great between the upper edges of the partition walls 35 and 38, and the lower side of the top 2, a piece of corrugated strawboard, or any other suitable filler, can be inserted.

From the foregoing it will be seen that I have provided a drawer structure adaptable for mounting and support in connection with and upon a vast number of counter, table and other structures now already in use, which drawer construction and the supporting means therefor are of such height or depth as to permit mounting in what is ordinarily waste or unused space; that the drawer structure is made substantially entirely of sheet metal which is readily and inexpensively worked and made up, and yet the parts

are interfitted and interconnected and interbraced in such a manner that an extremely rigid and durable unitary structure is accomplished; and, that as provided the drawer structure can be made up and can be readily shipped and handled and can then be fitted in place and attached for use by an individual user, without the employment of special tools or fittings or appliances.

While I have herein shown and described only certain specific embodiments of my invention and have suggested only certain possible uses and constructions and assemblies and changes, it will be appreciated that many changes can be made in the form, construction, arrangement, assembly and association of the parts, in the manner of mounting, and in the manner of use of the structure, without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention.

I claim:

1. An article container drawer comprising, a pair of drawer slide and guide side members having inturned and upturned flanges at their lower edges and provided with outturned flanges at their upper edges, a plate-like cover member connected across between said slide and guide members at the outwardly flanged edges thereof and forming a closed top, spreader rods connected between the inwardly and upwardly flanged edges of the slide and guide members adjacent to the forward and the rear ends thereof and thus forming with the slide and guide members and the cover member a drawer slide and guide structure, a drawer fitted to said slide and guide structure between the cover and the spreader rods to slide therein to opened and to closed positions with the cover member serving as a top for the drawer when in closed position, a downturned flange on the inner end of the cover member serving to stop movement of the drawer when in a closed position, and a stop plate hingedly mounted on the bottom of said drawer body and provided with a downwardly disposed hook flange to engage with and catch upon the forward spreader rod to stop movement of and prevent outward displacement of the drawer body when being opened, said stop plate being swingable upwardly to clear the rod whereby the drawer can be entirely removed from the slide and guide structure.

2. An article container drawer comprising a pair of drawer slide and guide side members having inturned and upturned flanges at their lower edges and provided with outturned and then inwardly returned and overlying and spaced flanges at their upper edges, a top member fitted and held within the space between the top flanges thereby separating the slide and guide side members, spacing rods connected transversely across between the slide and guide side members adjacent to their lower edges leaving the inturned and upturned flange portions thereof as open trackways, and a drawer body portion slidably mounted within the open trackways and consequently between the spacing rods and the top member.

3. An article container drawer comprising a pair of drawer slide and guide side members having inturned and upturned flanges at their lower edges and provided with outturned and then inwardly returned and overlying and spaced flanges at their upper edges, a top member fitted and held within the space between the top flanges thereby separating the slide and guide side members, spacing rods connected transversely across between the slide and guide side members adjacent to their lower edges leaving the inturned and upturned flange portions thereof as open trackways, a drawer body portion slidably mounted within the open trackways and consequently between the spacing rods and the top member, a flange on the inner edge of the top member downturned in position to limit inward movement of the drawer body portion when closed, and a plate hingedly mounted on the lower side of the drawer body portion extending rearwardly and having its rear end bent downwardly and forwardly in the form of a hook engageable with the forward spacing rod to stop excessive outward movement of the drawer body portion when opened.

PARK Q. WRAY.