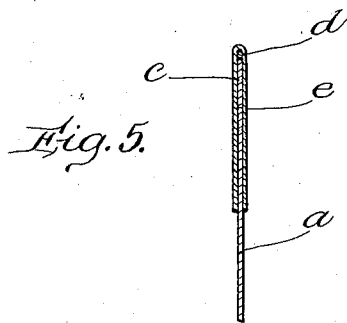
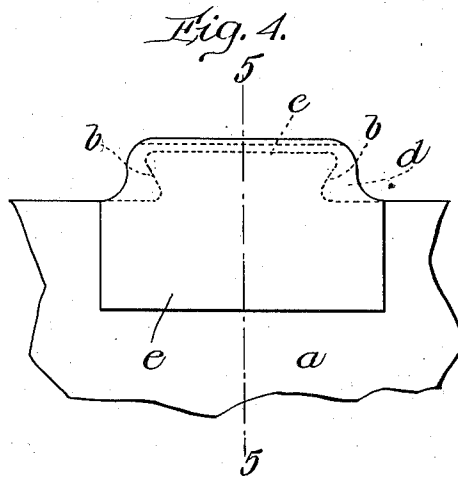
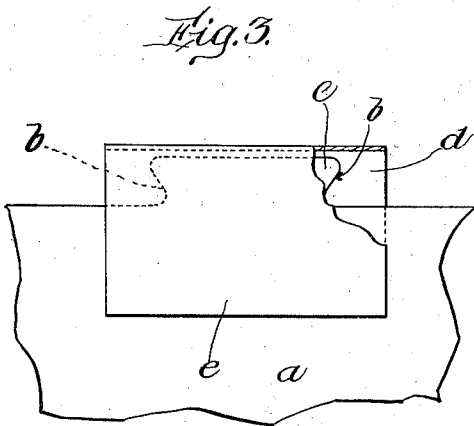
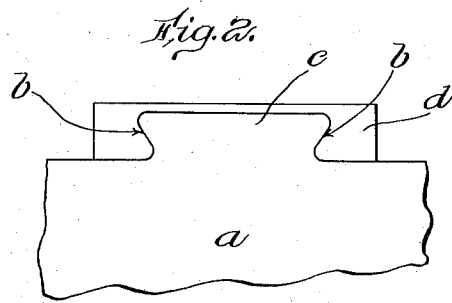
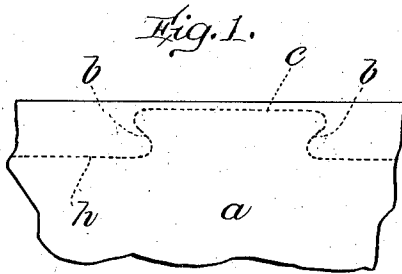


W. B. MEHL.
CATALOGUE CARD.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 26, 1908.

968,065.

Patented Aug. 23, 1910.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER B. MEHL, OF NEWTONVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO LIBRARY BUREAU, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, A CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY.

CATALOGUE-CARD.

968,065.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 23, 1910.

Application filed August 26, 1908. Serial No. 450,328.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER B. MEHL, of Newtonville, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Catalogue-Cards, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to cards for card catalogues and indexes, having tabs projecting from their upper edges upon which numbers, words or other identifying characters are to be inscribed. In using catalogues and indexes of this character the tabs are usually handled more frequently than any other part of the card and tend to become worn and soiled, so that the guiding marks and characters become more or less illegible, and the tabs break down and wear out before the rest of the card. It has been proposed to protect the tabs of such cards by folding over them sheets of waterproof and transparent material such as celluloid, so that the cards will suffer less injury by handling, and yet the characters may be easily seen. When such protective coverings are used, they are trimmed off flush with the ends of the tabs, and sometimes also with the upper edges of the cards, leaving at their trimmed edges a composite structure consisting of three layers, the outer layers being the plies of the celluloid covering and the inner one being the card itself which is usually of pasteboard. The exposed edges of the cards and celluloid become moist after a time by absorption of moisture from the atmosphere and from the hands of the user while being handled, and in time the moisture causes the celluloid to separate from the tab and curl up at its edges; and as this action continues the plies of the celluloid and of the card itself are gradually torn apart. To overcome these objections it has been proposed by others wholly to close or seal the edges of the pasteboard tab with a waterproof covering, and it is with devices of this character that the present invention is concerned.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and useful covering of sheet celluloid or some similar transparent waterproof material for inclosing and protecting the tab not only upon its flat surfaces but upon its end and top edges.

In the accompanying drawings which illustrate the invention,—Figure 1 repre-

sents in elevation a card partly broken away showing the form in which the index tab is cut; Fig. 2 is a front elevation of said card and tab and of the filler piece embracing the edges of the tab; and Fig. 3 is an elevation, partly broken away, of said card and tab and of the filler and outer protective covering showing the parts assembled, but before the covering and filler are trimmed; Fig. 4 is an elevation of the card with its protective covering trimmed and finished, and Fig. 5 is a vertical section of the finished article on line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Referring to the drawings, *a* represents an index or record card. The first step in the manufacture of the card is to cut from one edge thereof an integral tab *c*, of dovetail shape as shown, to provide the undercut edges or shoulders *b* at each end of the tab. The dotted line *h* indicates the outline of this cut for forming the dovetail shaped tab *c*. A filler piece *d* is cut from a sheet of celluloid or similar waterproofing material of the same thickness as the card *a* into the shape shown in Fig. 2 having a notch on one side cut to the same size and shape as the dovetail tab *c*. Thus, it will be seen that the filler *d* engages the edges of the tab *c* both at the ends of the tab, where the ends of the notch fit the undercut edge or shoulder *b* of the tab, and also at the top of the tab, where the filler extends along the top edge of the tab, thus embracing the edges of the tab at all sides. When the card *a* and the filler *d* have been placed together as shown in Fig. 2, a protective covering *e* made of a sheet of waterproof and transparent material, preferably a thin sheet of celluloid, is folded over the edge of the tab and embraces between its plies the card and the filler *d* as shown in Fig. 3. The covering *e* extends beyond the edges of the tab *c* both at the ends and top of the tab, the fold or crease of the covering *e* being spaced from the top edge of the tab so as to hold between it and the top edge of the tab that part of the filler *d* which extends along the top edge of the tab. Thus it will be seen that the top edge is protected by a double thickness of celluloid so that if the fold of the outer covering *e* should split or crack in consequence of constant handling, nevertheless the tab *c* would not be exposed as it would still be protected by the part of the filler *d* which extends along the top

edge of the tab. It will be seen that the ends of the filler *d* adjacent to the ends of its notch extend under the shoulders or undercut edges *b* of the tab thus locking the filler securely in place when held between the outer coverings *e*, and preventing any possibility of its dislodgment even though the top edges of the coverings *e* were disconnected instead of being connected by the fold. The parts may be secured together by a suitable cement. After the filler and outer covering *e* has been applied to the tab the end edges of said covering and filler may be trimmed off by dies into the form shown in Fig. 4.

I claim:

1. A catalogue or index card having an integral tab projecting from one edge thereof, said tab being of dovetail shape, a sheet of transparent, waterproof material covering each face of said tab and extending beyond the ends and top edge of the tab, and a filler of similar material having a notch cut away to conform to the shape and size of the tab, inserted between the front and

back plies of said covering and extending along the top edge as well as the end edges of said tab.

2. A catalogue or index card having an integral tab projecting from one edge thereof, said tab being of dovetail shape, a sheet of transparent, waterproof material folded over the top edge of the tab so as to inclose the front and rear surfaces thereof, and extending beyond both the ends and top edge of the tab, whereby the fold is spaced from the top edge of the tab, and a filler of similar material having a notch cut away to conform to the shape and size of the tab, inserted between the plies of said folded covering, inclosing the end edges of the tab and extending along the top edge of the tab between it and the fold of the covering.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

WALTER B. MEHL.

Witnesses:

W. C. COOK,
SAML. W. FRENCH.