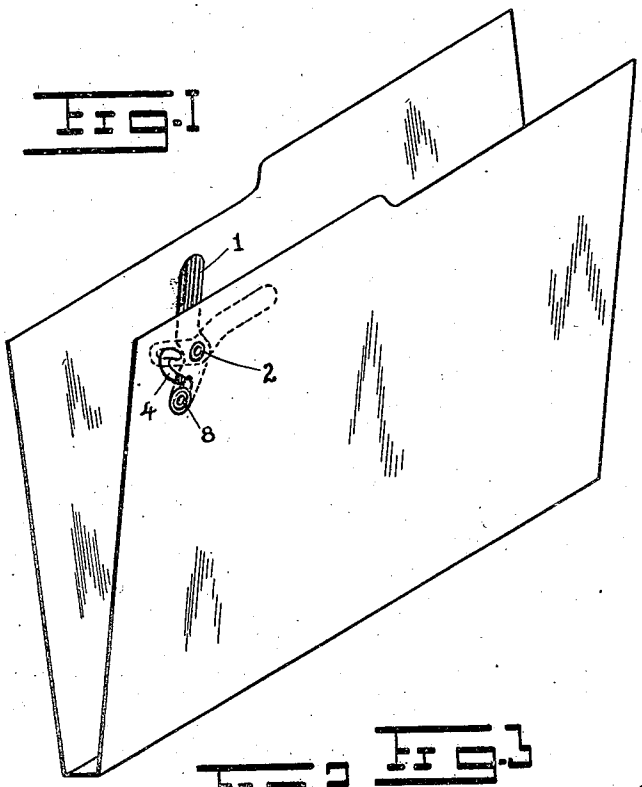
Jan. 8, 1929. 1,697,985

H. J. LINDSAY

SIGNAL TAB

Filed Sept. 10, 1926

Fig. 1



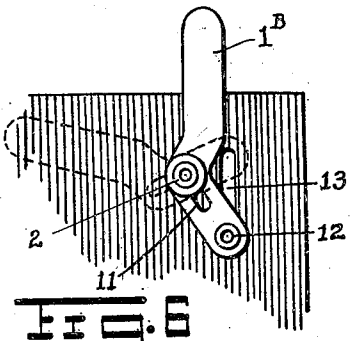


Fig. 6

Fig. 2

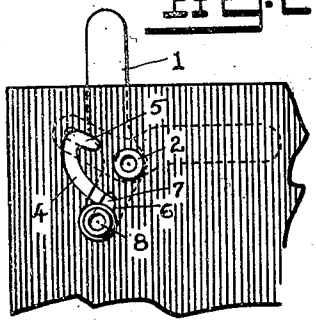


Fig. 3

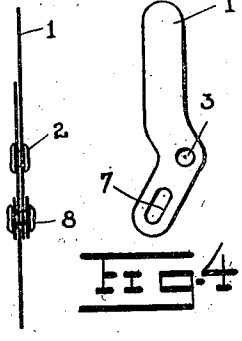


Fig. 4

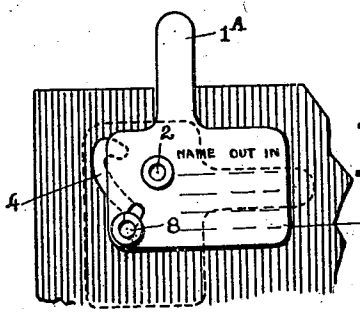


Fig. 5

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOMER JOHN LINDSAY, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO CLARK-LINDSAY CORPORATION, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

SIGNAL TAB.

Application filed September 10, 1926. Serial No. 134,623.

The object of my invention is to provide an improved and adjustable signal tab for letter files, index cards, etc., so that the absence or presence of certain papers of the file or data on the cards can be indicated thereon.

This and other objects of this invention will be fully illustrated in the drawing, described in the specification and pointed out in the claims at the end thereof.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a letter file provided with the improved signal tab.

Figure 2 is an enlarged detail view of the signal tab and the portion of the folder on which it is mounted.

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view of the signal tab and the portion of the folder to which it is attached.

Figure 4 is a detail view of the tab.

Figure 5 shows a modified form of the signal tab attached to a portion of a folder or file.

Figure 6 illustrates another modified form of the signal tab.

In the several figures of the drawing, like reference numerals indicate like parts.

The adjustable signal tab forming the subject matter of this invention is intended to provide an efficient and simple signal tab for filing folders, index cards etc. The signal tab is preferably stamped or cut out of thin flat stock such as celluloid as illustrated in the figures of the drawing, and in one embodiment is made up in the form of a bell-crank having a long and a short section. This bell-crank shaped tab 1 is pivoted to the filing folder or index card by means of an eyelet 2 which passes thru the hole 3 provided in the tab 1 and a similar hole provided in the filing folder or index card. In the folder or index card is provided the curved slot 4 having a radial inwardly projecting extension 5 at the upper end and a radial outwardly projecting extension 6 at the lower end thereof.

In the end of the short arm of the bell-crank shaped signal tab is provided an elongated slot 7 in which the knob and guide pin 8 is adapted to slide back and forth. This guide pin also passes thru the curved slot 4 or its radial extensions and serves to guide and lock the tab on the filing folder or index card. As illustrated in the figures the signal tab can be moved from a horizontal to a vertical position. In the horizontal position the signal tab is located behind the folder or in back of the index card and is not visible from the front of the folder or index card. This position is indicated by the dotted lines in each of the figures.

In the vertical position the upper end of the signal tab projects above the folder or index card making it plainly visible above the file or card. By shifting the signal tab from a horizontal to a vertical position and vice versa the signal tab is thus either made visible or invisible.

In order to hold the tab locked in either the visible or invisible position the guide pin is made movable back and forth in the slot 7. This slot is placed parallel with the radial extension slot 6 when the signal tab is moved into its visible position illustrated in full lines in Figure 1 and allows the guide pin to be moved into the radial extension slot 6. When the signal tab is moved into its horizontal invisible position the slot 7 of the tab is brought parallel to the radial extension slot 5 and allows the guide pin to be moved into this slot. The engagement of the guide pin 8 into either of the radial extension slots 6 or 7 holds the tab against swinging from one to the other positions until the guide pin is again moved out of the radial extension slots into the curved slot 4. After the guide pin has been moved out of the radial extension slots the signal tab is free to swing and allows the guide pin to move in the curved slot 4 from one radial extension slot to the other.

The modification illustrated in Figure 5 shows the signal tab 1^A provided with a data plate 10. This plate is made of material that will permit the writing of temporary data on it that can afterwards be again readily removed from it by erasing. Except for this change in the outline of the signal tab, the tab is the same as that illustrated in Figures 1 and 2.

In the modification of the signal tab illustrated in Fig. 6 the pivot member 2 is fixed in the file folder, or index card and projects through an elongated opening or slot 11 provided in the bell-crank shape signal tab 1^B. On the lower end of this tab is carried the guide pin 12 which is fixed thereon and projects into the vertical slot 13 provided in the folder or index card. When the inner end of the tab is raised this

guide pin is guided upwardly in a straight line movement in the slot 13 and in doing so swings the tab from a vertical to a horizontal position as well as shifts it bodily to one side in the slot 11. The lateral displacement of the tab serves to hold it in either a vertical or horizontal position so that it will not swing when the hand is accidentally brought in contact with the upper end of the tab and will only swing when the guide pin 12 is moved in the vertical slot 13.

I claim:

1. A signal tab for a folder or index card having a guide slot and comprising a tab, means adapted to pivot said tab on said folder or card, a radial extension provided on said tab, means carried by said radial extension to engage said guide slot during its movement from a vertical to a horizontal position.

2. A signal tab for a folder or index card having a guide slot with an angular extension at each end thereof comprising a tab, means adapted to pivot said tab on said folder or card, a radial extension provided on said tab, and means carried by said radial extension to engage said guide slot during its movement from a vertical to a horizontal position, said means carried by said radial extension of said tab being adapted to engage the angular extensions of said guide slot and hold said tab locked at the ends of said guide slot.

3. In a signal tab for a vertical filing element having a curved guide slot with an angular extension at each end thereof, the combination of pivotal means adapted to be carried by said element, an indicating tab mounted on said pivotal means, an extension provided on said indicating tab and projecting radially from said pivotal means, said radial extension of said indicating tab having an elongated opening therein, a guide pin mounted to slide back and forth in said elongated opening and adapted to travel in said curved slot in said folder and to engage into the angular extensions of said curved slot at each end thereof.

4. In combination with a supporting sheet having a guide slot provided therein, a signal tab, pivotal means for mounting said tab on said supporting sheet and guiding means provided on said signal tab and engaging said guide slot.

5. In combination with a supporting sheet having a slot therein of a pivot member mounted on said supporting sheet, an indicating tab pivoted on said pivot member and independently movable means carried by said indicating tab and engaging said slot in said supporting sheet to positively lock said indicating tab at the end of its movement.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

HOMER JOHN LINDSAY.