June 11, 1957 R. E. WELLS 2,795,205

OFFICE RECORD DEVICES

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Fig. 1

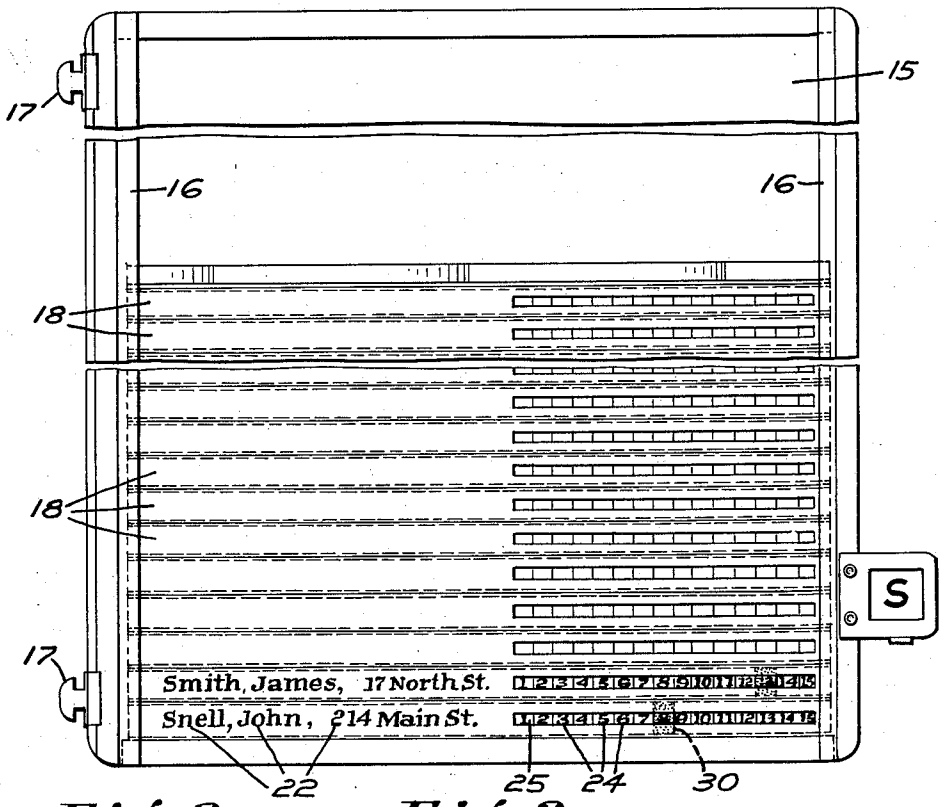


Fig. 3

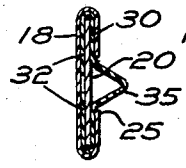


Fig. 2

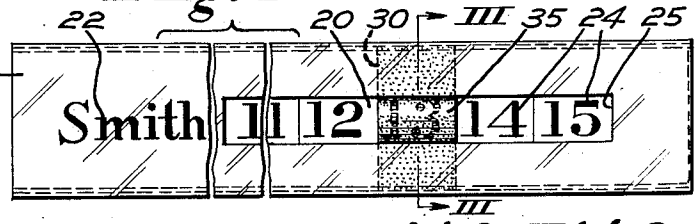


Fig. 4

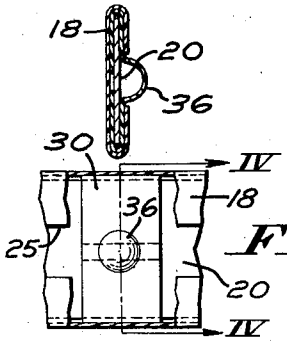


Fig. 5

Fig. 6

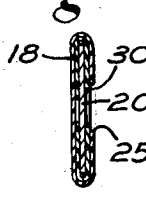


Fig. 7

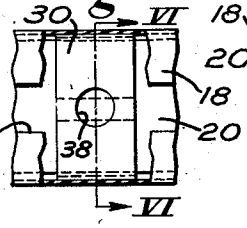


Fig. 8

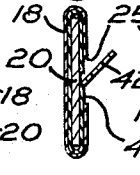
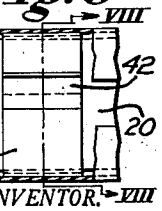


Fig. 9



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Fig. 10

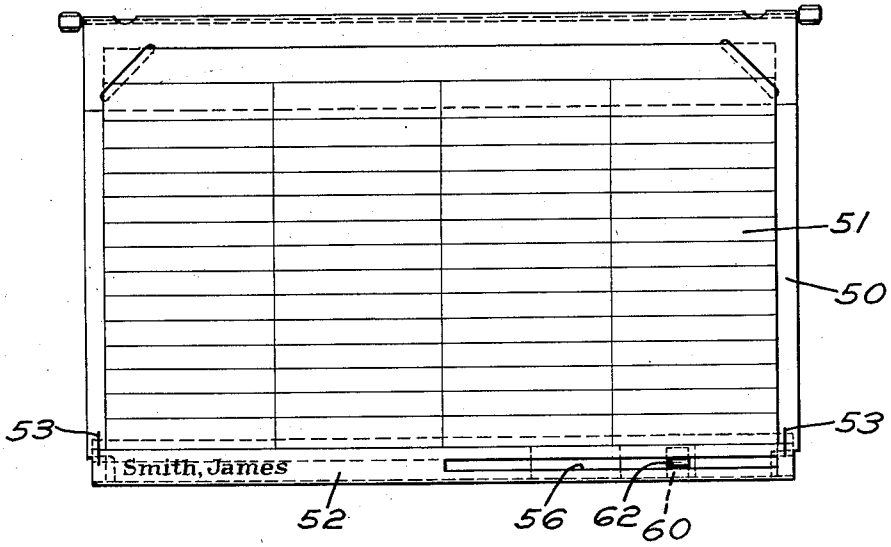


Fig. 11

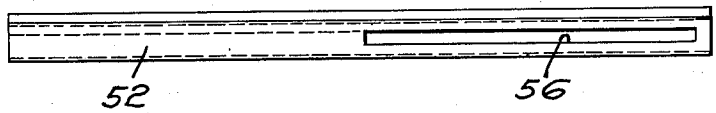
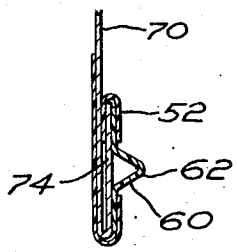


Fig. 12



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2,795,205

OFFICE RECORD DEVICES

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Application June 25, 1954, Serial No. 439,272

7 Claims. (Cl. 116—135)

This invention relates to office record control devices, and more particularly to improvements in such devices as are adapted for progressive signalling purposes.

It is of course known that various progressive signalling techniques have been adapted with success to certain office record devices such as name sheets and form sheets upon which various data are entered and upon which movable signal devices are arranged for subsequent call-up purposes or the like. However, it is an object of the present invention to provide an improved index slip enclosure and sliding signal arrangement, overcoming certain difficulties and disadvantages associated with devices of the prior art.

Another object of the invention is to provide improvements as aforesaid facilitating accurate use of such devices while at the same time further simplifying the construction and reducing the cost of such devices.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear from the specification hereinafter.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a presently popular swinging panel type index file embodying the improved index slip enclosure and sliding signal arrangement of the present invention;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged front elevational view of an index component of the device of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a section taken along line III—III of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a view corresponding to Fig. 3, but showing a modified form of sliding signal device;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary front elevation of the device of Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is a view corresponding to Figs. 3 and 4, but incorporating still another form of sliding signal device;

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary front elevational view of the device of Fig. 6;

Fig. 8 is a sectional view corresponding to Figs. 3, 4, 6, but showing still another form of sliding signal device of the invention;

Fig. 9 is a fragmentary front elevational view of the device incorporating the sliding signal device of Fig. 8;

Fig. 10 is a front elevational veiw of a presently popular so-called "pocket" type card form holder incorporating an index strip enclosure and sliding signal arrangement of the present invention;

Fig. 11 is a front elevational view of the index strip enclosure component of the device of Fig. 10; and

Fig. 12 is a fragmentary sectional view, similar to Figs. 3, 4, 6, 8 of another application of the invention.

By way of example the invention is illustrated in Fig. 1 as being embodied in connection with a so-called swinging panel type index device comprising a back plate **15** formed of sheet metal or the like and margined at its opposite side edges by means of overhanging flange portions **16—16**. The panel is arranged to be hung upon a stand by means of hinge tabs **17**. Thus, the panel **15** and the flange devices **16—16** cooperate to provide a frame-like structure into which may be slip-fitted a stack of index slip enclosure devices **18** which are preferably in

the form of flattened tubes which may be conveniently fabricated of Celluloid or other transparent plastic material, or the like. The tubes **18** are so dimensioned lengthwise as to be adapted to be laterally flexed and slip-fitted at their opposite ends under the flange devices **16—16** so as to be thereupon maintained by the flange devices in racked relation upon the panel **15**. The tubes **18** are vertically dimensioned so as to be adapted to accommodate in slip-fitted relation therein corresponding index slips as indicated at **20** (Figs. 2, 9); the index slips **20** being conveniently formed of paper or the like so as to be readily adapted to receive printed or typewritten indicia such as shown for example at **22** and at **24**. The indicia **22** illustrates by way of example a list of customers' names and addresses, while the indicia **24** indicates by way of example day calendar numerals.

A sliding signal arrangement in accord with the present invention is provided in conjunction with an elongated cut-out portion **25** in the form of an open window through the front surface of each tube **18** throughout the area of the indicia devices **24**. As shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the sliding signal device comprises a sheet of colored Celluloid or plastic slip-fitted inside of the tube **18** and having its major body portion disposed in front of the index slip **20** thereof. Thus, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, when viewed from the front of the device the signal device **30** overlies the index slip, and the longitudinal disposition of the signal device indicates and signals any desired relationship between the corresponding index name and the calendar numeral disposed beneath the signal device **30**. Thus, for example, in the form of the device shown in the drawing, the signal device **30** is adapted to visibly signal at a glance the day upon which some business operation in connection with the corresponding index name is due for attention.

As shown in Figs. 2–3, the signal device **30** includes upper and lower end portions which are bent around the corresponding upper and lower edges of the corresponding index slip and terminate in flange portions lying against the rear surface of the index slip as indicated at **32**. Thus, the signal device **30** is guided to maintain the upright attitude shown in Fig. 2, while being in free sliding relationship upon the index slip **20**. The front portion of the signal device **30**, in the form shown in Figs. 2 and 3 is formed with a ridge or roll portion **35** shaped to extend outwardly through the open window **25** of the tube **18**, in order to provide a protrusion which may be manually manipulated by the index file attendant for shifting the signal relative to the calendar indicia devices **24**. Thus, it will be appreciated that the sliding signal **30** of Figs. 1–3 comprises a device of utmost constructional simplicity while being at the same time rugged and mounted in fool-proof free sliding relation within the corresponding tube **18**. The overlapping top and bottom edge portions of the signal device frictionally engage the corresponding index slip as well as the interior of the corresponding tube, and therefore the signal device resists accidental shifting thereof, while being at the same time readily adjustable with improved facility to any desired position relative to the indicia carried thereon.

Figs. 4 and 5 illustrate another form of the signal device of the invention, wherein the front surface portion of the signal member **30** is outwardly dimpled as indicated at **36** so as to protrude through the open window portion **25** of the tube **18**. Thus, it will be appreciated that the protruding dimple portion **36** is disposed so as to be readily available for manipulation by the file attendant for movement of the signal to any desired position relative to the numerical indicia devices **24**. Figs. 6–7 illustrate still another form of the signal device of the invention wherein the front surface portion thereof is centrally apertured as indicated at **38** in registry with

the open window portion 25 of the tube 18. Thus, it will be appreciated that a pencil point or the like may be thrust into the aperture 38 whereupon lateral pressure applications thereon will cause the signal device 30 to slide to any desired adjusted position relative to the numerical indicia devices 24, as explained hereinabove.

Still another form of the sliding signal device of the invention is illustrated by Figs. 8 and 9 wherein the signal member is designated 40 and comprises a strip of Celluloid or plastic sheet material or the like, bent so as to encircle the upper and lower edges of the corresponding index slip and the rear surface thereof, while terminating at its opposite ends in front of the index slip. One end portion 42 of the signal strip 40 is bent outwardly so as to protrude through the open window 25 of the corresponding tube 18; thereby disposing the extending tab portion 42 to protrude so as to be readily available for pressure applications thereagainst to slide the signal strip 40 in either direction to desired adjusted positions relative to the numerical index devices of the index slip, as explained hereinabove.

Figs. 10 and 11 illustrate another example of application of the sliding signal device of the invention to a pocket type card holder device as designated generally by the numeral 50. As is well known in the art such holder devices are customarily provided with transparent Celluloid or plastic tips such as is illustrated at 52, stapled along the bottom edge of the holder 50, as by means of staples designated 53—53. Fig. 12 illustrates application of the invention to a printed form 70. The lower edge of the form sheet 70 is folded forwardly and upwardly as indicated at 74 (Fig. 12) interiorly of the tip device 52; the upper front edge of the tip device being folded over and downwardly behind the folded portion 74 of the form sheet so as to lock the tip device 52 in operative position. In such case the desired indicia may be simply typed or written or printed on the outer face portion of the tab 74 so as to be visible through the transparent tube 52. Or, in the alternative the bottom edge of the card 50 need not be turned up as at 74 and in lieu thereof a separate index slip may be inserted in the tube to occupy the position of the tab 74.

In either case the front wall portion of the tube member is apertured as indicated to provide an elongated window running lengthwise of the index panel portion within the tip device, and a sliding signal device of the invention is arranged in conjunction therewith as indicated at 60. As shown, the sliding signal comprises a strip of colored Celluloid or plastic sheet material having its front central portion folded or dimpled or otherwise deformed as explained hereinabove so as to protrude outwardly through the window portion of the tip member 52, as indicated at 62 in the drawing. Thus, the protruding signal portion 62 is readily available for manual manipulation by the file attendant for shifting the sliding signal device to any desired position relative to the indicia on the index panel portion at the bottom of the holder card, as may be required.

Although only a few forms of the invention have been shown and described in detail, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that the invention is not so limited but that various changes may be made therein without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. An index device comprising, an elongated transparent reference tube having disposed therein an index slip carrying index indicia thereon, said tube being slotted longitudinally at a front face portion thereof, and a sliding signal device comprising a strip of sheet material extending transversely of and around said index slip in slidably embracing relation therewith interiorly of said tube, said signal device frictionally engaging the interior of said tube to resist accidental shifting and having engagement means in registry with said slotted portion of said tube for engagement from externally of said tube by manually controlled means to selectively slide said signal device within said tube to various adjusted positions relative to said indicia.

2. An index device comprising a transparent reference tube having disposed therein an index slip carrying index indicia thereon, said tube being slotted at a front face portion thereof, and a sliding signal device comprising a strip of sheet material slidably embracing said index slip interiorly of said tube and having a looped portion thereof extending out through said slotted portion of said tube for engagement by manually controlled means for forcing said signal device to slide laterally within said tube to various adjusted positions relative to said indicia.

3. An index device comprising a transparent reference tube having disposed therein an index slip carrying index indicia thereon, said tube being slotted at a front face portion thereof, and a sliding signal device comprising a strip of sheet material slidably embracing said index slip interiorly of said tube and having a dimpled portion extending out through said slotted portion of said tube for engagement by manually controlled means for forcing said signal device to slide laterally within said tube to various adjusted positions relative to said indicia.

4. An index device comprising a transparent reference tube having disposed therein an index slip carrying index indicia thereon, said tube being slotted at a front face portion thereof, and a sliding signal device comprising a strip of sheet material slidably embracing said index slip interiorly of said tube and having a perforated portion in registry with said slotted portion of said tube for engagement by manually controlled means extended through said slot for forcing said signal device to slide laterally within said tube to various adjusted positions relative to said indicia.

5. An index device comprising, a transparent reference tube having disposed therein an index slip carrying index indicia thereon, said tube being slotted at a front face portion thereof, and a sliding signal device disposed within said tube comprising a strip of sheet material wrapped around the opposite side edge portions of said index slip so as to be slidably mounted thereon interiorly of said tube, the overlapping edge portions of said signal device frictionally engaging the corresponding portions of said index slip and of the interior of said tube to resist accidental shifting, and said signal device having a portion protruding through said slotted portion of said tube for engagement exteriorily of said tube by manually controlled means to selectively slide said signal device within said tube to various adjusted positions relative to said indicia.

6. An index device comprising, a transparent reference tube having disposed therein an index slip carrying index indicia thereon, said tube being slotted at a front face portion thereof, and a sliding signal device disposed within said tube in frictional engagement with the interior thereof and comprising a strip of sheet material slidably embracing said index slip interiorly of said tube, an end portion of said strip extending out through said slotted portion of said tube for engagement by manually controlled means exteriorly of said tube to selectively slide said signal device within said tube to various adjusted positions relative to said indicia.

7. An index device comprising an elongated reference tube of transparent material, an index slip having indicia thereon disposed within said tube, means defining a longitudinally elongated slot through a front face portion of said tube, and a signal device slidably disposed within said tube comprising a strip of transparent material extending across the rear face portion of said index slip and having opposite edge portions bent around the opposite side edge portions of said slip in slidably embracing relation therewith, said opposite edge portions of said strip frictionally engaging said index slip and the interior of said tube to resist accidental shifting of said signal device relative thereto, and the opposite end portions of

said strip terminating at the front face portion of said slip with one of said strip end portions being bent outwardly through said slot and comprising a tab portion disposed exteriorly of said tube for being manipulated to selectively shift said signal device within said tube relative to said index slip.

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