Oct. 24, 1939. A. E. SMITH 2,177,157

WALL FILE

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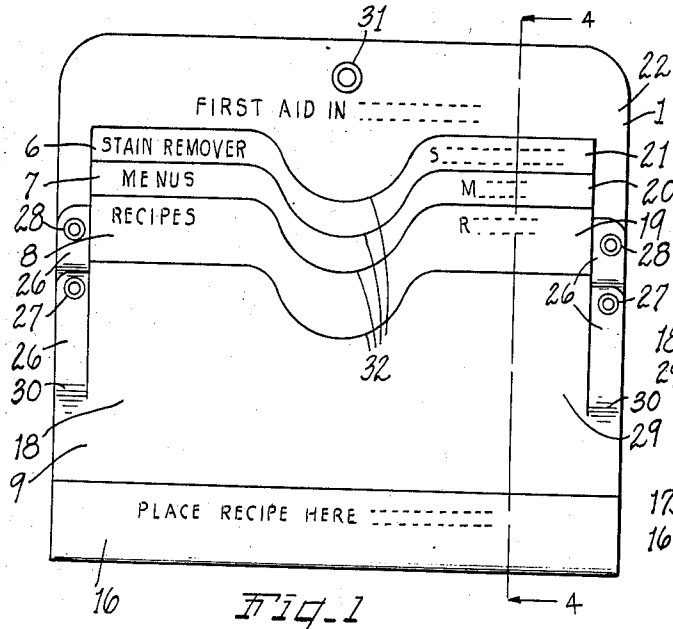


Fig. 1

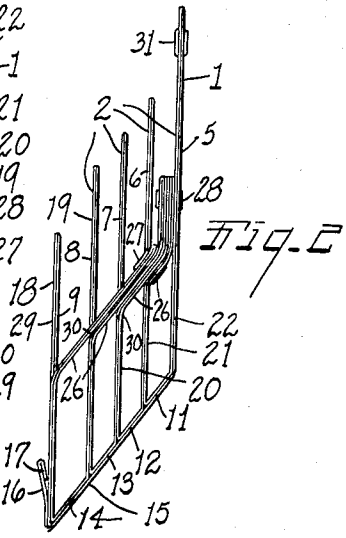


Fig. 2

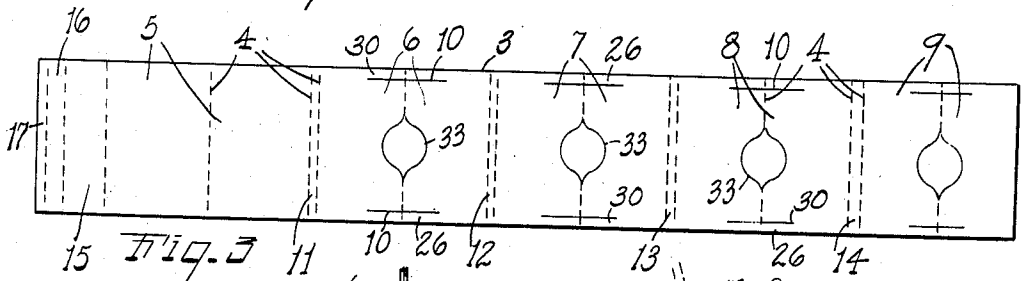


Fig. 3

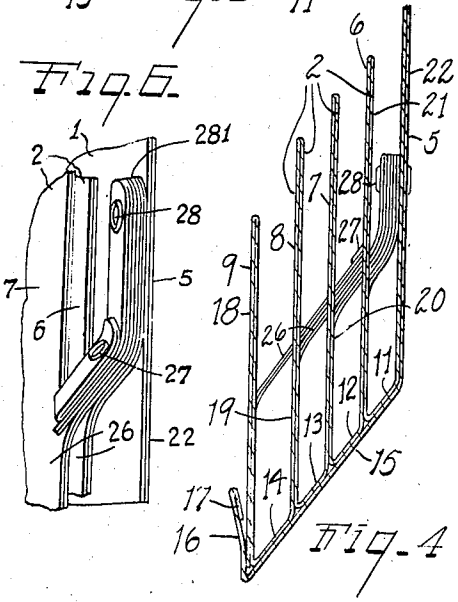


Fig. 4

Fig. 6

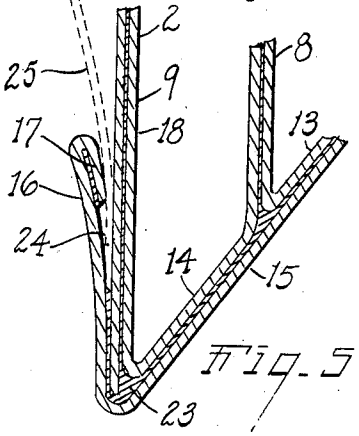


Fig. 5

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WALL FILE

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11 Claims. (Cl. 129—16)

This invention relates to improvements in wall files.

The main objects of my invention are:

First, to provide a novel collapsible wall file well adapted to receive cards bearing information or data relating to recipes, menus, remedies, and the like for household use.

Second to provide a card file adapted to be suspended on a wall but with the cards held thereby readily available and replaceable.

Third, to provide a compartment card file which is characterized by a folding or collapsing action for transportation or storage and the compartments of which are capable of being spread or opened sufficiently in use to afford ready access to the cards therein.

Fourth, to provide a card file which is substantial and at the same time economical both in the matter of labor and material.

Further objects relating to details and economies of my invention will definitely appear from the description to follow. The invention is defined in the claims.

A structure embodying the features of my invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a front view illustrating the collapsible file of my invention with appropriate filing indicia printed thereon.

Fig. 2 is an end view of the file of Fig. 1 as viewed from the right of Fig. 1, in opened or erected position.

Fig. 3 is a view illustrating the elongated rectangular blank employed in forming the file of my invention and illustrating the manner in which the same is scored and slit.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary sectional view on line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged fragmentary view in section similar to Fig. 4, illustrating certain structural details of my invention.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary perspective view illustrating the manner of fastening certain parts of the structure to hold the same in finished form.

The present invention relates to a collapsible card file well adapted for use in the home, characterized by a plurality of filing compartments adapted to receive and contain appropriate cards bearing information such as menus, recipes, remedies, and other useful household information. It is a primary object to provide such a filing article which is exceedingly simple and economical in construction and which may be manipulated to expand the compartments thereof, whereby convenient access may be had thereto for withdrawal or replacement of an information bearing card.

Referring to the drawing, the reference numeral 1 indicates the file of my invention which, in the illustrated embodiment, comprises a plurality of compartments 2 adapted to be spread or collapsed in an accordion-like manner, as will be described. The file is made from an elongated rectangular sheet 3 which is bent or folded on the various dotted lines 4 (along which the blank may be scored to facilitate folding, if desired) to provide a plurality of pairs of panels 5, 5, 6, 6, 7, 7, 8, 8, 9, 9, the respective panels of each pair being of equal area. It will be noted that panels 6, 6, 7, 7, 8, 8, 9, 9 are all approximately the same area, whereas panels 5, 5 are slightly larger in area in order to accommodate means (to be described) for suspending the file. Furthermore, the respective pairs 6, 6, 7, 7, 8, 8, 9, 9 are slitted at 10 transversely of the fold line 4 connecting the respective panels, there being a pair of slits for each panel extending equal distances on either side of the fold lines 4 for a purpose which will likewise be hereinafter described.

The respective pairs of panels 5, 5, 6, 6, 7, 7, 8, 8, 9, 9 are joined by compartment bottom sections 11, 12, 13, 14, these sections being adapted to form the bottoms of the compartments in erected form of the article and thereby space the various compartment walls. It will be appreciated that if the compartment is designed to receive a large number of information bearing cards, this should be taken into consideration in proportioning the widths of the various sections 11, 12, 13, 14. Therefore, for purposes of illustration, I have indicated the section 14 as being somewhat greater in width and area than the other sections.

One of the panels 5 (which is to constitute the exterior side of the rear wall of the file) has connected thereto an exterior bottom section 15 and a front sealing member 16 provided with a lip 17 adapted to be turned in or reversely bent when the article is assembled. Since the exterior bottom section 15 is to be juxtaposed relative to sections 11, 12, 13, and 14, with the latter in end-to-end relation, it is made of sufficient width for this purpose.

In assembling the file, the panels 9, 9 are bent along the fold line 4 between the same to constitute the front compartment wall designated 18. The panels are secured together, preferably adhered, in any appropriate manner, for example, by gluing, to hold the same in this form. The

bottom section of the panels 8, 8 are next folded in a similar manner and adhered together to constitute compartment wall 19.

The respective pairs of panels 7, 7, 6, 6, 5, 5 are next folded in similar manner and adhered together to constitute the respective compartment walls 20, 21, 22, as shown in Fig. 2.

The said walls 18, 19, 20, 21 are compressed together in parallel collapsed relation with the tops thereof in stepped order somewhat as indicated in Figs. 2 and 4. It will be appreciated that in proceeding as described above the blank will be bent along certain of the fold lines 4 defining bottom sections 11, 12, 13, 14, so that when the file is partially folded to form the walls thereof the respective bottom sections will likewise be partially defined.

The next step in the assembling operation is to cause the exterior bottom section 15 to adhere to the respective bottom sections 11, 12, 13, 14 which are disposed in end-to-end relation for this purpose. This strengthens the bottom of the file and rigidifies the whole structure. The front flap 16 has the lip 17 bent inwardly and is then folded up and around front wall 18 and adhered thereto for a portion of its height, as illustrated in Fig. 5, wherein the reference numeral 23 generally designates adhesive employed in securing the various elements together. By adhering the flap 16 only partially to the front wall 18, I provide a slot 24 extending across the width of the file to receive a data bearing card 25 which, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 5, has been withdrawn from one of the compartments 2 and inserted in the slot behind the flap while the said card is being used. The flap 16 may be suitably printed to indicate its purpose in this respect.

The folding of the file has now been completed. The next step is to secure the same in folded condition. The slits 10, which were performed in the various pairs of panels 6, 6, 7, 7, 8, 8, 9, 9 provide a pair of double thickness tongues or straps 26 adjacent the top and sides of each of the walls 18, 19, 20, 21, the said straps being spaced equally from the sides of the file. These straps are brought together and secured to one another, preferably by rivets or eyelets 27 and are riveted or eyeleted to rear wall 22 at 28. In securing the straps at 28, the straps of panels 6 and 7 are trimmed as indicated at 281 to make them of the same height as the straps on panel 8 whereby to eliminate the loose staggered ends which would otherwise occur due to difference in height of the straps in original position relative to the rear wall. Thus, each compartment wall has an intermediate upright portion 29 between the respective tongues or straps 26 which with the corresponding upright portion of an adjacent wall outlines a compartment 2, while the tongues or straps 26, being secured to one another and to compartment wall 22, hold the walls in parallelism throughout the collapsing and expanding operation thereof.

In manipulating the file, the same is placed upright on a suitable support and the rear wall 22 thereof pushed downwardly. This moves walls 18 and 22 and the intermediate walls relative to one another and bends the fold lines at the bottom sections which are still unbent, expanding the file, the tongues 26 yielding and bending rearwardly at their innermost extremities or points of attachment to the remainder of the wall, these extremities being designated 30. If desired, the said tongues, like the fold lines 4, may be suitably scored at such points to facilitate the rearward bending thereof.

In Figs. 1 and 2, I illustrate an eyelet 31 formed in rear wall 22 whereby the file may be supported on a hook. The said rear wall 22 is preferably imprinted with a suitable indication of the particular adaptability of the cards contained therein; for example, certain files in accordance with my invention might be imprinted "First aid in the kitchen" and accordingly the respective compartment walls might be identified with "Recipes," "Menus," "Stain removers," and the like. Alternatively, the files might be imprinted "First aid in emergency," with the respective compartments thereof appropriately labeled in accordance with the data bearing cards to be enclosed therein.

The recesses 32 may be formed in the wall panels either when the same are in blank form, by slitting at 33 as indicated in Fig. 3, or subsequent to folding thereof. These recesses afford easy access to the cards.

It will be apparent that if desired the slits 10 may be formed by other procedure than the preforming method which I have described; that is, if found expedient, the said slits 10 could be stamped simultaneously in the collapsed walls 18, 19, 20, 21 as an intermediate step. Furthermore, the straps or tongues 26 are obviously capable of being secured to one another and to rear wall 22 by other instrumentalities than the rivets or eyelets disclosed.

The file of my invention is characterized by a number of advantages. The upright walls thereof are rendered satisfactorily stiff by the doubled construction thereof. Moreover, they maintain their intended parallelism notwithstanding a free collapsing action, once appropriate bends have been made in the tongues 26 and bottom sections 11, 12, 13, 14. The file may be suspended by eyelet 31 until needed, then removed and expanded by the simple manipulation which has been described, thus affording convenient access to the various compartments 2. A card removed from any of the compartments may be slipped into slot 24 to support the same as long as it is needed and may then be readily replaced by a similar expanding manipulation of the file. However, an exceedingly important characteristic of my file is the extreme economy of construction thereof, notwithstanding its very considerable strength, which adapts the same to be marketed at a figure very far below that of hitherto known similar rigid or collapsible articles.

I have illustrated and described my improvements in an embodiment which is very practical. I have not attempted to illustrate or describe other embodiments or adaptations as it is believed this disclosure will enable those skilled in the art to embody or adapt my improvements as may be desired.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A collapsible wall file adapted to contain data bearing cards and to be suspended until the latter are to be used, comprising an elongated rectangular sheet folded transversely to provide a plurality of pairs of panels connected by rectangular bottom sections, the panels of each pair being adhered to one another to provide a plurality of walls defining compartments for the file, said walls being slitted adjacent each end thereof to provide straps and the straps being secured to one another and to one of the outermost walls, said slits outlining intermediate portions of the

walls held in parallel relation by the so secured straps, and an outermost bottom section connected to one of the outermost panels and secured to said first named bottom sections, said outermost bottom section being likewise partially adhered to the other outermost panel to afford a recess for receiving a card withdrawn from the file.

2. A collapsible wall file comprising a rectangular sheet folded along parallel lines to provide a plurality of pairs of panels connected by rectangular bottom sections, the panels of each pair being secured to one another to provide a plurality of walls defining compartments for the file, said walls being slitted adjacent each end thereof to provide straps and the straps being riveted to one another and to one of the outermost walls, said slits outlining intermediate portions of the walls held in parallel relation by the so secured straps, and an outermost bottom section connected to one of the outermost panels and secured to said first named sections to strengthen the bottom of the file.

3. A collapsible wall file comprising an integral sheet of cardboard bent transversely at a plurality of points spaced lengthwise thereof to provide a plurality of pairs of panels and a plurality of bottom sections integrally connecting said pairs, the panels of each pair being adhered to one another to provide compartment walls and said walls being slitted longitudinally of the sheet to provide straps, said straps being secured to one another and to one of the outermost walls whereby to maintain the walls in erect parallel relation while permitting collapsing movement thereof, and an exterior bottom section secured to said outermost panels and to said bottom sections to rigidify the file at the bottom thereof.

4. A collapsible wall file comprising an integral sheet bent transversely at a plurality of points to provide a plurality of pairs of panels and a plurality of bottom sections integrally connecting said pairs, the panels of each pair being secured to one another to provide compartment walls, and means including means integral with certain of the walls for securing the same to one another and to an outermost wall whereby to maintain the walls in parallel relation and permit collapsing movement thereof.

5. A wall file comprising a plurality of integrally connected wall members and bottom sections, certain of said wall members being slitted from the top and parallel to the sides thereof to define side straps, said straps being secured to one another and to one of the outermost walls to maintain the walls in parallel relation and to adapt the same for collapsing movement, said bottom sections and walls being bendable along the lines of connection thereof during said collapsing movement.

6. A wall file comprising a plurality of integrally connected wall members and bottom sections, certain of said wall members being slitted from the top and parallel to the sides thereof to define side straps, said straps being secured to one another and to one of the outermost walls to maintain the walls in parallel relation and to adapt the same for collapsing movement, said bottom sections and walls being bendable along the lines of connection thereof during said collapsing movement, and an outermost bottom section juxtaposed relative to said first named bottom sections and secured thereto to strengthen the file, said outermost bottom section being integrally connected to an outermost wall of the file.

7. A wall file comprising a plurality of integrally connected wall members and bottom sections, certain of said wall members being slitted from the top and parallel to the sides thereof to define side straps, said straps being secured to one another and to one of the outermost walls to maintain the walls in parallel relation and to adapt the same for collapsing movement, said bottom sections and walls being bendable along the lines of connection thereof during said collapsing movement, and an outermost bottom section juxtaposed relative to said first named bottom sections and secured thereto to strengthen the file.

8. A wall file comprising a plurality of upright double ply compartment walls, the bottom extremities of said walls being integrally connected by rectangular bottom sections, the outermost ply of the rear wall being extended forwardly beneath and secured to said bottom sections and terminating in a flap secured to the front wall, certain of said walls being slitted from the top and adjacent the sides thereof to provide straps, said straps being secured to one another and to the rear wall to maintain the walls of the file in parallel relation during the action attending the expansion and collapse of the file.

9. A wall file comprising a plurality of upright double ply compartment walls, the outermost ply of the rear wall being extended forwardly and terminating in a flap secured to the front wall, certain of said walls being slitted adjacent the sides thereof to provide straps, said straps being secured to one another and to the rear wall to maintain the walls of the file in parallel relation during the action attending the expansion and collapse of the file.

10. A wall file comprising a plurality of upright double ply compartment walls having the bottom extremities thereof integrally connected by rectangular bottom sections, the outermost ply of one of the outermost walls being secured to said bottom sections, certain of said walls being slitted from the top and adjacent the sides thereof to provide straps, said straps being secured to one another and to one of the outermost walls to maintain the walls of the file in parallel relation during the action attending the expansion and collapse of the file.

11. A wall file comprising a plurality of upright double ply compartment walls, certain of said walls being slitted from the top and adjacent the sides thereto to provide straps, said straps being secured to one another and to one of the outermost walls to maintain the walls of the file in parallel relation during the action attending the expansion and collapse of the file.

ANNE EWING SMITH.