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J. H. THOMPSON.
CARD AND INDICATOR FOR CARD INDEX SYSTEMS.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 19, 1918.

1,272,149.

Patented July 9, 1918.

Fig. 1

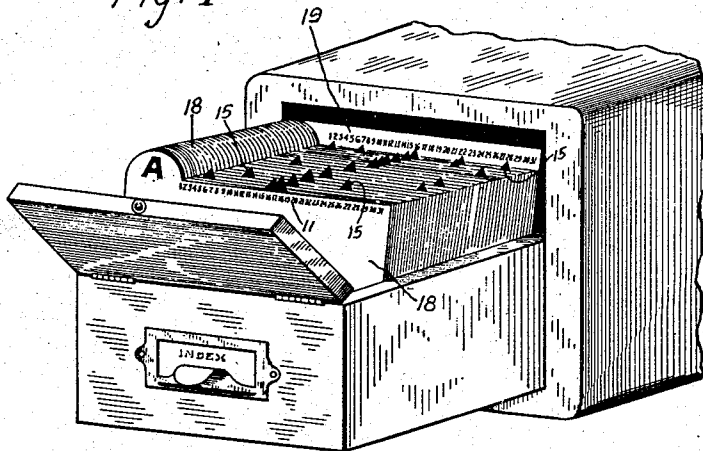


Fig. 2

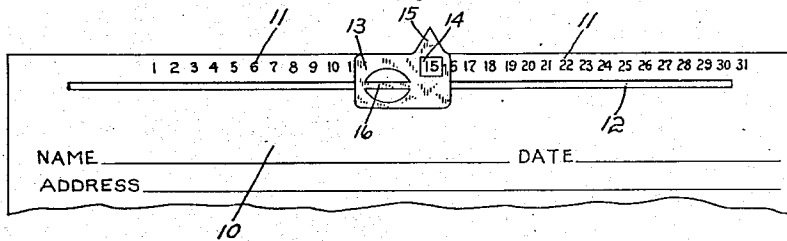


Fig. 3

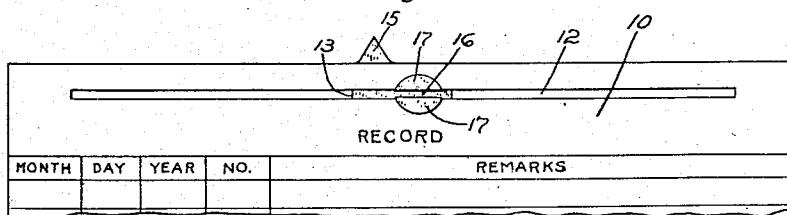


Fig. 4

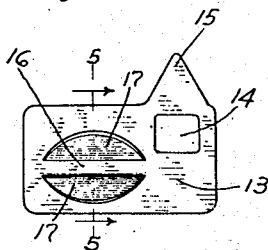
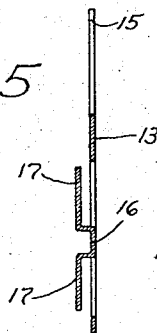


Fig. 5



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CARD AND INDICATOR FOR CARD-INDEX SYSTEMS.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. THOMPSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Haven, county of New Haven, State of Connecticut, have invented an Improvement in Cards and Indicators for Card-Index Systems, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to indicating cards for card index systems having slidable indicators cooperating therewith. Indicating cards of this type are now used for numerous purposes in various card index systems, as for example in fixing dates for follow up letters in advertising, in dealing with delinquent debtors, and in noting dates on which payments become due on goods sold on the installment plan; in brief, wherever acts are to be performed at future dates, nor is it necessary that the indicia be confined to dates, as the indicators may be used in cooperation with any indicia upon the cards. Various types of indicators are now in use in connection with cards in card index systems. So far as I am aware, however, they are attached to the cards by frictional contact only, that is, pressure upon opposite sides of the cards. The result is that the indicators are becoming constantly detached in use which seriously impairs the efficiency of indicating cards in card index systems.

My invention, therefore, has for its object to provide a card and a cooperating indicator so constructed that the indicator may be quickly and securely attached to the card, so that it cannot be removed by the ordinary conditions of use, will be slidable on the card, and may be readily detached therefrom when required.

With these and other objects in view, I have devised the novel card and cooperating indicator, which I will now describe, referring to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification and using reference characters to indicate the several parts.

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating a use of my novel indicating card;

Fig. 2, a front elevation, on an enlarged scale, showing the indicator in place upon the card;

Fig. 3, a rear elevation corresponding therewith;

Fig. 4, an elevation of the indicator detached, and,

Fig. 5 is a section on the line 5-5 in Fig. 4 looking in the direction of the arrows.

10 denotes the card, the essential features of which are a line of indicia, on the face thereof near the top, indicated by 11, and a slot, indicated by 12, underneath the indicia, contiguous thereto, and extending longitudinally of the card as far as may be necessary to enable the indicator to cooperate with the indicia.

The special shape of the indicator is not an essential feature of the present invention. It comprises a plate 13, adapted to lie on the face of the card at the top, a window 14, through which one only of the indicia is visible, a pointer 15, extending above the plate, a rib 16 adapted to lie in the slot in the card, and offset wings 17 struck out from the plate and adapted to lie on the back of the card, to detachably secure the indicator thereto, leaving the indicator free to slide from end to end of the slot.

In attaching an indicator to a card, the lower wing is passed downward through the slot from the front, the wing then lying on the back of the card and the plate on the front. The strip of card above the slot is then lifted slightly and passed in between the upper wing and the plate, see Figs. 2 and 3, the wings being offset sufficiently to receive the card easily but not loosely. The rib will now lie in the slot in the card and the wings in connection with the plate will retain the card securely in place but leave it free to be moved longitudinally of the card. The slot in the card is preferably made of just sufficient length so that its ends serve as stops to limit the movement of the indicator in each direction leaving either the first or last of the indicia visible through the window. The wings and the slot are made of sufficient length to prevent tilting of the indicator on the card.

In Fig. 1, I have illustrated a use of indicating cards in a card index system, the indicia in this instance being the days of the month. The indicating cards are placed

between alphabetically marked guide cards, indicated by 18, in connection with which a backing card, indicated by 19, is used. The front guide card and the backing card are provided with indicia corresponding with the indicia upon the indicating cards. Any required memoranda may be placed upon a card and the indicator is moved so that the day of the month upon which the matter is to be called up for action will appear at the window in the indicator. The indicia upon the front guide card and the backing card are so placed as to correspond with the indicia appearing at the window and the pointer of the several indicating cards bearing subject matter upon which action is to be taken on any predetermined day of the month will lie in alinement between the corresponding indicia upon the front guide card and the backing card. This is an illustration of the variety of systems. On account of the alinement of the wings of the guide cards at the window, the wings of the guide cards are placed toward the right, that is the slot and nearer to the right edge of the card than to the left edge. It is desirable not to weaken the card by making the slot too near to the edge, but to elongate the indicator pointer wholly at one side of the window and the pointer wholly at the right of the rib and wing. The window and pointer to be placed in alinement with the last of the indicia in the present instance 31, the

last day of the month, without unduly extending the slot and thus avoid danger of the slot tearing out at the end.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. In combination, an indicating card having indicia on the face thereof and contiguous thereto a longitudinal slot, and an indicator, adapted to lie on the face of the card, and provided with a window, and offset wings adapted to lie on the back of the card, leaving a rib between the wings which is adapted to engage the slot, whereby the indicator is securely but detachably secured to the card and is free to be moved longitudinally thereon.

2. In combination, an indicating card provided with a longitudinal slot, and an indicator adapted to lie on the face of the card, and provided with offset wings struck out from the plate and adapted to lie on the back of the card, leaving a rib between the wings which is adapted to engage the slot.

3. In combination, an indicating card provided with a slot and a line of indicia extending beyond the slot at one end, and an indicator comprising a plate lying on the face of the card and provided with a rib engaging the slot and wings on the rib lying on the back of the card, and a window and pointer wholly at one side of the rib and wings adapted to register with the farthest of the indicia.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature. 70

JOHN H. THOMPSON.