Aug. 10, 1926. 1,595,761

G. E. DOUGHTY

FILING DEVICE

Filed Oct. 9, 1925

Fig. 1.

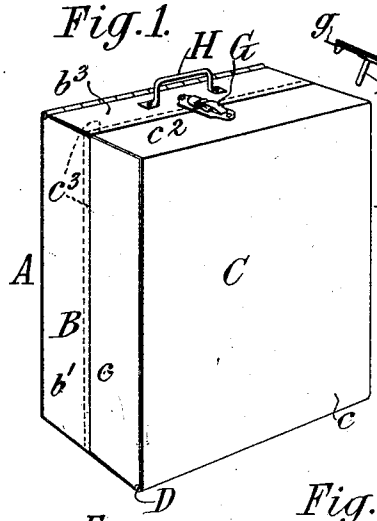


Fig. 2.

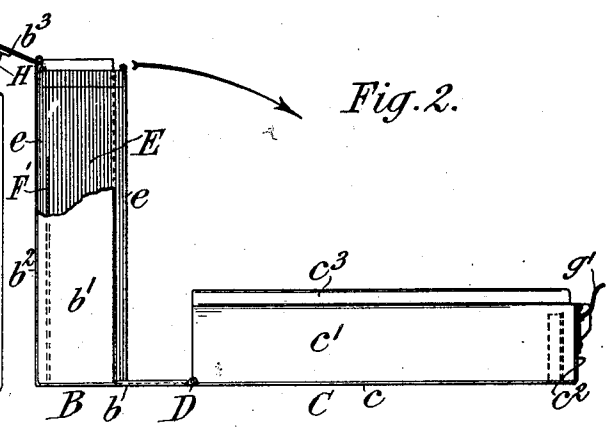


Fig. 3.

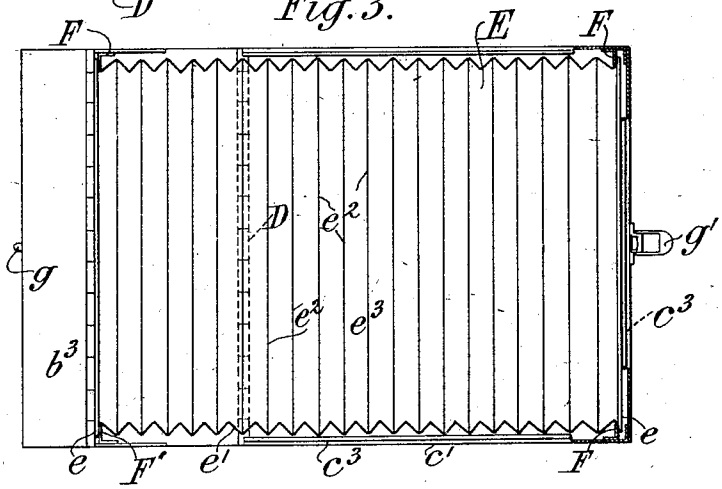


Fig. 5.

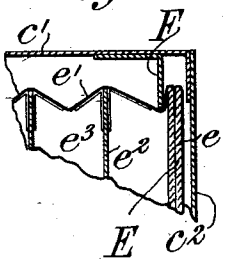
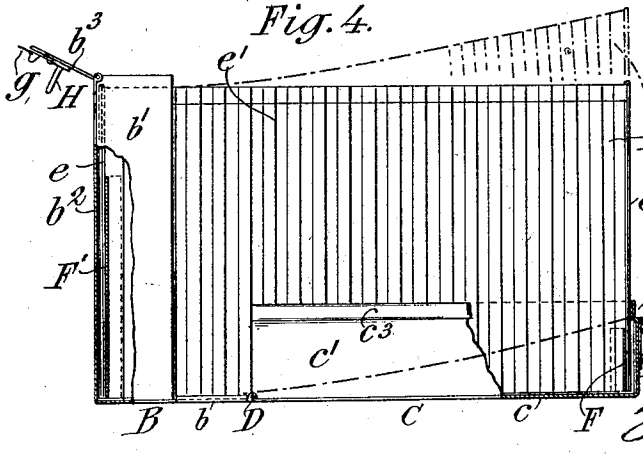


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FILING DEVICE.

Application filed October 9, 1925. Serial No. 61,440.

The present invention relates to filing devices, and aims to provide certain improvements therein. More specifically, it relates to the combination of a file of the expansible pocket type and a rigid casing which serves to house the file and facilitate the filing of papers therein.

According to the present invention, I provide a filing device which consists of a combined file and casing, wherein the file is efficiently held therein when the casing is in either open or closed position. To this end, the casing, which is preferably of fireproof construction, is so designed that when it is in closed position it will completely house and protect the file, and when in open position will afford a horizontal and lateral support for the file when the pockets thereof are distended and also provide means for holding the file in distended position. Preferably the file should be removably held within the casing, thereby rendering the casing reusable after the file, when filled to capacity, is removed therefrom. The invention also includes other features of novelty which will be hereinafter more fully described.

A preferred embodiment of my invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the filing device in closed position.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the device in open position, a part thereof being broken away.

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the device in open position, parts thereof being broken away to show the manner of anchoring the file in distended position.

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the device as shown in Fig. 3, with parts thereof broken away.

Fig. 5 is a fractional enlarged view of a detail of the invention.

Referring to the drawings, let A indicate the casing as a whole which, as illustrated, is in the form of a rectangular box-like structure, comprising two cooperating sections B and C hinged together at D. These sections, when in open position, may be said to consist respectively of the horizontal base portions b and c, upstanding side walls b' and c', and upstanding end walls b^2 and c^2. These upstanding walls are preferably made so that when the casing is closed the edges of the wall portions will be in overlapping relation to provide substantially dust-proof joints, and, with this end in view, the free edges of the upstanding walls of the member C are slightly offset inwardly, as shown at c^3.

The casing A is adapted to receive and hold a file E of the expansible pocket type, and to completely house and protect said file when the casing is in closed position. Accordingly, the casing is made of some sturdy inflexible material and preferably of sheet iron or steel, thereby rendering the casing fireproof. The file E, it is to be understood, may be permanently or removably carried by the casing and may be of any preferred construction and, as herein shown, the file E, which is of the removable type, consists of the end face members e, bottom and side members provided with expansible folds e', and intermediate leaves e^2 forming the expansible pockets e^3. Obviously, the character of the material of which these various parts are made may vary through a wide range from thin paper to relatively stiff cardboard, but it is preferable that the end faces e be formed with sufficient rigidity, either by way of reinforcement or through the use of thick cardboard, to cooperate with anchoring means on the casing sections B and C, as hereinafter explained. The anchoring means, as herein shown, are in the form of inwardly projecting ribs or abutments F, F′ respectively on the upstanding walls b' and c' adjacent the remote ends thereof, and these ribs form, with the end walls b^2 and c^2 of the sections B and C respectively, grooves into which the end faces e of the file are adapted to fit, as best shown in Figs. 3, 4 and 5. When a removable file as herein shown is used, one end face thereof is fitted within the anchoring means in the section B and retained therein until the file is to be removed from the casing and replaced by another.

In use, the casing A is opened by swinging the section C downwardly about its hinge D, whereupon the sections B and C will assume the position shown in Fig. 2, with their base portions b and c in aligned horizontal positions, which serve as a suitable support for the expansible pockets e^3 of the file when the latter is distended its full length. To maintain the file in this

distended position whereby the filing of papers therein is facilitated, the movable end face *e* is brought into position in the groove of the anchoring means F on the member C by raising the bottom free end face *e* to the position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 4 and then moving it downwardly into said groove. In the course of this movement the upstanding side walls *b'* and *c'* serve to laterally support the file against any undue strains. Obviously, any other form of means may be provided for anchoring the end faces of the file to the casing sections. To close the file, it is merely necessary to detach the front end face *e* from its anchoring means, move the pockets into collapsed position, as shown in Fig. 2, which should not exceed the width of the base *b*, and the section C is moved upwardly upon its hinge D to enclose the file. Preferably the width of the base *b* is about twice the normal thickness of the file E, thereby affording a substantial supporting base for the casing when either open or closed and also allowing for considerable expansion of the file E due to the presence of filed papers therein. For convenience in anchoring the file behind the ribs or abutments F and getting at the rearmost pockets of the file, the top of casing section B is formed with a hinged cover b^3, adapted to be thrown back as shown in Figs. 2, 3 and 4. For locking the sections together, any suitable means may be employed, and I have herein shown a snap latch G having cooperating elements *g* and *g'* respectively, on the sections B and C, for this purpose. A handle H may also be provided for convenience in handling and carrying the filing device from place to place.

While I have shown and described a preferred embodiment of my invention, I do not wish to be limited to the specific details described, since these may be varied without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What is claimed is:—

1. A filing device comprising a casing and a removable, expansible pocket type of file, said casing comprising two hingedly connected sections, which in open position afford a horizontal support for the file when the pockets thereof are distended, and means on each of said sections adapted to cooperate with the ends of the file to maintain the pockets in distended position.

2. A filing device comprising a casing and an expansible pocket file therein, said casing comprising two hingedly connected sections, one of which is adapted to swing downwardly when opened and afford a horizontal support for the file when the pockets thereof are distended, while the other section remains upstanding, one end of the file being attached to the upstanding section and the other end being free and adapted to be moved outwardly to distend the pockets of the file, and cooperating means on said free end of the file and said first section of the casing for holding the file in distended position.

3. A filing device comprising a casing and an expansible pocket file, said casing comprising two cooperating sections, the base of one section normally supporting the file and casing and being of a width substantially greater than the normal thickness of the file, one end face of said file being carried by one of the sections and the other end face being adapted to cooperate with the other section when the casing is in open position to maintain the pockets of the file in distended position.

4. A casing adapted to house a removable file of the expansible pocket type, said casing comprising two hingedly connected sections, which in open position have horizontal base portions and side portions and means adjacent the remote ends of the side portions adapted to cooperate with means on the ends of an expansible pocket file to hold said file in distended position.

5. A casing comprising two box-like sections hingedly connected together at their bases, each of said sections when in open position comprising a base, rigid sides and an end portion, said sections being adapted to open by a downwardly swinging movement of one of the sections and have their bases assume aligned horizontal positions, the base of the upstanding section being wider than the side portions of said section, and said base normally supporting both sections when in closed position.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name.

GEORGE E. DOUGHTY.