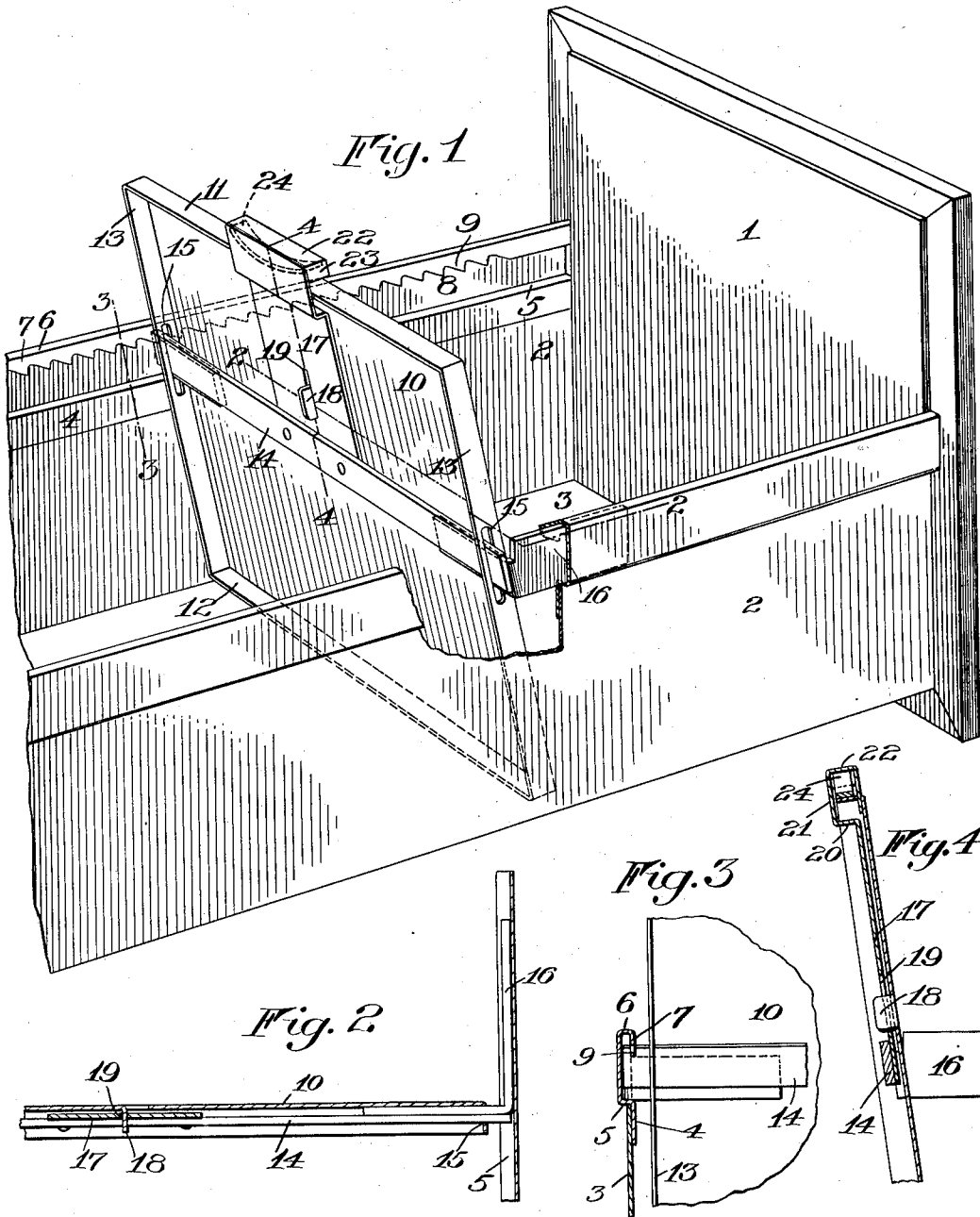


A. T. WEISS.
FOLLOWER FOR FILING RECEPTACLES.
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1,114,081.

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Inventor
Albert T. Weiss

Witnesses
Walter B. Payne
Nelson H. Copp

By *Church & Dick.*
His Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT T. WEISS, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO YAWMAN & ERBE MFG. CO., OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

FOLLOWER FOR FILING-RECEPTACLES.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT T. WEISS, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Followers for Filing-Receptacles; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and to the reference-numerals marked thereon.

My present invention relates to furniture and more particularly to filing devices for the vertical system of filing letters and papers and it has for its object to provide a filing receptacle, such as a drawer for a filing cabinet, provided with a follower or compressor adjustable therein, the improvements being directed more particularly toward the adjusting and locking means for the follower with a view to rendering the construction simple, cheap and efficient and convenient to the user.

A further object of the invention is to provide a construction particularly adapted to be advantageously produced from sheet metal material for use in metallic or fire proof furniture. To these and other ends the invention resides in certain improvements and combinations of parts all as will be hereinafter more fully described, the novel features being pointed out in the claims at the end of the specification.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of a filing receptacle and follower constructed in accordance with and illustrating one embodiment of my invention, the same being viewed from a point in rear of the follower; Fig. 2 is a horizontal fragmentary section taken substantially on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a fragmentary section taken substantially on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, and Fig. 4 is a fragmentary section taken substantially on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Similar reference numerals throughout the several figures indicate the same parts.

The improvements are illustrated in the present instance as embodied in a sheet metal filing drawer embodying a front 1, sides 2 and bottom 3. The side walls are preferably somewhat lower than the front wall, as is usual, and are surmounted in each instance by a plate 4 which, after being turned across the edge to provide a shoulder 5 and thence extended upwardly, is flanged

inwardly at 6 and thence downwardly at 7 to form an inwardly opening channel or guideway 8. The flange 7 is in the form of a vertically disposed rack being provided with a series of downwardly projecting teeth 9.

The follower 10 is also preferably constituted by a flat sheet metal plate having rearwardly turned flanges 11 and 12 at its top and bottom, respectively, and similar flanges 13 at the sides which strengthen or stiffen the plate and also act in other capacities hereinafter mentioned. A horizontal transverse lock bar 14 disposed against the rear face of the follower plate has a lateral or vertical movement in guides 15 formed by vertical slots in the side flanges 13 while its projecting ends rest on the shoulders 5 of the channels 8 in the lowered position and interlock with the rack teeth 9 in the raised position. Laterally turned forwardly or rearwardly projecting guide shoes 16 secured to the plate 10 adjacent to the ends of the bar 14 and projecting through the same slots 15 slidably engage within the channels 8 in the drawer to support the follower.

The operating means for the lock bar 14 preferably consists of a plate 17 rigidly secured centrally on the bar and disposed vertically against the plate 10. It is guided for vertical movement aside from the guides 15 for the bar by a tongue 18 struck up from the material of the plate 10 and received within a vertical slot 19 in the plate 17. The upper portion of the latter proceeds rearwardly at 20 and upwardly at 21 to clear the flange 11 at the top edge of the follower and thence is turned forwardly at 22 to overhang the said flange 11 and finally downwardly, as shown in Fig. 4, transversely of the flange. Short flanges 23 at the ends of the overhanging portion 22 gives the latter the character of a cup or pocket which is used to retain a simple leaf or bow spring 24 interposed between it and the follower and acting against the top flange 11 of the latter. It will be noted that the formation of this pocket 22 also serves to provide a broad, smooth and substantial hand piece or knob to receive pressure from the hand of the operator.

The operation of the device will be obvious to those familiar with the art.

The spring 24 seeks to raise the plate 17 and lock bar 14, normally holding the ends

of the latter interlocked with teeth on the rack 9. To change the position of the follower, it is only necessary to press down on the part 22 compressing the spring and to
5 at the same time move the follower in either direction desired.

I claim as my invention:

1. The combination with a filing receptacle provided with side walls having inwardly opening channels at their tops embodying inwardly and thence downwardly
10 turned flanges and a plurality of vertically disposed teeth formed in said flanges, of a follower movable in the receptacle and provided with vertical guides, a horizontal lock
15 bar extending transversely of the follower and movable vertically in the said guides into and out of engagement with the teeth and shoes at the ends of the follower adapted
20 to run in the respective channels of the receptacle.

2. The combination with a filing receptacle provided with side walls having inwardly opening channels at their tops embodying inwardly and thence downwardly
25 turned flanges and a plurality of downwardly projecting teeth formed in the downwardly turned portions of the said flanges, of a follower movable in the receptacle and
30 provided with vertical guides, a horizontal lock bar extending transversely of the follower and movable vertically in the said guides into and out of engagement with the teeth and shoes at the ends of the follower
35 adapted to run in the respective channels of the receptacle.

3. The combination with a filing receptacle, a follower therein, a lock rod carried by the follower and cooperating with the receptacle and means for guiding the follower in
40 the latter, of a vertically movable operating

member for the lock rod comprising a plate connected thereto and disposed vertically on the follower, being formed to proceed horizontally and to overhang the top edge of the
45 latter and a spring disposed between such overhanging portion and the follower.

4. The combination with a filing receptacle, a follower therein, a lock rod carried by the follower and cooperating with the receptacle and means for guiding the follower in the latter, of a vertically movable operating
50 member for the lock rod comprising a plate connected thereto and disposed vertically on the follower, being formed to proceed horizontally and to overhang the top edge of the latter, a pocket in such overhanging portion
55 of the operating member and a spring retained in said pocket between the latter and the top face of the follower.

5. The combination with a filing receptacle, a follower therein, a horizontally disposed and vertically movable lock rod carried by the follower and cooperating with the receptacle, said follower being provided
60 with vertical guides for the lock rod, and means for guiding the follower in the receptacle, of a vertically movable operating member for the lock rod rigidly connected thereto comprising a slotted plate disposed
65 against the rear face of the follower and having a horizontally disposed portion arranged to overhang the top face of the latter, a spring disposed between such overhanging portion and the follower and a rearwardly
70 projecting ear on the latter cooperating with the slot in the operating member to guide the same.

ALBERT T. WEISS.

Witnesses:

WALTER B. PAYNE,
RUSSELL B. GRIFFITH.