J. H. RAND.

INDEX ELEMENT FOR CARD INDEX SYSTEMS.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 27, 1916.

1,248,910. Patented Dec. 4, 1917.

Fig. 1.

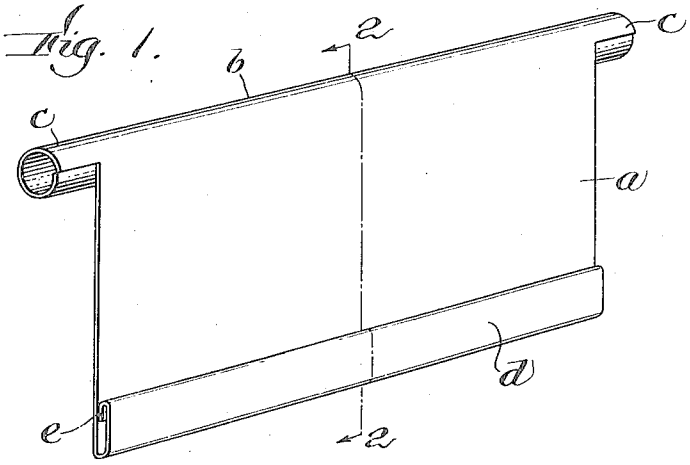


Fig. 2.

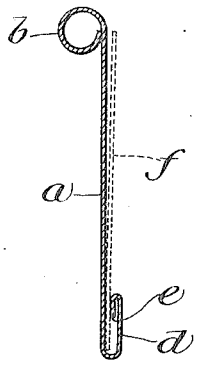


Fig. 3.

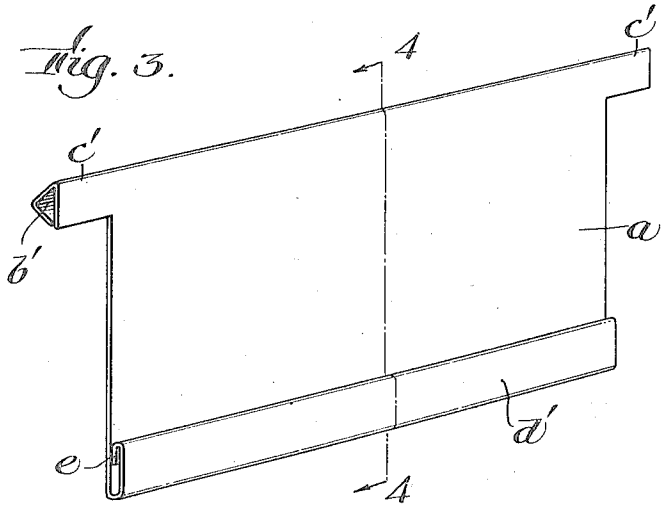
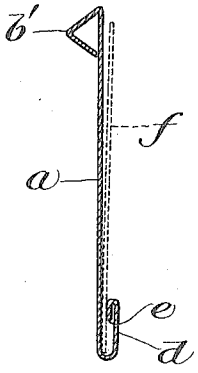


Fig. 4.



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INDEX ELEMENT FOR CARD-INDEX SYSTEMS.

1,248,910. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 4, 1917.

Application filed September 27, 1916. Serial No. 122,553.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES H. RAND, a citizen of the United States, and resident of North Tonawanda, in the county of Niagara and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Index Elements for Card-Index Systems, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to card index systems of the kind wherein a series of cards are supported in a suitable frame one above another in overlapped spaced relation with one margin of each card exposed. The cards are usually supported by a bar or strip to which the card is hinged at one edge, said strip providing laterally extending projections at each side of the card removably engaging inwardly facing guide channels on the frame. This invention has to do particularly with the construction of the individual index elements for card systems of this general character, and consists in the novel features of construction hereinafter described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings which illustrate certain embodiments of the invention,—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an index element containing one form of the invention;

Fig 2 is a vertical cross section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a modified form of the invention; and

Fig. 4 is a vertical cross section on line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

The index element as a whole is made of a single piece of sheet material, preferably sheet celluloid which possesses a suitable degree of stiffness, resiliency and durability against wear and moisture. *a* represents the body of the element which is flat and of any desired dimensions. At the upper margin the sheet material is bent over rearwardly to form a tubular structure *b* integral with the body *a*. This tubular portion projects laterally in each direction beyond the side edges of the body *a*, as shown at *c*, *c*, forming supporting projections to engage the inwardly facing guide channels of the frame.

In the form shown in Figs. 1 and 2 the bent over tubular portion *b*—*c* is of substantially cylindrical form thereby providing round trunnions or pivots which will rotate readily in the guide channels of the frame to permit the card to be swung away from the frame for the purpose of exposing the underlying index element. The tubular portion also constitutes a stiffening member for the body of the element and when in cylindrical form contributes to the easy rotation of the element about the axis of the cylinder notwithstanding that the stiffening and pivot portions are in contact with similar parts above and below in the index frame.

At the lower edge of the body *a* is an upturned margin *d* preferably finished with an inwardly bent lip *e* forming a pocket or trough to receive an insert *f* of paper, cardboard, or the like. The resiliency of the sheet material may be utilized to cause the pocket *d* to exert a spring grip on the insert and prevent its accidental dislodgment.

In the modification shown in Figs. 3 and 4, the body *a* may be made as already described while the rearwardly bent over margin forming the tubular stiffening and supporting portion is bent into triangular shape *b'* as shown, the ends *c'* projecting laterally in each direction beyond the side edges of the card. The forwardly bent over margin *d* at the lower edge of the card, forming a pocket for an insert, is the same as shown in the other figures.

I claim:

1. An index element of sheet material having a cylindrical bent-over margin integrally formed of the same sheet material which constitutes the body and projecting laterally in each direction beyond the side edges of the body.

2. An index element of sheet material having a rearwardly bent-over margin constituting a stiffening member integrally formed of the same sheet material which constitutes the body and projecting laterally in each direction beyond the side edges of the body.

3. An index element of sheet material having a rearwardly bent-over margin constituting a stiffening member integrally formed of the same sheet material which constitutes the body and projecting in each direction beyond the side edges of the body, and a forwardly bent-over margin at the opposite edge of the body to form a trough for receiving an insert.

4. An index element of sheet material

having a rearwardly bent-over margin constituting a tube formed integrally of the same sheet material which constitutes the body.

5. An index element of sheet celluloid having at its upper edge a rearwardly bent-over margin forming a tubular stiffening and supporting member projecting laterally in each direction beyond the side edges of the body.

6. An index element of sheet celluloid having at its upper edge a rearwardly bent-over margin forming a tubular stiffening and supporting member projecting laterally in each direction beyond the side edges of the body, and a forwardly bent-over margin at its lower edge forming a trough for receiving an insert.

Signed by me at Boston, Massachusetts this 22nd day of September 1916.

JAMES H. RAND.