Aug. 18, 1970 J. W. DEAN 3,524,688

FILE SUSPENSION MEANS

Filed March 14, 1968

FIG. 1

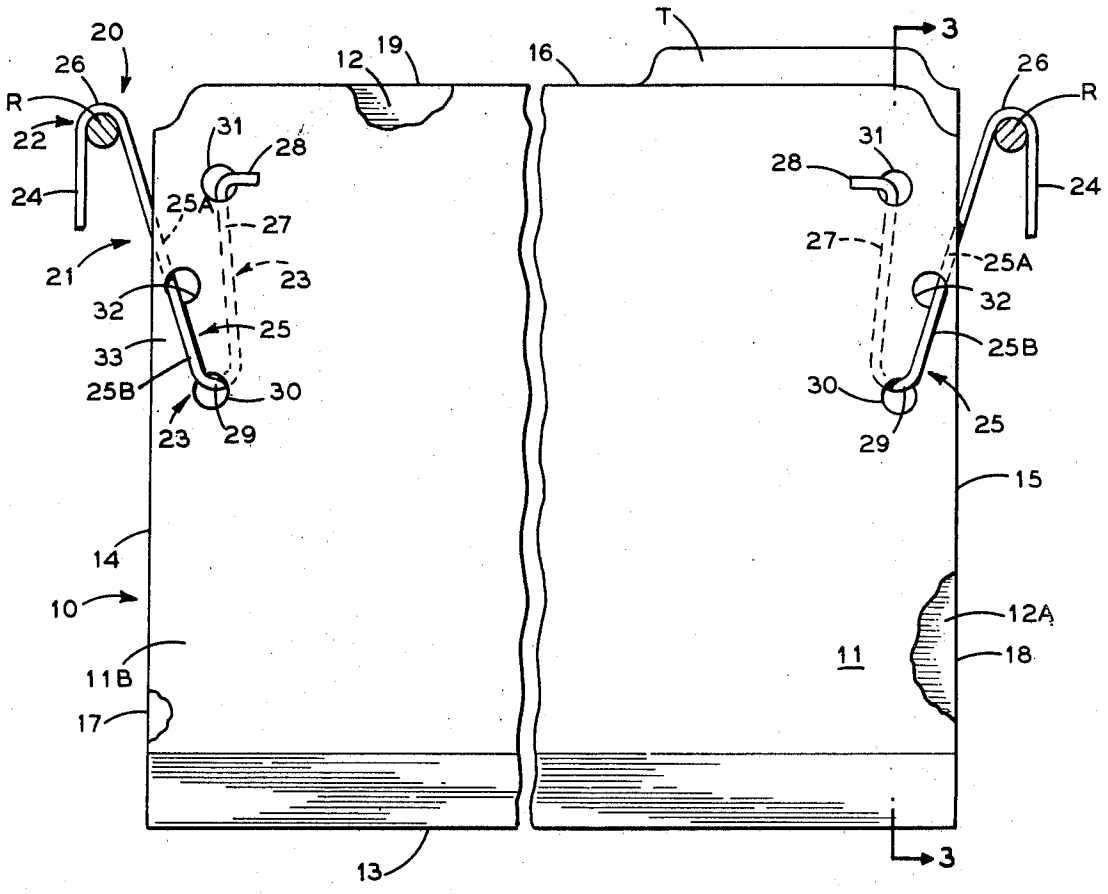


FIG. 2

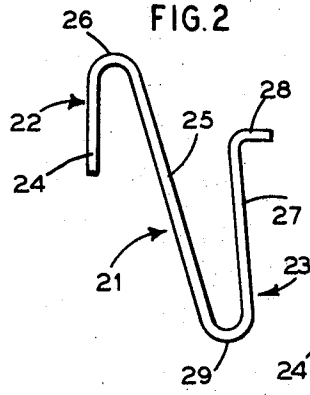


FIG. 4

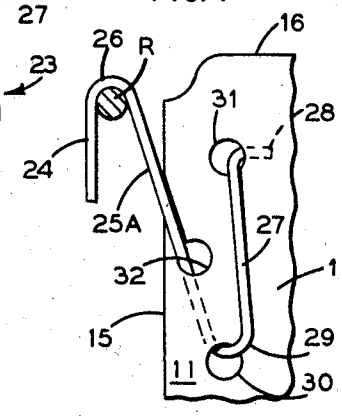
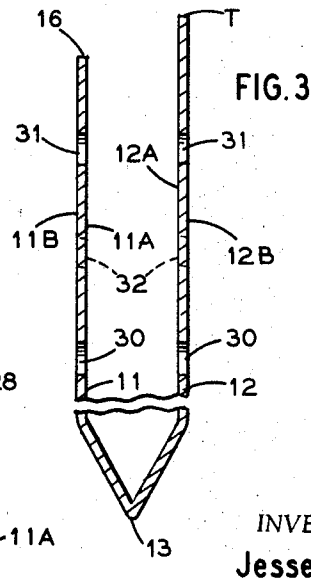


FIG. 3



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FILE SUSPENSION MEANS

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Suspension means for filing sheet members such as file folders, stencils, documents and the like for slidable engagement with track means in the form of rails or the like mounted in file drawers, cabinet drawers or other compartments.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

To facilitate the filing of papers, stencils and other sheet materials; the material to be filed has been provided with combined suspension and sliding means in the form of members hooked or notched at the opposite ends thereof for slidable engagement with rods or rails disposed within file drawers for that purpose.

Such known suspension means takes the form of metal strips which are fixedly or otherwise secured to the top edges of the folder, stencil or the like. The suspension means is preassembled and atached to the folder which is sold as a unit assembly. The assembly sells at a price which is usually a large multiple of the sale price of conventional, non-suspension type folders.

Accordingly, an object of this invention is to provide improved file suspension means of simple and inexpensive construction which is readily and quickly attached to conventional file folders, stencils or the like of varying sizes and dimensions, by the user.

Another object of this invention is to provide a file suspension system based on conventional file folders, stencils or the like, which are prepared in a simple manner for association with improved suspension means, either before or after sale of the folders, etc.; the combined cost of the folder and the suspension means being only slightly more then the cost of the conventional folder alone.

Still another object of this invention is to provide a file suspension system of the character described, wherein the folder, or the like is prepared for association with improved uspension means, by prepunching the folders with a series of perforations for receiving the suspension means in anchored relation thereto; or alternatively providing a simple template for use by the purchaser to prepare the folder with perforations for receiving the suspension means.

Still a further object of this invention, is to provide improved suspension means formed from inexpensive wire stock and having a construction cooperative with a pattern of perforations formed in the file folder to mount and anchor the same on the folder.

Yet another object of this invention is to provide a file suspension system of the character described, wherein the purchaser can readily manipulate the suspension means to mount the same on folders simply prepared to receive such suspension means; the assembly of folder and suspension means being extremely economical as to manufacturing costs and salable at prices markedly less than that of conventional suspension type folders.

Other objects of this invention will in part be obvious and in part hereinafter pointed out.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

FIG. 1 is an elevational view showing a combination file folder and suspension means embodying the invention, with parts cut away;

FIG. 2 is an elevational view of the suspension means;

FIG. 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of FIG. 1; and

FIG. 4 is a partial plan view showing the reverse side of one corner of the folder-suspension means assembly.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with the instant invention, file folders, stencils or other sheetlike members which are to be filed; are further adapted to be suspended in suitable track means such as parallel rails or the like; the track means being fixedly or removably mounted in file drawers or other filing compartments, thus permitting the filed material to be slidably moved along the track means as well as being suspended therefrom.

Referring in detail to the drawing, **10** designates a file folder comprising the usual rectangular wall portions **11, 12** hinged together along their bottom edges as at **13**. Folder **10** is formed of conventional manila or other stock of suitable gauge and stiffness; the wall portion **11** having side edges **14, 15** and a top edge **16**, while wall portion **12** has side edges **17, 18** and a top edge **19** with the usual tab T upstanding therefrom.

Folder **10**, which is of conventional form and varying in size, as required by thec ontent thereof, is adapted to be converted to a form which allows such folder to be suspended from a conventional track structure including parallel rails indicated at R. It is understood that such track structure is suitably mounted within the usual file drawer or file compartment, not shown.

To this end, novel suspension means is provided for mounting in opposite corner portions of walls **11, 12**. Such suspension means, generally indicated at **20** takes the form of a bent wire member **21** formed of wire of suitable gauge and stiffness.

As shown in FIG. 2, wire member **21** is preformed to provide a hook portion **22** and a second hook portion **23** coplanar with hook portion **22** and reversely related thereto. Hook portion **22** comprises a short leg **24**, a long leg **25** and a bight portion **26** connecting legs **24** and **25**. Hook portion **23** comprises a leg **27** terminating in a laterally offset short portion **28**, a bight portion **29** which connects leg **27** with leg **25**, making leg **25** common to hook portions **22, 23**.

Folder walls **11, 12** are prepared to have suspension members **21** mounted thereon and in anchored relation thereto. To this end, walls **11, 12** may be preperforated to form a pattern of spaced perforations **30, 31** and **32** in each of the corner portions **33** of walls **11, 12**; said corner portions **33** being defined by edges **14, 16; 15, 16; 17, 19** and **18**, tab T.

Perforations **30, 31** are disposed in vertically aligned relation and adjacent the side edges **14, 15; 17, 18** of wall portions **11, 12**. Perforation **32** is located at a point intermediate perforations **30, 31** and is somewhat closer to side edges **14, 15; 17, 18**, then perforations **30, 31**.

Suspension members **21** lend themselves to ready manual manipulation to mount the same in corner portions **33** of walls **11, 12** by way of the sets of perforations **30–32**. Thus, the offset portion **28** of member **21** is inserted in perforation **32** on the inner surface **11A** of wall **11** to bring leg **27** adjacent the outer surface **11B** of wall **11**. The member **21** is then further manipulated to bring terminal portion **28** through perforation **30**, now locating leg **27** adjacent inner surface **11A** of wall **11**.

The member **21** is then turned to locate bight **29** in perforation **30**, with common leg **25** extending upwardly and at an angle to locate leg **24** and bight **26** outwardly of edges **14, 15**. The mounting of members **21** is then

completed by constricting leg **27** toward common leg **25** to allow terminal portion **28** to be snapped into perforation **31** under tension, thus rigidify-member **21** in relation to wall **11**.

With one portion **25A** of leg **25** disposed in contact with inner surface **11A** of wall **11** and another portion **25B** of leg **25** in contact with the outer surface **11B** of wall **11**, and terminal portion **28** also in contact with outer surface **11B** of wall **11**; the members **21** are mounted and anchored securely in corner portions of wall **11**. Suspending members **21** are similarly mounted in the corner portions **33** of wall **12**, locating the successive leg portions **25A**, **25B** of leg **25** in contact with surfaces **12A**, **12B** of wall **12**.

It will be apparent that with selected location of the sets of perforations **30–32** and proper angular relations of the leg portions forming members **21**; bight portions **26** thereof will project outwardly of the side edges of walls **11**, **12** to straddle and slidably engage rails R. The perforation patterns may be varied to suit variations in the details of the suspension members **21**.

While the walls **11**, **12** of folders **10** may be preperforated to form the perforations **30–32**, in which case, the user of such folders need only mount suspension members **21** therein; alternatively, the purchaser of the suspension members **21** may be provided with templates setting forth the perforation pattern, in which case, the user can purchase conventional unperforated folders and perforate the same using the template.

With proper spacing of the perforations **30–32** relative to the side edges **14**, **15**; **17**, **19** of walls **11**, **12**, the suspension members **21** will hold firmly and will not tear away from said walls **11**, **12** despite rough usage of the files **10** in sliding the same on rails R. However, it is understood that the walls **11**, **12** may be reinforced at perforations **30–32** as by thickening the wall portions at said perforations, using eyelets, and the like.

What is claimed is:

1. In combination, a member to be suspended and slidably mounted on track means, and suspending means; said member comprising a thin flat wall portion formed with at least a pair of adjacent perforations, said suspending means comprising a flat member having successive linear portions lying in a common plane, one of said linear portions having a portion thereof projecting from a side edge of said flat wall portion for slidably engaging said track means, another of said linear portions extending through said perforations with successive portions thereof respectively disposed on opposite sides of said flat wall portion for anchoring interengagement with said flat wall portion.

2. The combination as in claim **1** wherein said flat member comprises a bent wire member having a hooked portion at one end thereof for engaging said track means and a second hooked portion passing through said perforations.

3. The combination as in claim **1** wherein said suspended member comprises a pair of opposed rectangular wall portions hinged together along the bottom edges thereof, at least one perforation being formed in each of the opposite corner portions of said hinged wall portions, and suspending means independently mounted in each of said corner portions through the perforations thereof.

4. The combination as in claim **3** wherein said flat wall portion is formed with a pair of spaced perforations located adjacent a side edge of each of said corner portions and a third perforation located adjacent said pair of perforations, said suspending means including a portion passing through said pair of perforations to dispose successive portions thereof on opposite sides of said wall portion, said suspending means further including a terminal portion extending through said third perforation.

5. The combination as in claim **2** wherein said first and second hooked portions have a common leg extending through said pair of perforations.

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U.S. Cl. X.R.

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