

W. EACRETT.
CREDIT ACCOUNT FILING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 4, 1910.

971,495.

Patented Sept. 27, 1910.

2 SHEETS-SHEET 1.

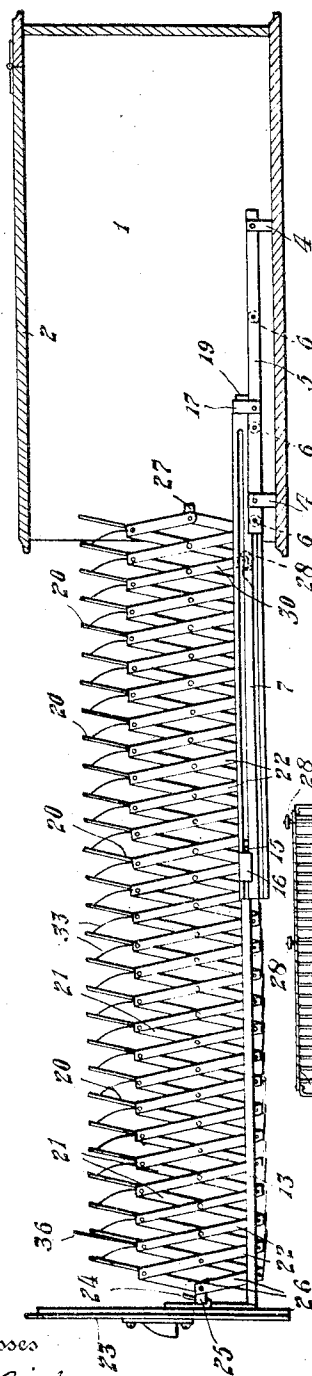


Fig. 1.

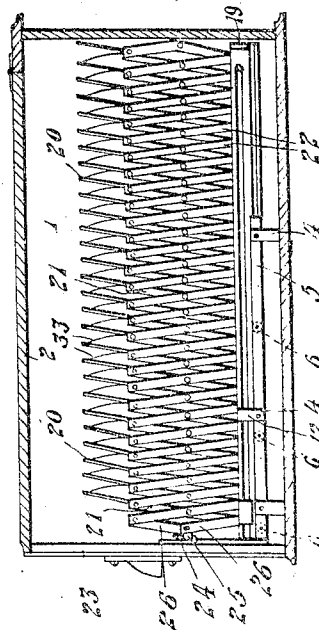


Fig. 2.

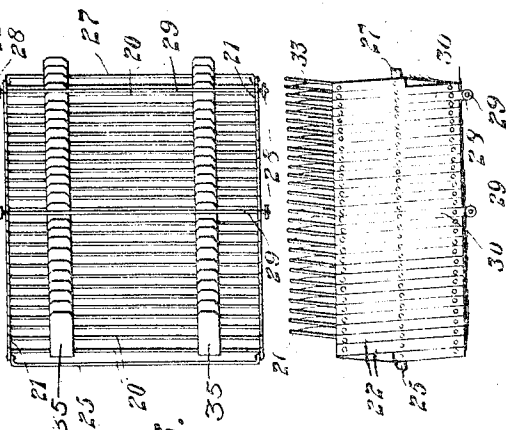


Fig. 3.

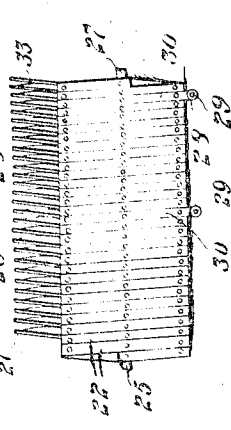


Fig. 4.

Witnesses

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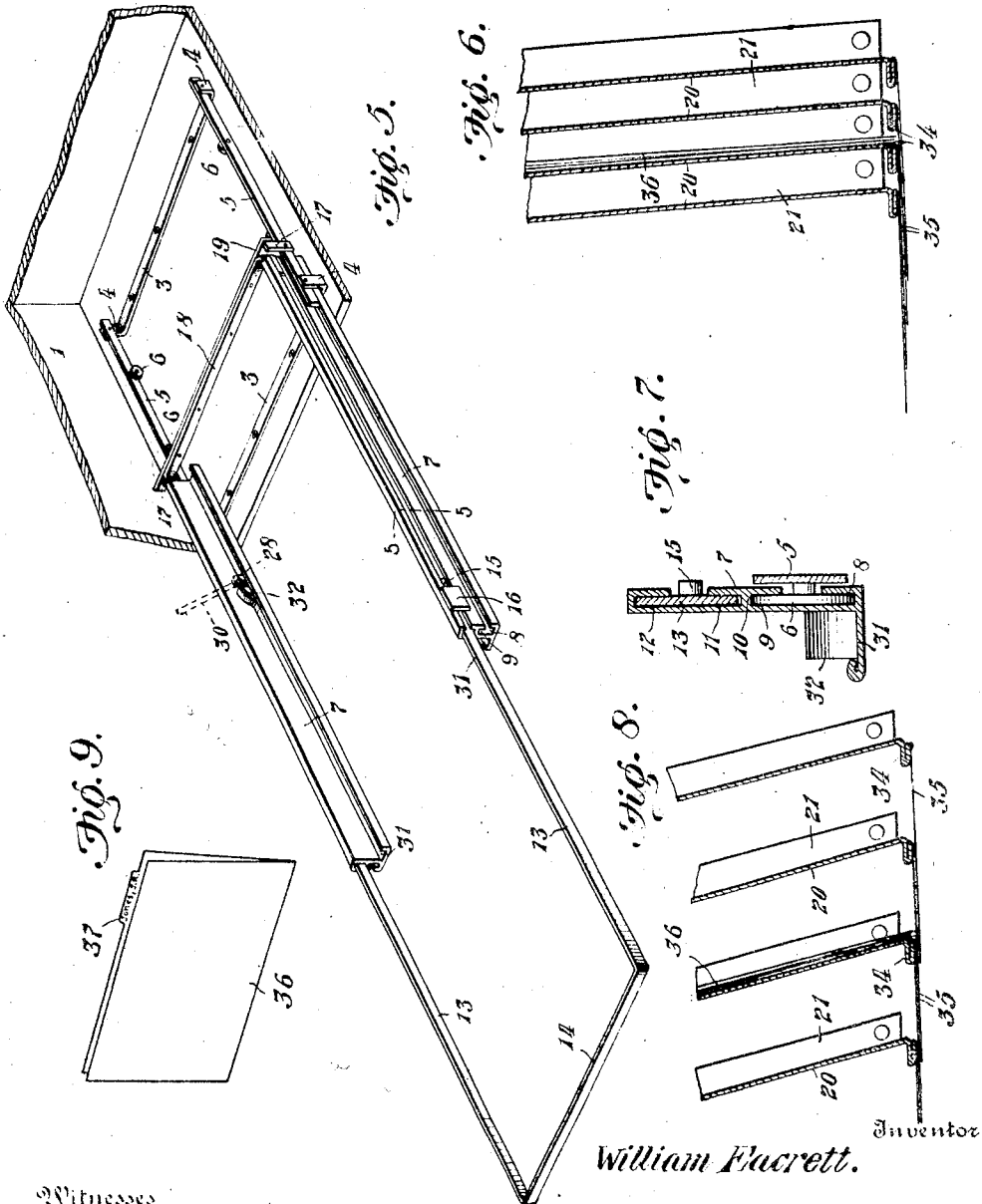
Attorney

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CREDIT-ACCOUNT-FILING DEVICE.

971,495.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM EACRETT, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing in the city of Toronto, in the county of York and Province of Ontario, Canada, merchant, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Credit-Account-Filing Devices, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to credit account filing devices, and the object of my invention is to enable a store keeper or other person to keep account of daily sales and other transactions made without having to resort to the usual form of book-keeping for that purpose, thereby, reducing the operating expenses and insuring absolute accuracy in accounts. When a customer makes a purchase the duplicate of the original bill is placed in the desired compartment or holder of the device, thereby having the same in convenient position and of easy access. By opening or expanding the device the name of each customer on each bill is at once displayed before the operator, in a compact, yet very convenient form and in such a manner that it is of easy access.

A further purpose of the present invention is to provide means whereby the account holding device can be withdrawn from the cabinet and when so withdrawn it will be held in a rigid condition. The construction and operation of my invention will be fully understood from the following description.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a vertical section of the cabinet or case showing the account holding device extended or withdrawn from the cabinet. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the cabinet showing the account holding device closed and within the cabinet. Fig. 3 is a bottom or underside view of the account holding device showing the same in a collapsed or closed condition. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the account holding device, showing the same closed or in a collapsed position. Fig. 5 is a perspective view showing a portion of the cabinet and illustrating the telescopic frame in relative position with reference to the cabinet showing said frame extended from the cabinet. Fig. 6 is a view of some of the account holding receptacles, showing the same in a closed condition. Fig. 7 is an enlarged section taken on line 9-5, Fig. 5. Fig. 8 is a view

of some of the account holding receptacles, showing the same in an extended condition. Fig. 9 is a detached perspective view of one of the folders.

Similar numerals indicate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In the accompanying drawings, 1 represents the cabinet or case, which is formed of any desired size, reference being had to the size of the account holding device. For the purpose of closing the cabinet or case, the cover 2 is provided, which cover is hinged at its rear end to the cabinet or case in the usual manner.

To the bottom of the case or cabinet 1 are attached in any convenient and well known manner the bars 3, which bars are provided with the end flanges 4, which flanges are for the purpose of providing a means for connecting the roller carrying bars 5, which roller carrying bars are arranged substantially as shown in Fig. 5, and are held in fixed position with reference to the cabinet or case 1 and are parallel with each other. To the bars 5 are connected a series of rollers 6, said rollers being illustrated in dotted lines, Fig. 1 and some of the rollers shown in perspective view, Fig. 5. The rollers 6 are for the purpose of providing means for holding the slide bars 7, said slide bars being substantially of the form shown in Fig. 7. The rollers 6 are normally located in the grooves 8 and 9, the bars being properly supported upon the rollers by means of the top wall 10 of the upper groove 9.

It will be understood that by mounting the slide bars 7 upon the rollers 6, said bars can be easily moved longitudinally in either direction. The slide bars 7 are provided with the grooves 11 and 12, which grooves are for the purpose of receiving the slide bars 13, the outer ends of which slide bars are tied together by the end member 14. The inner ends of the slide bars are not tied together but are held by means of the grooves 11 and 12, which grooves are formed in the slide bars 7. For the purpose of limiting the outward movement of the slide bars 13 and the tie bar 14 with reference to the grooved slide bars 7 the inner ends of the slide bars 13 are provided with the stop pins 15, and the slide bars 7 provided with the stop plates 16 so that when the stop pins 15 come in contact with the stop plates 16 any further outward movement of the slide

bars 13 will carry the slide bars 7 and when the slide bars 7 have been brought outward as far as they are designed to move their outward movement is stopped by means of the stop flanges 17, which stop flanges are fixed to the roller carrying bars 5. The inner ends of the bars 13 are tied together by means of the tie bar 18, to which tie bar is connected the stop bar 19, said stop bar being formed of such a length that its outer ends will be in position to strike the stop flanges 17. In the drawings I have illustrated this bar in a single piece, but I do not desire to be confined to any specific arrangement as the only object is to provide means carried by the bars designed to strike against the stop flanges 17.

It will be understood that the various movable or telescopic parts should be so arranged and connected together that they are at all times partially telescopically connected and at the same time the slide bars 7 are never detached from the roller carrying bars 5.

The filing device is made up a series of plates or what might be termed partitions 20. The vertical edges or sides of said partitions being provided with flanges 21 located at substantially right angles to the partitions 20, which flanges are of a length less than the height of the partitions, as best illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2. These flanges are for the purpose of providing means for pivotally connecting the series of partitions together, which partitions are connected together by means of a series of bars 22, which bars are pivoted to the flanges 21, of the partitions 20, said bars being pivoted at their top or upper ends and at their bottom or lower ends and also intermediate their ends to the flanges 21 in the following manner. The top or upper end of each bar is pivoted to the flange located directly in front of the flange to which the center portion of each bar is pivoted and the bottom or lower ends are pivoted to the flange directly behind the one to which the center portion of the bars are pivoted, thereby, connecting all of the partitions together and in such a manner that said partitions can be brought toward each other and away from each other; or in other words the filing device proper can be longitudinally extended and closed, thereby providing for bringing the filing device into such a position that the credit slips can be easily inserted and withdrawn, and at the same time bringing the filing device into a compact form so that it can be housed in a cabinet or case taking up but a small amount of room.

For the purpose of supporting the front or forward end of the filing device when the same is extended as illustrated in Fig. 1, the front or forward end 23 of the case or cabi-

net 1 which is the front end of the cabinet proper, is provided with a hook 24, which hook is connected to the front or forward end 23 in any convenient and well known manner. The filing device proper is provided at its front or forward end with the bar 25, which bar is pivotally connected at each end to the links 26, said links 26 being pivoted at their upper and lower ends to bars 22 and flanges 21 respectively.

For the purpose of providing means for expanding the filing device when removed from the cabinet and also providing suitable handles the rear end of the filing device proper is provided with a bar 27, which bar is connected in substantially the same manner as the bar 25. For the purpose of providing means for supporting the filing device proper and at the same time permitting said filing device to be extended and closed rollers 28 are provided, which rollers are mounted upon the cross bars 29, said cross bars being connected to the bottom or lower end of the bars 30, said bars 30 being extended downward below the bottom or lower ends of the remaining bars going to make up the series of bars connecting the various partitions 20. The grooved bars 7 are each provided with a track or way 31, located upon the inner sides of said bars. The tracks or ways are for the purpose of providing means for supporting the filing device proper and at the same time provide suitable ways for the rollers 28 to travel back and forth upon.

It will be understood that when the filing device is moved or drawn out from the case it is also necessary to extend the filing device proper so that the credit slips will be properly exposed and at the same time bring the filing device into such position that the slips can be easily removed or other slips inserted. In order to provide for thus extending the filing device when it is drawn outward to its full limit the stop flanges 32 are provided, which stop flanges are for the purpose of limiting the outward movement of the rearmost pair of rollers 28 so that when said pair of rollers come in contact with the stop flanges 32, a further extension of the filing device will cause the same to become expanded or brought into the position illustrated in Fig. 1, thereby, opening said filing device for the purpose of inspection of credit slips or the removal or insertion of the same.

For the purpose of holding the credit slips against accidental displacement the partitions 20 are each provided with springs 33, which springs are connected at their top or upper ends to the partitions and their bottom or lower ends permitted to press against the partitions just behind each spring. It will be understood that some provision must be made to prevent the credit slips from

falling from between the partitions 20 when the filing device is extended as illustrated in Fig. 1 if in the event the springs 33 should not properly clamp the credit slips.

5 In order to prevent the falling of the credit slips and at the same time better confining the same the bottom or lower ends of the partitions are each provided with the grooved flanges 34, to which grooved flanges
10 are connected the fingers 35, which fingers are formed of such a length that they will be lapped for a short distance as illustrated in Fig. 3 so that when the filing device is extended the fingers are permitted to slide
15 upon each other, but not to become entirely separated from each other so that when the filing device is extended the fingers 35 will constitute a proper support for the credit slips and upon which fingers the credit slips
20 rest. It will be understood that the fingers 35 when arranged as illustrated and described will not interfere with the extension and closing of the filing device proper, but will in a sense telescope together when the
25 filing device is closed or brought into the position illustrated in Fig. 3.

In Fig. 9 I have illustrated a folder 36, which folder is preferably formed of heavy paper or like material and is for the purpose
30 of holding said credit slips. The folder is placed between the partitions and is supported by the fingers 35. It will be understood that the folder may be dispensed with if desired, but from practice I find that it is more
35 desirable to employ a folder, which folder may be provided with suitable indexes, such as 37. The filing device which consists of a series of partitions and bars pivotally connecting said partitions together is as a unit
40 mounted upon traveling wheels. This filing device is so connected that it can be easily detached and entirely removed from the cabinet or case and placed in a safe or other receptacle.

45 Another advantage in providing means for removing the filing device from the cabinet is, that a number of filing devices may be employed or used; that is to say two or more filing devices which are removable may
50 be employed and one filing device brought into use and another one placed in a safe, but should it be desired to take any particular filing device from the case another one may be substituted and the one taken away
55 or out of the case placed in any suitable receptacle.

Having fully described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

60 1. In a credit account filing device, the combination of a case, a series of partitions provided with fingers at their bottom or lower ends, said fingers adapted to constitute a bottom, a series of bars adapted to
65 connect the partitions together, and means

for supporting the partitions in closed or extended position, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. In a credit account filing device, the combination of a case, a series of partitions
70 and a series of bars adapted to pivotally connect the partitions together, said partitions provided with springs, said springs located between the partitions, the top or upper ends of said springs being fixed and their
75 lower ends free and adapted to press against an adjacent partition, and means for supporting the partitions in closed or extended positions, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. In a credit account filing device, the combination of a case, a filing device consisting of partitions, said partitions pivotally
80 connected together and adapted to be extended and closed, a detachable end member adapted to close the case, said end member provided with means adapted to support the
85 filing device and the filing device adapted to be removed from the case, and means for supporting the filing device when extended, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

4. In a credit account filing device, the combination of a case, a filing device consisting of partitions, said partitions pivotally
95 connected together and adapted to be extended and closed, a detachable end member adapted to close the case, said end member provided with means adapted to support the filing device and the filing device adapted
100 to be removed from the case, and means for supporting the filing device when extended and the partitions provided with document holding springs, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

5. In a filing device of the character described, the combination of a filing device consisting of partitions, said partitions pivotally connected together and adapted to be
110 extended and closed, a case adapted to inclose the partitions when in a closed condition, and a detachable end member adapted to close the case said end member provided with means adapted to support the outer end of the filing device, substantially as and for
115 the purpose specified.

6. In a credit account filing device the combination of a case, a filing device consisting of a series of partitions, bars pivotally connected to said partitions at their top and
120 bottom ends and intermediate their ends, said partitions provided with fingers located at their bottom or lower ends, said fingers adapted to slide upon each other during the movements of the partitions, substantially
125 as and for the purpose specified.

7. In a credit account filing device, the combination of a case, a filing device consisting of a series of partitions, bars pivotally connected to said partitions at their top and
130

bottom ends and intermediate their ends, said partitions provided with spring fingers located at their bottom or lower ends, said spring fingers adapted to slide upon each other during the movements of the partitions, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony that I claim the above, I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM EACRETT.

Witnesses:

EDMUND VANGUEUR VANCE,
EDWIN R. PROBERT.