May 13, 1924. 1,493,835

J. W. WIRT

VISIBLE CARD RECORD FILE

Filed June 2, 1922

Fig. 1.

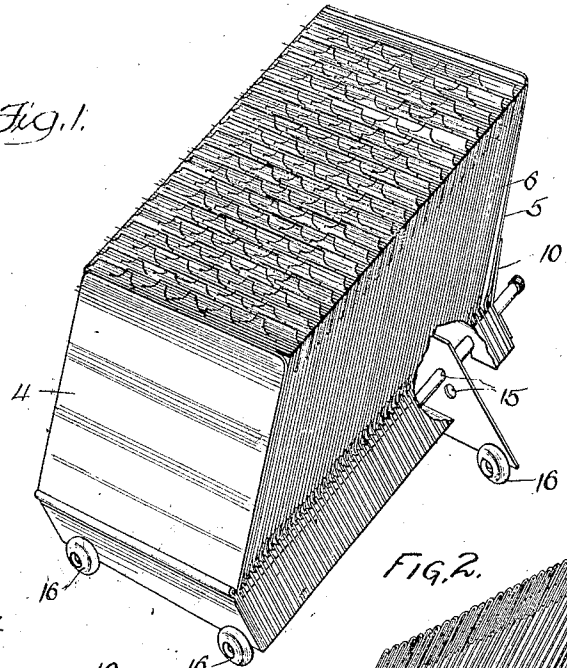


Fig. 2.

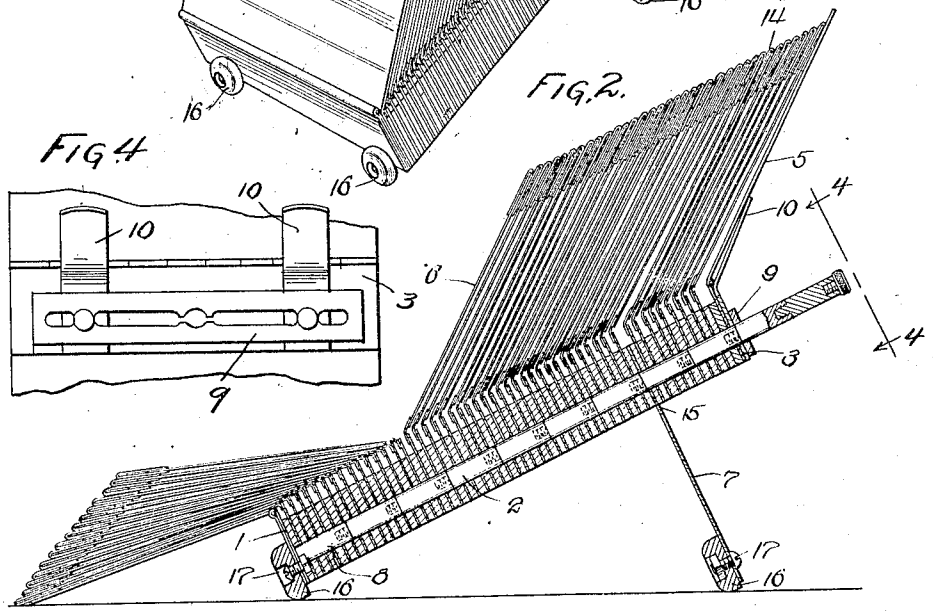
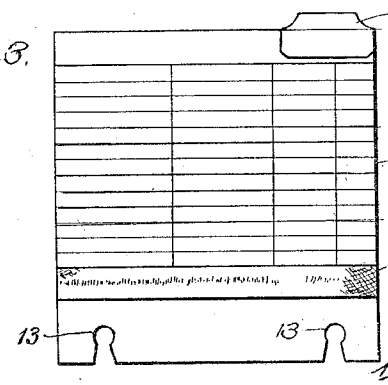


Fig. 4

Fig. 3.



Witness:
Wm. C. Olson

Inventor:
Jos. W. Wirt
Lemmle & Rummler Attys.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOE W. WIRT, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

VISIBLE CARD-RECORD FILE.

Application filed June 2, 1922. Serial No. 565,313.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOE W. WIRT, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Chicago, Cook County, and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Visible Card-Record Files, of which the following is a specification.

The main objects of this invention are to provide an improved visible card-record file wherein the cards are supported in a nearly vertical position from which the cards below a certain card are swingable into a nearly horizontal position to expose to view the opposed faces of adjacent cards; to provide an improved frame construction for supporting said cards, which is adapted to be expanded or contracted to accommodate varying numbers of cards; to provide improved means on said frame for supporting it at any desired angle and maintaining that angle constant regardless of the number of cards that may be thereafter added; and to provide improved buffer means for preventing the frame from marring or scratching the furniture.

An illustrative embodiment of this invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which Fig. 1 is a perspective view of an improved visible card-record file constructed in accordance with this invention.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal cross sectional elevation of the same showing the file in its "open" position.

Fig. 3 is a detail view of one of the record cards.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary rear view of the frame taken from the right of Fig. 2 as viewed on the plane of the line 4—4.

A card-record file constructed in accordance with this invention embodies a binder frame, similar in its construction to the well-known extensible-post ledger-binder, upon which a plurality of separate cards are hingedly supported, and which is equipped with a supporting leg adapted to hold the frame at a predetermined and, if desired, constant angle, the file being "opened" at any point by swinging the cards below a certain one from their normal nearly vertical position to a nearly horizontal position, whereby the opposed faces of adjacent cards are both exposed to view.

In the specific embodiment herein shown, the frame comprises a front cross bar 1 upon which is supported a pair of posts 2 connected together near their rear ends by a rear cross bar 3, plates 4 and 5 being hingedly supported at the front and rear, respectively, of the frame, so as to provide supports for the cards 6 in their "open" and "closed" positions, the frame being supported in its angular position by means of a foot or leg 7.

The front cross bar 1 comprises simply a metal strip to which the first sections 8 of the posts 2 are permanently secured and spaced apart a predetermined distance, depending upon the size of the file. The other sections of the posts 2 are of the well-known form which is used in making up the extensible-post ledger-binder, the number used depending upon how many cards are to be supported in a single binder.

The rear cross bar 3 is likewise a simple metal plate having holes punched therein so that the plate will suitably fit upon the posts 2. Associated with the plate 3 is a clamping bar 9, which is adapted to grip the posts 2 and clamp the cards 6 between the front and rear plates 1 and 3.

The plates 4 and 5 are herein shown hingedly secured to the upper edges of the plates 1 and 3, the front plate 4 being so arranged that when the front edge thereof rests upon the table or other support, it lies in a plane substantially parallel with the plane of the frame and thereby provides a support for the cards when they are swung to a nearly horizontal position. The plate 5 is supported at a predetermined angle to the frame by means of a pair of stops 10 rigidly secured to the cross bar 3 and adapted to engage the plate 5 as shown in Fig. 2. This plate thus provides a support for the cards in their normal nearly vertical positions.

The cards 6 may be of any suitable form and each is connected by a fabric hinge 11 to a binder strip 12, which binder strip is provided with the usual recesses 13, which permit the cards to be readily placed upon or removed from the posts 2. An indexing tab 14 is suitably arranged on the upper edge of the card.

The foot, or leg, 7 comprises a metal plate, the upper part of which is provided with one or more pairs of apertures 15 suitably spaced so as to fit over the posts 2. This plate is arranged upon the frame intermediate the bars 1 and 3 at such a point that it will support the frame in the desired angle. By having the leg separate from the rest of the frame it not only can be placed

upon the frame so as to lock the frame at any desired angle, but that angle may be maintained constant regardless of how many cards may be added to the frame rearwardly of the card. The advantage of this is that regardless of how many cards there are on the frame, or how much the frame may be extended, the angle of the cards either in their "open" or "closed" positions is always the same.

In order to prevent the frame from scratching or marring the furniture upon which it may be used, disk-shaped rubber buffers 16 are secured to the front cross bar 1 and the leg 7 so that the edges of these buffers extend below the edges of the respective cross bar and leg and provide feet for the frame. These buffers are rotatably secured in place by means of suitable nuts and bolts 17, so that as portions of the peripheries of the buffers wear off, the buffers may be gradually rotated to bring another portion of the periphery into position to take the wear.

A visible card-record file constructed in accordance with this invention is used in substantially the following manner:

Normally, when not in immediate use, the cards 6 are all swung into their nearly vertical positions, as shown in Fig. 1, so that the tabs 14 only are exposed to view. When the file is to be consulted, either for making a record or taking a record therefrom, the cards in front of the one desired are swung downwardly into a nearly horizontal position, as shown in Fig. 2. This exposes to view the front face of the foremost upright card and the back face of the topmost horizontal card. When the desired record has been made or obtained, the cards are again swung back into their nearly vertical positions.

Although but one specific embodiment of this invention has been herein shown and described, it will be understood that numerous details of the construction shown may be altered or omitted without departing from the spirit of this invention as defined by the following claims.

I claim:

1. A visible card-record file comprising an expansible frame, means for binding hinged cards in said frame, a leg adjustable along said frame and adapted to support said frame at a desired angle, and means on the rear of said frame adapted to hold said cards in a nearly vertical position from which they may be swung to a nearly horizontal position.

2. A visible card-record file comprising an expansible frame, means for binding hinged cards in said frame, a leg separate from said frame, adapted to be attached thereto at any point intermediate the ends thereof and support said frame at a desired angle, and means on the rear of said frame adapted to hold said cards in a nearly vertical position from which they may be swung to a nearly horizontal position.

3. A visible card-record file comprising an expansible frame made up of a front cross-bar, a pair of posts secured to said front bar and made in sections whereby the posts may be lengthened or shortened, and a rear cross bar connecting said posts, a plurality of hinged cards clamped to said posts between said bars, a leg separate from said frame, connected to said posts at a point intermediate said bars, supporting said frame at a desired angle, and means on the rear of said frame adapted to hold said cards in a nearly vertical position from which they may be swung to a nearly horizontal position.

4. A visible card-record file comprising an expansible frame made up of a front cross-bar, a pair of posts secured to said front bar and made in sections whereby the posts may be lengthened or shortened, and a rear cross bar connecting said posts, a plurality of hinged cards mounted on said posts between said bars, a leg separate from said frame, connected to said posts at a point intermediate said bars, supporting said frame at a desired angle, a plate hingedly connected to the front of said frame and adapted to be swung down to support said cards in nearly horizontal positions, a second plate hingedly connected at the rear of said frame, and a stop on the rear of said frame adapted to support said second plate so as to hold said cards in nearly vertical positions.

5. A visible card-record file comprising a front cross-bar, a pair of posts secured to said bar, and made in sections whereby said posts may be lengthened or shortened, a rear cross bar connecting said posts, a plurality of cards each hingedly connected to a binder strip, said binder strips being adapted to be supported on said posts and clamped between said cross bars so as to support said cards, a leg adapted to be attached to said posts intermediate said bars and hold said frame at a predetermined angle, means on the rear of said frame adapted to hold said cards in a nearly vertical position from which they may be swung to a nearly horizontal position.

6. A visible card-record file comprising an expansible frame made up of a front cross-bar, a pair of posts secured to said front bar and made in sections whereby the posts may be lengthened or shortened, and a rear cross bar connecting said posts, a plurality of hinged cards mounted on said posts between said bars, a leg separate from said frame connected to said posts at a point intermediate said bars, supporting said frame at a desired angle, means on the rear of said frame adapted to hold said cards in

a nearly vertical position from which they may be swung to a nearly horizontal position, and disk-shaped friction buffers rotatably mounted at the front of said frame and on said leg with a portion of the peripheries thereof extending below said frame and leg to provide supporting feet for said file.

7. A visible card-record file comprising a frame, means for binding cards in said frame, a leg adapted to support said frame at a desired angle, means on the rear of said frame adapted to hold said cards in a nearly vertical position from which they may be swung to a nearly horizontal position, and disk-shaped friction buffers rotatably secured to the front of said frame and to said leg with a portion of the peripheries thereof extending below said frame and leg to provide supporting feet for said file.

Signed at Chicago this 31 day of May, 1922.

JOE W. WIRT.