

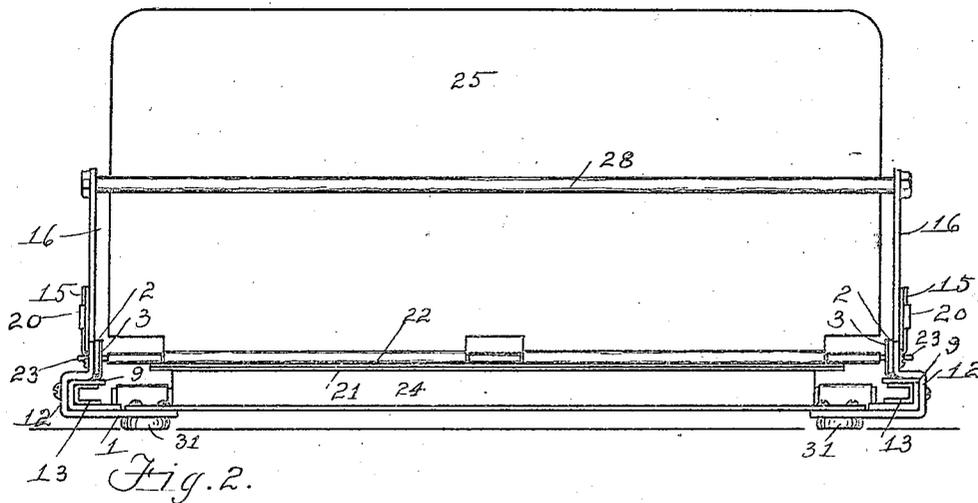
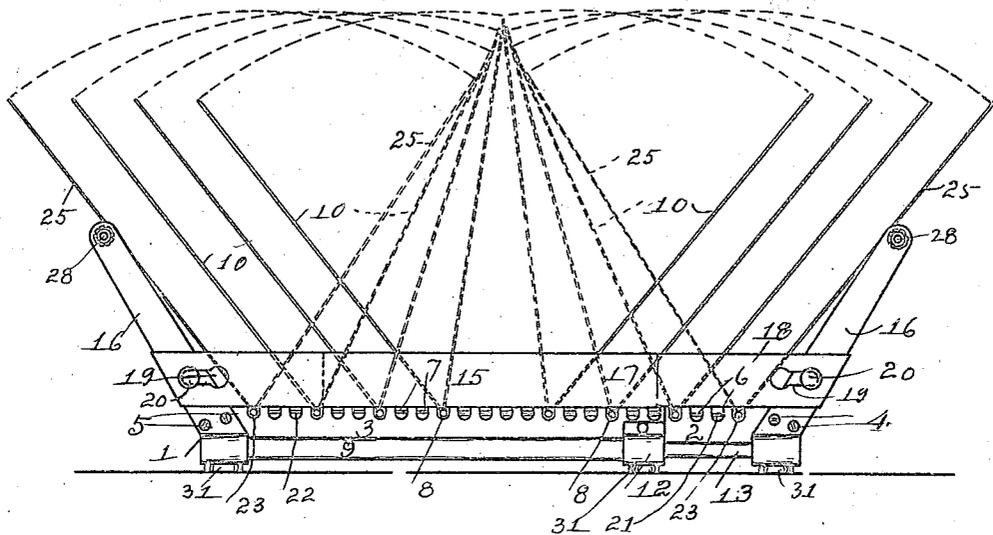
Jan. 2, 1923.

W. S. PROUDFIT.
FILING DEVICE.
FILED JAN. 12, 1922.

1,440,491.

4 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



Inventor:

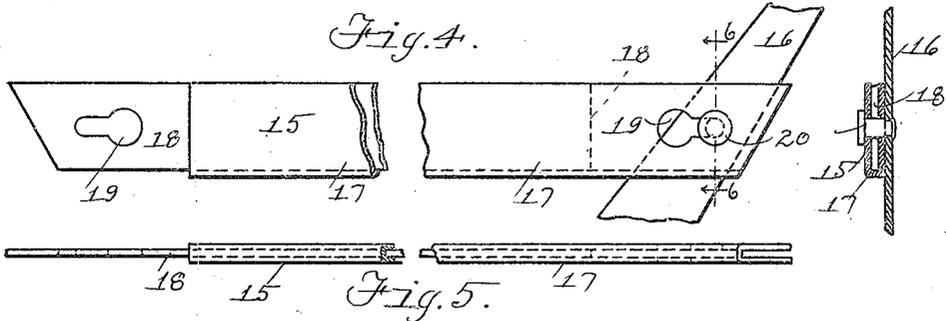
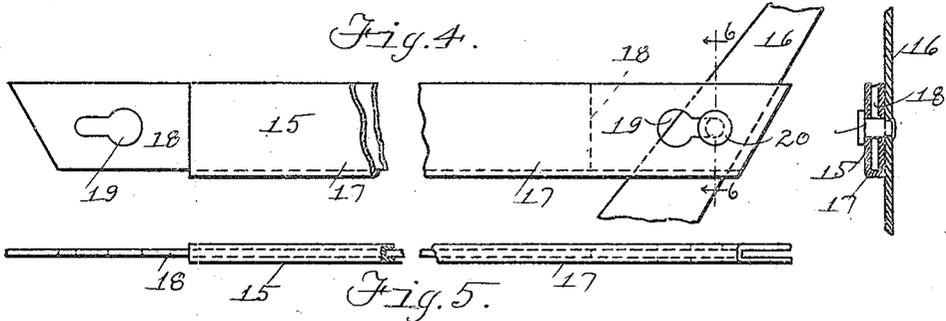
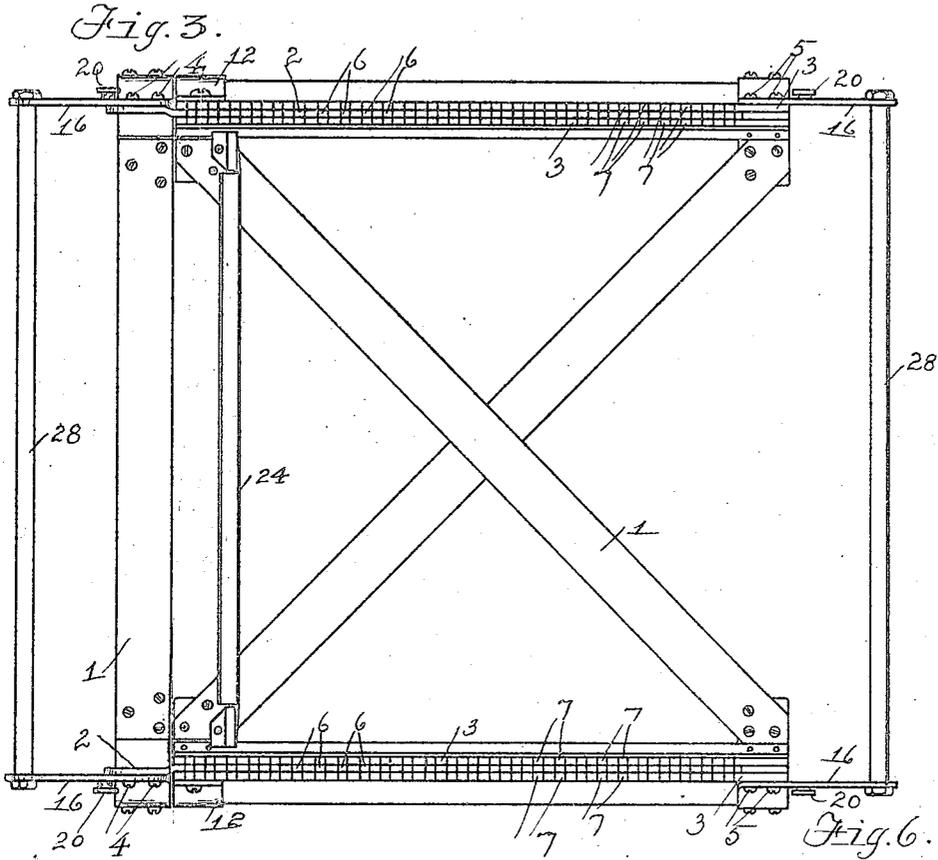
William S. Proudfit
by Cyrus W. Rice
His Attorney.

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4 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



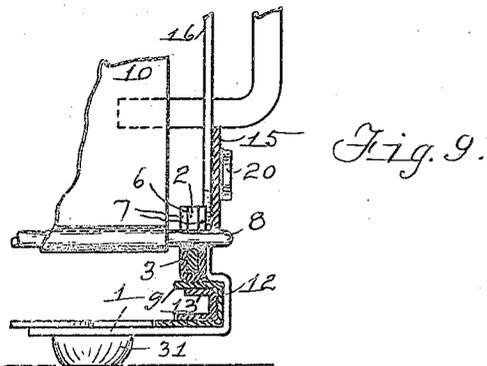
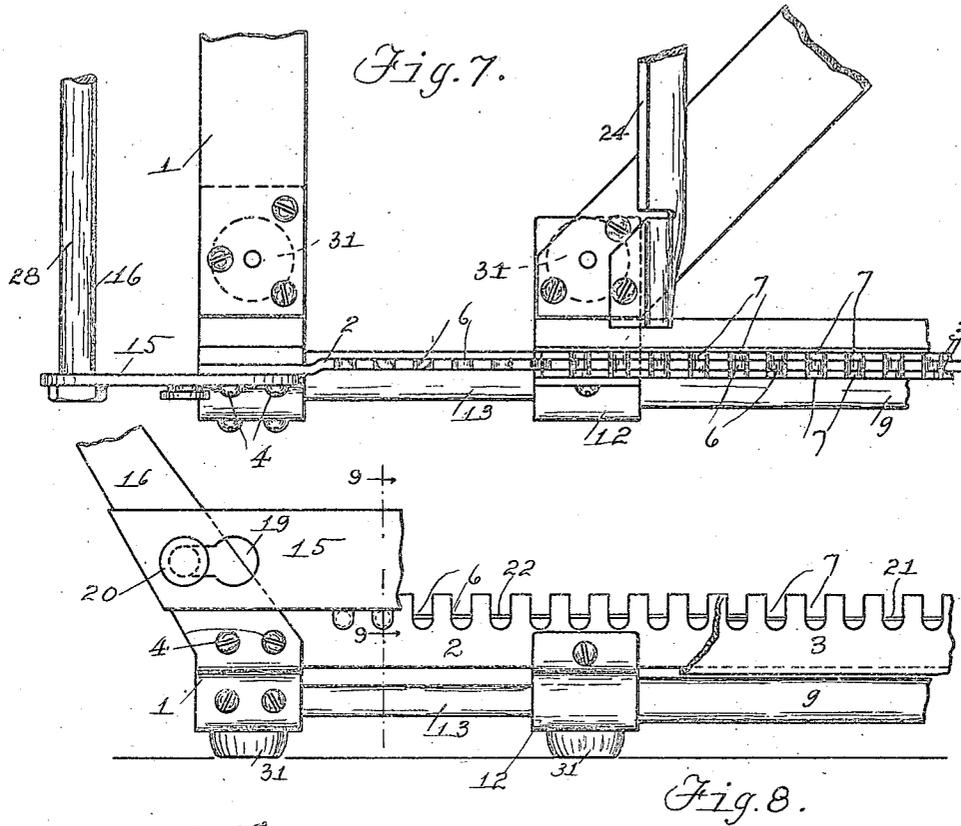
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4 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



Inventor:

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4 SHEETS—SHEET 4.

Fig. 10.

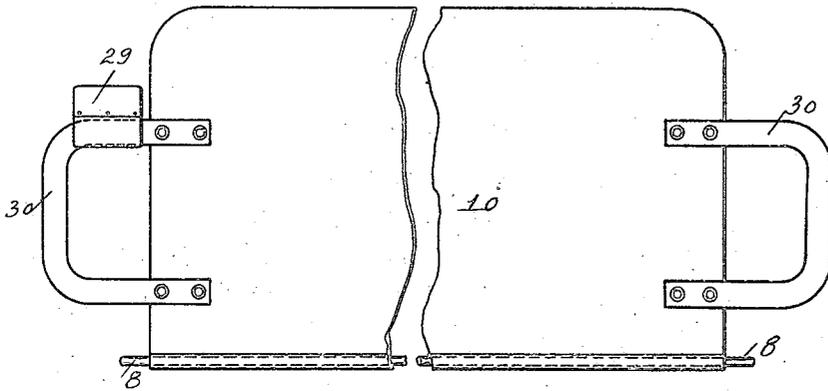


Fig. 11.

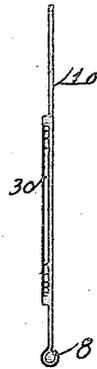


Fig. 12.

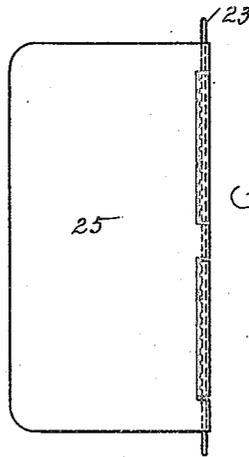
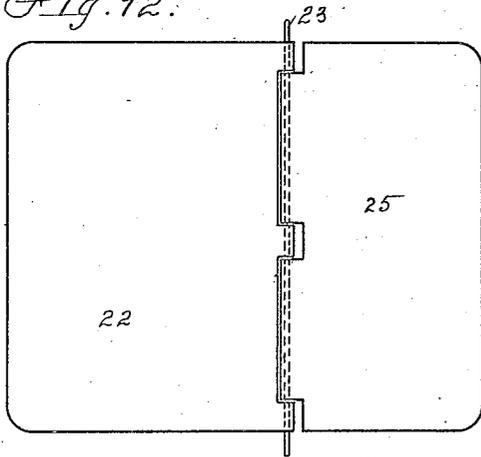


Fig. 14.

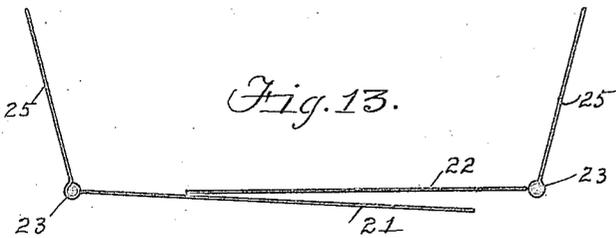


Fig. 13.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM S. PROUDFIT, OF WALKER TOWNSHIP, KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

FILING DEVICE.

Application filed January 12, 1922. Serial No. 528,597.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM S. PROUDFIT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Walker Township, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, have invented new and useful Improvements in Filing Devices, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to filing devices; that is, such devices as are used to contain in orderly arrangement letters, documents and the like; and its object is to provide an improved device of that character which may be readily expanded and contracted and which may be securely held in any position to which it may be thus contracted or expanded.

This and any other objects hereinafter appearing are attained by, and the invention finds preferable embodiment in, the structure hereinafter particularly described in the body of this specification and illustrated by the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a side view of a filing device;

Figure 2 is an end view of the same;

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the frame thereof;

Figure 4 is a side view of a retaining bar for holding the journals of the partitions of the device in their bearings;

Figure 5 is a bottom edge view of the same;

Figure 6 is a transverse sectional view of the same taken on line 6—6 of Figure 4;

Figure 7 is a top plan view of a corner portion of the frame of the device;

Figure 8 is a side view of the same;

Figure 9 is a vertical sectional view of the same taken on line 9—9 of Figure 8, and showing one of the partitions in place;

Figure 10 is a view of one of the partitions;

Figure 11 is an edgewise or end view of the same;

Figure 12 is a view of one of the floor members and one of the end members of the device;

Figure 13 is an edgewise or end view of the same; and

Figure 14 shows one of said end members.

In the embodiment of the invention chosen for illustration by the drawings and for detailed description in the body of this specification, my filing device has an expandible and contractible frame, designated generally 1, comprising two parts connected by mem-

bers 2, 3 interrelatively slidable in the device's longitudinal direction. In the construction illustrated there are two pairs of such members, one pair at one side of the frame and the other pair at the frame's opposite side. In the shown construction, one of these members 3 is U-shaped in cross section, the other member 2 slidably bearing therein, as particularly seen in Figure 9. One of these members, as 2, is secured as by the screws 4 at one end of the frame, the other member 3 being secured as by screws 5 at the frame's opposite end. Each pair of said members has a series of rock bearings—6 in member 2 and 7 in member 3—the bearings 6 and 7 registering with each other in the normal interrelative positions of said members shown in the views. When in such positions, the bearings 6, 7 at the sides of the device are adapted to removably receive rock journals 8 adjacent the bottoms of the plates or leaves 10 which serve as partitions in the device to separate the contents as desired, these partitions being thus swingable to various positions illustrated in Figure 1.

The members 2, 3, are held in slidable relation by means best seen in Figure 9, wherein the member 3 is carried by the channelled bar 9 connected to one end of the frame and in whose channel slides the bar 13 connected to the other end of the frame and carrying the member 2. It will be seen that when the rock journals 8 are in their registering bearings 6, 7, the frame is locked thereby against expansion or contraction.

Suitable means may be provided for releasably holding the journals 8 in their bearings, 6, 7, such means as illustrated being the retaining bars 15 carried by the frame, i. e., at either end thereof. These retaining bars as shown comprise two members 17, 18 slidable relatively to each other, one of such members, as 17, being U-shaped in cross section, has opposite sides between which the other member 18 slidably bears in the expanding and contracting movement of the frame. These members of said retaining bar are removably carried by the frame, as by the slot 19 at the end of each of said members 17, 18 engaging the lug 20 on the frame's arm 16. To support the contents of the device, such contents rest on a floor which, in order to accommodate the expanding and contracting of the frame, comprises two members 21, 22, one overly-

ing and slidably bearing on the other and one of said members being connected to the frame at one end thereof and the other of said members being connected to the frame at its opposite end. As shown, these floor members are thus connected by their pins or journals 23 adapted to be inserted into the bearings 6, 7 adjacent the frame's ends respectively. In the middle part of the frame the lower floor member 21 lies on and is supported by the frame's cross bar 24. The end members 25 of the device may be hingedly connected at their lower edges at 27 to the outer edges of the floor members 21, 22 respectively as shown in Figures 12, 13 and 14, and may be swung outwardly to rest against the frame's end cross rods 28. In the latter matter at 29 may be displayed on the laterally extending handles 30 which are provided for readily swinging the partitions.

A bracket 12 may be provided to support the frame in its middle, and resilient feet, 31, as of rubber to support the device.

The invention being intended to be pointed out in the claims, is not to be limited to or by details of construction of the particular embodiment thereof illustrated by the drawings or hereinbefore shown or described.

I claim:

1. In a device of the character described; a longitudinally expansible and contractible frame having members interrelatively slidable in the device's longitudinal direction, each having rock bearings, said bearings of one of said members registering with those of the other in certain slid positions of said members; partitions rockable adjacent their bottoms in said bearings.

2. In a device of the character described; a longitudinally expansible and contractible frame having side members interrelatively slidable in the device's longitudinal direction, each having rock bearings, said bearings of one of said members registering with those of the other in certain slid positions of said members; partitions having journals adjacent their bottoms rockable in said bearings; a longitudinally expansible and contractible retaining bar carried by the frame and adapted to be moved into and out of a position wherein it overhangs the journals in their bearings to retain the same therein.

3. In a device of the character described; a longitudinally expansible and contractible frame having side members interrelatively slidable in the device's longitudinal direction, each having rock bearings, said bearings of one of said members registering with

those of the other in certain slid positions of said members; partitions having journals adjacent their bottoms rockable in said bearings; a retaining bar comprising two interrelatively slidable members carried respectively adjacent the ends of the frame and adapted to be moved into and out of a position wherein the bar overhangs the journals in their bearings to retain the same therein.

4. In a device of the character described; a longitudinally expansible and contractible frame having members interrelatively slidable in the device's longitudinal direction, each having rock bearings, said bearings of one of said members registering with those of the other in certain slid positions of said members; partitions rockable adjacent their bottoms in said bearings; a floor for the device comprising a pair of interrelatively slidable members respectively connected to the frame adjacent its opposite ends.

5. In a device of the character described; a longitudinally expansible and contractible frame having members interrelatively slidable in the device's longitudinal direction, each having rock bearings, said bearings of one of said members registering with those of the other in certain slid positions of said members; a floor for the device comprising a pair of interrelatively slidable members respectively connected to the frame adjacent its opposite ends; end members of the device pivotally connected to the outer edges of the floor's members respectively.

6. In a device of the character described; a longitudinally expansible and contractible frame having adjacent each of its sides a pair of members interrelatively slidable in the device's longitudinal direction, each member having rock bearings, said bearings of one of said members registering with those of the other in certain slid positions of said members; partitions having journals adjacent their bottoms rockable in said bearings; a retaining bar at each side of the device comprising two members, one of which has a longitudinally extending bearing slidably holding the other member, the bar's said members being removably attached to the frame adjacent its ends respectively and overhanging the journals in their bearings to retain the same therein; a floor for the device comprising a pair of interrelatively slidable members respectively connected to the frame adjacent its ends.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand at Grand Rapids, Michigan, this 3rd day of January, 1922.

WILLIAM S. PROUDFIT.