March 3, 1931. H. H. STYLL 1,794,560

CORRESPONDENCE FOLDER

Original Filed Feb. 21, 1927

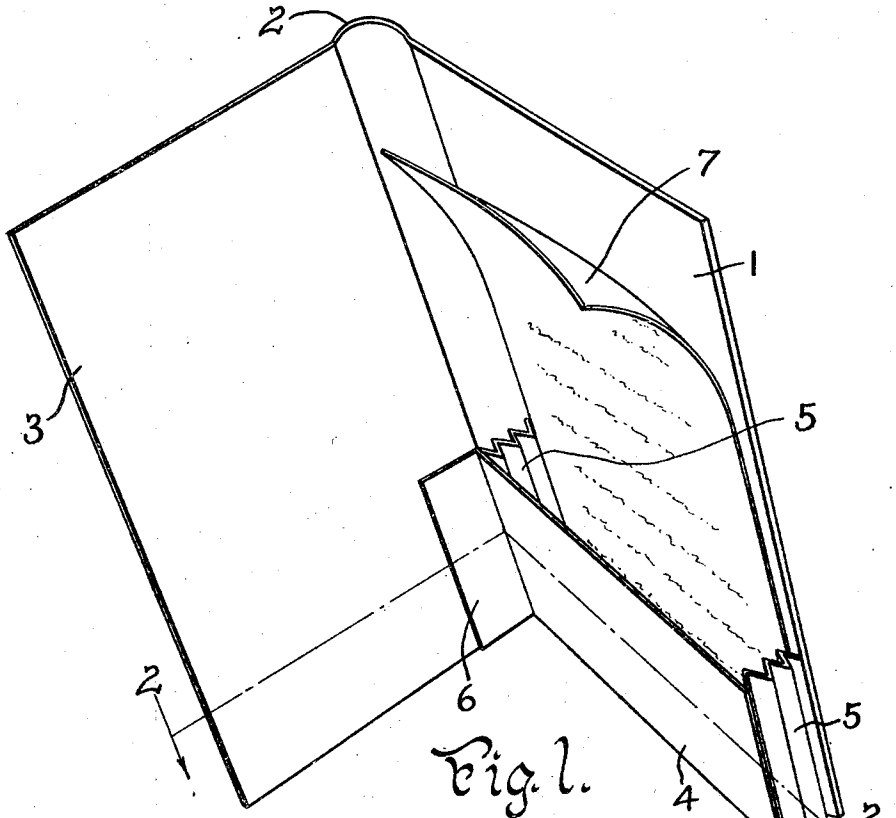


Fig. 1.

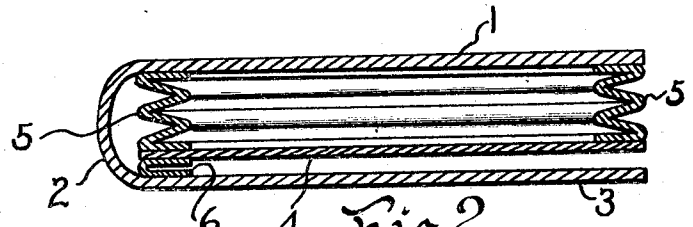


Fig. 2.

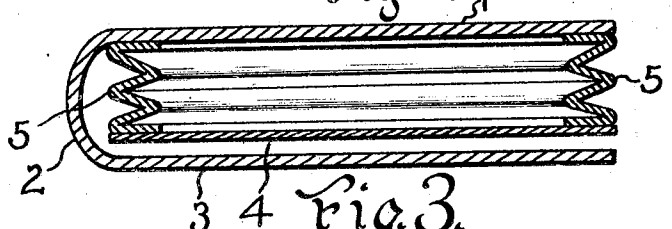


Fig. 3.

Inventor

By Harry H. Styll

Attorney

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

HARRY H. STYLL, OF SOUTHBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

CORRESPONDENCE FOLDER

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This invention relates to correspondence folders or files and has particular reference to a correspondence folder having an expansible pocket and an expansible hinge cover.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a correspondence folder having an expansible pocket or retainer that holds the correspondence sheets snugly at all times and prevents them from falling out of the folder, and at the same time holds them so that the papers in the file may be riffled and referred to so that any individual paper in the file may be found or looked at without removing it from the file or removing the other sheets from the file.

Another object of the invention is to provide an expansible hinged cover that will be held in alignment with the body of the file for all thicknesses of the file, whether empty or full or at points in between.

Another object of the invention is to provide a ready reference desk file in which the papers may be kept in order and referred to without removal from the file.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, and it will be understood that many modifications or changes in the arrangements of parts and details of construction may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention as set forth in the accompanying claims. I, therefore, do not wish to be limited to the exact details and arrangements shown, the preferred forms only having been shown and described by way of illustration.

Referring to the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the file showing the inside of the folder and the correspondence pocket;

Figure 2 is a cross-section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1, wherein the cover is hinged to the expansible pocket;

Fig. 3 is a cross-section of a modification on line 2—2 of Fig. 1, wherein the cover is not hinged to the expansible pocket.

Referring to the drawings wherein similar reference characters are used to denote corresponding parts throughout, the base or body 1 of the file has a flexible foldable hinge 2 uniting the cover 3 to the body portion 1. On the bottom inner side of the body portion 1 is an expansible pocket 4 united to the base 1 by the corrugated expansible members 5. The cover 3 may be also connected to the expansible pocket 4 by the hinge member 6 cemented to or otherwise connected to the cover 3, or if desired the pocket member 4 need not be connected to the cover 3 as indicated in cross-section in Fig. 3.

In operation the correspondence members or sheets 7 are placed in the expansible pocket 4 which extends up about one-quarter of the distance from the bottom to the top of the base member 1. As the sheets 7 accumulate in the pocket 4 the pocket 4 is pushed out or expanded on the expansible or fluted members 5. Where the hinge 6 unites the pocket 4 to the cover 3 the cover 3 also automatically expands with the pocket 4 as the sheets are placed therein. This hinging of the pocket 4 to the cover 3 keeps the cover 3 in alignment with the base member 1 but allows the expansion of the pocket 4. Where a relatively stiff hinge 2 is used to connect the base member 1 with the cover 3 it may not be necessary to use the hinge 6 because if the hinge 2 is stiff enough the cover 3 will be held in alignment, but it has been found that with the usual hinges employed in folders of this kind the cover 3 is apt to sag out of line with the base 1 which makes an awkward and untidy file, particularly where it is used for desk or correspondence use where a pleasing looking and substantialy file is desired.

It will be seen from Fig. 1 that to refer to the sheets 7 in the pocket 4 it is not necessary to remove them from the pocket 4. The hand may be placed on the pocket 4 to tighten the sheets in the pocket and then the tops of the sheets 7 lifted and pulled up so that the various sheets may be referred to like the pages of a book, and the desired sheet found and consulted. If desired this sheet may be taken from the file without removing any of the other sheets or it may be referred to in the file without removing it.

Another desirable feature exists where the hinge 6 is used to attach the pocket 4 to the

cover 3, namely, that when the cover 3 is thrown open and extended outwardly towards a position of 180 degrees with the base 1, the pocket 5 is automatically opened or expanded thus loosening the papers so they may be easily removed or arranged. When the cover is closed its weight tends to close the pocket and clamp the papers.

It has been found from experience that this arrangement provides a good looking and a very desirable desk folder for keeping papers in order for constant reference and also that it will hold the papes in place without their falling out when the file is handled or turned over on its ends.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that I have provided simple, inexpensive and efficient means for carrying out the objects of the inevntion, providing a handy and readily consultable file that is tidy and always in order.

Having described my invention, what I claim is:

1. In a folder, a base member, a cover overlying the base, an expansible hinge member uniting one edge of the cover and base whereby the cover and base may be separated to varying distances between them, an expansible pocket secured to the base between the base and cover and adjacent one end thereof and extending transversely to the expansible hinge, and a non-expansible hinge uniting the pocket and cover adjacent the expansible hinge whereby the expansible hinge member and the expansible pocket may expand or contract together to accomplish a variation in the distances between the base and cover.

2. In a folder, a base member, a cover overlying the base member, an expansible hinge member uniting one edge of the cover with one edge of the base whereby the cover and base may be separated to varying distances between them, an expansible pocket extending from the hinged edge of the base to the opposite edge and secured to the base between the base and cover adjacent one end thereof, and a non-expansible hinge member uniting the pocket and cover adjacent the expansible hinge uniting the said base and cover whereby the expansible hinge member and the expansible pocket may expand or contract together to accomplish a variation in the distances between the base and cover.

3. In a folder, a base member, a cover overlying the base, an expansible hinge member uniting one edge of the cover and one edge of the base whereby the cover and base may be separated to varying distances between them, and an expansible pocket extending from the hinged edge of the base to the opposite edge and secured to the base between the base and cover adjacent one end thereof whereby the expansible hinge member and the expansible pocket may expand or contract to accomplish a variation in the distances between the base and cover.

4. In a folder, a base member, a cover, an expansible hinge member connecting one edge of the cover and base, an expansible pocket at one end of the base member extending from the expansible hinge member to the opposite edge of the base, and means uniting one edge of said pocket to said cover whereby the pocket will be expanded when the cover is opened.

5. In a folder, a base member, a cover member conforming with the base member, a flexible hinge uniting one edge of the base and cover, an expansible pocket member extending across one end of the base member and underlying the cover in a direction transverse to the flexible hinge member and means uniting one edge of the pocket to the cover whereby the alignment of the cover and base is maintained and the pocket will be expanded as the cover is opened and the cover and pocket will expand together.

HARRY H. STYLL.