Nov. 6, 1928. 1,690,889

G. H. DAWSON

INDEX GUIDE CARD

Filed March 26, 1927

Fig. 1

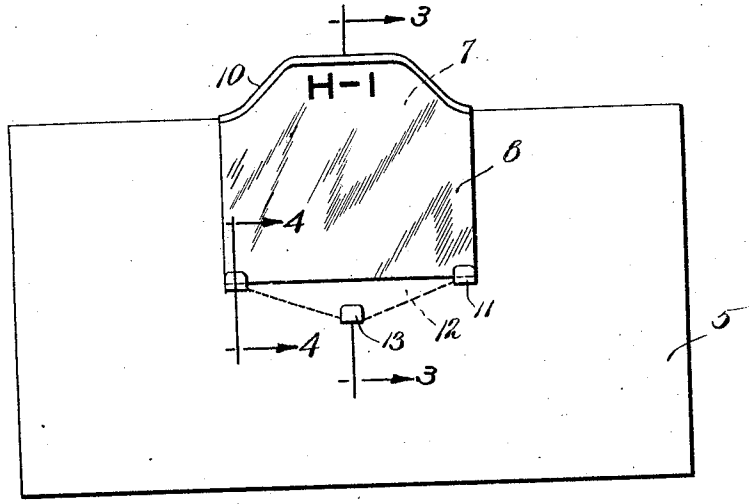



Fig. 2

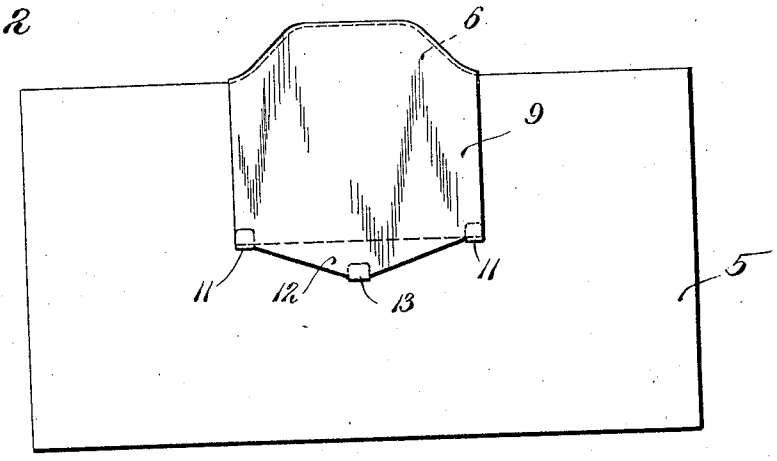



Fig. 3

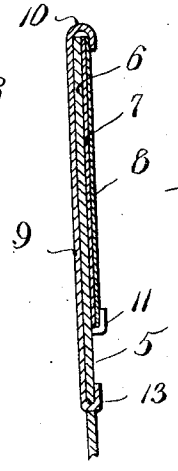



Fig. 4

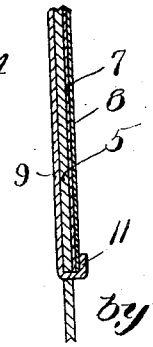
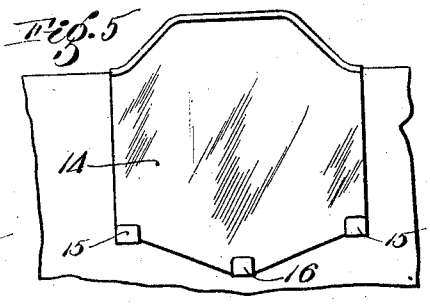



Fig. 5




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## INDEX GUIDE CARD.

Application filed March 26, 1927. Serial No. 178,615.

This invention relates to index cards and particularly to guide cards provided with tabs or projections and adapted for use in a vertical filing system to separate into groups the cards, folders or other index matter constituting the filing system. The principal object of the invention is to provide a guide card having its tab so stiffened and encased as to reinforce and protect the tab against the destructive wear, moisture and soilage to which the tab might be subjected by handling. Other objects include the provision of improved means for fastening the reinforcing and protecting elements to the card, so that the edges of said elements are closely secured to the card thereby obviating the curling of the edges and also preventing paper sheets or other objects from catching under said edges; also the staggered disposition of the fastening devices whereby the card is not weakened excessively thereby; and the provision of a smooth rounded edge at the top of the tab which will be agreeable to the touch and attractive in appearance.

In the accompanying drawings illustrating preferred embodiments of the invention,

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a guide card equipped with the improved tab protector;

Fig. 2 is a rear view of the card shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary enlarged section taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary face view of a modified tab construction.

This card body 5 is made of any suitably stiff sheet material, such as cardboard, fiberboard or heavy paper, and is provided with an integral tab or projection 6 at its upper margin. A paper sheet 7 having a similarly shaped projection carrying appropriate indicia is preferably pasted or glued to the face of the card with its top edge registering with the edge of the card tab and its body portion extending substantially below the upper margin of the card. Superposed upon the sheet 7 and in edge registration therewith is a protecting cover 8 of transparent material, such as sheet celluloid, which may be attached to the paper sheet by a suitable adhesive. If desired, however, the index data may be inscribed upon the card tab itself, thereby dispensing with the sheet 7.

A stiff reinforcing plate 9, preferably of sheet metal, is attached to the rear face of the card and tab by fastening devices comprising an integral top flange 10 which is rolled or crimped over the upper laminated edge formed by the card tab 6, sheet 7 and cover 8, and integral bottom tongues 11 struck through the card body and embracing the lower edges of sheet 7 and cover 8. One of the tongues 11 is preferably positioned adjacent each of the bottom corners of the sheath plate 9 so that it will firmly secure the respective corners of the cover sheet 8 close to the card body. If another fastener is required, depending upon the width of the cover sheet, one or more intermediate tongues may be provided. In such case it is preferred that the intermediate tongues be offset vertically from each other and from the corner tongues 11, so that the card will not be weakened excessively along a straight line defined by a series of tongue holes in the same horizontal line. This feature is illustrated in the drawings which show a triangular extension 12 of the plate 9 provided with a central tongue 13 struck through the card body and crimped upon its front face, said tongue being offset downwardly from the tongues 11. It is thus apparent that the provision of the extension 12 reinforces the card against possible weakness on a line between the corner tongues when the tab is bent rearwardly, as well as permitting the use of the additional offset fastening tongue 13.

In case other fastening devices are employed to secure the bottom of the plate 9, such as rivets or eyelets which for some purposes of the invention may be substituted for the integral tongues in an obvious manner, the extension 12 obviates the tendency of the card to bend or crack upon a predetermined straight line at the bottom of the plate, irrespective of the weakness caused by the intruding tongues 11. In order to avoid a straight, horizontal edge at the bottom of the plate 9, an angular extension may be provided, as shown at 12 in the drawings, or the plate may have downwardly projecting portions of curved or other non-straight conformation, as may be desired.

In the optional construction illustrated in Fig. 5, the bottom portion of the celluloid cover 14 extends downwardly, intermediate the corner tongues 15, to the lower offset tongue 16 of the sheath plate, and is secured thereby, so that the tongue 16 assists in hold-

ing the lower edge of the cover sheet close to the card body, thereby preventing papers or other objects from catching under the celluloid.

A tab constructed as aforesaid is extremely durable even though subjected to rough usage, for it is protected along its top edge and shoulders by the smooth rolled flange 10; the transparent cover sheet is prevented from curling up at its corners by the fastening tongues 11; and the possible tendency of the card body to crack along the bottom edge of the cover sheet is obviated by the depending portion 12 of the plate 9, whether the additional tongue 13 is or is not utilized. Non-essential details of construction may be varied, however, without departing from the spirit of this invention as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. An index card provided with a projecting tab and having a metal reinforcing plate upon the rear face of the card, said plate having integral tongues at its bottom edge adapted to fasten through the card at points remote from the upper margin of the card, and having an intermediate portion extending downwardly below said tongues.

2. An index card provided with a projecting tab and having a metal reinforcing plate upon the rear face of the card, said plate having integral tongues at its side margins adapted to fasten through the card at points remote from the upper margin of the card, and having an intermediate portion extending downwardly below said tongues and an integral fastening tongue on said intermediate portion.

3. An index card provided with an integral projecting tab and having a reinforcing plate upon the rear face of the card and a transparent cover sheet upon the front face of the card, and means for fastening the plate and cover sheet to the card upon the opposite faces of its tab, comprising an integral flange at the top of the plate rolled over the upper edge of the tab and sheet and an integral tongue at the bottom edge of the plate struck through the card and folded upon the lower edge of the cover sheet.

4. An index card provided with an integral projecting tab and having a reinforcing plate upon the rear face of the card and a transparent cover sheet upon the front face of the card, and means for fastening the plate and cover sheet to the card upon the opposite faces of its tab, including integral tongues adjacent the sides of the plate struck through the card and folded upon the bottom corners of the cover sheet.

5. An index card provided with an integral projecting tab and having a reinforcing plate upon the rear face of the card and a transparent cover sheet upon the front face of the card, and means for fastening the plate and cover sheet to the card upon the opposite faces of its tab, comprising an integral flange at the top of the plate rolled over the upper edge of the tab and sheet and integral tongues adjacent the sides of the plate struck through the card and folded upon the bottom corners of the cover sheet, said plate having an intermediate bottom portion extending downwardly below the said tongues.

6. An index card provided with an integral projecting tab and having a reinforcing plate secured to the rear face of the card and a transparent cover sheet attached to the front face of the card, and means for fastening the plate and cover sheet to the card upon the opposite faces of its tab, including integral tongues adjacent the sides of the plate struck through the card and folded upon the bottom corners of the cover sheet, said flange having an intermediate bottom portion extending downwardly below the said tongues, and an additional tongue on said intermediate portion spaced downwardly from the first-named tongues.

7. An index card provided with an integral projecting tab and having a reinforcing plate secured to the rear face of the card, an index sheet on the front face of the card and a cover sheet of celluloid superposed thereon, and means for fastening the plate and cover sheet to the card upon the opposite faces of its tab, comprising an integral flange at the top of the plate rolled over the upper edge of the tab and sheets and an integral tongue at the bottom edge of the plate struck through the card and folded upon the lower edge of the cover sheet.

Signed by me at Boston, Massachusetts, this 24th day of March, 1927.

GEORGE H. DAWSON.