

May 1, 1934.

E. F. BUENGER ET AL

1,957,039

LOOSE LEAF BINDER

Filed March 20, 1933

FIG. 1

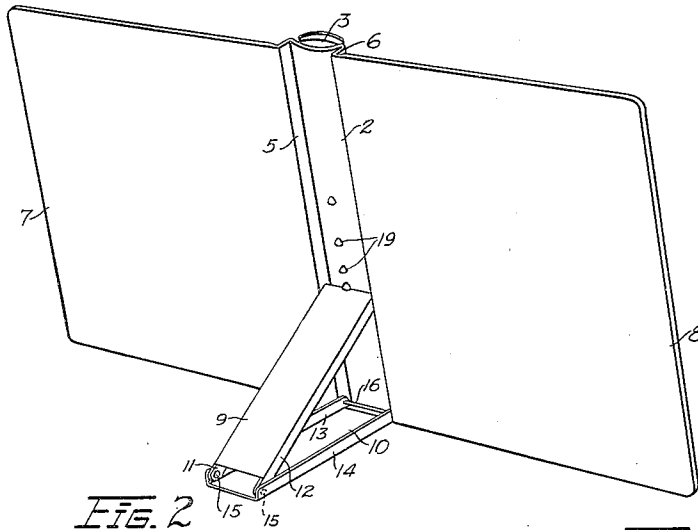


FIG. 2

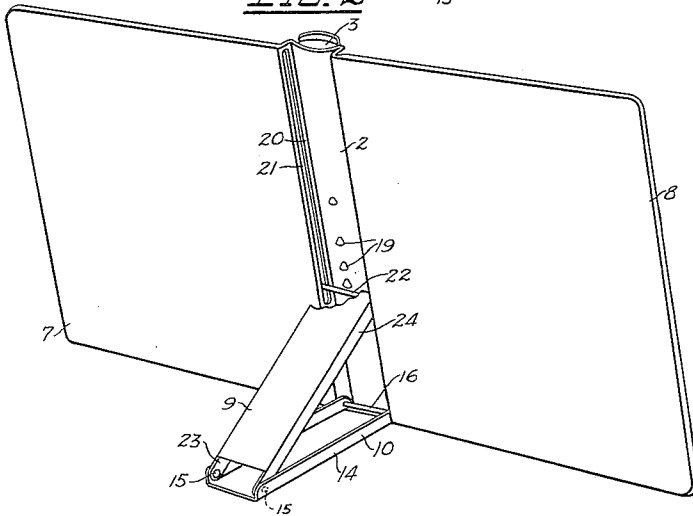


FIG. 3

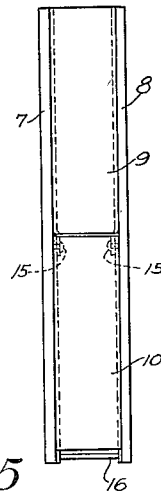


FIG. 5

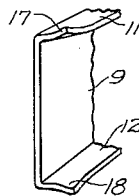
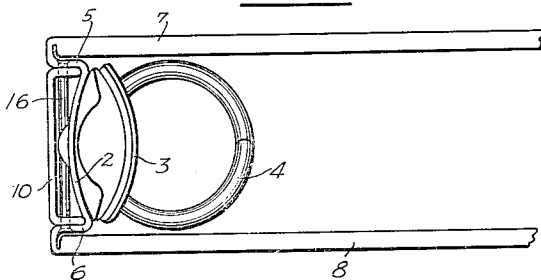


FIG. 4



INVENTORS  
EDWARD F. BUENGER  
FRED D. WEDGE  
BY  
*Benjamin Schlosser*  
ATTORNEY.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,957,039

## LOOSE LEAF BINDER

Edward F. Buenger, Oak Park, and Fred D. Wedge, Lombard, Ill., assignors to Wilson-Jones Company, Chicago, Ill., a corporation of Massachusetts

Application March 20, 1933, Serial No. 661,674

11 Claims. (Cl. 281-33)

This invention relates to a loose leaf binder having an easel structure adapted to support the binder at an angle so that the contents of the binder may be displayed to the best possible advantage.

5 It is an object of this invention to provide a loose leaf binder with an easel structure capable of supporting the binder at any desired angular position. It is a further object of this invention to provide an easel structure which may be readily opened and closed and which, when closed, will not detract from the appearance of the binder. It is a further object of this invention to provide an easel support for loose leaf binders which will be economical to manufacture and will be simple and efficient in operation. Other objects of this invention will become apparent upon reading the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing in which:

10 Figure 1 is a perspective view of the rear of a loose leaf binder embodying the invention;

Figure 2 is a view similar to Figure 1 showing a modified form of the invention;

15 Figure 3 is a rear elevation of the binder showing the easel in closed position;

Figure 4 is an end elevation showing the binder and easel in closed position; and

Figure 5 is a detail perspective of the free end of the easel member.

20 In the drawing the reference numeral 2 indicates a back member to which a conventional ring metal 3 is secured in any suitable manner. The ring metal includes a plurality of divided rings 4 which are adapted to retain the contents of the binder. A pair of relatively short flanges 5, 6 extend along the longitudinal edges of the back member 2. A pair of covers 7, 8 are hingedly secured to the outer edges of the flanges 5, 6.

25 The easel support consists of two metal plates 9, 10, the combined length of which equals the length of the back member 2. The member 9 is provided along its longitudinal edges with a pair of flanges 11, 12 which project a short distance beyond one end of the member 9. A pair of flanges 13, 14 extending along the longitudinal edges of the member 10 are pivotally secured to the projecting portions of the flanges 11, 12, respectively, by means of rivets 15. The flanges 13, 14 are pivotally secured to the bottom ends of the flanges 5, 6, respectively by means of a pin 16. If desired, two pins, one for each connection, may be substituted for the single pin 16. The flanges 11, 12, 13, 14 are each equal in height to the flanges 5, 6. Accordingly, when the easel support is in closed position, the metal plate mem-

bers 9 and 10 will lie flush with the back of the binder. The easel support is preferably covered with fabric similar to that of the covers 7, 8 so that it will look like an integral part of the binding when the binder is closed.

30 The metal plate members 9 and 10 are substantially the same width as the back member 2 so that the easel will fit snugly between the flanges 5, 6. Each flange 11, 12 may be flared outwardly to a slight extent, as indicated at 17, 18, (Figure 5) respectively, at its free end to provide increased frictional contact between the easel and the binder. The flared portions 17, 18 are adapted to hold the easel in any desired position between the flanges 5, 6 and yet permit relative sliding movement between the easel and the binder back. A plurality of ratchet tooth projections 19 are provided on the back member 2 to co-operate with the free end of the plate 9 to provide positive stops for the easel support.

35 In the modified form of the invention illustrated in Figure 2, the flanges 20 on each side of the back member 2 are provided with grooves 21 in which the ends of a pin 22 are adapted to slide. The pin 22 is secured to the free ends of the flanges 23, 24 which are similar to the flanges 11, 12. In this modification it is obviously unnecessary to flare the ends of the flanges 23, 24 because the top end of the easel cannot be separated from the flanges 20.

40 The operation of the easel support for the binder is extremely simple. When the easel is in closed position, the binder appears to be an ordinary loose leaf binder and may be used as such. When it is desired to support the binder at any angle, the top end of the metal plate member 9 is moved down towards fixed end of the metal plate member 10 until the desired angular position of the member 10 is attained. Then when the covers of the binder are opened, the binder is adapted to support itself on any suitable surface. When it is desired to close the easel structure, the top edge of the plate 9 must be moved outwardly a sufficient distance to clear the projections 19 on the back member. The binder, when supported in opened position by the easel structure described possesses unusual stability because both ends of the easel are in contact with the back member and the entire surface area of the metal plate 10 is in contact with the surface on which the binder rests.

45 While we have described our invention in detail, it will be understood that the description thereof is illustrative rather than restrictive, as many details may be modified or changed with-

out departing from the spirit or scope of our invention. Accordingly, we do not desire to be restricted to the exact construction described except as limited by the appended claims.

5 We claim:

- 1. In a loose leaf binder, a pair of cover members, a back member offset inwardly of the rear edges of said cover members, and an easel member fitting between said cover members.
- 10 2. In a loose leaf binder, a back member, a pair of cover members having their rear edges projecting beyond the edges of said back member, and an easel member connected to said back member and having its outer face substantially flush with the rear edges of said cover members.
- 15 3. In a loose leaf binder, a back member, a pair of flanges extending along the longitudinal edges of said back member, and an easel member secured to said flanges and terminating in the plane of the outer edges of said flanges.
- 20 4. In a loose leaf binder, a back member, a plurality of projections on said back member, and an easel member having one end fixed adjacent one end of said back and having its other end adapted to cooperate with said projections to support the binder in several positions.
- 25 5. In a loose leaf binder, a back member, an easel member fitting snugly against said back member and fixed thereto at one end, said easel having its other end slidable in contact with said back member, and means on said back member forming a positive stop for said slidable end of said easel member.
- 30 6. In a loose leaf binder, a back member, a pair of flanges extending at an angle from the longitudinal edges of said back member, and an easel member provided with flanges on its longitudinal edges secured to said first mentioned flanges, the

flanges of said easel member being flared outwardly adjacent one end thereof to increase the frictional contact between said easel member and said first mentioned flanges.

7. In a loose leaf binder, a back member, and an easel member having one end pivotally secured to said back member and its other end slidably secured to said back section.

8. In a loose leaf binder, a back member, a pair of flanges extending along the longitudinal edges of said back member, and an easel member having one end pivotally secured to said flanges and its other end slidable between said flanges.

9. In a loose leaf binder, a back member, a pair of flanges extending along the longitudinal edges of said back member, an easel member having one end secured to said flanges, the other end of said easel member being slidable in contact with said back member, and means on said back member for holding said easel member from accidental sliding movement.

10. In a loose leaf binder, a back member, a pair of flanges extending along the longitudinal edges of said back member, and an easel member secured at one end to said flanges, said easel member comprising two sections pivotally connected at their adjoining edges, the free end of said easel member being slidable between said flanges.

11. In a loose leaf binder, a back member, a pair of flanges extending along the longitudinal edges of said back member, and an easel member secured at one end to said flanges, said easel member comprising two sections pivotally connected at their adjoining edges, the outer surface of said sections lying flush with the outer edges of said flanges when said easel member is closed.

EDWARD F. BUENGER.  
FRED D. WEDGE.

40

45

50

55

60

65

70

75

80

85

90

95

100

115

120

125

130

135

140

145

150