F. L. MacDONAGH.

VISIBLE INDEX.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 6, 1914.

1,285,760.

Patented Nov. 26, 1918.

Fig. 1.

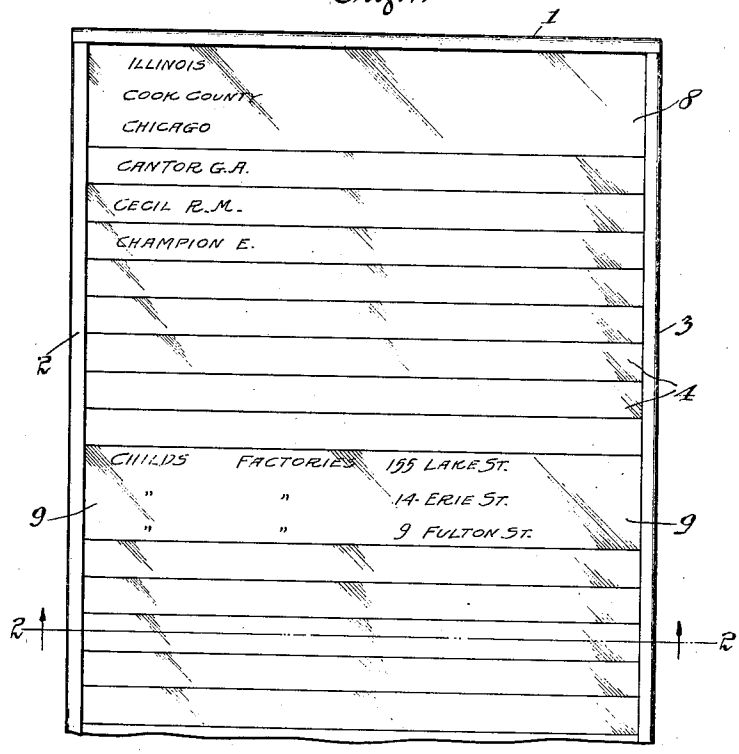


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

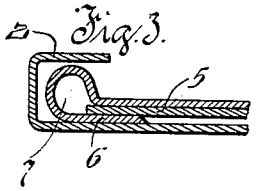
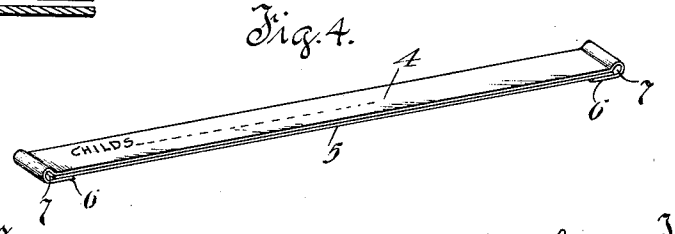


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK L. MacDONAGH, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO ACME CARD SYSTEM CO., A CORPORATION OF SOUTH DAKOTA.

VISIBLE INDEX.

1,285,760. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 26, 1918.

Application filed February 6, 1914. Serial No. 816,897.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK L. MacDONAGH, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of Chicago, county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Visible Indexes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in indexes and concerns more particularly that type of index in which a series of name slips are supported in or upon a flat supporting leaf or frame.

Among the salient objects of the invention are to provide a visible, flexible index in which each name is written or printed upon a paper or like flexible slip, held in place behind a protective shield of celluloid or other transparent material, forming a unit therewith; to provide a series of name units arranged in visible position in or upon a supporting leaf or frame in such a manner that any one or any number of the series of name units may be inserted or removed without impairing the correct alphabetical or numerical arrangement of the rest of the index; to provide a construction in which the name units or slips are held resiliently in place in their frame but nevertheless may be readily removed or inserted in the frame; to provide, in an index of the class described, a novel and improved form of protective shield for holding the name strip securely in place, but readily detachable therefrom; to provide a protective shield which may readily be constructed of various different widths to permit the use of slips having one or a plurality of lines of matter printed or written thereon; to provide, in an index of the class described, a construction which shall be simple and economical to manufacture; and in general to provide an improved index of the character referred to.

In the drawings—

Figure 1 represents the upper portion of a supporting leaf or frame in which my improved index units are mounted;

Fig. 2 is a section along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary view of the left hand portion of Fig. 2; and

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of my improved shields, with the name slip in place.

Referring to the drawings, 1 represents as a whole the supporting frame or leaf for the index units, which may be constructed from a sheet of suitable metal, the side longitudinal edges thereof being formed up to provide a pair of opposed side flanges 2 and 3 spaced apart from the sheet far enough to permit the insertion of the name units, and forming retaining channels.

The protective shield 4 is preferably constructed of a lamina or strip of transparent, flexible celluloid or suitable transparent material, each end of the strip being folded over for a short distance, as shown in Fig. 3.

Referring to Fig. 3 it will be seen that the end of the name slip 5 is inserted between the folded edges 6 and the opposed under-surface of the shield and is held in place by the resiliency of the fold 6, which normally, before the paper is inserted, tends to press tightly against the under surface of the shield. This resilient action of the folded edge 6 is rendered more effective by making the fold in the form of a circular bead or channel 7. To permit the quick and ready insertion of the name slip 5, the end of the fold 6 is beveled, as shown, which enables the end of the slip to force open the fold 6, which, as just stated, normally is in contact with the under surface of the shield before the insertion of the paper. The shields 4 are ordinarily constructed of approximately the same width as the name slip, and are arranged to abut against one another at their upper and lower edges when they are placed in the leaf, thus forming practically a smooth, protective sheet of transparent imperishable material, which prevents the ingress of dust or the soiling of the name slips through handling of the index. To insert a new name, the name slip, which has been previously typewritten or printed with the name and other desired data, is placed in position behind one of the protective shields, as shown in Fig. 4, care being taken to see that the edges 6 grasp each end of the slip evenly, and that the latter is held straight and flat against the under surface of the shield. The latter is then grasped by the ends in such a manner as to bow out the middle of the shield, thus reducing the distance between the ends sufficiently to permit its ready insertion into the leaf behind the opposed flanges 2 and 3. If it is desired to insert a new unit in the middle of an existing leaf of names, it is a simple matter to insert the point of a knife or other suitable

tool at the place where the new name is to be inserted, and then bodily push upward the top section of name units a sufficient distance to allow space for the new name, since the side flanges 2 and 3 are spaced apart from the main sheet of the leaf a sufficient distance to allow the ends of the units to slide freely therein. An old name unit, which for some reason may have become dead, may be readily removed by inserting the end of a knife in the space between the shield and the leaf, and pulling the unit out bodily. The open space then existing in the index is filled up by pushing together the name units on either side of the opening. Ordinarily, it is advantageous to leave a small space at the top of a leaf to provide for the future addition of new names, this space, however, usually being filled with blank shields in order to secure uniformity and to prevent accidental movement of the upper series of name units.

In installing a new index, it is often advantageous to manufacture the shields 4 as a connected sheet having the proper cross-sectional form at its two parallel edges. The paper for the slips is printed on a typewriter, or by any other means, as a single sheet, the spacing of the various names being arranged to conform exactly to the ultimate spacing required between the individual index units, that is to say, the width of the shields. The whole sheet bearing the names is then placed in position behind the length of formed-up celluloid, and the latter is then cut up into widths corresponding to the distance between the lines of printing. It is obvious that, while this is being done, care should be taken to see that the first name unit cut off has its name properly centralized in the slip. This method of installing new names in the index makes it possible to cut the name units of various widths to allow for slips of paper bearing a series of names of the same class, or of a name slip having only a single name thereon, but requiring additional line spaces for an unusual amount of special data. Units of special width are shown in Fig. 1 at 8 and 9.

I do not wish to be limited to the details of construction shown except as specified in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A shield for holding name units of visible indexes comprising a flat, longitudinal, resilient, transparent, protective main body portion provided at its ends with a circular bead and terminating in a spring gripping portion.

2. A visible index shield adapted to hold a sheet of paper comprising a flat sheet of transparent resilient material, the ends of which are formed into spring gripping members having portions resiliently held in contact with adjacent portions of the face of the sheet, and forming spring gripping members, the end edges of said gripping portions being beveled.

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