July 31, 1945. G. J. SENGBUSCH 2,380,678

DESK FILE

Filed Feb. 3, 1944

Fig. 1

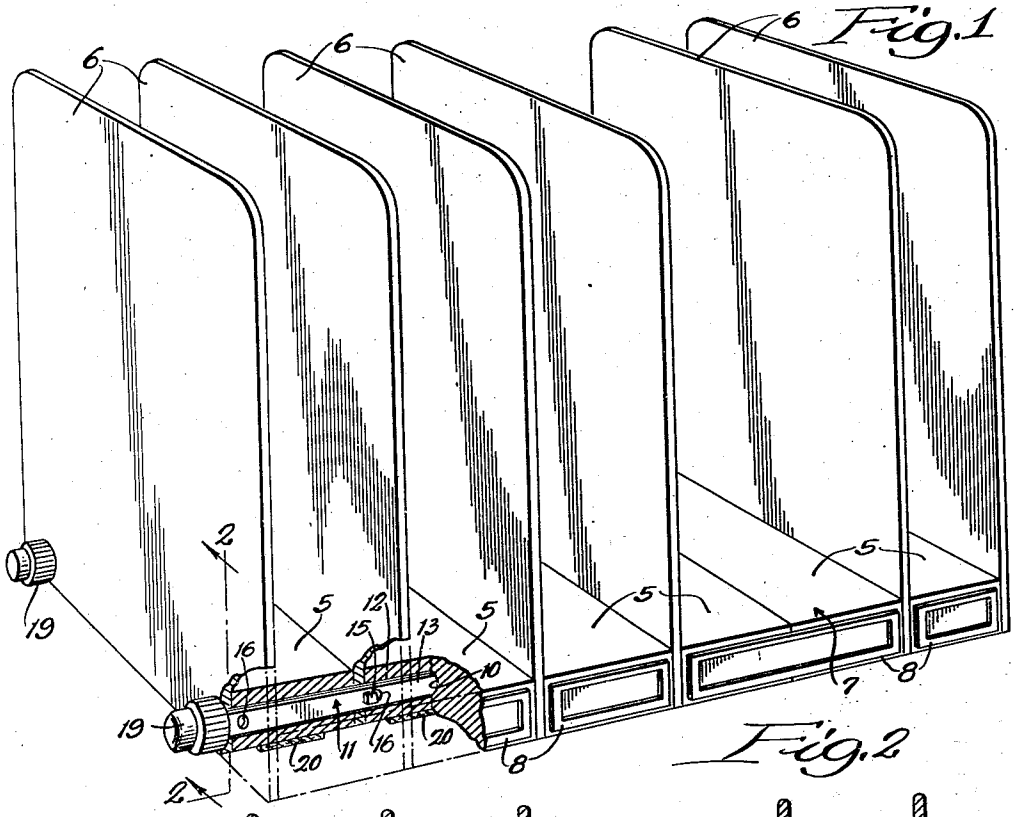


Fig. 2

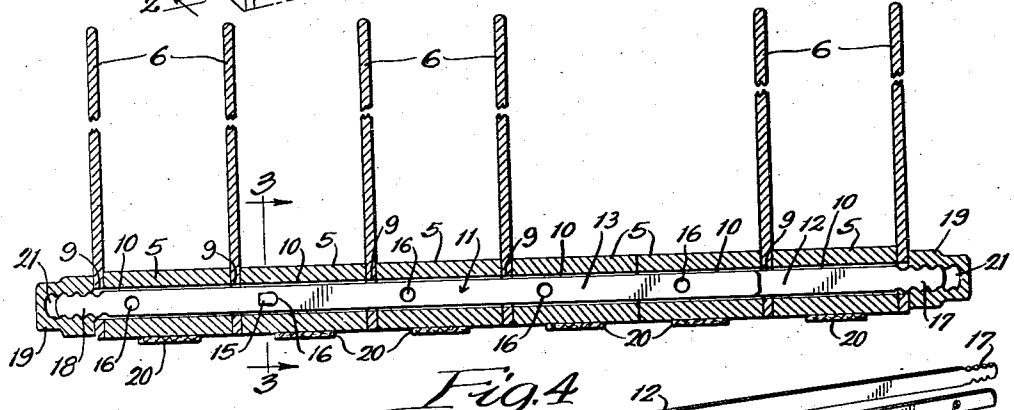


Fig. 4

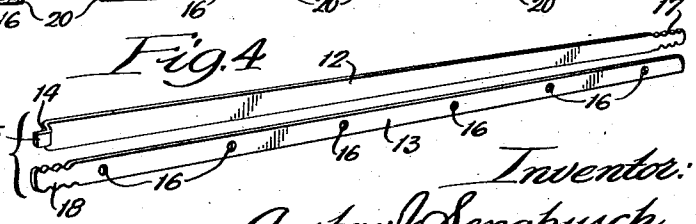
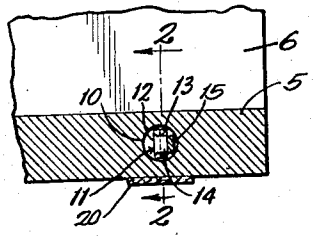


Fig. 3



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DESK FILE

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8 Claims. (Cl. 211—43)

This invention relates to improvements in desk files of the type which are used in offices and other places on top of a desk or other stand for holding various papers or files, correspondence and the like, in selected order.

The main object of the present invention is to provide a desk file of the character indicated which is of exceptionally simple construction and which may readily be assembled by the ultimate purchaser and user; to provide such a file which is flexible in respect of its arrangement of pockets or file spaces so that various selected arrangements of file pockets or spaces may be made by appropriately assembling a plurality of like units; to provide a simple, efficient, and inextensible but adjustable means for uniting various numbers of the units required to form the desk file so that larger or smaller files may be readily assembled without the necessity of obtaining any special parts of predetermined size; to provide a desk file which will be efficient and durable in use and which may be constructed of materials which are readily available in adequate quantities; and other objects and advantages of the invention will be understood by reference to the following specification and the accompanying drawing wherein there is disclosed a desk file embodying a selected form of the invention.

In the drawing,

Fig. 1 is a perspective illustrating the improved desk file, certain portions being broken away and shown in section to illustrate certain details of construction;

Fig. 2 is a vertical section in a plane indicated by the line 2—2 of Figs. 1 and 3;

Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2, and

Fig. 4 is a perspective illustrating the construction of an adjustable tie rod forming a part of the improved desk file.

The improved desk file as herein disclosed, comprises a plurality of base bars or blocks 5, all of which may be of like dimensions. They are preferably formed of a suitable grade of hardwood, cut and finished into substantially the elongated rectangular form indicated.

Partition members 6, formed of any suitable sheeting, metal, wood, plastic or other compositions, extend upwardly from between the sections 5 to form pockets between the respectively adjacent partitions for supporting papers and documents which may be filed in the device. At the outer sides of the desk file, the partitions 6 merely extend downwardly in overlapping relation to the outer side edge of the adjacent base bars 5, as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

In some instances, it may be desired to have one or more pockets of greater width than the width of one of the base bars 5; in that event, two bars may be assembled together without an intervening partition member, to form a double width file pocket as indicated at 7. Various arrangements of single width and/or multiple width pockets may thus be formed to suit any specific requirements. If desired, suitable labels such as indicated at 8, may be attached to the ends of the base units to identify the material filed in the respective pockets.

For clamping the assemblage of partitions and base units together, the partitions and base units are provided with registering openings, such as the openings 9 in the partitions, and the openings 10 in the base members. A tie rod 11 extends through the registering openings and is provided at its ends with suitable means for engaging the outside of the outer partition 6 to clamp the parts tightly together. As indicated in Fig. 1, a tie rod clamping device is preferably provided near the front end of the desk file and near the back end thereof, although it will be apparent that in some instances, a single tie rod may be adequate and that in other instances, more than two tie rods may be desirable.

The tie rod 11, as herein shown, comprises a pair of flat strap metal sections 12 and 13 respectively. In one embodiment of the structure, the tie rod sections may be formed of strap metal approximately ⅜" wide, and ⅛" thick. The section 12 is provided at its inner end with an ear having a portion 14 extending laterally from the section, and another portion 15 extending in parallel relation to the length of the section but in offset relation thereto. The parallel portion 15 of the ear is offset to the extent of the thickness of the other section 13, and preferably, slightly more. The other section 13 is provided with a series of holes 16 spaced longitudinally of the section at intervals corresponding to the sum of the width of a base bar 5 and the thickness of a partition 6.

The sections 12 and 13 are detachably interconnected by passing the parallel portion 15 of the ear of the section 12 through a selected hole 16 in the other section, and then rocking the sections relative to each other into face-to-face engagement so that the ear portion 14 extends through the opening 16, and the ear portion 15

engages the face of the section 13 opposite to that engaged by a face of the section 12. This relationship is best indicated in Figs. 1 and 3. It will be apparent that the effective length of the tie rod may be adjusted to suit any given requirements by selecting a proper hole 16 through which to pass the ear 14—15. When the tie rod is properly assembled, it is passed through the registering or aligned openings 9 and 10 of the partitions and bases, the openings 9 and 10 being of such size as to permit the lapping inner end portions of the sections to pass freely therethrough. It will be apparent, however, that the walls of the openings in the bases and partitions surrounding the tie rod will prevent such relative spreading movement of the overlapped portions of the bar as is required to disengage the interlocking connection formed by the ear 14—15 of the section 12 and the holes 16 of the section 13.

The outer ends of the respective sections 12 and 13 are provided with fragmentary screw threading such as indicated at 17 and 18 respectively, and the length of the bar is so adjusted that said screw threaded ends of the sections will project beyond the outermost partitions 6 to an extent sufficient to receive suitable nuts 19 which, when screwed on the respective ends of the tie rod, will co-operate therewith to clamp the desk file units tightly together in assembled relation.

Felt or other suitable non-scratching discs or buttons 20 may be secured to the bottom of each of the base bar units 5 near the front and rear ends thereof, to provide a non-scratching bottom surface to thereby protect a desk or table top, or other finished surface, from damage by the desk file. However, in some instances, the file structure may be placed on one end, that is, so that the length of the base units extend vertically, such an arrangement being particularly useful for supporting magazines and similar publications which are not wide enough, or rigid enough, to support themselves when positioned vertically on edge.

The length of the nuts 19 and of the screw threaded end portions 17 and 18 of the tie rod sections is preferably such as to permit the elimination of several of the partitions 6 to provide enlarged pockets, such as pocket 7, when desired, without impairing the operativeness of the nuts for clamping the file units tightly together. As shown in Fig. 2, the nuts are of such length that when the parts are clamped together in the arrangement shown, i. e. with one partition omitted, there remains spaces 21 within the nuts which would permit the elimination of one or two additional partitions without impairment of the operativeness of the clamping nuts for their said purpose. Similarly, all of the partitions may be employed without causing the lengths of the projecting screw threaded end portions of the sections 12 and 13 to be too short to operatively receive the nuts.

The described structure may, of course, be modified and adapted for use under various conditions of service.

I claim:

1. In a desk file of the class described, the combination of a plurality of base bars, a plurality of partitions respectively extending upwardly from between adjacent base bars, a rod extending through said base bars and the intervening portions of said partitions, and means on the ends of said rod for clamping said base bars and partitions tightly together in assembled relationship, said rod comprising a pair of solid elongated sections adapted to have various portions of their lengths overlapped in side by side relationship so as to correspondingly adjust the overall length of the rod for use with assemblies of different numbers of said base bars and partitions, and means for locking the overlapped portions of said sections in selected adjusted position.

2. A desk file of the class described comprising an assemblage of a plurality of base bars and a plurality of partitions respectively extending upwardly from between adjacent base bars, and a rod extending through said base bars and the intervening portions of said partitions, said rod embodying a pair of solid elongated sections having inner end portions of their lengths overlapped in side by side relationship and means for detachably interconnecting said overlapped portions, and means adjustable on the outer ends of the respective sections for clamping said base bars and partitions tightly in assembled relationship.

3. A desk file of the class described comprising an assemblage of a plurality of base bars and a plurality of partitions respectively extending upwardly from between adjacent base bars, said base bars and partitions having registering openings extending therethrough and forming a continuous passageway through said assemblage, and a rod extending through said passageway and embodying a pair of elongated sections having inner end portions of their lengths overlapped within said passageway, detachable means interconnecting said overlapped portions and locked in operative position by the surrounding walls of said passageway, the outer ends of the respective sections having means for clamping said assemblage tightly together.

4. A desk file of the class described comprising an assemblage of a plurality of base bars and a plurality of partitions respectively extending upwardly from between adjacent base bars, said base bars and partitions having registering openings extending therethrough and forming a continuous passageway through said assemblage, and a rod extending through said passageway and embodying a pair of elongated sections having inner end portions of their lengths overlapped and adjustably interconnected within said passageway, one of said sections having a plurality of holes respectively spaced lengthwise of the section and the other of said sections having an ear extending through one of said holes in the other section and engaging the other side of said other section, said ear being selectively insertable into said holes so as to permit adjustment of the effective length of the rod, the walls of said opening serving to hold said sections against relative movement sufficient to effect removal of said ear from the hole through which it extends, and said sections having means at their respective outer ends for clamping said assemblage together.

5. A desk file of the class described comprising an assemblage of a plurality of base bars and a plurality of partitions respectively extending upwardly from between adjacent base bars, said base bars and partitions having registering openings extending therethrough and forming a continuous passageway through said assemblage, and a rod extending through said pasageway and embodying a pair of elongated sections having inner end portions of their lengths overlapped and adjustably interconnected within said passageway.

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6. A desk file of the class described, comprising an assemblage of a plurality of base bars and a plurality of partitions respectively extending upwardly from between adjacent base bars, said base bars and partitions having registered openings extending therethrough and forming a continuous passageway through said assemblage, and a rod extending through said passageway and embodying a pair of elongated, flat, substantially inextensible strap sections having inner end portions of their lengths overlapped and adjustably interconnected within said passageway, one of said sections having a plurality of holes respectively spaced lengthwise of the section, and the other of said sections having an ear extending laterally from the inner end of the section, said ear having a free end portion bent into parallel relation to the section, said ear being passed selectively through one of said holes in the other section and engaging the other side thereof, the walls of said opening serving to hold said sections against relative movement sufficient to effect removal of said ear from the hole through which it extends, and said sections having means at their respective outer ends for clamping said assemblage together.

7. A desk file of the class described, comprising an assemblage of a plurality of base bars and a plurality of partitions respectively extending upwardly from between adjacent base bars, said base bars and partitions having registered openings extending therethrough and forming a continuous passageway through said assemblage, and a rod extending through said passageway and embodying a pair of elongated, flat, substantially inextensible strap sections having inner end portions of their lengths overlapped and adjustably interconnected within said passageway, one of said sections having a plurality of holes respectively spaced lengthwise of the section, and the other of said sections having an ear extending laterally from the inner end of the section, said ear having a free end portion bent into parallel relation to the section, said ear being passed selectively through one of said holes in the other section and engaging the other side thereof, the walls of said opening serving to hold said sections against relative movement sufficient to effect removal of said ear from the hole through which it extends, and said sections having means at their respective outer ends for clamping said assemblage together comprising, at one of said ends, fragmentary screw threading on the edges of the section, and a nut adapted to be screwed on said end of the section.

8. A desk file of the class described comprising an assemblage of a plurality of base bars and a plurality of partitions respectively extending upwardly from between adjacent base bars, said base bars and partitions having registered openings extending therethrough and forming a continuous passageway through said assemblage, and a rod extending through said passageway and embodying a pair of elongated sections having inner end portions of their lengths overlapped and adjustably interconnected within said passageway, one of said sections having a plurality of holes respectively spaced lengthwise of the section and the other of said sections having an ear extending through one of said holes in the other section, said ear being selectively insertable into said holes so as to permit adjustment of the effective length of the rod, the walls of said opening serving to hold said sections against relative movement sufficient to effect removal of said ear from the hole through which it extends, and said sections having means at their respective outer ends for clamping said assemblage together.

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