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FILE OR CABINET.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 18, 1906.

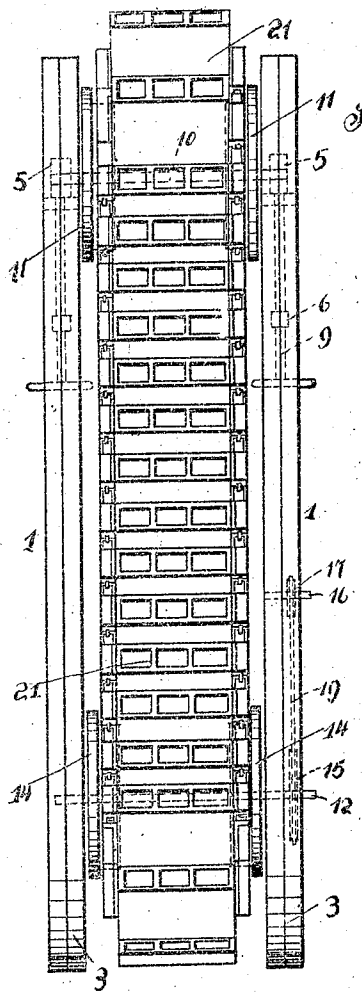

Fig. 1.

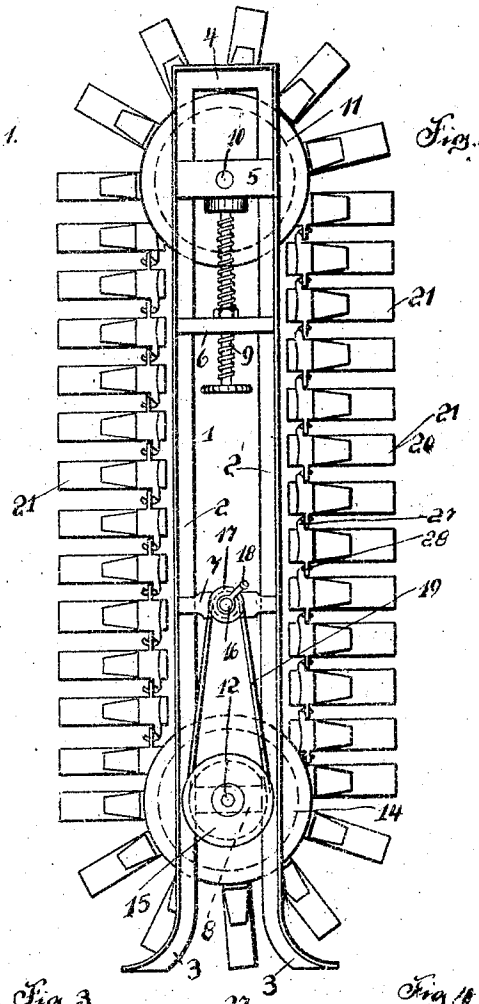

Fig. 2.

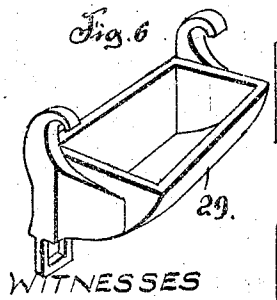

Fig. 6

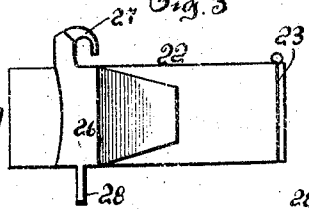

Fig. 3

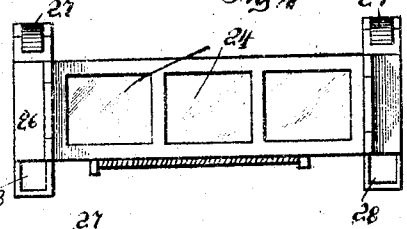

Fig. 4

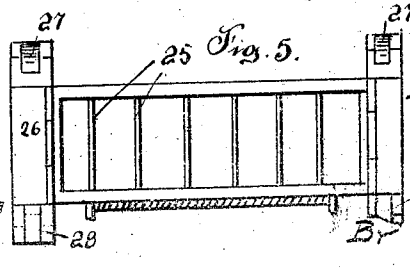

Fig. 5.

WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY C. SMITH, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO FREDERICK MACK, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA; MARY E. SMITH ADMINISTRATRIX OF SAID HARRY C. SMITH, DECEASED.

FILE OR CABINET.

No. 887,282. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 12, 1908.

Application filed April 18, 1906. Serial No. 312,357.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY C. SMITH, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Files or Cabinets, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in files or cabinets, and the invention has for its primary object to provide a novel cabinet or file consisting of a plurality of casings or compartments which are arranged so that any one of said compartments or casings can be easily and quickly reached. To this end, I have constructed a file or cabinet wherein a plurality of casings or compartments are arranged to form an endless chain, the chain of said compartments or casings being mounted upon wheels journaled in a suitable frame work, the endless chain being vertically disposed whereby the outer ends of the casings or compartments will be consecutively exposed, thus permitting ready access to the contents of said casings or compartments when required.

My improved file or cabinet is particularly adapted for department stores and drug stores, where small articles or medicines can be conveniently arranged to be easily reached. The construction of my improved file or cabinet permits of the same being used as a letter file, and for the purpose of illustration a plurality of casings or compartments are shown connected together, and arranged in a vertically disposed manner, whereby they will occupy a comparatively small space, yet will be easily accessible.

A further object of this invention is to provide a file or cabinet which will be simple and inexpensive in construction, strong and durable and easily manipulated, and it will operate steadily and without lateral or swaying movement.

With the above and other objects in view, which will more readily appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts, to be hereinafter more fully described and claimed, and referring to the drawing accompanying this application, like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, in which:—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved file or cabinet, Fig. 2 is a side elevation, Fig. 3 is an enlarged end elevation of one of the casings or compartments, detached, together with one of the coupling projections, Fig. 4 is a front elevation of the same, Fig. 5 is a plan view of a casing or compartment, illustrating a slightly modified form of construction, and Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a compartment in the form of a bucket or hopper constructed in accordance with my invention adapted to be used in lieu of the casings or compartments.

To put my invention into practice, I construct my improved file or cabinet of two standards 1, 1, each standard comprising spaced uprights 2, 2, having outwardly flared feet 3, 3. The uprights 2, 2 are connected together at their upper ends, as at 4, and at intermediate points by transverse plates 6, 7 and 8. Plates 5, 5 are slidably mounted between the uprights 2, 2 while the plates 6, 7 and 8 are fixed between said uprights. In the plates 6, 6 are mounted screws 9, 9, said screws engaging the underneath edges of the plates 5, 5 whereby said plates may be adjusted between the uprights 2, 2 of each standard. Journaled in the plates 5, 5 between the standards 1, 1 is a shaft 10 upon which are mounted flanged wheels 11, 11, the object of which will presently appear.

In the plates 8, 8 is journaled a shaft 12, and upon said shaft are mounted flanged wheels 14, 14, and a pulley wheel 15. Revolubly mounted in the plates 7 is a stub shaft 16, carrying a pulley wheel 17, and a crank handle 18. Passing over the pulley wheels 17 and 15 is an endless chain or cable 19, this chain or cable being adapted to impart a rotary movement to the shaft 12, when the stub shaft 16 is revolved through the medium of the crank handle 18.

Upon the wheels 11, 11 and 14, 14 is mounted an endless chain or carrier 20, said chain or carrier consisting of a plurality of casings or compartments 21. Each casing or compartment comprises a flat rectangular box 22 having a front hinged lid 23, which is provided with transparent plates 24, whereby the interior of each compartment or casing may be observed. In lieu of the trans-

parent plates 24, the openings of the lid or door 23 can be provided with vertically disposed bars 25, to retain articles or papers within said casings or compartments. The sides of each casing or compartment are provided with extensions 26 carrying upwardly extending hooks 27 and depending eyelets 28.

The endless chain 20 is formed by connecting a plurality of the casings or compartments together, the hooks 27 of one casing engaging in the eyelets 28 of another casing, and in this manner forming an endless chain of casings or compartments adapted to travel upon the wheels 11, 11 and 14, 14, the inner faces of the extensions 26 at the ends of the compartments are curved like the faces of the wheels 11, 11, and 14, 14, and are adapted to bear thereon when in motion, and the outer faces of the projections 26 are flat and are adapted to bear against the inner faces of the flanges of the wheels, and the chain prevented thereby from material lateral, or swaying movement. The projections 26 are disposed at a short distance from the inner edges of the compartments, so that a portion of each compartment projects between the inner faces of the wheels, which arrangement materially increases the efficiency of the device and causes the compartments to thus serve to a certain extent as guides to prevent lateral movement of the chain device. The tension upon the chain of casings or compartments is regulated by the screws 9, while the operation of moving the endless chain of casings or compartments is accomplished through the medium of the pulley wheels 15 and 17 together with the cable or chain 19.

From the foregoing, it will be observed that I have devised a novel form of file or cabinet wherein various kinds of articles may be stored and conveniently reached at any desired time by rotating the crank handle 18, and positioning the casing or compartment containing the desired article at a convenient place whereby it may be easily reached and withdrawn by opening the door or lid 23 of the compartment.

My improved file or cabinet can be readily used for office work, for storing letters and such articles as must be conveniently located. The novel arrangement of the casings or compartments consumes a comparatively small space, and in this connection, I do not care to confine myself to the specific number of casings, or compartments used and arranged as a chain, as the uprights 2, 2 may be made of a considerable height to support a larger number of casings or compartments than shown in the accompanying drawing.

In Fig. 6 of the drawings, I have illustrated a conventional form of bucket or hopper, such as commonly used in connection with endless conveyers, and in this connection, the bucket or hopper may be constructed in accordance with the casings or compartments of my improved file, whereby they may be connected together to form an endless chain or conveyer.

A particular feature of my invention resides in the fact that the file is particularly adapted for any store, where floor space is scarce, and in this connection, the file is particularly adapted for dress patterns which heretofore occupied a large space in a store.

I do not care to confine myself to the frame work or standards used in connection with the file, as the shafts thereof may be journaled in suitable hangers carried by a floor and ceiling, nor do I care to limit myself to the manner in which the file is operated as the same may be moved by a motor or similar power which is automatically controlled.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

A filing cabinet comprising two pairs of uprights, each pair of uprights connected together at the top, each of the uprights of each pair being angular in cross section, upper, intermediate and lower plates fixed between the outwardly and bearing against the inwardly-extending portions of the uprights of each pair, a sliding plate arranged between the outwardly-extending and bearing against the inwardly-extending portions of the uprights of each pair at a point above said upper fixed plate, a shaft journaled in said sliding plates, a shaft journaled in the lower fixed plates, flanged wheels carried by each of said shafts, a compartment carrier traveling over said wheels and consisting of a plurality of casings each provided with an integral lateral extension at each end, each of said extensions projecting above and depending below its respective casing, the upper portion of each of said extensions constituting a hook and the lower portion an eye, the hooks of one casing adapted to interlock with the eyes of an adjacent casing at a point between the pair of casings thereby forming the carrier and hinging the casings together, means connected to the sliding plates and extending through the upper fixed plates for adjusting the shaft carried by the sliding plates thereby applying tension to the carrier, a stub shaft projecting from said intermediate plate and carrying a pulley and crank handle, a pulley mounted upon said shaft and a belt connection between the pulleys.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

HARRY C. SMITH.

Witnesses:
A. M. WILSON,
E. E. POTTER.