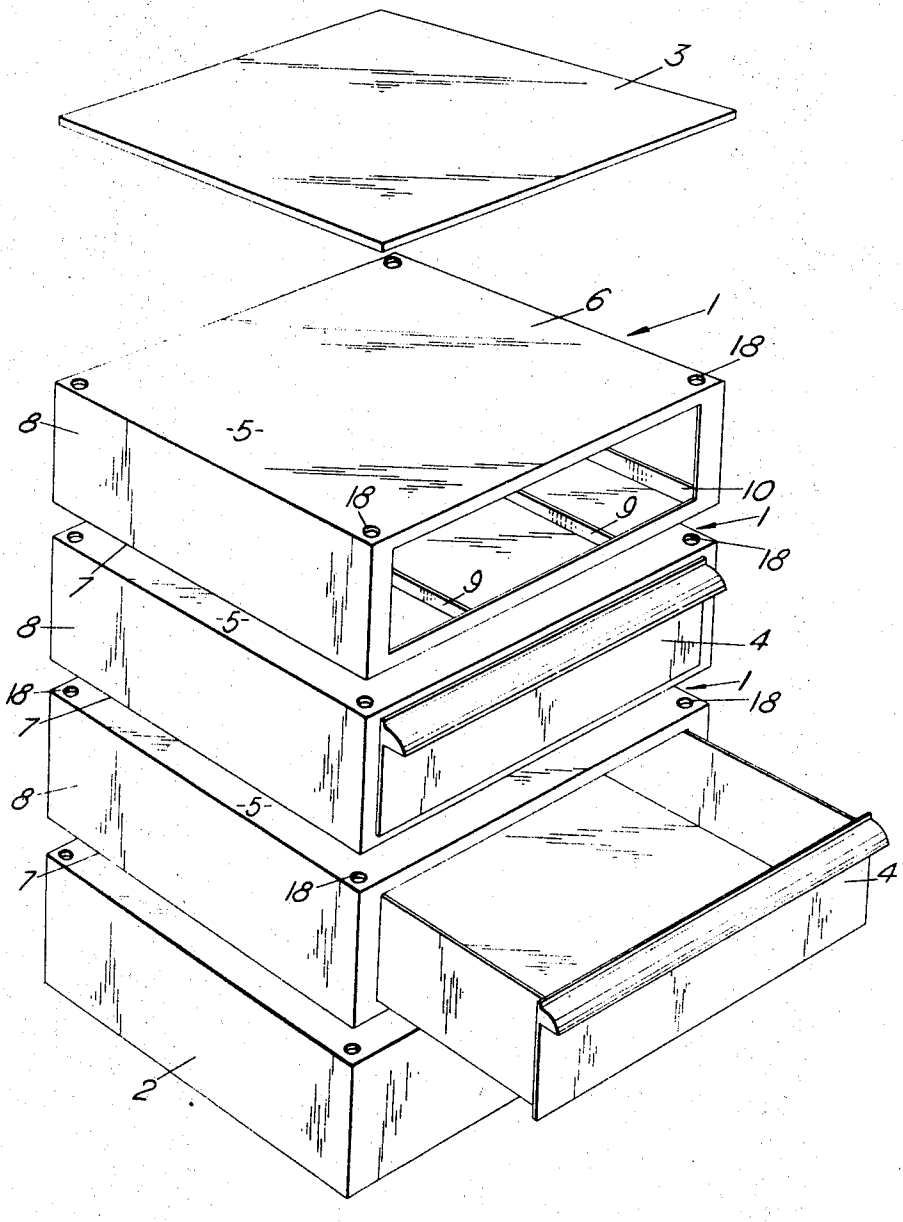
Sept. 22, 1970 S. O. BLOWERS 3,529,878

CASE FOR STORING ARTICLES

Filed May 6, 1968 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.



Inventor
Stanley Owen Blowers
By
Donald Morrell
Attorney

Sept. 22, 1970 S. O. BLOWERS 3,529,878

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Fig. 2

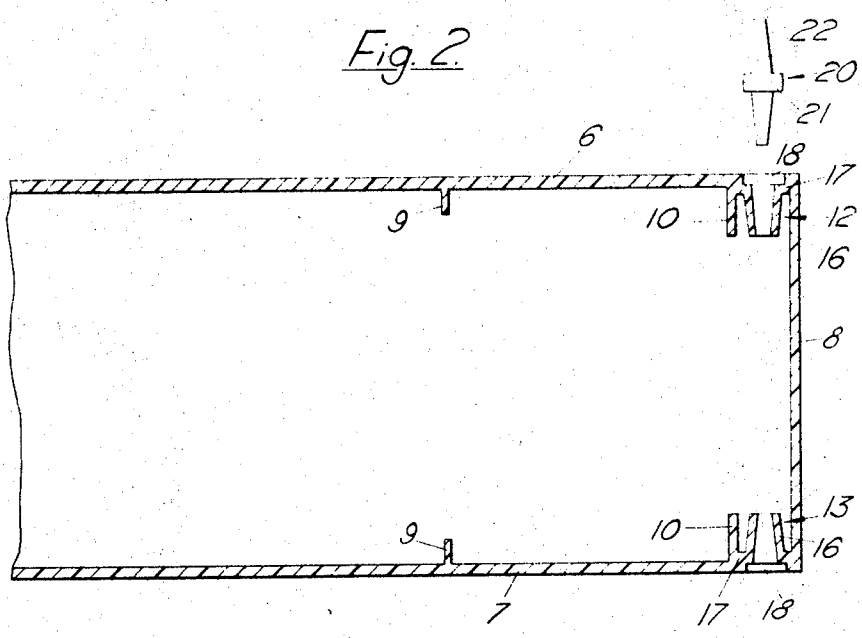
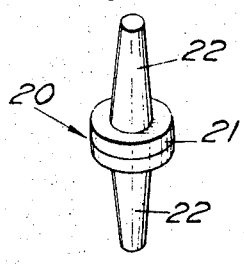


Fig. 3



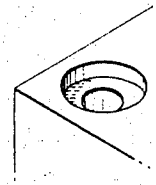
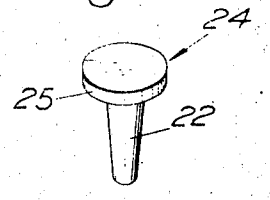


Fig. 4



Inventor
Stanley Owen Blowers
By Dowell & Dowell
Attorneys

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CASE FOR STORING ARTICLES

Stanley Owen Blowers, Cambridge, England, assignor to Kerridge Joinery Limited, London, England, a British company

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Int. Cl. A47b 47/00, 87/02
U.S. Cl. 312—107 2 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to a storage unit comprising at least two drawer cases stacked one above the other and having upper and lower walls provided with sockets. The sockets are designed to receive locating pins by which the sockets in the lower wall of the upper case are registered with corresponding sockets in the upper wall of the lower case. Each socket is by one end firmly anchored in said wall and protrudes inwardly into the case, the said end being provided with a head containing a counterbore of larger diameter than the inner hole of the socket. Each pin connecting an upper and lower case has a head adapted to be received in the counterbore and two tapered shanks extending in opposite directions from the head, each projecting into one of the adjacent sockets.

DESCRIPTION OF INVENTION

This invention relates to a store-case in the form of a chest of drawers and comprises a novel unit construction which enables a unit of required size to be built up from a number of similar units.

According to the invention each unit consists of a drawer-case having upper and lower walls in which there are sockets designed to receive locating pins by which the sockets in the lower wall of one drawer case are registered with corresponding sockets in the upper wall of an underlying case when the cases are stacked. This enables a rigid chest to be built of a number of superposed units.

In one embodiment of the invention, each drawer case or "sleeve" contains a single slidable tray or drawer made of plastic material designed to slide on runners provided for it within the drawer case. Each drawer case has upper and lower walls, side walls and a rear wall made of wood, plastic or other material. Each wall may be solid or may consist of an open framework.

In addition to the runners for supporting the drawer the sleeve is formed with internal guide rails which engage the side of the drawer and guide it in its sliding movement. These guide rails are spaced away from the side walls of the sleeve sufficiently to leave room for four tubular sockets formed on the upper wall of the sleeve adjacent the four corners thereof and four similar sockets formed on the lower wall of the sleeve. These sockets are in the form of open-ended tubes formed integrally with the sleeve and projecting inwardly from the upper and lower walls of the sleeve.

Each socket consists of a tubular body which is preferably tapered and joined to the wall of the sleeve by a relatively large head containing a counterbore in communication with the hole through the tubular body. It is thus adapted to receive one half of a locating pin which has two tapered shanks projecting in opposite directions from a head so made that one half of the head is received into the counterbore.

The locating pins are used to hold superposed sleeves in mutual alignment by inserting pins in the sockets in the upper wall of one sleeve and then lowering a superposed sleeve into position so that the upper halves of the pins

are received into sockets in the lower wall of the superposed sleeve.

To fill the sockets in the upper wall of the uppermost sleeve so as to produce a flush top, special pins may be provided having only one tapered shank joined to a head constructed to fit into the counterside flush with the top. Further pins having only one tapered shank but with deeper heads may be provided for fitting into sockets in the lower wall of the lowermost sleeve so as to form feet therefor.

The locating pins may conveniently be moulded from a plastic material.

So that the invention will be better understood a typical example in accordance with it will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is an exploded view of storage cabinet embodying storage units according to the invention;

FIG. 2 is a section on the line II—II of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a detail of a storage unit according to the invention, and

FIG. 4 is another detail.

Referring to the drawings FIG. 1 shows a storage cabinet comprising three separate units **1** standing on a base **2** and having a top cover **3**. Each unit **1** is in the form of a slidable drawer **4** in a sleeve **5** the sleeve having upper, lower and side walls **6**, **7**, and **8**, respectively.

The drawer **4** is designed to slide on runners **9** provided on the inside of lower wall **7**. In addition the sleeve is formed with internal guide rails **10** which depend from the upper wall **6** and which engage the side of the drawer and guide it in its sliding movement. These guide rails are spaced from the side walls **8** sufficiently to leave room for four tubular sockets **12** depending from the upper wall **6** adjacent the four corners thereof and four similar sockets **13** upstanding from the lower wall **7**. The sockets are in the form of open-ended tubes preferably formed integrally with the sleeve.

Each socket consists of a tubular body **16** which is tapered and has a head **17** adjacent the sleeve wall, which head has a counterbore **18** in communication with the base of the tubular body.

For stacking one unit upon another a locating pin **20** (FIG. 3) is employed which engages in the sockets. Each locating pin has a central head **21** and tapering shanks **22** projecting in opposite directions therefrom. The head **21** is so designed that when a tapering shank **22** is engaged in a socket one half of the head is received in the counterbore **18**, the other half being engaged in the corresponding counterbore of a socket in an adjacent sleeve.

Thus the locating pins are used to hold superposed sleeves in mutual alignment by inserting pins **20** in the upper wall of one sleeve and then lowering a superposed sleeve into position so that the upper halves of the pins are received into the sockets in the lower wall of the superposed sleeve.

To fill the sockets in the upper wall of the uppermost sleeve so as to produce a flush top, special pins **24** (FIG. 4) may be provided having only one tapered shank **22** joined to a head **25** constructed to fit into the counterbore flush with the top. Further pins similar to pins **24** having only one tapered shank but with deeper heads may be provided for fitting into sockets in the lower wall of the lowermost sleeve so as to form feet therefor.

The sleeve together with its runners **9** guide rails **10** and sockets **12** can conveniently be moulded as an integral unit from a synthetic plastic material. Similarly the pins can also be moulded from plastic materials.

What I claim is:

1. A storage unit comprising at least two drawer-cases, each case having upper and lower walls; open ended tubular sockets in said walls designed to receive

freely insertable locating pins by which the sockets in the lower wall of one drawer-case are registered with corresponding sockets in the upper wall of an underlying drawer-case when the cases are stacked; each socket having a first end provided with a head and secured in one of the said walls, the second end projecting inwardly from said wall, a counterbore in the head in communication with the base of the socket; each of said pins having a head of a thickness such that any one half of the head is received in said counterbore, and having two tapered shanks extending in opposite directions from the head and adapted to be received in the hole in the socket beyond the counterbore; the portions of the sockets in each drawer-case which receive said shanks being internally tapered.

2. A storage unit comprising at least two drawer-cases, each case having upper and lower walls; open ended tubular sockets in said walls designed to receive freely insertable locating pins by which the sockets in the lower wall of one drawer-case are registered with corresponding sockets in the upper wall of an underlying drawer-case when the cases ae stacked; each socket having a first end provided with a head and secured in one of the said walls, the second end projecting inwardly from said wall, a counterbore in the head in communication with

the base of the socket; each of said pins having a head of a thickness such that any one half of the head is received in said counterbore, and having two tapered shanks extending in opposite directions from the head and adapted to be received in the hole in the socket beyond the counterbore; the sockets in the upper wall of the uppermost drawer-case and in the lower wall of the lowermost drawer-case each containing a pin having a head adapted to fit into the counterbore and a tapered shank protruding from the head and received in the hole in the socket beyond the counterbore.

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CASMIR A. NUNBERG, Primary Examiner

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