Jan. 7, 1930. E. N. HOWELL 1,742,542

KEY FILING DEVICE

Filed April 16, 1929

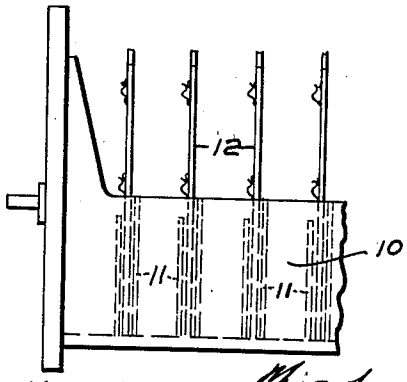


Fig. 1.

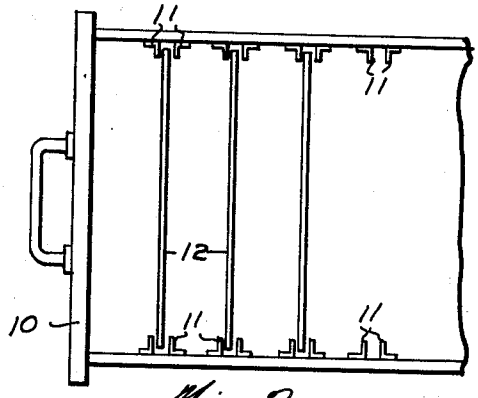


Fig. 2.

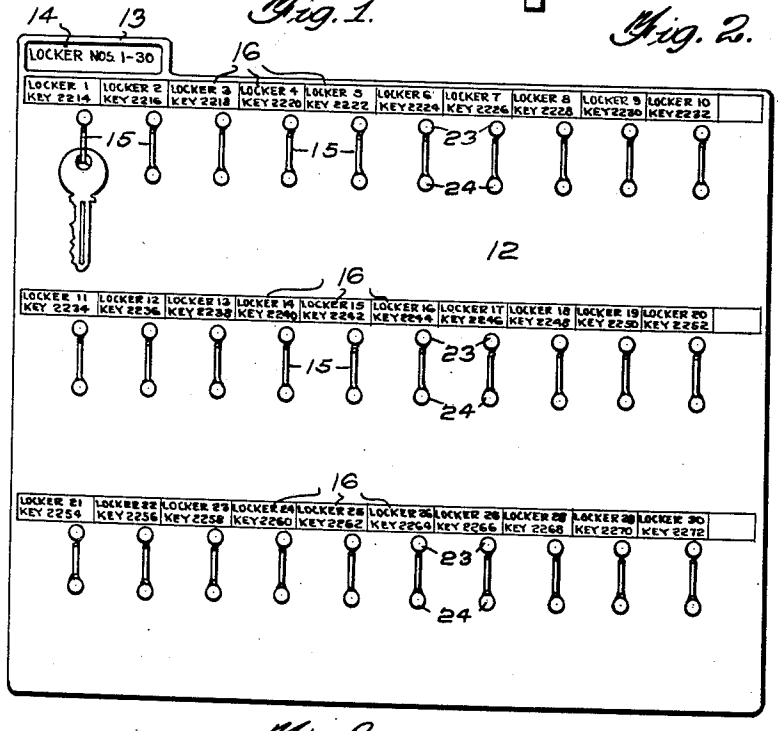


Fig. 3.

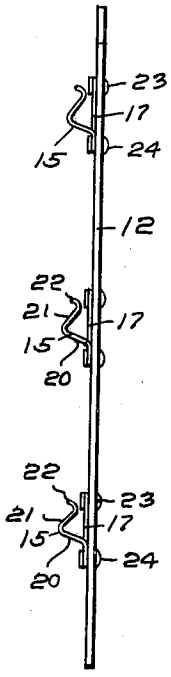


Fig. 4.

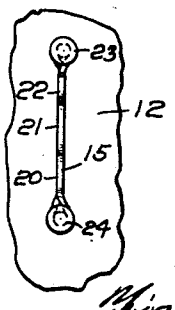


Fig. 5.

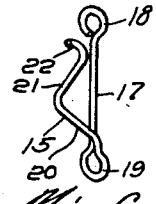


Fig. 6.

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Patented Jan. 7, 1930

1,742,542

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

EDWARD N. HOWELL, OF SWANNANOA, NORTH CAROLINA

KEY-FILING DEVICE

Application filed April 16, 1929. Serial No. 355,634.

My invention relates to a filing device for keys.

In accordance with my invention, a filing drawer is used, in which are removably mounted key supporting sheets. Guide means are preferably provided for the key supporting sheets, whereby they are maintained in proper spaced relation, so that the keys carried by one key supporting sheet will not engage the adjacent key supporting sheet. This also renders the key supporting sheets freely individually removable without interference with the other key supporting sheets. Each key supporting sheet is provided with a plurality of hooks, for carrying the keys. Each sheet is suitably designated, and each hook is suitably designated.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same,

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a key filing device embodying my invention,

Figure 2 is a plan view of the same,

Figure 3 is a side elevation of one of the key supporting sheets,

Figure 4 is an edge elevation of the same,

Figure 5 is a front elevation of one of the hooks, and,

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the same.

In the drawings, wherein for the purpose of illustration is shown a preferred embodiment of my invention, the numeral 10 designates a filing drawer which is mounted to slide in the usual manner, in a cabinet, not shown. Attached to the sides of this filing drawer are pairs of spaced strips 11, secured thereto by any suitable means. The pairs of strips are arranged in transverse groups, and the groups are spaced, as shown. These strips form grooves or guide means, for key supporting sheets or plates 12, as shown. The front strips 11, in each pair terminate at their top at an elevation beneath the top of the rear strip, in the same pair, and this facilitates the insertion of the key supporting sheet or plate between the strips of corresponding pairs. The sheets or plates are shown as projecting above the sides 10, although this arrangement is in no way essential.

The key supporting sheets or plates 12 are preferably formed of metal, such as aluminum, or they may be formed of any other suitably stiff material. Each key supporting sheet is provided preferably at the top edge with a holder 13, receiving a slip 14, which may be formed of paper or the like, upon which is printed a proper designation of the entire key supporting sheet. As shown, this designation is, "Locker Nos. 1—30", thus indicating that the keys for lockers numbers one to thirty, are supported upon this plate.

The numeral 15 designates hooks, upon which the keys are removably mounted. These hooks are arranged in horizontal rows, and the rows are vertically spaced, as shown. Arranged above and adjacent to each row of these hooks, is a horizontal row of designations 16. Each designation 16 is arranged over and adjacent to its corresponding hook. The designations preferably embrace the number of the locker and the number of the key, such as, "Locker 1—Key 2214".

Each hook is preferably formed of suitably stiff and resilient wire, bent to form a straight body portion 17, bent at its ends into eyes 18 and 19. At the eye 19, the wire is then bent outwardly into a lower angular portion 20, and then inwardly into an upper angular portion 21, curved outwardly at its upper end, as shown at 22. The portions 20, 21 and 22 constitute the hook arm of the hook. The eyes 18 and 19 receive rivets or eyelets 23 and 24, which also pass through the sheet 12, and securely attach each hook to the key supporting sheet, which is preferably formed of metal, as explained.

In the use of the key filing device, the keys are suspended from the hooks 15 upon the key supporting sheets, and may be readily removed therefrom, as is obvious. The key supporting sheets 12 are vertically mounted within the drawer 10, and are removably held therein by the guide means, including the strips 11. The sheets are properly designated, by the characters, at 14, and the key supporting sheets are arranged in numerical order or in sequence within the drawer. The holder 13 and strip 14 constitute a designating tab. The numerals on the tab of the front sheet run

from 1–30; on the second tab from 31–60, etc. The characters upon the tab embrace all of the individual designations upon the sheet, for the several keys. The hooks are designated, as shown at 26, and their designations are arranged in consecutive order. The key supporting sheets 12, being held in proper spaced relation, the keys carried by one sheet will not engage with the adjacent sheet, and the several sheets are freely individually removable without disturbing the other sheets.

It is to be understood that the form of my invention, herewith shown and described, is to be taken as a preferred example of the same, and that various changes in the shape, size and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of my invention, or the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:—

1. A key filing device, comprising a filing drawer, a plurality of key supporting sheets arranged therein, guide means for the key supporting sheets and so arranged that the sheets are retained in spaced relation, a plurality of key receiving elements carried by each sheet, and said sheet being provided with designations arranged in positions to indicate the respective key receiving elements, which designations are arranged in proper sequence, each sheet having separate means to designate said sheet and also embracing all of the designations for the key receiving elements.

2. A key filing device, comprising a filing drawer, a plurality of key supporting sheets arranged within the drawer and provided at their tops with sheet designating tabs, the designations of said tabs being arranged consecutively, horizontal rows of key receiving elements mounted upon each sheet, said sheet having horizontal rows of designations which refer to the key receiving elements, the designations in the horizontal rows being arranged in sequence, the designation on each tab embracing all of the designations of the horizontal rows upon the same sheet, and means for removably holding the sheets in the drawer in spaced relation.

3. A key filing device, comprising a filing drawer, a plurality of key supporting sheets removably mounted within the drawer, and a plurality of key receiving elements carried by each sheet, each sheet also having designations arranged in position to indicate the respective key receiving elements, which designations are arranged in proper sequence, each sheet having separate means to designate such sheet and also embracing all of the designations for the key receiving elements.

4. In a key filing device, a relatively stiff sheet, and generally horizontal row or rows of key receiving hooks carried by the sheet, the hooks in each row being substantially vertically arranged and spaced from each other so that the key carried by one hook will not interfere with the key carried by the adjacent hook, each hook embodying a body portion having eyes at its upper and lower ends and a hook element extending from one eye, and attaching elements passing through the eyes and securing the same to said sheet.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

EDWARD N. HOWELL