

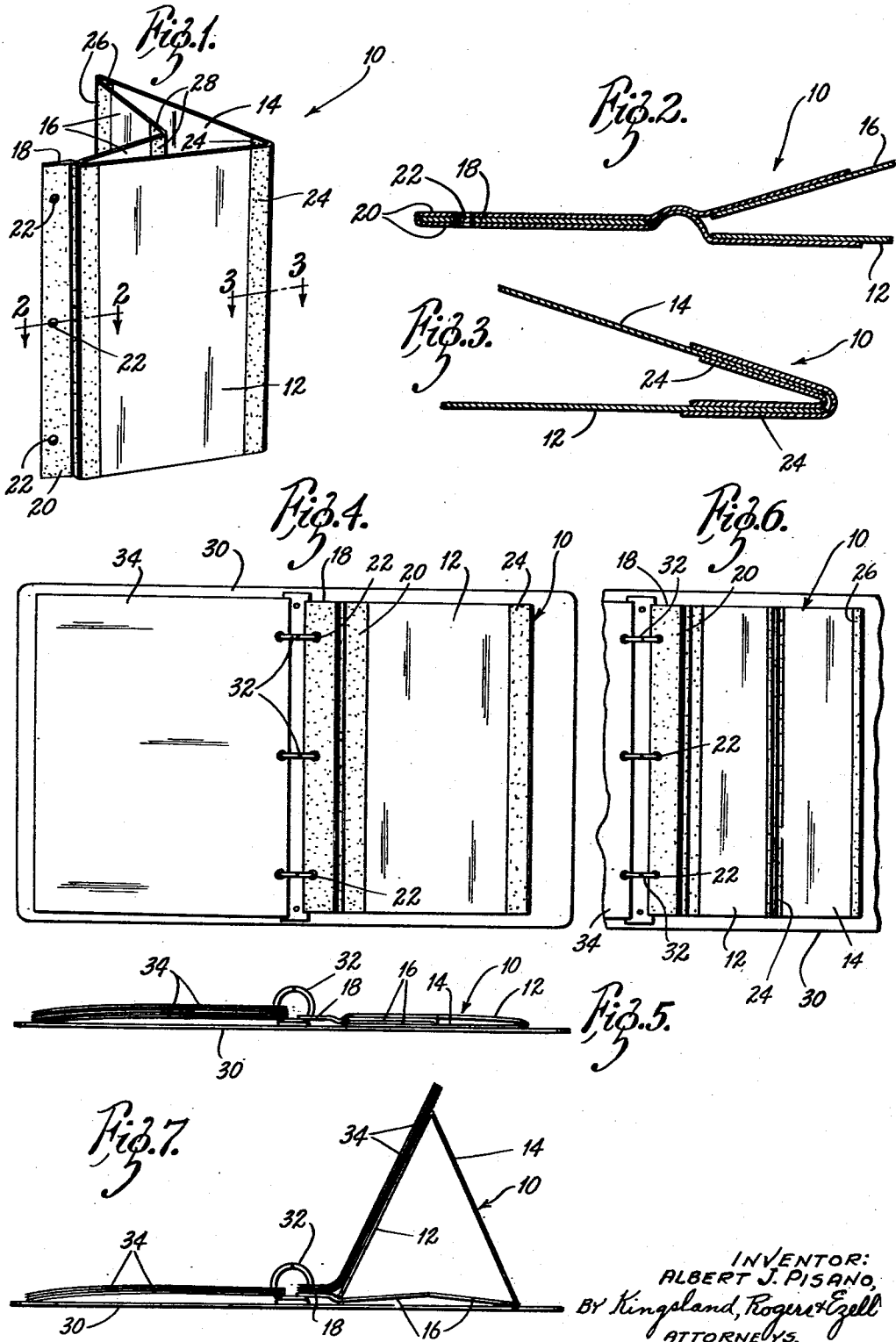
Aug. 24, 1954

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2,687,313

LOOSE-LEAF BINDER INSERT

Filed Oct. 20, 1951



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,687,313

## LOOSE-LEAF BINDER INSERT

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Application: October 20, 1951, Serial No. 252,263

1 Claim. (Cl. 281-42)

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The present invention relates generally to the loose leaf binder art, and more particularly to a novel removable insert for loose leaf binders, which is employed to facilitate the ready and rapid review and display of loose leaf pages within the binder.

In brief, the present novel loose leaf binder insert comprises a multi-sided collapsible support which is maintained in a loose leaf binder by an attaching flange having spaced apertures through which the rings or arches of a loose leaf binder pass. In the preferred form, the several sides of the insert are connected to form a closed figure by means of flexible binder tape or cloth located at each juncture. In the disclosed form, the insert is of substantially triangular cross section when in open position, the bottom side thereof comprising two foldable segments permitting collapse of the insert when it is desired to close the binder.

An object of the present invention is to provide a novel insert for loose leaf binders which may be readily and rapidly changed from a collapsed carry position to an expanded use position to provide a support or stand against which selected sheets carried by the binder may be disposed for ready review and reference.

Another object is to provide a novel insert for loose leaf binders which does not interfere with material carried in the binder and which collapses to a thickness which will occupy only a small percentage of the capacity of the binder.

Another object is to provide a novel insert for loose leaf binders which may be readily disposed in a loose leaf binder and as readily removed for disposal or for relocation at a new point in the binder in reference to the loose leaf sheets or the like carried thereby.

Other objects are to provide an insert for loose leaf binders which is of simple construction so that it may be readily employed by users with minimum instruction, which is of light weight inexpensive construction yet which is sturdy and adapted to serve its intended purpose for a long period of time, and which may be readily fabricated.

The foregoing and other objects and advantages are apparent from the following description taken with the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a loose leaf binder insert incorporating the teachings of the present invention;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary horizontal cross-sectional view taken on substantially the line 2-2 of Fig. 1;

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Fig. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary horizontal cross-sectional view taken on substantially the line 3-3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a plan view of an open loose leaf binder with loose leaf sheets to the left of center and the insert of Fig. 1 to the right in collapsed position;

Fig. 5 is a bottom end elevational view of the binder and contents shown in Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary plan view of the binder and contents of Fig. 4; the insert being shown in loose leaf sheet supporting position; and

Fig. 7 is a bottom end elevational view of the binder and contents of Fig. 4, showing the insert in use position with several loose leaf sheets disposed thereagainst.

Referring to the drawing more particularly by reference numerals, 10 indicates generally a loose leaf binder insert constructed to include the teachings of the present invention. In the preferred form illustrated, the insert 10 includes an inner side panel 12, an outer side panel 14, bottom panels 16, and a mounting or connector panel 18 (Fig. 2), the two sides and one side edge of which are covered by a flexible strip 20 of cloth or other suitable material. The strip 20 is secured to the mounting panel 18 by suitable glue or other adhesive material, and selectively spaced openings 22 are formed in the combined panel 18 and strip 20.

The panels 12 and 14 are hinged together by flexible inner and outer strips 24 of cloth or the like, suitable adhesive material being used to effect a lasting engagement between the several parts. Similarly, flexible inner and outer strips 26 hingedly connect the panel 14 and the adjacent panel 16, and flexible inner and outer strips 28 hingedly connect the two panels 16.

As is clear from Figs. 1 and 2, the above mentioned strip 20 extends beyond one side edge of the panel 18 and one free edge portion is adhesively secured to the innermost panel 16 and the other free edge portion is adhesively secured to the panel 12 to provide a hinge connection.

In use, the insert 10 is placed in a loose leaf binder 30 having rings or arches 32 which removably receive loose leaf sheets 34. By means of the apertured mounting panel 18, the insert 10 is disposed in the loose leaf binder 30 at a selected position, such as at the rear as shown in the drawing. When not in use, the insert 10 is in the collapsed position shown in Figs. 4 and 5. When in use, the insert 10 is opened to the position shown in Fig. 7 and selected pages 34 of the binder 32 are disposed as

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shown in Fig. 7 for ready reference, such as by a salesman in discussing the sale of disclosed merchandise or the like with a potential customer.

Manifestly, the insert 10 may be disposed at any desired position in the binder 30. The specific form of the insert 10 may be modified to provide a different angle for sheets disposed thereagainst, such as by changing the widths of the panels 16, or of one of them.

It is manifest that there has been provided an insert which fulfills the objects and advantages sought therefor.

It is to be understood that the foregoing description and the accompanying drawing have been given only by way of illustration and example, and that changes and alterations of the present disclosure, which will be readily apparent to one skilled in the art, are contemplated as within the scope of the present invention, which is limited only by the claim which follows.

What is claimed is:

A collapsible rest for insertion in a loose leaf binder comprising three connected panels including a front panel, a rear panel, and a bottom panel, said bottom panel including two hinged segments, means hingedly connecting said front and rear panel along adjacent edges, means hingedly connecting the other edge of

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said front panel to the free edge of one of said bottom panel segments, means hingedly connecting the other edge of said rear panel to the free edge of the other bottom panel segment, and a loose leaf binder mounting panel hingedly connected to said front and bottom panels at the hinged connection thereof, said rest being of triangular cross-section when open and being adapted to support pages of a loose leaf binder for review thereof when in open position in a loose leaf binder, said hinged bottom segments permitting collapse of said rest when not in use, said means for hingedly connecting said panels and said panel segments comprising flexible strips of material adhesively connected to adjacent panels and panel segments as stated, the flexible material hingedly connecting said other edge of the front panel to the free edge of said one of said bottom panel segments, and said mounting panel to said front and bottom panels being a continuous strip.

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