Jan. 16, 1934. C. F. WOLTERS 1,943,997

FILING CABINET

Filed Feb. 7, 1930 4 Sheets-Sheet 1

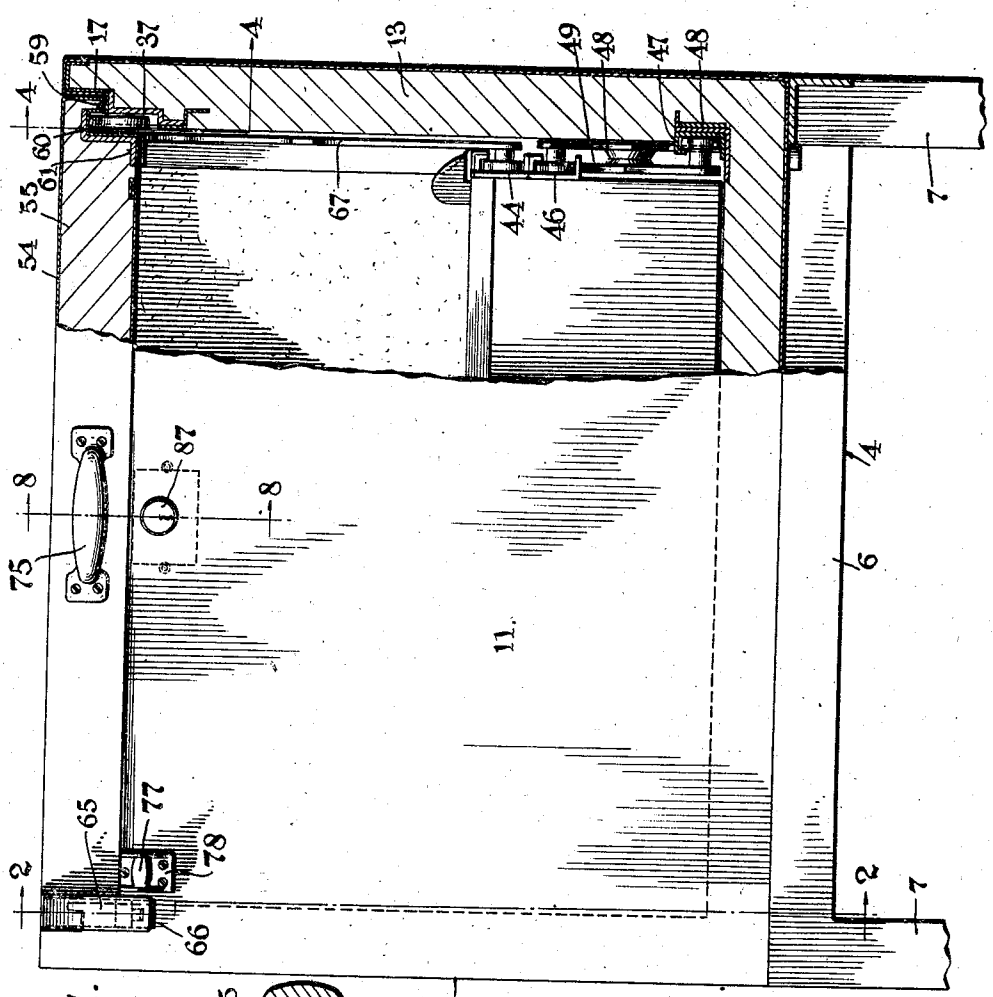



Fig. 1.

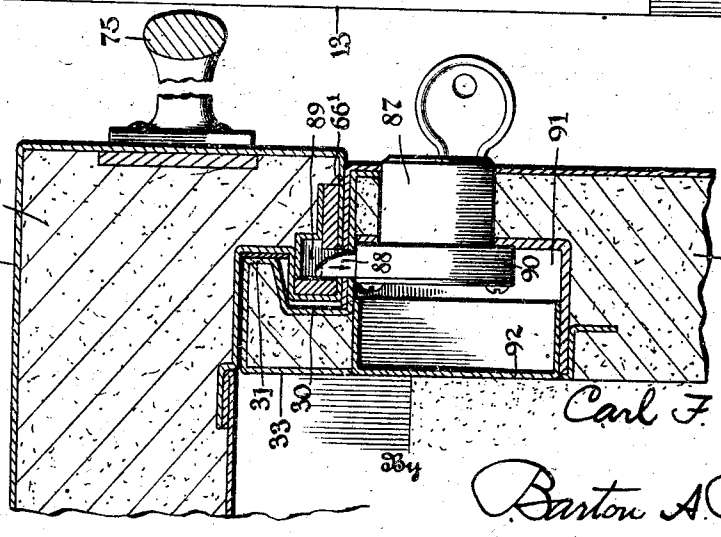



Fig. 8.

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FILING CABINET

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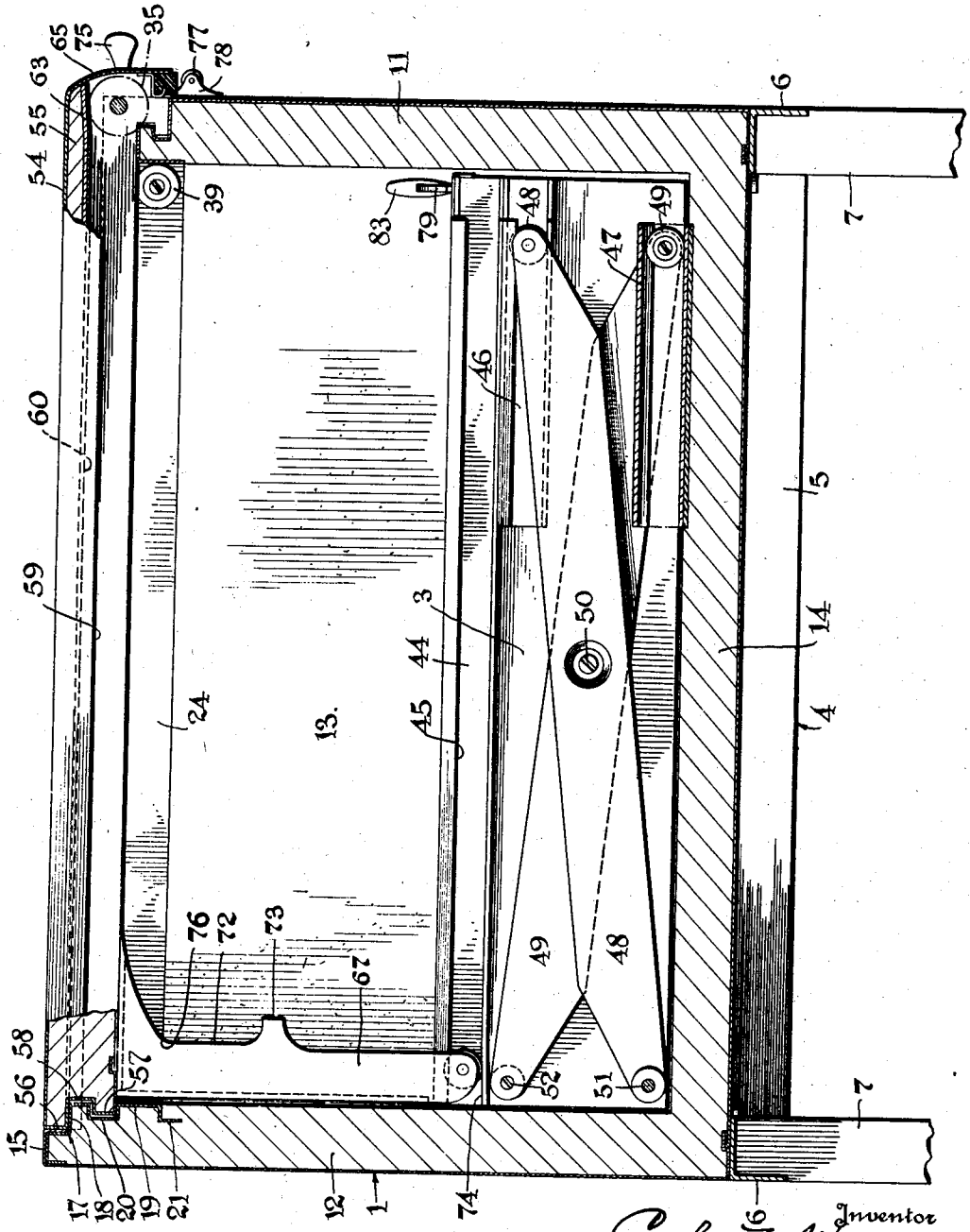



Fig. 2.

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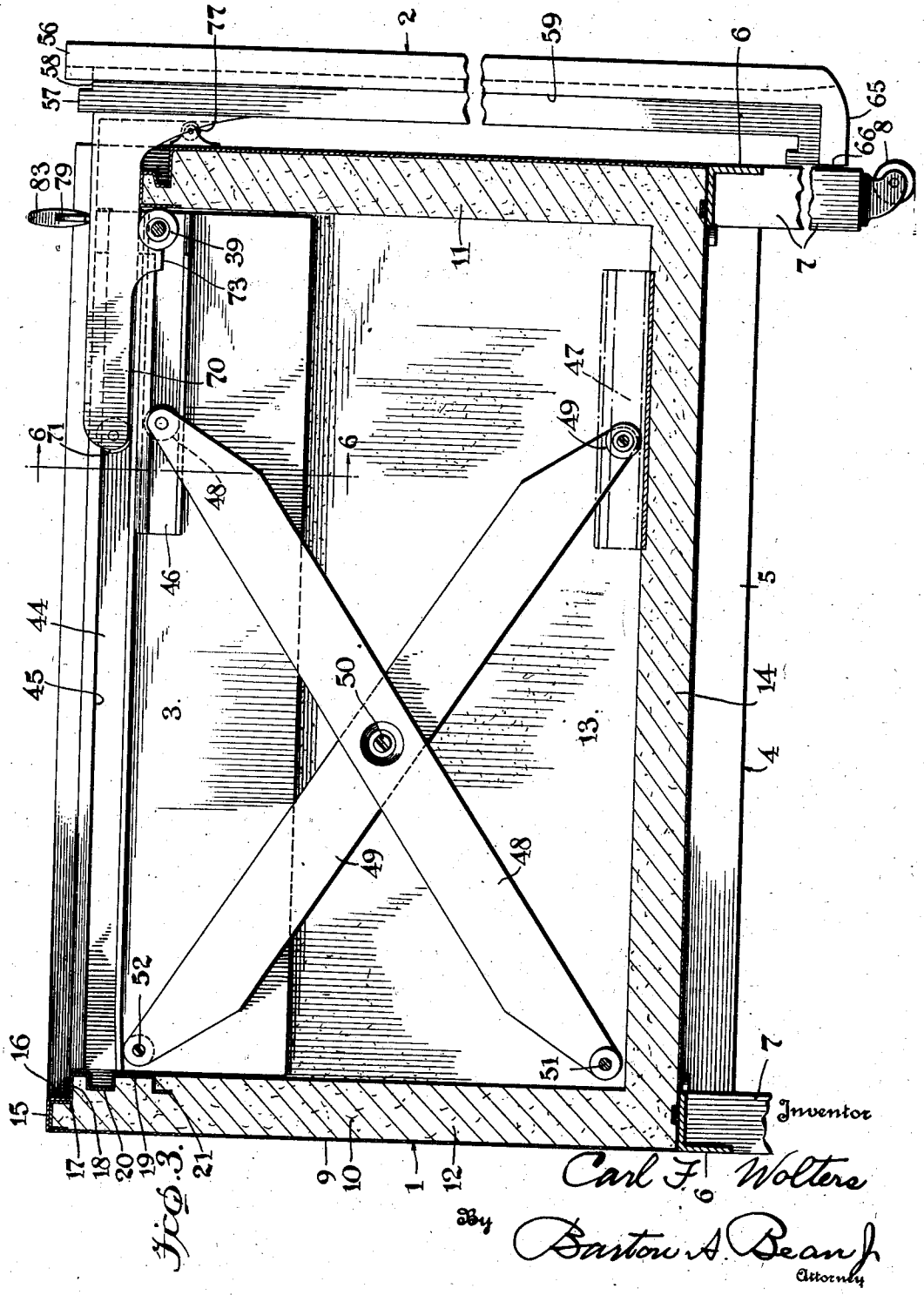



Fig. 3.

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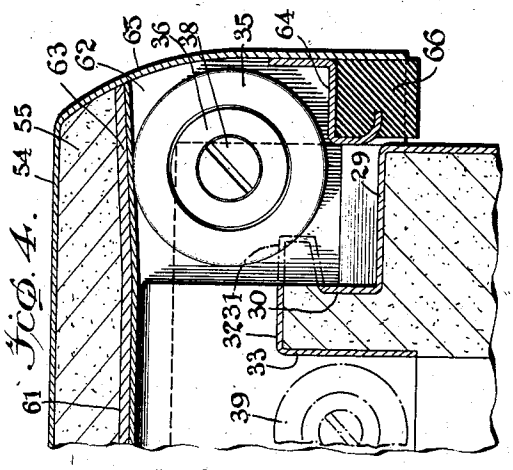


Fig. 4.

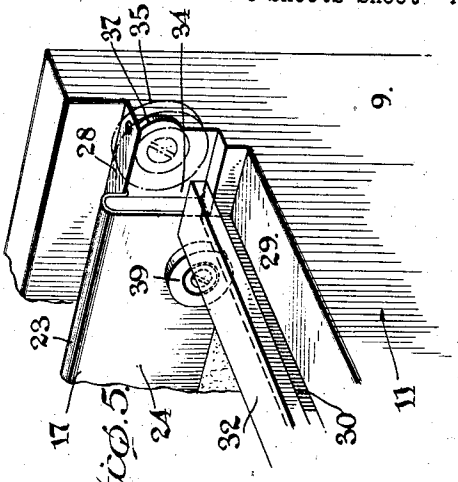


Fig. 5.

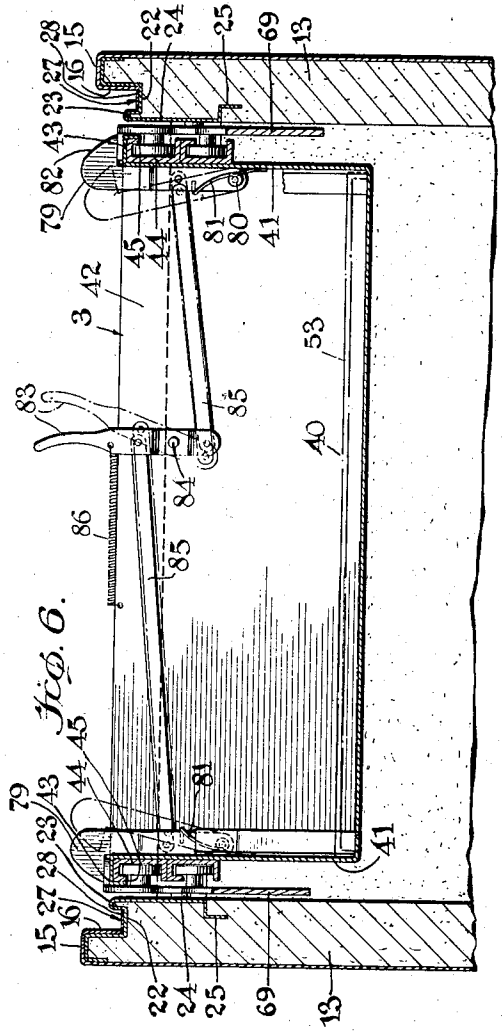


Fig. 6.

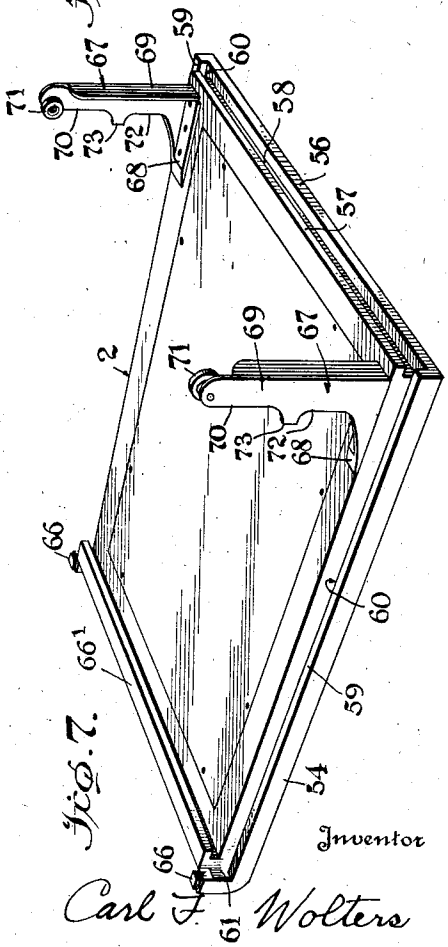


Fig. 7.

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Patented Jan. 16, 1934 1,943,997

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,943,997

## FILING CABINET

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Application February 7, 1930. Serial No. 426,679

17 Claims. (Cl. 45—2)

This invention relates to improvements in filing cabinets and particularly to an improved fire resistant file adapted to contain ledger or card holding trays and the like.

An object of the invention resides in providing a filing cabinet having an open ended compartment and a closure for the open end thereof adapted for sliding movement into open and closed positions and for a further movement after uncovering the open end of the compartment in the cabinet to a position adjacent one side of the cabinet.

A further object of the invention resides in providing a filing cabinet having a closure movable to open and closed positions for closing the open end of a compartment in the cabinet, together with a record supporting structure movable in the compartment in the cabinet toward and from the open end connected to and operable by the movement of the closure.

The invention further comprehends the provision of a filing cabinet having a compartment open at the upper end through the top of the cabinet, a closure slidable on the upper end of the cabinet into open and closed positions and adapted to be moved adjacent one side wall of the cabinet in open position, the movement of the cover being utilized for raising and lowering a record supporting member within the cabinet so that in the open position of the cover the record supporting member will be raised to provide access to the cards carried thereby.

Another feature of the invention resides in providing a fire resistant cabinet having an open upper end for the compartment therein, the cabinet being lined with fire resistant material to protect records held therein and the open upper end of the cabinet being provided with sealing grooves of a special character adapted for cooperation with complementary portions on an insulated cover provided to form a closure for the open upper end of the cabinet so as to seal the compartment and protect the contents against fire and in addition to form an operating member for counter-balancing the weight of a file supporting member within the compartment of the cabinet also adapted to be elevated by the operation of the cover to the upper open end of the cabinet to provide access thereto when the cover is moved to an open position adjacent one side of the cabinet.

The invention comprehends other objects which will be more particularly pointed out in the following detailed description and in claims in connection with the specific structural relation and association of the parts showing a preferred form of construction, it being understood, however, that various changes in the size, shape and relation to these parts together with the manner of assembly may be made without departing from the scope of the invention as herein set forth.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a cabinet constructed according to the invention with parts broken away to illustrate some of the details of construction.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1 showing the parts in closed position.

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 showing the parts in open position.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary detailed section showing the mounting for the front end of the cover taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary perspective of an upper front corner of the cabinet with the cover removed.

Fig. 6 is a vertical section taken on line 6—6 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 7 is a perspective of the closure or cover removed from the cabinet and turned over to show the bottom.

Fig. 8 is an enlarged fragmentary section taken on line 8—8 of Fig. 1 illustrating the lock mounting.

This new filing cabinet comprises essentially a cabinet 1 having a compartment therein open at the upper end and closed by the cover 2 which has both sliding and swinging movement relative to the cabinet in movement to both its open and closed positions, and serves as an operating and counter-balancing member for the tray 3 adapted for movement in the cabinet from a position adjacent the upper open end thereof into the bottom thereof. When the tray 3 is at the upper open end of the cabinet as shown in Fig. 3 the records contained therein are supported for convenient access and use, while the same records are protected and housed in the cabinet when the tray is in the bottom thereof and the cover is in closed position so as to prevent their destruction by fire. The specific features of construction of the cabinet, the closure and the tray together with the associated parts and operating mechanism will now be described.

A cabinet 1 is suitably supported by a stand 4 which comprises a rectangular frame member formed of angle iron side members 5 and end members 6 which are connected at their ends to the legs 7 provided with casters 8 on their lower

ends so that the cabinet supported thereon may be conveniently moved about the office or other place of business where it is used. The stand 4 is suitably and preferably permanently attached to the cabinet 1 in any suitable manner.

The cabinet 1 is formed with an outer sheet metal casing 9 enclosing a fire resistant monolithic body 10 forming a liner for the casing 9. The casing 9 and liner 10 of the cabinet 1 are formed to provide a front wall 11, rear wall 12, side walls 13 and bottom wall 14 so as to form a compartment within the monolithic body 10 open at the upper end.

The upper open end of the cabinet is of special form and will now be described. The upper edges of the side walls 13 and rear wall 12 of the casing 9 terminate in laterally and inwardly extending portions 15 having at their inner edges downwardly extending flanges 16 which embrace the corresponding portions of a frame member 17 forming with the flanges 15 and 16 an enclosure for the upper side and rear edges of the monolithic body 10 in a manner clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 6.

This frame member 17 is formed to provide sealing grooves for sealing cooperation with complementary portions of the cover or closure 2. The rear end of the frame 17 as shown in Fig. 3 is formed with an inwardly horizontally extending portion 18 terminating at its inner edge in a downwardly extending wall portion 19 along the inner space of the rear wall of the liner 10 which is provided in its intermediate portion with an offset 20 forming an inwardly spacing groove, while the lower edge of the wall portion 19 of frame 17 is offset at 21 and embedded within the monolithic lining 10 as shown in Fig. 3. Referring to Fig. 6 the side portions of the frame 17 have horizontally inwardly extending portions 22 at the lower ends of the downwardly extending portions 16 on the casing 9, the portions 22 being slightly below the level or horizontal plane of the portion 18 on the rear wall of the cabinet and frame 17. At the inner edges these portions 22 of frame 17 terminate in upwardly extending beads 23 from which wall portions 24 extend downwardly along the inside face of the side walls of the liner 10, terminating at the lower edges in offsets 25 embedded within the material of the liner as shown in Fig. 6. This provides upwardly facing channels or grooves 27 at the upper inner edges of the side walls of the cabinet for portions on the cover which will be presently described. In the bottom of these grooves and secured to the horizontal portions 22 are sealing and wear compensating strips 28.

The front wall 11 of the cabinet has its upper edge terminating below the upper edges of the side walls and below the horizontal plane of the portions 22 of the edge frame 17 as clearly shown in Figs. 3, 4 and 5. The casing 9 of the cabinet has its upper edge on the front wall 11 formed with the inwardly extending portions 29 at the inner edge of which is a vertically extending portion 30 formed at its upper edge to provide an outwardly extending bead 31. An upper inner edge portion 32 is formed from the sheet metal adjacent the bead 31 which terminates in a downwardly extending inner wall portion 33 lying flush with the inner face of the front wall of the liner 10 as clearly shown in Fig. 4. This provides a metal edge frame and protection for the monolithic liner 10 along the upper edge of the front wall 11 of the cabinet and also provides the bead 31 which forms with the portions 29 and 30 an outwardly facing groove for a purpose which will presently be described.

The side walls 13 are provided with recesses 34 as shown in Fig. 5 at opposite ends of the front wall 11 of the cabinet and immediately above the portion 29 thereof. These recesses receive the bearing rollers 35 rotatably mounted on hub portions 36 secured to the supporting brackets 37 by the retaining screws 38, shown in Figs. 1 and 4. The brackets 37 have their end portions secured to the edge frame 17 as shown in Fig. 1. The peripheries of the rollers 35 project above the horizontal plane of the upper edge of beads 23.

Fulcrum bearings 39 shown in Figs. 2, 3 and 5 are mounted on the inner faces of the side walls 13 of the cabinet adjacent the inner space of the front wall 11 and the wall portion 33 formed on the front wall of the casing 9 so that they have peripheries projecting slightly above the horizontal plane of the horizontal upper edge portion 32 on the front wall. The purpose of these fulcrum rollers 39 and the bearing rollers 35 will be described in connection with the structure and operation of the cover or closure 2.

The tray 3 is formed of sheet metal to provide a bottom 40, side walls 41 and end walls 42. Side walls 41 have their upper edges formed with outwardly extending flanges terminating in downturned lips as indicated at 43 which embrace channel members 44 extending the entire length of the sides of the tray as shown clearly in Figs. 2 and 3. The channel members 44 face outwardly from the sides of the tray as illustrated in Fig. 6 and have depending lip portions on the upper outer edges for enclosing a portion of the groove in the channel member as shown at 45 in Fig. 6. Immediately below the channel members 44 are mounted a pair of channel members 46 similar in construction to channel members 44 but shorter in length, the channel members 46 being mounted adjacent to the front end of the tray and the lower edge of the members 44 as clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3. Channel members 47 similar to channels 46 are mounted in the bottom of the cabinet and attached to the inside of the side walls 13 of the cabinet to the inner walls of the monolithic liner 10 adjacent the bottom wall 14 as also clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3. These channel members 47 are shown in Fig. 1 as being attached to bracket members 48 embedded within the body of the monolith 10 so that a firm anchor is provided in the monolithic body for supporting these channel members 47, which are also positioned adjacent the front end of the cabinet as shown in Fig. 2.

A lazy tong mechanism comprising two pairs of cross levers 48 and 49, has one pair of cross levers mounted at each side of the tray adjacent the side walls 13 of the cabinet. These levers 48 and 49 of each pair are pivotally connected in their central portions as indicated at 50 while the rear ends of each of the levers 48 and 49 are pivotally connected at 51 and 52 to the rear end of the inner faces of the side walls of the cabinet and to the rear end of the sides 41 of the tray, respectively. This is shown clearly in Figs. 2 and 3. The forward ends of these levers 48 and 49 carry rollers which engage and ride in the channel members 46 and 47 respectively in the manner shown in Figs. 2 and 3, also Fig. 1. By this lazy tong mechanism the tray 3 is uniformly guided in its movement from the bottom of the cabinet as shown in Fig. 2 to its position adjacent the open upper end of the cabinet as shown in Fig. 3, in order that it will not become wedged between the

end or side walls during its operation by the cover in a manner hereafter described.

The tray 3 is adapted to receive and contain ledger trays or card holding drawers or trays containing various types of record cards which stand on edge so that reference may be had for indexing or filing purposes to the cards along the upper or side edges thereof.

The tray 3 will support these cards in position for the manipulation thereof by the user when at its upper limit of movement in the position shown in Figs. 3 and 6, in which position the upper edges of the cards will project above the upper edges of the cabinet. Should it be desired to vary the height which the cards project above the cabinet, this may be obtained by the use of false bottom members 53 having marginal depending flanges which support these members above the bottom 40 so as to elevate the cards in the tray. Any number of these false bottom members 53 may be used in superposed relation to obtain the desired elevation of the cards in the tray.

The cover or closure 2 is of special construction having a sheet metal casing enclosing monolithic slab or liner 55 of suitable fire resistant material of any desired character known in the art. The rear edge of the closure 2 is formed as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 7 to provide a pair of projections 56 and 57 of unequal length between which is provided a groove 58.

The sheet metal casing 54 for the cover extends around the projections 56 and 57 in the groove 58 in the manner shown in Fig. 2 so as to protect the edge of the monolith slab 55. The projections 56 and 57 in the the groove 53 are formed so as to provide a complementary portion for the edged structure of the rear wall 12 of the cabinet as previously described in which the projection 57 fits in the groove formed by the offset 20 while the projection 56 seats in the recess formed by the angularly arranged portion 16 of the casing 9 and 18 of the edge frame 17. When the rear end of the cover is in closed position the parts are interengaged as shown in Fig. 2 so that the cover seals the joint along the rear edge with the cabinet to prevent the entrance of fire into the compartment in the cabinet.

The side edges of the cover or closure 2 are provided to form depending projections 59 which fit in the groove 27 in the upper edges of the side walls, while grooves 60 in the cover receive the beads 23 on the upper edges of the side walls of the case of the cabinet so that when the cover is in closed position, the projections 59 in the grooves 60 will cooperate with the complementary portions of the cabinet to provide sealing cooperation along the side edges of the cover or closure for effectively preventing the entrance of fire or heat sufficient to destroy the contents of the compartment in the cabinet. The side edges of the cover 2 have the sheet metal casing 54 extending around the projections 59 and in the grooves 60, while this cover within the grooves 60 and adjacent thereto is reinforced by the bar members of track bars 61 having laterally extending flanges on the opposite edges thereof as shown in Fig. 1. These bar members provide tracks or the like which carry the weight of the cover during its opening and closing movements in which the bearing rollers 35 have rolling contact in the grooves 60 in the edge portions of the cover.

The side edges of the cover at the forward ends of the grooves 60 are formed with a recess as shown in Fig. 4 and indicated at 62 to accommodate the bearing rollers 35 in the closed position of the cover. The track bars 61 together with the overlying portion of the casing 54 as shown in Fig. 4 is formed with an angular upwardly extending end portion 63 over the recesses 62 in each side of the cover. As the cover moves to its final closed position this angular portion 63 permits the cover to drop slightly toward the upper end of the cabinet so that the grooves and projections on the cover and cabinet will firmly engage in interfitted relation to provide a definite seal between the cover and the cabinet.

A bracket 64 is mounted on the edge 65 of the casing 54 of the cover as clearly shown in Fig. 4 and is provided for retaining a rubber or other resilient stop member 66 adjacent the front corner of the cover so that when it is moved to open position it will cushion the engagement of the front end of the cover on the front of the cabinet and supporting stand and prevent the scarring of the finish on the cabinet and stand and also the objectionable contact of the metal in the cover with the cabinet.

The front portion of the cover has a downwardly extending portion formed therein adapted to seat upon the portion 29 of the top of the front side wall and an inward projection 66', spaced from the top, forms a groove for reception of the bead 31, thereby making a tightly sealed joint which prevents the entrance of fire into the inner compartment of the cabinet and aids in rendering the same fire resistant.

The rear end of the cover is provided with a pair of supporting and operating brackets or members 67 positioned adjacent the side edges of the cover as shown in Fig. 7. These brackets 67 are provided with base flanges 68 secured to the cover while arms of angular cross-section extend laterally from the cover. The side portions 70 of these arms 69 carry bearing rollers 71 at their free end which fit and ride within the channel members 44 on the tray 3 as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3 and 6. The side portions 70 are formed to provide trackways 72 which ride on the fulcrum bearings 39, stops 73 projecting from the side portions 70 for limiting the movement of the arms over the fulcrum bearings 39 so that when the bearings 39 engage the stop portions 73, the cover will move about these bearings 39 as a pivot.

The bracket members 67 support the rear end of the cover during its sliding movement into closed position by the bearing engagement of the bearing rollers 71 in the channel members 44. During this movement of the bearing rollers 71 in the channel members 44 the tray 3 is seated on the bottom of the cabinet and the cover is supported slightly above and out of contact with the upper edges of the cabinet. As the cover moves into the closed position shown in Fig. 2 at which time the front end drops into contact with the upper front portions of the cabinet, the bearing rollers 71 ride downwardly on the downwardly inclined portions 74 of the channel members 44 which permits the rear end of the cover to be lowered sufficiently to rest and be supported on the upper edges of the cabinet. In this way the entire edge portion of the cover has its grooves and projections engaged in the complementary part of the cabinet and provided with an intimate contact with these parts of the cabinet to effectively seal the contents of the compartment in the cabinet against the entrance of fire and heat from an external sort around the cover.

When the cover is to be opened from a position

as shown in Fig. 2 for movement to the position shown in Fig. 3, the handle 75 on the front end of the cover is grasped by the operator and the cover given a forward pull. This will result in the bearing rollers 71 riding upwardly on the inclined portions 74 of the channel members 44 and the track members 60 having the inclined portions 63 engaging with the bearing rollers 35 so as to elevate the front portion of the cover out of contact with the cabinet, whereupon the cover is supported by the bearing rollers 35 and the bearings 71 for free longitudinal sliding movement forwardly from the cabinet.

As the cover is removed by this operation towards the front of the cabinet, and as the rear end of the cover approaches the front end of the cabinet, the fulcrum bearings 39 will engage the track portions 72 of the supporting and operating brackets 67 adjacent the base portions 68 and will cause the cover to ride upwardly thereon due to the inclined relation of the track portions 72. This will also begin to lift the tray 3 upwardly from the position shown in Fig. 2. Then the front end of the cover may be permitted to lower so that the track portions 72 will ride over the fulcrum bearings 39 to form a travelling fulcrum for the cover as the front end moves downwardly toward the position shown in Fig. 3. This will be occasioned by the weight of the cover which will in turn further elevate the tray 3 toward the upper end of the cabinet until the central portion 76 of the track portions 72 engage the fulcrum bearings 39 when the tray will be elevated to substantially its uppermost position as shown in Fig. 3.

Then the operator forces the lower end of the cover inwardly toward the front wall of the cabinet which will effect the final elevation of the tray into the position shown in Fig. 3 during which time the track members 72 will ride over the fulcrum bearings 39 from the portions 72 into engagement with the stops 73. This movement of the cover will also be occasioned by engagement of the inner face of the cover with the rollers 77 carried by the brackets 78 secured to the front wall 11 of the cabinet adjacent the upper edge thereof as shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

The tray on the cover is locked in the position shown in Fig. 3 by suitable mechanism including a pair of latches 79 pivotally connected to the front wall 42 of the tray at 80 and normally moved into locking position by spring members 81 so that the projections 82 will engage over the operating brackets 69 in the manner shown in Fig. 6. An operating handle 83 is pivotally mounted on the front end of the tray 42 as indicated at 84 to which links 85 are pivotally connected at opposite sides of the pivot 84 and have their opposite ends pivotally connected to the locking members 79 intermediate their ends as shown in Fig. 6. A coil spring 86 has one end secured to the lever 83 and the opposite end secured to the front wall 42 of tray 3 and normally assists in the movement of the latches to the locking position. By operating the handle 83 to the dotted line position shown in Fig. 6, the latches 79 may be moved into the dotted line position also illustrated in Fig. 6, which will permit the tray to be moved downwardly and the cover to be moved into the closed position. In moving the cover to the closed position the parts will be operated in the reverse manner to that described above for the movement of the cover to the open position.

Attention is particularly directed to the special mounting and manner of operating the cover from the closed to the open position and vice versa, by which the cover is slidably moved so that it substantially disengages the cabinet by movement beyond the front wall before being swung downwardly against the front wall of the cabinet to the position shown in Fig. 3. As a result of the special construction and operation provided for the movement of the cover from open to closed positions, it will be noted that when the cover is in the open position it lies adjacent the front wall of the cabinet and has substantially a small amount of space, thus making it necessary to provide a special extra space for the cabinet in order to permit the opening of the cover. In the construction disclosed the cover moves into the working area in its opening movement and is then moved downwardly out of the way so that access may be had to the contents of the tray 3. In this way these cabinets may be mounted side by side when desired and will not in any way interfere with the operation of one another.

Card trays for account cards such as are used in banks and the like are mounted in the tray 3 and supported at any desired elevation by use of the false bottoms 53 so that the cards will project the desired height above the upper end of the cabinet for ready access and reference. This type of cabinet is usually used in conjunction with machine posting devices of the types now used in the art and provide a convenient support for cards used in this manner which will not only house the cards but support them in convenient position during use.

Attention is also particularly directed to the special feature obtained by connecting the cover through the medium of the operating arms 67 with the tray so that in the movement of cover or closure to the open position, the tray is elevated from the bottom of the compartment to the top portion thereof, and also counter balances the weight in the tray 3 so that the cover may be easily and readily operated without requiring any great force and without lifting the weight of the cover or the tray.

As the operation of the bracket members 67 in elevating the tray from the bottom of the cabinet to the upper end thereof does not effect its lifting on the tray in the central portion thereof, there is likely to be a tendency for the tray to tilt in the cabinet which would cause a wedging of the ends between the front and rear walls. This is avoided by the lazy tong mechanism heretofore described, which insures the uniform elevation of all parts of the tray from a lower position to the upper position as shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

Referring particularly to Figs. 1 and 8, a locking mechanism for locking the cover in closed position to prevent access to the contents of the cabinet by unauthorized persons is provided. This mechanism includes a key operated lock 87 for projecting the locking bolt 88 into the keeper 89 mounted in the projection on the front end of the cover. The lock 87 is mounted in a suitable bracket 90 mounted in the central portion of the front wall 11 of the cabinet and embedded in the monolith liner which is provided with the recess 91 to permit access to the locking mechanism 87 for its removal and repair. A suitable cover plate 92 is positioned on the inside of the front wall 11 of the cabinet to close the inner open end of this recess 91 as clearly shown in Fig. 8.

It is to be understood that while the foregoing description of the drawings shows a construction in which the cabinet is provided with only one compartment, a cabinet may be formed with a plurality of independent and adjacent compartments, each having a tray movable therein and operated by a separate cover section which may be removed in the same manner as the cover above described. These cover sections may be made to lie adjacent the front of the cabinet in open position, or in some cases may be made to lie adjacent the sides, it being the intention to comprehend this multiple compartment structure in this application as well as the single compartment illustrated and described.

What is claimed is:

1. A file comprising a cabinet formed to provide a compartment open at one side, a closure for the open side of said cabinet slidable into open and closed positions and movable to lie adjacent a side of said cabinet, arms mounted on and extending laterally from said closure, a tray movable in said compartment, said arms engaging and moving said tray into the open end of said compartment as the closure is moved from closed position to the position adjacent the side of said cabinet.

2. A file comprising a cabinet having a compartment open at one end, a closure for the open end of said compartment slidable and movable into open and closed positions, said closure being supported adjacent one side of said cabinet in open position, a tray movable within said cabinet, and means carrying said closure and engaging said tray for moving the tray to the open side of said cabinet and for supporting said closure for movement to a position adjacent the side of said cabinet after its slidable movement toward open position.

3. A file, comprising a cabinet formed to provide a compartment open at the upper end, a tray movable in said compartment, a lazy tong mechanism for securing uniform movement of the tray relative to the cabinet, a cover member for said cabinet slidable and movable into open and closed positions, a pair of arms mounted on and extending laterally from said cover member having the ends slidably engaging said tray, bearings on said cabinet for said arms, whereby in the movement of said cover member to open position said arms will engage and ride on said bearings and move said tray into the upper end of said cabinet, said cover member moving to a position adjacent a side of said cabinet, and latching means on the tray for engaging said arms to retain the tray in elevated position and the cover member in open position.

4. A file, comprising a cabinet formed to provide a compartment open at one side, a closure for the open side of said cabinet slidable into open and closed positions, arms mounted on and extending laterally from said closure, a tray movable in said compartment, said arms engaging and moving said tray into the open end of said compartment when said closure is moved to open position.

5. A file comprising a cabinet having a compartment open at one end, a closure for the open end of said compartment slidable into open and closed positions on said cabinet, a plurality of arms mounted on and extending laterally from said closure, a tray within said compartment having portions in engagement with said arms, and bearing members movably supporting said arms when the tray is moved to the open end of said compartment and said closure is slidably moved to the open position.

6. In a file, a cabinet having a compartment open at one end, a tray movable in said compartment, operating means engaging with said tray and attached to a closure for moving said tray to the open end of said compartment when said closure is moved to open position, and a latching mechanism for engagement with said operating means when said closure is adjacent a side of said cabinet to sustain said tray in the open end of said compartment and retain said closure in said last-named position.

7. In a file, a fire resistant cabinet having a compartment open at one end, a tray movable within said cabinet, a fire resistant closure slidable on said cabinet, the marginal portions of said closure and cabinet being formed for sealing cooperation in the closed position of said closure, a plurality of arms attached to said closure and slidably contacting with channels upon said tray to support said closure for free sliding movement, one portion of said channels extending in angular relation to the remaining portions whereby said closure will move laterally at one end of its sliding movement to provide a tightly sealed joint with the cabinet when said arms move onto said angular portions of said channel members.

8. In a file, a fire resistant cabinet having a compartment open at one end, a fire resistant closure slidable on said cabinet, the marginal portions of said closure and cabinet being formed with complementary grooves and projections for sealing cooperation in the closed position of said closure, bearing members upon which certain of said grooves of said closure are supported for the sliding movement, one portion of said grooves having an angular relation to the remaining portions thereof and said closure moving laterally into tightly sealing contact with said cabinet when said angular portions engage over said bearing members.

9. In a file, a cabinet having a compartment open at its upper end, a tray mounted in said compartment for movement from the bottom thereof to said open end, a closure for the open top of the compartment slidable to uncover said compartment and pivoted about an edge thereof to lie adjacent a side of the cabinet subsequent to said uncovering movement, and means connecting said closure and said tray whereby upon pivotal movement of said closure said tray is raised in said compartment by gravitational action of said closure.

10. In a file, a cabinet having a compartment open at its upper end, a tray mounted in said compartment for movement from the bottom thereof to said open end, a closure for the open top of the compartment slidable and movable into open and closed positions, said closure being supported adjacent a side of said cabinet in open position, and means connecting said closure to said tray, said closure during its movement acting as a counterbalance to raise said tray.

11. A file comprising a cabinet having a compartment open at one end, a closure for the open end of said compartment slidable to uncover said compartment, pivot means within said compartment adjacent a side wall thereof, laterally extending arms on said closure, curved trackways on said arms terminating in stop means, said trackways upon sliding uncovering movement of said closure riding upon said pivot means to elevate rear portions of the closure, to space the same from the top of said side wall

whereby said closure may be pivoted about said pivot means in spaced relation to said side wall to a position substantially parallel thereto with the stop means abutting said pivot means.

12. In a file, a cabinet having a compartment open at its upper end, a tray in said compartment, a closure for the open end of the compartment slidable to uncover said compartment and pivoted to lie adjacent a side of the cabinet, arms mounted on and extending laterally from said closure and connected to said tray, said arms upon pivotal movement of said closure raising said tray to the open end of the compartment, said closure counter-balancing said tray during such movement, and latching means on the tray engaging said arms to retain the raised tray and closure in locked relation.

13. In a file, a cabinet having side walls and a compartment open at one end, a closure for the open end of said compartment mounted on supporting means disposed within said cabinet, and slidable to uncover said compartment, pivot means within said cabinet, said supporting means cooperating with said pivot means upon opening movement to pivot said closure about said pivot means in spaced relation to said cabinet to a position substantially parallel to one of said side walls and on the outer side thereof.

14. In a file, a cabinet having a compartment open at one end, a closure for the open end of said compartment slidable to uncover said compartment, supporting means normally within the cabinet for said closure comprising laterally extending arms on said closure having trackways, and pivot means within said cabinet cooperating with the trackways on said arms to support and guide said closure, whereby said closure may be pivoted about said pivot means so as to lie adjacent a side wall of said cabinet on the outer side thereof.

15. In a file, a cabinet having a compartment open at its upper end, a tray mounted in said compartment for movement from the bottom thereof to said open end, a closure for the open top of the compartment slidable and movable between open and closed positions, said closure being supported adjacent a side of said cabinet in open position, and operating means between the closure and tray operable for moving the tray in movement of the closure, said closure acting as a counterbalance for said tray.

16. A file comprising a cabinet having a compartment open at one end, a closure for the open end of said compartment slidable and movable into open and closed positions, said closure being supported adjacent one side of said cabinet in open position, a tray movable within said cabinet, and means connected with said closure engageable with parts connected with said tray operable to move said tray to the open side of said cabinet and for supporting said closure for movement to open position adjacent a side of said cabinet.

17. In a file, a fire resistant cabinet member having side and end walls for a compartment open at one end, a fire resistant closure member slidable and movable on said member into open and closed positions, the marginal portions of said closure member and the edges of the side and end walls of said cabinet member being formed with complementary grooves and projections for sealing cooperation in the closed position of said closure member, bearing members supported at the sides of said file in the portion of one of said members formed with said projections and grooves and engaging strip portions in the grooves along the sides of the other member and operable to support said cover with the grooves and projections along the sides interengaged in spaced non-sealing relation for free sliding movement of said cover toward and from open position, end sections of said strip portions being formed in angular relation to the remainder of said strip portions to provide for lateral movement of the closure member relative to its plane of sliding movement and toward the cabinet at the end of its sliding movement toward closed position to bring said grooves and projections of both members into sealing cooperation and engagement.

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