May 22, 1945. L. W. EVANS 2,376,423

LOOSE-LEAF HOLDER

Filed Sept. 9, 1943

Fig. 1.

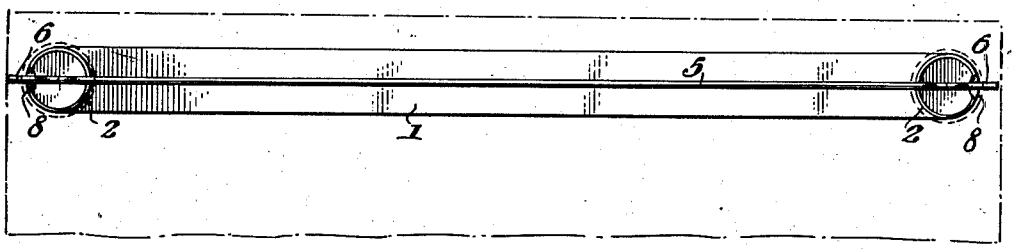


Fig. 2.

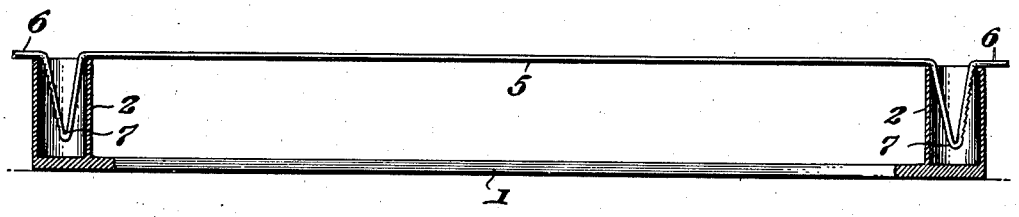


Fig. 3.

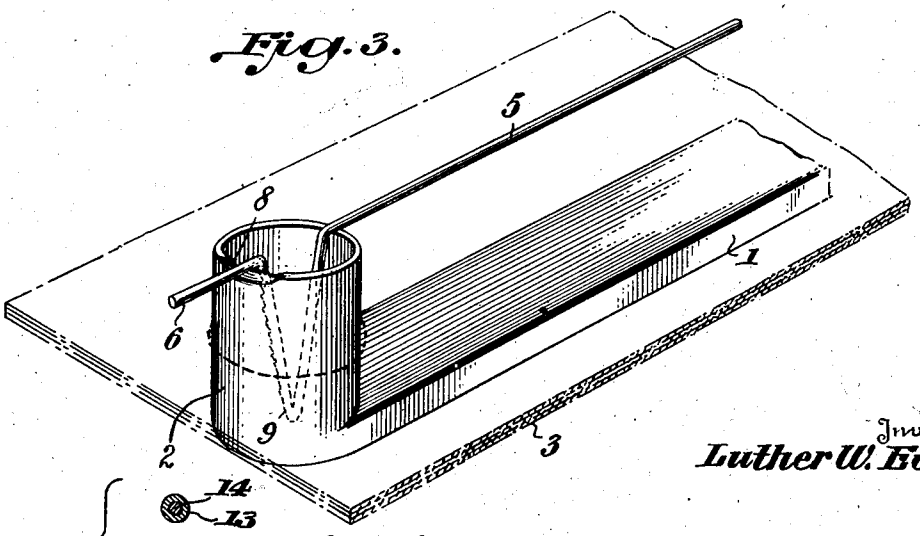
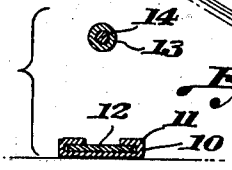


Fig. 4.



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2,376,423

LOOSE-LEAF HOLDER

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Application September 9, 1943, Serial No. 501,717

4 Claims. (Cl. 129—8)

The invention relates to improvements in loose-leaf holders.

An object of the present invention is to improve the construction of loose-leaf holders and to provide a simple, practical, and efficient loose-leaf holder of strong, durable, and comparatively inexpensive construction capable of holding a plurality of loose leaves or papers and the like, and adapted to expose a maximum portion of the papers to enable their contents to be readily examined without removal from the loose-leaf holder.

Another object of the invention is to provide a loose-leaf holder of this character adapted to enable loose leaves to be readily placed in and removed from the holder and capable of affording ready access to any particular leaf or sheet of paper contained within the holder and enabling the same to be removed from the holder without releasing or removing other sheets from the holder.

Another object of the invention is to provide a loose-leaf holder comprising a base having spaced tubular posts for normally holding the loose leaves or sheets of paper and a confining member bridging the space between the posts and provided with fingers projecting into and engageable with the posts for retaining the said member in its loose leaf confining position and also adapted in its removal from the posts to receive and hold a portion of the contents of the loose-leaf holder when it is desired to remove an intermediate loose leaf or sheet from the holder or place in the holder additional sheets at an intermediate point between the top and bottom sheets.

Another object of the invention is to provide a loose-leaf holder which may be adjusted in length to arrange it for reception of sheets of desired width.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel construction, arrangement and combinations of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended, it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a loose-leaf holder constructed in accordance with this invention.

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view taken longitudinally of the holder.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail perspective view of one end of the holder, a plurality of loose leaves being shown in dotted lines.

Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view illustrating the construction of the base and the loose leaf confining member when the same are composed of adjustable sections for varying the length of the holder.

In the accompanying drawing, in which is illustrated the preferred embodiment of the invention, the loose-leaf holder, which may be constructed of metal, plastics, or a combination of the same, or other suitable material, comprises in its construction a narrow oblong base 1 provided at its ends with vertical tubular posts 2 rising from the base and preferably of cylindrical form.

The narrow oblong base, when constructed in accordance with Figs. 1 to 3, inclusive, of the drawing, consists of a relatively thin strip of material having flat upper and lower faces and the tubular posts, which receive and normally hold loose leaves 3, may be formed integral with the base or be rigidly fixed to the same in any other desired manner and they may also be constructed of the same material as the base or any other suitable material. When the tubular posts are cylindrical as shown in the drawing, the ends of the base are preferably rounded and conform to the contour of the posts.

The loose leaves are provided with apertures as illustrated in dotted lines in Figs. 1 and 3 of the drawing to enable them to be placed in the holder with the posts extending through the apertures which are designed to be punched in the usual manner to fit snugly the loose leaf receiving posts.

The loose leaves are confined in the holder on the tubular posts by means of a loose leaf retaining member 5 which bridges the space between the posts and rests upon the upper ends of the posts and engages the same interiorly thereof.

The loose leaf confining member which may be constructed of any suitable material may be conveniently made of resilient wire or similar material and it is provided adjacent each terminal portion 6 with fingers 7 consisting of substantially V-shaped resilient compressible bends, the sides of which engage the interior of the tubular posts at opposite sides thereof for maintaining the retaining member in engagement with the posts.

Each of the posts is provided at the top of its outer side with an inwardly projecting lip 8 which may be formed in any suitable manner and which

projects from the inner surface of the tubular post and these lips are arranged to engage serrations or teeth 9 formed on the outer sides of the V-shaped fingers and shouldered at their upper portions and beveled below the shoulders to enable the V-shaped fingers to slide downwardly over the lip without resistance or obstruction and to enable the teeth of the fingers to engage the lips of the tubular posts for securely holding the fingers in the sockets formed by the tubular posts to prevent accidental removal or displacement of the loose leaf retaining member.

The terminal handle portions 6 of the retaining member enable said member to be readily grasped at each end and to be compressed sufficiently to permit its ready withdrawal from the tubular posts, and, when the loose leaf retaining member is removed to permit additional loose leaves to be placed in the holder or for the removal of a loose leaf or sheet contained within the holder, a portion of the contents of the holder may be removed with the loose leaf retaining member to afford access to the desired loose leaf or sheet and the resilient fingers are adapted to enable the removed sheets to be maintained in their assembled relation and to be readily returned to the base of the loose leaf holder when desired.

While the base and the retaining member are shown as each being made of a single piece of material, they may, as illustrated in Fig. 4 of the drawing, be composed of telescopic sections and be adjustable for varying the length of the loose leaf holder for arranging the same to receive sheets of paper of the desired width.

When the loose-leaf holder is made adjustable, one section 10 of the base is preferably provided with a guideway formed by side flanges 11 extending upwardly and inwardly to form opposite grooves for the reception of the side edges of the section 12. The retaining member, when adjustable, preferably consists of a tubular section 13 and a solid round section 14 which are adapted to telescope but any other suitable slidably connected sections may be employed for providing an adjustable loose-leaf holder.

What is claimed is:

1. A loose-leaf holder comprising a base provided with spaced tubular posts extending upwardly from the base and adapted to receive apertured loose leaves or the like, and a loose leaf retaining member of resilient material bridging the space between the posts and supported by the same and bent at the terminal portions to form resilient compressible fingers extending downwardly into the tubular posts, said fingers consisting of loops having spaced sides connected at their lower ends and engaging the posts interiorly thereof.

2. A loose-leaf holder comprising a base provided with spaced vertical tubular posts having projections extending interiorly of the posts, and a loose leaf confining member consisting of a single piece of resilient material bridging the space between the posts and bent at the terminal portions to form resilient compressible fingers extending into the posts and consisting of loops having spaced sides connected at their lower ends and engaging the posts interiorly thereof, said fingers being provided with means for interlocking the fingers with said projections of the posts.

3. A loose-leaf holder comprising a base provided with spaced tubular posts extending upwardly from the base and said posts being provided with inwardly projecting lips, and a loose leaf retaining member bridging the space between the posts and supported upon the same and provided with depending fingers extending into the posts and consisting of approximately V-shaped bends having shouldered teeth engageable with said lips for confining the fingers in the posts.

4. A loose-leaf holder comprising a base provided with spaced vertical tubular posts having projections extending interiorly of the posts, and a loose leaf confining member consisting of a single piece of resilient wire bridging the space between the posts and bent at the terminal portions to form resilient compressible fingers extending into the posts and consisting of loops having spaced sides connected at their lower ends and engaging the posts interiorly thereof and provided with means for interlocking the fingers with said projections of the posts, said loose leaf retaining member having terminal portions projecting beyond the posts and forming handles or grips.

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