Sept. 2, 1930. J. R. CLARK 1,774,914

CARD LEDGER TRAY

Filed Nov. 7, 1928 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

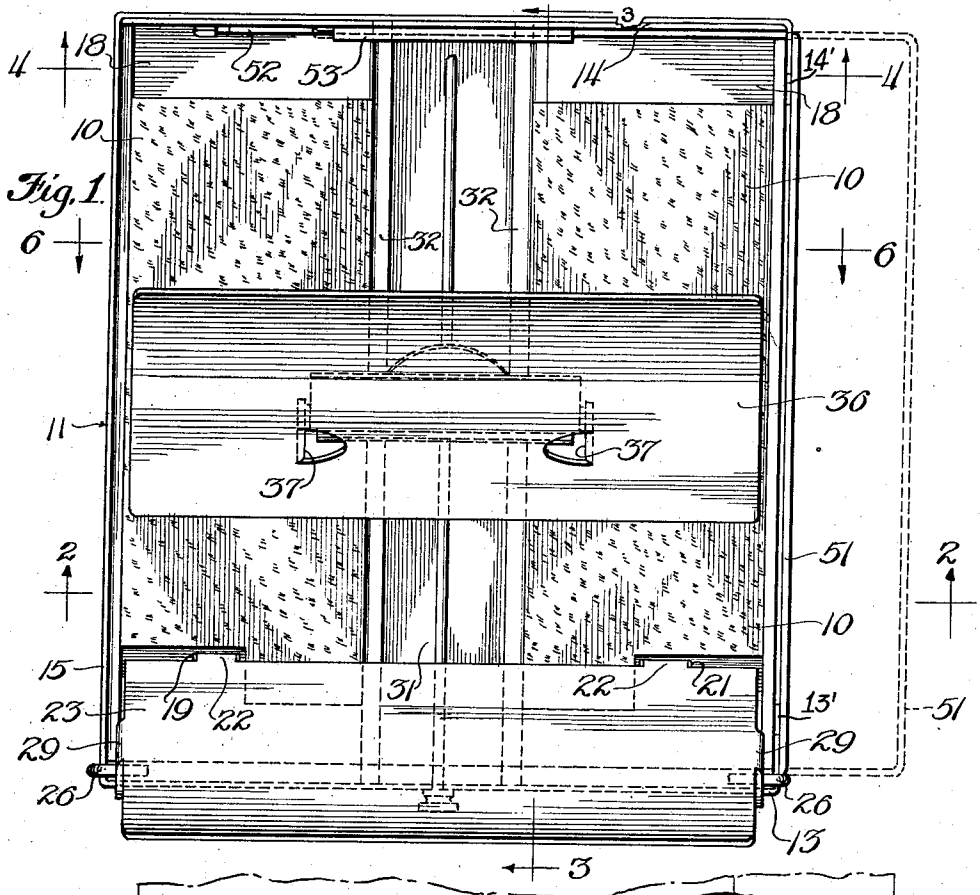
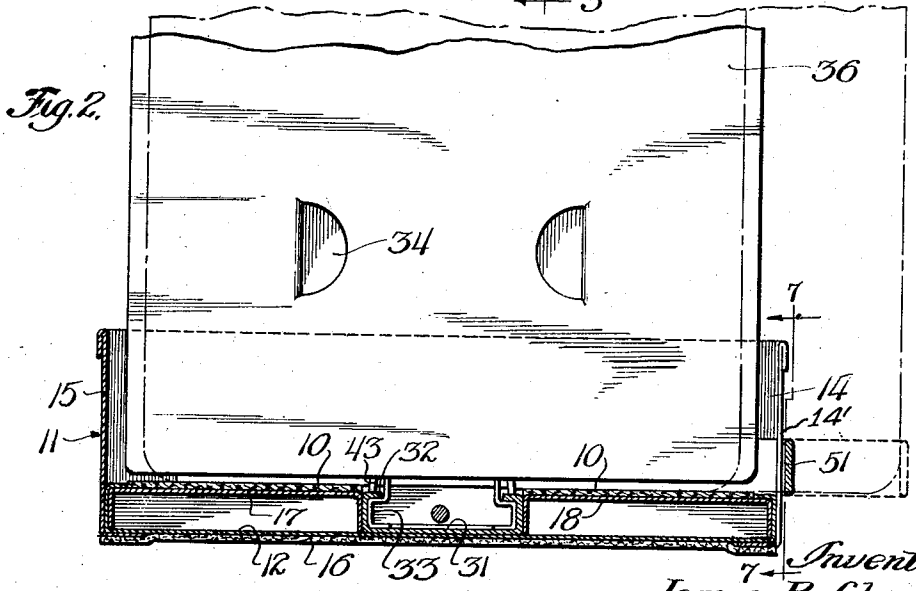


Fig. 2.



Inventor
James R. Clark
By Williams, Bradbury, McCaleb & Hinkle
Attys.

Sept. 2, 1930. J. R. CLARK 1,774,914

CARD LEDGER TRAY

Filed Nov. 7, 1928 3 Sheets-Sheet 2

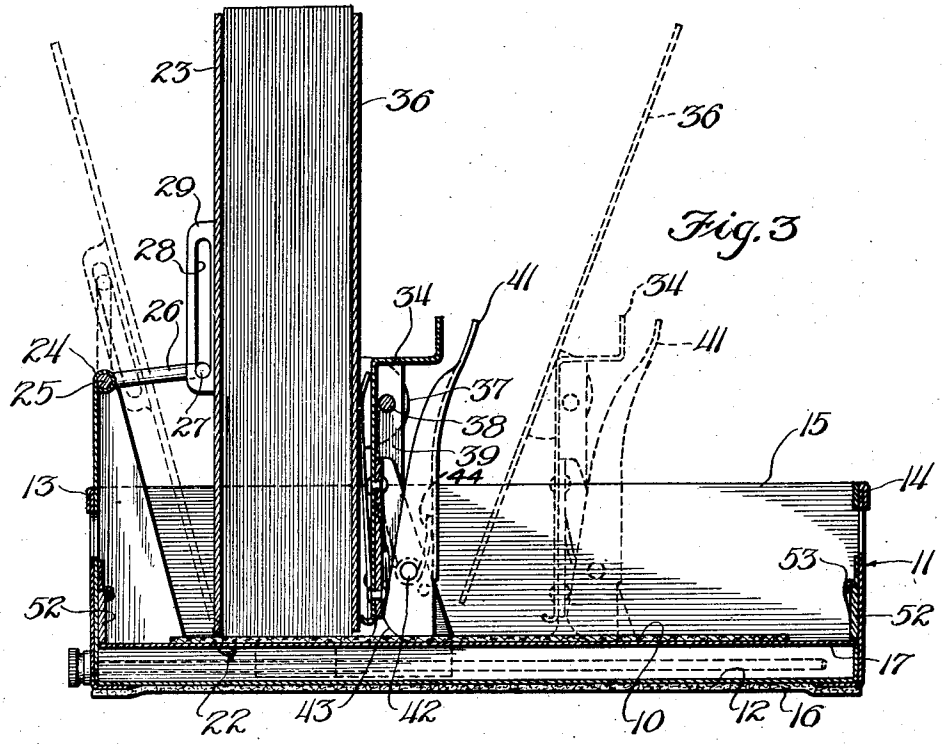


Fig. 3

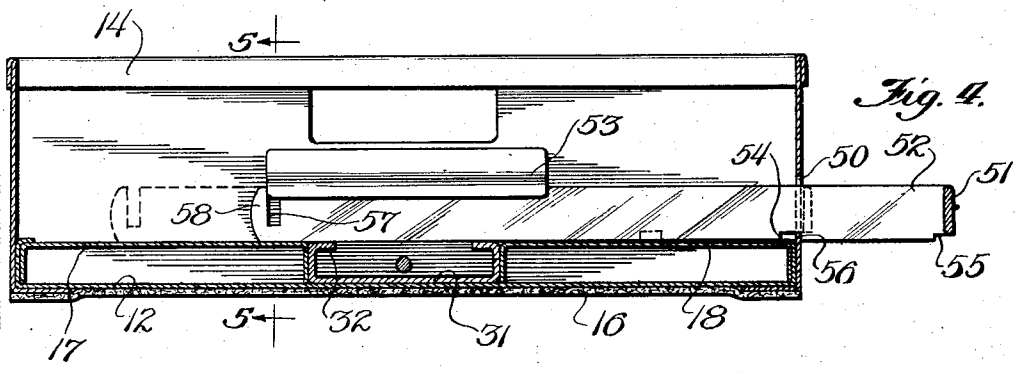


Fig. 4.

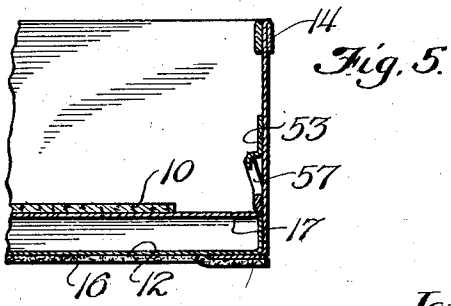


Fig. 5.

Inventor

James R. Clark

By Williams, Bradbury, McCaleb & Hinkle

Attys.

Sept. 2, 1930. J. R. CLARK 1,774,914

CARD LEDGER TRAY

Filed Nov. 7, 1928 3 Sheets-Sheet 3

Fig. 6

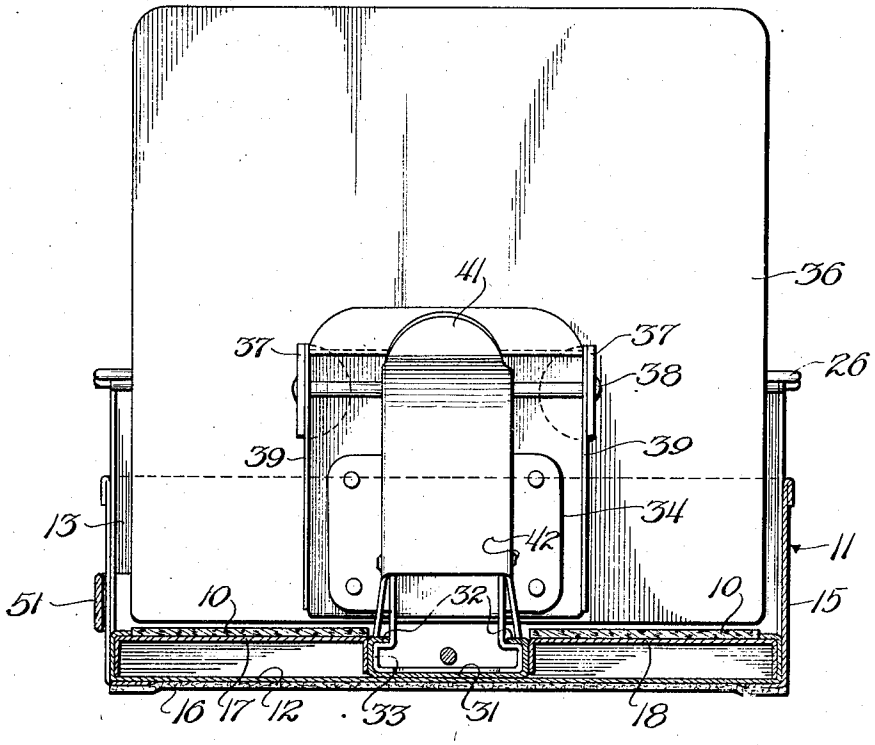
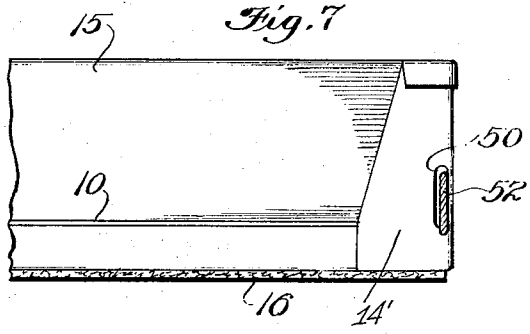


Fig. 7



Inventor
James R. Clark.
By Williams, Bradbury, McCaleb & Hinkle
Attys.

Patented Sept. 2, 1930 1,774,914

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JAMES R. CLARK, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO YAWMAN & ERBE MFG. CO., OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK

CARD-LEDGER TRAY

Application filed November 7, 1928. Serial No. 317,863.

This invention relates to a type of filing appliance adapted for filing loose leaves used in accounting practice, and known commercially as ledger card trays.

An object is to provide a card tray in which the leaves offset, that is, may be placed out of alignment with the remaining leaves in order that the offset leaves may be rechecked after entries have been made.

A further object is to provide a card tray having an abutment plate for the leaves which may be readily locked in compressed position and readily released and tilted when desired.

A further object is to provide a simple and efficient device for positioning a follower or compressor plate in the card tray.

A further object is to provide an extensible lateral stop bar for aligning leaves of the record, having a simple mechanism for locking it in its alternate positions.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear in the following description of an embodiment of my invention.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of my card tray;

Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a vertical transverse section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary vertical longitudinal section taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is a vertical transverse section taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary side elevation showing the retaining bar in a section taken on line 7—7 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings, a tray 11 consists of a base plate 12, end walls 13 and 14, and one side wall 15. A pad 16 of felt may be attached to the bottom of the base plate 12 for preventing the scratching or marring of the surface of the desk.

A pair of inverted channel shaped members are supported within the tray and form supporting surfaces 17 and 18 spaced from the base plate 12. The loose leaves which are adapted to be filed in the tray are supported on these surfaces. A layer 10 of frictional material such as cork is attached to the surfaces 17 and 18 to provide a non-sliding contact for the lower edges of the leaves. The line of contact of the leaves with the layer 10 thus forms in effect a pivotal axis for the leaves about which they are turned in the posting or checking operation. When a smooth surface is used the lower edges resting thereon slide about promiscuously and tend to disarrange the upper edges and make them uneven due to the fact that, if the lower edges are unevenly spaced when the leaves are tilted and resting against each other, the upper edges will rise to uneven heights. Also a smooth surface frequently permits the lower edges of some of the leaves to slide under the edges of adjacent leaves and further increase the unevenness of the stack of leaves. It has been found that the provision of a frictional cork surface maintains the leaves in an orderly and even arrangement facilitating the manipulation of the leaves and preserving the edges of the leaves.

The surfaces 17 and 18 are provided at the forward end of the tray with apertures 19 and 21 through which projections 22 of an abutment plate 23 extend. The portion of the projections 22 which extends through the surfaces 17 and 18 is bent to prevent the abutment plate from being withdrawn and provides a pivotal connection between the abutment plate and the surfaces 17 and 18.

The forward wall 13 extends higher than the wall 15. Its upper portion is given a cylindrical roll 24 in which a rod 25 is pivotally supported. The ends of rod 25 are at right-angles to the body portion, forming arms 26 which have offset portions 27 engaging slots 28 in lateral flanges 29 extending from the abutment plate 23. When the abutment plate 23 is in the position shown in full lines in Fig. 3, it will be locked in position by the arms 26 since the force exerted by the abutment plate will be in the direction of the pivot point of the rod 25. To tilt the abutment plate to the dotted line position, arms 26 are swung upwardly, sliding the offset portions 27 in slots 28.

A channel member 31 having a pair of in-

wardly extending flanges 32 is located between supporting surfaces 17 and 18 and serves as a guide or track for a support 34 which carries a follower plate 36. The lower portion of support 34 carries a pair of shoes 33 which are slidably mounted within the channel and are held therein by the flanges 32, allowing the support to be moved longitudinally along the channel. The follower plate 36 has a pair of ears 37 which are formed by severing portions of the material of the plate and bending them perpendicular to the plane of the plate. The plate 36 is pivotally attached to the support 34 by a pin 38 which extends through ears 37 and flanges 39 of the support. A channel-shaped lever 41 is pivotally mounted on the support 34 by means of a pin 42 and serves to clamp or unclamp the support along the channel. Lever 41 has a pair of cam surfaces 43 which ride upon flanges 32 and are resiliently held in contact with the flanges by a spring 44 operating the lever to clamp the flanges between shoes 33 and the cam surfaces 43 of lever 41. By moving lever 41 forwardly toward the support the cam surfaces are released from the flanges 32 and allow support 34 to be moved to any desired location to position the follower plate 36. When lever 41 is released, spring 44 engages the cam surfaces 43 with the flanges 32 and maintains the support in a fixed position.

The right side wall of the tray is open except for tapering portions 13′ and 14′ of a wall adjoining the end walls 13 and 14 respectively. To retain the loose leaves in the tray against lateral displacement, I provide a bar 51 along the open right side of the tray. The bar 51 is carried by a pair of arms 52 bent therefrom which project through apertures 50 in the side wall portions 13′ and 14′. Each arm 52 is held in slidable engagement with the corresponding end walls 13, 14 by a flange 53 attached to the latter and overlapping the former. The engagement of the flanges with the arms is loose enough to permit a slight rocking movement of the arms. This permits the shoulders 54 or 55 in the arms 52 to engage a ledge 56, forming the lower part of the aperture, for locking the bar in position. When the ledge 56 is in engagement with the outer shoulder 55 the bar will be locked in alignment with the plane of the side of the tray. When the ledge engages the inner shoulder 54 the bar will be locked in its extended position.

Offset projections 58 at the inner end of the arms 52 engage the ends of the flanges 53 to prevent complete withdrawal of the arms.

The loose leaves filed within the tray are normally compressed between the plates 23 and 36 when the tray is not in use to exclude light and dust from the leaves. When entries are to be made on the leaves, the support 34 is moved back, allowing the plate 36 to tilt into the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 3 and permitting the leaves to recline against plate 36. The arms 26 are then swung upwardly, allowing the plate 23 to be tilted forward into the dotted-line position. On account of the cork surface on the supporting surfaces 17 and 18, the lower edges of the leaves will retain the same position which they occupied when compressed between the plates. The leaves may now be inspected and tilted forwardly one by one or in groups and supported against the plate 23.

After an entry is made, the leaf may be offset laterally out of alignment with the rest of the leaves and against the bar 51 which has previously been extended. Leaves on which no entry is made, of course, are not offset. After all of the entries have been made the offset leaves may be readily found for rechecking, and are necessarily returned to their original position. The bar 51 then is moved inwardly engaging ledges 56 with shoulders 55 and locking the bar in position.

Having described the nature and embodiment of my invention, what I desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is as follows:

1. In a posting tray, a container for a plurality of loose leaves, one side of said container being open, a movable bar positioned across the open side, a pair of inwardly extending arms carrying said bar, a flange attached to each of the end walls forming a supporting guide for the arms, and means for locking the bar in its normal position or in its extended position.

2. In a posting tray, a container for a plurality of loose leaves, one side of said container being open, a movable bar positioned across the open side wall, a pair of arms for carrying said bar, each provided with a notch and a shoulder in its lower edge, a flange attached to each of the end walls forming a supporting guide for the arms, said arms extending through apertures in a portion of the side wall of the container and adapted to have their notches engage the apertures to lock the bar in position.

3. In a posting appliance, a container for a plurality of loose leaves having end walls and a side wall, a movable bar positioned opposite the side wall for supporting leaves in an offset position during posting, a pair of arms carrying said bar, and a flange attached to each end wall forming a supporting guide for the arms of the bar, said arms having an offset portion for engaging the flanges to limit the movement of the bar.

4. In a card tray a case having an open side, a bar normally extending across said side in a position adjacent the case, an arm supporting the bar, said arm having portions cooperating with a portion of the case to lock the bar in its normal position, or in a posi-

tion extended horizontally and spaced from the case.

5. In a card tray a case having a plurality of walls and an open side, the end of the walls adjacent the open side being turned a short distance in the plane of the open side to form a reinforcement for said walls, a bar normally extending across the open side in a position adjacent the case and parallel therewith, and supporting means for said bar adapted to permit lateral substantially horizontal movement thereof.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 20th day of October, 1928.

JAMES R. CLARK.