

Sept. 6, 1932.

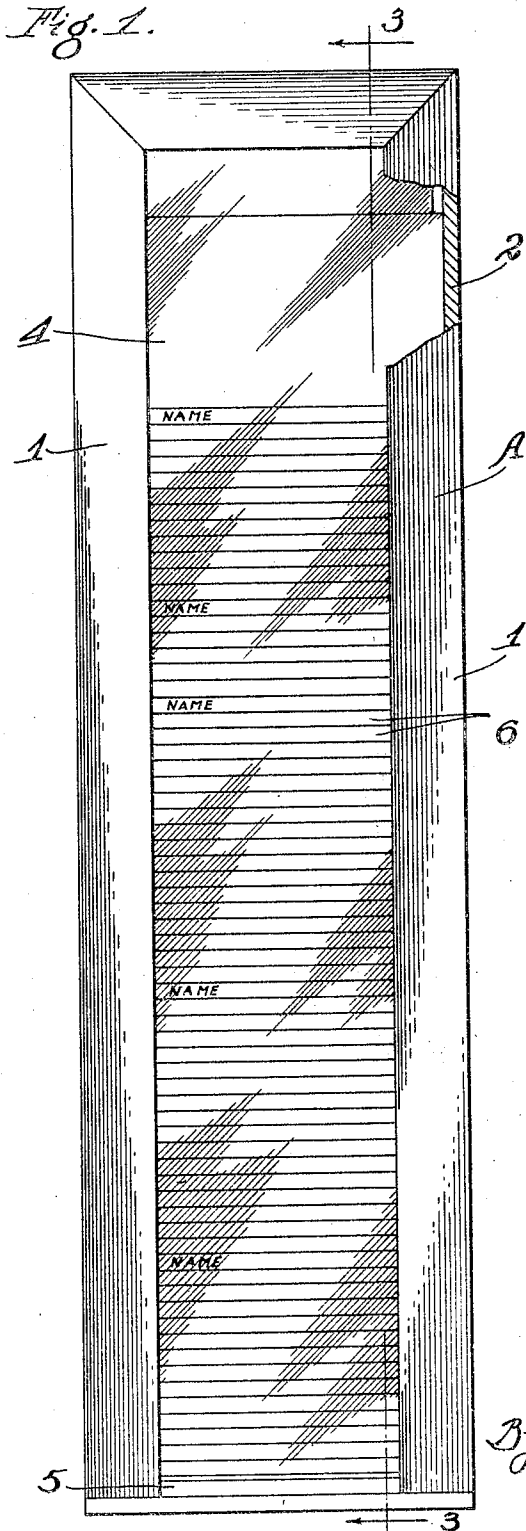
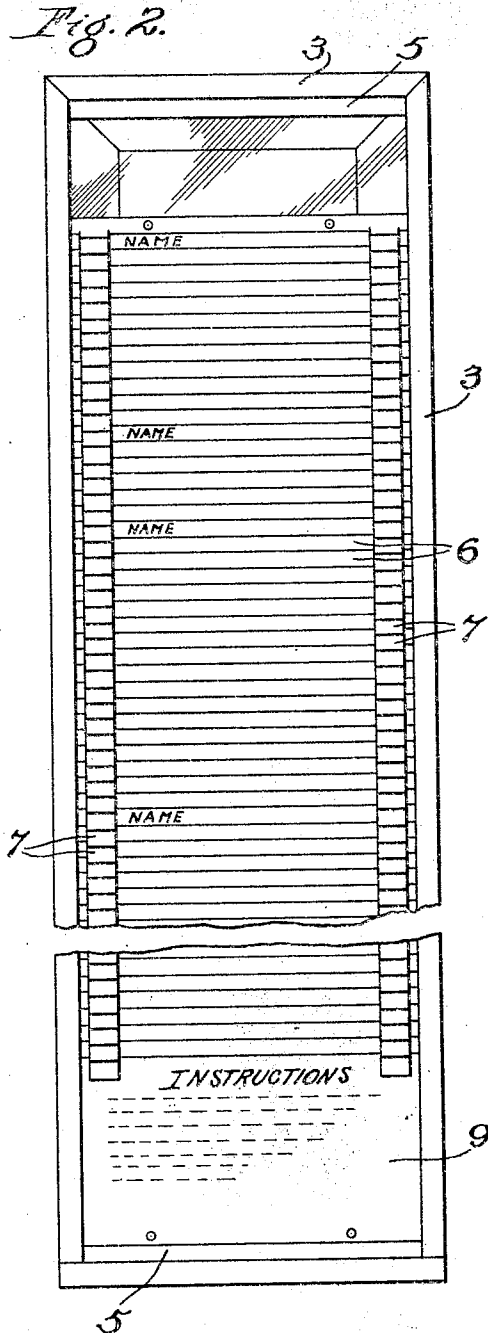
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1,875,382

DOUBLE VISIBILITY CARD RACK

Filed July 3, 1930

4 Sheets-Sheet 1



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Fig. 3.

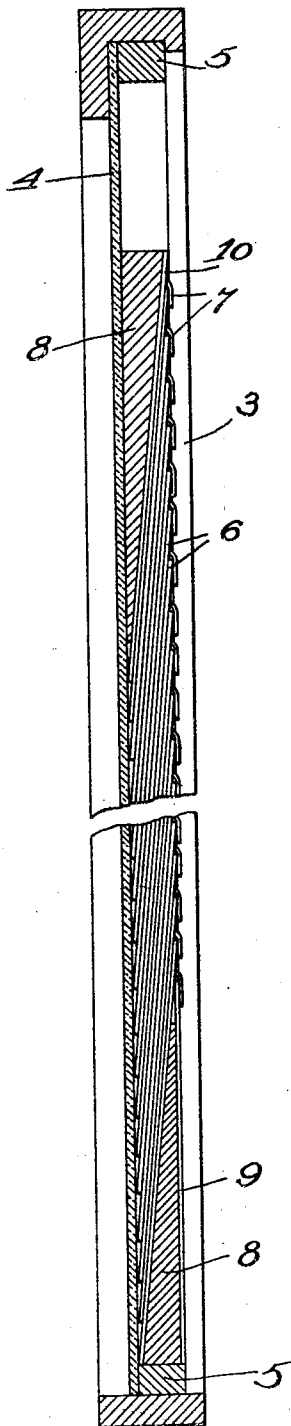


Fig. 4.

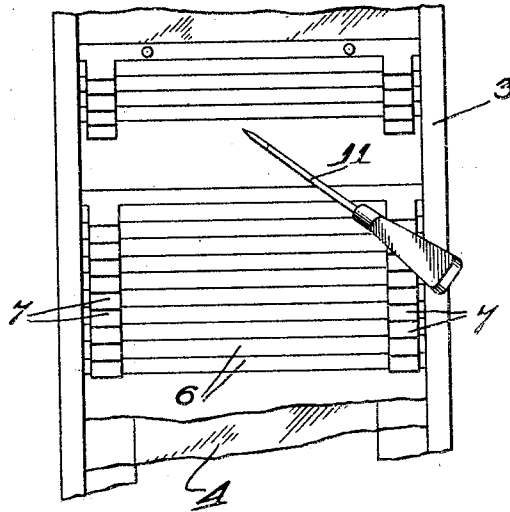
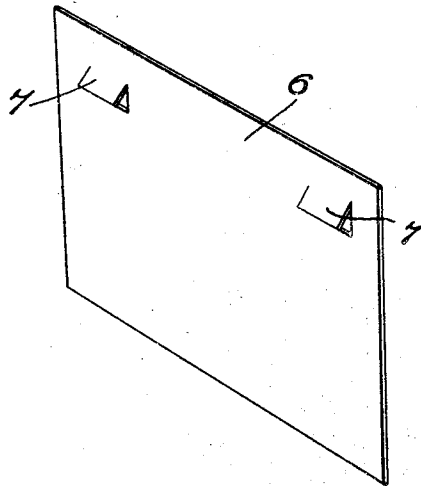


Fig. 5.



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Fig. 6.

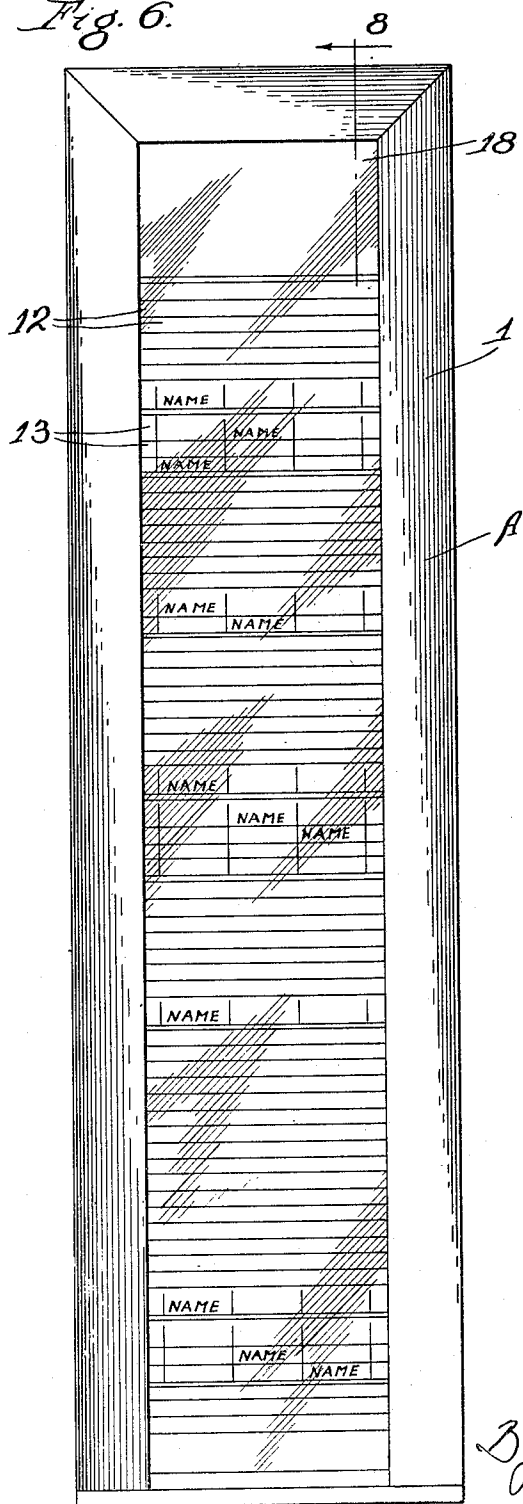
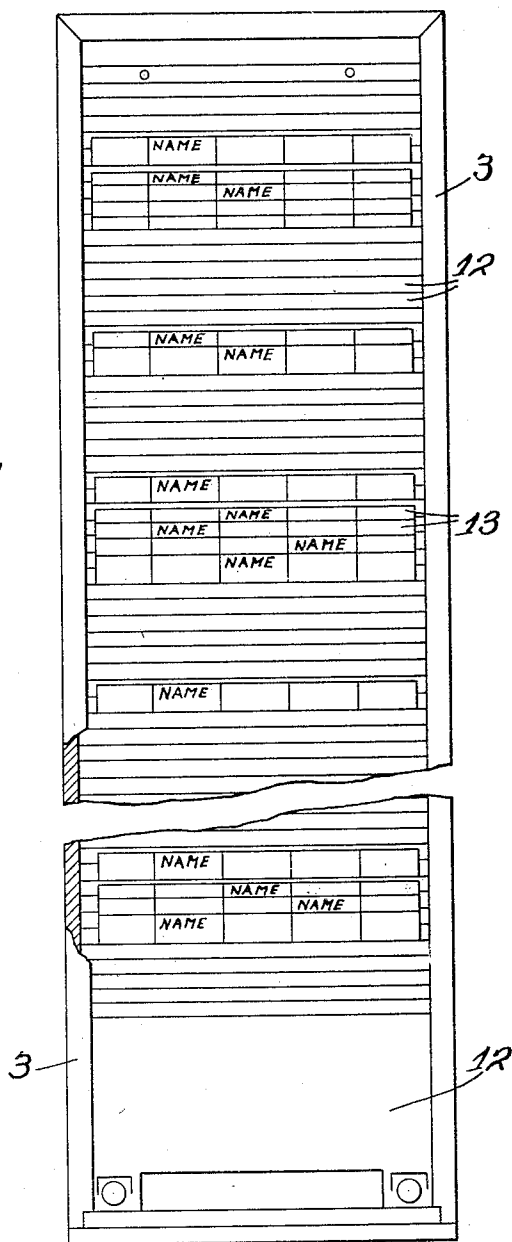


Fig. 7.



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Fig. 8.

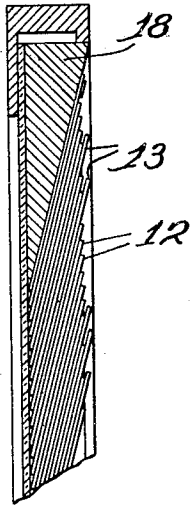


Fig. 9.

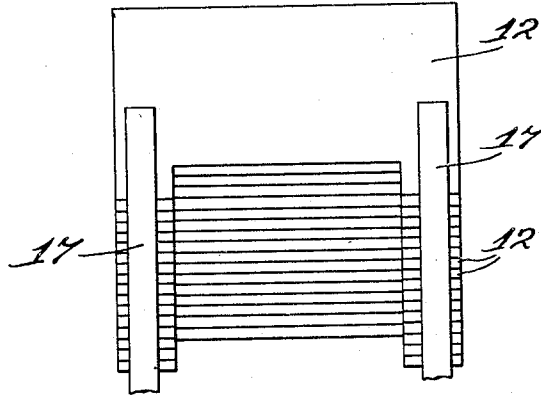


Fig. 10.

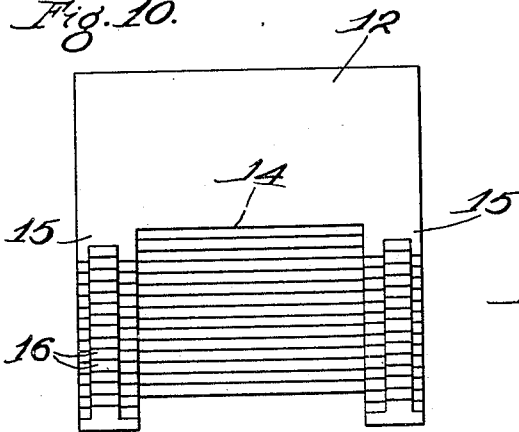


Fig. 11.

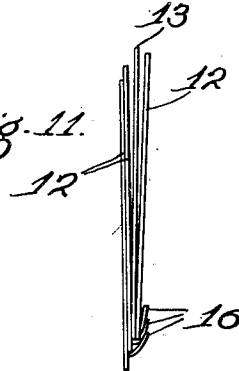
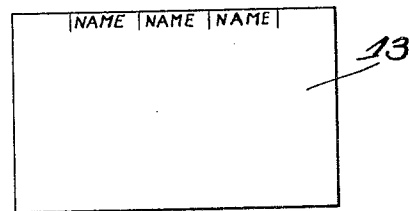


Fig. 12.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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DOUBLE-VISIBILITY CARD RACK

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This invention relates to visible card racks and more particularly to a double-visibility card rack.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a card rack of simple and staunch construction and equipped with cards which afford surfaces visible from opposite sides of the rack frame. Another object is to equip a card rack with cards which serve as supports for each other within the rack frame, thus dispensing with separate card-supporting elements. Another object is to equip a rack frame with cards adapted to be supported by each other, the cards being slidable in the frame to expose simultaneously information bearing surfaces visible on opposite sides of the frame. A further object is to provide slidable supporting members in a rack frame to protect and support the cards and to maintain them in alignment. Other objects and advantages will appear as the description proceeds.

The invention is fully described in the following specification and shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a broken front view in elevation of apparatus embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a broken rear view in elevation; Fig. 3 is a sectional view, the section being taken as indicated at line 3 of Fig. 1; Fig. 4 is a broken detail view illustrating a method of exposing cards; Fig. 5 is a perspective detail view of a single card of the type used in the frame; Fig. 6 is a front view in elevation of a modified form of card and card rack arrangement; Fig. 7 is a broken rear view; Fig. 8 is a broken sectional view, the section being taken at line 8 of Fig. 6; Fig. 9 is a rear view of a plurality of cards secured together in stepped relation; Fig. 10 is a view similar to Fig. 9, the securing strips having been removed; Fig. 11 is a side detail view of the cards as arranged within the rack frame; and Fig. 12 is a plan view of a removable card rack frame combination illustrated in Figs. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

Referring to the form of apparatus and card construction shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, A designates a rack frame which may be

formed of wood, metal, or other suitable material. The frame A may be provided with relatively wide front panel strips 1, side strips 2 and rear frame panels 3. The panels or strips 3 are preferably wider than the side strips 2 so that there is provided between the members 1 and 3 a longitudinal slotway in which the cards, hereinafter described, may be slidably confined. A pane of glass 4 is preferably secured in the front part of the frame adjacent the rear sides of the panels or strips 1 and may be held in position by cross pieces 5 at the two ends of the frame.

The cards 6 which are carried in the frame are preferably formed as illustrated in Fig. 5. Each of the cards is preferably provided with segments 7 which are struck from opposite corners at the upper side of the card. The segments 7 form projections adapted to engage the top wall or edge of the card below and thus to support the card thereon. The segments 7 may be lifted out of engagement with the edge of the card below by vertical movement.

To support the cards 6 within the frame, a pair of triangular blocks or slides 8 may be employed. Preferably the lower block 8 is equipped with a card 9 which is secured to its rear side and which projects above the block 8 so as to engage the segment 7 of a card above. The upper block 8 is also provided with a card 10 which is secured to the rear side of the block, card 10, however, being provided with segments 7 adapted to rest upon the top edge of a card below. As shown more clearly in Fig. 3, the lower block 8 lies at the rear of the tier of cards 6, while the upper block 8 lies in front of the cards, between the cards and the glass pane 4. Both the upper and lower blocks 8 are slidably mounted in the frame.

The cards 6 may be inserted within the rack frame by slightly bending them until they have been passed in front of the rear panel members 3. Within the frame, the segments 7 of the cards serve to support one card upon the other in spaced relation, the lowermost card engaging the card 9 on lower block 8 and the uppermost card engaging the segments 7 of card 10.

In the operation of the apparatus, any particular card, the upper edge portion of which is visible from the rear and may bear an index word, may be raised to expose the information thereon by any convenient means, such as for example, a sharp pointed instrument 11. The operator by thrusting the instrument 11 into the upper edge portion of the card may raise that card and those superimposed thereabove while the cards below remain in their original position. The raising of the particular card exposes not only the information on the rear side of the card raised but also information carried on the front side of the card below, thus simultaneously affording visibility from both sides of the rack. During this operation, the upper block 8 which is raised with the upper tier of cards holds the cards in alignment and aids in the quick return of the cards to their original position.

The cards 6 may be formed of cardboard, or any other suitable material. If desired, instead of employing integral segments 7, reinforcing tabs or other means may be used to support the cards one upon the other in stepped relation. The cards may be readily removed from or inserted within the frame in the manner already described.

In the modified form and arrangement shown in Figs. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, the frame A may be substantially the same as that illustrated in Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. The cards employed in the modified arrangement are preferably of two forms, fixed cards 12 and removable cards 13. Each of the fixed cards 12 is preferably cut away at its lower side to provide a rectangular-shaped space 14 and a pair of depending legs 15. In each of the legs 15 a segment 16 is struck therefrom rearwardly and upwardly and is adapted to support the lower edge of the card next above, as shown more clearly in Fig. 11. The fixed cards 12 may therefore be arranged so that each card by means of segment 16 carries in spaced relation the next card thereabove. To re-inforce the fixed cards 12, a strip 17 of tape, celluloid, metal or other suitable material may be secured to the rear side of the cards so as to engage part of the exposed portions of legs 15 and segments 16. After the re-inforcing strips 17 have been applied to the cards, the column of cards may be pressed into the frame by springing the cards past the rear panel members 3. A triangular block 18, which is preferably fixed within the upper part of the frame, may be employed to support the cards in the desired angular arrangement and in vertical alignment. The bottommost card may be secured directly to the frame or, if a block is used, to the block.

The fixed cards or partitions 12 may be formed of bristol-board, celluloid, metal or any other suitable material.

The removable cards 13 are preferably of

the usual rectangular shape illustrated in Fig. 12 and may be made of thin cardboard or any other inexpensive or suitable material. The card is preferably long enough to engage the segments 16 on the legs 15 of the fixed cards 12, and high enough so that a top edge portion will extend above the particular partition or card 12 upon which it rests.

In the operation of the device, a removable card 13 is inserted in the space between two adjacent partitions or fixed cards 12 so that the bottom edge of the removable card 13 rests upon the ledges or segments 16 of the partition 12. It will be observed that when the card 13 rests upon the segments 16 of a particular partition or fixed card 12 the lower front portion of the card 13 is visible from the front side of the rack while the top rear portion of the card 13 is visible from the rear side of the card rack. The cut-away segment 14 of the partition 12 affords visibility on one side while the protruding portion of card 13 above the partition upon which it rests affords visibility on the other side.

In both forms of card arrangements, the information cards may be consulted from opposite side of the rack frame and may be removed by the operator at the rear side of the rack frame for inspection. In both arrangements, separate supporting members have been dispensed with and the cards themselves provide the means of support.

While, in the illustrations given, I have described particular means by which the cards are connected to and carry each other, it is obviously within the spirit of my invention to provide other means, either formed integrally with the cards or as separate attachments, for accomplishing this purpose. While I have specified certain materials as being suitable for the construction of the apparatus, it is obvious that other materials may be employed without departing from the scope of my invention.

The foregoing detailed description has been given for clearness of understanding only and no unnecessary limitations should be understood therefrom; but the appended claims should be construed as broadly as permissible in view of the prior art.

I claim:

1. A double-visibility card rack comprising a card frame, a plurality of stepped partitions secured together, said partitions being provided at their lower sides with projections and having cut away portions adjacent said projections, and removable cards adapted to be received between said partitions and to rest upon said projections, said cards having margin portions extending above the partitions in which they are placed.

2. A double-visibility card rack comprising a card frame, a plurality of partitions,

said partitions being provided at their lower sides with projections and having cut-away portions adjacent said projections, flexible connecting means securing said partitions together in stepped relation, and removable cards adapted to be received between said partitions and to rest upon said projections, said cards having margin portions extending above the partitions in which they are placed.

3. A double-visibility card rack comprising a card frame, a plurality of partitions secured together, said partitions being provided at their lower sides with depending leg portions and with projections formed in said leg portions, means for securing said partitions together in stepped relation and removable cards adapted to be received between said partitions and to rest upon said projections, said cards having margin portions extending above the partitions in which they are placed.

4. A double-visibility card rack comprising a card frame, a plurality of partitions, said partitions having a portion of their lower sides cut away to provide depending leg portions and said leg portions being equipped with projections, flexible connecting means securing said partitions together in stepped relation and removable cards adapted to be received between said partitions and to rest upon said projections, said cards having margin portions extending above the partitions in which they are placed.

5. A double-visibility card rack comprising a card frame, a plurality of cards slidably carried therein, said cards being provided with projections by which said cards are supported by each other and in spaced relation, and an inclined pair of follower blocks, the upper follower block being disposed on the outside of said cards and the lower follower block being disposed on the inside of said cards.

6. A double-visibility card rack, comprising a card frame, equipped with a transparent front wall, cards slidably mounted in said frame, said frame being provided with lateral retaining strips which confine said cards within said frame, and a pair of inclined follower blocks also slidably confined within said frame, one of said slidable blocks being disposed between said cards and said retaining strips and the other slidable block being confined between said cards and said transparent wall.

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