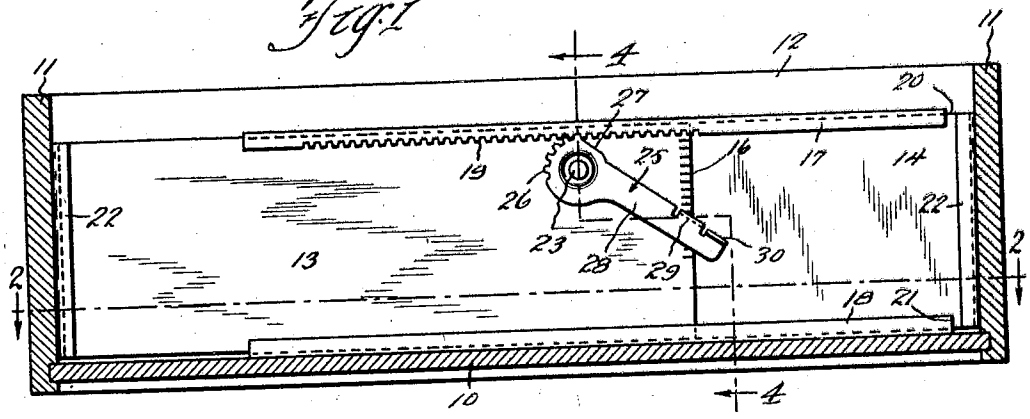
March 8, 1932. A. D. McKEE 1,849,024

PARTITION

Filed May 27, 1931

Fig. 1



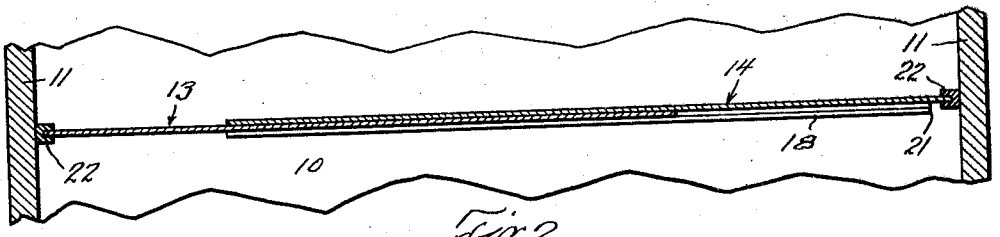


Fig. 2

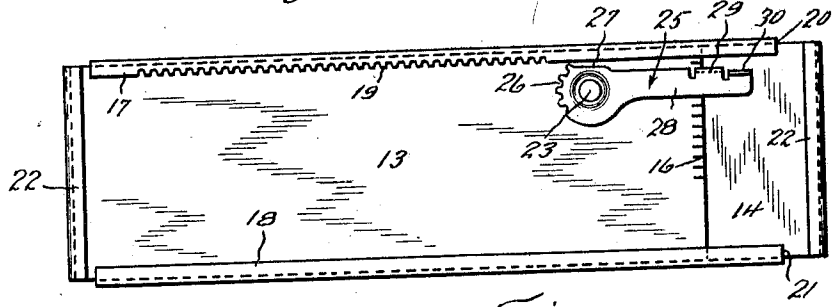


Fig. 3

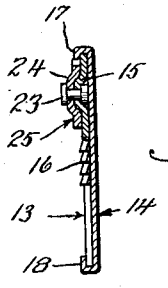


Fig. 4

Inventor

Archibald D. McKee

By Hull, Brock & Best

Attorney

Patented Mar. 8, 1932 1,849,024

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ARCHIBALD D. McKEE, OF LAKEWOOD, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO WALTER J. HARING, OF LAKEWOOD, OHIO

PARTITION

Application filed May 27, 1931. Serial No. 540,236.

This invention relates to an extensible partition adapted for use in desk drawers and similar places for dividing the same into compartments.

The principal object of the invention is to provide such a partition which may be positioned at any point along the walls of such drawer or similar device without relying upon preformed grooves in the drawer walls, but relying simply upon the partition itself.

A further object is to provide a device of this type in which the relatively movable members shall move only in substantially their own planes for extension and the relative movement necessary to cause gripping of the opposed walls of the drawer or similar device. Other and more limited objects will become apparent as the specification proceeds.

Fig. 1 is a sectional view through a drawer showing one embodiment of my invention in elevation; Fig. 2 is a section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a front elevation showing the partition in the operative relation which allows free motion of the relatively movable parts; and Fig. 4 is a section corresponding substantially to line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

In the drawings I have indicated a drawer of conventional construction including a bottom 10, vertical side walls 11 and an end wall 12, the other end wall not showing in the drawings. The embodiment disclosed consists principally of a pair of relatively movable sheet metal members indicated generally by the numerals 13 and 14. The member 13 comprises a flat rectangular plate of sheet metal provided with an embossed portion 15 having an opening extending centrally therethrough and having the adjacent end provided with struck-up ratchet teeth 16. The member 14 comprises a plate of sheet metal having the edges bent over, as shown at 17 and 18, so as to give the same a C-shaped cross section. The bent-over edge 17 is provided with rack teeth extending through a portion of its length, as indicated at 19. The bent over portions 17 and 18 terminate short of one end, as indicated at 20 and 21. Between the ends of the members 13 and 14 and the walls 11 of the drawer I prefer to insert a cushion 22 of rubber or other similar deformable material which will preferably be grooved to receive the ends of the members 13 and 14, as clearly indicated in Fig. 2. Extending through the central opening in the boss 15 is a rivet 23 which also extends through an embossed portion 24 of a mutilated pinion member 25. The member 25 is provided with pinion teeth 26 adapted to mesh with the rack teeth 19 whereby to urge the members 13 and 14 apart for causing the same to grip the side walls 11 of the drawer. The member 25 is also provided with a flattened portion 27 whereby to allow the members 13 and 14 to move freely with respect to each other when the member 25 is in the position shown in Fig. 3. A projection 28 of the member 25 carries a pawl tooth 29 adjacent the end thereof which is adapted to cooperate with the ratchet teeth 16, already described. A lug 30 may also be provided for convenience in manipulating the member 25.

When this device is to be inserted in a drawer to form a partition, the member 25 is moved to the position indicated in Fig. 3, and the members 13 and 14 are extended until the cushion members 22 contact the side walls of the drawer. The member 25 is then rotated, as indicated in Fig. 1, until the cushions 22 are considerably deformed, whereby the partition is firmly positioned. The pawl tooth 29 and the ratchet teeth 16 cooperate to prevent retrograde motion of the members 13 and 14.

From the foregoing, it will be clear that I have provided a partition which is well adapted for its intended purpose, and while I have shown and described a preferred modification, I wish it understood that I am not limited to the details thereof except in accordance with the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A partition including, a pair of flat members, one of which has its edges bent over and receiving the edges of the other and having one edge provided with rack teeth, a mutilated pinion member pivoted on said other member and having its teeth adapted to mesh with said rack teeth, and pawl and ratchet means adapted to prevent rotation of said mutilated pinion in one direction.

2. A partition including, a pair of relatively slidable members, said members being formed to prevent relative motion except longitudinal sliding motion, means for urging said members in a partition elongating direction, and means for preventing retrograde motion of said means, the projecting ends of both said members being provided with deformable cushion members adapted to engage the side walls of a drawer or the like.

3. A partition including, a pair of flat members, one of which has its edges bent over and receiving the edges of the other, means for urging said members in a partition elongating direction, and means for preventing retrograde motion of said means, the projecting ends of both said members being provided with deformable cushion members adapted to engage the side walls of a drawer or the like.

4. A partition including, a pair of flat members, one of which has its edges bent over and receiving the edges of the other and having one edge provided with rack teeth, a mutilated pinion member pivoted on said other member and having its teeth adapted to mesh with said rack teeth, and pawl and ratchet means adapted to prevent rotation of said mutilated pinion in one direction, the projecting ends of both said members being provided with deformable cushion members adapted to engage the side walls of a drawer or the like.

5. A partition including, a pair of flat members, one of which has its edges bent over and receiving the edges of the other and having one edge provided with rack teeth, a mutilated pinion member pivoted on said other member and having its teeth adapted to mesh with said rack teeth, and pawl and ratchet means adapted to prevent rotation of said mutilated pinion in one direction, said pawl and ratchet means consisting of an extension on said mutilated pinion carrying a pawl tooth and a series of ratchet teeth struck out of the material of one of said members.

6. A partition including, a pair of flat members, one of which has its edges bent over and receiving the edges of the other and having one edge provided with rack teeth, a mutilated pinion member pivoted on said other member and having its teeth adapted to mesh with said rack teeth, and pawl and ratchet means adapted to prevent rotation of said mutilated pinion in one direction, the projecting ends of both said members being provided with deformable cushion members adapted to engage the side walls of a drawer or the like, said pawl and ratchet means consisting of an extension on said mutilated pinion carrying a pawl tooth and a series of ratchet teeth struck out of the material of one of said members.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my signature.

ARCHIBALD D. McKEE.