May 26, 1936. D. A. BEELER 2,042,167

FILING DEVICE

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Fig. 1.

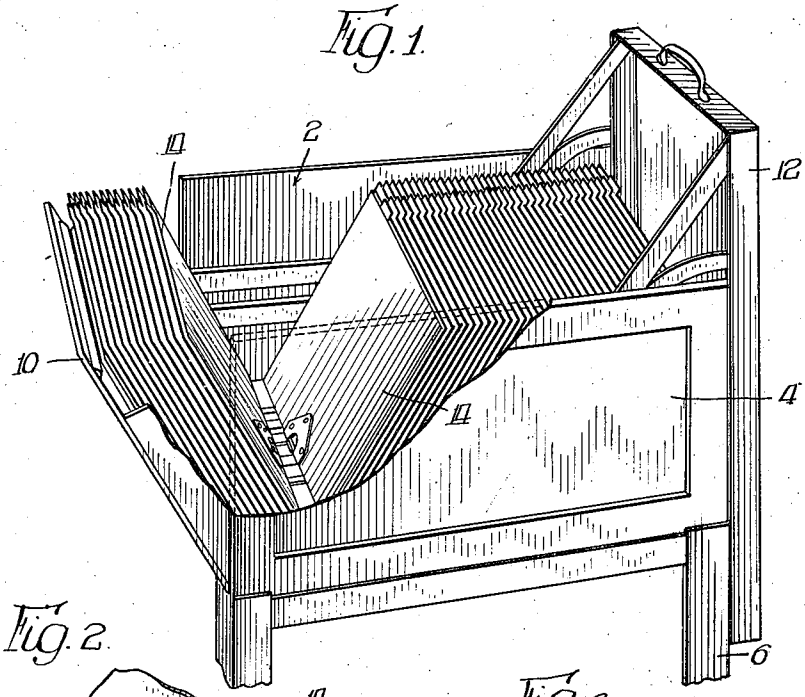


Fig. 2.

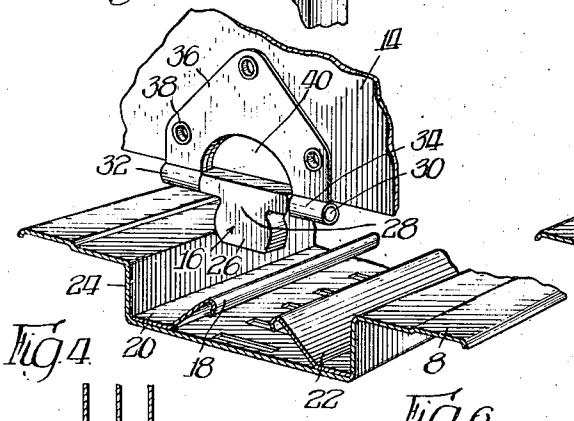


Fig. 3.

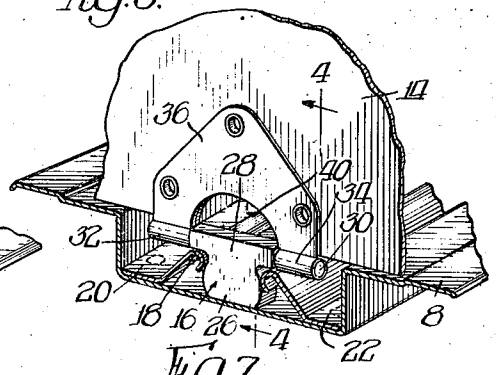


Fig. 4.

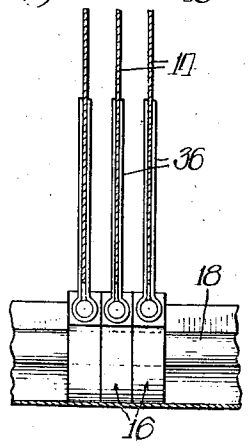


Fig. 6.

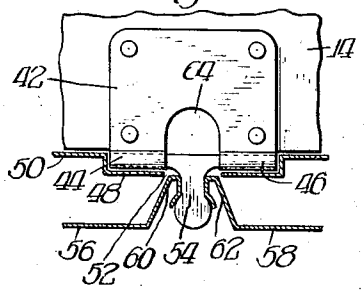
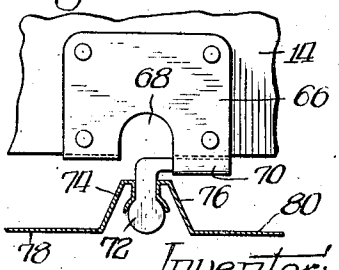


Fig. 7.



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Fig. 8

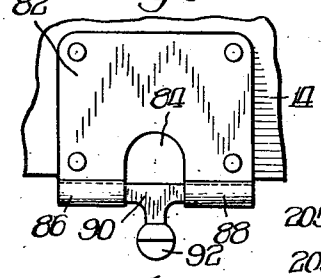


Fig. 16

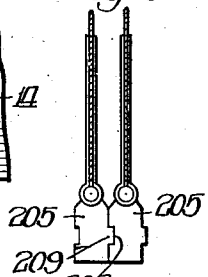


Fig. 17

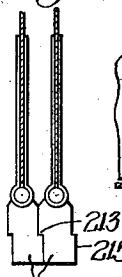


Fig. 12

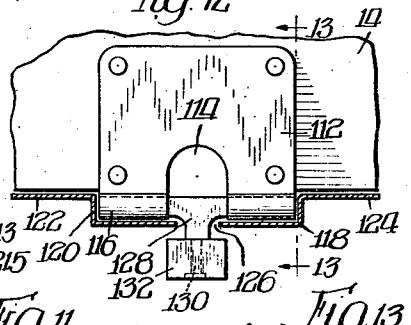


Fig. 9

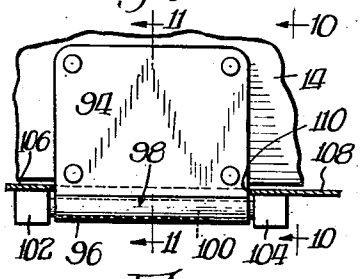


Fig. 10

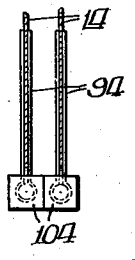


Fig. 11

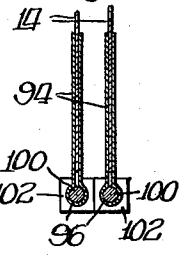


Fig. 13

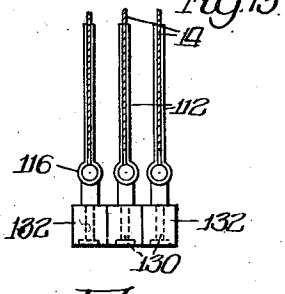


Fig. 18

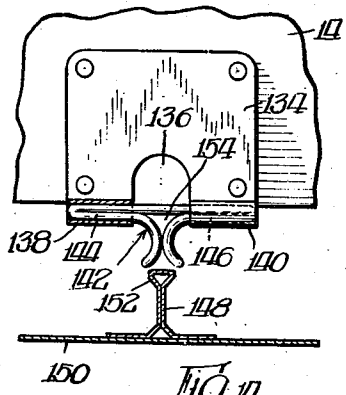


Fig. 19

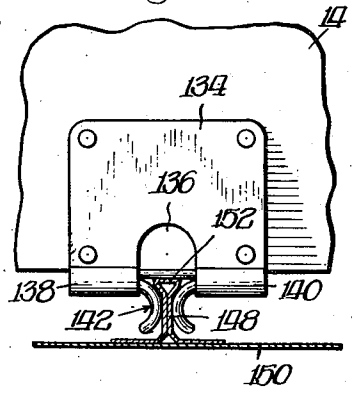


Fig. 20

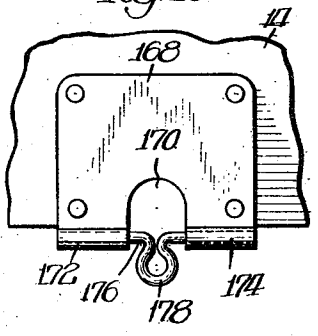


Fig. 14

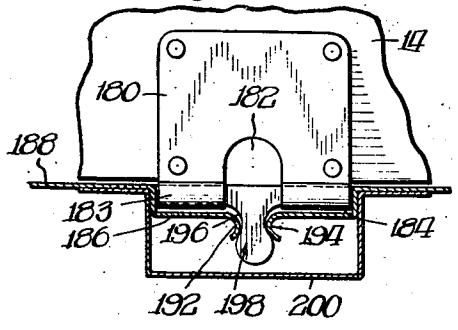
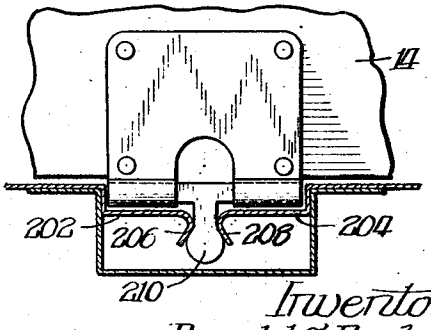


Fig. 15



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FILING DEVICE

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Fig. 21.

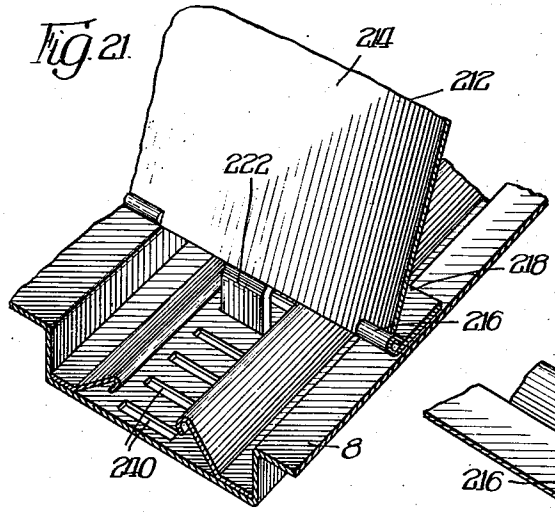


Fig. 22.

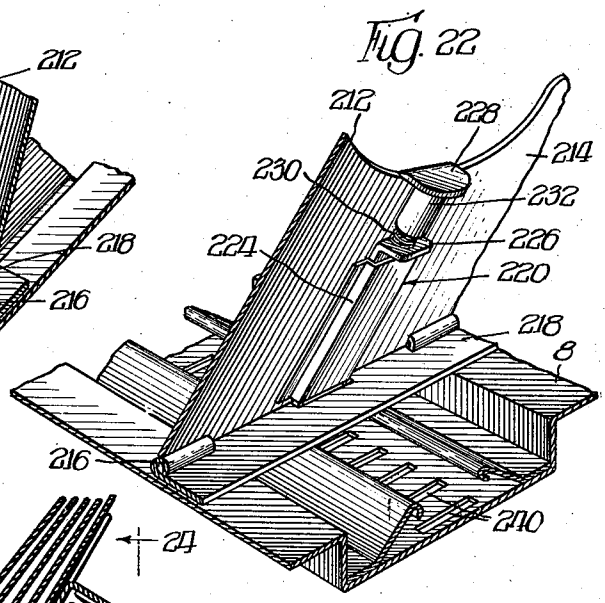


Fig. 23.

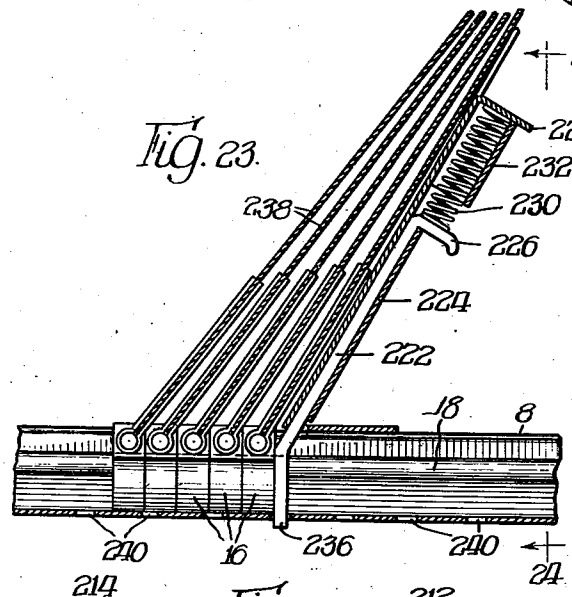


Fig. 24.

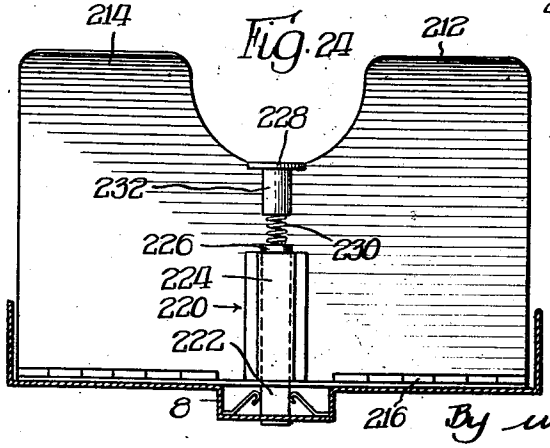
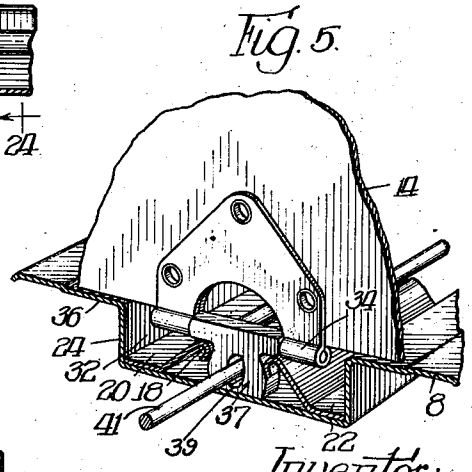


Fig. 5.



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Patented May 26, 1936

2,042,167

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,042,167

FILING DEVICE

Donald A. Beeler, Winnetka, Ill., assignor to Automatic File & Index Company, Chicago, Ill., a corporation of Delaware

Application November 21, 1932, Serial No. 643,585

25 Claims. (Cl. 129—16)

The present invention relates to filing devices.

Among the objects of the present invention is to provide a novel filing device having novel means for securing and holding one or more spacer guides or other filing members in their operative positions.

In filing devices of the type herein disclosed, it has been the practice heretofore to provide each of the spacer members or guides with a looped or other similar member pivotally secured adjacent the lower edge thereof, and which was adapted to receive a securing rod extending through a plurality of these loops for holding the spacer members in their operative position in a filing cabinet or the like. In practice, however, this particular manner of securing these spacers in position has certain distinct disadvantages which do not permit the ready and easy manipulation of the filing device. In these existing structures the securing rod which extends through a series or plurality of these looped lugs cannot be easily removed because of the shifting weight of the panels and the binding of the rod in the hinged loops carried by the spacer guides or members. As a matter of fact, it is almost impossible, where a large number of spacer members or guides is used, to even move this rod. In a filing device of this type, it is further almost impossible to insert this securing rod through a series of aligned loops, especially where a large number of spacer members or guides is to be used, and when it becomes necessary to insert the rod, it is necessary to guide the same through one loop at a time.

Furthermore, where a filing device of this type is in active use and where it becomes necessary to add and remove a large number of spacer guides or members daily, this insertion and removal of the securing rod requires a considerable amount of time, effort and labor, and greatly decreases the efficiency of the operation of a system including these filing devices. And again, the hinged loops are so constructed and attached to the securing rod that when the spacer guides or members angle in either direction from the vertical, these hinged loops bind against the securing rod, which prevents the movement of these spacer members or guides over the rod when it is desired to insert or remove material or indices between adjacent spaces. This binding relation between the hinged loops and the securing rod also prevents the spacer members or guides from being moved to a position substantially ninety degrees in a forward or rearward direction from the vertical, thereby limiting its adaptability for all types of filing devices.

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a novel filing device in which the above disadvantages are eliminated and which comprehends novel means whereby the spacer members or guides may be easily inserted or removed, as desired.

A still further object of the present invention is to provide a novel securing means whereby spacer guides or other filing members may be releasably held in association with one another in suitable spaced relation and easily moved when one or more thereof are removed from or introduced into their active filing position and to hold the same in their operative position.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a filing device having novel means whereby adjacent spacer members or guides may be easily and readily moved apart sufficiently to provide an opening for one or more spacer members to be inserted. Also, the present invention comprehends the idea of providing a novel securing means whereby one or more spacers may be readily removed from the device and adjacent spacer members or guides moved into close association to provide an operative structure for receiving material or indices between adjacent spacer members.

The present invention comprehends the idea of providing novel securing means for spacer members or guides in a filling device or the like, which is provided with a supporting member for these spacer members, such means comprising a projecting element associated with one of the members and spaced elements associated with the other of the members for receiving the projecting element and for holding the spacer member in association with the supporting member. More particularly, the invention includes the idea of providing such a securing means with resilient oppositely disposed elements for receiving the projecting element whereby the spacer member may be releasably secured in association with the supporting member.

Still a further object of the present invention is to provide a novel filing device having means for releasably securing a plurality of spacer guides or members therein, whereby the same may be moved or swung forwardly or rearwardly of the vertical, these spacer guides being provided with means substantially above the securing means whereby the same may be readily removed or inserted in position. More particularly, these spacer members are formed with an opening im-

mediately above their securing element or elements for receiving a finger or the like for movement thereof.

Another object within the purview of the present invention is to provide a novel securing means for spacer members in a filing device or the like in which the spacer members are releasably secured in position and may therefore be readily inserted in or removed from their operative position, and wherein these spacer members may be slid relative to one another for providing an opening between adjacent members for receiving a spacer member to be inserted, or to close up a similar opening where a spacer member has been removed, thereby providing a device which is readily adjusted to form a compact assembly of material to be filed.

As is common in the art, a securing means contemplated by the present invention includes novel means whereby the spacer members may be moved forwardly or rearwardly of the vertical.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a novel securing means for spacer guides or members in a filing device or the like, in which the spacer guides are releasably held in their operative position, such securing means being constructed so as to receive a securing or locking rod, if desired.

The present invention further contemplates the idea of providing a novel compressor block or member for a plurality of operatively positioned spacer guides which are formed with a securing element, such novel compressor block or member having an element adapted to have substantial surface contact with the securing element of the end spacer guide or member of a series or group, whereby the securing element is maintained in its proper operative position.

Other objects, features, capabilities and advantages are comprehended by the invention, as will later appear and as are inherently possessed thereby.

Referring to the drawings:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a filing device made in accordance with the present invention, the same being shown in open position with parts broken away to disclose certain portions thereof more in detail;

Figure 2 is a fragmentary view in perspective of a filing device, together with a securing means made in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary view in perspective similar to Figure 2 of the drawings, with the parts of the securing means in engagement;

Figure 4 is a fragmentary view in cross-section taken in the plane represented by line 4—4 of Figure 3 of the drawings;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary view in perspective similar to Figure 3 of the drawings, disclosing means for positively locking the spacer members in the filing device;

Figure 6 is a fragmentary view partly in cross-section and partly in elevation, disclosing an alternative construction for a securing means made in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 7 is a view similar to Figure 6 of the drawings disclosing another modified form of securing means;

Figure 8 is a fragmentary view in elevation of a spacer member disclosing still another modification of a securing element therefor;

Figure 9 is a fragmentary view in elevation of a spacer member disclosing a still further modification for a securing means;

Figure 10 is a fragmentary view in vertical cross-section taken in a plane represented by line 10—10 of Figure 9 of the drawings;

Figure 11 is a fragmentary view taken in a plane represented by line 11—11 of Figure 9 of the drawings;

Figure 12 is a fragmentary view of a securing means partly in cross-section and partly in elevation disclosing still a further modified form thereof;

Figure 13 is a fragmentary view in cross-section taken in the plane represented by line 13—13 of Figure 12 of the drawings;

Figures 14 and 15 are fragmentary views partly in cross-section and partly in elevation, similar to those disclosed in Figures 6 and 7 of the drawings, showing modified forms of the securing means;

Figures 16 and 17 are fragmentary views in cross-section through spacer guides disclosing novel means for interlocking the securing elements thereof;

Figure 18 is a fragmentary view partly in cross-section and partly in end elevation disclosing still another embodiment of securing means made in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 19 is a view similar to Figure 18 of the drawings, with the parts in operative position;

Figure 20 is a fragmentary view in elevation of a spacer guide disclosing still another form of securing element;

Figures 21 and 22 are fragmentary views in perspective disclosing a portion of the filing cabinet with a compressor block or member in association therewith;

Figure 23 is a fragmentary view in longitudinal cross-section through the structures shown in Figures 21 and 22 of the drawings, disclosing a novel compressor member made in accordance with the present invention; and

Figure 24 is a view partly in cross-section and partly in elevation taken in the plane represented by line 24—24 of Figure 23 of the drawings.

Referring now more in detail to the drawings, an embodiment selected to illustrate the present invention is shown in Figures 2 to 4 inclusive of the drawings, and which is adapted for use in a filling device 2 as shown in Figure 1 of the drawings. This filing device 2 comprises a cabinet 4 suitably supported upon the legs 6, this cabinet 4 being provided with a bottom supporting member 8 and an expansible front panel 10, a cover 12 being provided and being suitably hinged to the device, whereby the same may be opened into the position as shown in Figure 1 of the drawings and connections being provided for at the same time moving the front panel 10 into its expanded position.

Disposed within the cabinet 4 is a plurality of spacer members or guides 14 adapted to receive material to be filed therebetween and for properly separating the same from other material to be filed between succeeding or successive adjacent spacer members 14.

In order to introduce or insert additional spacer members 14 in the cabinet 4, as well as to remove those spacers not desired, suitable securing means may be provided to releasably hold these spacer guides 14 in association with the supporting member 8, whereby the same may be inserted or removed, yet held in their proper position and moved toward or away from one another, as occasion demands. Such means in the present embodiment comprises a securing lug 16 associated with each of the spacer guides

14 and which is adapted to be received between the beaded edges 18 of oppositely disposed securing elements 20 and 22 which may be secured to the bottom wall of a depressed portion 24 formed in the supporting member 8, as by means of spot welding or the like. The securing member 16 in the present embodiment is formed with a central enlarged projecting member 26 formed with a restricted portion 28 forming shoulders adapted to receive the beaded edge 18 of the members 20 and 22. This securing element or lug 16 is further provided with oppositely disposed and laterally extending trunnions 30 received in the tubular bearing or hinged portions 32 and 34 of a plate 36 secured as shown adjacent the lower edge of the spacer guide and substantially centrally thereof. This plate 36 may comprise a single sheet of metal blanked to conform to the desired shape and size, and may be bent along its medial axis to provide the tubular portions 32 and 34 and the side extensions disposed on opposite sides of the spacer guide or member 14, portions of the plate on one side of the spacer member 14 being punched to provide flanged portions 38 engaging the peripheral portions of an oppositely disposed opening, all as disclosed, for securing this plate member 36 to the spacer 14.

As clearly disclosed in Figure 3 of the drawings, the enlarged portion 26 of each of the lugs 16 is received in the elongated slot formed by and between the members 20 and 22 and the restricted portion thereof is gripped by the resilient edge portion of these members, whereby the spacer guides may be readily inserted into or removed from their operative position. When the lug 16 is in the position as shown in Figure 3, the same may be slid in the slot between members 20 and 22, whereby adjacent spacer guides may be moved apart to provide an opening for receiving a lug of a spacer member or guide being introduced into the cabinet therebetween. Normally, however, these lugs 16 are in close contiguous relation, as shown in Figure 4 of the drawings, and are moved only when spacer guides are being removed from or introduced into the cabinet.

In order to provide for the easy removal or insertion of a spacer guide 14, the plate 36 is provided with an opening 40 conforming to a similar opening provided adjacent the lower edge of the spacer guide 14, this opening 40 being substantially above the lug 16 whereby a finger may be inserted therein for pulling upwardly on the spacer 14 to remove the same from its engaging relation with the supporting member 8, or for pressing down upon the upper surface of the lug 16 for introducing the same between the bead of the members 20 and 22. It will therefore be readily seen that such novel securing means provides an arrangement whereby the spacers may be used in a filing device of a vertical or horizontal type, and in which spacer members may be removed or introduced at will.

When desired, the embodiment disclosed in Figures 2 to 4 inclusive may be provided with a lug 37 conforming substantially to the lug 16 with the exception that the same is provided as shown in Figure 5, with a centrally disposed elongated opening 39 adapted to be aligned with similar openings provided in adjacent lugs of adjacent spacer members 14 for receiving a securing rod 41 which is adapted to pass therethrough and is normally connected to portions of the cabinet 4, such means being provided for locking a series of spacer members in place so that one or more spacer members may be removed from or introduced into the filing device only after the rod 41 has been removed or displaced to a position whereby this operation may be effected.

Figure 6 of the drawings discloses an alternative construction in which the spacer member 14 has a plate 42 secured thereto along its lower edge, this plate 42 being formed with spaced tubular bearing portions 44 and 46 which are received in the channel 48 of a plate 50 formed with an enlarged slot 52 in the bottom plate of the channel portion 48. In this embodiment, the trunnions 44 and 46 movably and pivotally support a lug 54 which is adapted to extend through the slot 52 and be engaged by the securing members 56 and 58 having the resilient beaded portions 60 and 62, respectively, the beaded portions being adapted to engage the restricted part of the lug 54, all in accordance with the previously described embodiment. As previously disclosed, the plate 42, as well as the spacer 14, is formed with aligned openings 64 whereby the spacer guides may be removed from and inserted in operative position.

In Figure 7 of the drawings the spacer members 14 are each provided with a plate 66 apertured at 68 to conform with a similar aperture in the spacer guide 14, this plate 66 being formed with a single tubular bearing portion 70 adapted to receive a single trunnion of a securing lug 72 movably or pivotally supported therein. The lug 72 has a projecting portion conforming to the lug 54 and is adapted to be received between the resilient beaded edges 74 and 76 of members 78 and 80 which conform substantially to the members 56 and 58 of the embodiment shown in Figure 6 of the drawings.

In Figure 8 of the drawings, each of the spacer members 14 is provided with a plate 82 having a cut-out portion 84 conforming substantially to a cut-out formed along the lower edge of the member 14, this plate being provided with spaced tubular bearings 86 and 88 for receiving trunnions of a lug 90, this lug varying from the previously disclosed lugs in that its enlarged end portion 92 is substantially spherical in shape.

In Figures 9, 10 and 11 of the drawings, each of the spacer members 14 has a plate 94 secured thereto along the lower edge, the plate 94 being formed with a tubular bearing portion 96 adapted to receive a securing member 98 formed with a central journal portion 100 adapted to be received within the tubular bearing 96, the substantially cubical securing elements 102 and 104 being secured to the laterally extending portions of the central portion 100, which cubical portions are spaced in relation to the lower edge of the spacer guide 14 so as to receive oppositely disposed ledges 106 and 108, these ledge members forming a longitudinal slot or opening 110 therebetween for receiving the plate 94. In this embodiment, the spacer members 14 are first turned at an angle to the longitudinal axis of the slot 110, whereby the securing member 98 may be received between the ledges 106 and 108, after which the spacer member 14 may be moved into a position substantially normal to the longitudinal axis of this slot, at which time the securing elements 102 and 104 are locked beneath the ledges 106 and 108, respectively, for holding the spacer member 14 in position. These spacer members 14, however, may be moved as desired in the direction of the longitudinal axis of the slot 110.

In Figure 12 of the drawings, each of the spacer guides 14 has a plate 112 secured adjacent its lower edge, these plates 112 having a cut-out portion 114 conforming to a similar cut-out portion provided in the guide 14. In this embodiment, the plate 112 is formed with spaced tubular portions 116 and 118 which are received in a channel 120 formed by the plates 122 and 124, these plates 122 and 124 providing an elongated slot 126 therebetween which is substantially centrally disposed relative to the channel 120. The tubular bearing portions 116 and 118 are adapted to receive the trunnions of a securing lug 128 which is formed with a stud 130 adapted to rotatively carry a securing block or head 132, the block or head 132 being of a width in one direction as shown in Figure 13, whereby the same may be inserted through the slot 126. The width of the block in a direction normal thereto is substantially greater than the width of the slot 126, whereby this block 132, when rotated, will engage with the portions of the channel 120 adjacent the slot 126 to prevent removal of these spacer guides. When it is desired to remove these spacer guides, a suitable opening may be provided adjacent the guide to be removed, and a finger inserted through or moved into engagement with the slot 126 to move the block 132 through ninety degrees, after which the same may pass upwardly through the slot 126.

In Figure 14, each of the spacer guides 14 is provided with a plate 180 having a cut-out portion 182 substantially coextensive with a similar cut-out provided along the lower edge of the spacer member 14. This plate 180 is formed with spaced tubular bearing portions 183 and 184 which project below the lower edge of the guide 14 and are received in a channel 186 formed by the plates 188 and 190, these plates having oppositely disposed rolled edges 192 and 194 providing an elongated slot 196. Mounted in the tubular portions 182 and 184 are trunnions of a securing lug 198 which conforms substantially to the lug 54 of the embodiment shown in Figure 6 of the drawings, this projecting lug extending through the slot 196 and having its restricted portion engaged by the beaded edges 192 and 194. The plates 188 and 190 are secured to a channel-shaped supporting member 200, and the edges of these plates which are formed with the beads 192 and 194 are cantilevered over the channel of the member 200 and resiliently grip the securing lug 198 whereby the spacers 14 may be easily released therefrom or inserted therein.

In Figure 15 of the drawings, the structure corresponds in all essentials to that of Figure 14 of the drawings, with the exception that the plates 202 and 204 corresponding to the supporting plates 188 and 190 of that embodiment are formed with a beaded edge provided with the plane lug engaging flanges 206 and 208, respectively. The projecting lug 210 of this embodiment is provided with a somewhat more elongated restricted portion to receive the beaded edge of the plates 202 and 204.

In each of the modifications disclosing lugs projecting from the spacer members, the same may be formed by casting, aluminum or any other light metal or the like being preferred in order to decrease the weight thereof, although it is of course understood that other material may be used within the spirit of the invention.

In Figures 18 and 19 of the drawings, each of the spacer guides 14 has a plate 134 secured adjacent its lower edge, this plate being provided with a cut-out portion 136 coextensive with a similar cut-out portion provided in the guide 14. The plate 134 is provided with spaced tubular bearing portions 138 and 140 adapted to pivotally journal a securing element 142 in association therein. In the present embodiment, this securing element 142 is formed from a single piece of resilient wire which is substantially semi-circular in cross section and is bent intermediate its ends and folded upon itself to provide trunnions 144 and 146 which are received within the tubular portions 138 and 140, respectively. The free ends of this piece of wire are bent into substantially contiguous relation in the form of an arc to provide oppositely disposed resilient securing elements adapted to receive a projecting element 148 secured to the supporting plate 150. The projecting element 148 is formed from a single piece of material and is provided with an enlarged head 152 adapted to pass between the ends of the securing element 142 and be received in the opening 154. As in the previously described embodiments, such securing means provides a releasable connection between the spacer guide or member and the cabinet or supporting means with which the same may be associated, and these spacer members may be slid along the projecting element 148, as desired.

In Figure 20 of the drawings, the spacer member 14 has a plate 168 secured thereto which is formed with a cut-out portion 170 conforming substantially to a similar cut-out provided along the lower edge of the guide 14. This plate 168 is formed with spaced tubular bearing portions 172 and 174 adapted to pivotally support a securing element 176 which is formed from a single piece of resilient wire bent to provide a central enlarged eye or lug 178 which may be received between resilient securing elements, as shown in Figures 2 to 7 inclusive.

When desired, any of the spacer lugs hereinbefore referred to may be formed with interlocking means for locking adjacent lugs in their operative position. As disclosed in Figure 16 of the drawings, the spacer lugs 205 may be provided with a centrally disposed and transversely extending groove 207 on one face thereof adapted to receive the projection 209 of the next adjacent lug 205. Each of these lugs 205 is similarly constructed, and when the same is received between resilient securing elements, the interengagement of the tongue 209 in the groove 207 of an adjacent lug positively locks a series of spacer members in position. It is of course understood that when a spacer is to be removed or inserted, a suitable space between adjacent lugs is necessary in order to effect this interlocking engagement of adjacent lugs.

In Figure 17 is disclosed an alternative construction for spacer lugs whereby adjacent lugs may be effectively locked in position. In this embodiment, the lugs 211 are formed on one face thereof with an undercut shoulder 213 and with a projecting portion 215 adapted to extend beneath the shoulder 213 of an adjacent lug for locking these lugs together. When these lugs are inserted in or removed from their operative position, suitable space between the same is provided whereby this interlocking engagement between the projecting portion 215 and the shoulder 213 may be effected.

In order to properly position a plurality of spacer guides or members as shown in Figure 1 of the drawings, a compressor block or member 212 is provided at the rear end portion of the

cabinet 4. This compressor block or member 212 comprises a compressor plate 214 hinged as at 216 to a horizontally disposed supporting plate 218 movable over the supporting member 8, the embodiment as shown in Figures 2 to 4 inclusive being shown in association with the compressor member 212. The compressor member 214 is maintained in its various operative positions by means of a clutch mechanism, generally referred to as 220, and which comprises a plunger 222 slidable in a guiding plate 224 secured to the back face of the compressor plate 214 and substantially at its central axis. This plunger 222 is provided with a handle 226 at its upper end, between which and a rearwardly disposed flange 228 provided on the compressor plate 214 is disposed a coil spring 230, this coil spring being maintained in its proper position by means of a tubular housing 232 secured to the plate 214. The central portion of this plunger 226 is disposed substantially parallel to the compressor plate 214, while the lower end 236 of the same is bent so as to have substantial surface contact with a securing lug 16 of the end spacer guide 238 of a series. This substantial surface contact is desirable in order to prevent tipping or angular displacement of the securing lug 16, which would cause difficulty in sliding these securing lugs 16 over the elongated slot between the beaded edge 18 of members 20 and 22, and would decrease the efficiency of the system. The lower end 236 of the plunger 222 is adapted to selectively project into any one of the plurality of spaced slots 240 provided between the members 20 and 22 and in the channel 24 of the member 8, and is urged into this engaging relation under the impulse of coil spring 230. The compressor member 212 is held in position by the plunger 222 and the supporting plate 218, the plate 218 being of sufficient width to prevent tipping of the compressor member when the plunger engages in any of the selected slots 240.

In operating a filing device of the type disclosed in Figure 1 of the drawings, which may be provided with the compressor member 212, the plunger 222 of the compressor member normally engages the end lug 16 of a series for maintaining these lugs in their contiguous relation, as shown in Figure 23 of the drawings. The lug at the other end of this series is adapted to abut over a substantial portion of surface with a block or abutment which may be provided at the other end of the cabinet 4. These spacer members 14 are therefore effectively held in position and not only are suitably spaced but are adapted to be moved forwardly or rearwardly of the vertical about the lugs. When it is desired to remove one or more of the spacer members from the device, the plunger 222 may be moved upwardly and out of engagement with the slot 240 and slid rearwardly relative to the spacer members. The selected spacer member 14 may then be engaged through the medium of the opening provided immediately above its securing lug, and the same removed by an upward application of pressure. After the same has been removed, the compressor member 212 is moved forwardly in the cabinet 4, and its lower end 236 is adapted to slide the lugs 16 to close the opening previously filled by the lug of the removed spacer member. When a spacer member is introduced into the cabinet 4, the reverse operation may be effected to provide a suitable opening for receiving the lug of the spacer member to be introduced.

From the above, it will be readily apparent that any one of the disclosed embodiments will provide a novel filing device wherein the spacer members or guides may be readily inserted in and removed from the cabinet of this filing device. The securing lugs in each of the embodiments are releasably secured between the securing elements and the spacer guides are swingable or hinged in relation to the supporting member therefor, whereby the securing means may be used in filing systems irrespective of whether or not the same be of the vertical, horizontal, or other and varied types of devices. It will also be appreciated that the securing means is adapted either for spacing guides or other filing members of a filing device or system.

While I have herein described and upon the drawings shown illustrative embodiments of the device, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited thereto but may comprehend other constructions, arrangements of parts, details and features without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim:

1. In a filing device, the combination of a plurality of spacer members, a supporting member therefor, a projection having shoulders provided on each of said spacer members, means on said supporting member for engaging said shoulders to hold said spacer members in association with said supporting member, and means cooperating with adjacent projections for locking the same together.

2. In a filing device, the combination of a plurality of spacer members, a supporting member therefor, a projection having shoulders provided on each of said spacer members, and means on said supporting member for engaging said shoulders to hold said spacer members in association with said supporting member, said adjacent projections having interlocking means.

3. In a filing device, the combination of a spacer member, a supporting member therefor, a projecting element associated with one of said members, and resilient elements each having an edge connected to the other of said members and terminating in spaced relation to each other and to said other member to provide a slot for receiving said projecting element, said resilient elements engaging said projecting element for holding said spacer member in association with said supporting member.

4. In a filing device, the combination of a spacer member, a supporting member therefor, a projecting element associated with one of said members, and resilient releasable means associated with the other of said members for engaging said projecting element for holding said spacer member in association with said supporting member, said spacer member being provided with finger-engaging means whereby said projecting element may be removed from engaging relation with said means.

5. In a filing device, the combination of a spacer member, a supporting member therefor, a projecting element associated with one of said members, and resilient releasable means associated with the other of said members for engaging said projecting element for holding said spacer member in association with said supporting member, said spacer member being provided with a cut-out portion for receiving a finger whereby said projecting element may be removed from engaging relation with said means.

6. In a filing device, the combination of a plu-

rality of spacer members, a projecting element carried by each of said members substantially centrally and adjacent the lower edge thereof for spacing and positioning said spacer members, and means for releasably engaging said projecting elements, said means including oppositely disposed resilient elements spaced to provide an elongated slot whereby said projecting elements may slide along said slot.

7. In a filing device, the combination of a plurality of spacer members, a projecting element pivotally secured to each of said members substantially centrally and adjacent the lower edge thereof for spacing and positioning said spacer members, and means for releasably engaging said projecting elements, said means including oppositely disposed resilient elements spaced to provide an elongated slot whereby said projecting elements may slide along said slot.

8. In a filing device, the combination of a spacer member, a lug pivotally carried by said member substantially centrally and adjacent the lower edge thereof for spacing and positioning said spacer members, said lug having a projecting portion formed with shoulders, and means for releasably engaging said projecting portion, said means including oppositely disposed resilient elements engaging said shoulders.

9. In a filing device, the combination of a spacer member, a lug pivotally carried by said member, said lug having a projecting portion formed with shoulders, means for releasably engaging said projection portion, said means including oppositely disposed resilient elements engaging said shoulders, said spacer members having means substantially centrally disposed relative to said lug adapted to be engaged whereby said lug can be inserted into and removed from said releasably engaging means.

10. In a filing device, the combination of a spacer member, a lug pivotally carried by said member, said lug having a projecting portion formed with shoulders, and means for releasably engaging said projecting portion, said means including oppositely disposed resilient elements engaging said shoulders, said member having an opening adjacent said lug for receiving a finger whereby said lug may be inserted in and removed from said means.

11. In a filing device, the combination of a spacer member, means projecting from the lower edge thereof, said means including a tubular bearing, a member having a journal portion mounted in said bearing, and having laterally extending portions spaced from said edge, and means for holding said spacer member and including oppositely disposed members providing a slot adapted to receive said projecting means, said means being inserted through said slot at an angle with the longitudinal axis of said slot and said oppositely disposed members being received between the lower edge of said spacer member and laterally extending portions for locking said spacer member in relation thereto.

12. In a filing device, the combination of a plurality of spacer members provided with securing lugs, means for engaging said lugs for holding said spacer members whereby said lugs are slidably connected thereto, and means slidable relative to said lugs for maintaining the same in contiguous relation, said last named means including a member movable relative thereto and having a part in substantially parallel relation to the contacting faces of said lugs and having substantial surface contact with the end lug of a series of spacers.

13. In a filing device, the combination of a plurality of spacer members provided with securing lugs, means for engaging said lugs for holding said spacer members whereby said lugs are slidably connected thereto, a compressor member slidable relative to said lugs for holding said spacer members in position, and means movable relative to said compressor and having a part disposed in substantially parallel relation to the contacting faces of said lugs and having substantial surface contact with the end lug of a series of spacers for holding said lugs in their normal operative position.

14. In a filing device, the combination of a plurality of spacer members provided with securing lugs, means for engaging said lugs for holding said spacer members, a compressor member for holding said spacer members in position, and a plunger associated with said compressor member having a portion disposed in parallel relation to the plane of the contacting faces of said lugs and adapted to have substantial surface contact with the end lug of a series of spacers for holding said lugs in their normal operative position.

15. A securing lug for a spacer member, comprising an integrally formed member having a laterally extending trunnion portion and an enlarged projecting portion formed with shoulders.

16. A securing lug for a spacer member, comprising a cast-metal member having an enlarged projecting portion and provided with laterally extending trunnion portions adjacent thereto, said enlarged portion and trunnion portions providing shoulders on both sides of said lug.

17. In a filing device, the combination of a spacer member, a member projecting from said spacer member substantially centrally and adjacent the lower edge thereof for spacing and positioning said spacer members and provided with shoulders, a supporting member for said spacer member, and means on said supporting member adapted to resiliently engage said shoulders whereby said projecting member may be snapped into place and held and removed therefrom at will, said means providing a slot whereby said spacer member may be moved therealong as desired to adjust the position thereof.

18. In a filing device, the combination of a spacer member, a member pivotally connected thereto and projecting therefrom substantially centrally and adjacent the lower edge thereof for spacing and positioning said spacer members, said projecting member having an enlarged portion with adjacently disposed recesses providing oppositely disposed shoulders, a supporting member for said spacer member, oppositely disposed resilient members secured to said supporting member in spaced relation thereon, said resilient members engaging said shoulders whereby said spacer member may be inserted in place therebetween or removed therefrom at will, said resilient members forming a slot whereby said spacer member may be moved therealong as desired to adjust the position thereof.

19. In a filing device, the combination of a spacer member, a member pivotally connected thereto and projecting therefrom, said projecting member having an enlarged portion with adjacently disposed recesses providing oppositely disposed shoulders, a supporting member for said spacer member, oppositely disposed resilient members secured to said supporting member in spaced relation thereon, said resilient members

engaging said shoulders whereby said projecting member may be inserted in place therebetween or removed therefrom at will, said resilient members forming a slot whereby said spacer member may be moved therealong as desired to adjust the position thereof, said spacer member being provided with an opening immediately above said projecting member to permit introduction of a finger when placing said spacer member in position or removing the same therefrom.

20. In a filing device, the combination of a plurality of spacer members, a supporting member therefor, means secured to each of said spacer members engaging said supporting member for holding said spacer members in association with said supporting member, said means being adjacent one another when in association with said supporting member, and means cooperating with said adjacent means for locking said spacer members together.

21. In a filing device, the combination of a plurality of spacer members, a supporting member therefor, means pivotally secured to each of said spacer members engaging said supporting member for holding said spacer members in association with said supporting member, said means being adjacent one another when in association with said supporting member, said adjacent means interlocking together.

22. In a filing device, the combination of a spacer member, a lug member, said lug member including a part carried by said spacer member and having a depending stud member, an unsymmetrical rotatable head portion rotatably secured to said stud member, and means for receiving said head portion when in a certain position and for engaging therewith when in another position for holding said spacer member in position.

23. In a filing device, the combination of a spacer member, a lug member, said lug member including a part pivotally carried by said spacer member and having a depending stud member, an unsymmetrical rotatable head portion rotatably secured to said stud member, and means for receiving said head portion when in a certain position and for engaging therewith when in another position for holding said spacer member in position.

24. In a filing device, the combination of a spacer member, a lug member, said lug member including a part pivotally carried by said spacer member and a depending stud member having an unsymmetrical head portion secured thereto, and means for receiving said head portion when in a certain position and for engaging therewith when in another position for holding said spacer member in position.

25. In a filing device, the combination of a spacer member, supporting means therefor, a projecting element secured to said supporting means and having an enlarged head, a securing element pivotally secured to said spacer member, said securing element having oppositely disposed resilient end portions adapted to receive said projecting element therebetween and engage the enlarged head thereof for holding said spacer member in association with said projecting element, said spacer member being provided with a cut-out portion for receiving a finger whereby said spacer member may be removed from engaging relation with said projecting element.

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