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DRAWER SLIDE ROLLER AND CONTROLLED GUIDE

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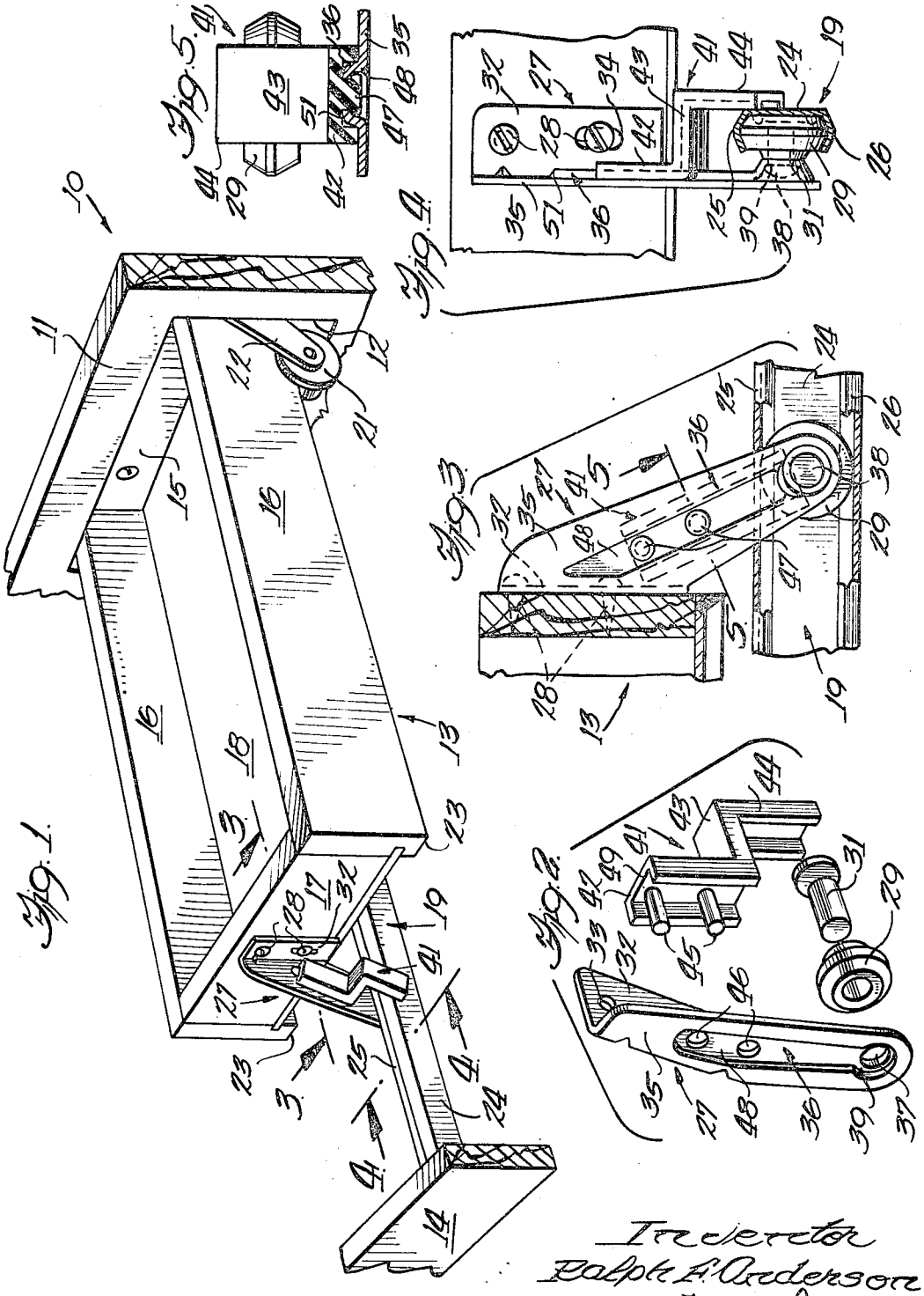


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

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DRAWER SLIDE ROLLER AND CONTROLLED GUIDE

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A drawer slide assembly for a drawer in a cabinet having a center track roller movable in a center track extending between the rear wall and cabinet front wall and a controlled guide secured to the center roller bracket. The controlled guide has a mounting portion which is secured onto the center roller bracket above the roller and track and an offset guide portion parallel to the center bracket and positioned alongside of the closed side of the C-shaped track to guide the center roller and limit or prevent any excessive lateral movement of the drawer.

The present invention relates to an improved center bracket and roller assembly for a center track drawer installation, and more particularly to a novel controlled guide mounted on the center bracket to ride closely adjacent the closed side of the center track for the drawer.

Among the objects of the present invention is the provision of a bracket assembly for a drawer guide assembly utilizing a controlled guide secured to the bracket and having a guide portion facing the roller mounted on the bracket. The guide portion is spaced from the roller a distance slightly greater than the thickness of the side wall of the center track.

Another object of the present invention is the provision of a bracket assembly for a track roller having a controlled guide with a mounting portion and an offset guide portion parallel to the bracket arm for the roller. The mounting portion has one or more lateral projections extending through suitable openings in the bracket and headed to secure the guide to the bracket.

A further object of the present invention is the provision of a bracket assembly for a drawer slide assembly having a controlled guide secured thereto and having an offset guide portion. The bracket carries a track roller which is mounted on the bracket arm and located in a C-shaped track on the open side of the track. The guide portion is positioned closely adjacent the closed side of the track to limit or prevent any undesirable or excessive lateral movement of the drawer. The bracket assembly and guide are secured to the rear surface of the drawer and are easily assembled with the track through an open end or an opening in the upper surface of the track.

Further objects are to provide a construction of maximum simplicity, efficiency, economy and ease of assembly, and such further objects, advantages and capabilities as will later more fully appear and are inherently possessed thereby.

In the drawing:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a drawer slide assembly having a center track and showing the rear drawer wall and the center roller bracket and guide secured thereto.

FIG. 2 is an enlarged exploded perspective view of the roller bracket and controlled guide.

FIG. 3 is an enlarged cross sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of FIG. 1 and showing the roller bracket in side elevation.

FIG. 4 is an enlarged cross sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of FIG. 1.

FIG. 5 is a cross sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of FIG. 3.

Referring more particularly to the disclosure in the drawing wherein is shown an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 1 discloses a cabinet or enclosure **10** having a front wall **11** with an opening **12** for reception of a sliding drawer **13** and a spaced rear wall **14** of the enclosure; the drawer in closed position extending to adjacent the rear wall. The drawer **13** includes a front wall **15**, side walls **16**, a rear wall **17** and a bottom **18**. The drawer may be of a standard configuration or design and does not have to be prooved or otherwise altered for the utilization of the slide assembly.

The drawer slide assembly for supporting and guiding the drawer **13** in the cabinet includes a single center track **19** mounted in the cabinet **10** below the drawer and suitably secured to both the front wall **11** and the rear wall **14** of the cabinet at the opposite ends thereof. A pair of spaced front rollers **21** are mounted on brackets **22** secured to the cabinet front wall **11** at each side of the drawer **13** with the rollers **21** supporting the lower edges **23** of the side walls **16** of the drawer **13**. The specific construction of the track **19**, track mounting means and the front rollers and brackets are of the type shown in the Anderson et al. Patent No. 3,281,198, and are not specifically shown in the drawing as these details form no part of the present invention.

The center track **19** is a generally C-shaped track in cross section (see FIG. 4) and is provided with a flat side wall **24** and angular top and bottom walls **25** and **26**, respectively. The top wall **25** is cut away to provide an opening (not shown) adjacent the cabinet front wall **11** such as that shown in the above cited Anderson et al. patent. The drawer **13** is provided with a roller bracket **27** secvured to the rear wall **17** by screws **28** or other suitable attaching means, and rotatably carrying a drawer roller **29** by means of a rivet or pin **31**. The roller bracket **27** includes a mounting flange **32** having an opening **33** and a slot **34** to receive the screws **28** for attaching the bracket to the rear drawer wall **17**.

At right angles to the flange **32** is a rearwardly and downwardly extending arm **35** having a longitudinally extending embossment **36** thereon, the lower end of the embossment being enlarged and having an opening **37** to reeceive the end of the pin or rivet **31** which is headed as at **38** in the recess **39** formed by the embossment. Secured to the bracket arm **35** is a controlled guide **41** which is preferably formed of a suitable plastic material.

As shown in FIGS. 2, 4 and 5, the controlled guide **41** is a channel-shaped member having a mounting portion **42**, an offset **43** perpendicular to the mounting portion, and a guide portion **44** parallel to the mounting portion **42** and adapted to be positioned and move closely adjacent to the side wall **24** of the track **19**. The mounting portion **42** includes a pair of spaced integral pins or rivets **45** projecting laterally to extend through spaced openings **46** formed in the embossment **36**; the pins **44** being headed at **47** (see FIGS. 3 and 5) within the recess **48** formed by the embossment. The recess **49** in the channel shape of the mounting portion **41** receives the raised portion **51** of the embossment **36** to orient the guide **41** relative thereto.

As seen in FIG. 4, the guide portion **44** of the controlled guide **41** is located closely adjacent the flat side wall **24** of the track **19** opposite the roller **29**, in which position the guide **41** will prevent any undesirable or excessive lateral or side action or play in the drawer during insertion or withdrawal thereof. The guide does not obstruct any movement or hinder assembly of the drawer in the cabinet. The drawer with the bracket and guide may be easily inserted into the cabinet with the roller **29** entering through the open end of or an opening in

the top wall of the track **19** with the guide merely fitting over the upper and side wall of the track.

Having thus disclosed my invention, I claim:

1. A roller bracket and guide assembly for a drawer slide having a guide track therefor, comprising a roller bracket having a mounting flange and a downwardly and rearwardly extending bracket arm having a free end closely adjacent one side of a guiding track and having an opening adjacent the free end thereof, a roller adapted to ride in the guiding track, a rivet carrying said roller and extending through the opening in the bracket arm, and a controlled guide having a mounting portion secured to said bracket arm above said roller and an offset guide portion positioned closely adjacent the opposite side of said guiding track to limit sidewise movement of the inner end of the drawer.

2. A roller bracket and guide assembly as set forth in claim **1**, in which said guiding track has a generally C-shape with an open side facing said bracket arm and a flat closed side facing said offset guide portion, said controlled guide and said roller being formed of a suitable plastic material.

3. A roller bracket and guide assembly as set forth in claim **1**, in which said bracket arm has a longitudinally

extending embossment facing said track and providing a recess on the opposite side and having a pair of openings therein, said controlled guide having a pair of integral pins adapted to project through said spaced openings, said pins and said roller carrying rivet being headed in the recess formed by said embossment.

4. A roller bracket and guide assembly as set forth in claim **3**, in which said controlled guide has a generally channel shape opening toward said bracket arm and receiving said embossment.

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