Dec. 12, 1933. R. M. TUSSING 1,938,944

INDEX TAB

Filed June 30, 1931

Fig. 1

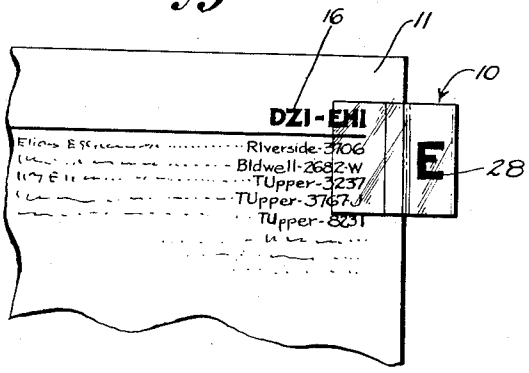



Fig. 2

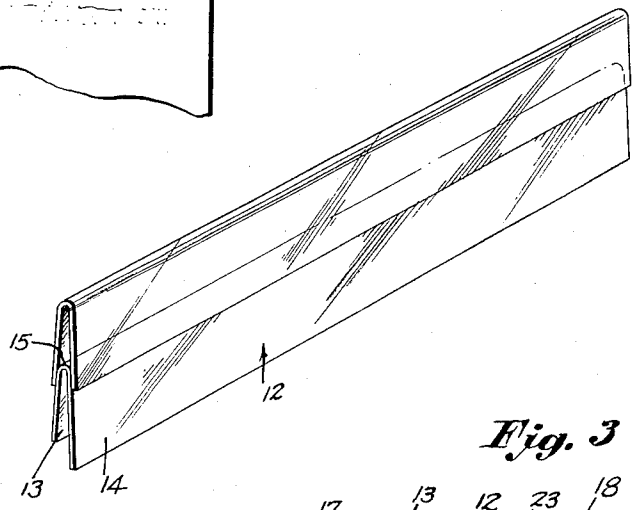
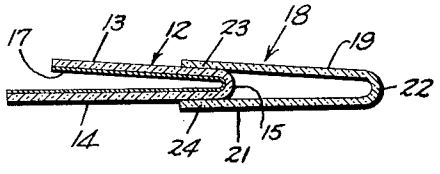



Fig. 3



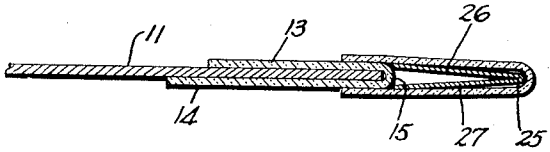




Fig. 4

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Patented Dec. 12, 1933 1,938,944

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,938,944

## INDEX TAB

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Application June 30, 1931. Serial No. 548,020

1 Claim. (Cl. 40—23)

This invention relates to index tabs and particularly to that class of tabs which are adapted to be applied to card index leaves or book leaves which are not originally so equipped, as distinguished from articles of the same nature which are equipped with index tabs during the process of their manufacture.

The present invention comprehends an index tab having an outer or index portion formed to substantially U-shape and an attaching member of substantially like shape inserted within the mouth of the index strip and secured to the edge portions thereof, the space within the interior of the index strip providing for the retention of an index slip, or like element, containing index indicia. The inner surfaces of the U-shaped attaching strips are coated with adhesive material adapted to secure the tabs to a paper sheet or other article to be indexed.

According to the present invention the attaching strip is formed of celluloid, cellophane or like transparent material in order that printed matter, or other indicia, along the edge of the sheet or card to which the tab is attached, may be visible therethrough, thus permitting the attaching strip to be made of larger size, resulting in better adherence to the article to be indexed. One side of the U-shaped attaching strip is preferably longer than the other side in order that they may be readily separable to allow insertion of an edge portion of an article to be indexed. The indicia bearing index slip preferably comprises a folded strip with diverging leg portions which may engage the sides of the index strip in order to prevent displacement of it.

The index tabs may be formed in strips of indefinite length and may be cut up into smaller sections by the user, to accord with his particular needs, and may then be applied by him to the edges of the leaves of telephone books, index cards, or the like.

These and other objects and advantages will appear from the following description of one typical embodiment of the invention, reference being made to the accompanying drawing wherein:

Fig. 1 is an elevation of an index tab of the present invention applied to a fragment of a leaf of a telephone book;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of an elongated tab strip including the index strip and the attaching strip;

Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view through a strip as shown in Fig. 2; and

Fig. 4 is a similar cross-sectional view showing the index tab of Figs. 2 and 3 applied to a leaf or card and showing the index slip inserted therein.

As shown in Fig. 1, the index tab generally indicated at 10, may be applied to an edge portion of an article to be indexed such as a leaf 11 of a telephone book. The tab includes an inner or attaching strip 12 having substantially parallel sides 13 and 14 integrally joined by a fold portion 15. The attaching strip is formed of celluloid or like transparent material in order that indicia 16 on the leaf 11 may be visible therethrough and adhesive 17, applied to the inner surfaces of the index strip, is likewise transparent, it being of a type adapted, either in its applied condition or upon moistening, to secure the strip 12 to paper or other articles to be indexed.

The index strip 18 is of substantially the same form as the strip 12 having side portions 19 and 21 respectively which are integrally joined by a fold portion 22. Edge portions 23 and 24 of the respective sides 19 and 21 of the index strip are joined to the sides of the attaching strip 12 adjacent to the fold portion thereof in any suitable manner. Space is thus provided, between the fold portions of the attaching and index strips and between the walls 19 and 21 of the index strip, for the insertion of an index slip 25 which may comprise a strip of paper folded longitudinally to provide diverging legs 26 and 27 for frictionally engaging the walls 19 and 21 of the index strip to retain the slip against displacement therefrom. One face of the index slip may be provided with indexing indicia such as indicated at 28 in Fig. 1. In order to render this indicia visible to the index strip, the latter is formed of celluloid or like transparent material.

As shown in Figs. 2, 3 and 4 the side 13 of the attaching strip is slightly shorter than the side 14 thereof. The purpose of this being to facilitate separation of the sides 13 and 14 to allow insertion therebetween of an edge of the article 11 to be indexed. As shown in Fig. 4 the fold portion 15 of the attaching strip provides a positively defined shoulder for abutment with the edge of the article 11 to be indexed, thus enabling ready alignment of the sheet 11 being indexed.

In applying a tab to a leaf of a telephone book, for example, a strip such as shown in Fig. 2 is cut to an appropriate length, the adhesive is moistened, if it be of the type requiring moisture to cause it to become effective, the sides 13

and 14 are separated and the edge of the leaf is inserted therebetween into abutment with the fold portion 15. The sides 13 and 14 may then be pressed together to cause them to firmly adhere to the leaf. The index slip 25, bearing printed or written index indicia, may, either before or after application of the tab to the leaf, be inserted between the sides 19 and 21 of the index strip.

What is claimed is:

An index tab comprising a transparent index strip having integral sides connected by a fold portion, a transparent attaching strip having integral sides connected by a fold portion, said attaching strip having the fold portion disposed between the sides of the index strip with portions of its sides adjacent the fold secured to edge portions of the index strip, said attaching strip having a transparent adhesive thereon whereby the edge of a sheet or card to be indexed may be received and secured therein, and a folded index slip having indexing indicia thereon inserted between the sides of the index strip and between the fold of the index strip and the fold of the attaching strip with the fold portion of said slip engaging the fold of one of said strips, and the free edges of said slip opposite the fold engaging the other fold portion adjacent said sides, said slip being retained in said tab by the cooperative engagement of the folded slip with said fold portions.

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