Oct. 23, 1928. 1,688,965

A. H. HEILAND

CARD INDEX AND SIGNAL THEREFOR

Filed March 25, 1927

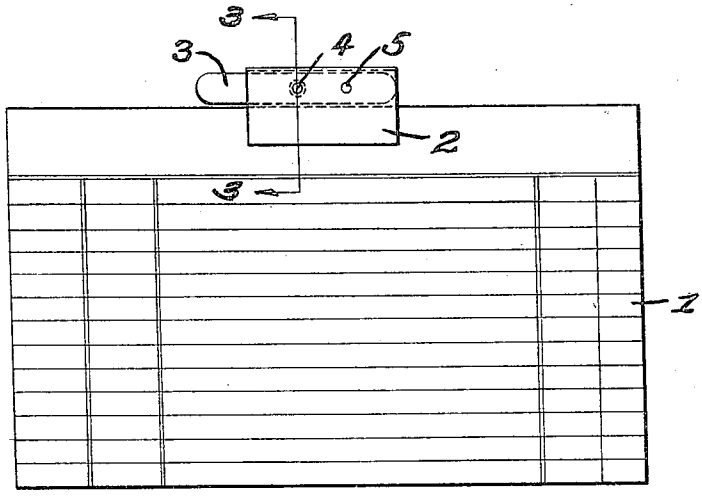


Fig. 1.

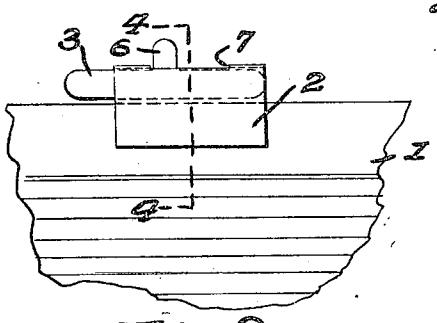


Fig. 2.

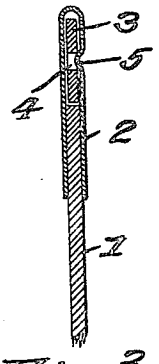


Fig. 3.

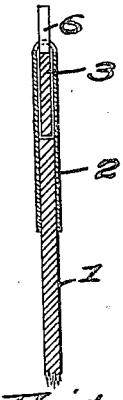


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CARD INDEX AND SIGNAL THEREFOR.

Application filed March 25, 1927. Serial No. 178,443.

This invention relates to improvements in card indices, and more particularly to a slidable tab structure thereon, whereby a signalling tab of suitable two-tone coloring may be moved from side to side with respect to its mounting, thus exposing one or the other of its ends and indicating at a glance to any operator of the file and its contents the status of any account in accordance with the exposed end of the tab. For instance, all tabs showing red would indicate an overdue or delinquent account, while the other tab ends of a different color, such for example as white, would indicate an account in good standing and not in need of attention. Thus an operator in looking over the card file provided with my improved form of signalling tabs can quickly and accurately determine the accounts to be dealt with. When the account has been attended to the tab is re-positioned on the file card to expose the white portion of the tab thus forming a signal for the next observer of the file contents.

Another object of the invention is that, the tabs and their relative parts are constructed of such material that the entire card may be run through a typewriter, accounting machine or the like without injury to the tab and without offering interference to the machine.

These and other objects will appear as my invention is more fully hereinafter described in the following specification, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and finally pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Figure 1, is a view showing the face of any approved form of file index card, with my improved form of signal tab in operative engagement therewith.

Figure 2, is a modified form of tab structure in operative engagement with a file card.

Figure 3, is a sectional end elevation taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4, is a sectional end elevation taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings:

Reference numeral 1 indicates any preferred form and style of index card, having an inverted U shaped member 2 secured to its upper edge by any suitable means. The member 2 is open at both of its ends and is elevated from the edge of the card sufficiently to slidably embrace a tab member indicated at 3. 4 is an aperture centrally located in the body of the tab. 5 indicates a pair of depressions or indentations in the member 2 so that when the tab is moved from side to side the depressions 5 will engage with the aperture 4 under the spring influence of the side walls of the member 2. In the modified form shown in Figure 2, I have provided a finger grip 6 on the upper edge of the tab 3, and have provided a cut-away portion in the member 2 indicated at 7 so that when the tab is moved from side to side the finger grip 6 will contact with the ends of the cut-away portion which thus form limit stops for the movement of the tab.

While I have shown a particular form of embodiment of my invention, I am aware that many minor changes therein will readily suggest themselves to others skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:—

1. An index card or the like and a tab, means whereby said tab may be supported wholly beyond one edge of the card, said tab being movable longitudinally of and relative to said edge for indicating purposes, the tab being of materially less length than the length of the edge on which it is mounted.

2. An index card, a tab supporting means secured to and projecting beyond one edge of the card, and a tab of materially less length than said card edge and slidable in said means to expose one or the other of the ends of the tab, the exposed end of the tab being arranged wholly beyond the edge to which the supporting means is secured the respective ends of the tab being differently marked.

3. An index card, a tab supporting means secured to and projecting beyond one edge of the card, a tab of materially less length than said card edge and slidable in said means to expose one or the other of the ends of the tab, the exposed end of the tab being arranged wholly beyond the edge to which the supporting means is secured, the respective ends of the tab being differently marked, and means whereby the tab may be held against casual displacement when in either position.

4. An index card, a housing secured to one edge of the card and projecting beyond such edge, and a tab of materially less length than said edge and slidable in the housing to expose a selected end of the tab beyond the housing,

and wholly beyond the edge to which the housing is secured, the respective ends of the tabs being differently colored.

5. An index card, a housing secured to one edge of the card and projecting beyond such edge, and a tab slidable in the housing to selectively expose either end of the tab beyond the housing, said tab having ends of different colors, the remaining portion of the tab being concealed by the housing.

6. An index card, a housing secured to one edge of the card and projecting beyond such edge, and a tab slidable in the housing to expose a selected end of the tab beyond the housing, the remaining portion of the tab being concealed by the housing, the respective ends of the tabs being differently colored, the housing being indented to provide a projection to hold the tab against casual displacement when in operative position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ALBERT H. HEILAND.