Dec. 18, 1928. 1,695,698

W. A. RINGLER

VISIBLE INDEX CARD SYSTEM

Filed Feb. 11, 1924 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

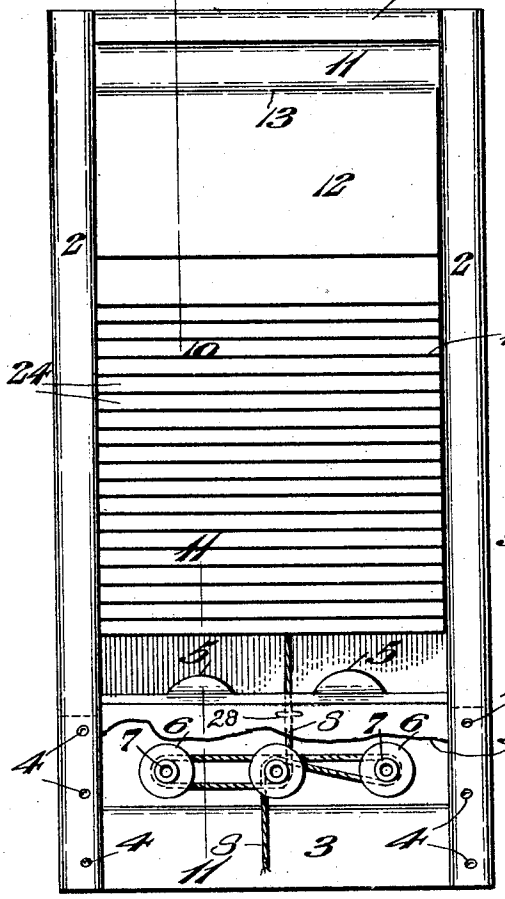


Fig. 2.

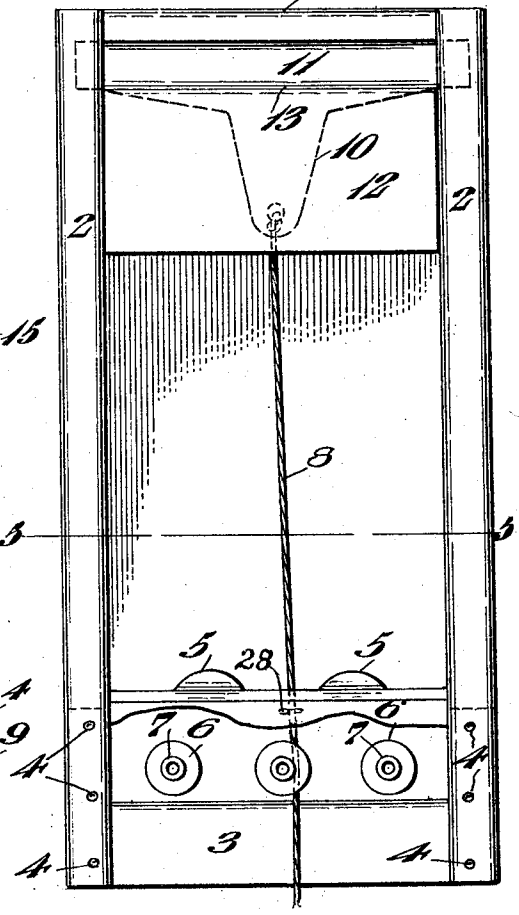


Fig. 3.

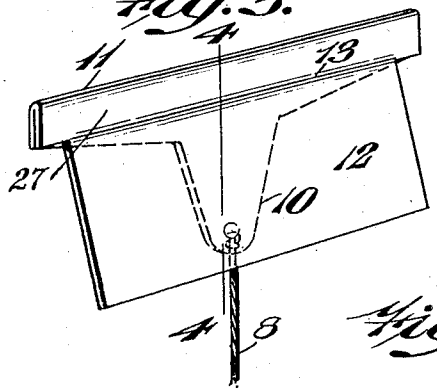


Fig. 5.

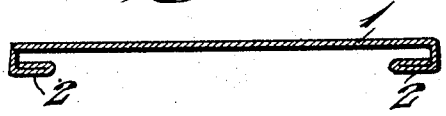


Fig. 4.



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Fig. 6.

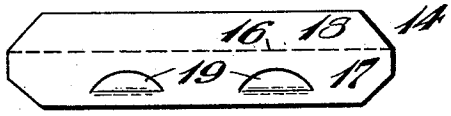


Fig. 7.

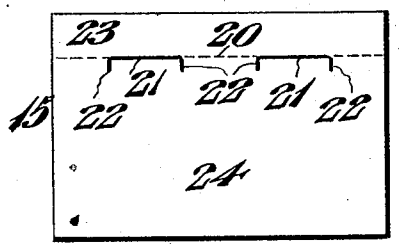


Fig. 8.

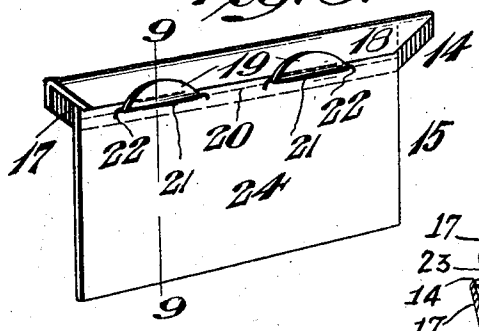


Fig. 12.

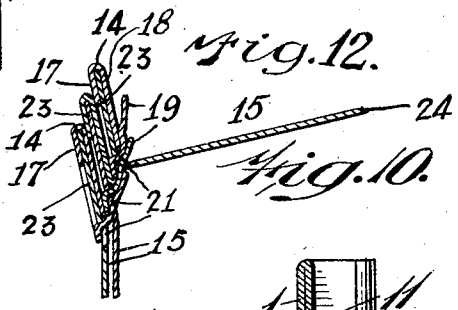


Fig. 10.

Fig. 9.

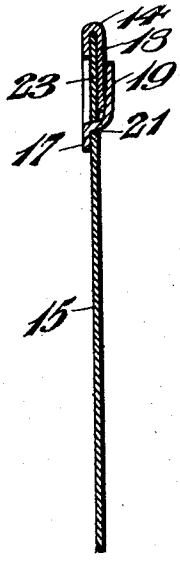
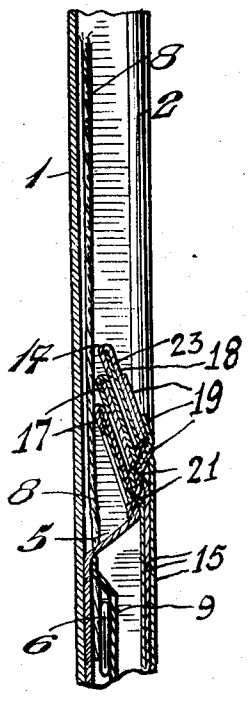


Fig. 11.



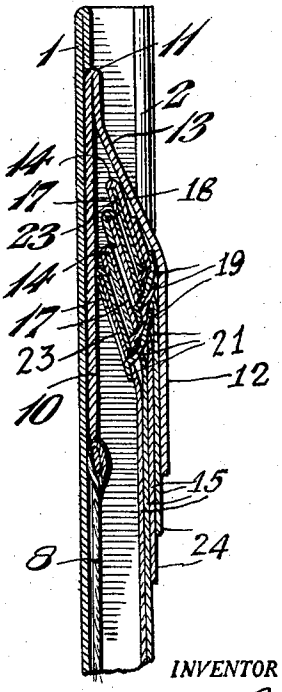
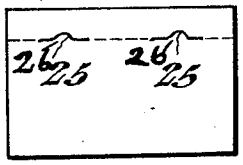


Fig. 13.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. RINGLER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO GLOBE-WERNICKE COMPANY, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO, A CORPORATION OF OHIO.

VISIBLE INDEX-CARD SYSTEM.

Application filed February 11, 1924. Serial No. 691,895.

My present invention comprehends a novel construction and arrangement of a visible card system which embodies a novel construction and arrangement of a frame, a novel construction and arrangement of a follower block, a novel construction and arrangement of card-holders, a novel construction and arrangement of cards, and novel means for securing the card-holders in the frame.

It further comprehends a novel visible card system wherein the cards are provided with a weakened portion in order to adapt the cards to be readily folded, and wherein the cards are provided with one or more slots through which are adapted to pass one or more locking tongues of a card-holder.

It further comprehends a novel construction of a card-holder having one or more locking tongues, said card holders being adapted to be folded and have one of its folds locked beneath said tongue, so that when a card of the character herein described is secured to its holder it can be handled as a unit of structure therewith, and the card can be readily detached from its holder when desired.

It further comprehends a novel construction and arrangement of a frame having a stop member provided with tongues, and novel means to secure the follower block and card-holders in adjusted position with respect to said stop member.

Other novel features of construction and advantage will hereinafter more clearly appear in the detailed description and the appended claims.

For the purpose of illustrating the invention, I have shown in the accompanying drawing a typical embodiment of it, which, in practice, will give reliable and satisfactory results. It is however to be understood that this embodiment is typical only and that the various instrumentalities of which my invention consists can be variously arranged and organized, and that the invention is not limited to the precise arrangement and organization of these instrumentalities as herein set forth.

Figure 1 represents a top plan view of a visible card system embodying my invention.

Figure 2 represents a top plan view of the frame with the cards and their holders removed.

Figure 3 represents, in perspective, a follower block.

Figure 4 represents a section on line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Figure 5 represents a section on line 5—5 of Figure 2.

Figure 6 represents a plan view of a card-holder before it has been folded.

Figure 7 represents a plan view of one of the cards.

Figure 8 represents, in perspective, a card-holder in assembled position with respect to a card.

Figure 9 represents a section on line 9—9 of Figure 8.

Figure 10 represents a section on line 10—10 of Figure 1.

Figure 11 represents a section on line 11—11 of Figure 1, but with the cards slid down to lowermost position.

Figure 12 represents a fragmentary section illustrating more particularly the manner in which a card is retained in raised position by the tongues of the holder of the next card.

Figure 13 represents a modified form of card.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings:—

1 designates a frame having the inturned marginal edges 2 which form guides. A stop member 3 is secured between the body portion of the frame and the guides 2 in any desired manner, for example, by indenting the guides as at 4. The stop member 3 has at its upper end one or more projecting tongues 5 which are preferably rounded. 6 represents discs secured to the stop member 3 and also to the frame 1, if desired, by means of the centrally disposed rivets 7. One or more of these discs 6 may be employed. The stop member 3 has a slit 28 centrally located therein, see Figures 1 and 2, through which passes a securing cord 8.

The stop member preferably has hinged thereto a cover sheet 9. The cord 8 is secured to the rear flap 10 of a follower 11. The sheet of material from which the follower is made is folded upon itself to form a body portion 27, the free ends of which are adapted to be guided in the frame 1. The front fold or flap of the follower has connected with it a sheet 12 which is bendable along the line 13.

14 designates the card-holders, and 15 designates the cards carried thereby.

The card-holders are formed each from a blank of sheet material having a longitudinally weakened line 16 along which it is folded to form a rear fold 17 and a front flap 18. The rear fold has formed from it one or more projecting tongues 19.

The cards 15 have near their top a weakened line 20 and one or more slits 21 which at their ends extends outwardly as at 22. The body or holding portion 23 of a card above the slits 21 and the weakened line 20 is preferably of such width that it substantially fits between the tongues 19 of its holder and the inner rear wall of such holder. The free ends of a card-holder extend beyond the card which it carries and are adapted to be received beneath the guides 2 of the frame 1.

When the cards and card-holders are assembled in the frame they overlap, as seen in Figures 1 and 10, to provide a visible portion 24 on each card. In the embodiment seen in Figure 13, the cards have one or more curved cuts 25 forming the flexible friction members 26. The cards are assembled with respect to their holders by passing the tongues 19 of the card-holders through the slits 21 and the front flap 18 is then passed beneath the tongues 19, so that the cards are locked in position. The cards can be readily and quickly detached from their holders when desired.

The card-holders are inserted in the frame and the follower is drawn downwardly by means of the cord 8 and assumes the position seen in Figure 10. The cord is tightened around the discs 6, and a plurality of these discs are employed in order that the cord will be concealed beneath the flap 12.

In Figure 1, the follower and card-holders are in their raised position, and when the follower is moved downwardly, the card-holders move downwardly therewith, and the locking tongues 5 of the member 3 extend through the slits 21 of the lowermost card.

A card-holder and its card is insertable into and removable from its frame as a unit of structure.

Special attention is directed to the novel construction and function of the flexible friction members which are formed by the aligned slits 21 and 22 and of the flexible friction member 26 shown in Figure 13.

This construction is most clearly shown in Figure 12 from which it will be seen that when a card is raised the flexible lips or friction members formed by the slits 21 and 22 for example, frictionally engage the locking tongues 19 of the card-holder 14 which is beneath the card-holder 14 which carries the card 15 which has been raised. This frictional grip of the cards with underneath tongues causes the card to be retained in its raised position so that the recording surface of the exposed card is entirely visible, and it is not necessary for the operator to employ one hand to hold the superimposed card or cards out of the way.

When the operator presses down the superimposed card, the friction grip is released, and all of the cards lie substantially flat on the frame.

When it is desired to remove a card, the operator unfastens the cord 8, moves the follower upwardly, and removes from the frame the desired card-holder and card. The desired matter can then be written on the recording surface of the card without removing the card from its holder, but, if desired, the card can be readily and quickly removed from its holder.

The cards as well as the card-holders can be economically manufactured from sheet material, and, while the card-holders are preferably made of paper they can be formed from cardboard or any desired sheet material.

It will be seen that the lower portion of a card-holder is nested between the body portion and tongues of the card-holder beneath it.

The locking tongues project forwardly and upwardly and pass through the slits in the card and as illustrated overhang or overlie the front flap of the card holder. If a large slit is employed through which the locking tongues pass, then the resilient friction members would be absent and the cards would simply swing rearwardly and forwardly without any friction gripping means to retain them in their open position, and, although, such construction is within the scope of my present invention, I prefer, and it is advantageous in many instances to form the cards with a flexible gripping portion which will retain the card in its open position and tend to move it into its closed position when it is partially moved downwardly.

Two or more cards can be attached to a single card-holder and the recording portions of the cards rendered visible when the cards are moved into their open positions.

It will now be apparent that I have devised a new and useful visible index card system which embodies the features of advantage enumerated as desirable in the statement of the invention and the above description, and while I have, in the present instance, shown and described a preferred embodiment thereof which will give in practice satisfactory and reliable results, it is to be understood that this embodiment is susceptible of modification in various particulars without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

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

1. A card-holder comprising a strip of material foldable upon itself to form a front and a rear portion, one of said portions being

of greater width than the other portion and having a tongue deflected from it between its top and bottom marginal edge portions and adapted to engage the other portion.

2. A card-holder comprising a strip of material foldable upon itself to provide a rear fold and a front flap, said rear fold being of greater width than the width of said front flap and having a locking tongue extending therefrom between its upper and lower marginal portions to engage said front flap.

3. A card-holder comprising a strip of sheet material foldable transversely upon itself to form a rear fold and a front flap, said rear fold having its lower portion terminating in a marginal edge and projecting from it near its lower marginal edge a locking tongue adapted to overhang the front flap and lock it in its folded position.

4. A card-holder comprising a strip of sheet material adapted to fold upon itself to form a rear fold and a front flap of less width than the width of said rear fold, said rear fold having a plurality of projecting tongues to overlap the edge of said front flap and having their free ends extending towards the line of fold of said strip in overlapping relation with said front flap.

5. An index card to be held having a plurality of separated aligned slits extending in parallelism with and in proximity to its holding marginal edge adapted to receive holding means for the card, said slits at their ends extending at an angle towards the opposite edge only of the card in substantially U-shape and forming flexible friction members extending only towards the holding edge of the card.

6. An index card having near one of its marginal edges a weakened line and a slit, substantially in alignment with said line, said slit forming a friction lip.

7. An index card having a weakened line to divide it into a holding portion and a recording portion, said card having a slit the free ends of which are deflected towards said recording portion to form a flexible friction member.

8. An index card having a weakened line dividing it into a holding portion and a recording portion, said card having a plurality of channel shaped slits, located in proximity to said weakened line.

9. The combination with a card-holder comprising a foldable strip having a rear fold provided with a projecting tongue and a front flap secured in position by said tongue of an index card having a weakened portion and a slit through which said tongue extends, said slit forming a flexible friction portion of said card.

10. The combination with a foldable card-holder having a rear fold provided with a plurality of projecting tongues and a front flap to be engaged by said tongues, of a card having a weakened line to divide it into a holding portion and a recording portion, said card having in proximity to said weakened line a plurality of slits to receive said tongues, said slits forming flexible friction members.

11. In a visible index card system, a plurality of card-holders each comprising a foldable strip one fold of which is provided with a locking tongue to engage the other fold of said strip and secure the folds in position, cards carried by said card-holder and each having a slit through which the tongue of its card-holder extends, said card-holders being adapted to nest one with the other, to bring the tongue of one card-holder through the slit of a superimposed card.

12. In a visible index card system, a plurality of card-holders each comprising a foldable strip one fold of which is provided with a locking tongue to engage the other fold of said strip and secure the folds in position, cards carried by said card-holders and each having a slit through which the tongue of its card-holder extends, said slits forming flexible friction members, said card-holders being adapted to nest one with the other, to bring the tongue of one card-holder through the slit of a superimposed card, and said flexible friction members of a card coacting with the tongue of a card-holder beneath it to retain such card when raised in its open position.

13. The combination with a card-holder comprising a foldable strip having a rear fold provided with a projecting tongue and a front flap secured in position by said tongue, of an index card having a weakened portion and a slit through which said tongue extends.

14. A plurality of card-holders arranged one above the other and having upwardly and forwardly projecting tongues, with the tongues of each card holder overhanging the tongues of the card holder above it.

15. A plurality of card-holders arranged one above the other and having upwardly and forwardly projecting tongues, with the tongues of each card holder overhanging the tongues of the card holder above it in combination with cards carried by said tongues.

16. A plurality of card-holders superimposed one above the other in overlapping relation and having upwardly and forwardly projecting tongues in combination with cards superimposed one above the other and carried by said tongues, each card-holder having its tongue projecting through the card on a superimposed holder.

17. Card-holders having upwardly projecting tongues, and cards carried by said tongues, each card having a flexible friction portion engaging the tongue of the card-holder for the next adjacent card.

18. In a visible index card system, a flat frame, a follower to move with respect to said frame, a cord secured to said follower,

and a plurality of cord-engaging discs fixedly mounted near one end of the frame to cause the follower to be retained in its adjusted position.

19. In a visible index card system, a frame having guides, card-holders engaging said guides, cards carried by said card-holders and having slits, and a stop member having a tongue to enter the slit of a juxtaposed card.

20. In a visible index card system, a frame, a follower slidable therein having a body portion and a front flap hinged to and of less width than the width of the body portion, a cord secured to said follower, and securing means for said cord.

21. A follower formed from sheet material to provide a body portion of double thickness, and with a front flap integral with, hinged to and narrower than said body portion.

22. A card holder comprising a folded strip having card-securing means carried by one fold and overlapping the other fold, a card through which said card-securing means passes, said card-holder being wider than said card, and a frame having flanges to engage the ends of said card-holder.

23. Card holders each consisting of a folded strip having one fold wider than the other with aligned tongues formed from one fold and overhanging the other fold to retain the folds in locked position, said holders being adapted to be nested together with the tongues of one card holder overhanging the tongues of a card holder above it.

24. Card holders each consisting of a folded strip having one fold wider than the other with aligned tongues formed from one fold and overhanging the other fold to retain the folds in locked position, said holders being adapted to be nested together with the tongues of one card holder overhanging the tongues of a card holder above it, and the tongue-carrying fold of the last-mentioned holder extending into the space formed between the tongues and their fold of the card holder beneath it to determine the overlapping relation of the card holders.

25. An index card having adjacent an edge thereof a weakened line dividing the card into a narrow holding portion and a wider recording portion hinged to the holding portion along the weakened line, and having a plurality of closed holding slits extending along said line adapted to receive holding means for the card.

26. An index card having a holding portion and a recording portion separated by a plurality of aligned holding slits on a hinge line.

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