

Jan. 10, 1933.

S. C. HUFFMAN

1,893,801

STORAGE FILE

Filed Jan. 16, 1932

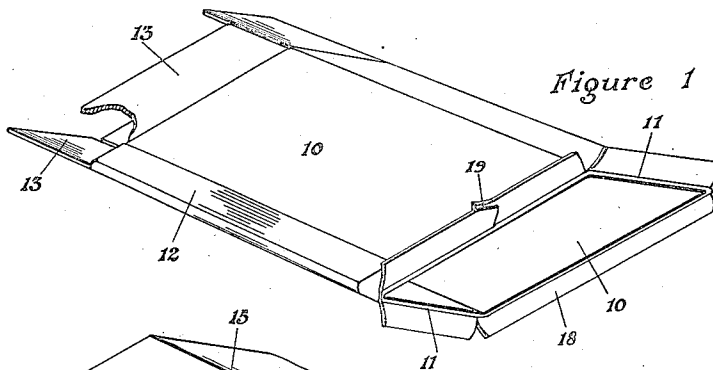


Figure 1

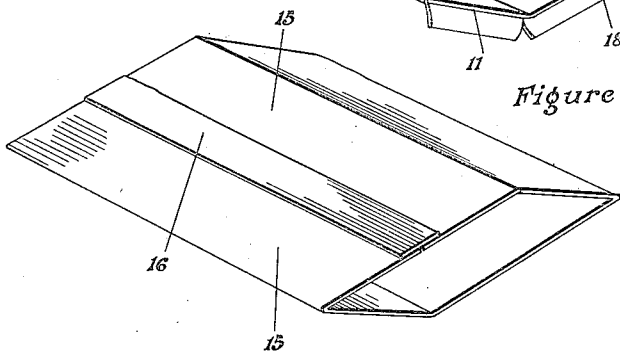


Figure 2

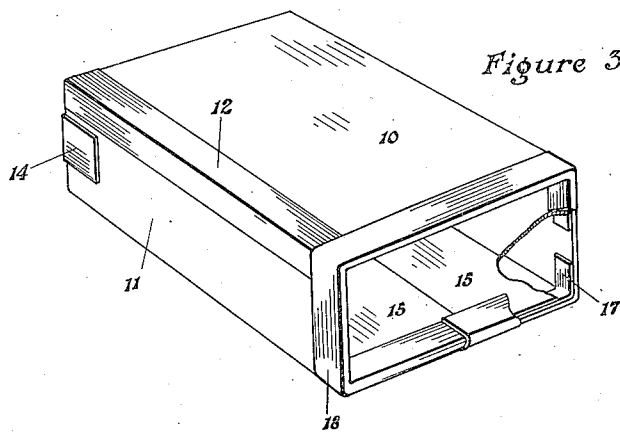


Figure 3

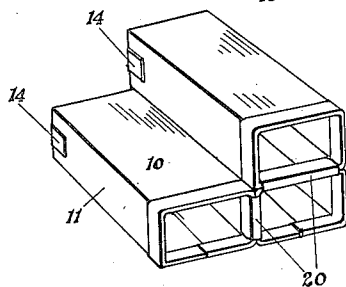


Figure 4

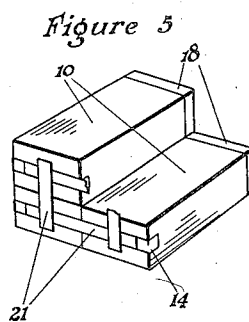


Figure 5

Inventor

S. C. Huffman

Emil F. Lange

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

SAMUEL C. HUFFMAN, OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

STORAGE FILE

Application filed January 16, 1932. Serial No. 587,113.

My invention relates to storage files of the drawer type for storing inactive records.

One of the objects of the invention is the provision of a jacket for slidably supporting a drawer, the jacket being made staunch and rugged at the least possible cost.

Another of the objects is the provision of a jacket which is reinforced so as to stand rough usage and to also withstand the weight resulting from the stacking of a plurality of similar jackets.

Another of the objects is the provision of a jacket having a neat and attractive appearance when in use either singly or in stacks or in banks, the jacket being also vermin and dust proof.

Another of the objects is the provision of a jacket having a liner reinforcement and with a reinforced rear construction and with angle steel reinforcements at its front corners, the angle steel reinforcements being concealed.

One of the main objects of the invention is the provision of a low cost jacket which may be transported and sold in knock down condition and ready to be set up for use in the minimum of time and with the minimum of effort.

Having in view these objects and others which will be pointed out in the following description, I will now refer to the drawing, in which

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the shell of the jacket in partly collapsed condition.

Figure 2 is a view in perspective of the liner.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the assembled jacket and liner ready for use, a part of the liner being broken away to disclose the angle steel reinforcements.

Figure 4 is a view in perspective of three units showing the strips used at the front of the units for uniting them both in banked and stacked relation.

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 4 but showing the manner of connecting the units at their rear ends in both banked and stacked relation.

The invention is designed to support a sliding drawer in horizontal position. The single unit is shown in Figure 3 while an as-

semblage of units is shown in Figures 4 and 5. The jacket for supporting the sliding drawer consists of a shell and a liner. Both of these are collapsible for shipping and storage and they are designed to be set up as needed.

The shell consists of similar top and bottom walls 10 and similar side walls 11. They are formed from corrugated cardboard which is creased along three lines so that the edges will meet at one of the corners. At the corner of the meeting edges a strip of flexible adhesive material 12 is applied to the outer surfaces of a wall 10 and a wall 11 so as to bind them together. In this manner the four edges are hinged so that the four walls may be collapsed into flat form or expanded into rectangular form.

Each of the walls 10 and 11 is provided with a flap 13, the flaps 13 being formed by slitting the creased edges and by forming transverse creases in the walls 10 and 11. When these walls are expanded into rectangular form the flaps 13 may be turned inwardly into planes at right angles to the planes of the walls 10 and 11. In turning the flaps inwardly one pair of opposite flaps should first be turned in and the other pair should then be turned in over the first pair of flaps. The flaps 13 should be substantially one-half the width of the space which they are to cover so that the two pairs of flaps will completely cover the opening. A strip of flexible adhesive material 14 is then applied to the rear wall to cover the seam formed by the two flaps 13, the end portions of the strip 14 being brought around and secured to the side walls 11.

The above back wall construction is exceedingly rigid and beyond all requirements of even the heaviest weights when a plurality of units are in stacked relation. One pair of flaps 13 reinforces the shell in a vertical direction while the other pair reinforces the shell in a horizontal direction. The adhesive strip 14 holds the parts in fixed relation so that no slippage could occur with a consequent loss of reinforcement.

The shell is further reinforced by means of the liner shown in Figure 2. This liner

has a form similar to the form of the inner side of the shell. It is formed by creasing at the four corners so that the bottom wall 15 is in two parts which together have the width of the interior of the shell. The two parts 15 are united by means of a flexible strip 16. This liner is readily collapsible so that it is easy to pack, to ship and to store.

The liner fits snugly into the shell with all of its surfaces in contact with the inner surfaces of the shell. In order to insert the liner into the shell the bottom 15 of the liner is first buckled inwardly so that the entire liner has freedom of movement into the shell. After it has been inserted pressure is applied to the bottom 15 to bring the two parts into a common plane and in close contact with the bottom wall 10 of the shell. The length of the liner is such that its forward edges are flush with the forward edges of the shell.

The back of the shell is amply reinforced by means of the two pairs of flaps 13. Since the front of the jacket must remain open, it is necessary to provide additional reinforcement for the front portion of the jacket. This is accomplished by inserting angle steel strips 17 in the corners between the shell and the jacket. These strips are inserted after the assembling of the shell and the liner and the steel strips 17 are inserted so that their forward edges are flush with the forward edges of the shell and of the liner. These steel strips 17 have very little thickness and they will therefore not interfere with the operation of the jacket as a drawer support.

Referring again to Figure 1, it will be seen that the top, bottom and side walls 10 and 11 have secured thereto a flexible strip 18. This surrounds the shell with its overlapping end portions at 19. This strip has an overhanging portion which is provided with V-shaped notches at the corners. When the shell and the liner have been assembled with the steel reinforcements 17, the overhanging portions of the strip 18 are turned inwardly into U-form and secured at the forward edges of the inner walls of the liner. Since the strip 18 like the strips 12, 14 and 16 is adhesive, it is an easy matter to assemble the various parts and to apply a damp sponge for uniting these parts.

The storage file is designed for use in storing inactive records. Such records must be occasionally consulted and they must be available so that access will not be too difficult. The records are kept in drawers which are slidable into and out of the jackets which I have just described. Where the number of these records is relatively small, a single jacket will answer the purpose. When, however, the number of such records becomes great, it is necessary to arrange the jackets in a convenient form and to secure them in definite relation to each other so as to prevent their displacement which would not only

make access somewhat more difficult but which would foster the accumulation of dust besides giving the record room a very untidy appearance. The jackets which I have described may be stacked one above the other or they may be banked side by side as on a shelf or they may be both stacked and banked. This is possible because they are all of uniform size and shape for each one kind of records. In order to prevent displacement a strip 20 of gummed material may be secured to the inside lower wall of the upper jacket and to the inside upper wall of the lower jacket as shown in Figure 4. Similar strips may be secured to the contiguous inner walls of jackets which are arranged in side by side relation. At the same time other strips 21 may be applied either vertically or horizontally to the rear walls of the casings as shown in Figure 5 for the purpose of rigidly uniting the units in either stacked or banked relation.

The flexible strips 12, 14 and 18 are preferably in the form of heavily gummed muslin or similar fabric. Any other material may be substituted for this for accomplishing the purpose of binding the parts together. Especially in the case of the strip 18 the function is to hold the liner in position inside the shell and to hold reinforcing strips 17 in place. The strip 18 also conceals the front edges of the jacket so that the entire jacket presents a neat appearance.

These jackets are to be used with sliding drawers holding the records which are to be preserved. The front portions of the drawers have the form and dimensions of the mouth of the jacket so that they entirely close the jacket when the drawers are fully seated within the jackets. The jacket is not only neat in appearance but it preserves the records from dust and vermin and keeps them for indefinite periods of time in condition to be consulted and it has the advantage that the drawer may be pulled out at any time for convenient access to the records.

Having thus described my invention in such full, clear, and exact terms that its construction and operation will be readily understood by others skilled in the art to which it pertains, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A collapsible file including an integral shell having an open front and rigid top and bottom and side walls and a collapsible rear end wall, means for maintaining the parts of said shell in rigid rectangular relation, a collapsible liner adapted to seat snugly within said shell, and a flexible strip secured to said shell at the front edges thereof and projecting forwardly therefrom, said strip being adapted to be folded inwardly and to be secured to the inner surface of said liner.

2. A storage file including an integral shell

having an open front and top, bottom, side, and rear end walls, a collapsible liner adapted to seat snugly within said shell, L-shaped reinforcing members insertable between said shell and said liner at the forward corners thereof, and a flexible strip secured to said shell at the front edges thereof and projecting forwardly therefrom, said strip being adapted to be folded inwardly and to be secured to the inner surface of said liner.

3. A storage file including an integral shell having an open front and top, bottom, side, and rear end walls, a collapsible liner adapted to seat snugly within said shell, and a flexible strip secured to said shell at the front edges thereof and projecting forwardly therefrom, said strip being adapted to be folded inwardly and to be secured to the inner surface of said liner.

4. A storage file including an integral shell having an open front, the top, bottom and side walls being each in rectangular form and being adapted to be rectangularly arranged relatively to each other, a strip uniting the meeting edges of said walls, the rear wall consisting of flaps projecting from said top, bottom and side walls and adapted to form rectangular dihedral angles therewith, said flaps being so dimensioned that the meeting edges of each pair of flaps are in close juxtaposition, a strip for uniting the outer pair of said flaps and for covering the seam therebetween, a rectangular liner within said shell, and a flexible strip secured to the outer surfaces at the front edges of said top, bottom and side walls and projecting forwardly therefrom, said strip being adapted to be folded over into U-form and to be secured to the inner surfaces of said liner.

5. A storage file including an integral shell having an open front, the top, bottom and side walls being each in rectangular form and being adapted to be rectangularly arranged relatively to each other, a strip uniting the meeting edges of said walls, the rear wall consisting of flaps projecting from said top, bottom and side walls and adapted to form rectangular dihedral angles therewith, said flaps being so dimensioned that the meeting edges of each pair of flaps are in close juxtaposition, a strip for uniting the outer pair of said flaps and for covering the seam therebetween, a rectangular liner within said shell, L-shaped reinforcing members insertable between said shell and said liner at the forward corners thereof, and a flexible strip secured to the outer surfaces at the front edges of said top, bottom and side walls and projecting forwardly therefrom, said strip being adapted to be folded over into U-form and to be secured to the inner surfaces of said liner.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
SAMUEL C. HUFFMAN.