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E. F. BURDICK  
DIVIDER STRUCTURE  
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Fig. 1.

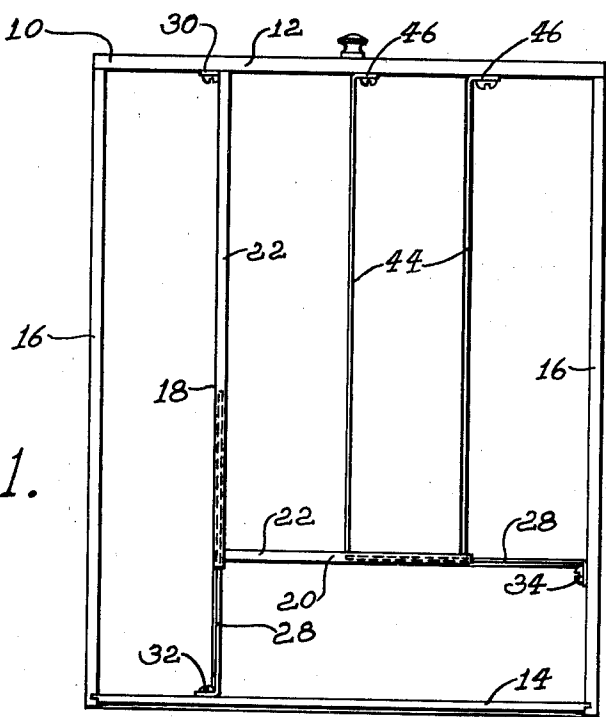


Fig. 3.

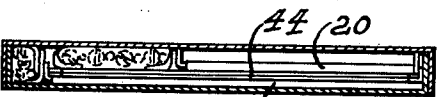
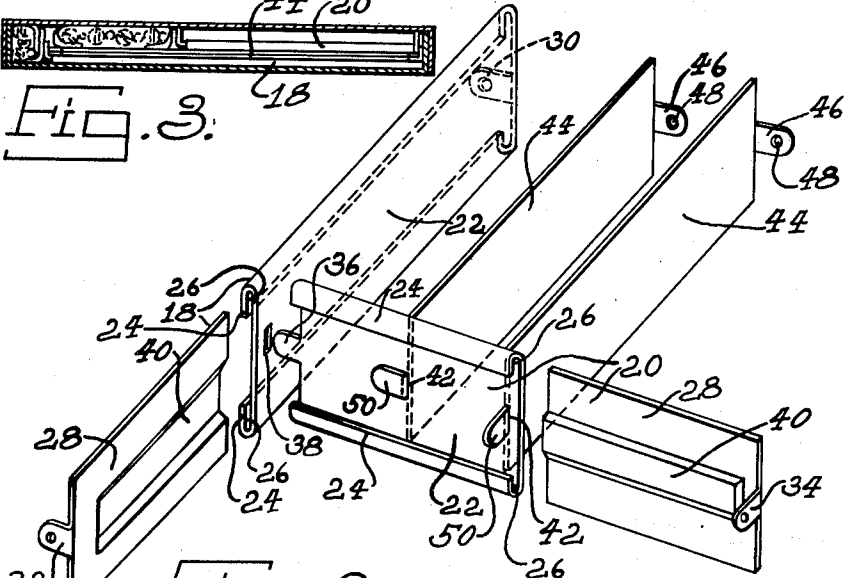


Fig. 2.



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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## DIVIDER STRUCTURE

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## 1 Claim. (Cl. 220—22)

This invention relates to an adjustable divider structure particularly adapted for drawers or the like.

It is often desirable to divide a compartment into several sections and to have a ready made construction which can be quickly applied to various sized compartments.

It is therefore an object of this invention to provide an adjustable wall structure which is longitudinally and transversely adjustable as to length or width.

Another object of the invention is to provide separable wall members which may be readily assembled and disassembled so that the walls may be laid one on the other in a small package for merchandising.

A further object of the invention is to provide a structure which, when assembled, is self-locking and the connecting portions are concealed.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will more fully appear from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of my improved divider structure applied to a drawer;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the structure shown in Fig. 1; and

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view of a container showing the parts of the structure in the container for shipment or merchandising.

Referring to the drawing, I have shown a drawer 10 having front and rear end walls 12 and 14, respectively, and longitudinal side walls 16. The divider structure comprises a longitudinally extending wall 18 which is adjustable and a transversely extending wall 20 which is adjustable and which is detachably received on the wall 16. The walls 18 and 20 are substantially duplicates except for length and end attaching means.

The walls 18 and 20 are formed of two plate-like members, preferably of sheet metal. One member 22 is formed from flat sheet material having its opposite longitudinal edges reversely bent as at 24 to provide grooves 26. The other member 28 is formed from flat sheet material and has its opposite longitudinal edges received in the grooves 26. By this arrangement one of the members is longitudinally slidable relative to the other.

The part 22 of the member 18 has its outer end provided with an attaching tab 30 through which a nail, screw or the like may be inserted to secure the member to a wall of the drawer 10. The part 28 has its outer end provided with an attaching

tab 32 for securing it to an opposite wall of the drawer 10. The part 28 of the member 20 has its outer end provided with a tab 34 for securing it to a wall of the drawer 10. The outer end of the part 22 of member 20 has a tab 36 which may be in the plane of the member 22 before assembly as shown and after assembly bent at right angles to the plane of the member 22 or it may be originally formed at right angles thereto.

An opening 38 is provided in the part 22 of the member 18 for receiving the tab 36. When the latter is bent before assembly it can be hooked in the opening 38 with the walls 18 and 20 in substantially parallel relation and when in position the walls may be swung at right angles to each other as shown.

The parts 28 of the members 18 and 20 are each provided with a longitudinally extending depressed portion 40 substantially of a depth equal to the thickness of the tabs. This permits the part 28 to slide over the tab 36 when it is bent at right angles to the member 20 and in assembled position.

The part 22 of the member 20 is provided with one or more openings 42 for receiving longitudinally extending walls 44, the number depending on the number of compartments desired. One end of each wall 44 is provided with tabs 46 each having an opening 48 for receiving a securing means such as a nail or screw whereby the ends of the walls may be secured to a wall of the drawer 10.

The opposite ends of the walls 44 are provided with tabs 50, one shown parallel to wall 44 and the other shown bent at right angles to the wall 44. As explained above, these tabs may be originally bent at right angles or may be bent after assembly. After the tabs 50 are inserted in the openings 42 and in a plane parallel to the member 20, the part 28 of the member 20 is slid over the tabs with the latter locked and concealed.

With reference to Fig. 3, it will be seen how the parts can be assembled in a small package for shipment and merchandising. The parts are easily assembled and by providing both longitudinal and transverse adjustment a standard product can be manufactured to fit various sized compartments.

While I have illustrated a preferred embodiment of my invention, it will be understood that various changes, including the size, shape and arrangement of parts, may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention, and it is not my intention to limit the scope thereof other than by the terms of the appended claim.

What I claim is:

5 An adjustable divider structure comprising a metallic member having its opposite longitudinally extending walls reversely bent to form guides, a metallic member in overlapping relation with said first named metallic member having a longitudinally depressed portion and slidable in said

guides, said first named member being provided with openings, other metallic members each having a tab at one end thereof normal to the plane of said members and adapted to be received in the openings of said second named members and covered by said first named members. 5

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