CREDIT-ACCOUNT DEVICE.


Application filed November 9, 1914. Serial No. 790,309.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, John J. Snyder, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Credit-Account Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to credit account devices and the object is to produce a simple, cheap and efficient device by which the keeping of credit accounts can be facilitated.

With this general object in view and others as hereinafter appear, the invention consists in certain novel and peculiar features of construction and organization as hereinafter described and claimed; and in order that it may be fully understood reference is to be had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1, is a perspective view of a credit account device embodying my invention. Fig. 2, is a vertical section on the line II—II of Fig. 1. Fig. 3, is a plan view of one of the slides or drawers of the device. Fig. 4, is a fragmentary perspective view illustrating a feature of construction not clearly shown in the other figures.

The drawing illustrates a device containing fifteen compartments, but it will be understood that the device will be constructed with a large number of compartments, preferably about seventy-five.

Referring to the drawing in detail, 1 indicates the slides, 2 the back, 3 the bottom and 4 the top of a casing or cabinet, the front of said casing or cabinet being open. Preferably the bottom, top and back will be formed of a single sheet of metal, and the sides will preferably be connected to the ends of the top and bottom by seams 5 and 6, as a cheap and reliable method of joining said parts together.

7 are horizontal partitions, arranged one above the other at equal distances apart, within the cabinet or casing, and each partition is formed with integral depending ribs 8, so as to divide the cabinet or casing into the desired number of shallow compartments 9, the ribs being produced by so bending the partitions that channels 10 will be provided at the upper edges of the ribs. There will preferably be a plurality of ribs 8 depending from each partition and one rib of each will be arranged in vertical elements with a rib of each of the remaining partitions and each rib will be of such depth that it will rest upon a partition or other part below it, and thus not only provide for the requisite number of compartments but also act as supports for the partition from which it depends, it being noted that the lower edge of each rib above the bottom partition will rest in the channel 12 of the underlying partition and thus be stiffened and at the same time assist in stiffening the cabinet as a whole. Each partition will be provided at its ends with a plurality of tongues 10, fitting through slots 11 in the sides 1, and bent downward and flatly against the outer surfaces of such sides, these tongues thus serving not only as supports for the ends of the partitions but also cooperating with the seams 5 and 6 in producing a stiff and rigid case or cabinet.

The partitions 7 preferably terminate short of the rear wall 2 of the cabinet or casing to reduce the expense of manufacture and avoid making the cabinet unnecessarily heavy, and in this connection it should be stated that the depth of the cabinet or casing from front to rear, will be slightly in excess of the length of an ordinary sales slip, such for instance as used in pads or books by grocers or other merchants.

In each compartment there will be a slide or drawer 12, preferably stamped from a single piece of metal, and of length to extend from the front to the back of the cabinet, and each drawer is provided near one of its front corners, with a forwardly-projecting partition 13, formed by slitting the front wall of the drawer and bending the piece between the slits, downwardly and forwardly. This piece constitutes a handle by which the drawer can be readily grasped to withdraw it from the cabinet. The front wall is also slotted horizontally near its upper and lower margins, and the portion between such slots is pressed back to provide a keeper 14, for the reception of a name tag or plate 15, which will be slipped into said keeper and be observable from the front of the cabinet.

Stamped rearwardly from the rear wall of the drawer, is a pair of inwardly facing tongues 16 for the reception of the ends of a flat spring 17, and to hold said spring against accidental dislocation, the rear wall is formed with a rearwardly-projecting projection 18, above and below the spring. The rear wall is also provided at points be-
tween the tongues 16, with holes 19, through which the arms of a U-shaped wire clamp 20, project into the drawer or slide, the bridge portion of the clamp being bent to form an offsetting lug 21 in engagement with the spring 17, so that the pressure of the latter will hold the clamp with its arms depressed as shown in full lines Fig. 2, or elevated as shown in dotted lines, said figure, it being preferred that the front ends of the said arms shall terminate in downturned portions 22, whereby a number of account sales slips may be firmly held in the drawer.

With a device of this kind, a merchant or his clerk upon receiving an order over the phone or otherwise, will write the order upon his sales book or pad and the duplicate tab or slip will be placed in the proper drawer of the cabinet, and as customary in this class of devices, the amount owing the merchant by the customer may be entered on the slip and the amount of the new order added thereto, so that an inspection of the last slip of each day's business will show exactly the total amount which is due the merchant from a particular customer, to date. If desired the amounts can be entered in the sales book before the duplicate slip is placed in the drawer, so that the slip which is delivered with the goods to the customer will also show the total amount due the merchant to date.

From the above description it will be apparent that I have produced a credit account device embodying the features of advantage enumerated as desirable and I wish it to be understood that while I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiment of the invention, I reserve the right to make all changes falling within the spirit and scope of the appended claim.

I claim:

A device of the character described comprising a sheet metal cabinet closed at all sides except the front and a series of horizontal sheet metal partitions dividing the cabinet into a plurality of compartments, the uppermost partition being in contact with the top wall of the cabinet, each partition having an integral folded portion forming a vertical partition and providing a channel in the horizontal partition in the plane of the vertical partition, the free edge of the lowermost vertical partition resting against the inner surface of the bottom wall of the cabinet and the free edge of each of the other vertical partitions being fitted in the channel of the next adjacent horizontal partition, said partitions terminating a distance away from the rear wall of the cabinet, and means carried by each partition coacting with the end walls of the cabinet for maintaining said partitions against movement independently of the cabinet.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN J. SNYDER.

Witnesses:
HELEN C. RODGERS,
G. Y. THORPE.