Dec. 10, 1929. C. E. ATTWOOD 1,739,202

PAPER FILE

Filed Dec. 3, 1925

Fig. 1.

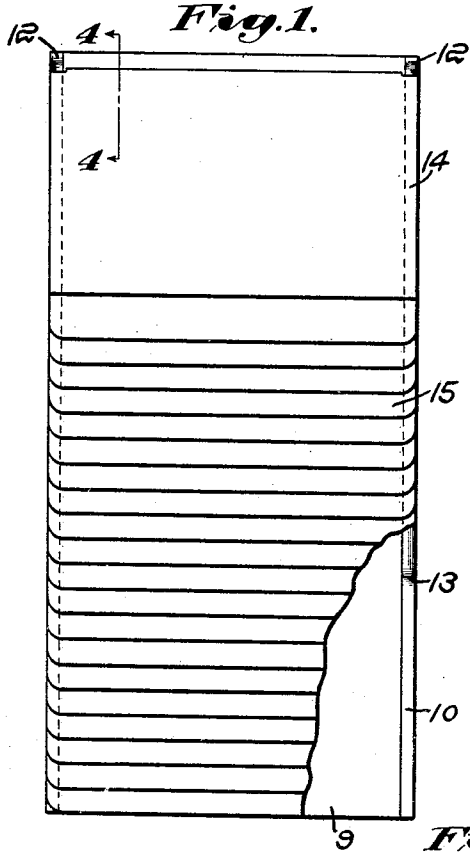


Fig. 2.

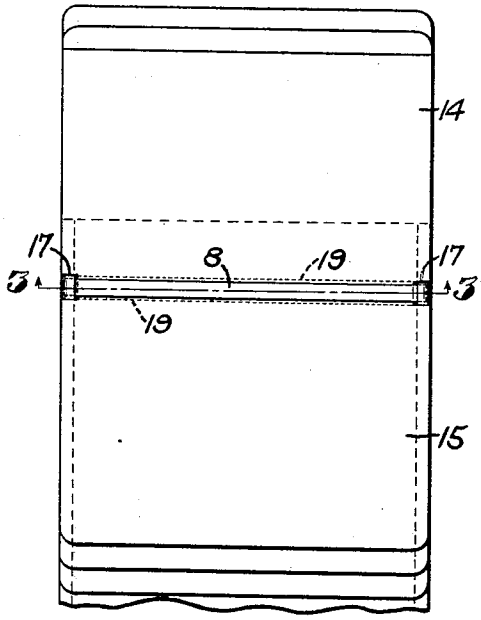


Fig. 3.

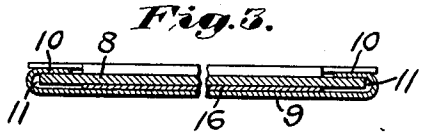


Fig. 4.

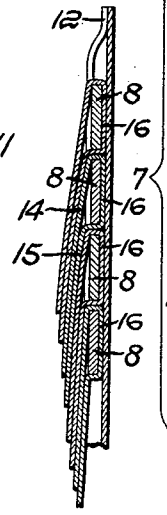


Fig. 5.

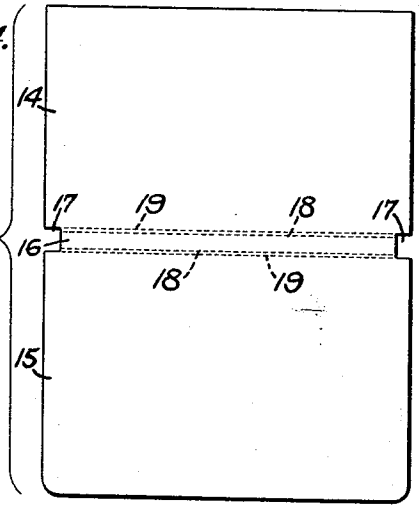
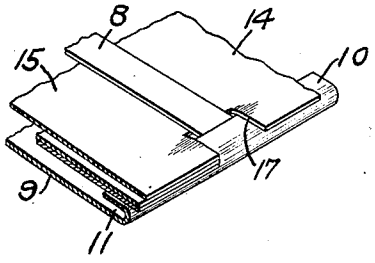


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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PAPER FILE

Application filed December 3, 1925. Serial No. 72,949.

This invention relates to a file in which a series of sheets are arranged with their identification-receiving margins in overlapping relationship, the sheets being associated with their supporting means in a novel manner.

The invention will be best understood by reference to the following description, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings of one specific embodiment thereof, while its scope will be more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a file exemplifying the invention, some of the sheets being partly broken away, the better to illustrate the supporting frame;

Fig. 2 is a front elevation of a portion of the file, showing the same opened up to disclose the entire sheet and its associated bar;

Fig. 3 is a sectional view on an enlarged scale on line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view on an enlarged scale on line 4—4 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is an elevation of one of the sheets unfolded; and

Fig. 6 is a perspective view illustrating the interlocking relationship between one of the sheets and its associated bar.

Referring to the drawings and to the embodiment of the invention which is selected for exemplification, there is shown a file comprising a series of overlapping sheets 7, associated with bars 8, which are supported by an appropriate support, herein a frame comprising a sheet of metal 9, having opposite edges bent toward each other to form flanges 10, and to present channels 11 constituting guides in which the terminal portions of the bars are received and are susceptible of adjustment lengthwise of the guides.

Herein, the bars are flexible, to the end that they may conveniently be sprung into and out of the channels by simply flexing the bars. One appropriate material for the bars, and the one which I prefer to employ, is sheet fiber, which is light and inexpensive, and when a properly selected stock is used, the bar is of ample durability. The width of the bar will naturally correspond to the desired degree of overlap of the sheets. Sliding movement of the bars in one direction in their channels is conveniently prevented by squeezing the flanges 10 against the back of the frame, as at 12, and sliding movement in the opposite direction is prevented by simply squeezing the flanges at 13 to present stops.

Referring to Fig. 5, each sheet presents two leaves 14 and 15, one of which, in the present example the leaf 15, is longer than the other, and it is this leaf which is intended to receive the name, number, or other identifying matter, for the purpose of indexing the file. Between the two leaves, there is an intervening base portion 16, which is interposed between its associated bar and the support 9, as best shown in Fig. 4. Adjacent this base portion, the sheet presents two oppositely disposed notches 17, which, as well illustrated in Fig. 6, receive the associated bar, and in this way, the sheet and its bar are interlocked with each other, yet without being fastened together. When the sheet and the bar are assembled with each other and with their support, accidental detachment of the sheet from, or displacement of the same with relation to, its bar is impossible, and the desired overlap is accurately maintained, yet when one of the bars is removed from the channels, the associated sheet is entirely detached from the bar, and can be placed in a typewriter. The removal and replacement of the sheet can be accomplished, and the sheets can be arranged and rearranged, and interchanged with one another, with great facility.

The mere assembling of the bar with its sheet, and inserting the same in place in the support, will naturally crease the sheet along the sides of the bar, and the sheet can thus be folded into its normal position; but in the present example, each sheet is scored along two parallel lines 18, spaced apart a distance corresponding to the width of the associated bar, and the sheet is also scored along other parallel lines 19, spaced from the first-mentioned lines a distance corresponding to the thickness of the associated bar. This scoring is preferred, because the sheet being weakened along these lines is thus rendered

more flexible, and accommodates itself to the bar better than a sheet which is not scored.

It should be observed that the bars have no contact with one another, inasmuch as portions of the sheets are interposed between their adjacent edges. The sheets are thus pinched between adjacent edges of the bars, and this tends to preserve uniformity of alignment and of overlap of the sheets. It should also be noted that the bars present no spacing means, and that none are needed. In other words, the bar may be, and herein is, uniform in width from end to end. Its thickness is quite substantial,—so much so, that there is no danger of one bar slipping over the the other, especially as the bars are snugly fitted into their channels, and because the notches in the edges of the sheets serve to prevent any tendency of the bars to ride over one another.

Having thus described one embodiment of the invention, but without limiting myself thereto, what I claim and desire by Letters Patent to secure is:

1. In a file, the combination of a series of separate, interchangeable bars, a support presenting guides by which said bars are removably and slidably supported, and a series of overlapping sheets having interlocking engagement with said bars, respectively, each sheet being folded to present two leaves and an intermediate base portion disposed between its associated bar and said support, each sheet being separately removable by removing its bar from said support.

2. In a file, the combination of a series of bars, a support having channels which receive the ends of said bars, and a series of overlapping sheets associated with said bars, respectively, each sheet being folded to present two leaves and an intermediate base portion, each sheet presenting two openings which receive its associated bar and each sheet having its base portion disposed between its associated bar and said support.

3. In a file, the combination of a series of flexible bars, a support presenting guides in which the terminals of said bars are received and are susceptible of adjustment lengthwise of said guides, and a series of overlapping sheets associated with said bars, respectively, each sheet being folded to present two leaves having marginal portions extending in the same direction, and an intermediate base portion disposed between its associated bar and said support, each sheet having means, other than its folds, interlocking with its associated bar.

4. In a file, the combination of a series of independent bars, a support having channels with which said bars are independently engageable and slidable lengthwise of said channels, and a series of overlapping sheets associated with said bars, respectively, each sheet being folded to present two leaves having marginal portions extending in the same direction, and an intermediate base portion, each sheet being interlocked with its associated bar and attached to said support only by said bar.

5. In a file, the combination of a series of independent bars, a support with which said bars are independently engageable, and a series of overlapping sheets interlocking with said bars, respectively, each sheet being scored along parallel lines to present a base portion and two leaves, one overlying the other and extending in the same direction, the base portion of each sheet being interposed between its associated bar and said support.

6. In a file, the combination of a series of bars, a support for said bars, and a series of overlapping folded sheets associated with said bars, respectively, each sheet being scored along parallel lines to present a base portion and two leaves, one overlying the other, the base portion of each sheet being interposed between its associated bar and said support, and each sheet presenting two notches in its lateral edges between said lines, said notches receiving the bar which is associated with such sheet.

7. In a file, the combination of a series of overlapping sheets, each folded along parallel lines to present two leaves and an intervening base portion, a series of bars extending lengthwise of said base portions, respectively, each bar being disposed between the said parallel lines of its associated sheet and loosely related thereto, and means detachably receiving the ends of said bars, each sheet being removable from its associated bar for insertion in a typewriter, after one or both ends of such bar have been removed from said means.

8. In a file, the combination of a series of overlapping sheets, each folded to present two leaves and an intervening base portion corresponding in width to the extent of overlap of said sheets, a series of flexible flat bars loosely related to but interlocking with said sheets, respectively, each bar overlying and extending lengthwise of the front face of the base portion of its associated sheet, and means in which the ends of said bars are received and from which said bars may be detached by flexing said bars.

9. An index element comprising a sheet folded along parallel lines and presenting oppositely disposed notches between said lines.

10. An index element comprising a sheet of paper scored along parallel lines and presenting oppositely disposed notches between said lines.

11. An index element comprising a sheet of paper scored along four parallel lines and presenting oppositely disposed notches between two of said lines.

12. An index element comprising a sheet of

paper folded to present two leaves of unequal length, and a base portion between said leaves, said sheet presenting oppositely disposed notches at the ends of said base portion.

13. In a file, the combination of a support, a series of sheets each having two openings, said sheets having base portions and overlapping portions hingedly connected with said base portions, and a series of independent, interchangeable, flexible, flat, sheet-carrying bars disposed flatwise against said base portions, respectively, each bar being received in the openings of its associated sheet and having its ends supported by said support.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

CHARLES E. ATTWOOD.