

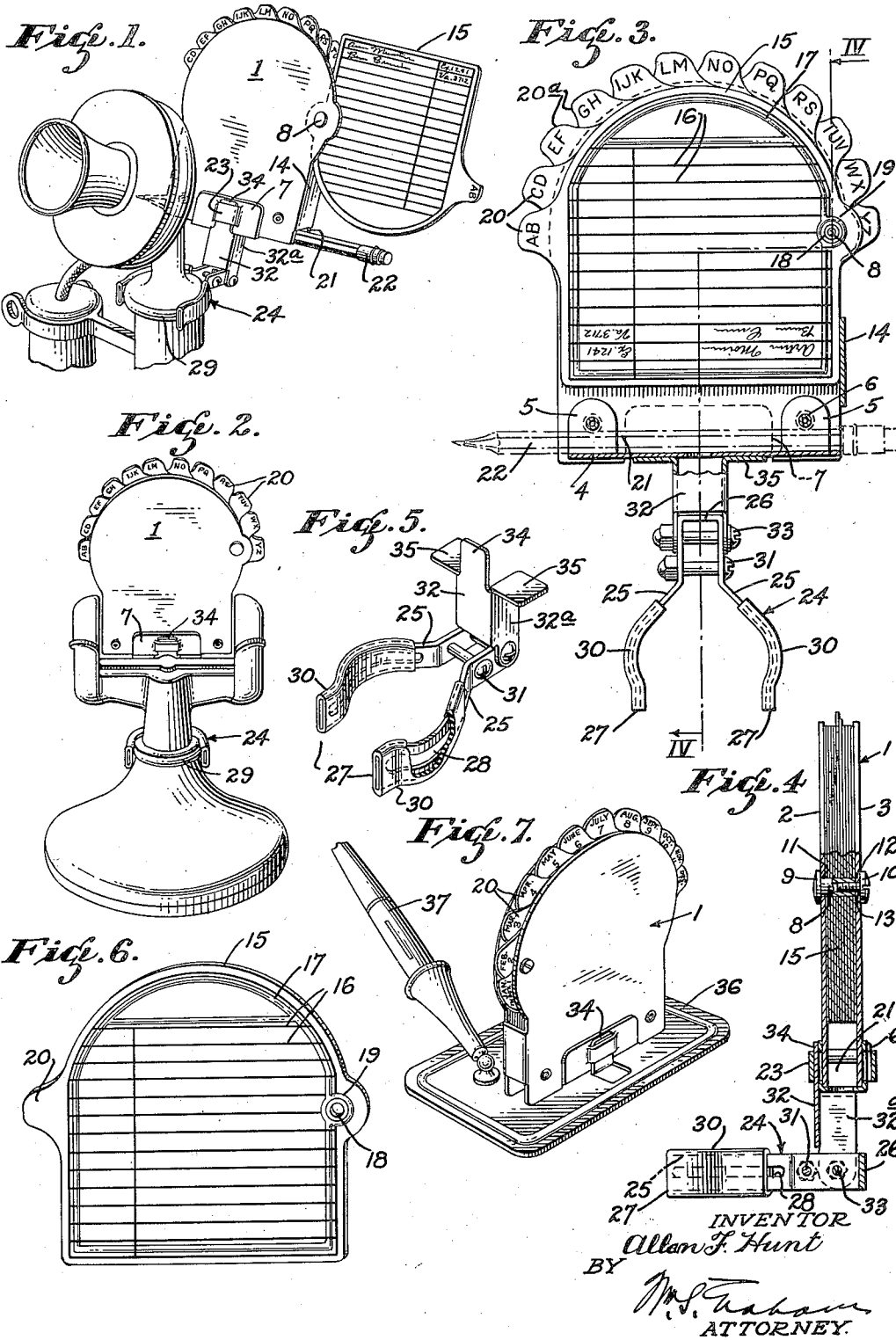
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CARD INDEX

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This invention relates to a card index and particularly that type of card index adapted for use within a casing wherein a plurality of cards are mounted in overlying face-to-face relation and are mounted for pivotally swinging from the casing and return thereto.

While it is not desired to limit the field of use of the card index of this application, the invention herein finds utility to great advantage in connection with its use as a catalog for telephone numbers.

Frequently, a telephone number is called or dialed and there is a delay in making connection with the number called or it is necessary to repeat the number called, and with an ordinary book index the desired telephone number has been forgotten or the book has been closed. It is therefore desirable to provide a telephone index wherein a desired number may be maintained in view, leaving the hands free to manipulate the telephone or write messages with a pencil, etc.

The primary object of this invention is to provide an index which is conveniently arranged for instantaneous reference and which may be, if desired, secured to the standard of a telephone, either of the well-known conventional vertical type or of the so-called French type wherein both ear-piece and mouth-piece are combined in a single structure.

A further object is to provide a card index which is conveniently mountable and demountable from the support for purposes of change of data on the cards. Another object is to provide a card index which may be conveniently mounted on a telephone standard by means of a clamp bracket and which may be readily removed from the bracket.

Another object is to provide a card index having a convenient opening for receiving a pencil.

A still further object is to provide a card index having a casing of connected front and rear face plates mounted in spaced relation by a member on which the cards may be pivotally mounted.

Another object is to provide a card index removably mountable interchangeably on a telephone standard or on a table support.

Still further objects are to provide in a card index a simplified and efficient bracket whereon the index may be removably mounted on a telephone standard, and to provide such a bracket which is also adapted to be spread flat for packing purposes; to provide a novel form of card for card indexes; to provide a card index which is neat in appearance, efficient and simple in operation, and inexpensive to manufacture, and gener-

ally to improve on known devices of this character.

With the foregoing and other objects in view the invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended; it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, and size, number of parts and minor details of construction within the scope of the appended claims may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

To more clearly comprehend the invention reference is directed to the accompanying drawing wherein:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of bracket and card index mounted on a conventional vertical type of telephone standard, the latter being partially broken away.

Fig. 2 is a perspective of card index and bracket mounted on the standard of a French type telephone, the upper portion of the index being broken away.

Fig. 3 is a front elevation partially in section taken laterally transverse of the card index with front face plate removed and showing the bracket spread flat for packing.

Fig. 4 is a vertical section on line IV—IV of Fig. 3, with bracket pivotally turned to operative position.

Fig. 5 is a perspective of a bracket having a portion of one arm partially broken away.

Fig. 6 is a perspective of an individual card of the index.

Fig. 7 is a perspective of a rear view of an index mounted on a table support.

Referring to the drawing, wherein like characters of reference designate corresponding parts, 1 indicates generally a casing having a front face plate 2 and a rear face plate 3 which are relatively spaced at the bottom thereof by a support 4 which is elongated laterally of the face plates and has up-formed flanges 5 on each of its sides and adjacent each of its ends, and to which the respective face plates may be secured by suitable means, such as rivets 6. Centrally of the elongated bottom support 4, an additional flange 7 is up-formed on each side of the elongated support 4, the flanges 7 on the respective sides being in a plane offset from alignment from the flanges 5 so that the bottom edge of the face plates 2 and 3 may be positioned between the flanges 5 and 7 on the respective sides, thus being definitely spaced at their bottom relative to each other. The

face plates are spaced at their upper portion by a pivot member 8 which comprises a headed socket nut 9 and a headed screw 10, the former being passed through an opening 11 in one of the plates and having bearing on the inner face of the opposite plate, as at 12, at an opening 13 which is of lesser diameter than the exterior diameter of the socket nut, but is of sufficient diameter to receive therethrough the shank of the screw 10. The spaced plates 2 and 3 are preferably connected by a side member 14 which serves an additional purpose hereinafter described.

Pivotally mounted on the member 8 are a plurality of cards 15 which may have suitable ruling thereon as at 16 for the entry of telephone numbers, addresses, or other desired memoranda. The shape of the main body portion preferably conforms generally to the shape of the upper portion of the face plates comprising the casing. The cards preferably have an upformed embossing 17 around the periphery thereof and also circumferentially of the opening 18 as indicated at 19, the embossing of the cards extending through the body thereof and serving the purpose of a rib to reinforce the card and also to space the respective cards in their face-to-face relation so as to reduce the friction therebetween and thereby prevent inadvertent removal of additional cards from the index when it is intended to pull out a single card in the normal use of the index. Each card has an index tab 20 on its upper peripheral edge, said index tabs being preferably spaced from each other circumferentially when the cards are in index formation as best shown at 20^a in Fig. 3, the latter feature permitting the finger of the operator to be inserted very definitely and deeply between the index tabs of adjoining cards so that as one card is removed from the index to the position shown in Fig. 1, there will be no tendency of the finger of the operator engaging or removing a card which is not selected. It will be noted particularly in Fig. 3 that the rivets 6 are in spaced relation to the elongated support 4 and that the ends of the casing therebelow are left open providing a compartment 21 into which a pencil 22 may be inserted. The connecting member 14 serves also as a stop member when the cards 15 are manipulated into and out of the index as shown in Fig. 3. The cards have a side edge near the bottom resting against the member 14, and as shown in Fig. 1 the removed card is rested against the member 14 and thereby supports the card so that the written matter thereon is plainly visible and the card prevented from further pivotal movement.

The casing includes means whereby the casing may be removably mounted upon a bracket and, as here exemplified, consists of an eyelet 23 up-formed from the flanges 7 and preferably centrally thereof. In the casing and index exemplified in Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 4, a bracket is provided whereon the casing may be removably mounted. The bracket, generally indicated 24, is best shown in detail in Figs. 3 and 5 as a yoke comprising a pair of arms 25, preferably of resilient material such as strip metal, connected at their rear ends as at 26 and free at their front ends 27. The arms may be slotted as at 28 so as to better engage a bead 29 of a telephone standard as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the arms having a resilient cover member 30 such as rubber tubing to prevent marring of the telephone instrument. The arms may be clamped to the telephone instrument by means of a nut and bolt 31. Pivotal-

ly mounted to the yoke adjacent its rear connecting wall 26 is a support 32 for the casing. At one end the support 32 has pivotal connection with the yoke of the arms 25 by means of bolt and nut 33 which passes therethrough, thus permitting the bracket 24 to be packed flat as in Fig. 3, and also permitting any desired angle of adjustment when mounted on a telephone instrument. At the opposite end the support 32 is provided with a lip 34 adapted to form a frictionally held slidable fit within the eyelet 23 of the casing, and the said walls 32^a of the support 32 are flanged laterally outwardly and downwardly as at 35 to provide a platform or shoulder on which the bottom support 4 of the casing rests 15 and which prevents lateral tipping of the casing when the pressure on the cards is lateral to either remove a card from the pack or in returning it thereto, said shoulder or platform inherently limiting the distance the lip will slide into the eye of the casing.

It is believed to be apparent that the casing and the enclosed cards may be readily removed from the bracket in order that addresses may be changed on the respective cards or corrections or additions made thereon, and that in so doing the casing and card will be substantially flat and thus avoid the inconvenience of removing the bracket or, on the other hand, of having the bracket interfere with entry on either front or reverse of the respective cards. It will be noted, particularly from Fig. 4, that the eyelet 23 is up-formed from both of the respective flanges 7 on opposite sides of the casing, so that both sides of the card may be used for written memoranda and either side may be utilized as the front in accordance with the desires of the particular operator. For instance, if an alphabetically arranged index is used on the front of the cards, the rear of the cards may be used for a different set of notations, such as advance notice of events to occur in certain future months. This duplicate use of the index is shown in Fig. 7; but whether one side or the other of the cards, or both sides, are utilized for index purposes, the index and the casing are always readily and easily removed from the supporting bracket and will present a substantially flat surface upon which notations may be made on the cards regardless of which side of the card is being employed for that purpose, and without interference which would be present in a fixedly attached bracket.

In Fig. 7 a modification of the bracket is shown whereby the index may be used entirely separate from a telephone instrument, and as equipment for a desk or table. For this purpose a base plate 36 is provided having the tongue 34 up-formed therefrom. When used as desk or table equipment, the base plate 36 may also be used as a rack for fountain pens, pin tray, ash receiver, or other miscellaneous objects, which may be generally exemplified by the fountain pen sockets 37 illustrated in Fig. 7.

While it is not intended to confine the invention herein to a specific type of casing and card, it is preferred that the body of the card, exclusive of the index tab, shall substantially conform to the general outline of the shape of the casing, that is, that the lower portion of the card shall be substantially rectangular and the upper portion of the card shall be arcuate, and preferably on the line of a circle, the shape of the card having two advantageous features. Firstly, the arcuate formation at the upper portion provides a greater lineal edge for the index tabs so that they

may be made larger and more distinct, or multiplied in number, and also to provide an arcuate space for any special data such as advertising matter which may be printed on each card; the lower portion of the card being rectangular provides for a substantially uniform width for the entry of data on the cards.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:—

1. A card index comprising a casing for receiving a plurality of pivotally mounted cards in side-by-side, face-to-face relation, said casing including supports for cards at front and rear, said supports being relatively spaced, said casing including a means adapted for releasably engaging a supporting bracket, and having a laterally transverse opening below its card-receiving portion for receiving a pencil or the like.

2. In a card index having a casing adapted for pivotally mounting a plurality of cards in face-to-face relation and having means adapted for releasably engaging a bracket, a bracket comprising a yoke member having a pair of arms, means for selectively moving said arms toward and from each other, and a support member pivotally mounted to said yoke member, said support member having a portion for releasably engaging the casing for the cards, and having wings extending outwardly from said last mentioned portion, said wings being adapted for laterally supporting the casing mounted on said support member.

3. In a card index having a casing adapted for pivotally mounting a plurality of cards in face-to-face relation, a card member for said casing having a hole therein for mounting the card on a pivot member and having portions of its body up-formed from the plane of the card face circumferentially of said opening, and also adjacent the marginal edges of the card.

4. A card index comprising a bracket adapted for releasably engaging a support, said bracket including a lip to engage a card casing, and a shoulder to limit the engagement of bracket and casing, a casing for receiving a plurality of cards in side-by-side, face-to-face relation, said casing including relatively spaced supports for cards at front and rear, said casing including a means adapted for slidably and releasably engaging the lip of the supporting bracket, and the base of said casing being adapted to engage the shoulder on the bracket.

5. A card index comprising a casing for receiving a plurality of pivotally mounted cards in side-by-side, face-to-face relation, said casing including a front face plate and a rear face plate and means for relatively spacing said face plates, said casing including a base provided with an eyelet adapted for slidably and releasably engaging a supporting bracket, a bracket comprising a pair of sections, one of which includes a

lip adapted for sliding fit in said eyelet, and a shoulder to limit the engagement between casing and bracket, and the other of said sections including a pair of resilient arms for engaging a support, said sections of the bracket being relatively pivoted.

6. A card index comprising a casing for receiving a plurality of pivotally mounted cards in side-by-side, face-to-face relation, said casing including a base support having upwardly formed flanges at its sides, a front face plate and a rear face plate supported by the respective flanges, means for relatively spacing said face plates, one of said flanges including means adapted for slidably and releasably engaging a supporting bracket, and a supporting bracket adapted for releasable engagement by said last mentioned means, said bracket comprising a pair of pivotally jointed sections, one of which is adapted for releasably engaging a support on which the index is mounted.

7. A card index comprising a casing for receiving a plurality of pivotally mounted cards in side-by-side, face-to-face relation, said casing including a base support having upwardly formed flanges at its sides, a front face plate and a rear face plate supported by the respective flanges, means for relatively spacing said face plates, one of said flanges including means adapted for slidably and releasably engaging a supporting bracket, and a supporting bracket adapted for releasable engagement by said last mentioned means of the casing, the releasable engagement of said casing and bracket being substantially in the plane of a face of the casing, said bracket comprising a pair of pivotally jointed sections one of which includes a shoulder to limit the engagement with the casing and the other of which is adapted for releasably engaging a support on which the index is mounted.

8. A card index comprising a casing for receiving a plurality of pivotally mounted cards in side-by-side, face-to-face relation, said casing having a pivotal mounting for cards and having a front face plate and a rear face plate and means for relatively spacing said face plates, said casing also including means centrally adjacent its base adapted for slidably releasably engaging a supporting bracket, and a supporting bracket including a lip adapted for releasable engagement by said last mentioned means, said bracket including a lateral support adapted to engage the base of said casing, and said bracket including a pivotal joint intermediate its ends and means whereby said pivotal joint may be selectively loosened and tightened, said casing being provided with a stop member which supports a card removed on its pivot from the index.

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