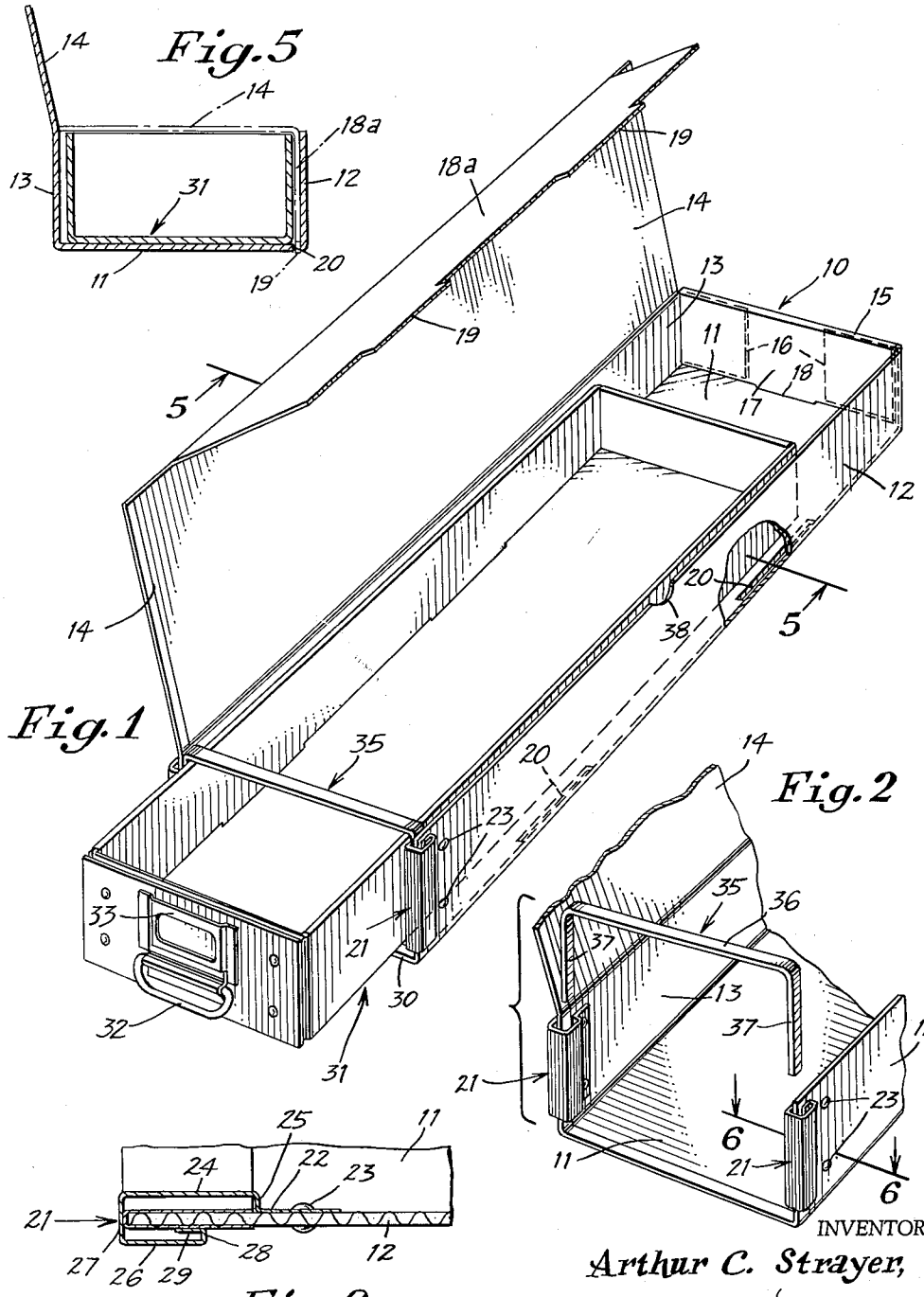
June 27, 1961 A. C. STRAYER 2,990,083

PAPER BOARD STORAGE FILE

Filed June 17, 1960 2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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PAPER BOARD STORAGE FILE

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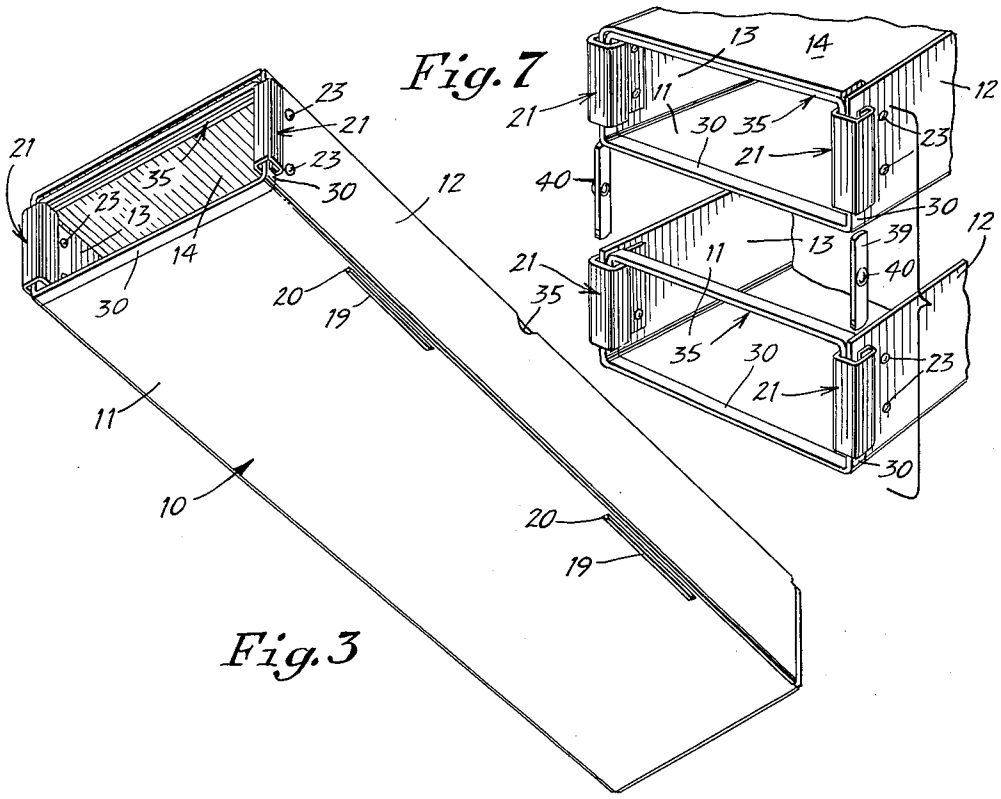


Fig. 3

Fig. 7

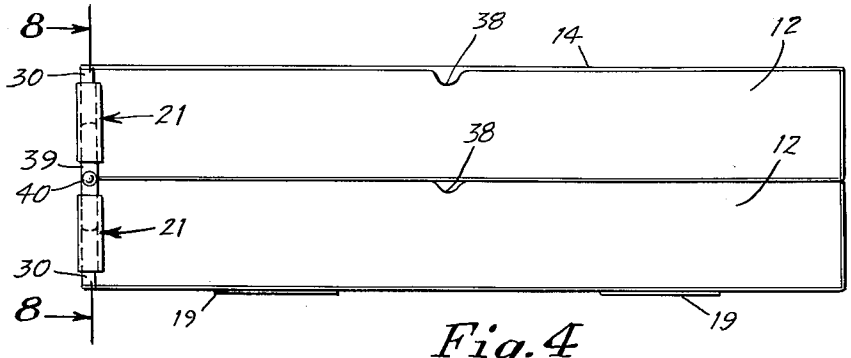


Fig. 4

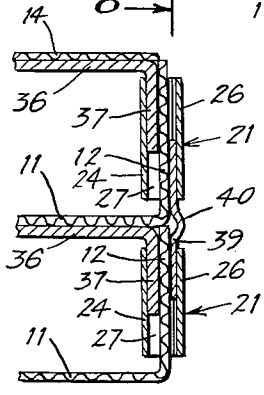


Fig. 8

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PAPER BOARD STORAGE FILE

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5 Claims. (Cl. 220—97)

The present invention relates to paper board storage file and it consists in the combinations, constructions and arrangements of parts herein described and claimed.

Generally there is provided a paper board storage file having a body which is capable of being shipped in a flat condition and which may be readily assembled or disassembled without the necessity for skilled labor. The body of the device is composed of a bottom, a pair of side walls, a foldable rear wall structure and a top member which is integrally formed with the upper end of one of the side walls. The free end of the top has an integrally formed flap which is adapted to extend downwardly in abutting relation with the opposite side wall upon the inner side thereof. The flap is provided with tongues which fit into die cut openings in the bottom of the body. Novel sockets of steel or the like are affixed to the forward end portions of each of the side members and are adapted to receive therein an inverted U-shaped cross bar, the legs of which are individually receivable in the sockets. A conventional drawer is slidably received in the body of the device. The device is such that the lid or top member may be opened at any time for inspection of the contents of the drawer without the removal of the drawer from the body of the device and the flap provides great additional strength for the entire structure while the cross bar not only adds additional strength to the device in cooperation with the metal sockets but also acts to maintain the device in its original shape while at the same time permitting additional boxes to be stacked thereon. In a modified form of the invention, a novel connecting plate is provided for locking a series of the boxes in vertical stacked relation to one another.

It is accordingly an object of the invention to provide a simple and efficient yet inexpensive paper board storage file which may be quickly assembled and disassembled.

Another object of the invention is to provide, in a device of the character set forth, a novel locking bar forming a part of the invention.

A still further object of the invention is the provision, in a device of the character set forth, of a novel socket member forming a part of the invention.

A further object of the invention is to provide, in a device of the character set forth, a novel cover and flap structure forming a part of the invention.

A still further object of the invention is the provision, in a device of the character set forth, of novel means for locking in vertical stacked relation a series of boxes in accordance with the present invention.

Still another object of the invention is to provide, in a device of the character set forth, means for inspecting the contents of a fully packed box or file constructed in accordance with the invention.

Other and further objects of the invention will become apparent from a reading of the following specification taken in conjunction with the drawings, in which:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view, partly broken away, of an embodiment of the invention,

FIGURE 2 is a fragmentary exploded view illustrating a cross bar and socket members forming part of the invention,

FIGURE 3 is a perspective view illustrating the bottom construction of the device illustrated in FIGURES 1 and 2,

FIGURE 4 is a side elevational view illustrating two of the files of the present invention showing the same in vertical stacked relation and illustrating a locking bar forming a part of the invention,

FIGURE 5 is a sectional view taken substantially along line 5—5 of FIGURE 1,

FIGURE 6 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken along line 6—6 of FIGURE 2,

FIGURE 7 is a fragmentary exploded perspective view illustrating certain features of the invention, and

FIGURE 8 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken along line 8—8 of FIGURE 4.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, there is shown therein a storage file having a box-like body generally indicated at **10** and comprising a bottom panel **11**, side walls **12** and **13** formed integrally with the side edges of the panel **11**, a cover or lid **14** formed integrally with the side wall **13** and a rear wall structure **15** which is adapted to be folded inwardly upon itself over flaps **16** formed integrally with the rearward edges of the side panels **12** and **13**. A tongue **17** is integrally formed with the back wall structure **15** and is receivable in a die cut slot **18** formed in the rearward portion of the bottom member **11**.

A side flap **18***a* is integrally formed with the free edge of the lid **14** and is provided with a pair of tongues **19** each receivable in a slot **20** formed in the bottom wall **11** adjacent the side wall **12**.

A vertically extending socket member is generally indicated at **21** and one of these is attached to the forward end portion of each of the side panels **13**. The details of construction of this socket member **21** are best illustrated in FIGURE 6 and it will be seen that each is formed of a single piece of flat metal having a base **22** abutting the inner face of the side wall **12** and affixed to the side wall **12** by means of rivets **23** or the like. An inner socket wall member **24** extends in parallel spaced relation to the wall **12** and is integrally interconnected with the base **22** by a lateral wall **25**. An outer socket wall **26** extends in parallel spaced relation to the outer face of the side wall **12** and is integrally interconnected with the member **24** by a front wall **27** which abuts the forward edge of the side wall **12**.

A laterally extending wall **28** integrally interconnects the rearward edge of the member **26** and the rearward edge of a foot member **29** which extends forwardly therefrom in abutting relation to the outer face of the side wall **12**.

The forward edge portions of the side walls **12** and **13** and of the bottom member **11** may be provided with paper tape or the like for reinforcement, as indicated at **30**.

A drawer of conventional paper board structure is generally indicated at **31** and is provided with a conventional handle **32** and card-receiving plate **33**.

A cross bar is generally indicated at **35** and consists of a horizontally extending bight portion **36** and a pair of dependent leg portions **37**, it being apparent that the cross bar **35** is of inverted U-shape.

The side panel **12** is centrally provided in its upper edge portion with a finger opening **38** and the invention is completed with the provision of flat metal interconnecting members **39** each centrally provided with a protuberance **40** which may be formed therein by stamping or the like.

In operation, it will be apparent that the body **10** may be shipped in flat condition and when it is desired to assemble the same, it is only necessary to fold the side panels **13** and **12** in an upward direction, next turn the flaps **16** inwardly and fold the rear wall structure **15** inwardly of the thus assembled box locking the tongue **17** in the slit **18**. The flap **18***a* may then be extended downwardly against the inner face of the panel **12** until the tongues **19** are received in the slits **20**.

Prior to this, however, a cross bar **35** is connected to the device by inserting the legs **37** thereof into the inner socket members. It will be apparent that such inner sockets are formed by the walls **25**, **24** and **27** of the socket members **21**. The drawer **31** may then be inserted into the body **10** and the device is complete. When it is desired to examine the contents of the drawer **31** without removing the same from the body **10**, it is only necessary to utilize the finger opening **38** to remove the cover **14** and flap **18***a* to thus provide temporary access to the interior of the device after which the flap **18***a* may be reinserted in the manner above described.

When it is desired to stack in vertical relation a plurality of the devices, it will be apparent that after each of the devices has been assembled in the manner above described, a connecting member **39** may first be placed in the outer socket portions of the socket member **21**, the downward movement of such connecting members **39** being limited to approximately the upper half portion of the socket member **21** into which it is placed due to the protuberance **40**. The next device may be placed over the bottom device with the upper portions of the connecting members **39** being inserted into the socket members **21** of the newly added device. It will also be seen that the outer socket members are formed by means of the walls **26**, **28** and **27**.

If desired, when it is intended to stack a great many of the devices, the lid or cover **14** and its associated flap **18** may be eliminated from the devices with the exception of the topmost of a particular vertically stacked row of the devices.

While but one form of the invention has been shown and described herein, it will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art that many minor modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A body for a drawer-type storage file comprising an enclosure having a bottom, a rear wall, side walls, a cover, a pair of metallic vertically extending socket members affixed to the inner faces of said side walls adjacent the open end of said enclosure, and an inverted U-shaped cross bar having its legs slidably mounted receivable in said socket members.

2. A device as defined in claim 1 wherein the bight portion of said cross bar lies beneath said cover when the cover is in closed position.

3. A plurality of bodies for drawer type storage files each comprising an enclosure having a bottom, a pair of side walls, a rear wall, a cover, a pair of metallic socket members each affixed to one of said side walls at the forward end portion thereof and each having an inner socket within said enclosure and an outer socket without said enclosure, a U-shaped cross bar having its legs slidably mounted in said inner sockets, and means including said outer sockets for interconnecting said plurality of enclosures in vertical stacked relation.

4. A plurality of bodies for drawer type storage files each comprising an enclosure having a bottom, a pair of side walls, a rear wall, a cover, a pair of metallic socket members each affixed to one of said side walls at the forward end portion thereof and each having an inner socket within said enclosure and an outer socket without said enclosure, a U-shaped cross bar having its legs slidably mounted in said inner sockets, and means for interconnecting said plurality of enclosures in vertical stacked relation, said means comprising vertically extending flat metal interengaging members each partially slidably mounted in the upper portion of the outer socket of a lower enclosure and partially slidably mounted in the outer socket of the next upper enclosure.

5. A device as defined in claim 4 wherein said interengaging members are each centrally provided with a lateral protuberance whereby dropping of an entire interengaging member into a lower socket by gravity is prevented.

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