

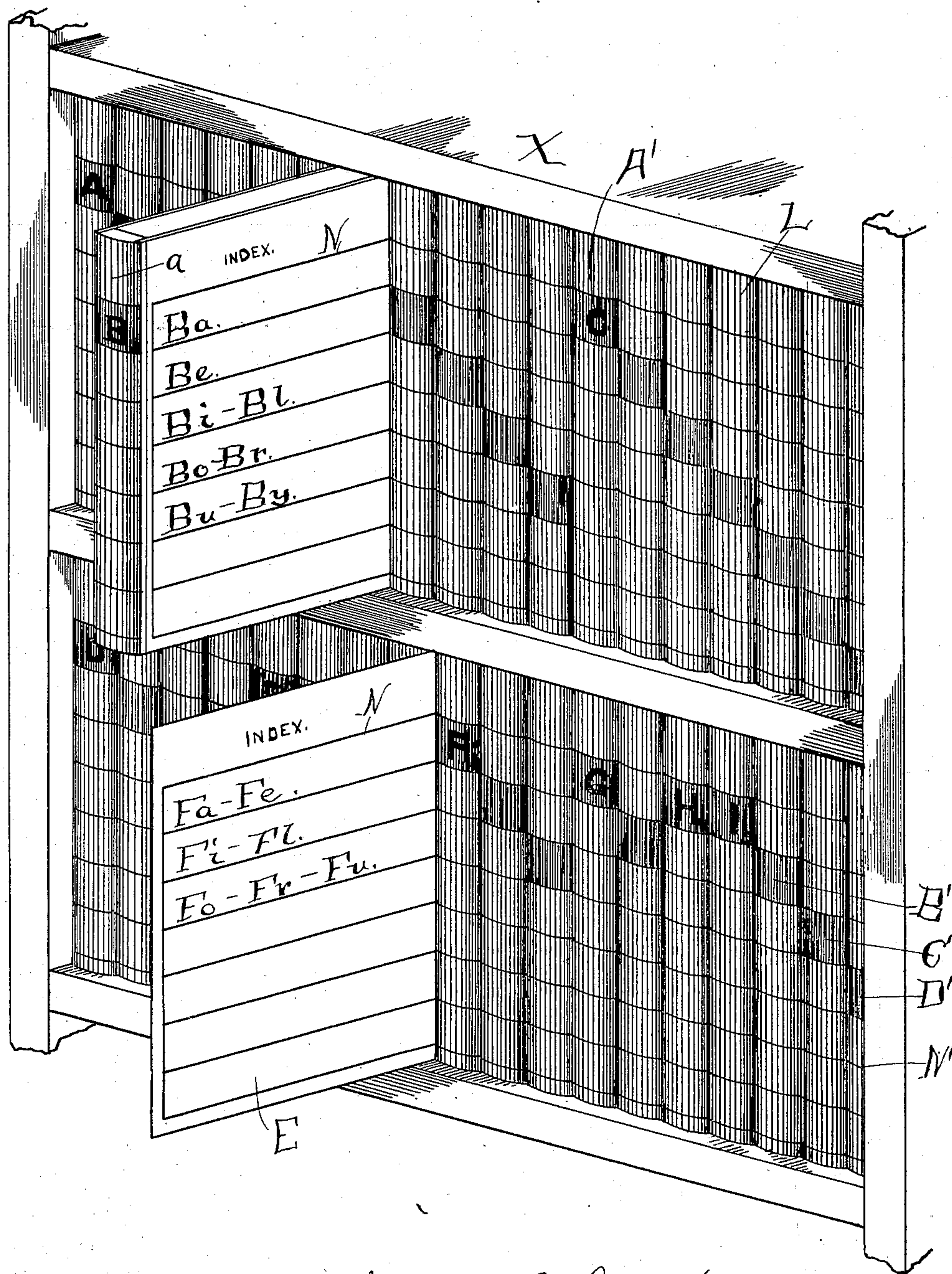
No. 655,124.

Patented July 31, 1900.

W. L. SMITH.
MEMORANDUM FILE.

(Application filed Apr. 20, 1899.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

Walter L. Smith

INVENTOR,

BY

Louis H. Gillson

ATTORNEY.

Kate S. Needham.
Frank G. Kingsbury

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER L. SMITH, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO HENRY DATE, OF AUSTIN, ILLINOIS.

MEMORANDUM-FILE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 655,124, dated July 31, 1900.

Original application filed September 12, 1898, Serial No. 690,813. Divided and this application filed April 20, 1899. Serial No. 713,710. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER L. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Chicago, county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Memorandum-Files, of which the following is a specification, and which are fully illustrated in the accompanying drawing, forming a part thereof.

10 This application is filed as a division of my application filed September 12, 1898, Serial No. 690,813.

My invention relates to that class of files adapted particularly to use in literary work and intended for the orderly reception of memoranda, clippings, &c., and comprising receptacles, preferably substantially in book form, designed to be stored on shelving side by side.

20 The object of the invention is to provide for the systematic arranging of a series of memoranda-receptacles and to apply thereto a convenient index to the various receptacles forming a single series. This object is attained in the construction and arrangement of parts as fully hereinafter described, and as illustrated in the accompanying drawing, which represents a detail isometric view of the front of a cabinet, showing a plurality of receptacles arranged therein, the index-sheet being shown as mounted and unmounted.

A section of the cabinet comprising up-rights and horizontal shelves is shown at X. Each of the receptacles L simulates in appearance a book and is substantially oblong rectangular in form. The exposed end of the receptacle L is preferably rounded, as shown at *a*. Any desired number of the receptacles may constitute a series. The receptacle of each series which is at the left constitutes the leader of the series, the index-sheet being either mounted upon the right side of this receptacle, as shown on the upper shelf in the drawing, or being inserted loosely at the left of this receptacle, as shown on the second shelf in the drawing. This index may take any desired form, but is divided into a plurality of sections by the horizontal lines N. Upon the back or exposed end of

the leading receptacle of each series there is placed an indicating-mark, as A', forming a general key to the series, this mark being preferably located opposite the upper section of the index. Each of the remaining receptacles of the series is provided upon its exposed end with an indicating-mark, as shown at B' C' D', each of these marks being in alignment with the space or section of the index relating to the receptacle upon which it is placed. For greater convenience of reference cross-lines N' are placed upon the exposed ends of the receptacle, so as to register with the divisional lines N of the index.

The appropriate receptacle for any item which it may be desired to place therein or withdraw therefrom is instantly indicated by withdrawing the index a sufficient distance to expose it to view, the eye following the line from the particular section of the index relating to the subject-matter to the particular receptacle. By this means an expansible or flexible index is secured, as the number of receptacles of any series may be indefinitely varied. While I have shown an index based upon vowels, it is apparent that it may be based upon topics, and a system becomes peculiarly serviceable when such a method of indexing is followed, as the space provided for the index is ample for a plain statement of the topic, though the matter may be of considerable length. The system also admits of changes in the index without detriment to the external appearance of the file, a new index-sheet being substituted and applied to the side of the leading receptacle over the one last used, if desired.

The receptacle L may be made of any suitable material. I prefer to make it of stout Manila paper and in box form and open across the top edges.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination with a plurality of receptacles stored side by side and forming a single series, of an index for cooperating with such series and stored side by side with the receptacles, such index being subdivided into sections vertically arranged, each receptacle of the series bearing upon its exposed end an

indicating-mark in horizontal alinement with one of the sections of the index-sheet.

2. The combination with a plurality of file-receptacles arranged in series side by side, of
5 an index formed upon the side of one of the receptacles and being subdivided into sections vertically arranged, each receptacle of

the series bearing upon its exposed end an indicating-mark in horizontal alinement with one of the sections of the index.

WALTER L. SMITH.

Witnesses:

PAUL CARPENTER,

LOUIS K. GILLSON.