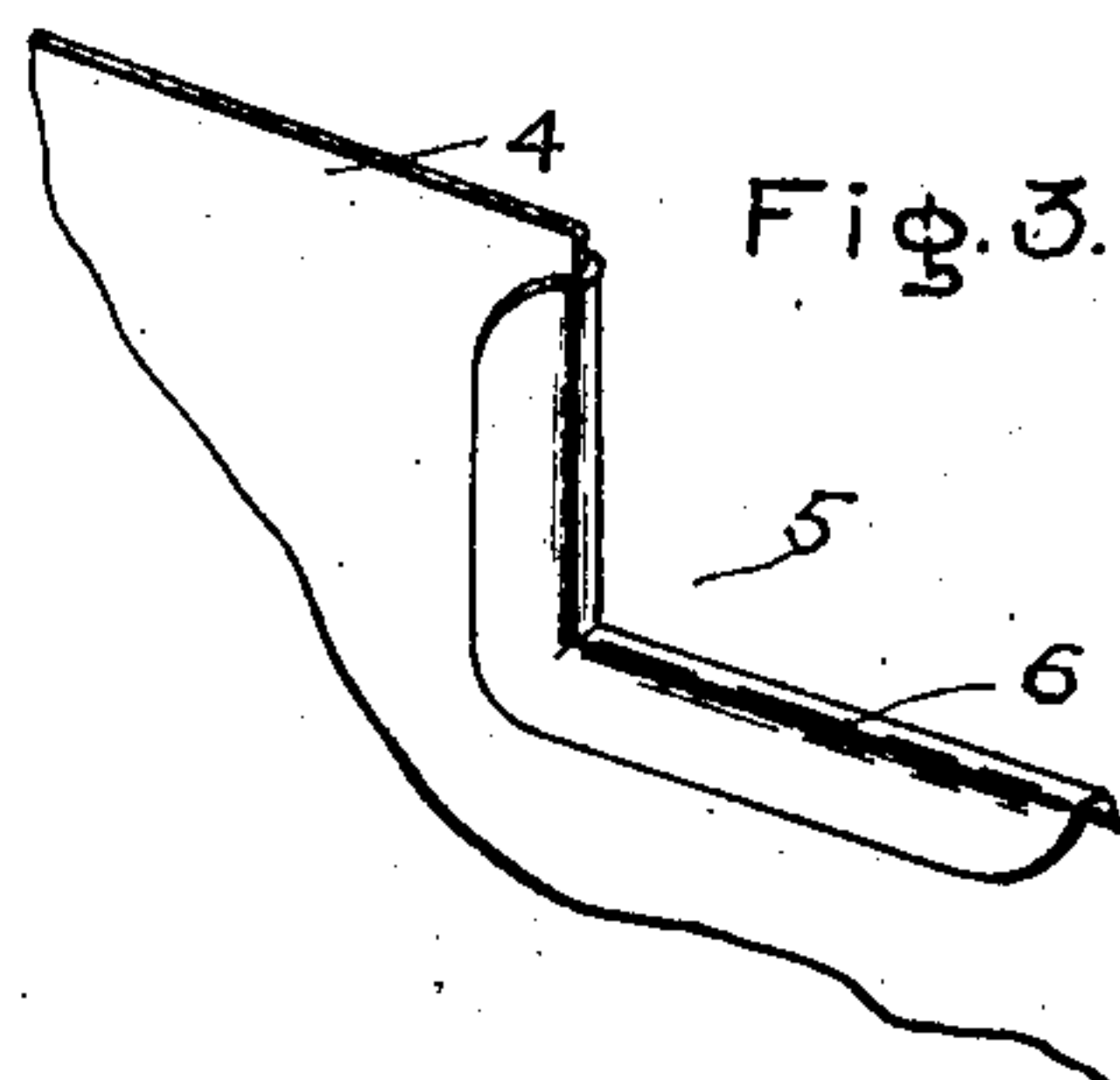
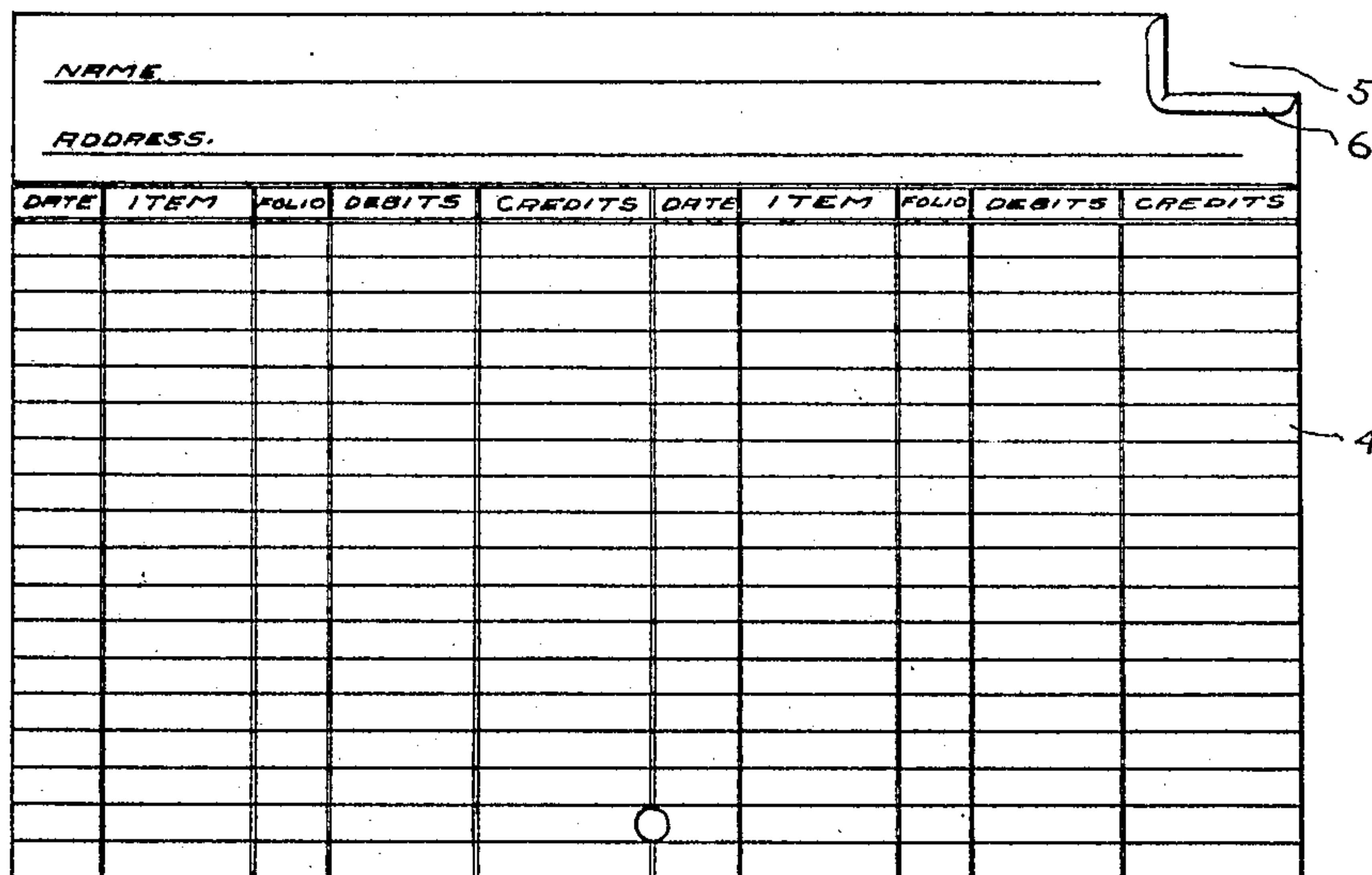
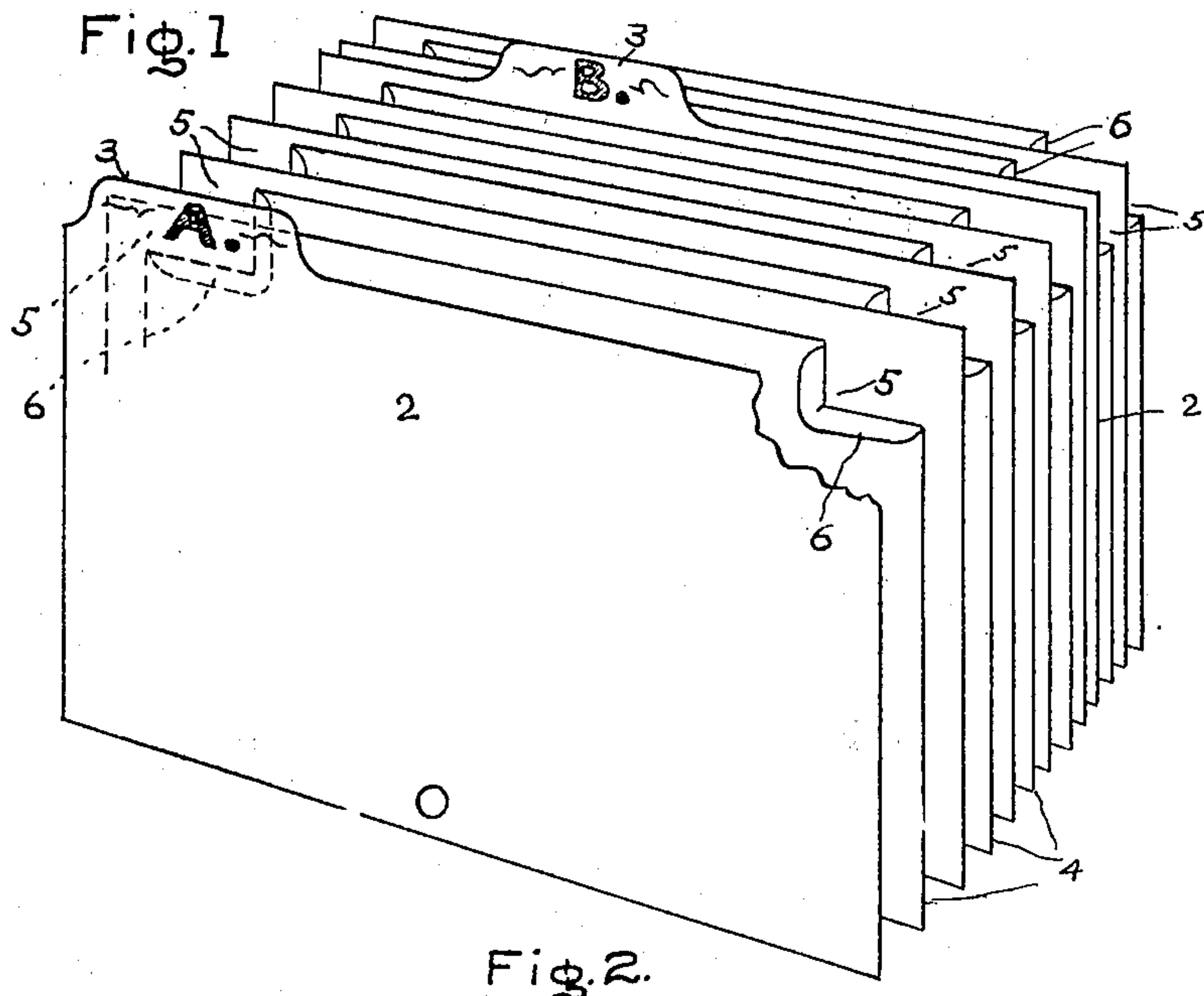


No. 876,319.

PATENTED JAN. 14, 1908.

S. S. BRADWAY.
CARD INDEX SYSTEM.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 14, 1907.



Witnesses:
M. Crozier
H. N. Henderson

Inventor,
Selah S. Bradway,
by *Harry D. Wallace*
Att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SELAH S. BRADWAY, OF WATERTOWN, NEW YORK.

CARD-INDEX SYSTEM.

No. 876,319.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 14, 1908.

Application filed August 14, 1907. Serial No. 388,520.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SELAH S. BRADWAY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Watertown, in the county of Jefferson and State of New York; have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Card-Index Systems, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in card index systems, designed for use in keeping records or accounts, and the invention relates particularly to a card system wherein certain of the cards may be selected and handled with greater facility and ease than in systems formerly devised.

The object of this invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive and durable card index, consisting of suitable lettered or numbered division cards, which may partake of any of the well-known forms or designs, and having alphabetic or other characters to designate the different divisions, and a series of sub-division or individual cards upon which accounts or records may be written and kept, the latter cards, to which my invention relates particularly, being provided with means for readily and quickly separating one card from another and for shuffling or handling but one card, instead of two or more, at a time, thus preventing delay and confusion in finding the desired card.

The invention consists principally in providing sub-division or duplicate cards for index systems, which in addition to being ruled and otherwise arranged for making and preserving records and accounts, have a rectangular or square notch or dent cut in one of their upper corners, and preferably so arranged that one alternate set of the cards have the notches cut in the upper right-hand corners, and the other alternate set have the notches cut in the upper left-hand corners.

The invention further consists in providing a light metallic clip or part and securing the same to the edges of the card which form the notches or dents, for the purpose of preventing the cards from being torn at the angle of the notches, or otherwise mutilated in the handling of the same.

The object in providing the notches referred to, is to permit the operator to sort or shift the individual cards in a quick and ready manner by inserting one of his fingers in the notch, and with its tip or with the finger nail,

catch and pull one card at a time toward him and thus select or find the desired card.

Other features and parts of the invention will be understood from the detail description which follows, and by reference to the accompanying drawing, which forms a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of my card index system, showing the construction and arrangement of the cards to which my improvement is applied. Fig. 2 is a plan view of one of the sub-division or account cards, showing the finger notch or dent formed in one of the upper corners, also showing the metal clip to protect the edges of the notch or dent. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail perspective view of a portion of the cards, showing the metal bound dent on a larger scale.

Similar numerals of reference are assigned to corresponding parts throughout the several figures.

In the drawing, 2, 2, 2 represent division or index cards, preferably plain, and having an upwardly extending lug or portion 3 formed on each of them, upon which an index letter or numeral may be inscribed.

4, 4, 4 represent a series of rectangular or square cards, which are disposed between the index or division cards 2, and these are preferably ruled or otherwise arranged for keeping individual records or accounts of persons or things, which may be indexed under the different letters or numerals carried by the division cards 2.

Card index systems are generally provided with a complete alphabetic series of the division cards 2, and between these index cards a large number of sub-division or individual account or record cards 4 are disposed. Some of the card systems are provided with sub-index cards on which the vowels are indicated, and in such systems a full complement of these cards are placed at intervals between the main division cards 2. In the latter systems there is also a series of the cards 4 disposed between each pair of vowel cards.

The cards of practically all index systems are disposed in a suitable case or box in close order, and when it is desired to find and withdraw a particular card for the purpose of recording some data, or of ascertaining the status of an account, the clerk selects the proper division, by means of the indexed or lettered cards 2, and then seeks the desired

card among the large number of individual cards 4, and in so doing he catches the upper edges of the cards with the tips of his fingers and pulls or turns them toward him. As the cards are usually flat and thin and cling close together, he experiences considerable difficulty in separating and turning over one card at a time, and as a result, often passes by the card sought for, thus necessitating a rehandling of the several cards and causing delay in finding the record or account he is looking for. In order to facilitate the manipulation of the said cards and render the search for a particular record card definite and certain with but one handling of the cards, I have provided a simple means consisting of a notch or dent 5, which is cut in the upper right and left hand corners of the sub-division cards 4. These dents are preferably cut in the alternate cards in such manner that the first card, for instance, of the division "A", is notched at the upper right-hand corner, and the second card is notched at the upper left-hand corner. The third card is notched in the right-hand corner, and so on alternately throughout the whole series of each division.

The cards used in index systems of the classes referred to, are usually made of light, thin card-board, and when dented or notched in the manner described, are liable to become torn or mutilated at the corners, or at the inner angle of the notches 5 after a number of handlings. To provide against tearing or otherwise injuring the cards of my system, I provide a shield or clip 6, preferably made of thin, light malleable metal, such as brass, tin or aluminium, and these clips are formed to fit the right-angle of the dents 5, and are preferably secured to the cards by pressing the wings or leaves tightly against the sides of the cards. When so secured, these clips will remain in place and prevent the tearing, soiling or mutilating of the edges of the cards which form the dents. The metal employed for the clips 6 should be of as thin gage as will protect the cards and yet not materially increase the thickness of the cards at the corners where applied.

In carrying out the spirit or object of my invention, I do not regard the metallic clips 6 indispensable or essential, as the notches or dents 5 constitute my principal improvement, and the said clips are provided as an additional safeguard against destruction of the cards, in case the material employed in making them is not as substantial as such systems require for extensive use.

To manipulate the cards 4, having my improvement, the clerk will place the tip of his

index finger against the horizontal edge of the dent 5, which will enable him to instantly gain a purchase on the card and draw it toward him. The next card may then be handled in the same manner with the other hand, and so on, until he has found the desired card. Under this construction and arrangement of the sub-division cards, each card may be turned over in regular order, without disturbing the succeeding card, and much delay and annoyance may be saved in the operation of card index systems.

I reserve the right to vary or change the parts of my device within the spirit of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a card index system, the combination with a series of division cards bearing index letters or numerals, of a series of account cards, each having a notch or dent cut in one upper corner and arranged in alternate sets, the cards of one set having the notches cut in the upper right-hand corners, and the cards of the other set having the notches cut in the upper left-hand corners, substantially as described.

2. In a card index system, the combination with a series of division cards bearing index characters, of a series of sub-division cards having a dent cut in one upper corner of each, and arranged in alternate sets, the cards of one set having dents cut in the upper right-hand corners, and the cards of the other set having dents cut in the upper left-hand corners, and an angular metallic clip secured to each card in a manner to protect the edges of the dent, substantially as described.

3. A card index system, comprising a series of division cards having upwardly projecting portions bearing index letters or numbers, a series of individual account or record cards each having a notch cut in one upper corner, the said cards being disposed in alternate sets of substantially equal number, the cards of one set having the notches cut in the upper right-hand corners, and the cards of the other set having the notches cut in the upper left-hand corners, and a clip to bind and shield the edges of each of said notches, substantially as described.

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

SELAH S. BRADWAY.

Witnesses:

EDGAR V. BLOODOUGH,
JEROME F. HADCOCK.