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CREDIT ACCOUNT FILE.
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997,328.

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16	16	Smith C. R.	4	33	Martin R. F.
17	17	Dean W. C.	4	34	Brown Geo.

Fig. 1.

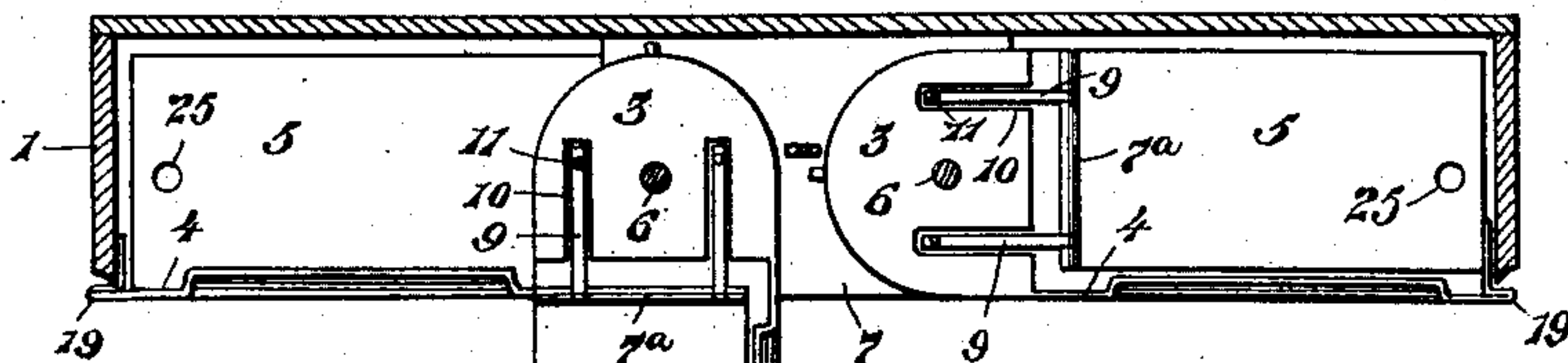


Fig. 2.

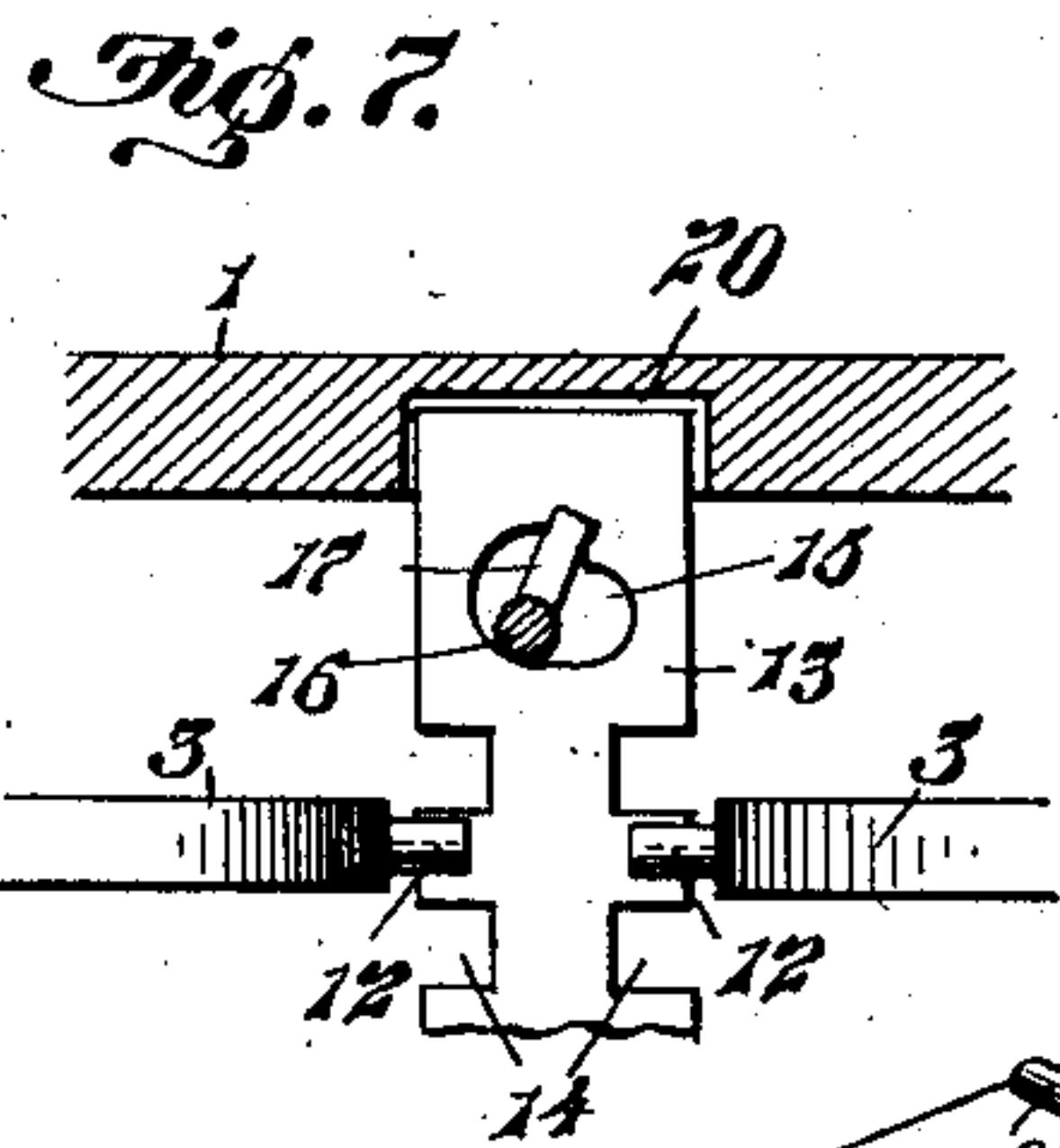


Fig. 3.

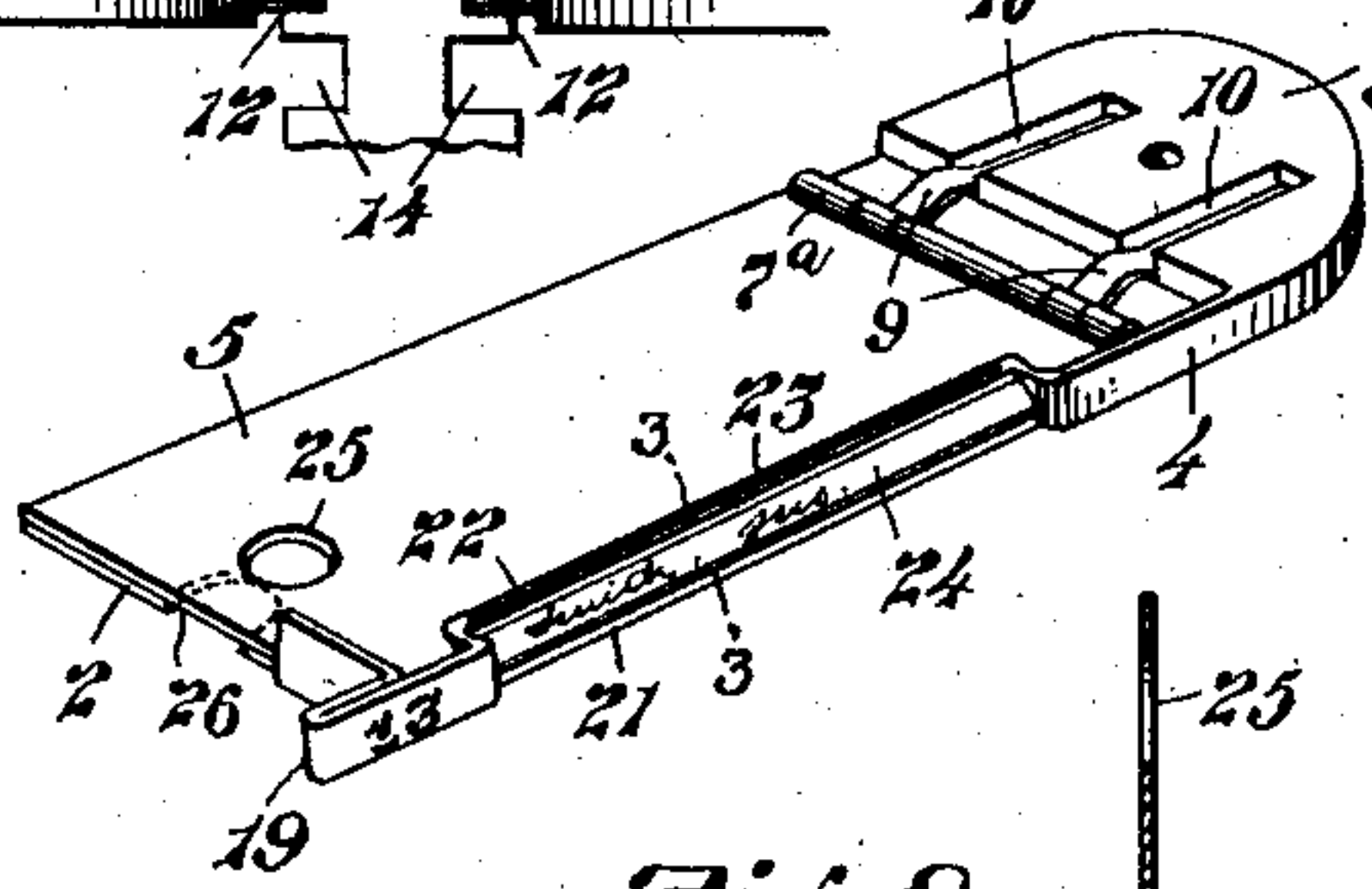


Fig. 4.

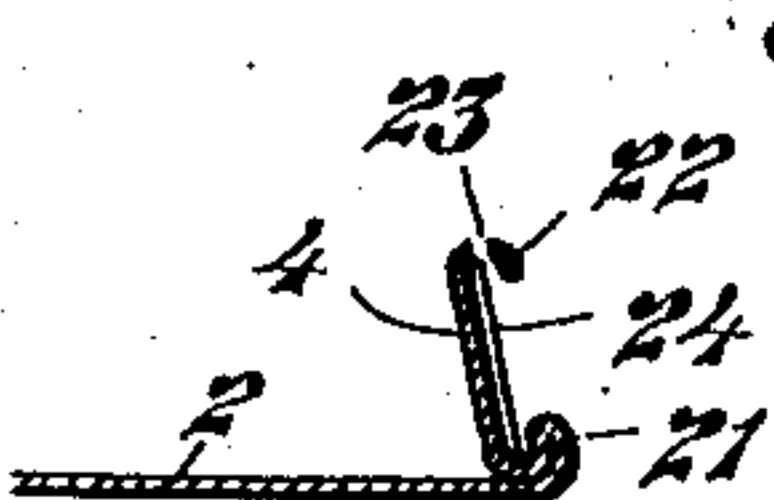


Fig. 5.

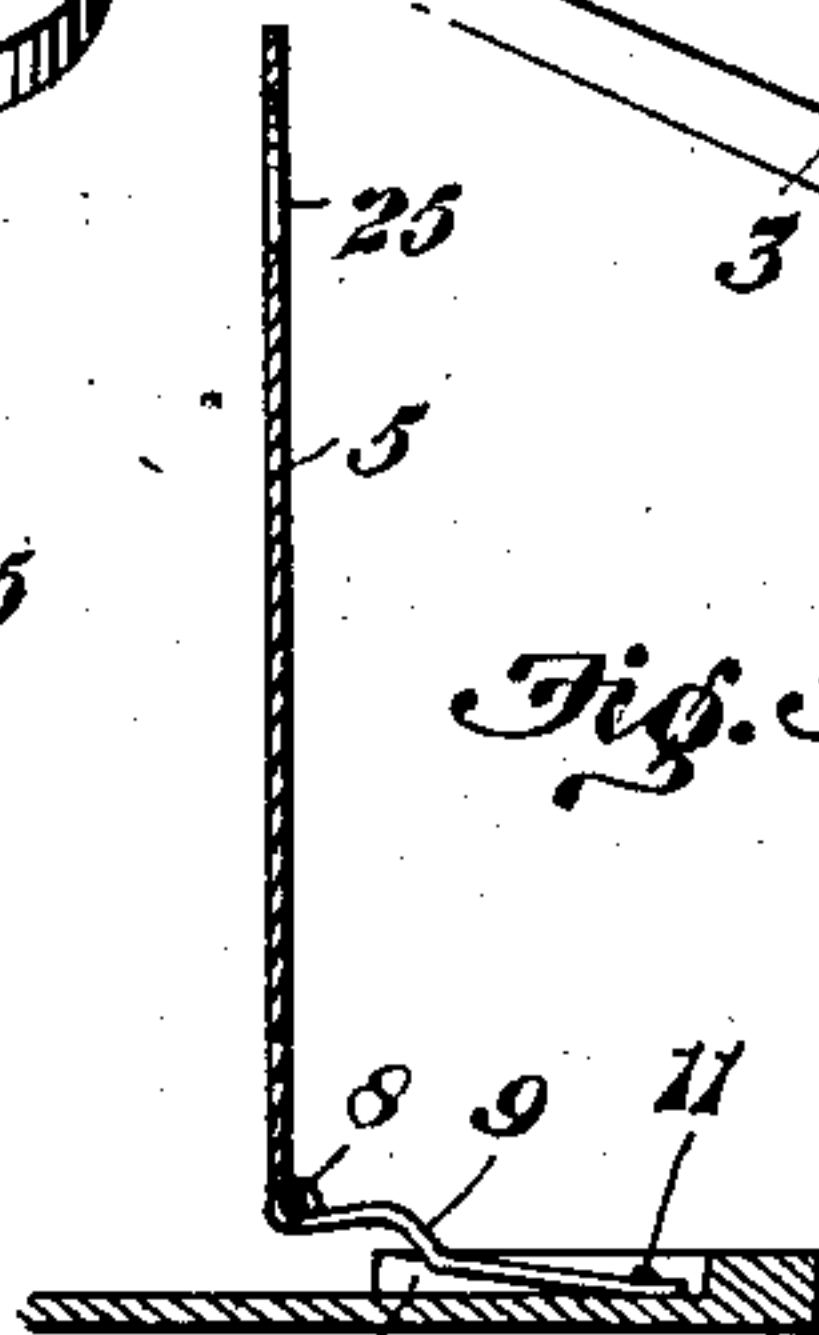


Fig. 6.

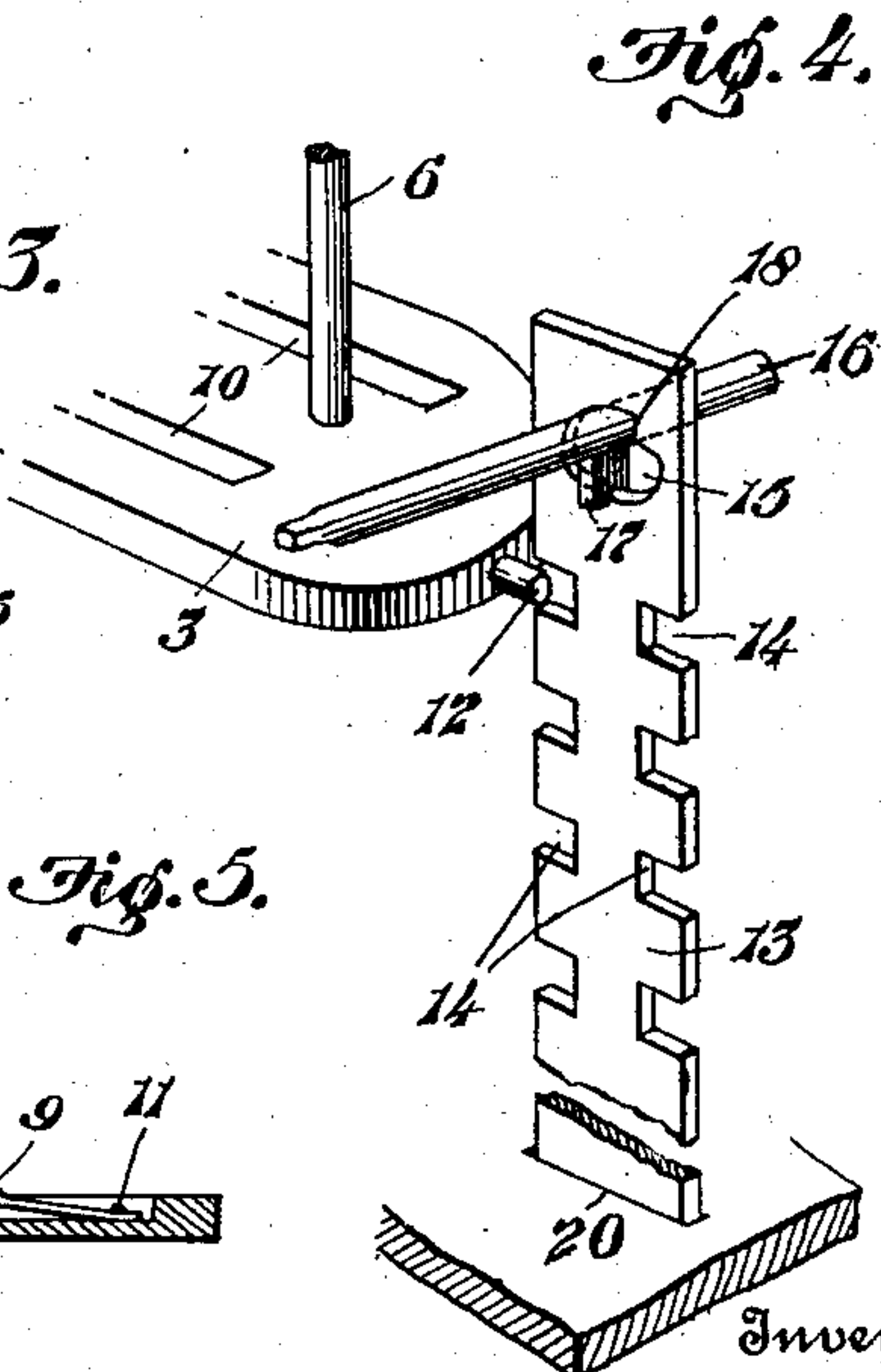
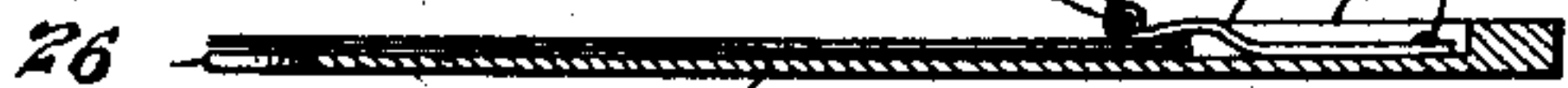


Fig. 7.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CREDIT-ACCOUNT FILE.

997,328.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. RINGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Canton, in the county of Stark and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Credit-Account Files, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing.

10 This invention relates to a filing device commonly known as credit account appliances, and the specific invention relates to a series of pivotally mounted credit slip trays or supports designed to rotate in horizontal planes.

The objects of the present invention are to provide means whereby duplicate credit slips can be filed and kept or retained in alphabetical or numerical arrangement and at the same time provide means whereby accounts of any desired number of customers can be conveniently kept and of easy access to any particular customers' account or credit slips.

25 Another object is to provide means whereby any desired number of trays or credit slip holding devices can be arranged in compact form occupying but little space.

30 A further object is to provide means whereby all of the trays or credit slip holding devices can be locked and held against rotation and in closed positions.

35 The invention further consists in the novel parts and combination of parts hereinafter described and defined in the claims.

These objects together with other objects readily apparent to those skilled in the art I attain by the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawing, although my invention may be embodied in a variety of other mechanical forms, the construction illustrated being chosen by way of example.

Referring to the drawing: Figure 1 is a front elevation showing the trays or credit slip holding supports properly located in a cabinet or case. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section of the case showing two trays or credit slip holding supports, one in a closed position and the other in an open position. Fig. 3 is a detached perspective view of one of the credit slip holding trays or supports. Fig. 4 is a view showing a portion of one of the credit slip holding trays or supports and a portion of the pivot rod or bar, also

showing a portion of the lock bar and its actuating key bar. Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section of one of the credit slip holding trays or supports showing its cover raised to expose to view the top or uppermost credit slip. Fig. 6 is a view showing a portion of one of the credit slip holding trays or supports illustrating its cover raised to expose to view the top or uppermost credit slip and the spring hinge straps slightly elevated. Fig. 7 is a view showing a portion of the top of the cabinet, also a portion of the lock bar in elevated position and portions of two credit slip holding trays, the lock bar being in position to hold the credit slip holding trays against pivotal movement or in closed position. Fig. 8 is a section on line 3—3, Fig. 3.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawing.

In the accompanying drawing, 1 represents the cabinet or case which is preferably rectangular in form and of such a size that the trays or credit slip holding devices can be located in the case or cabinet. The tray or credit slip holding support is made up of the body 2, the pivot or head end 3 and the side flange 4. The pivot or head end 3 is formed somewhat thicker than the body portion 2 and is so formed for the purpose of bringing the top or upper surface of the body portion 2 in a horizontal plane somewhat lower than the top surface of the head 3, so as to provide space for any desired number of credit slips and the hinged cover 5. The object of providing space for the various credit slips and the cover 5 is to permit the cover 5 when brought into a closed position to lie in substantially the same horizontal plane as the upper face of the pivot or head end 3, reference being had to the number of credit slips being placed between the upper face of the body portion 2 and the under face of the cover 5. It will be understood that with a limited number of credit slips the cover may at times lie in a plane somewhat below the upper surface of the pivot or head end 3 of the tray proper, but the pivot or head end 3 should be of such relative thickness that the cover 5 will not lie in a horizontal plane above the top surface of the pivot or head end 3; otherwise the cover might interfere with the

pivotal movements of a series of trays when properly placed in a case or cabinet as illustrated in Fig. 1.

For the purpose of pivotally connecting a series of trays, the pivot rods 6 are provided, which pivot rods are connected at their top and bottom ends to the top and bottom of the case or cabinet in any convenient and well known manner.

For the purpose of providing an independent pivotal movement for each tray or credit slip holding support, the division plates 7 are provided, which division plates are located between the trays or credit slip holding supports as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. These supports are held in fixed relative position with reference to the case or cabinet by means of the rods 6 or their equivalents.

The hinge end of the cover 5 is provided with an ordinary wire bead 7^a. Around the wire 8 are located the hinged ends of the spring hinge straps 9, which spring hinge straps are preferably located in the recesses 10 formed in the pivot or head end and to which pivot or head end 3, said spring straps are attached preferably by means of the rivets 11. The purpose of providing spring hinge straps is to provide means for allowing the hinge ends of said strap to move up or down reference being had to the number of credit slips placed upon the tray or support. Another object in providing spring hinge straps is to permit the cover 5 to be lifted upward as shown in Fig. 5, thereby freeing the credit slips so that any number or all of the credit slips can be easily removed or an additional credit slip placed in position.

For the purpose of providing means for holding the trays against pivotal movement when so desired each tray is provided with the short stop pin 12, which pins are so arranged that when the trays are brought into a closed position they will all be in substantially the same vertical plane and for the purpose of locking or holding the trays or credit slip supports against pivotal movement by means of said stop pins, the bar 13 is provided, which bar is provided with a series of notches 14, and when said bar is in the position illustrated in Fig. 4 the stop pins 12 will pass through the notches when the tray is turned outward upon its pivotal point, but when the bar 13 is elevated the notches 14 will be moved out of alignment or more specifically out of register with said notches, thereby preventing any outward movement of the trays or credit slip supports.

For the purpose of moving the bar 13 up or down its upper end is provided with the cam shaped opening or recess 15, through which cam shaped opening the key bar 16 passes, which key bar is provided with the blade 17, the outer end of which blade comes

in contact with the wall of the cam shaped opening 15 and when the key bar 16 is rotated the bar 13 will be moved up or down reference being had to the direction of rotation. For the purpose of holding the bar 13 up or in elevation the cam shaped opening 15 is provided with the shoulder 18, which shoulder forms a stop for the blade 16 to strike against as illustrated in Fig. 7.

For the purpose of making the device more compact the pivot or head end 3 of the tray holding credit slip supports are rounded as illustrated in the drawing. It will also be understood that the free ends of the trays or credit slip supports should not extend quite to the sides of the cabinet, thereby preventing any binding or striking of the trays when they are moved outward. It will be understood that the method of providing clearance for the outward movement of the trays or credit slip supports are simply mechanical and I have illustrated one way in which the trays can be moved outward without causing their outer ends to come in contact with the sides of the cabinet or frame.

It will be understood that some provision should be made for easily turning the trays upon their pivotal points and in order to provide a finger hold the outer edges of the trays may be provided with the extended flanges 19.

For the purpose of providing room for the vertical movements of the notched bar 13, the top and bottom of the case or cabinet should be provided with the recesses or grooves 20.

In the drawings I have shown two tiers of trays and two pivot rods, but it will be understood that any desired number of tiers may be employed without departing from the nature of my invention, that is to say one tier of trays may be employed or the number may be increased, reference being had to the capacity of the filing cabinet.

For the purpose of providing means for putting the name of a customer upon a particular tray or credit slip support the front of the tray is preferably provided with the parallel flanges 21 and 22, the flange 22 is provided with the slot 23 through which slot the tab 24 can be passed.

For the purpose of convenience in lifting the cover 5 from a horizontal position to an inclined or vertical position the free ends of said covers are provided with the apertures 25 and the free ends of the tray or credit slip supporting bodies 2 provided with the cut out portions 26.

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

1. In a credit account file of the class described, the combination of a case, credit slip holding trays pivotally mounted upon

a common axis, said trays provided with heads, said heads formed of a thickness greater than the bodies of the trays, division plates located between the series of trays, covers carried by the trays, spring strap hinges adapted to pivotally connect the covers to the trays, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. In a credit account file of the class described, the combination of a case, a series of trays pivotally mounted upon a common axis, said trays provided with heads having rounded ends, said heads formed of a thickness greater than the thickness of the tray, covers hinged to said heads, said covers adapted to lie in a plane parallel with the tops of the trays, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. In a credit account file, the combination of a case, a series of credit slip holding trays pivoted upon a common axis, covers carried by said trays, spring hinges yieldingly connecting said trays and covers together, tab holding flanges located upon the flange edges of said trays and the free ends of said trays provided with extended stop flanges substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the above, I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN H. RINGER.

Witnesses:

JOHN H. SPONSELLER,
F. W. BOND.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."
