

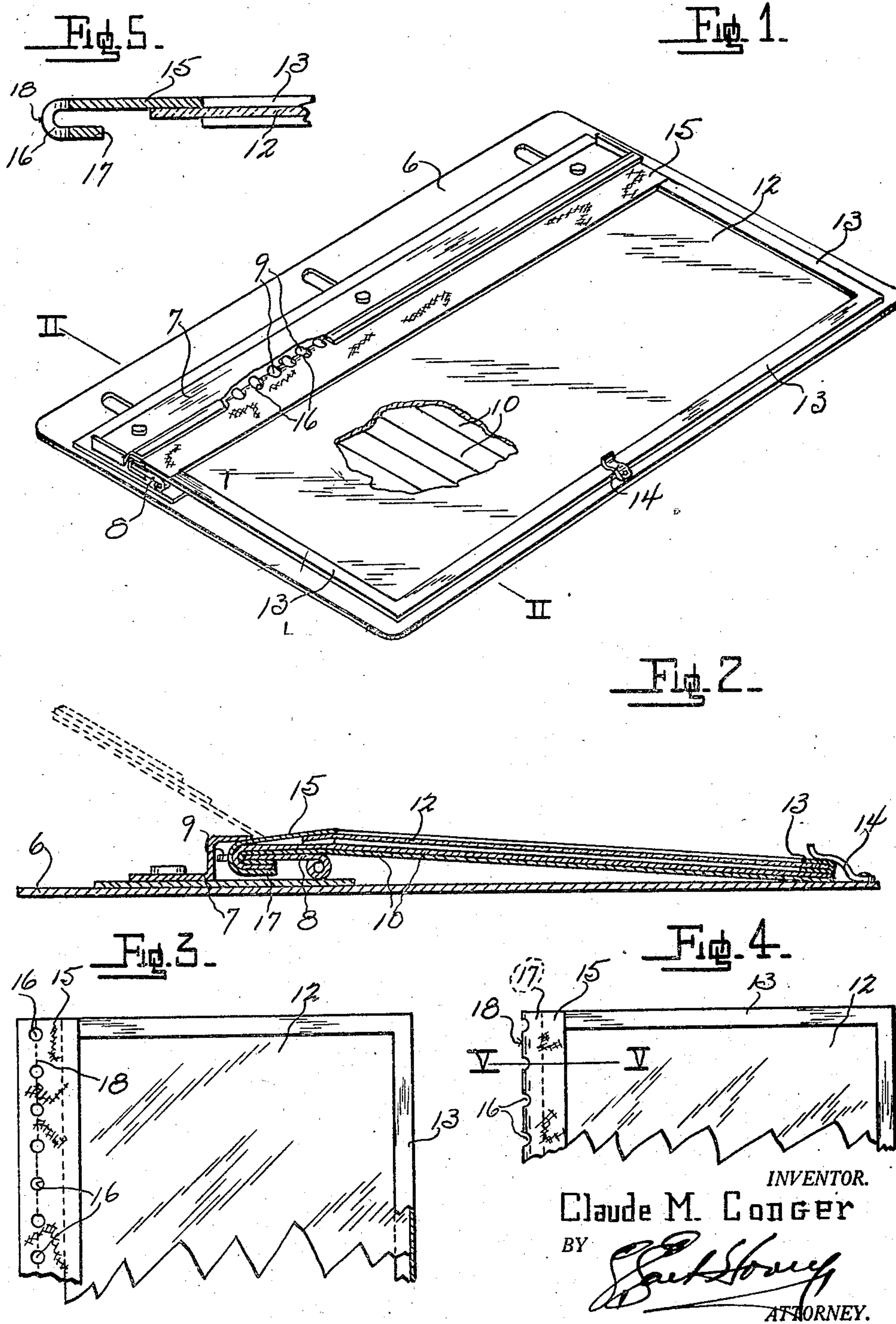
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VISIBLE INDEX

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VISIBLE INDEX.

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This invention relates to visible index devices and has for its primary object the provision of a sheet guard or protective member which is particularly adapted to be used in combination with visible index equipment having a large number of overlapped sheets removably secured in a holder.

This invention relates particularly to a visible index device clearly shown and set forth in a co-pending application Serial #47,007, filed July 30th, 1925 by Junius B. Irving, and assigned to the Irving-Pitt Manufacturing Company, a corporation of Kansas City, Missouri.

It is to be understood that the present invention may be used to a great advantage in connection with various forms of visible index equipment, or, in fact, with any loose-leaf device which is adapted to hold a number of loose sheets, each having an exposed portion.

One of the objects of this invention is to provide means for holding a plurality of overlapped sheets in the flat position and for retaining these sheets in their proper position in the holder to preclude their being soiled, torn, bent or dog-eared when the holder is being handled and the sheets not actually being used.

Another object of the instant invention is to provide a simply constructed guard for visible index sheets which has means for holding the same in place and which is made up of suitable transparent material to permit a view of the exposed portion of the several sheets before they are made accessible, by swinging the guard to the open position.

Many minor objects and refinements of construction will appear during the course of the detailed specification referring to the accompanying drawing in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of one form of visible index holder showing the transparent sheet-guard in the closed position, with parts broken away for clearness.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged cross-section of a visible index device taken on line II—II of Fig. 1 showing the guard, made in accordance with this invention, in the operative position.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary face view of the guard.

Fig. 4 is a similar face view showing the attached edge folded and ready to be inserted in the holder, and,

Fig. 5 is an enlarged detailed fragmentary section taken on line V—V of Fig. 4.

Similar reference characters refer to like parts throughout the several views and the numeral 6 designates any suitable base member provided to support a visible index sheet holder 7, which includes a hingedly mounted member 8 having a plurality of spaced-apart aligned tongues 9, formed along its free edge and which are adapted to project through appropriate openings formed in sheets 10 where- by they are removably secured in the desired overlapped position.

It has been found in practice that sheets 10 become dog-eared and solid when in the holder and swing outwardly at their free end as the base 6 is being handled and moved about.

Accordingly, means has been provided for precluding these objectionable features which may be used in connection with the visible index shown, or with other forms of sheet holders in this particular art.

In the embodiment shown in the accompanying drawing, the guard is preferably made up of a transparent sheet 12 which may be reinforced or suitably bound around its edges as at 13. This binding or reinforcing may be effectively accomplished by turning back a small portion of the sheet 12 upon itself and cementing the turned-back portion in place or as shown in the drawing by cementing a channel in place over the edges to be bound. It has been found, in practice, that a thin metal channel will effectively perform this function as well as a channel made from the transparent material itself, such as celluloid, that is used to form sheet 12. The size of the sheet 12 may vary as desired to entirely cover the plurality of sheets 10 and a suitable device 14 used to releasably hold the free edge of the guard in place. It is understood that any suitable lock may be used to perform this function, the pivotally mounted spring clip 14 being shown as a possible embodiment of the means.

To hingedly mount sheet 12 in the operative position to protect index sheets 10, the same should be provided along one edge with a strip of flexible material 15 which should be securely and rigidly cemented, or otherwise affixed, to sheet 12 in any desired manner. This strip 15 may be cut from fabric or the like, and should be flexible to permit free hinging movement of the transparent board

without weakening itself along the line of bend. Strip 15 is provided with a plurality of aligned openings 16, which must be spaced apart the same as tongues 9 of the sheet holder. Accordingly, there may be greater or lesser number of openings 16 formed in strip 15, according to the number of tongues 9, and the strip 15 may, or may not be, folded back upon itself as shown in Figs. 4 and 5 to fit this particular holder. In this instance, however, the strip of flexible material 15 should have a portion 17, folded back upon itself, the line of fold 18, intersecting the centers of openings 16. In so folding back portion 17, a plurality of notches are formed in the folded edge as shown in Fig. 4.

It will be found, in manipulating and operating a visible index device of the character shown, that the guard will serve the purpose of holding the many sheets 10 in place as the locking device is being moved from the sheet-holding to the sheet-releasing position. When it is desired to make an entry on the back of one of the sheets, 10, the guard may be turned back to the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2 and will there serve as a smooth surface adapted to hold any one of the sheets 10 in the folded-back position and in condition to be written upon. When the guard is locked in position as shown in Fig. 1, sheets 10 cannot hinge or swing out of place and a compact device is assured.

It is readily recognized by one skilled in the art, that a guard constructed in accordance with the spirit of the invention may be used in connection with various forms of visible index equipment and it is desired to be limited only by the scope of the appended claims.

What I desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In combination with a sheet holder having a plurality of sheets hingedly carried in overlapped relation, a transparent guard member movable to and from a position against all of said sheets and a means for securing said guard member in position against the sheets.

2. In a visible index device, a plurality of sheets, means for hinging said sheets in overlapping relation including a plurality of spaced-apart tongues, each of said sheets adapted to engage a number of said tongues and a guard for precluding hinging movement of the sheets comprising a transparent sheet and a means along one edge of said transparent sheet for removably engaging all of the sheet-supporting tongues and permitting hinging movement of the sheet toward and from the overlapped sheets.

3. A guard sheet for sheet-holding devices including a transparent sheet, a flexible strip rigidly secured to said sheet along one edge thereof and projecting therefrom and a plurality of aligned openings formed in the strip, said strip having a portion thereof folded back upon itself, the line of fold intersecting the centers of said plurality of openings.

4. A guard sheet for sheet-holding devices including a transparent sheet, a flexible strip rigidly secured to said sheet at its one edge, said strip extending the full length of said sheet and projecting outwardly therefrom in the same plane therewith and having a portion thereof folded back upon itself and a plurality of notches cut in the folded edge.

In testimony hereof I hereunto affix my signature.

CLAUDE M. CONGER.