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SALES BOOK HOLDER

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FIG. 1

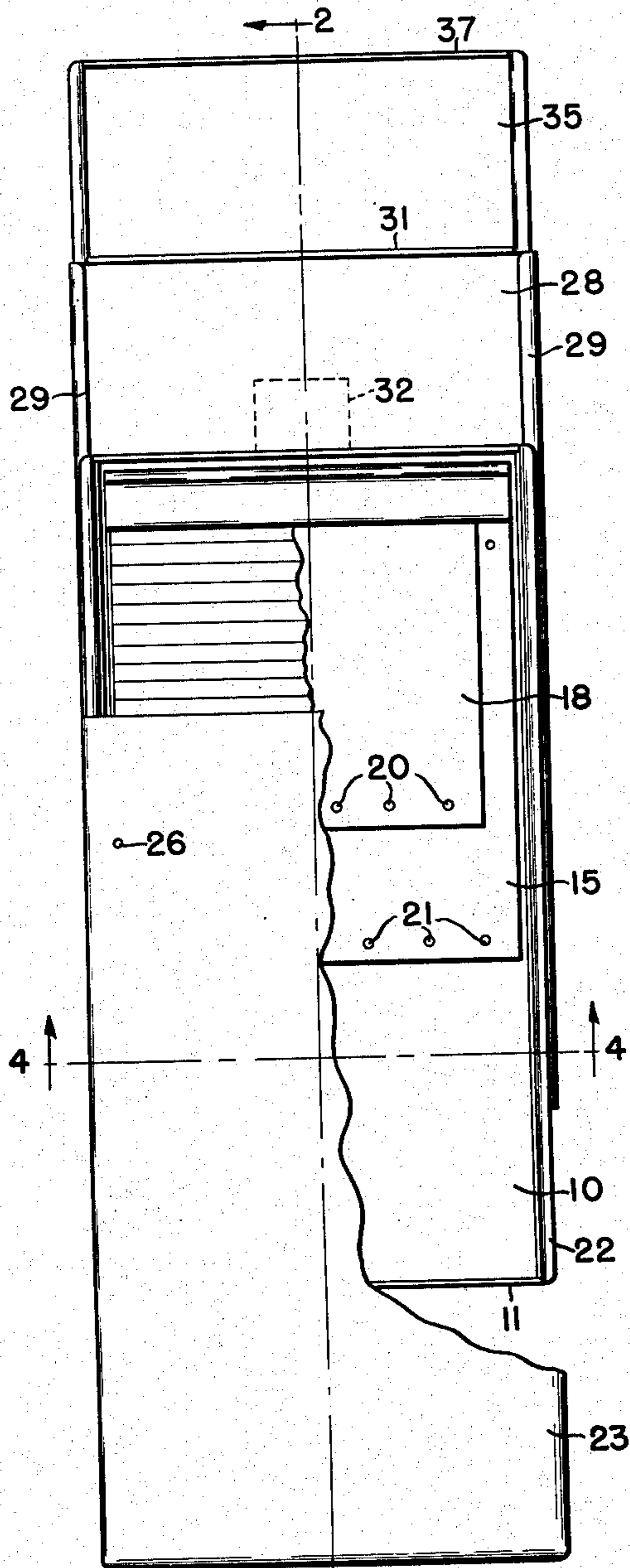


FIG. 2

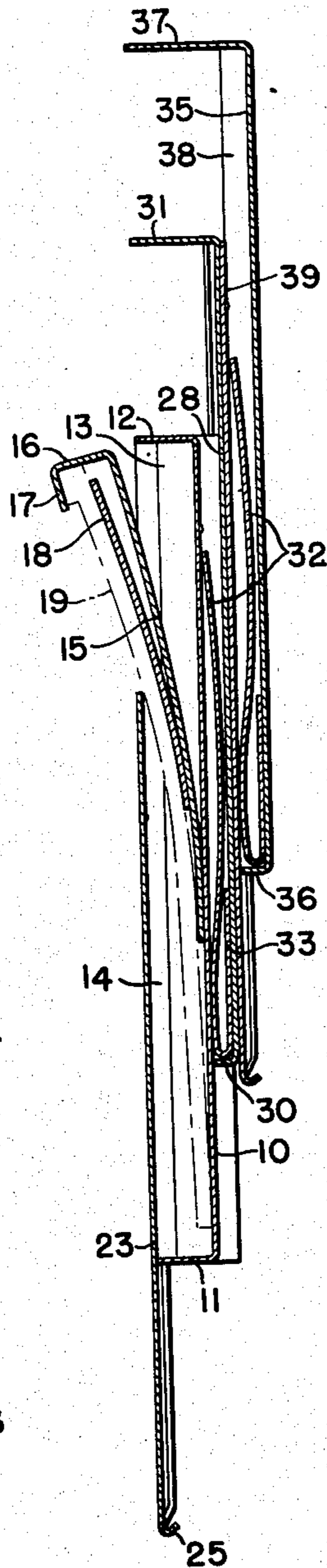


FIG. 3

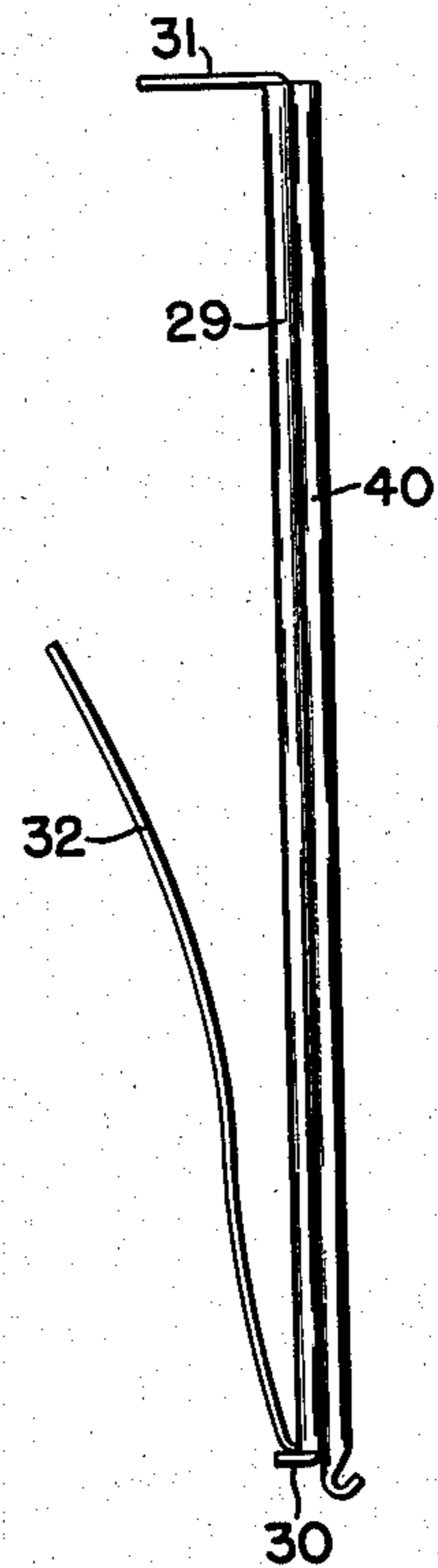
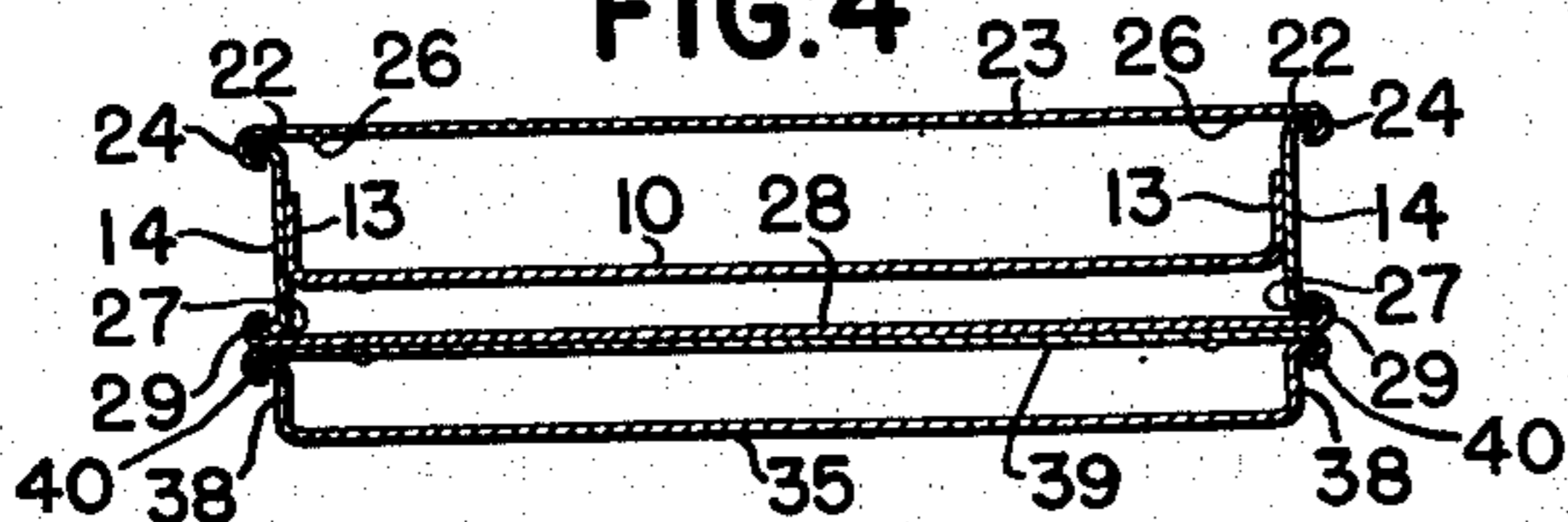


FIG. 4



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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## SALES BOOK HOLDER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 312-201)

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This invention relates to improvements in portable holders for business forms, such as sales slips, and particularly to a portable holder having a plurality of filing compartments.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a simple and effective portable form holder having a tier of storage compartments in which sales slips can be filed in accordance with a desired classification.

A specific object of the invention is to provide a tier of storage compartments slidably supported on each other, and so constructed that one end of the lower compartments form closures and stops to limit the compartments in their closed positions.

With these and incidental objects in view, the invention includes certain novel features of construction and combinations of parts, a preferred form or embodiment of which is hereinafter described with reference to the drawing which accompanies and forms a part of this specification.

In said drawing:

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of the holder and shows the compartments in open positions, and also shows the closure for the top compartment partly broken away.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the holder, taken on line 2-2 of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 3 is a detail side elevation of the intermediate compartment.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view of the holder, taken on line 4-4 of Fig. 1, in the direction of the arrows.

#### General description

As illustrated herein, the portable form holder is provided with three compartments. A stack of unused forms is inserted into the uppermost compartment, where the stack is confined in a clamp or any suitable device, which device is biased upwardly to render the top form of the stack easily accessible and removable. When a form is removed from the uppermost compartment, a cover, which also forms a writing table, is positioned beneath the main body of the form, the upper end of the removed form remaining clamped in the device. After the desired entries have been made on the removed form, it is removed from the stack of forms and filed in a selected compartment. As illustrated herein, two filing compartments are illustrated.

The filing compartments are slidably mounted beneath the uppermost compartment and can be selected at will.

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The novel construction of the filing compartments results in a simple and compact form holder, and includes end closures therefor, which extend upwardly far enough to overlap and engage the ends of the next higher compartment. The end closures are simple flanges turned up from the bottoms of the filing compartments, so that, when the filing compartments are closed, the portable holder is rendered compact. Each one of the filing compartments is provided with a flexible member which is biased in an outward direction from the bottom of the compartment, so that, when the compartment is opened, the flexible member moves outwardly to provide a guide for the forms to be filed therein. When a filing compartment is closed and the flexible member comes into contact with the under side of the compartment immediately above it, said under side depresses the flexible member to hold the filed forms in place.

#### Detailed description

The upper compartment is provided with a bottom wall 10 (Figs. 1, 2, and 4), a front wall 11, and a rear wall 12, said walls preferably formed from one piece of material. Formed on the sides of the bottom wall 10 are two side walls 13. The walls 10 to 13, inclusive, thus form a tray-like member, having a front wall and a rear wall extending higher than the side walls. Secured to each side wall 13 is a member 14, having flanges 22 extending outwardly on each member 14, thus forming a channel-like member, and said member 14 extends the full length of the upper compartment.

Securely mounted on the bottom wall 10, and extending substantially across the full width of the bottom wall 10, is a curved plate 15, having a wall 16 at its rearward end, and said wall is bent forwardly to form a wall 17, beneath which a stack of business forms 19 are placed. To clamp the stack of forms releasably in place, a plate 18 is secured to the plate 15, the free end of the plate 18 being biased toward the wall 17. The stack of forms 19 (shown in dot-and-dash lines) is positioned between the wall 17 and the plate 18, and the biased plate 18 forces the uppermost sheet of the stack of forms against the under side of the wall 17 to frictionally hold the stack in place.

The plate 18 can be secured to the plate 15 by any convenient means, such as by spot welds 20 (Fig. 1), and likewise the plate 15 can be secured to the bottom wall 10 by spot welds 21.

Slidably mounted on flanges 22, formed on

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the upper edges of the side walls 14, is a combination cover and hand rest 23, the latter having turned-in-edges 24 forming grooves into which the flanges 22 extend. The forward edge of the cover 23 has a flange 25 to strengthen the cover and to provide a means by which the cover may be grasped when it is being extended or closed. The rear end of the cover is cut off square and has no flange thereon, as clearly shown in Fig. 2.

When the cover 23 is moved rearwardly into closed position, the plate 15 is forced into the compartment, and, near the end of the closing movement of the cover 23, the square end of the cover 23 engages under the wall 17. If, before the cover 23 is moved into such closed position, the free end of a sheet or sheets are withdrawn from the stack 19, the cover 23 is moved below the withdrawn sheet or sheets, and then the square end of the cover is forced between the withdrawn sheet or sheets and the uppermost sheet remaining in the compartment. In such adjustment of the parts, the ends of the withdrawn sheets are held between the top of the cover and the under side of the wall 17. After all entries have been made on the sheet or sheets, the sheets can be removed by pulling thereon, which results in removal of the sheet or sheets without disturbing the sheets in the stack of sheets remaining in the compartment.

To prevent complete withdrawal of the cover 23 from the flanges 22, two or more indentations 26 are formed in the cover 23 and strike the wall 11 when slid forwardly the fullest extent desired.

Flanges 27, on the lower edges of the side walls 14, provide a sliding support for a filing compartment. The bottom wall 28 of said compartment has inturned edges 29 at each side, slidably engaging the flanges 27. The front end of the bottom 28 is turned upwardly to form a front wall 30 extending into engagement with the outside surface of the bottom wall 16. The rear wall 31 of the filing compartment extends upwardly to coincide with the top edge of the wall 12, thus forming a closure for the compartment and also providing a stop for limiting the closing movement of the intermediate filing compartment.

A flat spring member 32 is secured near the forward end of the bottom 28. The spring member 32 is formed backwardly a short distance (see Fig. 2), by means of which the spring member is secured to the bottom 28 by any means such as spot welding, riveting, etc. The spring member can be any width less than the width of the inside of the compartment, the width indicated in dotted lines, Fig. 1, being sufficient.

When the intermediate compartment is moved forwardly, to provide access thereto, the spring member 32, being biased outwardly therefrom, springs open when the compartment is moved far enough to provide such action. The position which the spring member 32 assumes when opened its fullest extent is shown in Fig. 3. In such position, records can be filed under the member 32, and thereafter, when the intermediate compartment is closed, the spring member is forced back into the compartment to maintain the filed records against shifting movement.

A bottom compartment, similar to the intermediate compartment, is provided, which bottom compartment is provided with a bottom wall 35; a front wall 36, extending upwardly to engage the bottom surface of a wall 39 secured to the wall 28 of the intermediate filing compartment;

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and a rear wall 37. The rear wall 37 extends upwardly to form a rear closure for the bottom compartment and a stop therefor. To form such a stop, the wall 37 extends upwardly to coincide with the upper edge of the wall 31, and it engages said wall 31 when in closed position. The bottom filing compartment is provided with side walls 38 having flanges extending outwardly, which flanges are slidable in grooves formed by inturned edges 40 on the sides of the plate 39, spot welded to the under side of the bottom wall 28, as shown in the drawing.

A spring member 32 is also secured in the bottom filing compartment for holding records therein in a manner described for the intermediate compartment.

While the form of the invention shown and described herein is admirably adapted to fulfill the objects primarily stated, it is to be understood that it is not intended to confine the invention to the one form or embodiment shown herein, for it is susceptible of embodiment in various other forms.

What is claimed is:

1. In a portable file of the class described including a plurality of individually selectable compartments slidable relatively to each other, the combination of a main supporting member comprising a flat plate located intermediate the plurality of compartments; guideways formed on the sides of said main supporting member, said main supporting member forming the bottom of one compartment; flanges formed on each of two other compartments slidably engaging the guideways on said main supporting member; an upstanding flange formed on said main supporting member to provide a closure for one end of the said one compartment, said flange engaging one end of one of said compartments when the said one compartment is in closed position; and an upstanding flange on another one of said two compartments to provide closure for one end thereof, said last-named upstanding flange engaging the first-named upstanding flange when the compartment on which it is formed is in closed position.

2. In a portable file of the class described, the combination of a tier of individually-selectable compartments, including a top, an intermediate, and a bottom compartment; a plurality of slideways formed on the bottom of the intermediate compartment; side walls common to the top and intermediate compartments; flanges on the said common side walls and on the side walls of the bottom compartment extending into said slideways by means of which the top compartment and the bottom compartment can be moved relatively to the intermediate compartment; and a wall at the end of the intermediate compartment and at the end of the bottom compartment extending upwardly to form end closures for the compartments, each of said end closures extending upwardly to overlap the end wall of the next upper compartment to provide a means to arrest the movements of the lower compartments when moved to closed positions to thereby limit the extent of movements of the lower compartments, the bottom of said intermediate compartment forming a support for the top and bottom compartments.

3. In a portable file of the class described, the combination of a tier of individually selectable slidable storage compartments, including a top, an intermediate, and a bottom compartment, the

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intermediate one of said compartments comprising a common support for the top compartment and the bottom compartment; slideways formed on the bottom of the intermediate compartment; common side walls for the top and intermediate compartments; extensions formed on the common side walls and on the side walls of the bottom compartment projecting into said slideways, by means of which the compartments can be relatively moved; and a stop on one end of each compartment adapted to engage the end of the next higher compartment to limit the sliding movement thereof, said stops being extensions of the end closures of the respective compartments.

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