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2,225,385

FILE CLAMP FOR FILE DRAWERS

Filed March 13, 1940

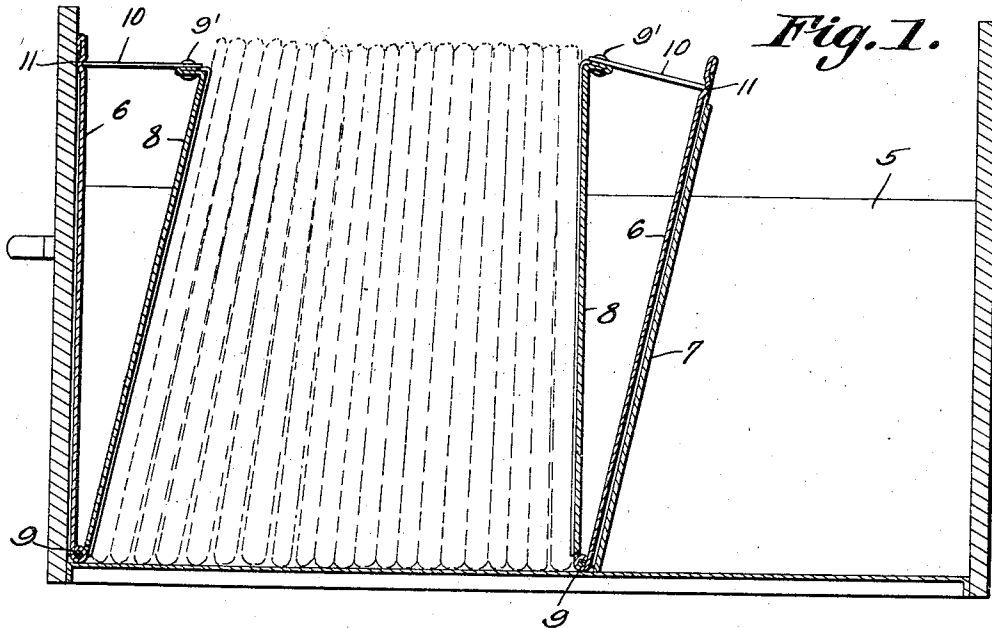


Fig. 1.

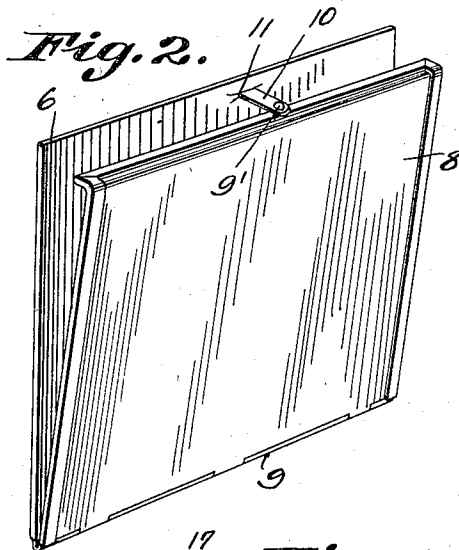


Fig. 2.

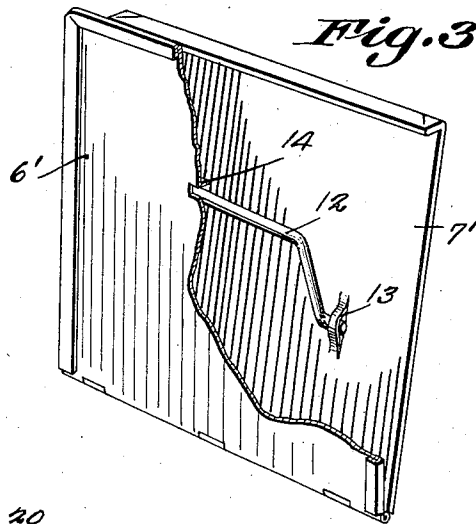


Fig. 3.

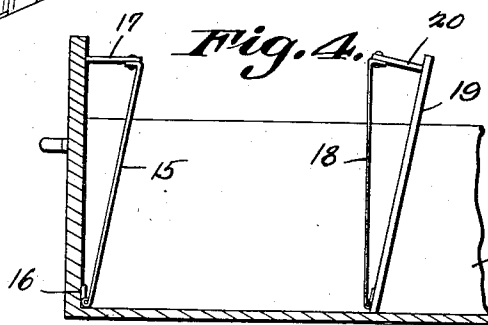


Fig. 4.

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FILE CLAMP FOR FILE DRAWERS

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3 Claims. (Cl. 129—26)

For the sake of illustration, it might be stated that when files are clamped within the drawers of a file cabinet, by the usual file drawer follower, it is a difficult matter to remove the files without first loosening the follower, which is a difficult procedure, particularly when the drawer is filled to its capacity and the follower is at the limit of its innermost movement.

It is therefore the primary object of the invention to provide means to facilitate the selecting and removal of a file from a file drawer, when the files are clamped in their upright positions.

Another object of the invention is to provide means to clamp the files in a file drawer to support the files in upright positions, the clamping means being such that it may be readily operated to release the files so that the files may be removed without the necessity of adjusting the file drawer follower, forming a part of the usual file drawer structure.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein described, may be made within the scope of what is claimed, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Referring to the drawing:

Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional view through a file drawer illustrating a clamping device constructed in accordance with the invention, as positioned against the files supported within the drawer.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of a device constructed according to the invention.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of a modified form of the invention.

Figure 4 is an end elevational view of a further modified form of the invention, illustrating the device as forming a permanent part of a file drawer structure.

Referring to the drawing in detail, the reference character 5 designates a file cabinet drawer in which the clamping devices forming the subject matter of the present invention, are positioned, the clamping devices being shown as clamping files indicated by dotted lines.

On using the file clamp, it is desirable to use a file clamp at each end of the stack of files, as shown by Figure 1. Each file clamp embodies a main section 6, which is of a width slightly less than the width of the drawer in which it is po-

sitioned, and of a height substantially equal to the height of the files used in the drawer. This main section 6 is designed to fit against the inner surface of the front of the drawer, or against the follower of the drawer, which is indicated by the reference character 7, as shown by Figure 1 of the drawing.

Each clamp also embodies a movable clamping plate 8 which is hingedly connected to the main section 6, by means of the hinge 9 formed along the bottoms of the main section 6 and clamping plate 8. This clamping plate 8 is of a height slightly less than the height of the files with which the clamping device is used, so that the files may be easily handled.

The upper longitudinal edge of the clamping plate 8 is extended inwardly towards the main section 6, providing a flange 9' to which the arm 10 is pivotally connected, at a point substantially intermediate the ends of the flange 9'. A depression indicated at 11 is formed in the main section 6, and is adapted to receive the free end of the arm 10, the depression acting as a keeper for the free end of the arm 10, to hold the arm in its active position.

In the form of the invention as shown by Figure 3 of the drawing, the main section of the clamp is indicated by the reference character 6', and the clamping plate is indicated by the reference character 7', the clamping plate and main section being hingedly connected at the lower edges thereof.

A pivoted bar indicated at 12 is mounted on the inner surface of the clamping plate 7', the ends of the bar 12 being extended at right angles and mounted in the bearings 13. A lug indicated at 14 is stamped inwardly from the main section 6, and acts as a stop against which the pivoted bar 12 engages to hold the clamping plate in spaced relation with respect to the main section 6, as shown by Figure 3 of the drawing.

In the modified form of the invention as shown by Figure 4, the clamping plate 15 is hingedly connected with the bar 16 that in turn is secured to the inner surface of the front end of a file drawer. The arm 17 which is pivotally connected to the clamping plate 15, is adapted to swing inwardly contacting with the inner surface of the front end of the drawer, holding the clamping plate in spaced relation with the front end of the drawer. A similar clamping plate indicated at 18 is secured to the follower of the drawer, which is indicated at 19, the clamping plate 18 being also provided with a pivoted arm 20 to be swung into engagement with the fol-

lower holding the clamping plate spaced from the follower.

From the foregoing it will be seen that due to the construction shown and described, I have provided clamping means to be positioned within the usual file cabinet drawer for clamping the files in an upright position, and at the same time providing means independent of the usual follower of the usual file cabinet drawer, for releasing the files so that they may be readily removed or observed.

When it is desired to remove or examine the files, it is only necessary to move the arm 10 of the clamp, to disengage the main section 8 of the clamp. The clamping plate of the clamp will now move into parallel relation with the main section of the clamp, relieving the pressure on the files so that they will be comparatively loose to permit them to be examined or removed with facility.

After an examination of the files or after a file has been removed, the clamping plates may again be moved to clamp the files in a manner as shown by Figure 1 of the drawing, to the end that the files which will ordinarily fall or slide to the bottom of the drawer, when not clamped, will be held in upright positions.

What is claimed is:

1. A file clamp for use in file drawers, comprising a main section adapted to rest against a stationary part of the drawer, a clamping plate pivotally connected with the main section, and means embodying a pivoted member disposed

between the main section and clamping plate for spreading the main section and clamping plate apart and exerting pressure on the files with which the clamp is used, supporting the files in an upright position.

2. A file clamp for use in file drawers, comprising a main section and a clamping plate pivotally connected with the main section, said clamping plate adapted to rest against files held within a file drawer, the main section adapted to rest against a stationary part of the drawer, and a pivoted member mounted on the clamping plate and adapted to move into engagement with the main section of the clamp, spreading the free ends of the clamp apart and exerting pressure on the files with which the clamp is used.

3. A file clamp for use in file drawers, comprising a pair of sections pivotally connected at their lower ends, the upper ends of the sections being free to move towards and away from each other, one of said sections adapted to rest against the stationary part of the drawer, the other section adapted to rest against the end file of a stack of files held in the drawer, a flange formed along the upper edge of one of the sections, an arm pivotally connected to the flange, the free end of the arm adapted to move into engagement with the adjacent section, spreading the sections apart and placing the files in the drawer under pressure.

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