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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## INDEX-CARD TAB

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Our invention relates to a tab device for thin body portion having its lower end bent index cards, and has for its object a tab device of narrow, thin material that extends at least the full height of the card, with hooked 5 edge-engaging members thereon whereby the card may be slightly flexed and its parallel edges sprung under such members.

Another object is to provide a tab device that can be used with any card of proper size 10 without mutilating or cutting the edges of the card, and which can also be slid along the card to any desired indexing position without injuring the edges of the card.

Provision is also made for a comparatively 15 tight grip of the device with the card, but not sufficient to prevent the device from being slid into the desired position along the card.

The edge-engaging members are preferably formed as pointers, to cooperate with indices

20 along one or both opposite margins of a card. Other details of construction will be hereinafter referred to.

Referring to the drawings, in which like parts are similarly designated-25

Figure 1 illustrates one form of our invention in elevation, as applied to a card.

Fig. 2 is a modification thereof.

Fig. 3 is a modification of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 shows a tab having its lower hook 30 substantially rectangular.

Fig. 5 illustrates a substantially rectangular upper hook.

Fig. 6 is a vertical central section of Fig. 5. Fig. 7 shows a tab having a substantially

35 rectangular upper end. Fig. 8 shows a blank.

Fig. 9 shows a tab made from such blank.

Fig. 10 is a side elevation of Fig. 9.

Fig. 11 is a side view, and

40 Fig. 12 a front view of a simple device similar to Fig. 2, made of wire.

Figs. 13 and 14 are side and front views of another wire form having a tab or handle extension above the card.

45 Figs. 15 and 16 are front and side views of another wire form.

The tabs illustrated for an index card may be made of thin sheet celluloid, thin sheet brass, wire, or other material, and in each of

<sup>50</sup> the forms illustrated comprises a narrow,

in the form of a hook, 16, and at or near its upper end a hook 17. These hooks engage the straight, parallel unmutilated edges of an index card C, and are caused to frictionally 55 grip the card adjacent its edges in various ways.

The tab can be freely slid along the card into any desired indexing position, and at least one of the hooks on a tab is preferably 60 formed as an index pointer 18, to cooperate with marginal subdivisions on the card, for example subdivisions on a scale 19, shown near the lower edge of the card C, Fig. 1. It may be that such scale or subdivisions are 65 placed near the upper edge of the card, or near both edges, according to the requirements of the user.

In Fig. 1 the tab is shown as a narrow thin metal strip having its lower end pointed at 70 18, and turned over upon itself to form a hook 16. The upper end is similarly formed pointed at 18, and turned upon itself to form the hook 17. In this figure the upper hook 17 is indented at 20 to form a slight pro- 75 tuberance on the under side of the hook to engage the card, and this protuberance lies opposite a cut-out portion or hole 21 on the back of the tab, so that the protuberance will slightly flex the card into the hole 21 to 80 tightly hold the tab in position, but not so tightly as to prevent its being slid along the edges of the card.

The hole 21 may be omitted, or both hooks 16 and 17 may be provided with the inden- 85 tation 20, as in Fig. 2.

The tabs of these two forms have no projection above the upper edge of the card upon which to place or write an indexing character, name, abbreviation, or the like, 90 and in order to provide this feature for our tabs we have designed the remaining forms illustrated.

In Fig. 3 the tab extension 22 is narrow. is in one piece with the upper hook and 95 stamped from body portion 15, leaving the hole 23 with which the depression in the hook co-operates, as with the hole 21 in Fig. 1.

In Fig. 4 the tab extension 22<sup>a</sup> is formed 100

by the extension of the narrow body portion 15, and is the full width of said body portion. The upper hook 17<sup>a</sup> is narrow and stamped out from the body, as shown, leav-5 ing an opening behind from which it was cut, the protuberance 20 co-operating with the opening, as in Figs. 1 and 3. The lower hook 16ª is substantially rectangular and has a cut-out portion 24 with which co-operates 10 a protuberance 20<sup>a</sup> in this instance formed

in the body portion 15.

In Fig. 5 the protuberance 120 co-operates with a spring tongue 25 cut from the body 15 of the tab. At the upper end the tab ex-15 tension 22<sup>b</sup> is cut from the hook 17<sup>b</sup> leaving

an opening or window 124, similar to the one 24 in Fig. 4, and with this opening cooperates a spring tongue 26.

In Fig. 7 the tab extension 22° is the full 20 width of the tab, and a narrow hook 17° is cut therefrom, co-operating with a protuberance 27 on the body portion of the tab.

Figures 8 and 9 show a tab having an extension 22<sup>d</sup> wider than the body portion; the 25 upper, wider end of the blank is provided with a window 28 and is bent over on the line 29, and the upper hook 17<sup>d</sup> provided with the protuberance is cut from the wider portion of the blank, and when bent to form,

30 is as shown in Figures 9 and 10. A small card or sheet of paper can be slipped under the extension  $2\hat{2}^d$  and the writing or printing thereon exposed through the window. The lower edge of this small 35 card rests on the bend of the upper hook, which in conjunction with the spring action in the overturned window portion secures the small card in place, and the card can readily

be slid from under the window portion for  $_{40}$  replacement by another.

In place of flat strips, wire may be used, as shown in Figs. 11 and 12, where  $15^{a}$  is the shaft or body portion, having the hooks 16 and 17 at each end.

In Figs. 13 and 14 the wire is bent as shown 45 to form an extension 22<sup>e</sup> above the card, for ready manipulation, while in Figs. 15 and 16 the body or shaft is formed of two wire portions 15<sup>b</sup> kinked at 20<sup>b</sup> and 20<sup>c</sup> to form 50 the equivalent of the protuberance 20 in the other forms. The lower hook 18<sup>n</sup> is formed by the middle portion of the length of wire. At the upper end the wires 15<sup>b</sup> are bent over and downwardly at 30, then have short por-55 tions 31 extending toward the middle, the portions 32 rising vertically above the card edge, each of which is bent downwardly at 33, and the four portions 32 and 33 lie in a plane and are preferably soldered together. 60

A label can be slipped between the extension wires 32 and the wires 30 forming the hook.

In all the forms shown the index card is slightly flexed until its upper and lower 65 edges pass between the hooks on the opposite an extension of the tab and cooperating with 130

ends of the tab, and then it readily springs into place as it flattens.

We claim-

1. The combination with a card having straight parallel edges; of an index card tab, 70 comprising a long, narrow strip of material having hooks thereon for engaging over the opposite straight parallel edges of the card, and slidable along said card to any position along said edges, at least one of said 75 hooks formed as a pointer for cooperation with a scale on the margin of the card proximate to said hook.

2. The combination with a card having straight parallel edges; of an index card tab, 80 comprising a long, narrow strip of material having hooks thereon for engaging over the opposite straight parallel edges of the card and slidable along said card to any position along said edges, and a tab extension pro- 85 jecting above the upper edge of the card.

3. The combination with a card having straight parallel edges; of an index card tab, comprising a long, narrow strip of material having hooks thereon for engaging over 90 the opposite straight parallel edges of the card and slidable along said card to any position along said edges, and a tab extension projecting above the upper edge of the card and integral with the tab. 95

4. The combination with a card having straight parallel edges; of an index card tab, comprising a long, narrow strip of sheet material having hooks thereon for engaging over the opposite straight parallel edges of 100 the card and slidable along said card to any position along said edges, and a tab extension projecting above the upper edge of the card, and at least one of the hooks having a pointed end, for the purpose set forth. 105

5. An index card tab comprising a long narrow strip of sheet material having hooks thereon for engaging over the opposite parallel straight edges of an index card, and a window at one end.

6. An index card tab comprising a thin narrow strip of material having hooks thereon for engaging over the opposite parallel straight edges of an index card, and an extension above said card having a window 115 therein.

7. An index card tab comprising a thin narrow strip of material having hooks thereon for engaging over the opposite parallel straight edges of an index card at any point 120 of its width, and a window portion forming an extension of the tab and cooperating with the upper hook to hold a label exposed at the window.

8. An index card tab comprising a thin 125 narrow strip of material having hooks thereon for engaging over the opposite parallel straight edges of an index card at any point of its width, and a window portion forming

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the upper hook to hold a label exposed at the window, and at least one of said hooks being pointed for an index.

being pointed for an index. 9. An index card tab comprising a thin 5 narrow strip of material having hooks thereon for engaging over the opposite parallel straight edges of an index card at any point of its width, and a tab extension for holding a label at the upper end of the tab.

<sup>10</sup> In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our invention, we have signed our names hereto.

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