In operating the dropper efficiently it has been found desirable to use 4-foot alleys between the ranges, sowing from center to center of the alleys. There is a lag in starting that is not always taken up in the narrower alleys generally used. We have been fairly successful with the allowance of 24 inches at each end of the row. When the seed is all sprouted, guide wires are stretched and the alleys cleaned with a wheel hoe.

The advantages that have been found for the seed-dropper over hand sowing are, (1) economy of not requiring the opening of furrows nor the subsequent covering of the seed; (2) all the seed is sown in moist soil instead of dry furrows; and (3) greater uniformity of depth and distribution throughout the row.—L. C. Burnett, Iowa Agriculural Experiment Station, Ames, Iowa.

INDEX BOARD FOR LABELING PHOTOGRAPHS

The old Chinese proverb, “A good picture tells more than a thousand words”, suggests the value which photographic records may have in helping the plant breeder to maintain a certain parental type through subsequent generations of selection. An index board for labeling photographs of grass selections (Fig. 1) was constructed and used at Tifton, Georgia, last season. While not suitable to all types of work, such a labeling device does minimize the labor required in making photographic records of plant selections.

In using this device for labeling photographs it was found that when several photographs were taken at one time, written records of the identity of each plate were unnecessary. Much time is saved also in following through the subsequent stages of developing, printing, and indexing negatives. Every negative in which the index board appeared was permanently and accurately indexed.

The construction of the index board, as shown in Fig. 2, is simple. The dimensions indicated in the drawing might well be altered to suit the needs of the individual. Slots in which to slip the letters or numerals were made by nailing strips of 28-gauge sheet iron over narrow strips of cardboard so that slots ¼ and ⅛ inch deep were formed.