

[0083] When the boundary line 500 moves rightward from the left page edge 308 to a position between the center of the display unit 301 and the left page edge 308, the display contents in the left edge portion of the display contents of the next page are displayed on the left side of the boundary line 500. The display contents displayed on the right side of the boundary line 500 exclude the left edge portion of the current page. As the boundary line 500 moves to the right, the display range of the left edge portion of the next page increases rightward while the display range of the current page decreases from the left. When the boundary line 500 moves further to the right and reaches the center of the display unit 301, the display content of the left half of the display contents of the next page is displayed on the left side of the boundary line 500. The display content in the left half of the current page is displayed on the right side of the boundary line 500.

[0084] When the boundary line 500 moves further and reaches a position between the center of the display unit and the right page edge 309, the left half of the display contents of the next page are displayed in the left half of the left side of the boundary line 500. The display contents in the right edge portion of the next page are displayed in the right half of the left side of the boundary line 500. The display contents of the right edge of the current page are displayed on the right side of the boundary line 500. As the boundary line 500 moves rightward, the display range of the left edge portion of the next page increases toward the right and the display range of the right edge portion increases toward the left, while the display range of the current page decreases to the right.

[0085] When the boundary line 500 reaches the right page edge 309 of the electronic book 300, all the display contents of the next page are displayed on the left side of the boundary line 500 while nothing is displayed on the right side, since there is no display unit 301 remaining there. Therefore, all the display contents of the display unit 301 change and the page is completely turned.

[0086] While the page is turned left and right in this embodiment, pages of the electronic book 300 can also be turned up and down. When turning pages of the electronic book 300 up and down, the display unit 301 is rotated by 90 degree and the detecting units 302 to 307 set for upward and downward page-turns, or detecting units for upward and downward page-turns can be added to the display unit 301 while keeping it facing in the same direction.

[0087] Before turning a page, the boundary line is at the bottom edge of the display unit 301. Since there is no display unit 301 below the display unit 301, nothing is displayed there, and all the display contents of the current page are displayed above the boundary line.

[0088] When the boundary line moves upwards from the bottom edge and reaches a position between the center of the display unit 301 and its bottom edge, the display contents in the bottom edge portion of the next page are displayed below the boundary line. The "center" in this explanation of the upward page-turn operation is the position of a horizontal line that divides the top and bottom of the display unit 301. Above the boundary line, display contents excluding the bottom edge portion of the current page are displayed. As the boundary line moves upwards, the display range of the bottom edge portion of the next page increases upwards

while the display range of the current page decreases from the bottom. When the boundary line moves further upwards and reaches the center of the display unit 301, the display contents of the bottom half of the next page is displayed below the boundary line. The display contents of the top half of the current page are displayed above the boundary line.

[0089] When the boundary line moves further and reaches a position between the center of the display unit and the top edge thereof, the display contents of the bottom half of the next page are displayed in the bottom half below the boundary line. The display contents in the top edge portion of the next page are displayed in the top half below the boundary line. The display contents of the top edge of the current page are displayed above the boundary line. As the boundary line moves upwards, the display range of the bottom portion of the next page increases at the top and the display range of the top edge portion increases at the bottom, while the display range of the current page decreases at the top.

[0090] When the boundary line reaches the top edge of the display unit 301, all the display contents of the next page are displayed below the boundary line while nothing is displayed above the line, since there is no display unit 301 remaining there. Therefore, all the display contents of the display unit 301 are switched and the page-turn is complete.

[0091] A downward page-turn and its display contents along the position of the boundary line are explained next. Before turning a page, the boundary line is at the top edge. Since there is no display unit 301 above the display unit 301, nothing is displayed there, and all the display contents of the current page are displayed below the boundary line.

[0092] When the boundary line moves downwards from the top edge and reaches a position between the center of the display unit 301 and its top edge, the display contents in the top edge portion of the next page are displayed above the boundary line. Display contents excluding the bottom edge portion of the current page are displayed below the boundary line. As the boundary line moves downwards, the display range of the top edge portion of the next page increases downwards while the display range of the current page decreases from the top. When the boundary line moves further downwards and reaches the center of the display unit 301, the display contents of the top half of the next page are displayed above the boundary line, and the display contents of the bottom half of the current page are displayed below the line.

[0093] When the boundary line moves further and reaches a position between the center of the display unit and the bottom edge thereof, the display contents of the top half of the next page are displayed in the top half above the boundary line. The display contents in the bottom edge portion of the next page are displayed in the bottom half above the boundary line. The display contents of the bottom edge of the current page are displayed below the boundary line. As the boundary line moves downwards, the display range of the top edge portion of the next page increases at the bottom and the display range of the bottom edge portion increases at the top, while the display range of the current page decreases at the bottom. When the boundary line reaches the bottom edge of the display unit 301, all the display contents of the next page are displayed above the boundary line while nothing is displayed below the line,