idea to subtract values returned by ftell to see how far apart two file positions are.

rewind

The rewind function sets the file position at the beginning. The call rewind (fp) is nearly equivalent to fseek (fp, 0L, SEEK_SET). The difference? rewind doesn't return a value but does clear the error indicator for fp.

fgetpos fsetpos

Q&A

fseek and ftell have one problem: they're limited to files whose positions can be stored in a long integer. For working with very large files, C provides two additional functions: fgetpos and fsetpos. These functions can handle large files because they use values of type fpos_t to represent file positions. An fpos_t value isn't necessarily an integer: it could be a structure, for instance.

The call fgetpos (fp, &file_pos) stores the file position associated with fp in the file_pos variable. The call fsetpos (fp, &file_pos) sets the file position for fp to be the value stored in file_pos. (This value must have been obtained by a previous call of fgetpos.) If a call of fgetpos or fsetpos fails, it stores an error code in errno. Both functions return zero when they succeed and a nonzero value when they fail.

Here's how we might use fgetpos and fsetpos to save a file position and return to it later:

```
fpos_t file_pos;
...
fgetpos(fp, &file_pos); /* saves current position */
...
fsetpos(fp, &file_pos); /* returns to old position */
```

PROGRAM Modifying a File of Part Records

The following program opens a binary file containing part structures, reads the structures into an array, sets the on_hand member of each structure to 0, and then writes the structures back to the file. Note that the program opens the file in "rb+" mode, allowing both reading and writing.

invclear.c

```
/* Modifies a file of part records by setting the quantity
   on hand to zero for all records */

#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

#define NAME_LEN 25
#define MAX_PARTS 100

struct part {
   int number;
   char name[NAME_LEN+1];
   int on_hand;
} inventory[MAX_PARTS];
```