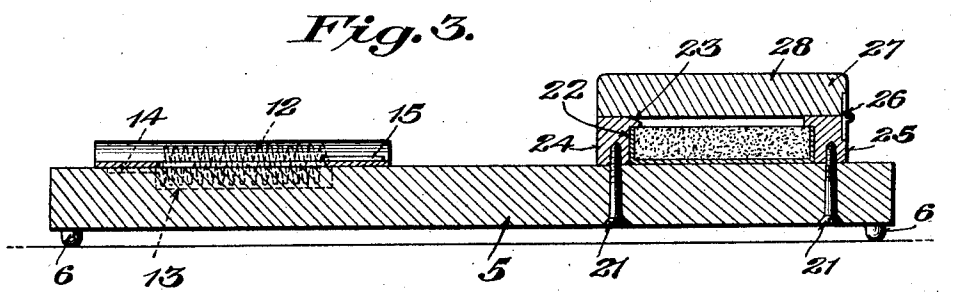
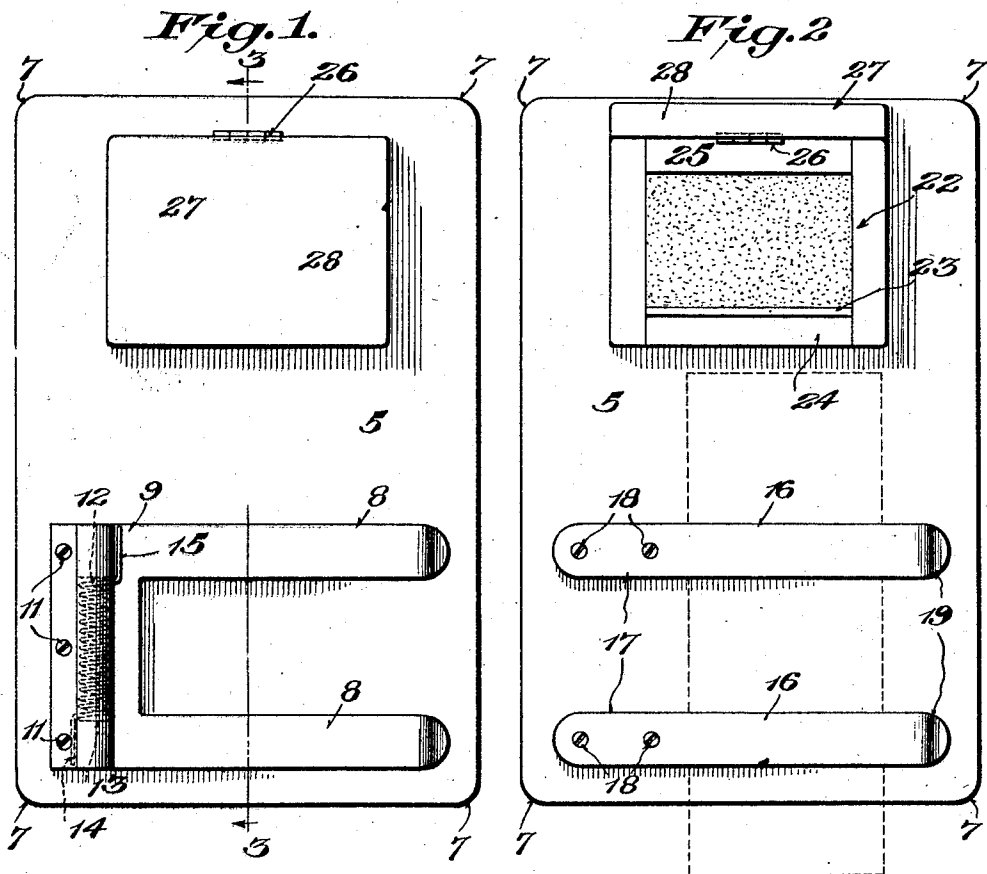


June 2, 1925.

1,540,148

P. N. WAGGENER
IDENTIFYING APPARATUS
Filed Nov. 23, 1923



Inventor
Paul N. Waggener,

By *Semmes + Semmes*

Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PAUL N. WAGGENER, OF MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.

IDENTIFYING APPARATUS.

Application filed November 23, 1923. Serial No. 676,550.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PAUL N. WAGGENER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Memphis, in the county of Shelby and State of Tennessee, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Identifying Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in apparatus designed for use in connection with finger print identification of bank checks and other documents, such as money orders, bills of sale, birth certificates, wills, and other legal instruments, and particularly that kind of identification produced by the impression upon the article to be identified of a portion of the skin of the proper party. The impression is usually produced by covering with ink, or other suitable substance, a portion of the skin of the thumb or fingers of the proper party, and having him then press his thumb or fingers upon the paper or article to be identified. It is well known that the ridges of the skin upon a person's fingers and thumb are particularly individual and distinctive so that such an impression is absolutely reliable.

One of the objects of my invention, therefore, is to produce an apparatus convenient for use in taking such finger prints.

Another object of my invention is to so construct my device that it will have the advantages of great convenience for the purpose desired, substantial durability and yet marked simplicity as a whole and in respect of each of its component parts, so that its manufacture is economically facilitated both as regards the production of the parts and their assembly.

With these and other objects in view which may be incident to my improvements, the invention consists in the parts and combinations to be hereinafter set forth and claimed, with the understanding that the several necessary elements comprising my invention, may be varied in construction, proportions and arrangement, without departing from the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

In order to make my invention more clearly understood, I have shown in the accompanying drawings means for carrying the same into practical effect without limiting the improvements in their useful applications to the particular constructions, which

for the purpose of explanation have been made the subject of illustration.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a plan view of my device, partly in section;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of a modified form of my device, partly in section;

Fig. 3 is a cross section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The numeral 5 represents the base of my device, the same consisting of metal or wood, preferably the former, provided with rubber buttons or tips 6 on its under side just below each of its corners 7 which have been conveniently rounded off.

Mounted upon the base 5 are two metallic plates or strips 8, preferably made integral with a cross plate 9 which is fastened to the base by screws 11, or in any other suitable manner to secure the base and plate together by means of a spring hinge 12, a portion of the base being cut away at 13, within which part of the spring rests, as seen in Figure 3. One end of the coil spring 14 rests upon the cross plate 9, as more clearly seen in Figure 1. Each of the plates 8, as seen in Figure 1, has its end terminating in rounded corners.

In the modified form shown in Figure 2, I mount upon the base plate 2 separate metallic plates 16, each of whose ends are likewise rounded off, as shown in that figure, and secured at their other ends 17 in any suitable manner, as by screws 18; the farther ends 19 of which are free.

Near the other end of the base is securely held by screws 21, or otherwise, a container 22, to be filled up to the inwardly extending beveled edge 23 of the front wall 24 thereof with a pad of any suitable kind of ink with which the finger or thumb applied may be covered.

The rear edge 25 of the container is provided with a hinge 26 to securely hold in place the top 27, which in the instant case consists of a solid piece of wood 28, intended to be let down upon the box and cover its contents that it may be kept free from dust, etc.

The operation of my device is as follows:

When a person desires to identify for instance a check, the latter is slipped

under the metallic arms or strips, the pressure from which holds the check or other document in place. While so held, the cover has been lifted and the person then presses the ball of a finger or fingers or thumb upon the ink pad, and having covered the same with ink, presses it upon the check or the document desired to be identified, thereby leaving the impression of the ridges of the skin of his thumb or finger upon the document.

It is to be noted that the device is of a portable size and provided with rubber tips so that it may be readily and easily carried from place to place in a room and set down anywhere without danger of injury. Likewise it may be carried from place to place and used in the signing of testimony, etc.

While I have shown and described the preferred embodiment of my invention, I wish it to be understood that I do not confine myself to the precise details of construction herein set forth by way of illustration, as it is apparent that many changes and variations may be made therein, by those skilled in the art, without departing from the spirit of the invention, or exceeding the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:—

1. In a portable finger print device, the combination with a substantially flat base, and a container for marking material attached thereto and substantially in the same plane therewith, of means also attached to the base adapted to hold the article to be marked by finger print impression.

2. In a portable finger print, the combination with a substantially flat base, a container for marking material attached thereto and substantially in the same plane therewith, and a cover for the container, of means also attached to the base adapted to hold

the article to be marked by finger print impression.

3. In a portable finger print device, the combination with a substantially flat base, an ink container attached thereto and substantially in the same plane therewith, of a strip also attached to the base adapted to hold the article to be marked by finger print impression.

4. In a portable finger print device, the combination with a substantially flat base, an ink container attached thereto and substantially in the same plane therewith, of a metallic trip also attached to the base adapted to hold the article to be marked by finger print impression.

5. In a portable finger print device, the combination with a substantially flat base, an ink container attached thereto and substantially in the same plane therewith, and a cover therefor, of spring clamps attached to the base adapted to hold the article to be marked by finger print impression.

6. In a portable finger print device, the combination with a substantially flat base, a container for marking material attached thereto and substantially in the same plane therewith whose front wall is beveled inwardly towards the marking material, a cover for said container, of a strip also attached to the base to hold the article to be marked by finger print impression.

7. In a portable finger print device, the combination with a substantially flat portable base provided on its under side with rubber tips upon which it rests, and a container for marking material attached to the base and substantially in the same plane therewith, of means also attached to the base adapted to hold the article to be marked by finger print impression.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
PAUL N. WAGGENER.