

Dec. 7, 1943.

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2,335,992

HAND STAMP AND STENCIL THEREFOR

Filed Nov. 14, 1941

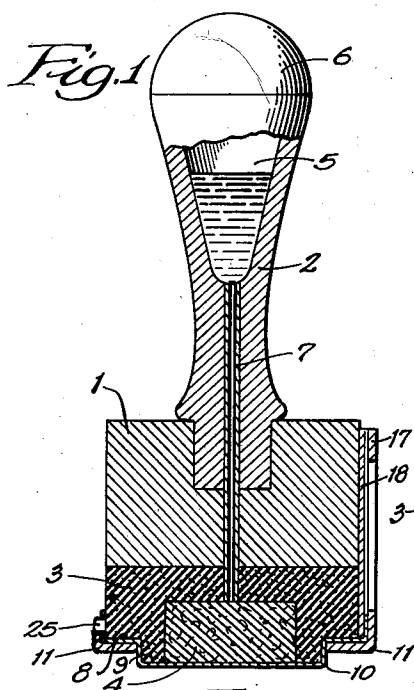


Fig. 2

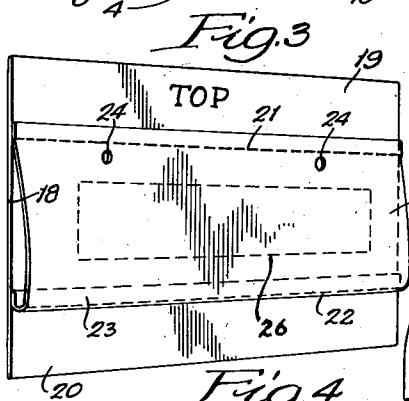
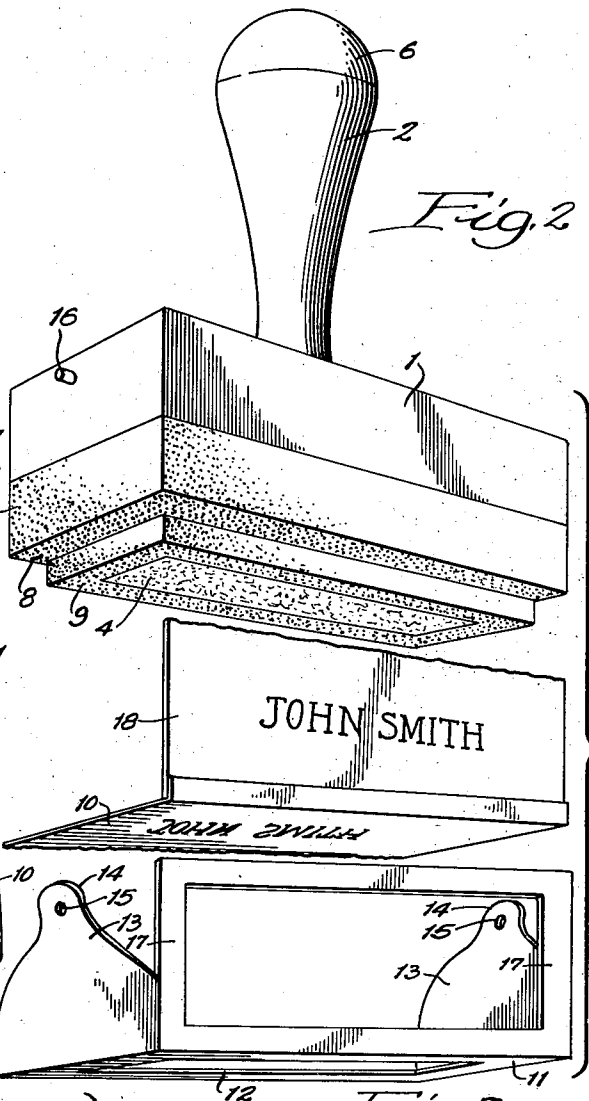


Fig. 4

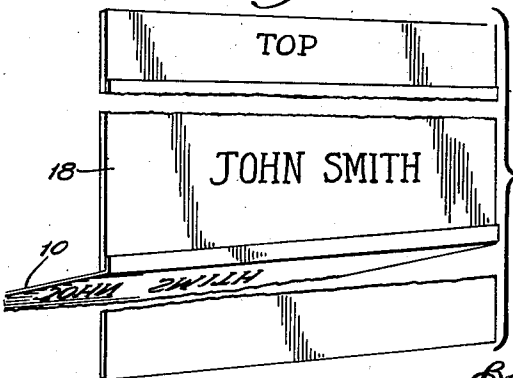
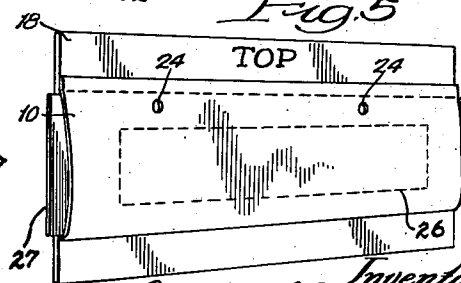


Fig. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,335,992

HAND STAMP AND STENCIL THEREFOR

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Application November 14, 1941, Serial No. 419,124

10 Claims. (Cl. 101-125)

This invention relates to hand stamps employing renewable stencils and to improvements in the stencils therefor.

The main objects of this invention are to provide an improved hand stamp having a renewable stencil to make the desired impression; to provide such a device employing a stencil that can be readily made by the user and interchanged with a new or different stencil whenever desired; to provide such a device arranged to support a subject indicating card in visible position, which card is a direct proof of the stencil impression and an integral part of the stencil itself; to provide an improved stencil comprising an integral proof card on which the stencil impression is formed simultaneously with the cutting of the stencil; and to provide an improved hand stamp stencil that may be easily cut and applied and which can be readily replaced or renewed at negligible cost.

A specific embodiment of this invention is shown in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a sectional side elevation of the improved hand stamp.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the improved hand stamp and its associated parts.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the improved stencil.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing the improved stencil after it has been cut and prepared for use on the hand stamp, and

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a modified form of the improved stencil.

In the form shown in the drawing, the improved hand stamp is of the reservoir type and comprises a body member 1 having an upwardly extending handle 2 and a resilient base or bottom portion 3 made of sponge rubber, or other suitable material in which an inking pad 4 is recessed so as to be flush with the bottom face of the resilient base member 3.

The handle 2 is hollow to provide a cavity 5 which serves as a reservoir for ink, access to the cavity 5 being had through a removable cap 6 at the top end of the handle 2. A tube or passageway 7 leads from the ink reservoir 5 to the ink pad 4 and is of substantially capillary size so as to afford a constant supply of ink to the ink pad 4 for impression purposes.

As shown the lower face of the resilient base member 3 has its margin cut away so as to provide a right-angled recessed shoulder 8 surrounding a projecting portion 9 which into the ink pad is recessed, the surface of the ink pad 4 being

substantially flush with the lowermost surface of the projecting portion 9.

As shown in Figure 1, a stencil 10 is disposed over the ink pad 4 and the projecting base portion 9 and the margins of the stencil 10 are clamped against the shoulder 8 by means of a frame-like clamping member 11 having an opening 12 through which the projecting base portion 9 may pass. The clamping member 11 is arranged to seat squarely on the shoulder 8 and is provided with upwardly extending side members which fit against the sides of the hand stamp body 1 and the resilient base portion 3 thereof.

As shown in Figure 2 the upstanding end members 13 of the clamping member 11 are arranged to extend along the end walls of the hand stamp body 1 and provide resilient tongue portions 14, each having an aperture 15 to receive a locking pin 16 projecting outwardly from the end walls of the body 1. This arrangement will securely hold the clamping member in stencil clamping position against the bottom of the hand stamp and prevent inadvertent loosening or dropping of the clamping member.

As shown in Figures 1 and 2, the clamping member is also provided with an upstanding frame element 17 at one side, which frame element is designed to lie closely against the adjacent side wall of the hand stamp body 1 and the resilient lower portion 3 thereof, and to hold a proof card 18, which is an integral part of the stencil 10, tightly against the side wall of the hand stamp. The element 17 is arranged to frame the card 18 so that a proof impression of the stencil made on the card 18 will at all times be visible to the user of the hand stamp.

Thus when the hand stamp, stencil and clamping member are assembled, as in Figure 1, a complete stamping device will be had which will perform perfectly all of the functions of the usual hand stamp having permanent cut-out rubber type or impression elements, with the added advantages, however, that the stencil impression member can be readily, and cheaply changed or renewed and a proof of the stencil will at all times be visible as an indicating means showing the nature of the impression that the improved hand stamp will make.

The improved stencil shown in Figures 3 and 4 comprises a backing member or card on the face of which the stencil 10 is mounted. The backing member, however, comprises three portions, namely, the proof or indication portion 18 over which the stencil 10 is positioned and the top and

bottom tab portions 19 and 20, respectively, which are arranged to be removed after the stencil has been cut, suitable lines of perforations 21 and 22, or the like, being provided to facilitate removal of the top and bottom tabs 19 and 20.

As shown in Figure 3 the stencil 10 which may be of any suitable stencil material, such as that well known in the art wherein one side of the stencil is provided with a coating which breaks away from the stencil along the lines of any impression made on the opposite face of the stencil sheet, is secured at its upper and lower edges with its coated side against the backing member or card.

The upper edge of the stencil 10 is secured to the lowermost margin of the top tab 19 immediately above the line of perforations 21 and the said perforations are made so as to pass through both the stencil sheet and the backing member or card, the coated side of the secured upper margin of the stencil sheet being against the top tab 19.

The lower margin of the stencil sheet 10 is secured to the proof card portion 18 of the backing member immediately above the lower line of perforations 22 and in this instance the stencil sheet is looped under so that the front or uncoated side of the stencil sheet will lie against the backing member.

In forming the loop 23, a certain amount of slack is left in the stencil sheet 10, as shown in Figure 3, so that the improved stencil and its backing card may be passed around the platen of a typewriter without any danger of the stencil 10 being torn from its carrier or backing member.

As shown, the stencil 10 is provided with a pair of laterally spaced apertures 24 located just below the line of perforations 21 in the upper margin of the stencil sheet, which apertures 24 are intended to receive pins 25 projecting from the side wall of the hand stamp base member 3 on the side opposite the location of the proof card 18 so as to facilitate placement and proper alignment of the stencil on the hand stamp after the stencil has been cut. Also, if desired, the face of the stencil 10 may have that portion which will overlie or register with the ink pad 4 outlined by suitable means such as printed lines, as shown at 26 in Figs. 3 and 5, to indicate the limits within which the matter cut in the stencil must lie in order to be located within the area of the ink pad.

In the form of stencil shown in Figure 3 the coating on the rear side of the stencil sheet 10 is of a type which will leave an impression on the backing card 18 when the stencil is cut, whether the cutting be by means of a typewriter or by a manually operated stylus. Thus as the stencil is made, an exact proof of the cutting will be provided on the portion 18 of the backing member.

In use, after the stencil has been cut, the top tab 19, together with the upper margin of the stencil sheet 10, is torn away from the remainder of the stencil and backing card along the line of perforations 21 and the bottom tab 20 is removed by tearing along the line of perforations 22 which are located just below the lower margin of the proof portion 18 where the bottom margin of the stencil sheet 10 is secured. The stencil 10 and attached card 18 are then placed on the hand stamp with the stencil portion 10 turned under relative to the proof card 18, and overlying the ink pad 4, and with the coated side of the stencil exposed.

The apertures 24 in the stencil 10 are hooked

over the pins 25 and the proof card is laid against the opposite side of the hand stamp body. Then the clamping member 11 is applied to secure the stencil 10 in place against the ink pad 4 and to hold the proof card tightly against the side wall of the hand stamp body.

As shown, the margins of the stencil 10 extend beyond the edges of the projecting portion 9 of the resilient base 3 of the hand stamp body and are engaged by the clamping member 11 so as to be held tightly against the shoulder 8. Thus the stencil is drawn tautly across the ink pad portion of the hand stamp and with the clamping member locked to the hand stamp body by means of the end pin 16 engaging in the apertures 15 of the tongues 14, the hand stamp is ready for immediate use.

The modified form of stencil, shown in Fig. 5, is of the same construction as the stencil shown in Figures 3 and 4 except only that the coating on the back side of the stencil sheet 10 is of the type which does not leave an impression on the backing member. In this form of stencil, a sheet of carbon paper or other suitable transfer means 27 is provided between the looped stencil sheet 10 and the backing member so that as the stencil is cut, the proof impression will be made simultaneously on the proof card portion of the backing member. Thus the improved stencil may be made with either the transfer type of stencil coating or the non-transfer type and yet accomplish the desired function of providing an integral proof card made simultaneously with the cutting of the stencil itself. The transfer means 27 is discarded as soon as the stencil is cut, being readily removed when the tabs 19 and 20 are torn off to prepare the stencil for use.

In the operation of the improved hand stamp and stencil the ink pad 4 is supplied with ink from the reservoir 5 in the handle 2 and with the stencil in place on the hand stamp an imprint of the matter cut in the stencil will be made when the stencil-covered face of the hand stamp is pressed against the surface on which the stencil impression is desired; the ink from the ink pad 4 passing through the cut portions of the stencil sheet 10 from which the coating on the back side has been removed during the stencil cutting operation.

The resilient lower member 3 of the hand stamp body assures that the entire face of the stencil will be uniformly impressed against the surface on which the impression is desired; and will also permit compression of the ink pad 4 so as to force the ink through the cut-out portions of the stencil sheet 10. As the hand stamp is released from the surface on which the impression is made, the resilient portion of the hand stamp body will return to its normal form allowing expansion of the previously compressed ink pad 4 and thereby causing a new supply of ink to be drawn from the capillary passageway 7 into the ink pad 4.

The main advantages of my invention reside in the fact that the improved stencil stamp, unlike the ordinary rubber stamp, is flexible and variable in its use. The stencil may be changed at will to provide a hand stamp capable of making an infinite variety of impressions and the stencil may be made to incorporate designs and facsimile signatures which if reproduced in the ordinary rubber stamp would be quite costly.

Other advantages reside in the simple and low cost construction of the stencil; in the ease with which the stencil can be cut as desired; and in

the simple way that replacement can be accomplished.

Still further advantages are found in the improved stencil construction wherein a proof card permanently attached to the stencil itself is made at the time the stencil is cut and without any duplication of effort or operation, such proof card serving as an identification of the cut stencil whether the stencil is applied to the hand stamp or whether it is placed in a file for future use, during the entire life of the stencil.

Although several embodiments of this invention are herein shown and described, it will be understood that details of the constructions shown may be altered or omitted without departing from the spirit of this invention as defined by the following claims.

I claim:

1. A stencil device comprising a backing member and a stencil sheet positioned face to face, said stencil sheet having its upper and lower edges secured to said card, and said stencil sheet being of greater length than said backing member whereby to form a loop therebetween.

2. A stencil device comprising a backing member and a stencil sheet positioned face to face, said stencil sheet being permanently secured at its lower edge to said backing member and having its upper edge temporarily secured to said backing member a predetermined distance from said lower edge, said stencil sheet being of greater length between places of fastening than said backing member.

3. A stencil device comprising a backing member and a stencil sheet positioned face to face, said stencil sheet having its upper and lower edges secured to said card, said stencil sheet being of greater length than said backing member whereby to form a loop therebetween, and said backing member and stencil sheet having means for separation adjacent their upper edges.

4. A stencil device comprising a backing member and a stencil sheet positioned face to face, said stencil sheet having its upper and lower edges secured to said card, said stencil sheet being of greater length than said backing member whereby to form a loop therebetween and transfer means between said stencil sheet and backing member to register an imprint on said backing member of any impression made on said stencil sheet.

5. A stencil device comprising a backing member, and a stencil sheet secured along its upper and lower edges against the face of said backing member, said stencil sheet and backing member being weakened along a line below the fastened upper edge of said stencil sheet for removal of the upper secured together positions of said backing members and stencil sheet, said stencil sheet being of greater length between the places of fastening than said backing member.

6. A stencil device comprising a backing member and a stencil sheet secured along its upper and lower margins against the face of said backing member and intermediate its upper and lower

ends, said stencil sheet and backing member having a transverse line of perforations therethrough below the fastened upper margin of said stencil sheet, and said backing member having a transverse line of perforations below the fastened lower margin of said stencil sheet, whereby said backing member serves as an identification of said stencil when impressions are made on said stencil sheet.

7. A stencil device comprising a backing member, and a stencil sheet secured along its upper and lower margins against the face of said backing member and intermediate its upper and lower ends, said stencil sheet being of greater length between the places of fastening than said backing member, said stencil sheet and backing having a transverse line of perforations there-through below the fastened upper margin of said stencil sheet, and said backing member having a transverse line of perforations below the fastened lower margin of said stencil sheet.

8. The combination with a hand stamp comprising a base member and an ink pad on the bottom face thereof, of a stencil comprising a card and a stencil sheet secured to said card along one mutually adjoining edge, said stencil sheet being disposed across the face of said ink pad with its obverse side against said pad and said card being positioned against one side of said base substantially normal to the plane of said ink pad, and clamping means to hold said stencil sheet and said card in their respective positions against said base member.

9. A hand stamp comprising a base member having an ink pad on its bottom face and a substantially flat side wall substantially normal to the plane of said bottom face, a clamping member having a pair of frame members disposed at right angles to each other, one of said frame members being positioned against the bottom face of said base member and surrounding said ink pad and the other engaging the said side wall of said base member, and means to lock said clamping members against said base member with said frame members in clamping position against the respective portions of said base member.

10. A hand stamp comprising a resilient base member having a bottom face portion projecting beyond a surrounding recessed shoulder and a substantially flat side wall substantially normal to the plane of said bottom face portion, an ink pad set into said base member substantially flush with the face surface of said projecting portion and spaced from the margins thereof, a clamping member comprising a pair of frame-like elements disposed at right angles to each other, one of said elements being arranged to surround said projecting portion and seat against said recessed shoulder and the other engaging the side wall of said base member, and means to lock said clamping member detachably against said base member with said frame elements in clamping position against the respective portion of said base member.

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