

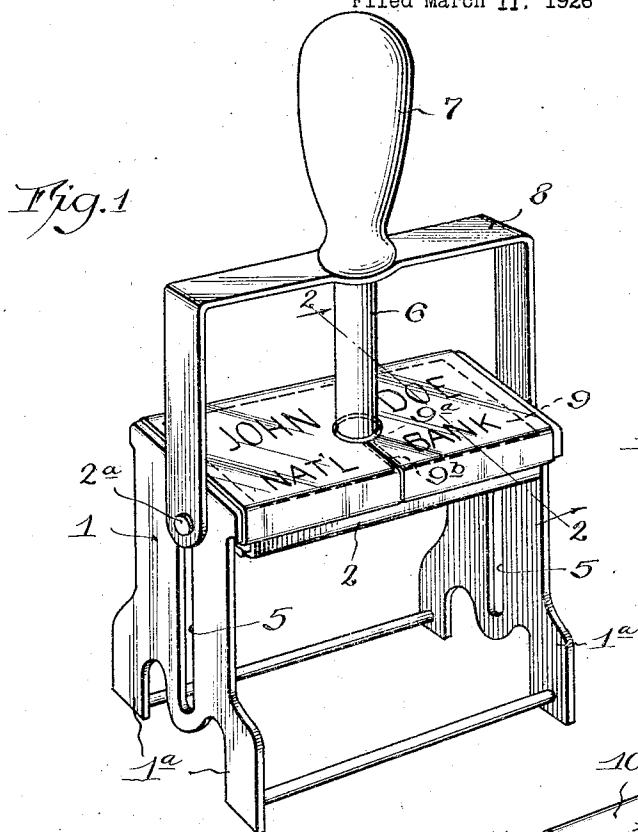
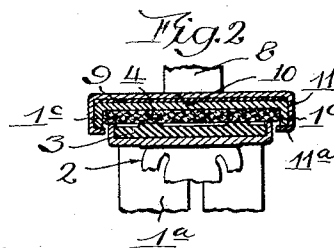
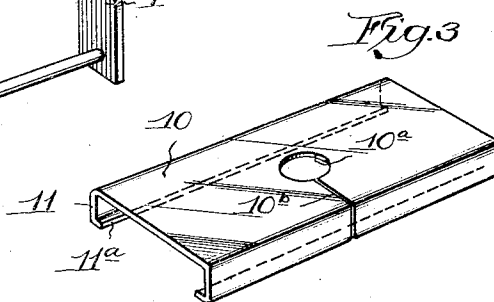
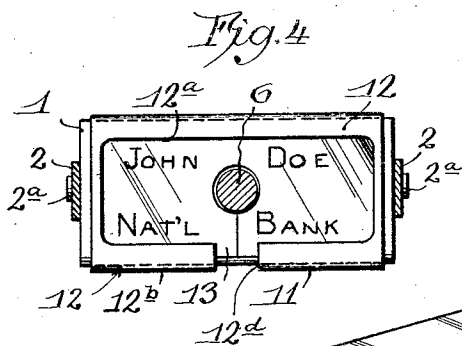
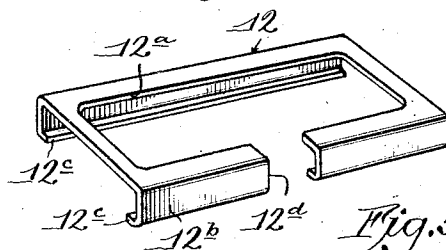
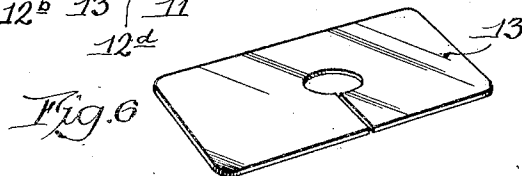
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1,607,849

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INDEX FOR HAND STAMPS

Filed March 11, 1926



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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INDEX FOR HAND STAMPS.

Application filed March 11, 1926. Serial No. 93,858.

This invention relates to improvements in indexes for hand stamps, and more particularly to means for reproducing on a visible surface of the stamp a facsimile of the impression made by the rubber die, thus enabling the stamp to be readily distinguished from others.

The object of the invention is to provide a convenient and permanent means for indexing hand stamps and particularly the type known as self-inking stamps, in which the rubber die rests against a downwardly facing inking pad, and therefore invisible except when an impression is being made.

This method of indexing is of especial convenience where a considerable number of different stamps are in constant use, since it obviates the usual confusion and loss of time in selecting the desired stamp, this being particularly true where such stamps are of the self-inking type, and for the reasons already pointed out.

The accompanying drawing illustrates a preferred application of the invention to a self-inking stamp although it may be applied with equal advantage to the simpler forms of hand stamps without the self-inking feature.

Referring to the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a stamp showing the application of the indexing device.

Figure 2 is a view in cross-section of the top plate of the frame of the stamp, showing the manner in which the index is applied.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the index shield.

Figure 4 is a top plan view of the frame of the stamp showing a modified form of index applied thereto.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the index frame in its modified form; and

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the transparent panel.

Figure 1 shows a stamp of the type to which the index is to be applied, the same being of the standard construction and design. Without going into details as to its structure, the stamp comprises a frame 1 having vertical side frame members 1^a with legs which rest on the surface to be stamped, and straddles the exact area on which the impression is to be made.

The frame supports the movable die plate

2, having a rubber die 3 applied to the impression face thereof which in position faces upwardly and bears against an inking pad 4. The die plate 2 is mounted between the vertical side frame members or legs 1^a of the frame and has pins 2^a at its ends which engage vertical guide slots 5 in said side frame members. The upper portion of the frame 1 has the form of a plate 1^b connected with the vertical frame members 1^a at its ends, and having its side edges flanged as at 1^c, thus forming a downwardly facing depression in which is mounted the inking pad 4 (Figure 2). A tubular stem 6 projects upwardly from the center of the plate 1^b on which slides a handle 7, the two telescoping with each other, and equipped with an internal spring which acts to oppose the downward movement of the handle. At the base of the handle 7 is attached a yoke 8 straddling the frame 1, and pivotally connected at its ends with the pins 2^a of the die block 2. By a suitable arrangement of cams, which need not be disclosed, the die block is rotated as it moves downwardly under pressure applied to the handle 7, this bringing the stamping die 3 into contact with the surface on which the impression is to be made, when the block reaches the lower end of the guide slots 5.

Referring now to the indexing device, it is first to be observed that stamps are not ordinarily provided with such means, and hence the device about to be described is one adapted particularly for attachment.

The index is applied to the top surface of the plate 1^b of the frame 1, and consists of a sheet or slip 9 of paper or other opaque material on which an impression of the rubber stamp is made. At the center of the slip 9 is a circular opening 9^a and a slit 9^b extending to one edge, thus permitting the slip to pass around the stem 6.

The slip having been inserted with the index marking facing upwardly, a shield or protective covering 10 made of a flexible transparent sheet material, such as celluloid, is applied over the slip. This shield is bent or pressed to a shape to provide flanges 11, 11 along its side edges having a width equal to that of the flanges 1^c of the plate 1. The lower edges of the flanges 11 are preferably bent inwardly to form short flanges 11^a adapted to hook over the edges of the flanges 1^c to hold the shield securely in place.

At the center of the shield is a hole 10^a through which the stem 6 extends, a slit 10^b preferably extending through the hole to one of the flanged edges, as shown in Figure 3.

Thus having applied the index slip 9 to the plate, the shield is slipped over on top of the slip, the flanges thereof being of ample resiliency to pass over the edges of the plate and grip the flanges thereof in the manner shown.

It is possible, although not always convenient, to remove the handle 7 and yoke 8 of the stamp, thus permitting the end of the stem 6 to be inserted through the central openings in the index slip 9 and shield 10. Where this is possible, the slitting of the parts can be eliminated.

In Figures 4, 5 and 6 is shown a modified construction for an indexing device, wherein a separate frame and transparent panel are used in place of a unitary member of transparent material. The frame 12 is preferably made of a light gauge metal, although other material of like properties can be used. The frame is provided with a central opening or slot 12^a and flanges 12^b, 12^b along its opposite longitudinal edges, which fit over the edges of the top plate 1 of the stamp frame, and preferably have their edges bent inwardly at 12^c to engage the corresponding edges of the plate. Midway of one edge of the frame is a slot 12^d to permit the passage of the stem 6 therethrough in applying the frame to the plate.

As before, a slip bearing an impression of the rubber stamp is applied to the face of the plate, and over the slip is placed a sheet or panel 13 of celluloid or like transparent material of practically the same dimensions as the slip, both being provided with the same arrangement of openings and slits extending to one of the rear edges, so that they can be applied without disturbing the handle and yoke of the stamp. The frame 12 is applied to the plate 1, and over the slip and panel in the obvious manner, its central opening framing the space in which the index marking appears.

This arrangement of the index slip and

the protective shield in either of the forms disclosed, provides a lasting index for the stamp, and one which cannot be obliterated by dirt and long usage. Manifestly, I am aware that a slip of paper bearing an index marking might be pasted onto the stamp, but this obviously would not be practical since it would soon become soiled and illegible.

The advantage, therefore, of the present invention, is the simplicity and permanence of the index, and the ease with which the stamps can be equipped either by the manufacturer or the user.

Manifestly any hand stamp can be equipped with an index of a form similar to that herein disclosed, and therefore I do not wish to be limited to the specific arrangement herein disclosed.

I claim as my invention:

1. A hand stamp, having a plate and a handle secured centrally of said plate, of an index marker comprising an index slip applied to the top face of said plate and a sheet of flexible material adapted to be applied over said slip and having a central opening, flanges along opposite sides thereof with their edges bent inwardly to permit the flanges to yieldingly grip the adjacent edges of said plate.

2. The combination with a self-inking hand stamp comprising a frame having a top plate, a die plate mounted in said frame, and a handle projecting from the top plate of said frame, of a shield consisting of a sheet of flexible transparent material, having a central opening and a slit extending from said opening to one edge thereof and provided along opposite edges with flanges terminating in inturned edges, said shield being adapted to be attached to said plate by passing said handle transversely through said slit into said opening, and said flanges embracing the edges of said plate with its inturned edges engaging the underside thereof.

Signed at Chicago, Ill., this 8th day of March, 1926.

FRANK L. SCHULZ.