

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES P. JACKSON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO ADDRESSOGRAPH COMPANY,
OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, A CORPORATION OF ILLINOIS.

PRINTING DEVICE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES P. JACKSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Printing Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to printing devices and particularly to that type comprising a metal frame carrying a metal address plate and adapted to be arranged in accordance with a card index system and run through an addressing machine for printing upon envelopes, letterheads, pay rolls, etc.

The object of the invention is to provide a compact device of simple construction and convenient arrangement whereby a record may be conveniently kept in connection with the address on the printing plate for ready reference.

In the accompanying drawing illustrating the invention—

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the front of the device;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the back of the printing device;

Fig. 3 is a bottom, edge view;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawings 5 is a frame which is stamped from a single sheet of metal and is provided on its front with a bead 6 at its upper edge and with a bead 7 at its lower edge, and on its back with spacing flanges 8—8.

The front of the frame is divided into three sections adapted to receive and hold a printing plate 9, having an address or other matter stamped in relief thereon, an address card 10 bearing an impression from the printing plate and a record card 11, the printing plate being located at the bottom of the frame, the address card at the top of the frame and the record card between the printing plate and the address card.

The bead 7 is preferably continuous, and spaced therefrom is a discontinuous bead formed by the sections 12, 12', 12''. The printing device is slidable endwise beneath the continuous bead and the sectional bead and it is held in place at its ends by the spring stops 13—13 which are stamped from the frame and project sufficiently to engage the ends of the plate. Thus the plate can be inserted or removed at either end of the

printing plate section of the frame by depressing one spring stop sufficiently to permit insertion of the end of the plate beneath the beads, after which the plate is slid along until its end engages the opposite spring stop, whereupon the first mentioned spring stop will resume its normal position to engage the other end of the plate. The plate is rigidly held in place beneath the beads and between the spring stops so that it will not become disengaged in handling or during the printing operation.

The card 10 is held in place beneath the bead 6, the lips 14 which engage the bottom edge of the card, the lip 15 which engages one end of the card and the stop 16 which engages the other end of the card. The card is sufficiently flexible to slide over the stop 16 when it is inserted beneath the bead 16 and the lip 14 adjacent stop 16 and while the card is being slid lengthwise into position between the lip 15 and the stop 16, and also sufficient to permit the card to be lifted clear of the stop 16 and slid lengthwise out of the frame. This card bears an impression of the characters on the printing plate and is used to readily identify the device and to facilitate arrangement in accordance with a card index system. The frame is also preferably provided behind the card 10 with means 17 for holding index tabs as, set forth for example, in U. S. Patent No. 1,026,253 patented May 14, 1912.

The record card 11 is removably held in place on the frame by the lip 18 which engages the upper edge of the card, the lips 19 which engage the lower edge of the card, the lip 20 which engages the card at its upper corner at one end thereof, the lip 21 which engages the card at its upper corner at the other end thereof, the corner lip 22 located below the lip 21 to receive and engage a lower corner of the card and the spring stop 23 located between the lips 21 and 22 to engage the corner of the card. The spring stop 23 is spaced from the lip 20 a distance substantially equal to the length of the record card so that the spring stop will hold the record card snugly beneath and in engagement with the lip 20. The lips 21 and 22 are spaced from the lip 20 at a somewhat greater distance than the length of the card to permit the card to move lengthwise sufficiently beneath the lips 21 and 22 to clear the lip 20 after the spring stop has been

disengaged from the end of the card, so that the card can be lifted above the lip 20 and slid lengthwise to the right in Fig. 1 from engagement with the frame. To insert the
 5 record card in the frame it is slipped into position beneath the lips 18 and 19 and slid lengthwise over the spring stop 23 until it has cleared the lip 20 after which it is slipped backward, to the right in Fig. 1 be-
 10 neath lip 20 until the spring stop engages the adjacent end of the card.

My invention provides a simple and convenient means whereby a permanent record may be maintained with respect to a person
 15 regardless of changes in address which require corresponding changes in the printing plate and address card. That is to say an address device for a particular customer will contain the printing plate, the address
 20 card and the record card, the latter bearing commercial ratings or other desirable information; if the customer changes his address a new plate is supplied bearing the new ad-
 25 dress and a new address card is supplied to correspond therewith but the record card may remain unchanged in the same frame. This is of considerable importance because record
 30 memoranda with respect to a customer may be of a secret and confidential nature, it may represent a long series of dealings, and it may be data compiled from many different sources and of great value; for example, any
 35 credit rating. If it were necessary to rewrite this card with every change of address there would be involved the usual chance of error or mistake besides the cost in time and
 40 labor involved. I have referred to data useful in credit rating but data for other purposes may be just as important and valuable; for example a record of previous or-
 45 ders, a record of complaints, a record of losses on insurance policies, etc. It is very common now to maintain cards in a card index system bearing useful information re-
 50 garding customers and transactions in a great many lines of business and address printing devices have been used to a considerable extent in such systems but, so far as I am aware, without the record card separate
 55 from and separately mounted from the printing plate and the address card in the frame for permanent preservation. Commercial use of my invention in the particular form illustrated has demonstrated its value
 60 and importance in business not only in a saving of the cost of maintenance but primarily, I believe, in the elimination of the chance for error and mistake which would occur in rewriting the record data.

I have shown and described the invention in the form which has been found to be desirable commercially for many reasons but it is possible to change the form, construction and arrangement of details to accommodate

the invention to various conditions and re- 65
 quirements and therefore I reserve the right to make all such changes as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. A printing device comprising a frame, a card, devices on the frame to engage the card at the ends thereof and spaced from each other a distance greater than the length of the card to permit endwise movement of
 75 the card, and a stop arranged to engage one end of the card to hold it against endwise movement and beneath said devices.

2. A printing device comprising a frame, a card, lips struck from the frame and arranged to engage the card at the ends there-
 80 of, said lips being spaced apart a greater distance than the length of the card to permit endwise movement of the card, and a spring stop to engage one end of the card
 85 and hold it against endwise movement beneath the lips.

3. A printing device comprising a frame, a card, lips struck from the frame to engage the ends of the card, said lips being spaced
 90 apart a greater distance than the length of the card to permit endwise movement of the card, and a lip at one end being larger than the lip at the other end, and a stop adjacent the larger lip to engage the end of the card
 95 and prevent endwise movement thereof.

4. A printing device comprising a frame, a card, lips struck from the frame to engage the ends of the card, said lips being spaced
 100 apart a greater distance than the length of the card to permit endwise movement of the card, their being two lips at one end of the card and one lip at the other end and the two lips being larger than the one lip, to permit
 105 endwise movement of the card, and a stop between the two large lips to engage the adjacent end of the card and hold the card against endwise movement.

5. A printing device comprising a frame, a card, lips on the frame to engage the upper and lower edges of the card, one of said
 110 lips engaging the lower edge of the card adjacent one end thereof, a relatively small lip on the frame engaging the end of the card at the corner thereof above said last
 115 mentioned lip, a pair of relatively large lips on the frame to engage the other end of the card, one of said lips being a corner lip to engage both edges of the card at the lower corner thereof, said relatively large lips be-
 120 ing spaced from said relatively small lip a distance greater than the length of the card, and a stop located between the relatively large lips to hold the card against the rela-
 125 tively small lip and prevent endwise movement of the card.

JAMES P. JACKSON.