

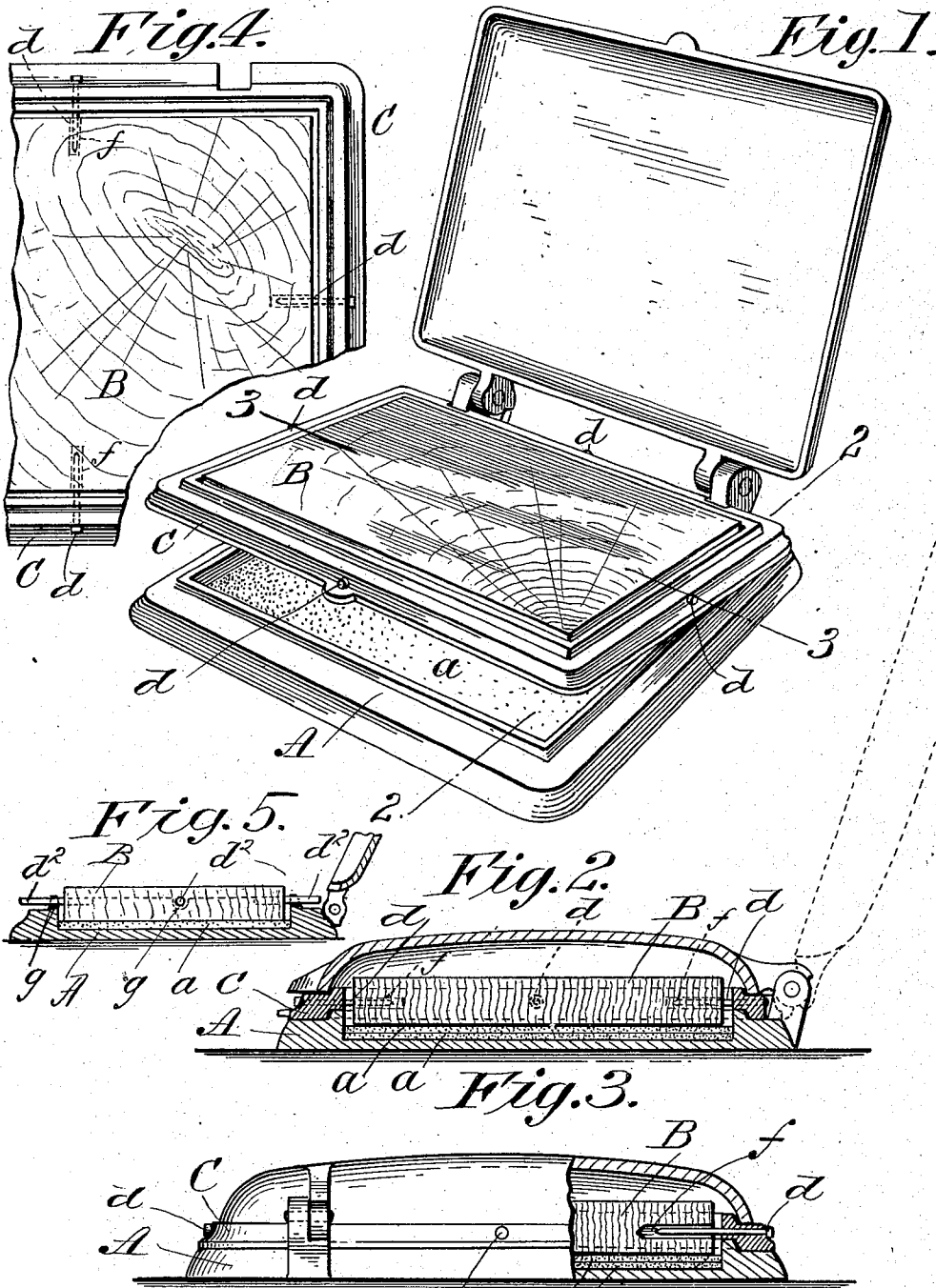
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R. H. SMITH.
INKING PAD.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 1, 1902.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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INKING-PAD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 721,474, dated February 24, 1903.

Application filed December 1, 1902. Serial No. 133,370. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD HALE SMITH, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Springfield, in the county of Hampden and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Inking-Pads, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to improvements in inking-pads, and particularly to inking-pads which comprise a block or comparatively thin section of wood, which by absorption and impregnation contains sufficient of the inking material to be used and which by its bare upper face presents the ink-yielding surface against which the face of the rubber stamp or type is directly brought.

An object of the invention is to provide and combine in an inking-pad the thin block of wood in such a manner that it may normally have contact on a layer or layers of felt or other suitable absorbent material contained in a box, tray, or case, providing to or for the thin block of wood means whereby it may be removed from the felt-contained receptacle without actual contact against the wood block by the fingers to enable a resupplying of ink to the absorbent material in the bottom of the box; and another object of the invention is to provide a support for the block of wood, so that the latter may be removably disposed next to the layer of felt and be unaffected by any shrinkage or expansion to the extent of becoming warped, whereby its top ink-yielding surface would be otherwise than true and level.

The invention consists in inking-pad devices made, combined, and arranged all substantially as hereinafter described, and set forth in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the inking-pad as a whole, showing the cover open and the wood and its support as elevated somewhat from the main portion of the box. Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view as taken on the line 2 2, Fig. 1, the pad being in its fully-closed condition. Fig. 3 is a partial longitudinal sectional view of the closed pad as taken on line 3 3, Fig. 1, and a partial rear elevation. Fig. 4 is a plan view of a portion of the wood block

and a preferred form of the supporting device therefor. Fig. 5 is a cross-sectional view of an inking-pad device constructed in accordance with this invention, but embodying a modification as regards the means for removing the wood section.

Similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

In the drawings, A represents the box or receptacle, which may be of any suitable form or design having a fitness to its purpose, and in the bottom of the box one or more layers of felt *a* or other absorbent material is provided, the same having in the utilization of the pad device a sufficient quantity of liquid or semiliquid ink supplied thereto.

B represents a thin block of wood, which, as a matter of great preference, is produced with the areas of its top and bottom surfaces on the end of the grain of the wood and for brevity may be termed an "end wood block." In the rectangular design of the pad shown the rectangular end wood block is disposed within a metallic rectangular frame C, which is separate and removable from the box A, but adapted to rest upon the upper edge of the surrounding and upstanding wall of the box, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, and the area of the wood block, as clearly shown especially in Figs. 2, 3, and 4, is slightly though positively and materially less than the area of the opening within the rectangular frame, so that any increase in the area of the block by expansion would not cause the marginal portions thereof to become bound and cause the block to warp or "wind." The thickness of the block is greater than the thickness of the frame, and the block is supported with its lower surface below the under surface of the frame so as to reach down to certain contact against the felt in the bottom of the box, and preferably the upper surface of the wood has its location slightly above the plane of the upper surface of the frame. Metallic pins or studs *d* penetrate the boundary portions of the metallic frame, preferably in the median longitudinal and transverse lines thereof, as indicated in the drawings, the inner extremities of these pins or studs entering for suitable supporting engagements into the edge portions of the wood block, and it is consid-

ered advantageous to have the pins pass through the frame horizontally with a driving fit, while their extremities protrude somewhat loosely into horizontal sockets *f*, (one of which is shown as of somewhat exaggerated diameter in Fig. 3,) bored in the wood somewhat farther than the length of entrance of the pins. Thus the wood block is "floated" within the frame, maintained level and flat irrespective of changes in atmospheric conditions, and while the frame rests upon the upper edge of the box the lower surface of the end wood block will be in contact upon the inked absorbent material *a* in the bottom of the box, which serves as a feeder of ink to the wood, through the grain or pores of which a sufficient stamp-supplying quantity of ink is carried and is always available at the top of the block. To replenish ink in the absorbent material in the bottom of the box, the frame C may be raised without contact by the fingers against the ink-impregnated wood.

In practice the end wood block is impregnated with the ink previous to being provided in connection with the supporting device therefor and a box having the absorbent material in its bottom, the replenishment of ink to the top surface of the wood by capillary attraction from the ink-supply at the bottom being maintained and continued thereafter for an indefinitely-protracted period, and a further quantity of ink may be provided in the bottom of the box from time to time as may be required.

It will be seen that instead of a continuous frame surrounding the block disconnected parts or pins may be provided to the block to accomplish the object which is carried out by the provision of the frame without departing from the spirit of my invention, and in Fig. 5 it is shown that the frame is dispensed with and studs *d*² are driven firmly into edge portions of the wood block B and have outwardly-extended portions thereof accommodated within niches *g*, formed within the top surrounding wall of the box, and thus, plainly, the block while in use may be disposed within the box with its bottom resting upon the layer *a* of the felt or other absorbent material, so that the ink will be drawn from the latter upwardly through and to the top of the block, and yet by grasping one or more of the outwardly-projecting end portions of the pins the block may be bodily lifted without direct contact by the fingers thereagainst out from the box for the purpose of replenishing the absorbent layer *a* with a further quantity of ink.

Of course the pad-box and its cover, if one is employed, may be made of other material than metal, as also might be the frame C, hereinabove referred to, the materials being a matter of selection and in no way affecting the essentials of the invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In an inking-pad the combination with a box, adapted to hold liquid ink, a layer of yielding absorbent material therein, an ink-saturated block of porous end wood resting thereon, and means for raising the block to permit replenishing the ink in the box.

2. In an inking-pad, the combination with a box, and a layer of absorbent material therein, of a frame supported upon the upstanding walls of the box, a block of porous end wood having an area less than the opening within the frame, and having its upper and lower surfaces bare, located within the frame, and means for supporting the block within the frame.

3. In an inking-pad, the combination with a box, a layer of absorbent material therein, of a frame to be supported by the upstanding walls of the box, a block of porous end wood having an area less than the opening within the frame and having its upper and lower surfaces uncovered, and a series of pins entered through the boundary members of the frame and penetrating the edge portions of the wood block.

4. In an inking-pad, the combination with a box, of a block of porous end wood having a bare stamp-receiving surface, and having one or more studs engaged with and extending from marginal portions of the block and extending outwardly in opposite directions therefrom, and a layer of absorbent material in the bottom of the box.

5. In an inking-pad, the combination with a box, and a layer of absorbent material therein, of a frame removably supported on the upstanding walls of the box, a block of porous end wood having an area less than the opening within the frame, having its upper and lower surfaces uncovered and having horizontal sockets within its edge portions, and pins entered through the several members of the frame, inwardly protruding and loosely engaging in said sockets in the block.

Signed by me at Springfield, Massachusetts, in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

RICHARD HALE SMITH.

Witnesses:

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