T. HARRISON.

PIN TRAY.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 4, 1920.

1,366,260. Patented Jan. 18, 1921.

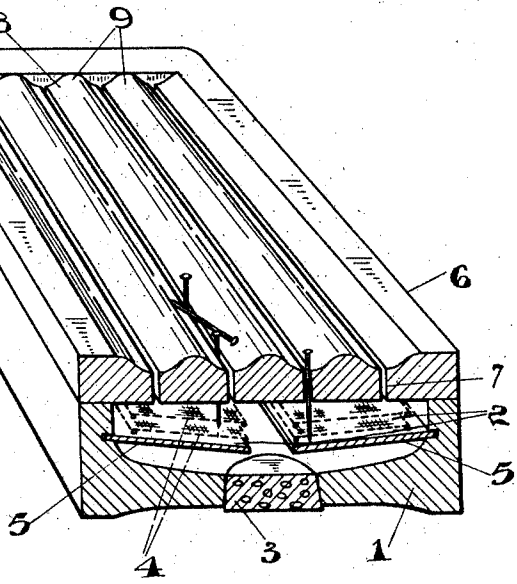


Fig. 1.

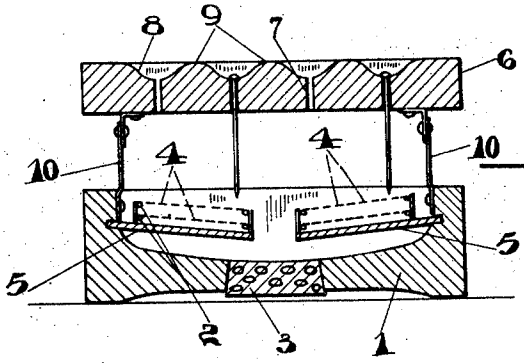


Fig. 2.

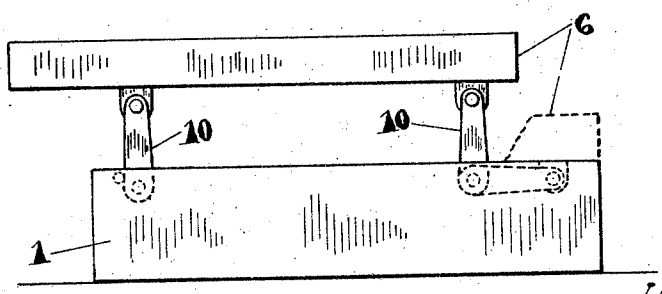


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS HARRISON, OF WESTON, ONTARIO, CANADA.

PIN-TRAY.

1,366,260. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 18, 1921.

Application filed February 4, 1920. Serial No. 356,140.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS HARRISON, of the town of Weston, in the county of York, Province of Ontario, Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pin-Trays, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to devices adapted to hold pins and the like in convenient position for use, and my object is to devise an article of this character by means of which a quantity of loose pins or the like may, without individual handling, be brought to a substantially upright position and thereafter held in that position so that individual pins are readily grasped by the head when required for use.

I attain my object by means of the constructions hereinafter described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the pin tray, partly broken away, to show a section of the device;

Fig. 2 a cross section showing the sorter raised; and

Fig. 3 a side elevation with the parts in the same position as in Fig. 2.

In the drawings like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different figures.

1 is the base of a tray recessed at its upper side to receive one or more holders 2. Preferably two are employed separated by a central space for a purpose hereinafter described. In the bottom of the base is formed a hole provided with any suitable closure such as the plug 3. The holders 2 are provided with apertures adapted to receive the pins and hold them in a substantially upright position. A preferred construction is to employ in each holder 2 spaced pieces of wire netting 4 arranged substantially parallel to one another. These pieces of wire netting are supported on plates 5 inserted in grooves formed in the base or otherwise suitably supported thereon, the lower pieces of wire netting being spaced from said plates. The wire netting being of comparatively fine mesh, it follows that the apertures in the two superimposed pieces of netting will be in substantial alinement with one another so that pins may be held in the holders in substantially vertical position as shown in Fig. 1 with their points resting on the plates 5.

On the base is supported a sorter 6, which sorter has one or more slots 7 formed therein, each slot being longer than the pins with which the device is used and of such width as to permit of the passage of the stems of the pins, but not their heads. Preferably each slot is formed at the bottom of a shallow trough, and the preferred arrangement is to provide the upper surface of the sorter with a plurality of undulations forming shallow troughs 8 separated by ridges 9. The pins are thrown on the top of the sorter and naturally distribute themselves in the troughs 8. If the sorter be then raised, any of the pins which have fallen substantially parallel with the slots 8 will drop into the slots as shown in the drawings and will hang in a substantially vertical position. If then the sorter be lowered, the point of the pins will pass through the apertures in the holder and the pins will remain in a substantially vertical position with their heads projecting sufficiently far above the sorter to be readily grasped.

While the sorter might be entirely separate from the base carrying the holder or holders, I prefer to connect it thereto, as, for example, by the links 10 pivoted at the under side of the holder and to the base. It will be understood, of course, that the proportions of the device may be varied to suit different lengths of pins, and also that the form and arrangement of the various parts may be materially varied without departing from the spirit of my invention. If any undersized pins or similar small objects fall through on to the holders, they will roll down to the space between the same and may be shaken out through the opening closed by the plug 3.

What I claim as my invention is:—

1. A pin tray comprising an apertured holder adapted to receive pins and hold them in a substantially upright position; and a sorter vertically movable relative to the holder having a slot formed therein longer than the pins with which the device is used and of such width as to permit of the passage of the stems of the pins, but not their heads.

2. A pin tray constructed as set forth in claim 1 in which the sorter is provided with a plurality of undulations forming shallow troughs separated by ridges, a slot being formed lengthwise of the bottom of each trough.

3. A pin tray constructed as set forth in claim 1 in which the holder comprises two spaced sheets of stiff material having closely set apertures therein, the apertures in one being in substantial alinement with the apertures of the other.

Signed at Toronto, Canada, this 21st day of January, 1920, in the presence of the two undersigned witnesses.

THOMAS HARRISON.

Witnesses:
GEO. P. MACKIE,
N. R. TYNDALL.