July 2, 1935. S. W. PIERCE 2,006,744

FINGER PRINT RECORDER

Filed Nov. 29, 1932

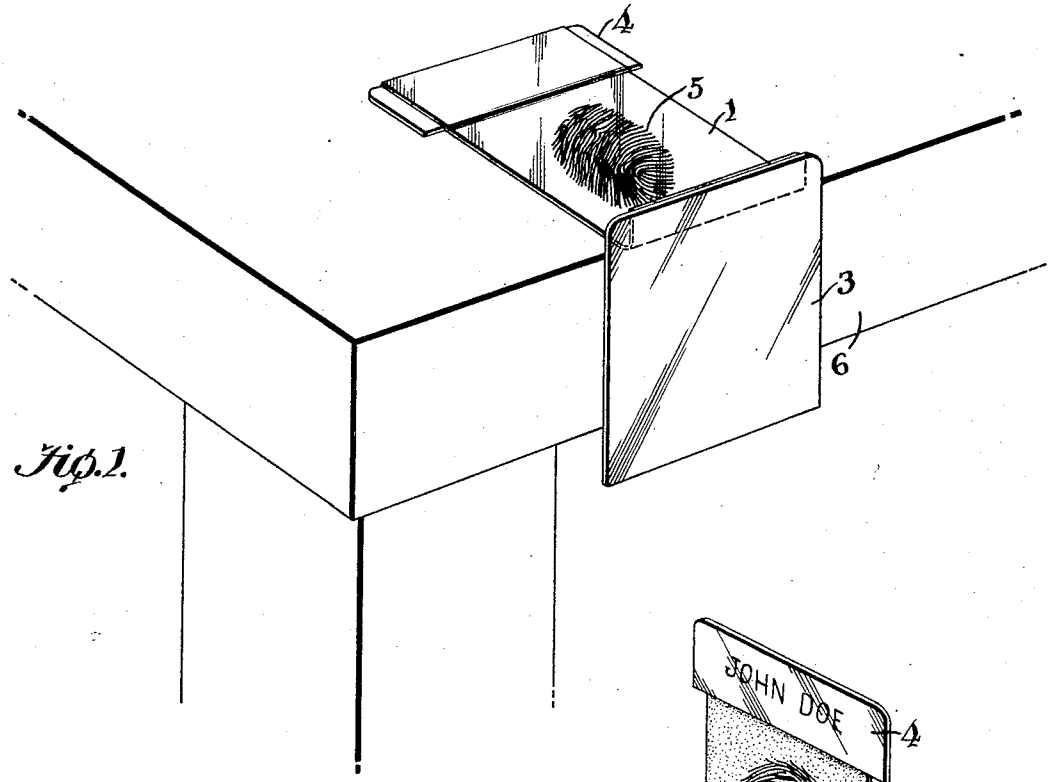


Fig. 1.

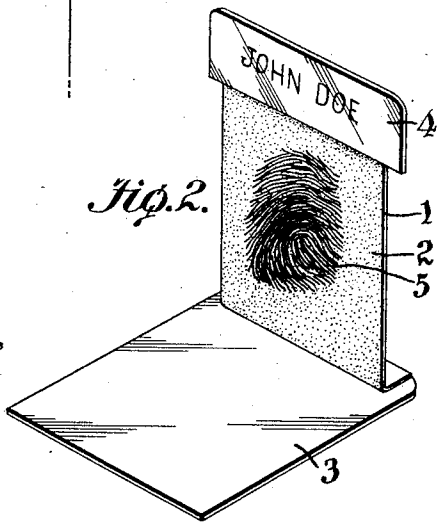


Fig. 2.

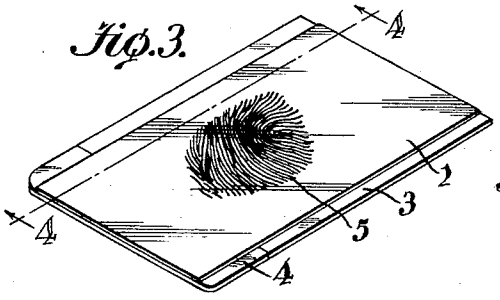


Fig. 3.

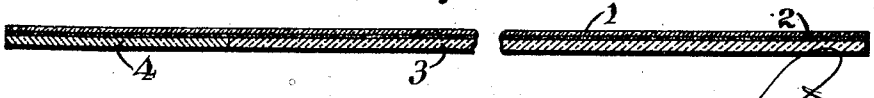


Fig. 4.

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FINGER PRINT RECORDER

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5 Claims. (Cl. 41—4)

The present invention relates to means for making finger print records.

In cases where persons have committed a crime, finger prints of the persons engaged in the commission of the crime are frequently left on tables, chairs, desks, and many other types of articles and parts of buildings in the vicinity of the crime. These are used in numerous cases to locate and identify the criminals. It is usually customary to examine everything in the vicinity of a crime or other event where identity of the principals is unknown and desired, for the finger prints of the principals. When the finger prints are found they are treated in a well known manner with powder and other ingredients to individualize the lines in the finger print so it may be photographed and the prints made from the photograph used tracing the identity of the person.

This invention provides a means for directly recording the finger print on a protected transparent record member, by applying a piece of transparent sheet material, coated with a suitable adhesive, to the individualized finger print with the adhesive coating applied to the surface of the article having the finger print. Then the sheet material with its adhesive is removed and the adhesive carries the finger print with it, after which a protective sheet of transparent material is applied to the adhesive coated side of the sheet material to enclose the finger print thereon and provide a permanent finger print record that is an accurate reproduction of the original. This record can be used to make prints of the finger print on sensitized paper.

The invention provides a finger print recorder having a pair of transparent pieces of sheet material secured together by an adhesive that will provide for separation of the members so one may be applied to a finger print to lift or obtain a record of the finger print that is afterwards protected by pressing the sheets together so the adhesive will hold them in superposed relation. A tab is applied to the recorder so the finger print may be indexed and so the sheets may be more easily manipulated without touching the adhesive in making a record of a finger print.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 shows the finger print recorder of this invention and a table in perspective with the sheet members separated, one being applied to the surface of the table over an individualized finger print for recording the impression of said finger print.

Fig. 2 shows the finger print recorder in perspective with a lifted and recorded finger print after removal from the table, the sheet members being in separated relation.

Fig. 3 shows the finger print recorder in perspective with the parts in complete assembled relation with a finger print recorded thereon.

Fig. 4 is a cross section taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

A sheet member 1 of transparent material is provided with an adhesive coating 2. A well known form of adhesive is used that always maintains a tacky or sticky character so that it will adhere to any surface by pressing it against the surface. This adhesive will stick to the original surface to which it is applied such as sheet member 1 to such an extent that it may be applied and removed from adhesive engagement with other surfaces without becoming separated from member 1. It may, and is generally, called a pressure sensitive adhesive. This adhesive has the further advantage, that it can be removed and re-applied to any surface. To preserve this quality in the adhesive it is usually kept applied to some surface to prevent it from collecting foreign matter. For this and other purposes in connection with this invention the sheet member 1 has the adhesive coated surface 2 thereof applied to a protecting transparent sheet member 3.

The sheet member 1 is longer than sheet member 3 and the projecting end mounts a tab 4 secured thereto by the adhesive 2. This tab provides a means for manipulating sheet member 1 with member 3 so as to avoid handling of the adhesive. When sheet members 1 and 3 are in assembled relation as shown in Fig. 3, tab 4 lies in adjacent relation in the same plane to the member 3. This tab provides an index tab for indexing the recorded finger print.

A finger print is recorded by first putting a coating of powder or other suitable material of well known character on the finger print to individualize the lines of the finger print, as illustrated in Fig. 1 by the individualized finger print 5 on table 6. The finger print recorder is then operated to separate sheet member 1 from sheet member 3, by pulling the two members apart to the extent shown in Figs. 1 and 2 for example. Then, sheet member 1 is applied to the surface of table 6 over finger print 5 which has been previously individualized in the well known manner. Sheet member 1 has the adhesive 2 thereon pressed onto the surface of the table so as to engage and adhere to the entire surface over and surrounding finger print 5.

The sheet member 1 is then removed from adherence to the table. The finger print will be picked up with the adhesive as shown in Fig. 2. Sheet members 1 and 3 are then secured together in superposed relation as shown in Fig. 3 with the finger print record between. The tab 4 may be indexed with any suitable information necessary to the recording and filing of the finger print recorder. Photographic or other types of prints may be made directly using the recorder as the negative.

The sheet member 3 is wider than sheet member 1 as shown in the drawing having the side edges projecting beyond the side edges of sheet member 1. This facilitates handling the recorder and determining which side is the top and which the bottom of the finger print so it can always be used and considered in the proper position. This eliminates the tendency that would otherwise occur and result in confusing a right hand finger print with a left hand finger print. In this way the finger print can always be printed in the proper position.

The recorder will provide a permanent finger print record and it may be used for making prints as often as desired. It can be used to pick up or lift finger prints from any surface in any position with the same facility.

Of course, a finger print recorder of the character herein described may be used to directly record finger prints from the fingers of the individual by applying suitable powder or other material to the individual's fingers to individualize the lines in the fingers and then impress them on the adhesive coating of the recorder.

The invention claimed is:

1. A finger print recorder, comprising a pair of transparent sheet members, an adhesive between said members sensitive to record a finger print in the separated relation of the members, said adhesive securing said members in superposed relation with said finger record housed between the members, and a tab attached to said members.

2. A finger print recorder, comprising a pair of transparent sheet members, a pressure sensitive adhesive for recording a finger print, said adhesive securing said members together in superposed relation with the finger print record enclosed between said members, and a transparent index tab secured to said members.

3. A finger print recorder, comprising a pair of transparent sheet members, a pressure sensitive adhesive on one member for detachably securing the other member thereto, said adhesive in the detached relation of said members being sensitive upon application to a finger print to record an impression of said finger print, said members in attached relation having said finger print in protected relation therebetween, and a manipulating and index tab secured to one of said members.

4. A finger print recorder, comprising a pair of superposed transparent sheet members, a pressure sensitive adhesive on one member detachably securing the other member thereto, said adhesive being adapted to record a finger print impression, one of said members having a portion extending beyond the other, and a manipulating tab secured to said extension.

5. A finger print recorder, comprising a pair of superposed transparent sheet members, a pressure sensitive adhesive on one member detachably securing the other member thereto, said adhesive being adapted for application in the separated relation of said members to record a finger print, the member provided with said adhesive having an extension projecting beyond the other member, a tab secured to said extension by said adhesive and lying in the plane of the other member in the attached relation of said members and said other member having marginal portions extending beyond said first mentioned member.

SILAS W. PIERCE.