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COMBINED REGISTERING AND DENOTING DEVICE AND LABEL HOLDER.
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Figs. 1 and 2.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Wilbur Parten, a citizen of the United States, residing at Merkel, in the county of Taylor and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Registering and Denoting Devices and Label-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in combined registering and denoting devices and label holders, and has for one of its objects to provide a simply constructed device which may be connected to and disconnected from the goods to be sold or to the closures containing the goods, and which embraces devices whereby the quantity of the material or the number of articles sold is registered and the amount of goods or the number of articles which remain likewise denoted.

With this and other objects in view the invention consists in certain novel features of construction as hereinafter shown and described and then specifically pointed out in the claims.

The improved device may be arranged for clamping to the "boards" upon which dress and similar goods are wound, or to boxes or other closures containing goods, and it is not desired therefore to limit the invention to any specific kind of goods to which it may be applied, and in the drawings employed to illustrate the preferred embodiment of the invention, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improved device as applied to the winding board of a bolt of goods; Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same; Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3-3 of Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrow; Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4-4 of Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrow; Fig. 5 is a plan view of the smaller graded drum; Fig. 6 is a plan view of the larger graded drum; Fig. 7 is a section on the line 7-7 of Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrow; Fig. 8 is an end elevation viewed from the opposite end, with the casing in section on the line 8-8 of Fig. 2; Fig. 9 is a perspective view of a portion of a bolt of goods showing the improved device attached directly to the folds of the goods; Fig. 10 represents a perspective view of a portion of a box with one of the improved devices attached.

Corresponding and like parts are referred in all the views of the accompanying drawings by the same reference characters.

The improved device comprises a metal casing, represented as a whole at 10, preferably curved at the upper and lower sides and with one vertical side 11 and a reversely inclined side 12, the reversely inclined portion providing two reversely inclined surfaces to receive suitable labels and to maintain them in convenient position for observation. In its preferred form the surfaces 12 are provided with keepers 13 beneath which the labels, represented at 14, are supported. By providing the double inclined faces 12 the labels are readily distinguishable from either above or below so that when the improved device is located upon goods upon the lower portions of shelves or near the floor they can readily be "read" from above without inconvenience, and when the device is applied to goods located at higher points upon the shelves, the label which is located upon the lower inclined face can be readily seen. When the two labels are employed it will be understood of course that the labels are duplicates and contain the same matter. The labels will be utilized to contain any suitable information, as for instance the title of the goods, the quality of the goods, the cost mark, the selling price, the shelf or tier upon which the particular bolt or closure to which the label is attached is to be located, and any other information which may be desirable.

When the improved device is to be attached to "bolts" of goods a suitable clamp device is attached to the casing and adapted to be engaged with the winding board or center board upon which the goods are rolled, as shown in Fig. 1.

When the device is to be employed upon a box or other closure containing goods the casing will be provided with a suitable hook or catch, as noted in Fig. 10. When applied to the winding boards, the casing 10 is provided with a frame 16 projecting from one side the frame being preferably formed from a U shaped piece of wire connected at its ends to the ends of the casing and covered on one side with a plate of sheet metal, represented at 17, and covered on the inner side with a sheet of rubber, felt or similar material, represented at 18, to protect the goods to which the device is applied, and with a similar U shaped frame 19 connected.
to swing with a shaft or rod 20 extending through the casing 10 near its upper side. The frame 19 is covered on the outer side with a metal plate 21 and on the inner side with a sheet of rubber, felt, or like material 22. The plate 21 is reduced at the upper edge and extended upwardly into a curved thumb plate 25 so that the frame 19 with its plate and rubber covering may be moved away from and toward the other frame 16. The shaft 20 is provided with suitable springs 24 operating to maintain it yieldably in its downward position. The two frames 16—19 with their coverings together with the shaft 20 and the springs 24 constitute an efficient spring controlled grip device which may be utilized to hold the casing 10 upon the folding board or other object or article. By this means the casing and its attachments may be supported in convenient position relative to the goods with which it is to be employed.

When the improved device is employed upon a box or other closure a hook like device, represented at 25 in Fig. 10, is provided which may be engaged over the edge of the box and thus suspend the frame therefrom. It will be obvious that other forms of supporting devices may be employed to enable the casing and its attachments to be connected to any two different forms of closures or holding devices for the goods.

When employed in connection with the finer qualities of goods, such as silks, satins, and the like, or to goods which are simply folded and without the folding boards or like supports, the spring controlled clamp device shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 will be engaged directly with the folds of the goods, as illustrated in Fig. 9, and thus hold them firmly in place and prevent them from being unfolded except to a limited extent, or to an extent just sufficient to properly exhibit the goods, but preventing them from being unfolded or unrolled to so great an extent as to disarrange the original folds, and thus preventing the goods from being refolded differently from the original foldings and avoid producing additional creases in the goods.

Located within the casing 10 are the counting and denoting devices, and these devices include a main central shaft 26 mounted for rotation in one end of the casing. The shaft 26 is square for the greater portion of its length and round for the remainder of its length, as indicated in Fig. 4. Mounted upon the round portion of the shaft is a drum 28 divided into gradations and arranged in a plurality of circumferential columns and provided with numerals in successive order. The graduations are designed to denote the amount of goods or the number of articles sold at any one time, and are shown for illustration subdivided to represent yards and fractions of yards, as for instance quarters of yards. It will be understood however, that other graduations may be employed to adapt the device to various kinds of goods or articles of merchandise.

Connected to or formed integral with the drum 28 is a ratchet wheel 29 and a turning knob 27, while a similar ratchet wheel 30 is mounted upon the square portion of the shaft. The turning knob 27 extends through the adjacent end of the casing 10 and thus forms a bearing for the round portion of the shaft 26, as shown. The teeth of the wheel 30 are reversely arranged from those of the wheel 29, as indicated in Fig. 7. The ratchet 29 thus partakes of the motion of the drum 28, while the ratchet 30 partakes of the motion of the shaft. A spring 31 is connected at one end to the ratchet 29 and at the other end to the casing 10 and operates to wind up the drum 28 and its ratchet, as hereafter explained. A pawl 32 is carried by the drum 28 and engages the ratchet 30, while a stop pawl 34 is connected to the casing 10 and also engages the ratchet 30. Another stop pawl 47 is pivoted at 48 to the casing and is provided with a push button 33 extending through the casing to enable the pawl to be released when required. Mounted upon the square portion of the shaft 26 is another and larger drum 35 provided with circumferential columns of graduations in successive order and corresponding to the graduations on the drum 28, except that there are greater numbers of the columns of graduations.

The drum 35 may be of any required length, but for illustration is shown provided with five of the circumferential columns of graduations and each column containing 12 major graduations representing yards, and each major graduation provided with smaller graduations to denote fractions of yards, as for instance quarters of yards, for illustration. The drum 35 is also provided with circumferential grooves corresponding to the divisions between the columns of graduations, and each groove 115 encircling the entire drum except for a short distance at one side and coupled by transverse grooves, or grooves extending in parallel relations to the axial line of the drum. The circumferential grooves are represented at 36, while the connecting axial grooves are represented at 37. The shorter axial grooves 37 it will be noted are in close proximity at one side of the drum and separated by relatively small portions of the periphery of the drum. A spring 38 surrounds the shaft 26 and operates to maintain the drum yieldably in position and moves it toward the drum 28 when the drum is released, as hereafter explained.
Formed through the casing 10 opposite to the drum 28 and preferably in the upper side of the casing is an opening 39 through which the graduations upon the drum may be “read”, while a similar opening 40 is formed through the casing in position to enable the grooves on the drum 33 to be “read”. The opening 40 will be located at a point opposite to the inner column of grooves when the drum 33 is disposed at the greatest distance from the drum 28, or at the initial portion of its movement. The casing 10 is provided with a pointer 41 extending into the opening 39, while a similar pointer 42 is arranged to extend into the opening 40, to facilitate the “reading” of the graduations.

Located in the casing 10 adjacent to the opening 40 is a threaded pin 45, the inner end of the pin being adapted to engage in the grooves 36–37. Formed in the casing in a longitudinal slot 43, and mounted for movement in the slot is a block like member 46 which projects at its inner end into the path of the drum 33, and is operative to move the drum against the resistance of the spring 38 and thus retain it in its initial position when the screw pin 45 is detached, as hereafter explained.

With a device thus constructed, the operation is as follows:—The device is “set” with the drum 28 released so that the character 1 appears opposite the pointer 41 in the opening 39 and the drum 33 likewise located at the farthest point from the drum 28 by releasing the pin 45 and employing the block 46 to force the drum 33 against the resistance of the spring 38 until the character 1 of the drum 33 is located opposite the pointer 42 of the opening 40. The pin 45 is then restored to its former position so that its inner end engages in the adjacent groove 36. Then when the quantity of the goods with which the device is associated is sold, as for instance 10 yards, the turning knob 27 is rotated until the character 10 of the drum 28 is located opposite the pointer 41 of the opening 39. This movement it will be obvious also rotates the drum 33 through the action of the pawl 32 and thus locates the character 10 of the first column of circumferential graduations opposite the pointer 42 of the opening 40, the inner end of the pin 45 operating in the terminal slot 43 and holding the drum 33 from longitudinal movement on the shaft, as will be obvious. If the amount of goods sold is 10 and a fraction of a yard, as for instance 101 yards, of course the drum 28 will be rotated to bring the first quarter yard graduation beyond the character 10 and opposite the pointer and this will likewise bring the corresponding character on the drum 33 opposite the pointer 42. After the sale is completed the salesman presses the button 33 and thus releases the drum 28 which is immediately returned to its initial position through the action of the spring 31, but the drum 33 will be held from retrograde movement by the stop pawl 34 and not be released by this action, but will be retained in the position to which it has been previously moved by the action of the stop pawl 34 upon the ratchet wheel 30, which, as before stated, partakes of the motion of the shaft 26 and of the drum 33. When the next sale is made the movement is repeated and the amount sold denoted upon the drum 33 in addition to that already recorded. For instance if the next sale is 15 yards the drum 28 will be rotated to bring the character 15 opposite the pointer 41 which movement will also rotate the drum 33 to bring the character 25 opposite the pointer 42. As each circumferential column of the drum 33 contains 12 yard denoting graduations the inner end of the pin 45 when reached by the first axial groove 37 releases the drum 33 which is immediately moved endwise by the spring 38 until the pin 41 reaches the end of the first axial groove and will then enter the second circumferential groove 36 and the drum 33 will continue to rotate until the pin reaches the second axial groove when the drum will be moved endwise again to bring the pin opposite the third circumferential groove and will continue to move until the pointer 42 is opposite the character 25. Then after the sale is completed the clerk compresses the button 33 to release the drum 33 which returns to its initial position ready for the next sale, but leaving the character 25 exposed through the opening 40 to denote that 25 yards have been sold from the “bolt.”

If the improved device is applied to a box or other closure containing articles of merchandise, when a sale takes place the number of articles sold is denoted in the same manner by rotating the drums, and when thus employed the character which appears opposite the pointer 42 denotes the total number of the articles sold, and likewise denotes by comparison with the matter upon the label the number of articles remaining in the box. By this means the contents of every bolt of goods and the number of articles in every box may be readily ascertained by simply “reading” the graduations which appear opposite the pointer 42, as will be obvious. The improved device is simple in construction, can be inexpensively manufactured and of any required size, and by increasing or decreasing the sizes and numbers of graduations on the drums 28—35 the capacity of the device may be increased or decreased at pleasure to adapt it to the various kinds of goods with which it is associated or employed.
The casing 10 together with the label holding portions may be constructed of any suitable material and of any required size, and may be highly ornamented and thus present an attractive appearance when applied to the goods or closures of the goods.

By starting from the opposite end of the larger drum and operating the device reversely to that above described, the difference between the number of yards originally in the bolt, and the numeral visible at the opening 40 will denote the number of yards sold instead of the number of yards remaining on the bolt. Thus the number of yards left on the bolt will at all times be visible at the opening 40. The device may be operated in either way, as the operator may desire.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. In a device of the class described, a shaft mounted for rotation, a graduated drum rotative upon said shaft and held from longitudinal movement thereon, means for coupling said drum for rotation in one direction with said shaft, another graduated drum upon the said shaft and partaking of its motion and movable longitudinally thereon, a spring operating to return said first mentioned drum to its initial position, means for moving said last mentioned drum longitudinally of the shaft, and another spring operating to move the longitudinally movable drum toward the first mentioned drum.

2. In a device of the class described, a shaft mounted for rotation, a relatively short drum having graduations thereon in progressive order, means for rotating said shorter drum, a relatively long drum slideable upon said shaft and partaking of its motion and provided with a plurality of graduations which are multiples of the graduations of the shorter drum, coupling means between said shorter drum and said shaft, a spring operating to move said longer drum toward said shorter drum and means for holding said longer drum from movement by said spring.

3. In a device of the class described, a casing having a bearing extending there-through at one end, a graduated drum, a shaft mounted for rotation respectively in said casing and in said drum, means for coupling said drum for rotation in one direction on said shaft, another graduated drum movable in both directions on said shaft and partaking of its motion, and means for holding said last-mentioned drum from movement in one direction.

4. In a device of the class described, a casing, a relatively short drum having graduations thereon in progressive order, and having a bearing extending through said casing at one end, a shaft mounted for rotation respectively in said casing and in said drum, means for rotating said shorter drum, a relatively long drum slideable upon said shaft and partaking of its motion and provided with a plurality of graduations which are multiples of the graduations of the shorter drum, coupling means between said shorter drum and said shaft, means for holding said longer drum from movement in one direction, and means operating to cause the longer drum to move step by step longitudinally of the shaft.

5. In a device of the class described, a shaft mounted for rotation, a relatively short drum having graduations thereon in progressive order, means for rotating said shorter drum, a relatively long drum slideable upon said shaft and partaking of its motion and provided with a plurality of graduations which are multiples of the graduations of the shorter drum, the graduations of said longer drum being arranged in parallel columns circumferentially of the same, a circumferential guide groove for each of said columns of graduations, a longitudinal guide groove connecting each pair of said circumferential guide grooves, a stationary pin in engagement with said grooves, coupling means between said shorter drum and said shaft, and means for holding said longer drum from movement in one direction.

6. In a device of the class described, a casing, a shaft mounted for rotation in said casing, a relatively short graduated drum rotative upon said shaft, means for rotat

7. In a device of the class described, a casing having a longitudinal slot, a shaft mounted for rotation in said casing, a relatively short graduated drum rotated upon said shaft, means for rotating said shorter drum, a relatively long drum slideable upon said shaft and partaking of its motion and provided with a plurality of graduations which are multiples of the graduations of the shorter drum, the graduations of said longer drum being arranged in parallel columns circumferentially of the same, a circumferential guide groove.
for each of said columns of graduations, a longitudinal guide groove connecting each pair of said circumferential guide grooves, a stationary pin detachable in said casing and engaging in said grooves, a block slideable in said slot and extending into the path of said longer drum, coupling means between said shorter drum and said shaft, and means for holding said longer drum from movement in one direction.

8. In a device of the class described, a casing, a shaft mounted for rotation in said casing, a relatively short graduated drum rotative upon said shaft, a ratchet carried by said shorter drum, a spring operating to rotate said shorter drum in one direction, a stop pawl carried by said casing and engaging said ratchet, another ratchet carried by said shaft, a stop pawl carried by said shorter drum and engaging said shaft ratchet, a relatively long drum slideable upon said shaft and partaking of its motion and provided with a plurality of graduations, which are multiples of the graduations of the shorter drum, the graduations of said longer drum being arranged in parallel columns circumferentially of the same, a circumferential guide groove for each of said columns of graduations, a longitudinal guide groove connecting each pair of said circumferential guide grooves, and a stationary pin detachable in said casing and engaging in said grooves.

9. In a device of the class described, a shaft mounted for rotation, a relatively short drum having graduations thereon in progressive order, a ratchet carried by said shorter drum, a spring operating to rotate said shorter drum in one direction, a stop pawl engaging said ratchet, another ratchet carried by said shaft, a pawl carried by said shorter drum and engaging said shaft ratchet, a relatively long drum slideable upon said shaft and partaking of its motion and provided with a plurality of graduations which are multiples of the graduations of the shorter drum, and means operating to cause said longer drum to move step by step longitudinally of said shaft.

10. In a device of the class described, a graduated drum, means for rotating said drum, another graduated drum mounted for rotation and slideable toward and away from said first mentioned drum, coupling means between said drums, and means operating to cause said slideable drum to move step by step away from said rotative drum.

11. In a device of the class described, a relatively short drum having graduations thereon in progressive order, means for rotating said shorter drum, a relatively long drum mounted for rotation and slideable toward and away from said shorter drum and provided with a plurality of graduations which are multiples of the graduations of the shorter drum, coupling means between said drums, and means operating to cause said slideable drum to move step by step away from said rotative drum.

12. In a device of the class described, a relatively short drum having graduations thereon in progressive order, means for rotating said shorter drum, a relatively long drum mounted for rotation and slideable toward and away from said shorter drum and provided with a plurality of graduations which are multiples of the graduations of the shorter drum, the graduations of said longer drum being arranged in parallel columns circumferentially of the same, a circumferential guide groove for each of said columns of graduations, a longitudinal guide groove connecting each pair of said circumferential guide grooves, a stationary pin in engagement with said grooves, coupling means between said shorter drum and said shaft, and means for holding said longer drum from movement in one direction.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILBUR PARTEN. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
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