

J. S. DUNCAN.
PRINTING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 1, 1909.

964,095.

Patented July 12, 1910.

Fig. 1

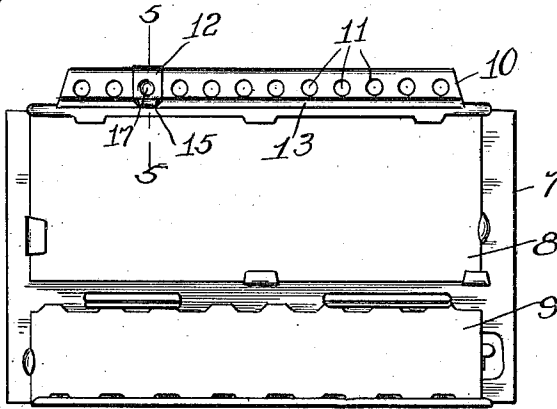


Fig. 2

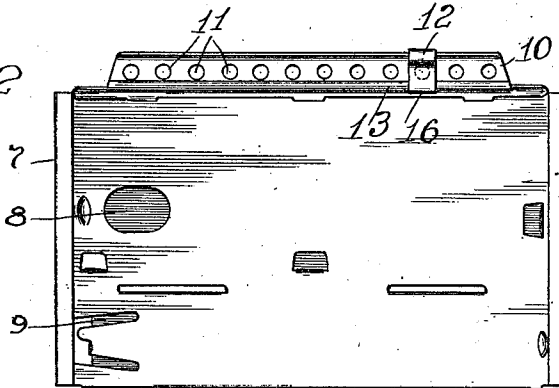


Fig. 3

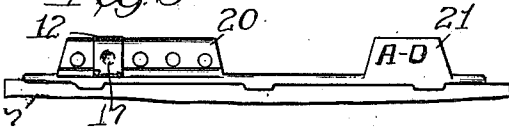


Fig. 4

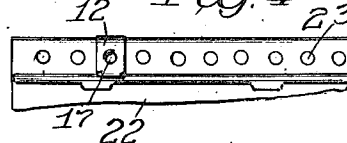


Fig. 5

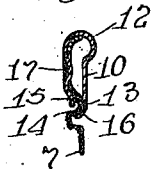


Fig. 6

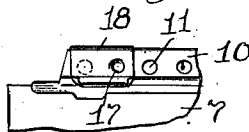


Fig. 7

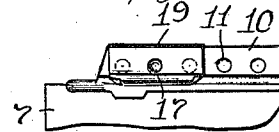
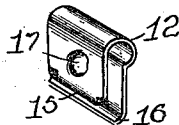


Fig. 8



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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PRINTING DEVICE.

964,095.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 12, 1910.

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To all whom it may concern:

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

In many lines of business it is customary to send letters, notices, circulars or other matter periodically to a list of customers or subscribers, and printing devices bearing the addresses of the customers or subscribers have been kept in various forms for use in machines which print the addresses on envelopes and sometimes on letters also. In some of these printing devices the address is set up in rubber or metal type, in others it is stamped in relief on a metal plate and in others it is made in the form of a stencil; these printing devices have been linked together in chains and also arranged in accordance with an ordinary card index system.

It is desirable to classify the printing devices according to some general scheme of classification, as alphabetically, and yet provide for automatically selecting some of the printing devices for printing without disturbing the classification. For example, a wholesale hardware store is engaged in selling builders' hardware, kitchen utensils, fire arms and cutlery, among other things. There are customers for each of these lines and some customers for more than one line. It is desirable to have one complete list arranged alphabetically, or geographically, and to avoid duplication and also to enable the selection of the customers in each particular line from the general list there should be some special means of classification, so that when the entire set of printing devices is run through the machine only those will print which are specially classified for a particular line. Thus, if letters are to be written or circulars sent to customers in the line of builders' hardware only the printing devices bearing the addresses of customers in this line will print and the other devices will run through the machine without printing. In this way the classification is maintained and duplicate printing devices avoided. Another example: Insurance companies send out at specified inter-

vals notices of premiums payable, some annually, others semi-annually, and others quarterly. It is desirable to have but one complete set of printing devices and yet be able, without disturbing the classification thereof, to print from those devices only which bear the addresses of policy holders to whom notices should be sent at a particular time.

It is the object of my invention to accomplish the ends hereinbefore pointed out by providing the printing devices with means of simple and inexpensive character for designating them according to a special classification. And a further object of the invention is to provide designating means which can be quickly and readily changed without disturbing the address or mutilating or destroying any of its parts.

In the accompanying drawings I have illustrated the invention embodied in its preferred form in a printing device and referring thereto—

Figure 1 is a front view. Fig. 2 is a back view. Fig. 3 shows a printing device provided with an index tab. Fig. 4 shows another embodiment of the invention. Fig. 5 is a sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1. Figs. 6 and 7 show clips constructed to cover more than one opening on the frame. Fig. 8 is a detail perspective view of the clip shown in Figs. 1-4.

The particular printing device which has been selected for illustrating the preferred form of the invention comprises a frame which carries a card and a printing plate. The printing plate is a strip of metal having the address stamped in relief thereon and the card bears an impression of the address with any other memoranda desired. These devices are generally arranged in trays or drawers in accordance with a card index system and, as before stated, they are run through a machine one at a time to print the addresses on envelopes, letters or other things. The invention may be embodied in any other printing device for which it is adapted and I have selected the one shown in the drawings merely as a good example of the art to illustrate the manner in which my invention is embodied therewith.

In the preferred form of the invention the

frame is provided with an extension 10 in the form of a strip at its upper edge above the card 8 and this extension has a plurality of openings 11 spaced apart at intervals therein. A clip 12 is engaged with said extension and is adapted to be adjusted from end to end thereof to cover one or more of the holes. As shown in Fig. 5 the extension has a bead 13 formed therein below the openings by stamping and providing a groove 14 at the front thereof. The clip comprises a piece of metal bent upon itself to fit on the extension and its lower edge 15 is preferably bent to enter the groove 14 and its lower edge 16 is preferably bent to fit over the bead 13. The clip has an indented or depressed part 17 which is adapted to engage the openings 11 and the construction is such that the clip may be adjusted to position on the extension by slight pressure applied thereto and when so adjusted, with the indented or depressed part engaged with an opening, it will remain there until pressure is again applied. I may provide a clip 18 (Fig. 6) to cover two openings, or a clip 19 (Fig. 7) to cover three openings, or the clip may be provided to cover any other number of openings as desired.

Instead of the long extension shown in Figs. 1 and 2 I may use the short extension 20, as shown in Fig. 3, and provide an index tab 21 between the extension and the end of the frame. And instead of providing the openings in an extension of the frame I may locate the card 22 (Fig. 4) below the upper edge of the frame and provide the openings 23 in the frame between the card and its upper edge.

In practice it is intended that the openings in the strip shall represent divisions of a classification. Thus the first opening may indicate builders' hardware, the second kitchen utensils, the third firearms, the fourth cutlery, and so on. All of the printing devices bearing the addresses of builders' hardware customers should have a clip over the first hole; the printing devices bearing the addresses of kitchen utensil customers should have a clip over the second hole, and so on. When one party is a customer in two or more classes clips should be arranged over the opening for each class and obviously the classification should be so made that in cases of this kind one clip may be used to cover two or more openings, as indicated in Figs. 6, 7, as far as possible. In printing the addresses it is intended that all of the printing devices shall be run through the machine but the latter is set to print from the devices of one class only, all of the devices in the class being indicated by a clip covering the opening which has been selected to designate that class. The printing device at a predetermined point in its travel through the machine, sets into opera-

tion the printing mechanism by engagement of the clip in its adjusted position with some suitable instrumentality on the machine, which is adapted to cause the actuation of the printing mechanism. In this way the entire list of customers may be arranged in one set of addresses which can be classified alphabetically, or geographically, and the printing device of every customer will be specially classified by the clips in the class or classes to which he belongs. This system maintains the general classification intact at all times and also avoids the necessity for duplicating addresses where a customer buys in different classes of goods.

Insurance companies would have a separate printing device for each policy holder and a clip over the opening representing the month or months in which notices of premiums payable should be sent. Thus when a policy holder is paying his premiums quarterly there would be four clips on the printing device instead of four printing devices.

My invention is simple in character and greatly simplifies and lessens the cost of installing a set of printing devices for an address list in any line of business, particularly as it enables the entire set to be maintained constantly according to a general classification, alphabetically or otherwise, and at the same time each address is specially classified and constructed so that it will print only at the proper time when the entire set is run through a printing machine.

The advantages of my invention will be clearly apparent in connection with a list of policy holders. It enables a complete list of policy holders to be maintained according to a general classification, alphabetically, geographically, or otherwise, and each printing device is clipped to automatically trip the machine as it passes therethrough to print at a certain time no other but as often as required. This enables the set of printing devices to be kept in a more compact form than would be possible if duplicates were required, and it presents many obvious advantages over the former practice of picking out here and there in the set the printing devices required and replacing them after printing which has prevailed to a more or less extent. This practice requires considerable time and labor and often results in replacement in improper order. My invention entirely avoids the necessity for duplicating printing devices or for selecting certain devices to be printed. The printing devices run through the machine rapidly and as they are replaced in the trays or drawers in which they are stored in the same position after printing as they were in before printing their regular order of arrangement is constantly maintained for reference purposes. The clip can be readily changed from one hole to another and this

enables the frame of the printing device to be used with another address when one becomes obsolete..

The clip is held in position on the frame by frictional engagement therewith in the embodiment of the invention illustrated in the drawings and whereas the engagement of the ends of the clip with the bead and the groove, respectively, in the frame, or the engagement of the indented or depressed part with the opening might ordinarily be sufficient to prevent accidental dislodgment of the clip from its adjusted position, I prefer to provide both means for this purpose.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A printing device comprising a frame provided with a series of alined openings adjacent one edge thereof, and a clip adapted to slide on the frame over said openings and having means for engaging with one of the openings to position said clip over said opening.

2. A printing device comprising a frame having an extension at one edge thereof provided with a series of openings, and a clip adapted to slide longitudinally of said extension and having means for engaging with one of the openings to position said clip over said opening.

3. A printing device comprising a frame and a longitudinally extending portion projecting from one edge thereof provided with a plurality of openings therethrough, and a clip adapted to be engaged over said extension and slide longitudinally thereof, said clip being provided with means for engaging with any one of the openings to position the clip.

4. A printing device comprising a frame provided with a series of openings adjacent one edge thereof, and a printing mechanism actuating means adjustable longitudinally of one edge of said frame and adapted to be positioned over any one of the openings for causing the operation of the printing mechanism at a certain predetermined period.

5. A printing device comprising a frame, an extension on the frame at its upper edge having a plurality of openings therein, a

clip slidably mounted on the extension, and means for holding the clip in adjusted position to cover an opening in the extension.

6. A printing device comprising a frame, an extension on the frame at its upper edge having a plurality of openings therein, and a clip adapted to cover an opening in the extension, said clip having an indented or depressed part to engage the opening to hold the clip in adjusted position.

7. A printing device comprising a frame, an extension on the frame having a plurality of openings therein, a clip consisting of a strip of metal bent to fit over the extension, said clip being slidable from end to end of the extension, and means on the clip to engage one of the openings to hold the clip in position to cover said opening.

8. A printing device comprising a frame, an extension on the frame having a plurality of openings therein, and a clip consisting of a piece of metal bent to fit over the extension, said clip being adjustable from end to end of the extension and having an indented or depressed part to engage an opening in the extension and hold the clip in position to cover said opening.

9. A printing device comprising a frame, an extension on the frame having a plurality of openings therein, a bead on the extension extending lengthwise thereof beneath the openings, said bead being located at the back of the extension and providing a groove at the front thereof, and a clip fitting over said extension and adjustable from end to end thereof, the ends of said clip being engaged with said bead and said groove respectively.

10. A printing device comprising a frame, an extension at the upper edge of the frame having a plurality of openings therein, a clip adjustable on the frame and adapted to cover one of the openings therein, and a tab on the upper edge of the frame between said extension and the end of the frame.

JOSEPH S. DUNCAN.

Witnesses:

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