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CHECK PUNCH

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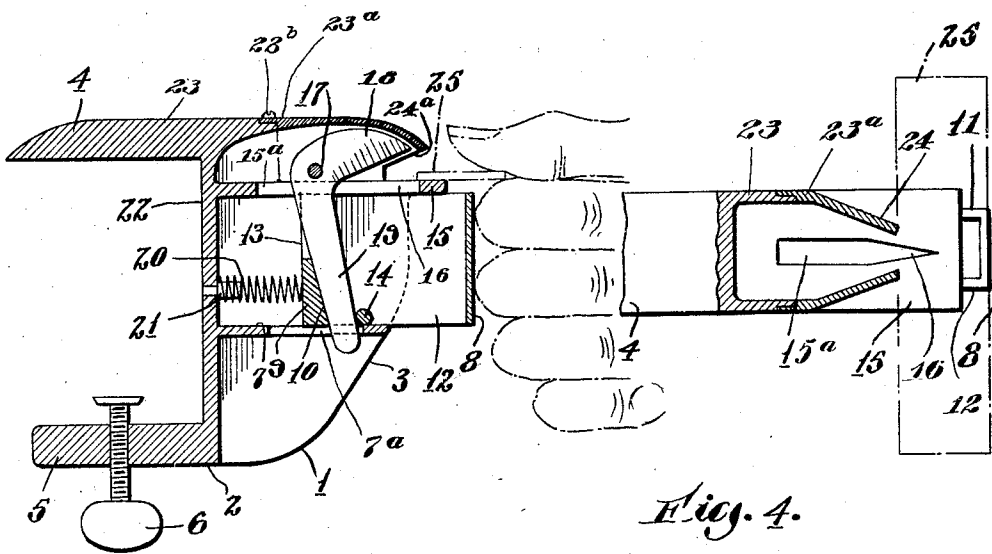
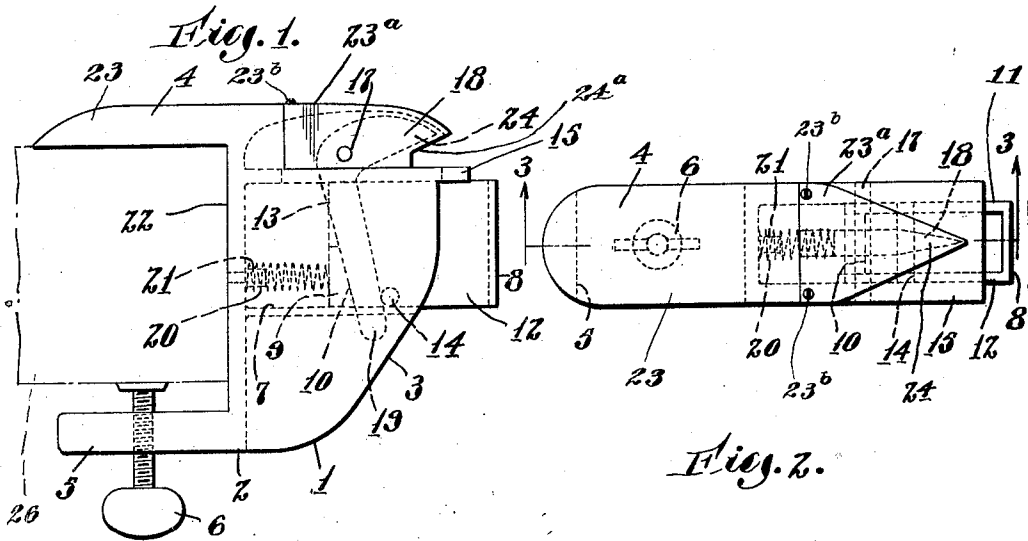


Fig. 3.

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CHECK PUNCH.

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This invention relates to improvements in check punches, particularly to punches adapted to be operated by one hand.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a simple, compact and efficient check punch especially adapted for use in lunch rooms, cafes, one-man cars and busses, street cars and other places, where quick service is an important factor and where it is a decided advantage to have one hand left entirely free to perform other work while using the punch.

Another object is to provide a check punch having means for readily operating the punching blade by using one hand only, together with means for automatically returning the operating mechanism to its initial position after operating the punch.

A further object is to provide means for assembling the operating mechanism in a compact housing in a frame and providing the frame with means for readily securing the entire structure to a counter, table, desk or other suitable support.

In order that the nature of my invention may be readily understood I have illustrated certain embodiments of the invention in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a preferred form of my improved check punch.

Figure 2 is a top plan view.

Figure 3 is a cross-section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Figure 4 is a top plan view with the hood partly removed, showing the punching plate and its opening adapted to cooperate with the punching blade.

In the drawings 1 designates a check punch comprising a frame 2 having a body portion 3, from which extend laterally upper and lower arms 4 and 5 respectively, which are spaced apart and adapted to form attaching members for securing the check punch to a counter or other fixed support, the lower arm 5 being provided with a clamping or thumb-screw 6, whereby in co-operation with the arms 4 and 5 the check punch 1 may be readily clamped to the counter or other fixed support. The body portion 3 is provided with a rectangular chamber or housing 7 adapted to inclose the punch operating mechanism, which comprises a slidable, rectangular operating member 8 open at the top and bottom and

extending beyond the frame 2, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the inner end wall 9 of which has an inclined inner surface 10 and extends only part way upward between the side walls 11 and 12, leaving thereby an open space 13 above the inner end wall 9. Extending transversely between the side walls 11 and 12 and adjacent to the inner end wall 9 is a cross-bar 14, which is positioned at the bottom of the said walls 11 and 12.

Located above the slidable operating member 8 is the punching plate 15 provided with a punching opening 15^a, which extends over the operating member 8 and is V-shaped at its front end 16. Mounted in the upper portion of the frame 2 on a pivot 17 is the punching blade 18, V-shaped in plan and adapted to co-operate with the V-shaped front end 16 of the opening 15^a in the punching plate 15, in cutting a V-shaped notch in cardboard or paper checks placed therebetween. Extending downwardly from the punching blade 18 is a depending arm 19 adapted to extend through the open space 13 between the side walls 11 and 12 of the operating member 8 and between the cross-bar 14 and the inner wall 9, against the inclined inner surface 10 of which the arm 19 is adapted to rest in its inoperative position. The depending arm 19 is adapted to co-operate alternately with the cross-bar 14 and the inner end wall 9 in causing the punching blade 18 to move alternately down and then up as the slidable operating member 8 is first pushed inwardly by the hand of the operator and then pushed outwardly by a spiral spring 20, mounted at one end on a boss 21 on the inner wall 22 of the chamber 7 and having the other end in contact with the inner end wall 9, whereby the operating member 8 is quickly and automatically returned to its initial position.

The upper portion of the frame 2 is formed into a hood 23 extending over the punching blade 18, having its front end 23^a V-shaped in plan so as to conform to the contour of the V-shaped punching blade 18 and adapted to serve as a protective cover therefor, and having its open end 24 provided with an inclined edge 24^a, whereby a cardboard or paper check 25 may be readily passed into position for punching beneath

the punching blade 18. The hood 23 may be made detachable, if so desired, in order that the punching blade 18 may be easily removed for sharpening.

5 In operation the check punch is secured to a suitable support 26, as shown in Fig. 1, and a check 25 with figures thereon indicating various amounts, held by the operator in one hand, as shown in Fig. 3, is pushed
10 forward and inserted into the punch at the desired figure through the open end 24 of the hood 23, the fingers of the operating hand at the same time contacting with and pushing the outer end of the operating member 8, by which movement both the check
15 25 and the operating member 8 are pushed forward simultaneously, the former striking and resting at the base of the inclined edge 24^a of the open end 24 of the hood 23,
20 while the operating member 8 continues in its travel. As the operating member 8 slides along in the chamber 7 the cross-bar 14 engages and pushes the depending arm 19 of the punching blade 18, thereby causing the
25 V-shaped punching blade 18 to swing down upon the check 25 and to co-operate with the edge of the V-shaped end 16 of the opening 15^a in the punching plate 15 in cutting a V-shaped notch in the check 25 at the amount
30 desired thereon. Upon withdrawing the pressure of the operator's fingers from the operating member 8 the spiral spring 20, previously compressed by the inward movement of the operating member 8, expands
35 as pressure on the operating member 8 is removed and pushes outward the operating member 8, the inner wall 9 engaging the depending arm 19 and thus pushing forward this arm, thereby swinging upward
40 the punching blade 18 and permitting the notched check to be readily withdrawn, as well as returning the operating member 8 to its initial position.

45 If so desired, a receptacle may be attached to the frame 2 below the operating chamber 7 to receive the punched out pieces of checks as they fall from the punching plate 15.

This device is particularly useful in certain lines of business, as for example, in
50 lunch rooms and cafeterias, where ordinary punches are generally used, which require both hands to operate the punch in punching a check, while by using this check punch one hand may be used to serve a customer
55 and the other hand to punch the customer's check simultaneously, thereby greatly facilitating and speeding up service, which is a very important factor, especially during rush hours when many customers are to be served.

60 It is evident, therefore, that this check punch is an efficient time and labor saving device having a wide range of utility in various lines of business to which it is adapted. While I have shown a preferred embodiment
65 of my invention it is manifest that

various modifications of the device can be made that will come within the scope of the invention.

I claim:—

1. A check punch comprising a frame having 70 mounted therein a slidable operating member, a pivoted punching blade mounted above the said operating member and having an arm downwardly extending therefrom into the said operating member, and means 75 carried by the said operating member and co-operating with the said arm for controlling alternately the down and up movement of and actuating the said punching blade.

2. A check punch comprising a frame having 80 mounted therein a slidable operating member, a pivoted punching blade mounted above the said operating member and having an arm downwardly extending therefrom into the said operating member, means carried 85 by the said operating member and co-operating with the said arm for controlling alternately the down and up movement of and actuating the said punching blade, and resilient means for pushing outward and 90 returning the said operating member to its initial position and thereby the said punching blade through the operation of the said controlling and actuating means.

3. A check punch comprising a frame 95 having mounted therein a slidable operating member, a pivoted punching blade mounted above the said operating member and having an arm downwardly extending therefrom into the said operating member, a 100 punching blade disposed above the said operating member and below the punching blade provided with a punching opening adapted to co-operate with the said punching 105 blade, and means carried by the said operating member and co-operating with the said arm for controlling alternately the down and up movement of and actuating the said punching blade.

4. A check punch comprising a frame having 110 mounted therein a slidable operating member, a pivoted punching blade mounted above the said operating member and having an arm downwardly extending therefrom into the said operating member, a 115 punching plate disposed above the said operating member and below the punching blade provided with a punching opening adapted to co-operate with the said punching blade, means carried by the said 120 operating member and co-operating with the said arm for controlling alternately the down and up movement of and actuating the said punching blade, and resilient means 125 for pushing outward and returning the said operating member to its initial position and thereby the said punching blade through the operating of the said controlling and actuating means.

5. A check punch comprising a frame pro- 130

vided with laterally extending arms, spaced apart and adapted to co-operate with a thumb-screw in the lower arm in securing the check punch to a fixed support, a slidable operating member mounted therein, a pivoted punching blade mounted above the said operating member and having an arm downwardly extending therefrom into the said operating member, and co-operating with the said arm for controlling alternately the down and up movement of and actuating the said punching blade.

6. A check punch comprising a frame having mounted therein a slidable operating member disposed within a chamber in the said frame and adapted to extend outward beyond the said frame, a pivoted punching blade mounted above the said operating member and having an arm downwardly extending therefrom into the said operating member, and means carried by the said operating member and co-operating with the said arm for controlling alternately the down and up movement and actuating the said punching blade.

7. A check punch comprising a frame, a slidable operating member adapted to slide within a chamber in the body of the said frame, a punching plate disposed above the said chamber having a punching opening therein, a punching blade pivotally mounted above the said punching plate and adapted to co-operate with the punching opening in the said plate, an arm downwardly extending from the punching blade between a cross-bar transversely disposed within the said operating member and the inner wall thereof and resilient means disposed between the inner wall of the chamber and the inner wall of the operating member.

8. A check punch comprising a frame, a slidable operating member adapted to slide within a chamber in the body of the said frame, a punching plate disposed above the said chamber having a V-shaped punching opening therein, a V-shaped punching blade pivotally mounted above the said punching plate and adapted to co-operate with the V-shaped punching opening in the said plate, an arm downwardly extending from the punching blade between a cross-bar transversely disposed within the said operating member and the inner wall thereof,

and resilient means disposed between the inner wall of the chamber and the inner wall of the operating member.

9. A check punch comprising a frame, a slidable operating member adapted to slide within a chamber in the body of the said frame, a punching plate disposed above the said chamber having a punching member therein, a punching blade pivotally mounted above the said punching plate and adapted to co-operate with the punching opening in the said plate, the said slidable operating member being so disposed in the said chamber as to have its outer end extend beyond the said frame, an arm downwardly extending from the punching blade between a cross-bar transversely disposed within the said operating member and the inner wall thereof, resilient means disposed between the inner wall of the chamber and the inner wall of the operating member, and a hood surmounting the said punching plate and punching blade and having its open end provided with an inclined edge.

10. A check punch comprising a frame, a slidable operating member adapted to slide within a chamber in the body of the said frame, the said operating member being formed with an open interior and having an inner wall extending part way between the side walls of the operating member provided with an inclined inner surface and leaving an open space thereabove, a cross-bar transversely disposed within the operating member and adjacent to the said inner wall, a punching plate disposed above the said chamber having a punching opening therein, a punching blade pivotally mounted above the said punching plate and adapted to co-operate with the punching opening in the said plate, an arm downwardly extending from the punching blade through the open space above the inner wall of the operating member down into the interior of the operating member and between the said cross-bar and the inner wall and resting in its inoperative position on the inclined inner surface of the said inner wall, and resilient means disposed between the inner wall of the chamber and the inner wall of the operating member.

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