The holder 10 assumes the form of a block-shaped body 16 which preferably has a base portion 16' of a reduced width so that it may be conveniently clamped in a vise, or the like. The upper portion of the body 16 is provided with an open-ended, horizontally extending, substantially cylindrical bore or chamber 17 which is adapted to receive therein the lock cylinder 11. One end portion of the chamber 17 may be formed with a counterbore 17' to accommodate the usual lip or flange 11' at the outer end of the lock cylinder, as will be clearly apparent.

The top of the body 16 is formed with an open slot 18 which extends longitudinally of and communicates with the top of the chamber 17, so that the bores 13 of the lock cylinder 11 are exposed through the slot for insertion of the pin elements into the bores.

The upper portion of the body 16 is formed so as to provide a pair of raised ribs or guard rails 19 along the opposite side edges of the slot 18, and a pair of shoulders 20 at the outside of the guard rails, it being noted that the shoulders 20 are spaced downwardly from the top surfaces of the guard rails.

Formed in each of the shoulders 20 is a row of pin receiving sockets 21, each socket consisting, as is best shown in FIGURE 4, of a blind drilling or aperture 22 which opens into a concave recess 23, the center of the recess being offset laterally from the center of the aperture so that when a pin P is inserted in the aperture 22, the recess 23 affords sufficient clearance for the pin to be picked up, as by tweezers, or the like.

When the device is in use, the body 16 is clamped in a vise by its base portion 16' and a lock cylinder 11 is inserted in the chamber 17 of the body. The various pin elements P which come with the cylinder in kit form to suit a particular key are then placed in the drillings 22 of the sockets 21 in a selected order whereby the pin elements in the first socket on each side of the holder are intended to be placed in the first cylinder bore, those in the second socket on each side in the second cylinder bore, etc. In this manner, the pin elements are orderly arranged and readily available for insertion in the respective bores of the lock cylinder, in coordination with the profile of the key 12 which the lock is intended to receive.

In FIGURE 5 some of the cylinder bores 13 have been shown as containing only a single pin, which may be the situation in some instances of locks operated by a standard key. However, in locks employing a standard key and one or more master keys, there may be provided the base pin element 14 and one or more of the master pin elements 15. In such event, the base pin elements 14 are usually held in place in the cylinder so that the problem of installing them is not involved. However, the master pins 15 have to be installed in the assembly, and such pins may be accommodated in the sockets 21 of the holder in appropriate orientation to the cylinder bores.

As already stated, the ribs or rails 19 rise above the shoulders 20 and their upper surfaces are disposed so that they are flush with the top of the lock cylinder 11 in the chamber 17. Thus, if any attempt should be made to file the pins after installation thereof in the bores of the cylinder, the guard rails 19 will effectively protect the cylinder from danger by the filing operation.

While in the foregoing there has been described and shown the preferred embodiment of the invention, various modifications and equivalents may become apparent to those skilled in the art to which the invention relates.

Accordingly, it is not desired to limit the invention to this disclosure, and various modifications and equivalents
may be resorted to, falling within the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed as new is:

1. An assembly holder for lock cylinders of the type having a key and a row of bores containing pins actuated by the key, said holder comprising a block-shaped body provided with a substantially cylindrical chamber adapted to receive a lock cylinder therein, said body also being formed with a slot extending longitudinally of and communicating with said chamber whereby the bores of a cylinder in the chamber may be exposed for reception of pins in the bores, and a row of pin receiving sockets provided in said body at one side of and parallel with said slot.

2. The device as defined in claim 1 together with a pair of guard rails provided on said body at opposite side edges of said slot.

3. The device as defined in claim 1 wherein each of said sockets includes a pin receiving aperture and a recess surrounding the same.

4. An assembly holder for lock cylinders of the type having a key and a row of bores containing pins actuated by the key, said holder comprising a block-shaped body having an upper portion provided with a horizontally disposed substantially cylindrical open-ended chamber adapted to receive a lock cylinder therein, the top of said body being formed with a slot extending longitudinally of and communicating with the top of said chamber whereby the bores of a cylinder in the chamber may be exposed through said slot for reception of pins in the bores, regions of said body at opposite side edges of said slot being upraised and defining a pair of guard rails, said guard rails having upper surfaces adapted to lie flush with the top of a cylinder in said chamber, regions of said body at the outside of said guard rails forming a pair of shoulders spaced downwardly from the upper surfaces of the guard rails, each of said shoulders being provided with a row of pin receiving sockets parallel to said slot.

5. The device as defined in claim 4 wherein each of said sockets includes a pin receiving aperture and a recess surrounding the same.

6. The device as defined in claim 4 wherein said body is formed at one end of said chamber with a counterbore for reception of a flanged end of a lock cylinder.

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