D. F. FESLER.

CHECK PROTECTOR.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 2, 1916.

1,197,279.

Patented Sept. 5, 1916.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

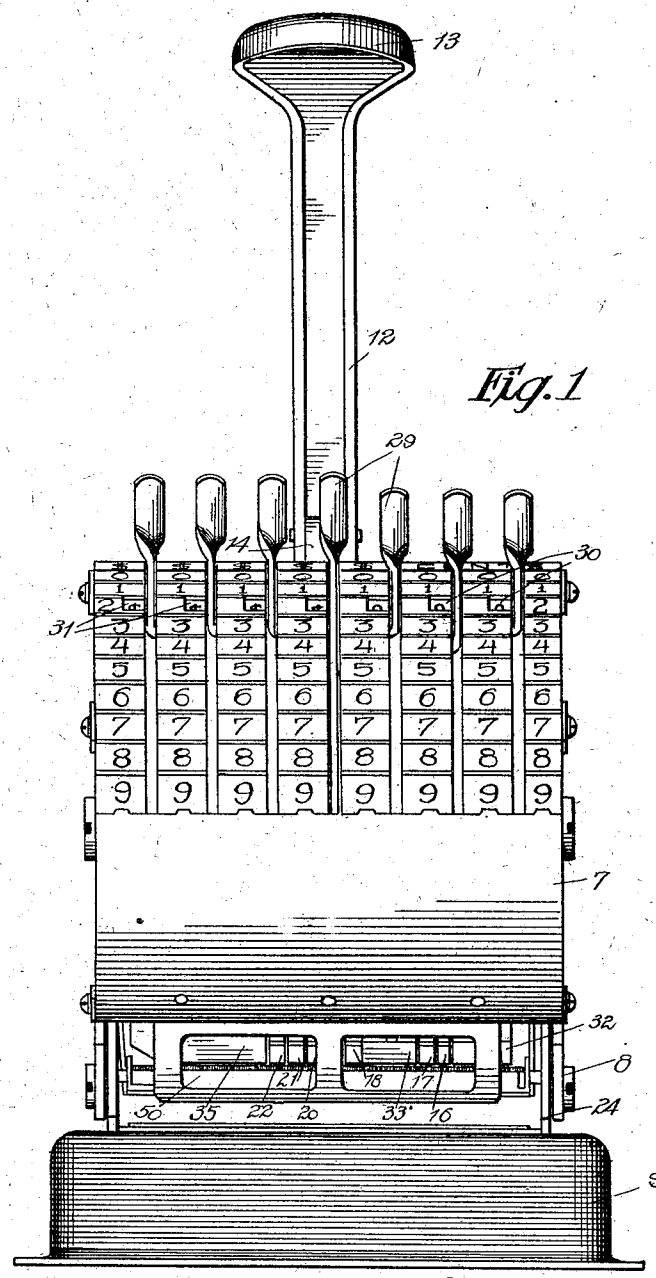


Fig. 1

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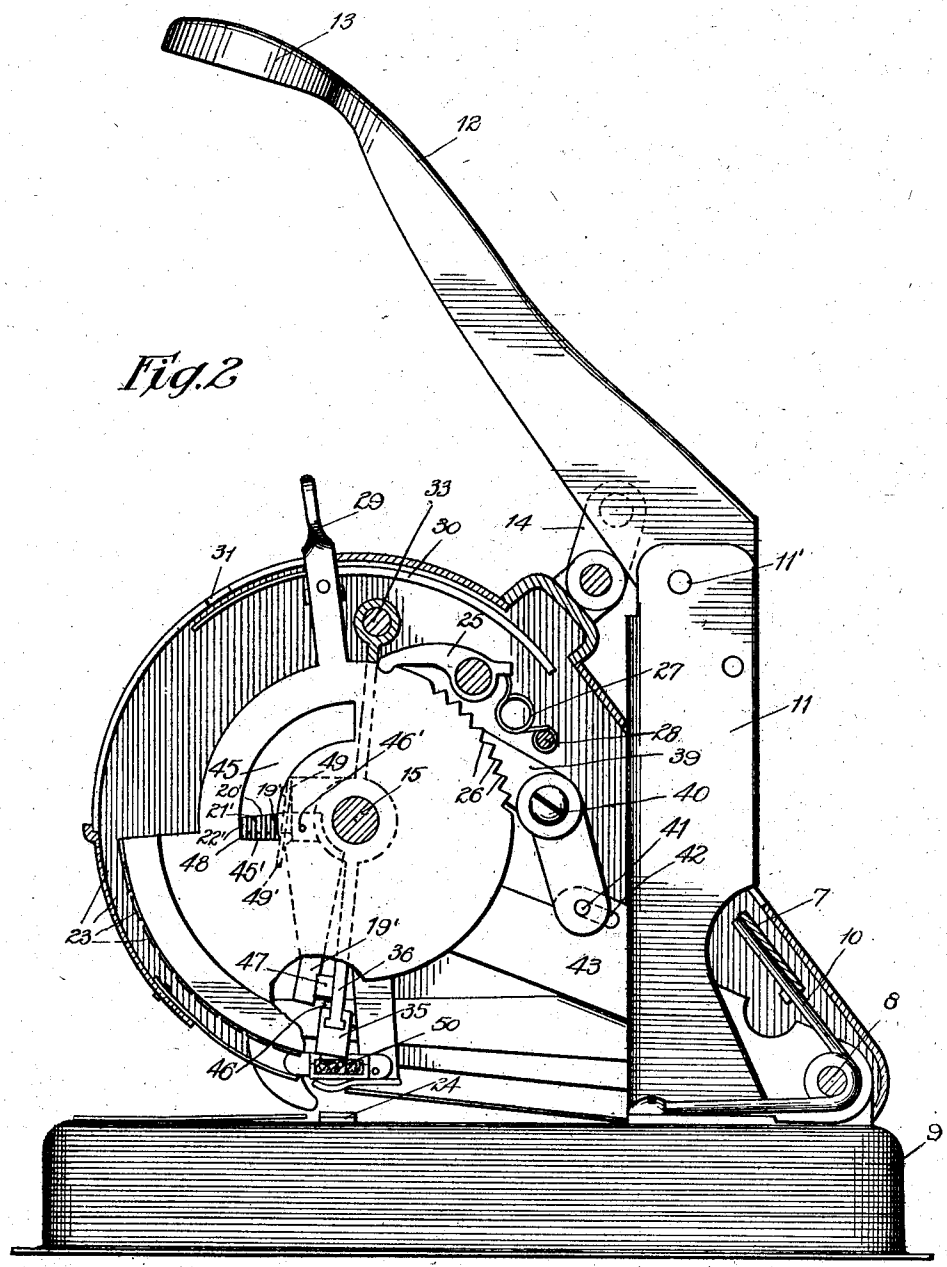
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2



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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

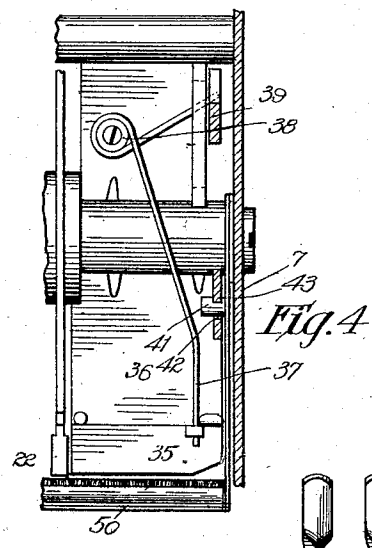


Fig. 4

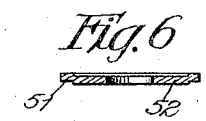


Fig. 6

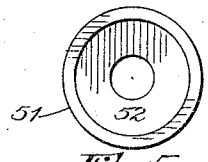


Fig. 5

Fig. 3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CHECK-PROTECTOR.

1,197,279. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 5, 1916.

Application filed March 2, 1916. Serial No. 81,604.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DOUGLAS F. FESLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Check-Protectors, of which the following is a full, clear, concise, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

My invention relates to check protectors and has for its object the provision of certain improved constructions to be fully described hereinafter.

The device of my invention consists generally of a base, a housing pivoted to the base so as to rock thereon, and a plurality of printing members carried by the housing arranged to be moved toward the base to stamp an amount upon a check.

It is an object of my invention to provide certain improved means for causing indicia to be printed at the left of the highest denomination character printed upon the check, so that the possibility of an additional character being surreptitiously added to the amount printed is prevented. With this object in view I provide a movable limiting type bar, which may contain any suitable indicia such as "Pay $" and which is moved just before the printing operation takes place immediately adjacent but not against the set printing member of highest order, so that no strain or tendency to distort the printing member is obtained.

A further object of this invention is to provide spacing means between the several printing members which can be cheaply manufactured and accurately made regardless of whether the material of which they are stamped is uniformly of the same thickness.

These and other features of my invention will be more clearly understood by referring to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevational view of the check protector of my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 3, and looking in the direction indicated by the arrows. Fig. 3 is a front view of the machine showing some of the parts broken away to more clearly illustrate the construction of the several parts. Fig. 4 is a detailed view of the limiting type bar and its coöperating spring. This view is taken from the rear of the machine. Fig. 5 is a side view of one of the spacing washers used to space the printing segments, and Fig. 6 is a cross sectional view thereof.

Similar characters of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

The device consists of a housing 7, pivoted on the rod 8 to the base 9, so that the housing is permitted to rock relative to the base. A spring 10 winding around the rod 8 is interposed between the housing and the base, as illustrated in Fig. 2, and tends normally to hold the housing away from the base. Carried by the base is a support or pedestal 11 to which is pivoted at 11′ an actuating lever 12, provided with the hand piece 13. This lever is connected by means of the link 14 with the housing, so that downward movement of the lever 12 will cause downward movement of the housing.

The housing is provided with a shaft 15 upon which is rotatably mounted a plurality of printing segments illustrated in Fig. 3 at 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22, each of which carries type 23 which are provided with ridges or corrugations arranged to mesh with the ridges or corrugations provided on the platen 24, carried by the base 9. The printing segments 19 to 22 inclusive are normally out of printing alinement, that is, normally out of alinement with the platen 24, which position is illustrated in Fig. 2. To hold the printing segments in any position to which they may be moved, I provide a series of pawls 25, each one coöperating with a printing segment which carries a series of notches 26, one notch for each of the type 23. The springs 27 are interpositioned between the rod 28 in the pawls to retain the pawls in engagement with the printing segments. Each one of the segments is provided with a finger piece 29, which extends upwardly through a slot in the housing where it can be manipulated by the operator for setting the segment to any desired position. A plate 30 is carried by each of the finger pieces on which numerals are printed. The housing is cut away at portions indicated at 31 to enable the operator to ascertain the amount to which the device is set, the numerals contained on the

plate 30 corresponding with the type. A stationary type member is illustrated at 32 carried by the shaft 15 and connected also with a rod 33 provided above the printing segments. This type member is arranged to print or cut upon the check some indicia to the right of the lowest denomination printed and may contain, if desired, the character "cts" indicating "cents." A second stationary type member may, if desired, be provided at 33′ to print the word "and" so as to form a definite division between the dollar characters and cent characters. I have arranged the printing segments 16, 17, and 18 so that when they are in their normal or home position they will print "0." The other four printing segments 19 to 22, as has been stated, are normally out of the printing line, so that if none of the printing segments is set the segments 16, 17 and 18 are the only ones which will print.

The limiting type bar 35 is slidably mounted upon the support 36, also carried by the shaft 15 and supporting rod 33. The lower end of the support 36 has a T shaped cross section, as most clearly illustrated in Fig 2, extending into a T shaped slot provided in the upper end of the sliding limiting type bar. This bar may contain any indicia desired, such as, for example, "Pay $." The outer end of the sliding type bar 35 is connected with the lower end of a spring 37 pivotally connected at 38 to the support 36. The other end of this spring extends outwardly and is connected with a bell crank lever 39 pivoted at 40 to the side wall of the housing. The lower arm of this bell crank lever contains a pin 41, extending into a slot 42 provided in a stationary arm 43 extending upwardly from the base 9.

From the construction thus far described it will be seen that upon depressing the actuating lever 12 the bell crank lever 39 will be swung in a counter clockwise direction (Fig. 2) to press upon the spring 37, the tension tending to move the type bar 35 toward the printing members. Upon releasing the actuating lever the spring 10 returns the housing to normal position, whereupon the bell crank 39 and thus the spring 37 is returned to again slide the type bar to the position illustrated in Fig. 3.

I shall now describe the mechanism for stopping the type bar at the desired point without in any way placing upon the printing segments a strain tending to distort and thus to place the segments out of alinement with the ridges or corrugations provided in the platen. Each one of the segments 19 to 22 inclusive is provided with an arcuated slot 45, each registering with the arcuated slot of the printing segment positioned adjacent to it. Pivoted upon the rod 46′ is a series of bell crank stop members 19′, 20′, 21′ and 22′, each having its lower end extending downwardly and arranged to be brought into the path of travel of the lug 46 provided on the upper face of the type bar. The lower ends of the bell crank levers are always positioned between the blocks 47—47, so that bending of the bell cranks is prevented. The upper arm of the bell crank 19′ extends through the slots 45 of the segments 20, 21 and 22 into the slot 45 of the segment 19, and rests upon the lower wall 45′ of the slot provided in this last mentioned segment. Similarly the upper arm of the bell crank 20′ extends through the slots 45 of the segments 22 and 21 and into the slot 45 of the segment 20, the bell crank 21′, through the slot of the segment 22 and into the slot of the segment 21 and the bell crank 22′ into the slot 45 in the segment 22. Each of the upper arms of the bell cranks carry a downward extension 48, the purpose of which will be presently described.

Normally tending to rotate the bell cranks in a counter clockwise direction, (Fig. 2) or in a direction to press the lower ends or arms of the bell cranks into the path of travel of the limiting type bar, is a spring member 49 in the form of a plate, punched out to form a series of spring arms 49′—49′ resting against the lower or downwardly extending arms of the bell cranks. Now, if the printing segment 19 is set or rotated about the shaft 15, which, of course, must be counter clockwise (Fig. 2) since rotation in the other direction when in its normal position is prevented by the housing, the wall 45′ of the arcuated slot 45 will be moved away from the upper arm of the bell crank lever 19′. The spring 49′ coöperating with this bell crank, will, therefore, move the lower arm thereof into the path of travel of the limiting type bar, or, in other words, in alinement with the stop 46. If the lever 12 is then actuated, the sidewise movement of the limiting type bar will be stopped when the lug 46 strikes the lower arm of the bell crank 19′. The downward extensions 48 hold the upper arms of the bell cranks normally above the walls 45′ of the arcuated slots in the printing segments of higher denomination, so that when one of the segments is set its associated bell crank is permitted to move into the position to limit travel of the type bar. If the segment 19 is the only one of the four segments 19 to 22 inclusive, which is set, the limiting type bar 35 will upon actuation of the lever 12 move up to but not touch the segment 19 and thus avoid distortion of the segment, as would be the case if the stops 19′ to 22′ were not employed. If the segment 20 is set the bell crank 20′ will stop movement of the bar and so on. The type carried by the sliding type bar is also provided with ridges or corrugations arranged

to mesh with the ridges of the platen, so that it is very important that the type bar be stopped at particular places.

An ink pad is illustrated at 50, which, when the housing is in its up position, presses against the type faces of the printing segments as the segments are rotated. I have not disclosed the mechanism for operating the ink pad in detail, but it will suffice to say that the ink pad is moved upon downward movement of the housing and segments away from the type to permit engagement between the type and the platen. Since the ridges or corrugations of the type carried by the segments must mesh with the ridges provided in the platen, it is necessary that the printing segments be spaced or positioned at particular points along the shaft 15. Figs. 5 and 6 illustrate an improved spacing washer, which can be cheaply manufactured and which serves the purpose of accurately positioning the printing segments. These washers are disposed between two of the printing segments, as illustrated at 51, and encircle the shaft 15. The inner portion 52 of these washers during the process of manufacture is first stamped downwardly beyond that illustrated in Fig. 6, and then placed between two members and squeezed or pressed to the desired thickness, which thickness is the space desired between the printing segments. It very often occurs that the material of which the washers are made varies in thickness, so that the cheapest and most accurate way to make spacing washers from it is by stamping the washers, as described, to provide an offset portion.

Although I have described and illustrated but one embodiment of my invention, it can readily be seen that modifications thereof can be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is:

1. A machine of the class described comprising ordered marking elements normally out of printing position and having numerals consecutively arranged thereon, a movable limiting type bar positioned adjacent the marking element of highest denomination, means for moving any of the marking elements into printing position and a plurality of stops for the limiting type bar controlled by the marking elements for limiting movement of the bar.

2. A machine of the class described comprising ordered marking elements having numerals consecutively arranged thereon, a movable limiting type bar positioned adjacent the marking element of highest denomination, means for setting any of the marking elements and a stop for the limiting type bar controlled by the marking elements for limiting movement of the bar.

3. A machine of the class described comprising ordered marking elements normally out of printing position and having numerals consecutively arranged thereon, a movable limiting type bar positioned adjacent the marking element of highest denomination, means for moving any of the marking elements into printing position, a platen, a plurality of stops for the limiting type bar controlled by the marking elements for limiting movement of the bar and devices for automatically moving the type bar against one of the stops adjacent to the set marking element of highest denomination when the marking elements are moved toward the platen.

4. A check protector comprising a base, a casing pivoted to the base and arranged to rock relative thereto, a plurality of printing members pivotally carried by the casing, a platen for the members mounted on the base, the printing members being normally out of alinement with the platen, a limiting type bar slidably carried by the casing and positioned adjacent the member of highest order and in alinement with the platen, means for setting any of the printing members and a plurality of stops controlled by the printing members for limiting the movement of the type bar.

5. A check protector comprising a base, a casing pivoted to the base and arranged to rock relative thereto, a plurality of printing segments pivotally carried by the casing, a platen for the segments mounted on the base, the segments being normally out of alinement with the platen, a limiting type bar slidably carried by the casing and positioned adjacent the segment of highest order and in alinement with the platen, means for setting any of the segments, a plurality of type bar stops controlled by the segments for limiting movement of the type bar, and devices for automatically moving the type bar toward the set printing member of highest order and against a stop when the printing members are moved toward the platen.

6. A check protector comprising a base, a casing pivoted thereto, a plurality of printing members pivotally carried by the casing, a platen for the members, the members being normally out of alinement with the platen, a movable limiting type bar carried by the casing and positioned adjacent the printing member of highest order, a type bar stop for each of the printing members normally out of the path of travel of the limiting type bar, and means for moving a stop into operating position when its associated printing member is set.

7. A check protector comprising a base, a casing pivoted thereto, a plurality of printing members pivotally carried by the casing, a platen therefor, the members being

normally out of alinement with the platen, a slidable limiting type bar carried by the casing and positioned adjacent the printing member of highest order, a type bar stop for each of the printing members normally out of the path of travel of the limiting type bar, means for moving a stop into operating position when its associated printing member is set, and devices for automatically sliding the type bar toward the set printing member of highest order and against the set stop when the printing members are moved toward the platen.

8. A device of the class described comprising a base, a casing pivoted thereto, a plurality of printing members pivotally carried by the casing, a platen therefor, the members being normally out of alinement with the platen, a slidable limiting type bar carried by the casing and positioned adjacent the printing member of highest order, a type bar stop for each of the printing members normally out of the path of travel of the limiting type bar, means for moving a stop into operating position when its associated printing member is set, and yieldable means for automatically moving the type bar toward the set printing member of highest order and against the set stop when the printing members are moved toward the platen.

9. A device of the class described having a plurality of printing members rotatably mounted on a shaft, a movable limiting type bar and a type bar stop for each of the printing members held by its member normally out of the path of travel of the type bar and caused to move into the path of the same when its associated printing member is set.

10. A device of the class described comprising a shaft, a plurality of printing segments rotatably mounted thereon, each being provided with a slot, a movable limiting type bar normally positioned adjacent the printing segment of highest order, a type bar stop for each segment extending into the slot provided therein and normally held by the wall of the slot out of the path of travel of the type bar, and spring means tending to move the stops into the path of travel of the type bar, whereby a stop is moved to operating position when its cooperating printing segment is set.

11. A check protector comprising a base, a housing pivoted thereto, a shaft carried by the housing, a plurality of printing segments rotatably carried by the shaft and having numerals consecutively arranged thereon, each of the segments being provided with an arcuated slot registering with the slot of the adjacent segment, a platen mounted on the base, a slidable limiting type bar carried by the housing and positioned adjacent the printing segment of highest denomination, a plurality of bell cranks, one for each segment, pivoted adjacent the printing segment of highest denomination, each having one of its arms adapted to be moved into the path of travel of the limiting type bar, and its other arm extending into the arcuated slot of its cooperating segment and normally held by the segment in non-operating position, the bell cranks coöperating with the segments of lower orders extending through the arcuated slots of the segments of higher orders, spring means for moving a bell crank to operating position when it is released by the movement of its printing segment, and devices for automatically sliding the limiting type bar toward the set printing member of highest denomination and against its coöperating bell crank when the segments are moved toward the platen.

12. A check protector comprising a base, a housing pivoted thereto, a shaft carried by the housing, a plurality of printing segments rotatably carried by the shaft and having numerals consecutively arranged thereon, each of the segments being provided with an arcuated slot registering with the slot of the adjacent segment, a platen mounted on the base, a slidable limiting type bar carried by the housing and positioned adjacent the printing segment of highest order, a plurality of bell cranks, one for each segment, for limiting movement of the type bar pivoted adjacent the printing segment of highest order, each having one of its arms adapted to be moved into the path of travel of the limiting type bar and its other arm extending into the arcuated slot of its coöperating segment and normally held by the segment in non-operating position, the bell cranks coöperating with the segments of lower order extending through the arcuated slots of the segments of higher order, spring means for moving a bell crank to operating position when it is released by the movement of its printing segment, and yieldable means for sliding the limiting type bar toward the set printing member of highest order and against its coöperating bell crank when the segments are moved toward the platen.

13. A machine of the class described comprising ordered marking elements normally out of printing position and having numerals arranged thereon, a bar positioned adjacent the marking element of highest order and movable transversely of the planes in which said marking elements operate, means for moving any of the marking elements into printing position, and devices controlled by the marking elements for limiting movement of the aforesaid bar.

14. A check protector comprising ordered marking elements normally out of printing position and having numerals arranged

thereon, a bar positioned adjacent the marking element of highest order and movable transversely of the planes in which said marking elements operate, means for moving any of the marking elements into printing position, and a plurality of stops for said bar controlled by the marking elements for limiting movement of said bar.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 26th day of February, A. D. 1916.

DOUGLAS F. FESLER.

Witnesses:
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H. A. Neiburger.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."