March 23, 1971 J. E. WATERMAN 3,572,241

IMPRINTING DEVICE

Filed Sept. 22, 1969 4 Sheets-Sheet 1

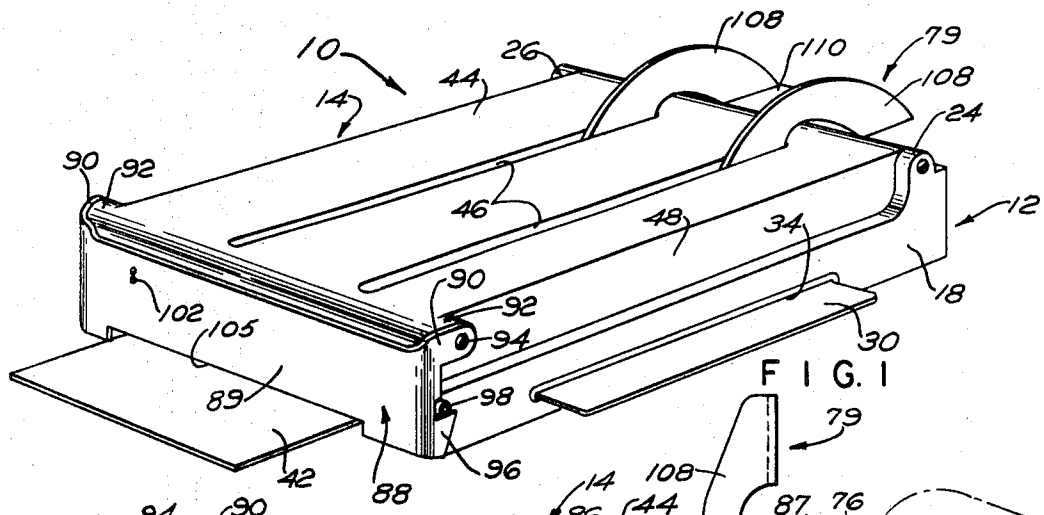


FIG. 1

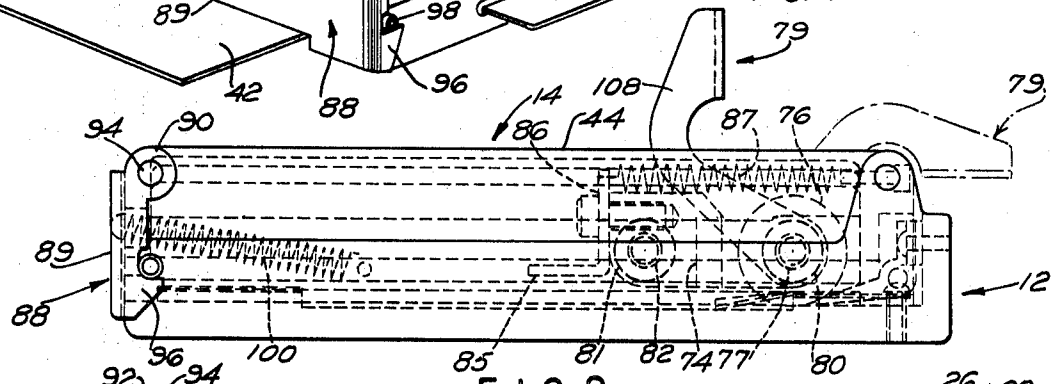


FIG. 2

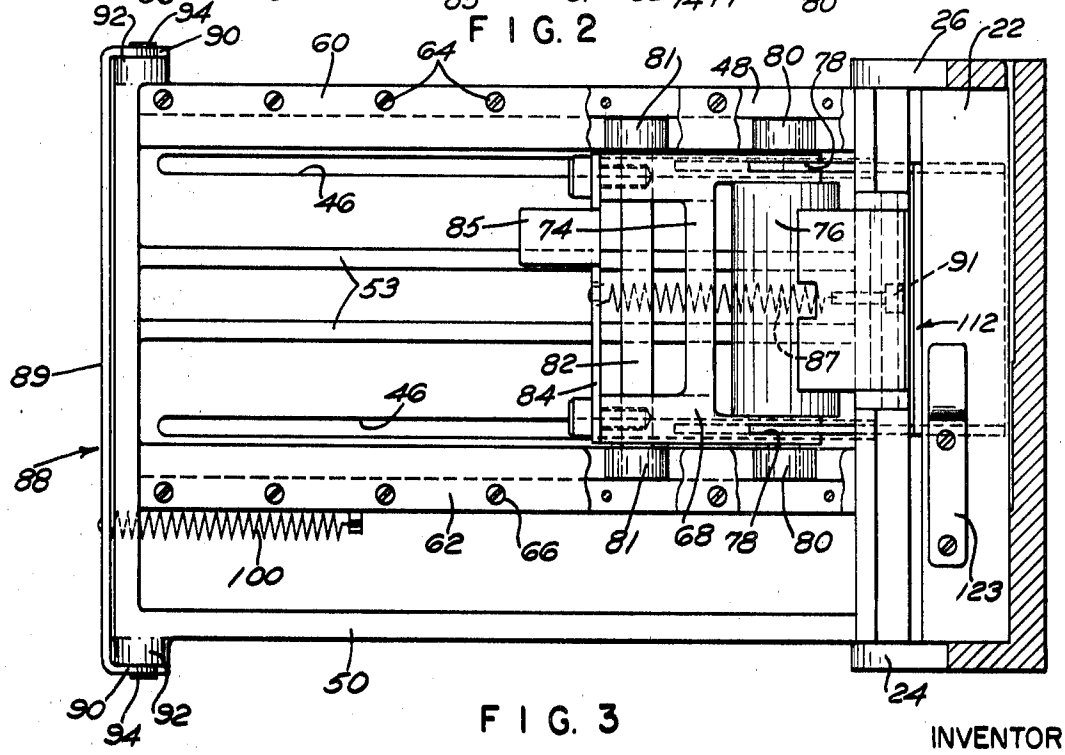


FIG. 3

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IMPRINTING DEVICE

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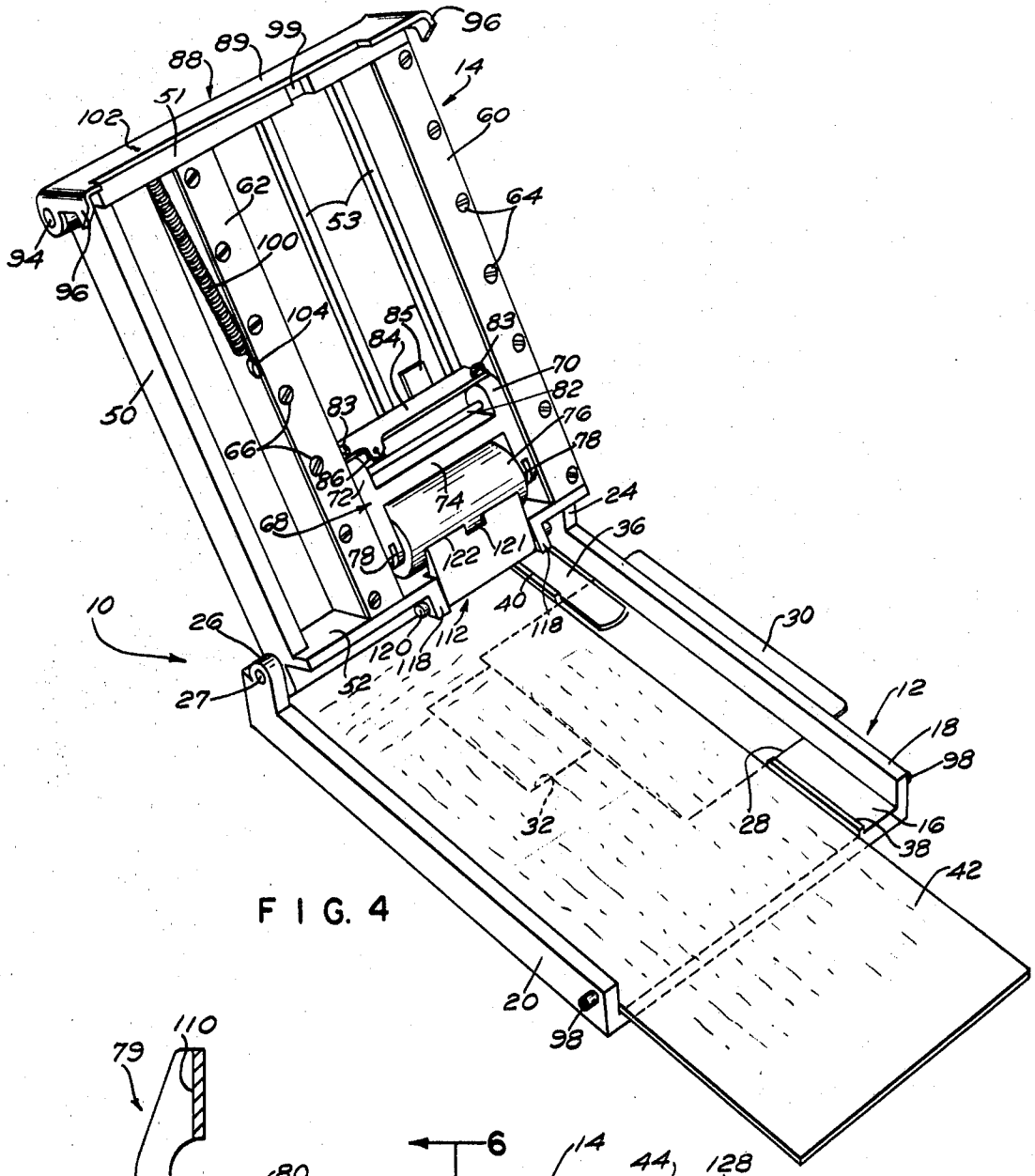


FIG. 4

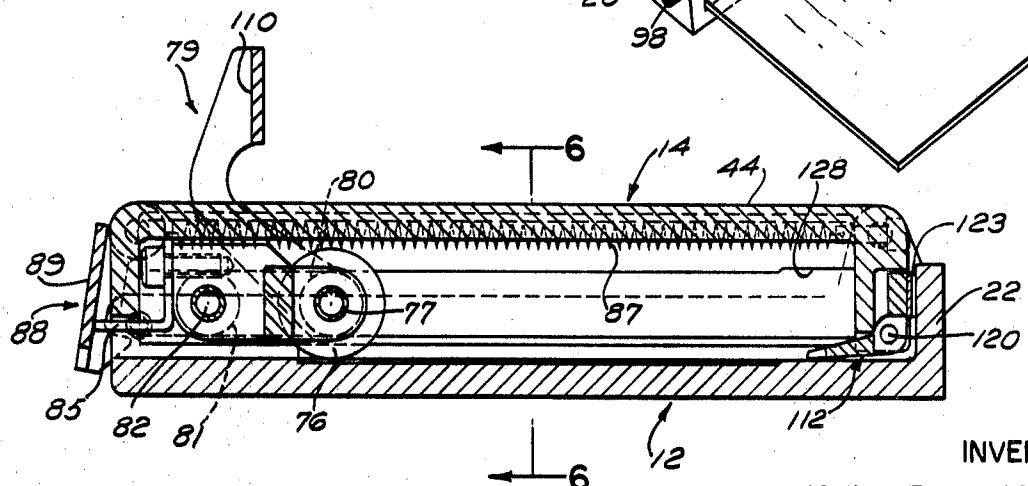


FIG. 5

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IMPRINTING DEVICE

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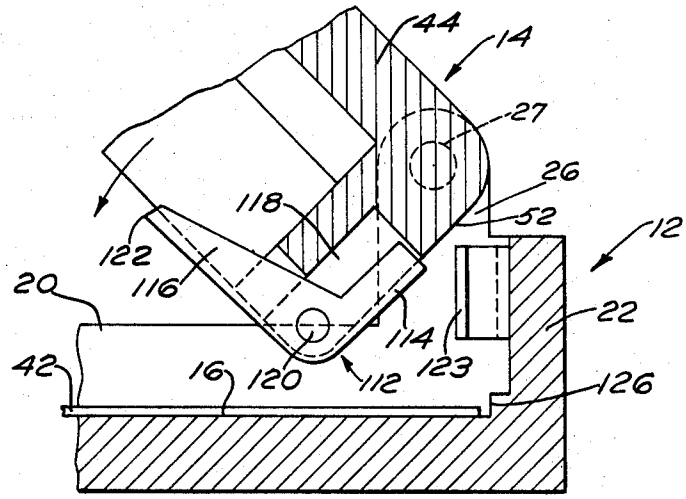


FIG. 7

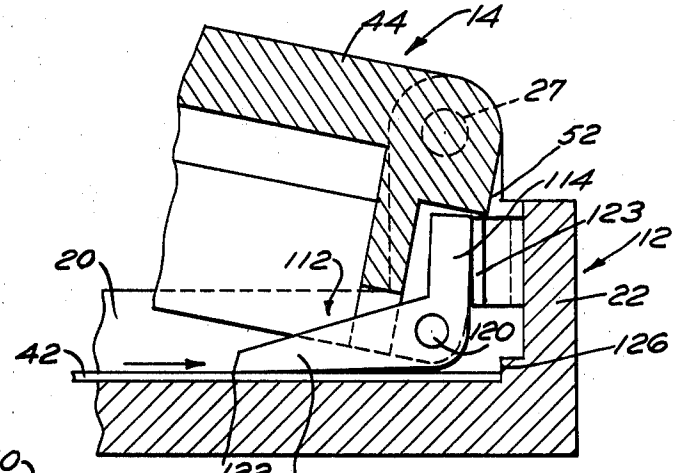


FIG. 8

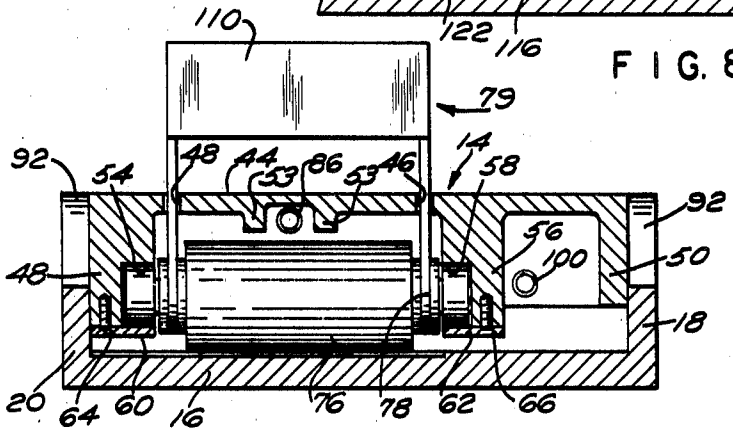


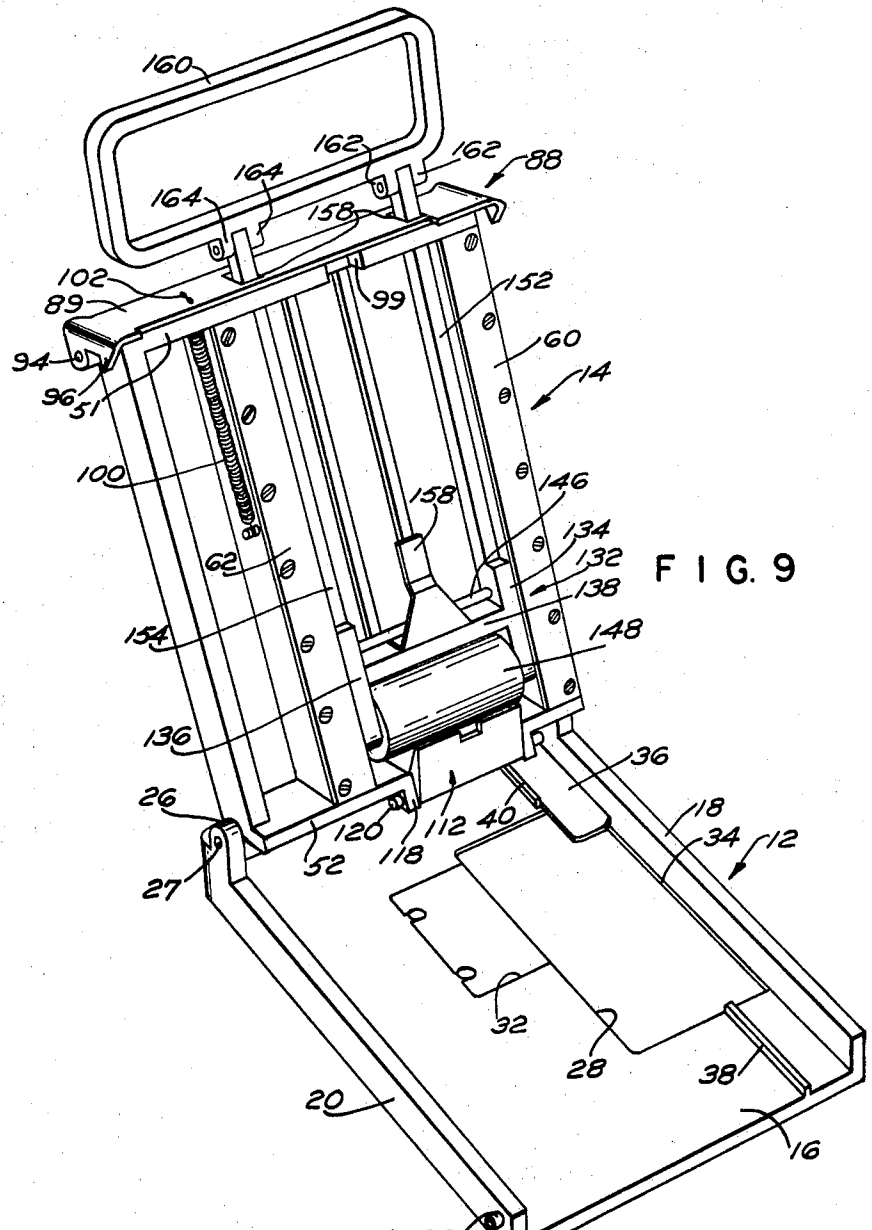
FIG. 6

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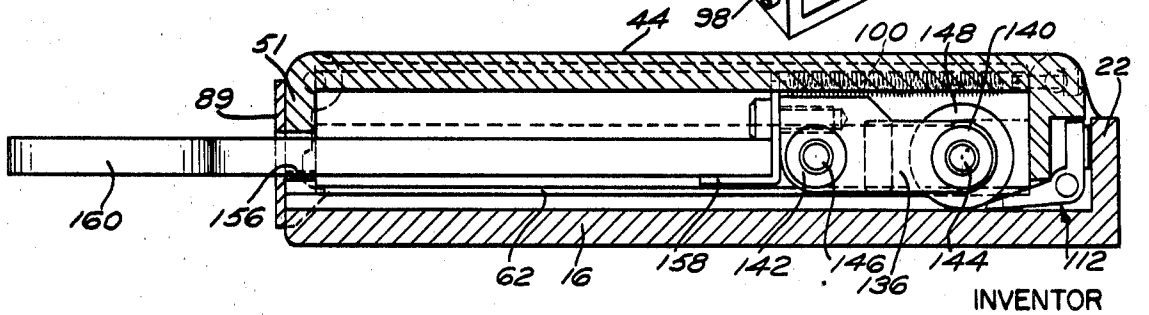
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IMPRINTING DEVICE

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F I G. 9



F I G. 10

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United States Patent Office 3,572,241
Patented Mar. 23, 1971

3,572,241

IMPRINTING DEVICE

John E. Waterman, Chepachet, R.I., assignor to The Entwistle Company, Providence, R.I.

Filed Sept. 22, 1969, Ser. No. 859,770
Int. Cl. B41f 3/04
U.S. Cl. 101—269 18 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An imprinting device for transferring indicia from an embossed printing plate to a paper form, the device being portable in use in that it is sufficiently small enough to be carried in the hand or pocketbook of the user or in a holster on the user, and that includes a transfer roller assembly and a carriage that is readily movable in the imprinting operation, and that further includes a clamp for locating the paper form in the imprinting position when the cover of the device is latched to the base thereof.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention has particular application for transferring information from an embossed plate such as a credit card to a paper form after dispensing of services or the sale of merchandise or the like.

In recent times credit card imprinting devices have been used with increasing frequency because of the trend to credit merchandising. Prior to the instant invention, these devices have normally incorporated a movable roller that is translated over a multiple copy paper form that overlies the credit card, whereby information relating to the customer is transferred from the credit card to the copies of the paper form. Such devices are in common use in gasoline stations, department stores, banks, airline counters and at various other establishments wherever goods or services are dispensed. These prior-known devices were usually of a size that required placement on a counter or the like, and, although they may have been portable in use in that they could be moved from one location to another, they were not portable for carrying in the pocket or purse of an individual or for operation in the hand of an individual. Thus, the prior-known devices had the disadvantage of being located in a relatively permanent position in the use thereof.

The prior-known imprinting devices have been generally satisfactory for the purpose intended, although in the use thereof, it was necessary to precisely position the paper form on a plate before the imprinting operation, or else the information on the credit card would not be properly transferred to the paper form. Because the prior-known devices were relatively large in size they also included many parts that necessarily complicated the structure and resulted in an expensive construction.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention comprises an inexpensive portable imprinting device that is operable in the hand of the user, that may be carried in the pocketbook or in a holster of the user and that is constructed with relatively few parts. The device includes a base to which a cover is pivotally connected. The base receives a credit card therein on which a paper form is adapted to be placed in overlying relation, a paper clamp pivotally connected to the cover being movable into engaging relation with the paper form upon closing of the cover on the base to positively locate the paper form in the imprinting position. A unique handle construction, connectable to a carriage that carries an imprinting roller, is movable in a longitudinal direction by the user of the device for carrying the imprinting roller over the paper

form in an imprinting operation. As the imprinting roller reaches the end of the imprinting operation, a latch release mechanism automatically disconnects the cover from the base for releasing the cover and thereby enabling the paper form to be readily removed from the device for further handling.

Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a portable imprinting device for transferring information from an embossed printing plate to a paper form.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a portable imprinting device that is operable in the hand of the user and that includes a cover that is pivotally connected to a base, the latching of the cover to the base locating the paper form in the required imprinting position wherein it is ready for the imprinting operation.

Still another object is to provide an imprinting device having a base and a cover pivotally connected thereto and including a paper clamp that is operable to locate a paper form in the appropriate imprinting position upon closing of the cover on the base.

Still another object is to provide an imprinting device in which an embossed printing plate is employed for transferring information to a paper form, the printing plate being inserted through a slot in the base and a latch mechanism providing for securement of the cover to the base, the latch mechanism being automatically released upon completion of the imprinting operation.

Still another object is to provide an imprinting device that includes a carriage on which a printing roller is rotatably mounted, the carriage being connectable to a handle that is readily accessible for moving the carriage and roller in an imprinting operation.

Other objects, features and advantages of the invention will become apparent as the description thereof proceeds when considered in connection with the accompanying illustrative drawings.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In the drawings which illustrate the best mode presently contemplated for carrying out the instant invention:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the imprinting device embodied in the present invention showing the cover thereof in the latched position and prior to the imprinting operation;

FIG. 2 is a side elevational view of the imprinting device, the handle thereof, as shown in full lines, being located in position for the imprinting operation;

FIG. 3 is a bottom plan view of the cover of the imprinting device, portions of the base that is pivotally connected to the cover being shown in elevation and in section;

FIG. 4 is a perspective view showing the cover of the device in the open position, a printing plate and paper form being located in the base in the imprinting position;

FIG. 5 is a sectional view of the imprinting device showing the location of the carriage and printing roller following completion of the imprinting operation and further showing the release of the cover latching element;

FIG. 6 is a sectional view, taken along line **6—6** in FIG. 5;

FIG. 7 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view of the cover and base, with the cover shown in the open position;

FIG. 8 is a view similar to FIG. 7 showing the cover being moved to the closed position and further illustrating the action of the paper clamp as it is pivotally moved against the paper form for locating the paper form in the required imprinting position thereof;

FIG. 9 is a perspective view similar to FIG. 4 illustrating a modified form of the operating handle and carriage assembly joined thereto; and

FIG. 10 is a sectional view of the modified form of the invention with the cover shown in the latched position.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Referring now to the drawings, and particularly to FIGS. 1 through 8, one form of the imprinting device embodied in the present invention is illustrated, and is generally indicated at **10**. As will be described, the imprinting device **10** is designed principally for use with a printing plate of the type that is generally associated with credit cards and that includes embossed printing thereon that provides for transfer of the information on the printing plate to a paper form having carbon sheets interposed between paper sheets. The printing plate and the paper form are of conventional construction and the details thereof do not form any part of the present invention.

The imprinting device **10** includes a base, generally indicated at **12**, to which a cover, generally indicated at **14**, is pivotally connected. As shown in FIG. 4, the base **12** is defined by a bottom wall **16** to which opposed upwardly extending side walls **18** and **20** are joined. As further illustrated in FIG. 5, a rear wall **22** is joined to the bottom wall **16** and the side walls **18** and **20**. Formed integral with the side walls **18** and **20** are upwardly extending ear portions **24** and **26**, that are formed with convenient openings for receiving pivot pins **27** which interconnect the cover **14** to the base **12** in pivotal relation.

Formed in the upper surface of the bottom wall **16** is a recess **28** that is shaped and dimensioned to accommodate a printing plate or credit card indicated at **30** in FIG. 4. A second or smaller recess **32** accommodates an identifying plate that is permanently secured to the bottom wall **16** and will have information imprinted thereon relating to the organization or company with which the imprinting device **10** is used. In order to conveniently insert the printing plate **30** into the recess **28**, the side wall **18** of the base **12** is formed with a suitable slot **34**, and as illustrated in FIG. 4, the recess **28** is dimensioned so as to prevent complete insertion of the plate **30** through the slot **34**. The exposed edge of the plate **30** provides for easy removal thereof after the imprinting operation. A leaf spring **36** is fixed to the bottom wall **16** adjacent to the slot **34** and overlies the printing plate **30** when it is inserted into the recess **28**, thereby retaining the printing plate in the imprinting position during operation of the device. As further illustrated in FIG. 4, longitudinal ribs **38** and **40** are joined to the bottom wall **16** and are spaced from the inside surface of the side wall **20** to provide guide means for locating a paper form, such as indicated at **42**, in oriented imprinting position within the base **12**. Thus it is seen that when an imprinting operation is to be carried out, the printing plate **30** is placed within the recess **28** by sliding it through the slot **34** and under the spring **36**, and the paper form **42** is placed over the printing plate **30** on the bottom wall **16** of the base and in the space defined between the ribs **38** and **40** and the side wall **20**.

The cover **14** which contains the operating mechanism of the device includes a top wall **44** in which longitudinally extending slots **46** are formed. Joined to the top wall **44** are side walls **48** and **50**, a front wall **51** and a rear wall **52** also being joined to the side walls **48** and **50** and to the top wall **44**. As shown in FIG. 4, the side walls **48** and **50** receive the pins **27** therein that extend through the ear portions **24** and **26** of the base for pivotally connecting the cover **14** to the base **12**. The top wall also includes a pair of longitudinally extending ribs **53** that define strengthening members for the top wall. As more clearly illustrated in FIGS. 5 and 6, the side wall **48** of the cover **14** is formed with an internal shoulder that defines a track **54**. An intermediate wall **56** is joined to the top wall **44** in parallel relation to the side walls **48** and **50** and is also formed with a shoulder that defines a second track **58** that is spaced from the track **54** in parallel relation. Overlying the tracks **54** and **58** are elongated gibs **60** and **62** respectively that are secured to the walls **50** and **56** by a plurality of screws **64** and **66** respectively, the gibs **60** and **62** acting to capture the guide rolls on the tracks **54** and **58** as will be described hereinafter. As more clearly illustrated in FIGS. 5 and 6, the tracks **54** and **58** are formed with recessed areas **67** adjacent to the end wall **52**, the purpose of which will also be set forth hereinafter.

Referring again to FIG. 4, a carriage, generally indicated at **68** is illustrated, and as shown is mounted for movement within the cover **14** in a longitudinal direction and includes a frame having an "H" configuration defined by side members **70** and **72** to which a cross member **74** is joined. A printing roller **76** is mounted for rotation between the side members **70** and **72** on a shaft **77** that is received in appropriate openings in said side members. Inclined slots **78** (FIG. 3) are formed in the side members **70** and **72** and provide for pivotal movement of a handle **79** that is connected to the carriage **68** as will be described. In order to provide for longitudinal movement of the carriage **68** and the roller **76** carried thereby, sets of guide rollers **80** and **81** (FIG. 3) are provided and are rotatably mounted on shafts **77** and **82** that are received in the side members **70** and **72**. The rollers **80** and **81** are located exteriorly of the side members **70**, **72** on the shafts **77** and **82** and are movable on the tracks **54** and **58** for guiding the carriage **68** and the printing roller **76** in a longitudinal direction in the imprinting operation. The gibs **60** and **62** enclose the rollers **80** and **81** within the tracks **54** and **58** and insure movement of the rollers on the tracks.

Joined to the side members **70** and **72** of the carriage **68** by fastener nuts **83** and spaced from the shaft **82** is a thin plate **84** to which a latch knock-off member **85** is joined. As will be set forth hereinafter, the latch knock-off member **85** functions to release the cover **14** from the latched position on the base **12** upon completion of the imprinting operation. Also formed on the plate **84** is an eyelet projection **86** in which an opening is formed. One end of a spring **87** is received in the opening on the projection **86**, while the other end of the spring **87** is connected to a bolt **91** fixed to the end wall **52** of the cover **14**. It is seen that the spring **87** provides for biased movement of the carriage **68** as it is moved in an imprinting operation, and will further act to return the carriage **68** to the position illustrated in FIG. 4 after the imprinting operation.

In order to locate the cover **14** in a latched position on the base **12** during an imprinting operation, a latch generally indicated at **88** is provided and, as shown in FIG. 1, the latch **88** is defined by a plate **89** to which rearwardly extending ears **90** are joined, the ears **90** being connected to lateral projections **92** of the side walls **48**, **50** by pins **94**, thereby pivotally mounting the latch **88** on the cover **14**. The latch **88** further includes latch portions **96** that are formed on the ends of the plate **89** and extend rearwardly with respect thereto, the latch portions **96** being engageable with latch pins **98** that project outwardly from the side walls **18** and **20** of the base **12**. It is seen that as the cover **14** is moved to an overlying position on the base **12**, the pivotally mounted latch **88** will be moved to an engaging position with the base, whereby the latch portions **96** are located in engaging relation with the latch pins **98**. As will be further described, the latch knock-off member **84** is movable with the carriage **68** and projects through a slot **99** formed in the front wall **51** of the cover **14** to engage the plate **89** thereby releasing the latch portions **96** from engagement with the latch pins **98** upon completion of an imprinting operation. In order to positively retain the latch **88** in the latching position as illustrated in FIG. 2, a latch spring **100** is provided, one end of the spring **100** being connectable to the latch **88** at **102** and the other end of the spring **100** being connectable to the cover, as indicated at **104** in FIG. 4. As further illustrated in FIG. 1, the plate **89** of the latch **88** is formed with a

cut-out portion **105** that provides for entry of the paper form **42** therethrough.

As previously indicated, the carriage **68** is movable in a longitudinal direction in the cover **14** during an imprinting operation, and in order to effect this movement, the handle **79** is provided and includes spaced arms **108** that are interconnected by a cross member **110**, the arms **108** having a curved configuration and extending through the slots **46** in the top wall **44** of the cover **14** for pivotal mounting on the shaft **77** that extends through the side members **70** and **72** of the carriage frame. As illustrated in FIG. 2, the handle **79** is pivotally mounted on the shaft **77** of the carriage frame, the slots **78** as formed in the side members **70** and **72** of the carriage **68** providing for movement of the handle **79** between an operative and inoperative position, as illustrated in FIG. 2. When the imprinting operation is to be carried out, the handle **79** is pivotally moved from the dotted line position illustrated in FIG. 2 to the full line position, the slots **78** in the side members **70** and **72** of the carriage frame acting to further limit the location of the handle in the full line position. The handle may then be grasped by the user of the device and urged in a direction toward the latch **88** to move the carriage **68** and roller **76** therewith.

During the imprinting operation, it is necessary that the paper form **42** be held in firm engagement as the printing roller **76** is traversed thereacross. In order to firmly locate the paper form **42** in the imprinting position and to further insure that the paper form is properly oriented on the base **12**, a clamp **112** is provided and, as shown more clearly in FIGS. 7 and 8, the clamp **112** includes an arm **114** to which a clamping portion **116** is integrally joined, substantially at right angles thereto. The clamp **112** is mounted for pivotal movement on the end wall **52** of the cover **14** and, for this purpose, the end wall **52** is cut out intermediate the ends thereof, so as to form flanges **118** that are located in spaced-apart relation. A pin **120** extends through the flanges **118** and through the pivot axis of the clamp **112** to pivotally mount the clamp within the space in the end wall **52** as formed by the flanges **118**. As further illustrated in FIG. 4, the clamping portion **116** has a slot **121** cut therein that forms spaced gripping edges **122**. Referring again to FIGS. 7 and 8, as the cover **14** is moved to a closed position, the arm **114** is moved into engagement with a leaf spring **123** that is fixed to the inner surface of the end wall **22** of the base **12**. It is seen that as the cover **14** closes, the arm **119** engages the spring **123** which urges the clamping portion **116** into positive engagement with the inserted paper form **42**. The pivotal axis of the clamp **112** is located such that the gripping edges **122** of the clamping portion **116** make point contact with the paper form **42** when it is located on the bottom wall **16** of the base **12**. Movement of the cover **14** to the closed position causes the spring **123** to urge the gripping edges **122** of the clamp **112** against the paper form wherein the paper form is urged in a direction as indicated by the arrow in FIG. 8. The innermost end of the paper form is thus shifted by the clamp **112** into positive engagement with a shoulder **126** that is located inwardly of the end wall **22**. In this position the paper form **42** is not only properly oriented with respect to the underlying printing plate **30**, but is also positively clamped into the oriented position by the clamp **112**.

In use of the imprinting device illustrated in FIGS. 1 through 8, the cover **14** is first unlatched for releasing the cover for engagement with the base **12**. With the cover **14** open, the printing plate **30**, such as a credit card, is inserted through the slot **34** and is received in the recess **28**. The paper form **42** is then inserted between the cover and base and placed in overlying relation on the printing plate **30** and between the ribs **38** and **40** and the end wall **20** of the base. The paper form **42** is shifted as far rearwardly as possible, although usually the end thereof will be slightly spaced from the shoulder **126**, as illustrated in FIG. 7. The cover **14** is then moved to a closed or latched position, the latch portions **96** of the latch **88** camming over latch pins **98** until the latched position, as illustrated in FIG. 1, is reached, the spring **87** positively urging the latch **88** to the latched position. As the cover **14** moves to the latched position, the gripping edges **122** of the clamp **112** are urged by the spring **123** into clamping relation on the paper form, the pivotal movement of the clamping portion **116** causing the paper form to be urged in the direction of the arrow illustrated in FIG. 8, until the inner end of the paper form abuts against the shoulder **126**. With the cover **14** latched to the base **12** the handle **79** is then pivotally moved from the dotted line position as illustrated in FIG. 2 to the full line position thereof, and is thereafter shifted by the user in an imprinting direction toward the latch **88**, the carriage **68** moving with the handle **79** and carrying the printing roller therewith over the paper form and printing plate in an imprinting operation. As the roller **76** moves over the paper form, the pressure exerted thereon causes the embossed lettering located on the printing plate **30** to be reproduced on the paper form, as is well known in the art. As the handle **79** and the carriage **68** that is interconnected to the handle **79** reach the endmost position during the imprinting operation (FIG. 5), the latch knock-off member **85** strikes the latch plate **89**, thereby causing the latch **88** to be pivoted, whereupon the latch portions **96** are released from engagement with the latch pins **98**. This releases the cover **14** from its engaging position on the base **12** and since the clamp **112** is also released and the paper form may be removed from the base **12** for further handling. It is also understood that as soon as the handle **79** is released, the spring **87** returns the handle **79** and the carriage **68** including the roller **76** to the inactive position illustrated in FIGS. 2, 3 and 4.

As described hereinabove, the clamp **112** not only functions to firmly retain the paper form **42** in position during the imprinting operation, but also acts to urge the paper form to the oriented position against the shoulder **126** as the cover **14** is moved to the latched position on the base **12**. In order to allow the paper form to shift toward the shoulder **126** under the printing roller **76** as the cover is closed, recesses **128**, as shown in FIGS. 5 and 6, are formed in the tracks **54** and **58** adjacent to the rear wall **52**. Thus when the carriage **68** is located in the inactive position as illustrated in FIG. 2, the guide rolls **80** are received in the recesses **128**, thereby providing additional spacing between the printing roller **76** and the bottom wall **16** of the base **12**. This additional spacing further allows the paper form **42** to be inserted beneath the printing roller **76** even when the cover **14** is located in an unlatched position but is not fully opened in the position shown in FIG. 4. Thus the user can hold the device in one hand with the cover unlatched and with the other hand can insert the paper form between the cover and base in overlying position over the plate **30**. The cover is then latched, which action causes the clamp **112** to urge the paper form **42** against the shoulder **126**. It is also seen that during the imprinting operation the recesses **128** act to cam the printing roller **76** to the imprinting position as the guide rolls **80** are moved up on the tracks **54**, **58** and as the carriage is translated upon the exertion of pressure on the handle **106** in a direction toward the latch **88**.

Referring now to FIGS. 9 and 10, a modified form of the invention is illustrated, and, as shown, the base and cover are constructed essentially in the same manner as described hereinabove. The essential difference in the modified form of the invention illustrated in FIGS. 9 and 10 is the carriage assembly and the handle construction that is interconected to the carriage assembly. In the modified form of the invention, a carriage assembly generally indicated at **132** is mounted for movement within the cover **14** and is formed with side members **134** and

136 that are interconnected by a cross member 138. Pairs of guide rolls 140 and 142 are mounted on shafts 144 and 146 respectively fixed in the side members 134 and 136 and are received on the tracks 54 and 58 in the manner as described above. A printing roller 148 is rotatably mounted on the shaft 144 and also functions in the manner as described above. Joined to the cross member 138 and projecting forwardly thereof is a latch knock-off member 158 that acts to release the cover 14 from the base 12 upon completion of the imprinting operation. Joined to the side members 134 and 136 respectively and extending longitudinally of the cover 14 are elongated arms 152 and 154, the arms 152, 154 extending through openings 156 in the end wall 51 of the cover and openings 158 in the latch 88. A handle 160 having a bail configuration is joined to the outermost ends of the arms 152, 154 by the interconnection of pairs of projections 162 and 164 thereto. It is seen that the imprinting operation is produced by pulling outwardly on the handle 160, thereby causing the carriage 132 to move therewith together with the printing roller 148. Since the force exerted on the handle is in a direction parallel to the direction of movement of the carriage 132, the imprinting movement is fairly easy to produce since there is no vertical component of force. It is understood that movement of the carriage toward the end wall 51 causes the knock-off member 158 to engage the latch 88, thereby releasing the cover 14 from the latched position thereof. Release of the handle 160 allows the carriage and roller 148 to return to the inactive position.

What is claimed is:

1. In an imprinting device of the type in which a printing plate is employed for transferring information from the printing plate to a paper form, a base on which said plate and paper form are received, said paper form overlying said plate in the imprinting operation, a cover pivotally connected to said base at an end thereof, means for locking said cover on said base in an operating position, said cover including a roller that is mounted therein for translating movement longitudinally of said cover for imparting a rolling pressure on said paper form and plate after said cover is locked in the operating position on said base, means operatively interconnected to said roller for manually moving said roller for carrying out the imprinting operation, and means responsive to locking of said cover in the operating position for positively locating said paper form in the imprinting position on said base in overlying relation with respect to said plate.

2. In an imprinting device as set forth in claim 1, said locating means including a clamp that is pivotally mounted in said cover adjacent to the hinge axis thereof, and a spring fixed to said base and engaging said clamp as said cover is moved to the locking position on said base for pivotally urging said clamp into positive engagement with said paper form.

3. In an imprinting device as set forth in claim 2, said clamp being formed with an arm to which a clamping portion is joined at substantially right angles thereto, said arm being moved into engagement with said spring when said cover is moved to the operating position on said base, wherein said clamping portion is urged against the paper form to positively locate said paper form in the imprinting position on said base.

4. In an imprinting device as set forth in claim 3, a shoulder formed on said base adjacent to the hinge axis thereof, said shoulder receiving an edge of said paper form thereagainst as said clamp is pivoted during movement of said cover to the operating position.

5. In an imprinting device as set forth in claim 3, said moving means including a carriage mounted for longitudinal movement on said cover and receiving said roller therein, wherein said roller is movable with said carriage during the imprinting operation, said locking means including a latch that is pivotally connected to said cover and that is operable to engage said base in the locking position thereof, and means joined to said carriage for releasing said latch from the engaging position after said roller has been moved with the carriage in the imprinting operation, wherein said cover is released from the operating position on said base.

6. In an imprinting device as set forth in claim 5, said releasing means including an elongated projection that is mounted on said carriage on the leading edge with respect to the direction of movement thereof during the imprinting operation, wherein said projection engages said latch as the carriage completes the imprinting movement to release said cover from the imprinting position.

7. In the imprinting device as set forth in claim 6, said moving means further including a handle that is pivotally connected to said carriage, at least one slot formed in said cover through which said handle extends, and a spring member normally urging said carriage toward said hinge axis, wherein movement of said carriage upon longitudinal movement of said handle flexes said spring member so that release of said handle after the imprinting operation causes said handle and carriage interconnected thereto to be returned to an inactive position by said spring member.

8. In an imprinting operation as set forth in claim 6, said moving means further including a handle that is connected to said carriage by arms that project through said latch, wherein said carriage is longitudinally movable in the imprinting operation upon longitudinal movement of said handle, and spring means connected to said carriage for returning said carriage to an inactive position after the imprinting operation.

9. In an imprinting device as set forth in claim 1, said moving means including a lock release that is movable therewith and that is operative to engage said locking means when said roller is moved during the imprinting operation, wherein said locking means is disengaged to release said cover for engagement with said base following the imprinting operation.

10. In an imprinting device as set forth in claim 9, said moving means including a carriage on which said roller is rotatably mounted, said locking means including a latch that is pivotally mounted on the end of said cover that is opposite to the hinge axis thereof, and means on said base for engaging said latch in the locking position thereof, said lock release including a projection that engages said latch during movement of the roller and carriage in the imprinting operation to release the latch from the locking position upon completion of the imprinting operation.

11. In an imprinting device as set forth in claim 10, said moving means further including a handle that is operatively connected to said carriage and that extends exteriorly of said cover, said handle being movable by the user of the device in a direction that is longitudinal with respect to said device to move said carriage and roller mounted thereon in a corresponding longitudinal direction wherein said roller is moved over the form under pressure as it overlies said plate to cause the information on said plate to be transferred onto said form.

12. In an imprinting device as set forth in claim 11, said handle extending through a slot formed in the top wall of said cover and being pivotally connected to said carriage for location in an inactive position, but being pivotally movable to an active position over said cover prior to the imprinting operation.

13. In an imprinting device as set forth in claim 11, said handle extending through a slot in the end of said cover that is opposite to said hinge axis and including an elongated arm that is connectable to said carriage.

14. In an imprinting device as set forth in claim 1, a side wall of said base having a slot formed therein through which said plate is inserted for location in the imprinting position on said base, and a clamp pivotally connected to said cover adjacent to the hinge axis thereof and being urged against said paper form when said cover

is moved to the operating position to positively locate said paper form in the imprinting position over said plate.

15. In an imprinting device as set forth in claim 14, a spring being secured to an end of said base adjacent to the hinge axis of said cover, said clamp being formed with an arm to which a clamping portion is joined at substantially right angles thereto, said arm being moved into engagement with said spring when said cover is moved to the operating position on said base, wherein said clamping portion is urged against the paper form to positively locate said paper form in engagement with a stop formed on said base adjacent to said hinge axis.

16. In an imprinting device as set forth in claim 15, said base having guide ribs located thereon that extend longitudinally of said base and that are spaced from a side wall thereof to provide for locating said paper form in appropriate relation relative to the location of said plate as received on said base in the imprinting position thereof.

17. In an imprinting device as set forth in claim 1, said moving means including a carriage in which said roller is rotatably mounted, a spring member for normally retaining said carriage adjacent to the hinge axes of said cover and base, and a handle that is connected to said carriage and that extends outwardly of said cover for access to the user of the device, wherein a force exerted on said handle that is longitudinal of said cover causes said handle to be translated longitudinally of said cover against the action of said spring member, thereby forcing

said roller to be moved over said paper form in an imprinting operation.

18. In an imprinting device as set forth in claim 17, said cover having spaced tracks located therein, guide rolls secured to said carriage and received on said tracks for movement thereover, a portion of said tracks adjacent to said hinge axis being recessed so that as said rolls are received therein when said carriage is in an inactive position, a space is created between said roller and base for receiving said paper form therein.

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