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RECORD HOLDER

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9 Claims. (Cl. 281—44)

This invention relates to holding devices for record books and pertains particularly to a holding device for daily log records or record books such as are used by commercial truck drivers as required under interstate commerce laws.

Drivers of commercial trucks are required by law to keep a daily log of operations in which a record must be made as to how the driver's time is occupied from the minute he goes on duty up until he goes off duty. Books of form sheets are provided for keeping such record and it is necessary for the drivers of a commercial vehicle to keep this book with them constantly and to enter up therein on the form for each day that they work, how each minute of time is spent in making a trip or run. In addition to this, it is required that the driver keep his waybills, manifest sheets and all other papers securely together on a clip board, which makes it necessary for the driver to have two groups of records to keep track of in addition to his other duties. A great deal of time is required to make out the log sheets because of the inconvenient way in which the forms must be handled, and this is particularly difficult while the operator is driving or when he has other duties to perform.

The present invention has for its primary object to provide a carrier for the daily log sheet or record sheets which has associated with it a stencil plate which is adapted to be shifted in the carrier to various positions over the log sheet to facilitate placing upon such sheet the various vertical and horizontal lines which must be made to designate the various movements of the driver and the manner in which he has spent his time, so that a neat and accurate record of the driver's daily operations may be obtained.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide in association with such record sheet or log holder, a convenient means for securing together all waybills, manifest sheets and other loose papers which the driver must keep together.

Still another object is to provide a carrier for a daily log record book, in which novel means is provided for maintaining the stencil plate in working position whereby such plate may be easily shifted to various positions over a log sheet to facilitate the application of record lines thereto.

The invention will be best understood from a consideration of the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, with the understanding, however, that the invention is not to be confined to any strict conformity with the showing of the drawing but may be changed or modified so long as such changes or modifications mark no material departure from the salient features of the invention as expressed in the appended claims.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a view in plan of the daily log book holder embodying the present invention, showing the top of the same raised and showing the stencil plate in position over a log sheet.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, the top of the holder being in closed position.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a view in plan of the stencil plate, per se.

Referring now more particularly to the drawing, the numeral 1 generally designates the daily log record book holder which, as shown, comprises an elongated flat or shallow receptacle having a bottom wall 2, end walls 3, side walls 4 and a top wall which is divided into a short fixed portion 5 extending across one end of the receptacle and integral with the adjacent end wall 3, and the movable portion 6 which constitutes a cover or lid and which makes up the major portion of the top wall structure. The cover 6 is hingedly coupled, as indicated at 7, with the fixed top wall portion 5, so that the cover may be raised or moved on an axis extending transversely of the holder to give direct access to the major portion of the interior of the same.

Each of the side walls 4 has extending throughout its length the relatively narrow inward flange or lip 8 and the cover 6 rests upon these flanges when the cover is in closed position.

Within the receptacle and extending transversely thereof adjacent the end nearest the hinge 7 is a log book clamp or holder, comprising a jaw plate 9 which extends transversely of the receptacle and has at its rear the downturned flange 10 and along its forward edge the slightly downwardly curved lip 11. This jaw plate 9 rests upon a pair of posts 12 or other suitable supporting means which are secured to the bottom wall 2 and which have suitable threaded passages opening upwardly therethrough for the reception of securing screws 13 which pass through apertures in the clamp plate 9, as illustrated in Fig. 2. The flange 10 of the clamping plate thus serves as a supporting foot for the rear edge of the clamping plate and the lip at the forward edge bears against the back part of the log book which is indicated generally by the numeral 14 and which lies within the receptacle in the manner shown. Thus it will be seen that the pages of the log book may be readily turned while the book will be securely held in place by the clamp.

Fig. 1 illustrates the manner in which a page of such a log book is laid off. The top part of the page has several spaces for recording the date, the name of the driver and other information, while the major portion of the page is di-

vided longitudinally into a series of spaces, the upper one of which, indicated by the numeral 15, has numerals therein indicating the twenty-four hours of the day, midnight being indicated at the extreme left end column and noon at the transverse center thereof. Beneath the hour chart are longitudinally extending spaces 16 which are here indicated by the numerals 1 to 9, and in these spaces various records are kept as, for example, space #1 is for recording when the driver is off duty while making a trip, it being understood, of course, that in such commercial vehicles two drivers are always carried so that one is working while the other one is resting, the amount of time that he expends off duty excepting time spent in sleeping. Space #2 would be for recording the periods or amount of time which a driver spends in sleeping. Space #3 would be for recording while driving or operating, the amount of time spent in making incidental stops. Space #4 is for recording while riding and while not in sleeping berth, the time for making incidental stops or of "dead-heading." The remaining columns 5, 6 and 7, are for recording the time taken by a driver while he is actually on duty, for performing various jobs or for other incidental matters as for loading, unloading, making out reports, making stops for meals, gasoline, etc., and waiting for work or to be released from work, etc., also for various other emergencies which require to be explained. The last space of the sheet which is numbered 9 is provided for writing in incidental information.

In the process of lining the various horizontal columns 16 so as to provide a graphic record of the manner in which a driver during a trip spends his time, it is necessary for the driver to pencil horizontal lines along the different horizontal columns and connect these horizontal lines, which cover time periods, by vertical or transverse lines as is illustrated in Fig. 1. It is required of the driver that his log record be neatly kept but it is extremely difficult for the driver to arrange these various horizontal and transverse lines in a neat and orderly manner, particularly where the record must be entered while the truck or vehicle is in operation.

In order to assist the driver in applying the horizontal and transverse lines to the log sheet, there is provided a rectangular stencil plate which is indicated generally by the numeral 17 and which is made of a heavy sheet of transparent material such as Celluloid, Cellophane, or any other suitable transparent synthetic product, which may be readily flexed so as to be easily placed in and taken out of working position. This stencil plate is of a width which will facilitate using the left-hand edge for making all vertical lines or lines transversely of the record sheet between the midnight and noon designations and the right-hand edge for making such vertical or transverse lines from the noon designation to the right. In length the stencil plate substantially equals the inside width of the receptacle so that its end edges are engaged beneath the guide flanges 8 which hold the plate against falling out of the receptacle but which permit the plate to be easily shifted to the right or to the left, as may be desired.

Between the top and bottom edges, the stencil plate is provided with a series of spaced parallel transversely extending slots 18, each of which, when the plate is in position in the book holder or receptacle, lies over a horizontal record space or column 16.

In the use of the present device, after the record book has been placed in the receptacle and the stencil plate has been placed over one of the sheets of the book, the driver may make the various horizontal lines necessary after placing the stencil plate in the proper position, by inserting the point of a pencil through one of the slots 18 and when it is necessary to connect two horizontal lines together by a transverse or vertical line, then either the right or the left-hand edge of the stencil plate is used as a guide or straight edge. Thus it will be seen that by means of the present device, the driver will be able to keep or lay out his log sheet neatly so that an easily read graphic record of the driver's movements during a trip may be obtained. Due to the thinness and flexibility of the stencil plate, it may be readily inserted between sheets of the record book and left in such position and may be readily removed from the receptacle for the turning of a page and replaced over a new page. Upon the back or bottom wall 2 of the receptacle there is secured a spring clamp or clip which is indicated generally by the numeral 19 by means of which the various papers which the driver has to keep track of, may be secured and held in a position where they may be readily referred to when wanted. This clip 19 is of a standard well known type and is not believed to require any detailed explanation as it does not in itself constitute any part of the present invention.

What is claimed is:

1. Carrying means for a record sheet book, comprising an elongated rectangular shallow receptacle having a back wall, end walls and longitudinally extending side walls, clamp means disposed within the receptacle upon the back wall adjacent to an end wall for engaging an end edge of said book to secure the latter in the receptacle, a transparent stencil plate having a width materially less than the length of the receptacle and having a length less than the width of the receptacle whereby it may be disposed in the receptacle between said side walls and over a sheet of said book, said plate having one or more marking implement receiving slots extending transversely thereof, and guide means extending longitudinally of said receptacle side walls for maintaining said transparent plate against removal from the receptacle but permitting the plate to be shifted longitudinally of the receptacle, said guide means comprising an intumed flange forming an integral part of each of the side walls and extending throughout the length of the same, said slots extending in the direction of movement of the plate whereby lines may be formed on said sheet in the said direction of movement and the side edges of the plate providing straight edges whereby said marking implement may be employed for forming lines on the sheet transversely to the first-mentioned lines.

2. A carrier for a book of record sheets of the character stated, comprising an elongated rectangular relatively shallow receptacle having a back wall, end walls and longitudinally extending side walls, each of said side walls having a relatively narrow intumed flange extending throughout its length, a cover hingedly attached at one end of the receptacle for oscillation on an axis extending transversely of the length of the receptacle, the cover resting when closed upon said flanges and upon an end wall, means within the receptacle adjacent the end nearest the hinge

for said cover for securing said book within the receptacle, and a marking implement guiding plate for use in entering a record in said book, comprising a sheet of transparent material of a width materially less than the length of the receptacle and disposed transversely of and within the receptacle with its end edges slidably engaged beneath said flanges for sliding movement longitudinally of the receptacle over the book, the plate having one or more marking implement receiving slots extending in the direction of movement of the plate in the receptacle whereby lines may be formed in the book in such direction and the plate having side edges extending transversely to such slots constituting straight edges whereby said implement may be employed for forming lines in the book transversely of the first lines.

3. A trucker's daily log sheet holder of the character described, comprising a flat body upon the surface of which said log sheet may be placed, securing means carried by said body for fastening said sheet to the body along an edge of the sheet, a marking implement guiding means comprising a flat relatively wide plate having one or more slots for said marking implement, the slots extending transversely of the plate, the plate being constructed to be disposed transversely of said body over said sheet, and means maintaining said plate in position over the body for sliding movement along a fixed path over the surface of the sheet, said slots extending in the direction of movement of the plate, the width of the plate being less than the dimension of the sheet in the direction in which the plate is moved whereby an edge of the plate may be employed as a guide for said implement for the forming on the sheet of lines across said path.

4. A trucker's log sheet holder, comprising a supporting body for the sheet, means for securing the sheet to the body, a marking implement guiding means comprising a flat relatively wide plate having one or more slots for said marking implement, the slots extending transversely of the plate, the plate being constructed to be disposed transversely of said body over the sheet, and means maintaining said plate in position over the body for sliding movement along a fixed path over the surface of the sheet, said slots extending in the direction of movement of the plate, the width of the plate being less than the dimension of the sheet in the direction in which the plate is moved whereby the said implement when in a slot may be moved along the sheet with the plate.

5. A trucker's log sheet holder, comprising a supporting body for the sheet, means for securing the sheet to the body, a marking implement guiding means, comprising a flat relatively wide plate constructed to be disposed transversely of said body over the sheet, and means maintaining said plate in position over the body for sliding movement along a fixed path over the surface of the sheet, said plate being of a width materially less than the dimension of the sheet in the direction in which the plate is moved and the plate having an edge extending transversely of such path of movement providing a marking implement guide whereby said sheet may be marked transversely of the path at arbitrarily selected places throughout the extent of the sheet in the said direction of movement.

6. A holding means for a record sheet book, comprising a receptacle having a depth sufficient to receive said book and having opposite side

walls, means carried by and within the receptacle for securing said book along one edge in the receptacle, marking implement guiding means comprising a plate having one or more slots for said implement and having a length slightly less than the width of the receptacle between said walls to position in the receptacle between the walls to lie over a sheet of the book, said plate having a width materially less than the length of the receptacle, and means carried by said walls and engaging opposite end edges of said plate for maintaining the plate in the receptacle for sliding movement along a path paralleling said walls, the said slots extending in the direction of movement of the plate whereby the marking implement when engaged in a slot may be moved with the plate along said path.

7. Carrying means for a record sheet book, comprising an elongated rectangular shallow receptacle having a back wall, end walls and longitudinally extending side walls, the receptacle having a depth sufficient to receive said book, clamp means disposed within the receptacle upon the back wall adjacent to an end wall for engagement over an end edge of said book to secure the latter in the receptacle, a transparent stencil plate having a width materially less than the length of the receptacle and having a length less than the width of the receptacle whereby it may be disposed in and transversely of the receptacle between said walls and over a sheet of said book, said plate having one or more marking implement receiving slots extending transversely thereof, and guide means extending longitudinally of said receptacle side walls maintaining said plate for sliding movement longitudinally of the receptacle and securing the plate against accidental removal from the receptacle, said slots extending in the direction of movement of the plate and the side edges of the plate providing guiding edges transversely to said slots for said marking implement.

8. A trucker's log sheet holder, comprising a supporting body for the sheet, means for securing the sheet to the body, a marking implement guiding means comprising a flat relatively wide plate constructed to be disposed transversely of said body over the sheet, means maintaining said plate in position over the body for sliding movement along a fixed path over the surface of the sheet, and said plate having a plurality of openings therethrough which facilitate the drawing of lines upon the sheet in a direction extending transversely of the plate by the selective engagement of the marking implement in the openings.

9. A trucker's log sheet holder, comprising a supporting body for the sheet, means for securing the sheet to the body, a marking implement guiding means comprising a flat relatively wide plate constructed to be disposed transversely of said body over the sheet, means maintaining said plate in position over the body for sliding movement along a fixed path over the surface of the sheet, said plate having a plurality of openings therethrough which facilitate the drawing of lines upon the sheet in a direction extending transversely of the plate by the selective engagement of the marking implement in the openings, and the width of the plate being less than the dimension of the sheet in the direction in which the plate is moved whereby an edge of the plate extending across the sheet may be used as a guide for said implement for the selective formation of lines extending across the sheet.

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