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SYSTEM AND MEANS OF FINGER PRINTS

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Fig. 1



A

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Fig. 2



B

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SYSTEM AND MEANS OF FINGERPRINTS

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This invention relates to a system and means of finger prints.

It is the universal practice to have each criminal make a finger print impression so that the police records may be kept complete. After any given crime, one of the first acts is to have a finger print expert examine the location of the crime and attempt to find finger prints upon any article and if found to carefully take the article, if it is movable, or if not, take a photograph of the finger print at the place found. This photographed finger print is then compared with finger prints of known criminals. The system, however, is far from exact and criminologists are usually satisfied if they find twelve points of similarity between two finger prints. This however, renders a system of finger prints far from being an exact science for the very reason that it is a simple matter to forge finger prints.

The present system has for an object a means whereby finger printing is reduced to an exact science to the end that there would be hundreds of similarities or dissimilarities to prove or disprove that any certain person committed the crime.

Another object is the provision of a finger print system which cannot be fabricated and which is so clear and exact as to not only bring out every ridge and furrow but likewise to permit a comparison of the various glands and ducts of the skin. By doing this, it is possible to tell whether any one given finger print is faked or not.

Other objects of the invention will appear as the specification proceeds.

In the drawing:

Figures 1 and 2 represent finger print impressions which are to be compared.

Referring now to the drawing, I have shown two finger print impressions designated as A and B. The same camera with the same lens is supposed to take photographs of the finger prints to the end that there would be a uniformity of size of said finger prints. After a given criminal or suspect has had his finger prints taken in the usual manner, said finger prints are photographed so as to provide a positive trans-

parency, as shown at A. After a crime has been committed and finger prints have been found at the scene of the crime, a photograph is taken of said finger prints by the same camera and lens as took the photograph A as, for instance, shown by B. This photograph B may be enlarged so as to have the same size as the photograph A, which might be an enlargement and usually will be in order to bring out the ridges and furrows. In fact, it is preferable that said finger prints be taken with a lens giving sharp definition and then enlarging as far as the clearness of the original prints will warrant. Of course, the latent print taken at the scene of the crime would likewise have to be enlarged photographically to the same scale as the showing in Figure 1 if this scale was adopted. The record at the police station is then consulted and the investigator will use the positive transparency B and may pick several of the numbered positive transparencies A for points of similarity. The transparency B will be placed over the transparency A and in front of a source of light. It simply becomes a question then of balancing the ridges and furrows of the transparencies and a given area may be selected for comparison, as indicated by the zoning circles 1 and 2 of said transparencies. If the transparencies are identical with reference to the circle, it will be seen that the ridges will coincide as will likewise the furrows and if the enlargements are great enough, the general appearance of the skin, particularly the gland structure, may likewise be examined. Thus, in place of the usual comparison as now generally used by finger print experts which at the most only gives from three to forty points of similarity, it will immediately be seen that by my system I can get hundreds of points of similarity or dissimilarity and definitely prove that a given criminal did or did not commit the crime in question or at least was in some manner connected with the crime. As stated, in case of doubt, the ducts and glands could be compared and it is a difficult matter to fabricate ducts or glands so that identification is absolutely sure.

Transparencies such as shown at A would

be filed in the usual manner and duplicates thereof could be sent to the different police stations and bureaus of identification throughout the country. The system is in-
5 expensive and does not require the use of complicated apparatus or projection apparatus of any kind or character. The transparencies might be either glass plates or cut film.

10 Having thus disclosed my invention, what I desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A system of finger prints which consists in photographing a given finger print and providing an enlarged transparent positive of a given scale, photographing a sus-
15 spect's finger print and enlarging to provide a transparent positive of the same scale as the first transparent positive, superimposing one transparency upon the other, and placing the
20 superimposed transparencies in front of a light to determine similarity or dissimilarity between the ridges and furrows.

2. A system of finger prints which consists in providing an enlarged transparent positive of a given scale of a known finger print,
25 providing an enlarged transparent positive of a suspect's finger print of the same scale as the first finger print transparency, selecting given zoning areas on both transparencies, then superimposing one transparency
30 upon the other, and comparing the ridges and furrows of the zoned areas.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, this 18 day of
35 February, 1928.

LESLIE T. WHITE.

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