Aug. 22, 1944. T. I. MALMER 2,356,332

MARKING DEVICE FOR RECORDING CARDS

Filed May 28, 1942

Fig. 1.

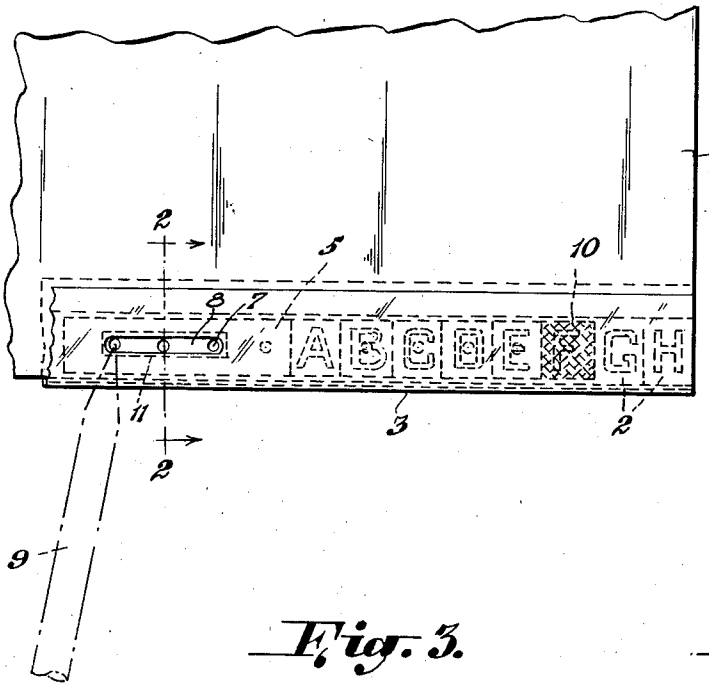


Fig. 2.

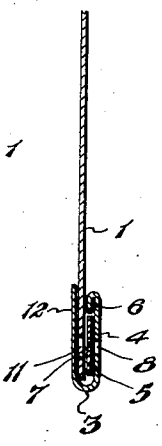


Fig. 3.

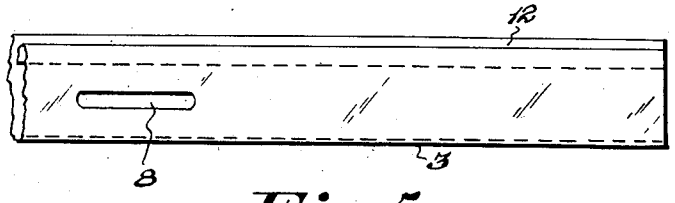


Fig. 4.

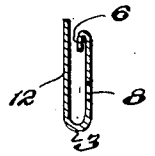


Fig. 5.

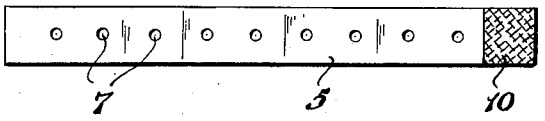
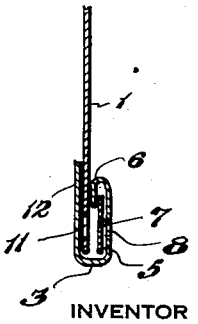


Fig. 6.



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MARKING DEVICE FOR RECORDING CARDS

Thure Ivar Malmer, Smedslatten, Sweden

Application May 28, 1942, Serial No. 444,913
In Sweden June 5, 1941

1 Claim. (Cl. 129—16.7)

The present invention refers to a marking device for recording cards, which are provided with one or more movable marking members in the form of runners or the like for the marking of rows or columns comprising date or inscriptions of any kind, such as names of months, days of months, personal names, specified goods, and so forth. Recording cards of this description are known, wherein the marking member is adapted to be displaced in a pocket extending along one edge of the card, said pocket consisting of a protection bar formed as an edge lining. The adjustment of the marking member would then be effected with the aid of a tongue arranged on the runner and projecting from the pocket, by means of which tongue the runner is seized by the hand at the adjustment of the same. This arrangement involves the drawback that the tongue may become unintentially displaced in the handling of the cards, so that the runner is brought out of its initially adjusted position and will consequently show an erroneous marking. The arrangement of the tongue projecting from the pocket also has the disadvantage that the portion of the card over which the tongue shall permit of being displaced cannot be used for text matter or for recording purposes. This drawback is avoided according to the present invention by the feature that the runner is wholly enclosed within the pocket, and arranged to be displaced by means of a pin or the like which may be introduced through one or more recesses in the wall of the pocket and be brought into engagement with apertures, edge recesses, depressions or the like in the runner, which form attachments or places of engagement for the point of the pin. In an arrangement of this description, the runner will thus lie protected in its entirety within the pocket in such manner that unintentional displacement of the same is practically excluded in the handling of the cards. At the same time, this arrangement brings about a considerable increase of the space available for text matter or memoranda on the recording card.

The recesses in the pocket are preferably given the form of longitudinally extending slits which are each adapted to uncover two or more apertures in the runner, and the end edges of which form stops for the adjusting member, so that the runner may be adjusted into definite marking positions by moving the pin toward the one or the other end edge of the slit. The arrangement of the designations for the various positions as well as for the marking proper may be effected in different ways. For example, should the front portion of the protection bar be made from transparent material, it will be possible to arrange indications of position along the card edge underneath the protection bar, and with this arrangement one end of the runner displaceable in the pocket, or a marking line, a colored square or the like on the runner—which, if desired, may also be made from transparent material—may serve as an index for the marking of the position selected.

The invention will be described more closely hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawing, which illustrates various forms of embodiment of the invention. Figure 1 shows the lower right-hand corner of a recording card provided with a marking device in accordance with the invention, the guide or pocket for the runner being formed here by a protection bar from transparent material embracing the lower edge of the card. Figure 2 is a section on line 2—2 in Figure 1. Figures 3 and 4 show the protection bar in a front view and in cross section respectively, and Figure 5 shows the runner viewed in elevation. Figure 6 is a section corresponding to Figure 2 of a somewhat modified form of embodiment.

In Figure 1, 1 designates the recording card proper, which is taken to be of the so-called Kardex-type, and to be lowered into a horizontal reading position. At the lower or anterior right-hand corner of the card, there is provided a series of recording positions 2 along the fore edge of the card, said positions comprising recording data or inscriptions of any kind and being represented by the letters A—H in the drawing. The fore edge of the recording card is provided in known manner with a protection bar or lining 3 consisting of a strip of, for instance, Celluloid or other transparent material bent about the edge of the card, so that the inscriptions in the various positions are visible through the covering portion of the protection bar, which latter is retained at the card in any known manner. Into the pocket formed between the upper side of the edge of the card and the upper portion 4 of the protection bar bent thereover is inserted a strip 5 representing the abovementioned runner intended as a marking member. The edge of the front portion 4 of the protection bar is bent inwardly and forms a lap 6 serving to retain and to guide the runner 5. The latter is displaceable in the longitudinal direction of the pocket at a suitably adapted friction, the runner being then guided by the inwardly bent edge of the front portion 4 of the protection bar. The runner 5 is provided

with a series of apertures 7 extending therethrough, the pitch of said apertures being equal to the distance between the centers of the various recording positions 2. Provided in the upper portion 4 of the protection bar on a level with the series of apertures is a longitudinally extending slit 8, which in the example shown is of such a length that three of the apertures 7 are accessible at the same time through the slit, the two extreme ones of the three apertures being then located close up to the ends of the slit. The runner may be displaced into different marking positions by means of a pin, pencil or the like, in such manner that the point of the pin or the like is introduced into one of the apertures 7 accessible through the slit 8, whereupon the runner is displaced by means of the pin so far that the point of the pin hits the end of the slit. The runner may thus be displaced in this manner each time by a distance corresponding to one or two pitches in the series of apertures, and may thus be caused to cover or uncover a corresponding number of the various positions 2. In the example shown, the runner is in a position such that the two extreme positions to the right are uncovered, whereas the remaining positions are still covered by the runner. The latter may be made from opaque or transparent material, and in the latter case it may consist, for instance, of a thin Celluloid strip or the like. One end of the runner, the right-hand end in the example illustrated, serves as a marking index, and to this end it may preferably be conceived as being designated in some special manner, for instance by the same being colored otherwise than the remaining portion of the runner, as indicated at 10.

As will appear from the above, the ends of the slit 8 are effective as stops for the point of the operating member 9, whereby the runner when displaced will always be stopped in a position such that the edge of its right-hand end will lie flush with the dividing-line between two adjacent positions.

The form of embodiment according to Figure 6 differs from that described above only in that the lap 6 embraces the edge of the runner 5, so that an augmented friction will be obtained at the displacement of the runner.

In order to prevent the point of the pin or pencil 9 from scratching or blackening the recording card proper at the displacement of the runner, the card is provided with a corresponding although somewhat longer and wider slit 11 registering with the slit 8. At the adjustment of the runner, the point of the pin or pencil 9 is thus also thrust through the slit 11 in the card so as to run on the lower portion 12 of the protection bar at the displacement, said portion 12 forming here a comparatively smooth and hard supporting surface which is not apt to be scratched by the point of the pin or pencil. For the same purpose, the recording card may instead be provided with a support in the form of a plate of celluloid or the like which is secured to the front side of the card opposite the slit 8, the slit 11 of the card being then omitted. If desired, this support may be formed by the portion of the protection bar bent about the edge of the runner, the protection bar then preferably covering the rear side of the runner in its entirety.

The recording position need not necessarily have the same dimensions mutually but may be of a varying width, for example, the distance between the centers of the positions being thus also changed. In such a case the pitch of the series of apertures in the runner must also vary in a corresponding manner. Or, it will be possible to provide a plurality of slits in the protection bar, said slits being adapted to define displacements in the runner of different magnitudes and lending themselves to be used alternatively. If desired, the slit in the protection bar may be replaced, for instance, by a longitudinally extending edge recess in the bar cooperating with a series of suitably made edge recesses in the runner. Other constructions of the stopping device are also conceivable. The marking possibilities may be further increased by the arrangement of a plurality of runners in each guide or pocket, which is then obviously provided with a plurality of consecutively arranged slits or other stopping devices. Here, the various runners may be used, for example, to effect marking in different series of recording positions, or, they may be employed to render possible a number of simultaneous markings in one and the same series. A further increase of the number of recording possibilities may be obtained by the use of two or more runners or series of runners displaceable preferably in mutually parallel or concentric guides, said runners being adapted to be adjusted in any one of the manners indicated hereinbefore.

I claim:

In recording structures of the type having a card provided at an edge with a series of indicia, a pocket secured to said edge portion of the card and having a transparent side through which the indicia may be viewed, and a slide arranged to reciprocate in said pocket and cooperate with said indicia, the improvement in which the card and transparent side of the pocket are provided with elongated registering slots arranged parallel to said edge of the card at an end of the series of indicia, and the slide is provided with a longitudinal series of equally spaced apertures arranged to register a few at a time with the slot in the pocket, to permit a pointed instrument to be inserted through one of the apertures and the slots in manipulating the slide relatively to the indicia.

THURE IVAR MALMER.