Sept. 1, 1931. G. J. EVANS 1,820,968

STENCIL SHEET HOLDER

Filed May 23, 1929

Fig. 2.

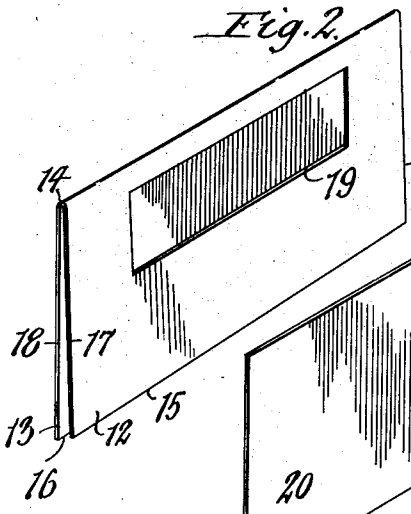


Fig. 3.

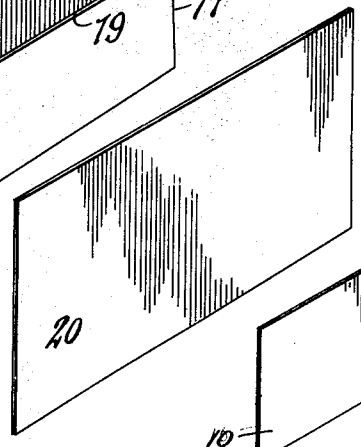


Fig. 4.

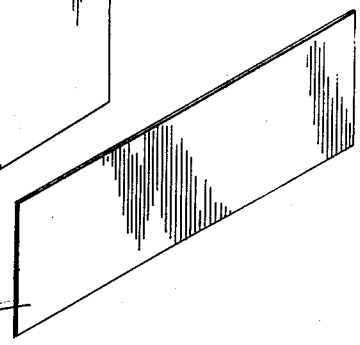


Fig. 1.

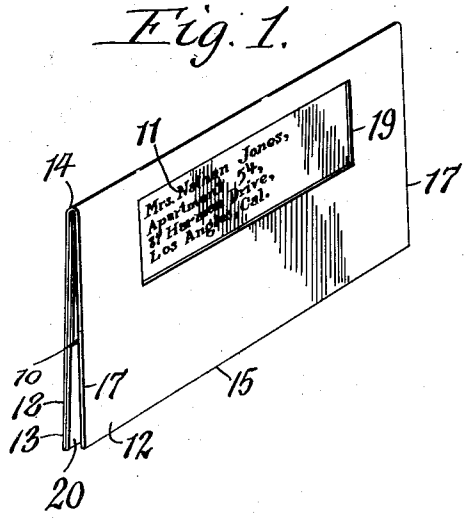
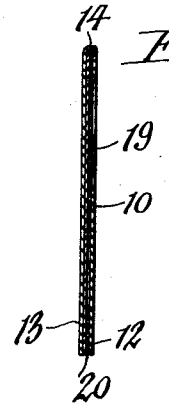


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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STENCIL SHEET HOLDER

Application filed May 23, 1929. Serial No. 365,427.

This invention relates to a holder which is adapted to receive a stencil sheet or strip and maintain the same in a smooth spread-out condition while a stencil address is being cut in the same by a typewriter or other means.

The material from which these stencil strips or sheets are made is very light, soft and flimsy and liable to tear and become wrinkled while being handled during the operation of cutting addresses in the same. It has therefore been the practice heretofore to fasten the marginal parts of such stencil strips or sheets to frames so that the same would be held taut and smooth and permit of properly cutting the stencil address thereon. The cost of thus mounting the address stencils on frames involves considerable expense and unnecessary waste inasmuch as the same in many instances are only used comparatively few times before being discarded.

It is therefore the object of this invention to provide a holder for address stencil sheets or strips which permits of holding the address stencil taut and smooth and cutting the stencil address in the same without employing a frame to which the stencil sheet is attached and which enables the same holder to be used repeatedly for cutting successive stencils, thereby effecting a considerable economy in the use of such stencils, this being an important item in the case of mail order houses who use large numbers of stencils of this character.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a practical form of address stencil sheet or strip holder embodying my invention.

Figures 2 and 3 are similar views of the folder and backing sheet of the stencil holder.

Figure 4 is a similar view of an address stencil sheet or strip.

Figure 5 is a cross section of the holder and a stencil within the same.

In the following description similar characters of reference indicate like parts in the several figures of the drawings.

The numeral 10 represents an address stencil strip or sheet which is made of a tissue or material into which a stencil address 11 may be cut by means of a typewriter or other suitable means so that upon placing this stencil over a letter, card or other object and pressing ink against the front side of the stencil, an address or other indicia will be formed on the letter or other object corresponding to the cutting of the stencil sheet.

This stencil sheet or strip is very light, soft and flimsy and very easily wrinkled and torn while being handled.

In the preferred form of my invention a holder or casing is employed which is constructed of thin, flexible or pliant paper to form a front leaf 12 and a rear leaf 13 which are integrally connected at their corresponding upper longitudinal edges by a turn 14 which in effect forms a hinge whereby these leaves are pivotally connected while the lower longitudinal edges 15, 16 of these leaves are disconnected and likewise their corresponding transverse edges 17, 18 are also disconnected from each other.

The front leaf 12 is provided with a window or opening 19 which is preferably elongated lengthwise of this leaf but the rear leaf is imperforate or continuous over its entire area.

If desired, the stencil sheet or strip may be placed directly between the front and rear leaves of the holder so as to expose that part of the stencil adapted to receive the indicia behind the window and support the stencil sheet on its rear side by the rear leaf of the folder. When thus assembled this folder and stencil sheet therein may be bent around the cylindrical platen of a typewriter or fitted to a platen of any other form and then the letters and figures of an address or other indicia may be cut in the stencil sheet by operating the keys of the typewriter so that the desired type thereof strike the stencil sheet and cut a stencil of corresponding form therein. During this operation the stencil sheet is supported on its back side by the rear leaf of the folder.

Instead, however, of engaging the stencil sheet directly with the rear leaf of the folder a backing sheet 20 of pliant or flexible paper or other suitable material is placed between the front and rear leaves of the folder and interposed between the rear leaf of the same and the rear side of the stencil sheet. This

backing sheet forms a convenient means of inserting the stencil sheet into the folder and removing the same therefrom inasmuch as the stencil sheet can be easily placed in a smooth condition on the backing sheet while the latter is removed from the folder, then the backing sheet may be readily placed in the folder, after the leaves are swung apart sufficiently for this purpose, so as to properly locate the stencil sheet behind the window and retain the same in this position while the operation of cutting the indicia in the same is effected, and thereafter the backing sheet and stencil sheet may be removed from the folder with equal facility.

The use of this backing sheet saves the rear leaf of the folder from wear and enables the same folder to be repeatedly used in connection with other stencil sheets for cutting addresses or other indicia thereon and it also forms a cushion which permits of cutting better stencils.

The stencil sheet is preferably of the same length as the folder so that when the stencil sheet has been placed between the leaves of the folder so that the ends of the folder leaves and the stencil sheet are flush, a correct positioning of the stencil sheet behind the window is assured and thereby renders it possible to cut the address or other indicia in the central area of the stencil sheet, in order to have the stencilled address come in the right position for printing when placed in an addressing machine.

Owing to the elimination of the frames which have heretofore been attached to the stencils and the ability to use the holder in the present case repeatedly with different stencils, the cost of maintaining the stencil addressing system is greatly reduced, and unnecessary waste of material is eliminated.

I claim as my invention:

1. A holder for a stencil sheet having front and rear leaves between which the sheet is received, the front leaf having a window through which the sheet is exposed to permit of cutting an address on the same and the rear leaf being continuous and providing a support for the stencil while being cut.

2. A holder for a stencil sheet having front and rear leaves between which the sheet is received, the front leaf having a window through which the sheet is exposed to permit of cutting an address on the same and the rear leaf being continuous and providing a support for the stencil while being cut, said front and rear leaves being connected with each other.

3. A holder for a stencil sheet having front and rear leaves between which the sheet is received, the front leaf having a window through which the sheet is exposed to permit of cutting an address on the same and the rear leaf being continuous and providing a support for the stencil while being cut, said front and rear leaves being connected with each other at two adjacent longitudinal edges thereof while the other two longitudinal edges thereof are disconnected.

4. A holder for a stencil sheet having front and rear leaves between which the sheet is received, the front leaf having a window through which the sheet is exposed to permit of cutting an address on the same and the rear leaf being continuous and providing a support for the stencil while being cut, said front and rear leaves being connected with each other at two adjacent longitudinal edges thereof while the other two longitudinal edges thereof are disconnected and the transverse edges of said leaves being disconnected from each other.

5. A holder for a stencil sheet having front and rear leaves between which the sheet is received, the front leaf having a window through which the sheet is exposed to permit of cutting an address on the same and the rear leaf being continuous, and a backing sheet arranged between said leaves and adapted to be interposed between the rear leaf and the stencil sheet.

6. A holder for a stencil sheet having front and rear leaves between which the sheet is received, the front leaf having a window through which the sheet is exposed to permit of cutting an address on the same and the rear leaf being continuous, said leaves being connected at their upper longitudinal edges and disconnected at their lower longitudinal edges and at their transverse edges, and a backing sheet arranged loosely between said leaves and adapted to be interposed between said rear leaf and the stencil sheet.

In testimony whereof I hereby affix my signature.

GUY J. EVANS.