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BASE FOR COPYING IN LOOSE LEAF BOOKS

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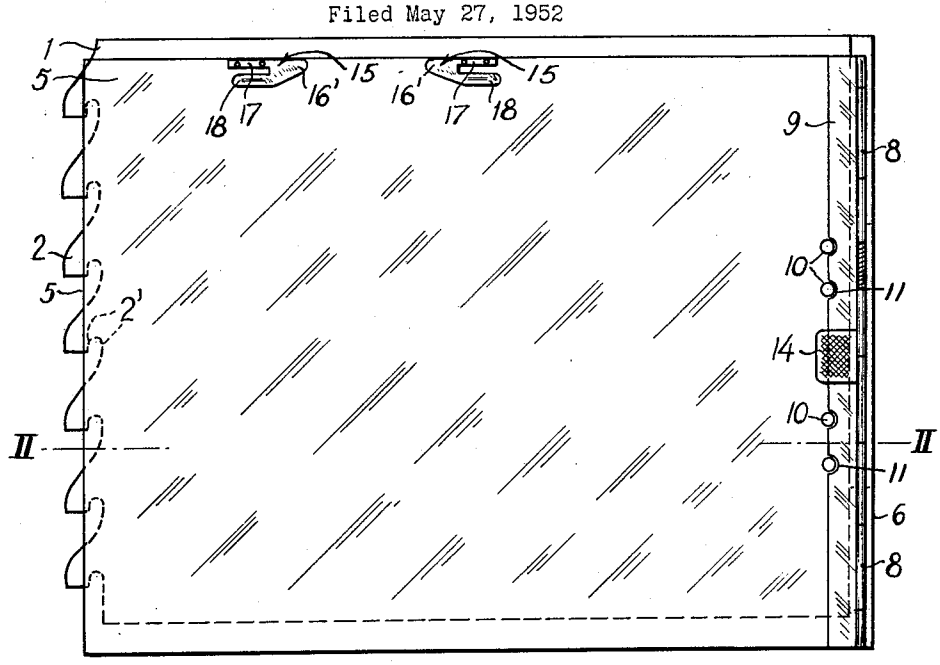


FIG.1

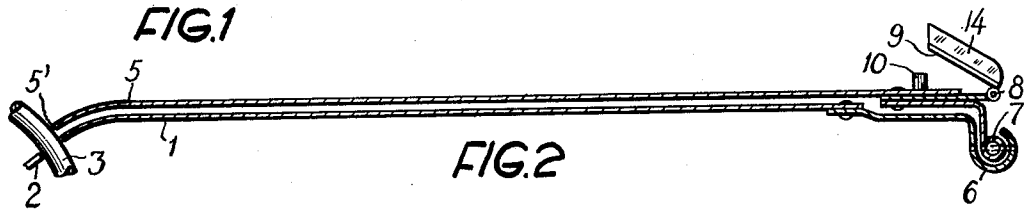


FIG.2

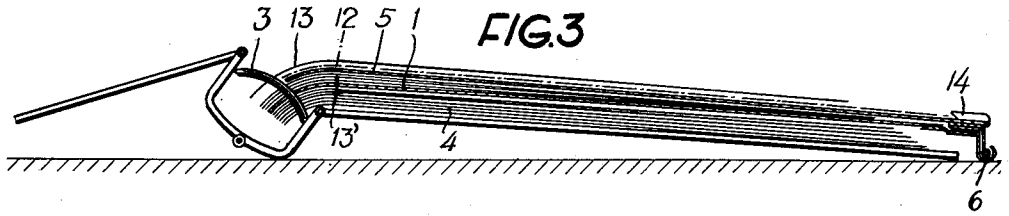


FIG.3

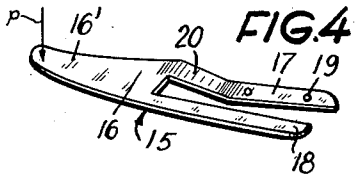


FIG.4

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BASE FOR COPYING IN LOOSE LEAF BOOKS

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3 Claims. (Cl. 282—8)

The present invention refers to a base for journal leaves and the like, on which handwriting is to be copied with the aid of carbon paper or the like, said handwriting being executed on account leaves or the like attached in a loose leaf book by means of attaching prongs or the like.

The principal object of the invention is to provide an improved support for the account leaves thereby enabling one to do the required copying in a considerably simplified and more concise manner. More specifically, the improved support is characterized by a lower base plate adapted to be attached along one edge to the prongs of the book, and an upper writing plate hinged to the opposite edge of the base plate so that by swinging the writing plate upwardly about its hinge axis each of a plurality of account leaves initially placed between the plates may be brought in succession onto the upper side of the writing plate for copying.

This and further objects and advantages of our invention will be apparent from the following description and accompanying drawing, of which:

Fig. 1 shows the base in a plan view, and Fig. 2 shows a section on line II—II in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 shows the base as arranged in a loose leaf book, this figure representing a cross section through the book and the base. Fig. 4 shows a detail.

In the drawing, **1** designates a plate, the attaching or base plate, which is made from aluminum, masonite, plastic or the like, for example, said plate being provided at one edge thereof with hooks **2**, which are preferably made integral with the plate and of such configuration as to permit of being hooked on the prongs **3** for the paper leaves provided in the loose leaf book (Fig. 3). The outer portion of the plate **1** with the hooks **2** is preferably bent downwardly, so that the plate is made to agree with the curvature assumed by the underlying paper leaves **4** when the cover is open (see Fig. 3).

At the edge of the attaching plate **1** opposed to the hooks **2**, a writing plate **5** substantially coextensive in area with base plate **1** and the leaves to be copied is mounted by a hinge connection so as to be swingable about the hinge axis and displaceable in the longitudinal direction of said axis, said writing plate **5** consisting likewise of a stiff material, such as aluminium, preferably with a special surface coating, such as a thin covering of masonite, plastic or the like on the upper side and preferably also on the lower side thereof. If desired, the plate may consist of such materials in its entirety.

In the example of embodiment shown, the attaching plate **1** has arranged thereon a channel-shaped guide **6** serving for the mounting of the plate **5** and having an inner surface curved on a circular arc, said guide having a runner **7** displaceably and rotatably arranged therein, which runner is rigidly connected with the writing plate **5**. The runner **7** and plate **5** are so disposed that plate **5**, when in a position parallel to plate **1**, will be a short distance from the latter.

The writing plate **5** is of such a width that the edge **5'** thereof opposed to the mounting edge extends beyond

the side notches **2'** of the attaching plate. Preferably, the outer edge portion of the writing plate **5** is also bent downwardly in the same manner as the outer edge of the plate **1**.

Mounted on hinges **8** at the mounting edge of the writing plate **5** is a bar **9** adapted to be swung up against spring action, said bar having edge recesses **11** corresponding to pins **10** secured in the plate. The pins **10** enter corresponding holes in the journal leaf **12** (Fig. 3), on which hand-writing executed on an account leaf **13** attached in the loose leaf book is to be copied. The requisite carbon paper may also be secured on these pins. A finger grip for the operation of the bar **9** is denoted by **14**.

For the retainment of the carbon paper resilient clamps may be used instead, the drawing showing an embodiment of such a clamp. According to Fig. 1, two clamps **15** are attached to the upper edge of the writing plate **5**, the configuration of these clamps appearing more clearly from Fig. 4. The clamps consist of a plate **16** of spring steel, which is formed at one end thereof into a finger grip **16'** while being provided at the other end thereof with two tips **17**, **18** separated by a slit. The tip **17** is provided with holes **19** for pins, by means of which the clamp is secured to the plate **5**. This tip **17** is by a downward bend **20** disposed at a lower level than the finger grip portion **16'**. By the resiliency of the bend **20** the other tip **18** is pressed downwardly to bear resiliently on the writing plate. If the grip member **16'** is pressed in the direction of the arrow *p*, the tip **18** will be swung upwardly, so that the edge of the carbon paper can be moved underneath the same. The two spring clamps shown in Fig. 1 are disposed so as to permit of being readily manipulated with one hand, while the edge of the carbon paper is moved in underneath the tip **18** with the other hand.

By the provision of the writing plate **5**, the work in writing will be considerably simplified. Account leaves pertaining to a section laid open in the loose leaf book, and which have not yet been provided with notations, may lie underneath the writing plate, until it is their turn to be written on. For this reason, only one account leaf in addition to the journal leaf secured on the writing plate need be present on the latter in working. When the notation is finished on an account leaf, the latter is turned in the ordinary manner to the left in the book, the next account leaf, arranged in a stepwise fashion underneath the former one, being then brought up onto the writing plate.

When a plurality of account leaves are present in a section laid open in the loose leaf book between the attaching plate **1** and the writing plate **5**, if the edge **5'** of the latter did not reach the prongs **3**, this edge would move laterally with regard to the attaching plate **1** as the number of account leaves diminished during the progress of the notations. A displacement of the account leaves brought into writing position would then take place successively relatively to the journal leaf secured on the writing plate, so that the notations copied on the latter would not come exactly into the vertical columns of the journal leaf. Thus the position of the notations in the transverse direction of the book would be displaced in dependence on the number of leaves between the plates **1** and **5**.

To avoid this disadvantage occurring in connection with a great number of account leaves or the like, the edge **5'** of the writing plate is in the example of embodiment shown extended to cover those portions **2'** of the hooks of the attaching plate **1** which embrace the prongs **3**. As will be seen from Figs. 2 and 3, the outer edge **5'** of writing plate **5** bears on the prongs **3** above and at some distance from the point of attachment of the attaching plate

1. The number of account leaves between plates 1 and 5 must not be so great as to raise the outer edge of plate 5 from the prongs. Should this number be slightly exceeded, the writing plate 5 may be made sufficiently flexible for the free outer edge 5' to be pressed into contact with the prongs 3.

The account leaf 13, Fig. 3, in consideration for writing may now be brought close up to the writing plate, and its position relatively to the writing plate will then always be exactly the same, independently of the number of account leaves 13' enclosed between the plates 1 and 5. The notations on the various account leaves will then always be copied in an exact position relatively to the vertical columns of the journal leaf.

What we claim is:

1. In a support for journal leaves on which to copy with the aid of carbon paper or the like handwritten entries on account leaves attached in a loose leaf book by means of prongs, the combination comprising a base plate having a plurality of hook-shaped projections along one edge thereof establishing notches adapted to be hooked onto the prongs of said loose leaf book, a writing plate hingedly connected along one edge to the opposite edge of said base plate so that a plurality of account leaves initially placed between said plates may be brought in succession onto the upper side of said writing plate, the edge of said writing plate opposite the hinged edge thereof

bearing upon the prongs of said loose leaf book, and means carried by said writing plate adjacent the hinged edge thereof for retaining journal leaves thereon.

2. A support for journal leaves as defined in claim 1 wherein the hinge connection between said base plate and writing plate is comprised of a channel-shaped guide extending along the edge of said base plate, and a runner in said guide extending along the edge of said writing plate, said runner being both rotatable about and displaceable along its axis in said guide, and said guide being adapted to serve as a foot for the support contacting the surface on which the book is placed for copying.

3. A support for journal leaves as defined in claim 1 and which further includes spring leaf clamps carried by said writing plate for clamping carbon paper in place between said account and journal leaves.

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