April 16, 1929. M. ABRAMSON 1,709,106

CHECK PROTECTOR

Filed April 4, 1927

FIG. 1.

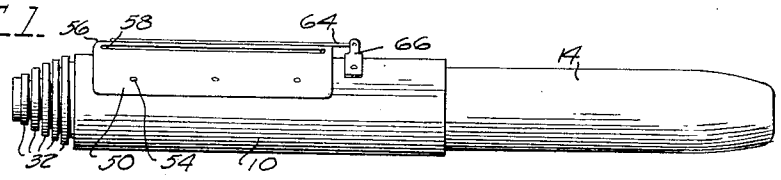


FIG. 2.

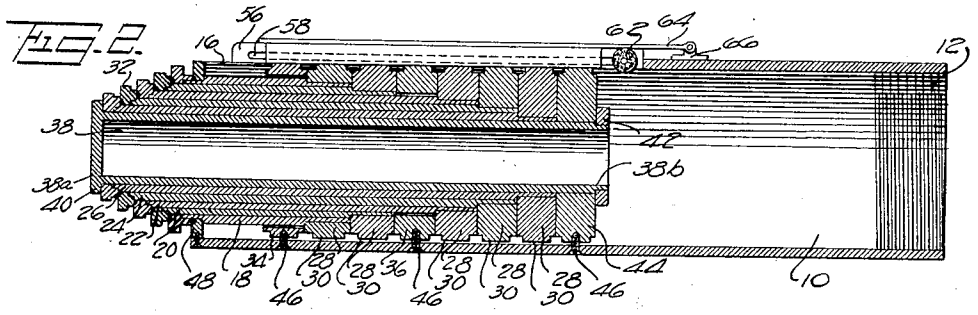


FIG. 3.

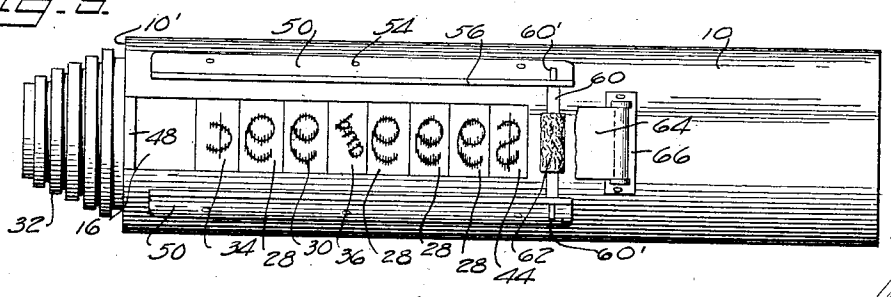


FIG. 4.

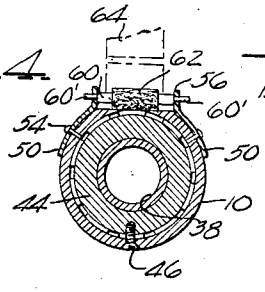


FIG. 5.

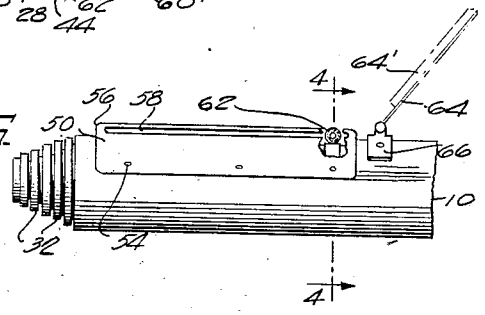


FIG. 6.

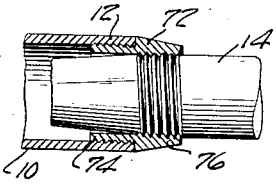
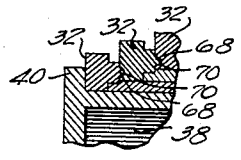


FIG. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MAX ABRAMSON, OF JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY.

CHECK PROTECTOR.

Application filed April 4, 1927. Serial No. 180,716.

My invention relates to check protectors for preventing the alteration or erasure of the money values or amounts of checks or other valuable documents, by impressing thereon, inking and perforating certain portions of the paper with figures corresponding to the money value or amount of the check or other valuable document.

An object of the invention is to provide a simple and efficient device of this character, which may be conveniently carried in the pocket of the user and be readily available when required.

Another object is to construct a check protector in the form of an ordinary fountain pen cap adapted for attachment to the usual fountain pen body in place of the usual cap, without materially adding to the bulk or dimensions of the pen.

A feature of the invention consists in assembling the parts of the device within the cap of a fountain pen so that any fountain pen may be equipped with the check protector of the present invention by simply substituting, for the ordinary cap, a cap having assembled therein the device of the present invention, the substitution being made without change or alteration of any kind to the fountain pen.

Another feature is the provision of means whereby check protectors of the present invention may be assembled in fountain pen caps of certain standard sizes, and fountain pens of varying sizes, shapes and diameters may be equipped therewith by simply attaching to the threaded portion of the fountain pen cap an adapter or nipple having a suitable sized opening to fit the particular fountain pen on which the device is desired to be used.

Another feature is the construction of a device which is self-contained and entirely enclosed, is just as positive and efficient in operation as large check protectors commonly used in business offices, and which needs practically no attention beyond the periodical inking of the ink roller.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating an embodiment of the invention and not for limitation thereof, Fig. 1 is an elevational view of a fountain pen equipped with a check protector of my invention. Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view of a fountain pen cap showing the check protector contained therein. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the device with the platen removed. Fig. 4 is a cross-sectional view on the line 4—4, Fig. 5. Fig. 5 is an elevational view of the device showing the platen in elevated position and with parts broken away to show the ink roller as positioned during use for inking the numerals. Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional view of the threaded portion of the cap with an adapter in place to adapt the cap for use with a fountain pen of a smaller diameter. Fig. 7 is a fragmentary detail sectional view on an enlarged scale showing the numeral alignment means.

In the embodiment of the invention illustrated in the drawings, same is shown as applied to a fountain pen cap 10. The check protector mechanism is preferably assembled as a complete unit before it is placed within cap 10 and permamently fastened therein. Cap 10 comprises an open-ended hollow cylindrical tube having internal screw threads 12 at one end thereof adapted to engage an ordinary fountain pen body 14. Cap 10 is provided in one of its walls with an elongated opening or slot 16 beginning at the end of 10′, opposite the screw threaded end 12, and extending a substantial distance longitudinally of the cap 10.

The check protecting mechanism shown comprises a series of five tubes 18, 20, 22, 24 and 26, nested within one another and increasing in length as they decrease in diameter, from the outermost tube 18 having the largest diameter and least length to the innermost tube 26 having the smallest diameter and greatest length. These tubes are hollow and open-ended, and are rotatable with respect to one another. Mounted on the inner end of each tube and having a force fit thereon is a substantially cylindrical printing plate 28 having its convex surface provided with a series of raised numerals 30. Mounted on the opposite or outer end of each tube, and also having a force fit thereon, is a ring 32 by which the tube is adapted to be rotated. Stationary plates 34, 36, similar to plates 28 and having respectively the single characters ¢ and & embossed thereon, are interposed in their proper places between the rotatable plates 28. Said stationary plates 34, 36 fit loosely over the tubes and are not adapted to be rotated, inasmuch as they each have one character intended to be used continually.

To hold the type or indicia bearing and actuating parts together as a unit, a tube 38 of relatively smallest diameter and longest

length is provided and passes through the innermost tube 26. Tube 38 is closed at its outer end 38^a and has an annular flange or extension 40 adapted to lie flat against the adjacent ring 32. A collar 42 having a force fit on the opposite end 38^b of tube 38 completes the clamping means and serves to hold the entire assembly together as a unit. A stationary plate 44, similar to plates 34, 36, having the single character $ embossed thereon is preferably mounted on tube 38 adjacent collar 42. This assembly unit is placed within cap 10 so that the actuating rings 32 extend beyond the end 10′ of cap 10, and said unit is fastened therein by screws 46 passing through the walls of cap 10 and screwed into the stationary plates 34, 36 and 44. A closure plate 48 is mounted on the end 10′ of cap 10 to seal same against the entry of dirt and foreign matter.

By rotating rings 32 any combination of numerals desired to be perforated and printed on a check may be brought into operative position in register with the open slot 16 in cap 10, as shown in Fig. 3.

Means are provided for inking the numerals prior to impressing same upon a check or other document. Said means comprise a pair of channel strips 50, 50 positioned one on each side of slot 16 and extending parallel therewith, said channels being attached to the cap 10, as by rivets 54. Channel strips 50 are provided with upwardly extending flanges 56 having elongated slots 58 extending substantially throughout the length of said flanges 56. The ends of the shaft 60 carrying the ink roller 62 extend through slots 58 of flanges 56 and serve as a means for actuating the roller 62. When the desired combination of numerals 30 has been brought into operative position in register with and is exposed through opening 16 in cap 10, as above described, the numerals are inked. This is accomplished by grasping the ends 60′ of the shaft 60 protruding beyond the slots 58, and by sliding said shaft 60 back and forth in the slots 58, the ink roller 62 carried by said shaft 60 is caused to pass over and ink the faces of the numerals 30 exposed through slot 16 in cap 10. When the device is out of use, the ink roller 62 is positioned adjacent the furthest end of the channel strips 50, as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3.

To insure the obtaining of a satisfactory impression and perforation of the numerals 30 on the check, cap 10 is provided with a platen 64 pivotally attached thereto at 66, adapted normally to lie flat against cap 10 between channel strips 50 and covering the slot 16 in cap 10, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. When platen 64 is elevated, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 5, said slot 16 is uncovered and the numerals 30 on the printing plates 28 are visible therethrough. This is a convenience when bringing the desired numerals into operative position in register with slot 16 in cap 10 prior to printing.

To provide against any of the circular printing plates 28 moving out of printing or operative position, and to insure alignment of the type when printing, each ring 32 is provided on one of its faces with a circular series of small projections 68, and on its opposite face is provided with a circular series of indentations or notches 70. In this way, when the plates 28 are placed into assembled relation, as shown in Fig. 7, the projections 68 of one plate register with the notches 70 of the next adjacent plate, the projections 68 of the second plate register with the notches 70 of its adjacent plate and so on. The projections 68 and notches 70 are so positioned on the plate faces and with respect to the adjacent plates that they register only when the numerals 30 on said plates 28 are brought into printing or operative position in register with slot 16 of cap 10. This feature insures perfect alignment of the numerals in operative position when printing the check.

The operation of the device is as follows:

When it is desired to fill in the amount of a check, for example, the platen 64 is elevated from the position of Fig. 1 to that shown in dotted lines in Fig. 5, uncovering slot 16 so that the numerals 30 are visible therethrough; rings 32 are manipulated to bring into operative position in register with said slot 16 numerals 30 comprising the desired amount; ink roller 62 is moved back and forth one or more times over the faces of the exposed numerals 30 to ink them; the check is placed face down with the blank space for printing directly over slot 16; platen 64 is returned to its downward position over the check and given a light tap or pressure; the check is then withdrawn and the operation is completed. The face 64′ of platen 64 is preferably made of a hard material, such as hard rubber, so that a light tap on the platen is sufficient to cause the paper of the check to become printed, impressed and perforated by the sharp numerals 30 on the printing plates 28. The numerals 30 are preferably slitted and are sharp-edged, as shown in Fig. 3, to facilitate perforation of the paper.

In order to enable fountain pens varying widely in size and shape to be equipped with the device of my invention and to make it possible to construct my device in but a few standard sizes to equip all sizes of pens, I preferably provide an adapter or nipple 72, such as shown in Fig. 6, having an externally threaded portion 74 adapted to engage the threaded end 12 of cap 10, and an internally threaded portion 76 of diameter suitable for engagement with the particular pen body 14 to be equipped with the check protector of

my invention. Other types of adapters, however, may be used if desired.

Although only five rotative printing plates 28 are shown in the embodiment of the invention illustrated in the drawings, and numerals are used on said printing plates, it is to be understood that a greater or lesser number of printing plates may be used, if desired, and that instead of numerals, words or other indicia may be provided on the convex faces of the printing plates.

Changes and modifications may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or scope of my invention.

I claim:

1. A device of the character described comprising a tubular casing open at the end thereof and having a longitudinal slot at the upper side thereof, a plurality of type-bearing disks disposed transversely within and fitting said tubular casing and adapted for rotation about an axis coincident with the axis of said casing, means connected to said disks and projecting through the open end of said casing for actuating said disks, means for inking said disks, and a platen connected to the upper side of said casing and movable into registry with said slot to cooperate with the portions of the disks exposed therethrough.

2. A fountain pen cap having a check protector therein, comprising a plurality of rotatable type-bearing printing plates adapted for rotation coaxial with the axis of the cap, means outside of the cap for rotating said printing plates, a plurality of single-character stationary printing plates adapted to be permanently fastened within said cap, means for inking all of said printing plates, and a platen adapted to be moved into position over the printing plates to facilitate printing.

3. A device of the character described comprising a tubular casing open at the end thereof and having a longitudinal slot at the upper side thereof, a plurality of type-bearing disks rotatably disposed within said casing and having portions thereof exposed through said slot, means projecting through the open end of the casing for actuating said disks, guiding means disposed along said slot, an inking roller adapted to travel in said guiding means over said slot to ink the exposed portions of said disks, and a platen connected to the upper side of said casing and movable into registry with said slot to cooperate with the exposed portions of said disks.

4. A check protector comprising a hollow open-ended cylindrical casing having an elongated opening in one wall extending longitudinally of said casing, a plurality of concentrically disposed hollow tubes nested one within the other and mounted within said casing, said tubes being of increasing length and decreasing diameter from the outer to the inner outer tube, a plurality of type-bearing printing plates mounted within said casing on the ends of said tubes, a plurality of rings mounted on the opposite ends of said tubes outside of said casing for rotating said tubes and printing plates to bring the type on said printing plates selectively into printing position before said casing opening, and means for inking said type while in printing position.

5. A check protecting device in the form of a fountain pen cap adapted to be engaged with a writing implement, said device comprising a hollow casing provided with an elongated opening in one wall and extending longitudinally of said casing, a plurality of type-bearing printing plates positioned within said casing and adapted to be rotated coaxially with the axis of said casing, said plates being provided on their convex surfaces with raised, sharp-edged type, means extending outside of said casing for rotating said printing plates with respect to one another and to bring the type on said printing plates selectively into printing or operative position in register with said casing opening, an ink roller guided on said casing over said opening and adapted to be passed over the type while in printing position, and exposed through said casing opening, and a platen on said casing above said roller adapted to be moved over the type while in printing position, to facilitate printing and perforation of said type on a check or other valuable paper.

6. A check protector comprising a hollow casing having an opening in one wall, a plurality of concentrically disposed tubes nested one within the other and mounted within said casing, a plurality of type-bearing printing plates mounted within said casing on the ends of said tubes, means mounted on the opposite ends of said tubes outside of said casing for rotating said tubes with respect to one another to bring the type on said printing plates selectively into operative position in register with the casing opening, a plurality of stationary printing plates each having but a single character in register with said casing opening, said stationary printing plates fitting loosely over said tubes and being permanently fastened within said casing, means for inking the type on all of the printing plates while in operative position for printing, and a platen adapted to be moved over said type to facilitate printing.

7. A fountain pen cap having a check protector therein, comprising a plurality of rotatable type-bearing printing plates adapted for rotation coaxial with the axis of the cap, means outside of the cap for rotating said printing plates, a plurality of single-character stationary printing plates

adapted to be permanently fastened within said cap, a pair of slotted channel strips mounted on the outside surface of said cap, means for inking all of said printing plates comprising an ink roller slidable in said channel slots, and a platen adapted to be moved into position over the printing plates to facilitate printing.

8. A check protector comprising a hollow casing having an opening in one wall, a plurality of concentrically disposed tubes nested within the other and mounted within said casing, a plurality of type-bearing printing plates mounted within said casing on the ends of said tubes, means mounted on the opposite ends of said tubes outside of said casing for rotating said tubes with respect to one another to bring the type on said printing plates selectively into operative position in register with the casing opening, a plurality of stationary printing plates, each having but a single character in register with said casing opening, said stationary printing plates fitting loosely over said tubes and being permanently fastened within said casing, a clamping member having an annular flange on its outer end and a collar inner end adapted to pass through the innermost tube and to hold the check protector assembly together as a unit, means for inking the type on all of the printing plates while in operative position for printing, and a platen adapted to be moved over said type to facilitate printing.

9. A check protector comprising a hollow casing having an opening in one wall, a plurality of rotatable type-bearing printing plates adapted for rotation coaxial with the axis of the cap, means outside of the cap for rotating said printing plates, a plurality of single-character stationary printing plates adapted to be permanently fastened within said cap, a pair of slotted channel strips mounted on the outside surface of said cap one on each side of the casing opening and parallel therewith, means for inking all of said printing plates comprising a single roller slidable in said channel slots, and a platen hingedly connected on the outer surface of said casing and adapted to be moved into position over the printing plates to facilitate printing.

10. A device of the character described comprising a tubular casing open at the ends thereof and having a longitudinal slot at the upper side thereof, adjustable type-bearing members disposed within a portion of said casing at one end thereof and having portions exposed through said slot, means extending through the adjacent open end of said casing for actuating said members, inking means carried by said casing over said slot for inking the portions exposed therethrough, and a platen member pivoted to said casing and adapted to register with said slot to cooperate with the portions exposed therethrough; said platen member serving to cover said slot and said inking means when the device is not in use.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name hereto.

MAX ABRAMSON.