Sept. 27, 1932. L. MELIND 1,879,387

STAMP

Filed May 16, 1930

Fig. 1.

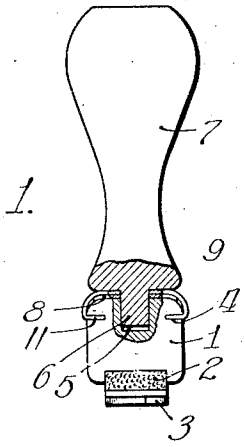

Fig. 2.

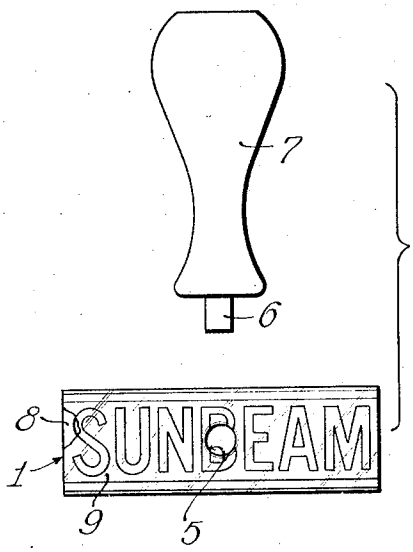

Fig. 3.

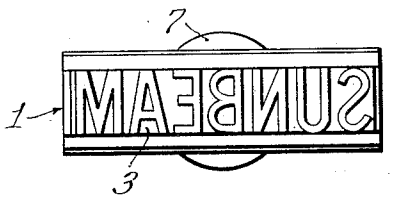

Fig. 4.

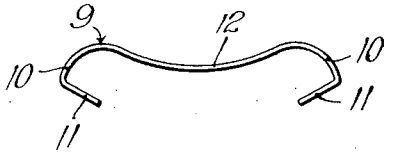

Fig. 5.

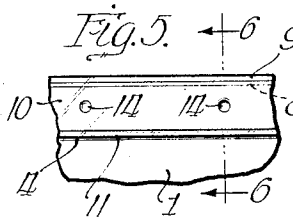

Fig. 6.

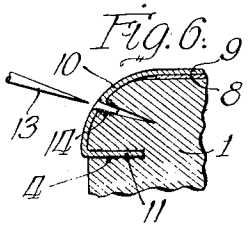

Fig. 8.

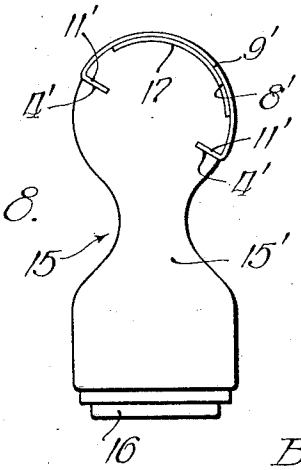

Fig. 7.

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Attys.

Patented Sept. 27, 1932 1,879,387

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

LOUIS MELIND, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

STAMP

Application filed May 16, 1930. Serial No. 452,844.

This invention relates to stamping devices, and more particularly to means for identifying the stamping or printing elements of such devices.

My invention is particularly adapted for use with stamps, though it is capable of being used for other purposes. One of the main objects of my invention is to provide simple and efficient means for identifying stamps, such means being capable of application to a stamp without material alteration in the construction thereof.

The present invention is in the nature of an improvement over the stamp disclosed in my copending application Serial No. 441,907, filed April 5, 1930.

Another of the objects of my invention is to provide a cover member for the protection of the insert identifying the stamp and which is so formed as to bear tightly against the mounting block of the stamp so as to exclude dust, moisture and other foreign materials.

A further object is to provide improved means for securing a suitable transparent cover member, comprising material such as celluloid, to the wooden mounting block of the stamp. This is accomplished by crimping or needle point means consisting of forcing a heated needle point or other suitable sharply pointed instrument through the celluloid into the wood. This secures perfect adhesion between the celluloid and the wood since the former fuses directly into the wood.

Other objects, such as the application of this particular identifying means to a moulding stamp, and other advantages inherently associated with this new and novel means for identifying stamps will hereinafter appear in the following detailed description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is an end elevational view of a stamp having the identifying means applied thereto, in accordance with my invention, this view being partly broken away and in section;

Figure 2 is a disassembled view of the stamp and the handle, showing the identifying means applied to the block of the stamp;

Figure 3 is an underneath view of the stamp looking at the printing face thereof;

Figure 4 is an end view of the transparent cover member illustrating the form thereof before it is applied to the block of the stamp;

Figure 5 is an enlarged fragmentary view of the block illustrating the needle point method of securing the cover member thereto;

Figure 6 is a fragmentary sectional view taken substantially on line 6—6 of Figure 5, on an enlarged scale;

Figure 7 is a fragmentary view of a stamp embodying another form of cover member, the latter being secured to the stamp block by the needle point method; and

Figure 8 is an enlarged end elevational view of a molding type of stamp having identifying means applied thereto in accordance with my invention.

I have illustrated my invention, by way of example, as applied to a stamp which comprises a mounting block 1, conveniently formed of wood, a bed 2 of sponge rubber, or other suitable material, set into the under face of the block, and a stamping element 3 suitably secured to the bed 2 and bearing suitable characters thereon for printing upon surfaces of articles which it is desired to mark in a suitable manner. The block 1 is provided, at the sides thereof and near its upper face, with two longitudinally extending grooves 4, which may be formed in any suitable manner. This block may readily be produced from a suitable length of wood in the nature of a moulding, having one face cut out or grooved to provide the recess for reception of bed 2, and provided with the grooves 4. A length of moulding thus formed can readily be cut into suitable lengths to provide blocks similar to the block 1, thus facilitating production of such blocks with a corresponding saving in cost thereof.

Block 1 is bored out from its upper face, centrally thereof, to provide a socket 5 adapted for reception of a reduced stud 6 at the lower end of a suitably shaped handle 7. The stud 6 has a friction fit in the socket

5 for securing the block 1 to the handle. Stamps of this general type are well known in the art and the manner of use thereof need not be illustrated nor described in detail.

It is frequently necessary to use stamps of this general character and which bear different legends, a plurality of such stamps being commonly supported in a rack or other suitable means. The general appearance of these stamps are quite similar and, in many cases, practically identical, so that it is necessary to view carefully a selected stamp before using the same, to be certain that this stamp bears the desired marking or legend. This necessity for carefully considering the stamps before using them, is conducive to error, as well as causing appreciable loss of time and inconvenience. It is desirable that the individual stamps be marked for indicating clearly the legends or markings thereof.

The means for identifying the individual stamps should readily be visible when the stamp is in its normal position of use or is supported in a rack or other means, and should be capable of being applied to the stamp at small cost and without necessitating any material changes therein.

Referring more particularly to Figure 1, I provide an insert 8 which conforms to the shape of the top or upper face of the block 1, which, in the particular embodiment illustrated, is of substantially rectangular shape and has rounded corners. This insert may conveniently be formed of paper, cardboard or other suitable material. The insert 8 is confined between the upper face of the block 1 and a cover member 9. This cover member is preferably formed of a suitable transparent material, such as transparent celluloid.

Referring now to Figure 4, the cover member 9 is provided, at each side thereof, with a channel element 10 which is so shaped as to fit closely about the rounded upper corners of the block 1 with the inwardly projecting flanges 11 fitting snugly into the grooves 4. It is to be noted that portion 12 of the cover which lies between the channel elements, is curved downwardly. This is advantageous for the reason, that when applied to the block, the cover will bear tightly against the insert to prevent displacement thereof when the handle is removed and will exclude foreign materials from between the insert and the block and the cover. The cover member is positioned upon the block 1 by being slid on to the same lengthwise thereof, with the channel elements 10 engaging about the rounded edges of said block and the inwardly projecting flanges 11 extending into the grooves 4. The cover member is held against endwise movement by reason of the frictional contact of the curved portion 12 thereof with the block 1, and by reason of the snugness with which the inwardly extending flanges 11 of the cover engage within the grooves 4 of the block 1.

The insert 8 bears upon its upper face suitable markings or characters for identifying the stamp with which such insert is associated. Preferably, the identifying data upon the insert corresponds to the printing element 3 of the stamp. The identifying data upon the insert 8 is readily visible through the transparent cover member 9 and the insert is so disposed that the arrangement of the data thereon corresponds to the arrangement of the corresponding printing element of the stamp. The insert thus serves not only to identify the stamp but also to indicate whether the stamp is being held properly for printing the desired legend upon an article in proper relation thereto. Marking the stamping device in this manner is highly advantageous as rendering it possible to ascertain at a glance the particular stamp desired and, also, to determine whether the stamp is being held in proper position for printing therewith upon an article in proper relation thereto.

The insert 8 and the cover member 9 are provided with aligned openings which are disposed in register with each other and with socket 5 of block 1. The stud 6 passes through these openings of the insert and the cover member, and serves to effectively secure them against movement relative to each other and to the block 1. When the handle 7 is detached from the block 1 for placing the stamp and handle in a kit which may be provided for this purpose, the insert 8 is retained in position upon the block 1 and in proper relation thereto by the cover member 9. Under ordinary conditions, however, the handle 7 will remain in position and secured to block 1, as in Figure 1 of the drawing.

The cover 9 is preferably made of transparent material, as above stated. This is not essential, however, and the cover member may be made of any suitable material rendered transparent for a sufficient portion of its area to enable the data upon the insert 8 to be viewed readily. Obviously, if the cover member be formed of opaque material, the desired results can be accomplished by removing or cutting away suitable portions of the cover member. Preferably the cover member and the insert are disposed upon the top or upper face of the block 1. This is not essential, however, and my invention comprehends, in its broader aspects, any other suitable or preferred arrangement of the cover member and the insert. In its preferred and more specific form, my invention utilizes the means for securing the handle to the block for also securing the insert to the cover member against movement relative to each other and the block, though this is not essential in all instances since the cover mem-

ber may be relied upon for holding the insert in position.

Referring now to Figures 5 and 6, another method of securing the cover member 9 to the block is illustrated. This method comprises using a heated needle point 13 or other suitably sharpened instrument, and forcing it through the celluloid cover member 9 into the wood block 1. This secures perfect adhesion between the celluloid and the wood, as at 14 in Figures 5 and 6, and affords a very simple and inexpensive method of securing the celluloid to the wood without the use of any cementitious material, which would involve increased expense. When using this method for securing the cover to the block, the cover member may be of the form shown in Figure 4, or of any other suitable or preferred form. It is also apparent that when the cover member is secured to the block at the points 14, flanges 11 and the grooves 4 may be omitted, as shown in Figure 7. In Figure 7 a cover member is shown which comprises a flat piece of suitable size and shape, which is secured over the insert 8 and to the block by the needle point method.

Referring now to Figure 8, the identifying means is shown as applied to a moulding stamp 15 comprising the mounting block 15′ having the stamping element 16 secured to its underface. Secured to the top of the stamp is a cover 9′, resembling the cover 9 of Figure 1, such a cover being held in position by means of the inwardly projecting flanges 11′ engaging into the grooves 4′ in the mounting block 15′. It is to be noted, that in this type of stamp, the insert 8′ is not disposed upon the outer surface of the stamping block, but fits within a recess 17 which is of such depth that the outer face of the insert is flush with the outer surface of the stamp. This arrangement also provides a tightly fitting identifying means, which effectively prevents infiltration of foreign materials between the cover member and the insert, and consequently the insert bearing the identifying data will be kept clean and readily visible through the transparent cover member. The identifying means shown in Figure 8 has been applied to the moulding stamp in angular relation to the horizontal axis of the upper portion of the stamp, merely for the convenience of the user. It is also obvious that this cover 9′ may be fastened or secured to the moulding stamp by the needle point method and means described in connection with Figures 5, 6 and 7.

What I claim is:

1. In a stamping device of the character described, comprising a mounting block and stamping means carried thereby, a cover member, said member and the block having cooperating means for holding the cover member against movement away from the block, comprising inwardly extending projections on said cover member engaging into corresponding depressions in said block, an insert disposed between the cover and the block bearing identifying data visible through the cover member for identifying the stamping means of the block, a handle, and means for releasably securing the handle to the block, said securing means also acting to secure the cover member and the insert against sliding movement relative to each other and to the block.

2. In a stamping device of the character described, comprising a mounting block and stamping means carried thereby, a cover member with turned over edges, said block having longitudinal grooves, and said turned over edges of the cover snugly engaging within the grooves of the block and holding the cover member against movement away from the block, an insert disposed between the cover and the block and bearing identifying data visible through the cover member for identifying the stamping means of the block, a handle, and means for releasably securing the handle to the block, said securing means also acting to secure the cover member and the insert against sliding movement relative to each other and to the block.

3. In a stamping device of the character described, comprising a mounting block and stamping means carried thereby, a cover member with turned over edges, said block having longitudinally extending grooves, said turned over edges of the cover snugly engaging within the grooves of the block, said block having depressions, and said cover member having indented portions engaging within said depressions and adhering to the walls of said depressions to hold the cover member against movement away from the block, and an insert disposed between the cover and the block bearing identifying data visible through the cover member for identifying the stamp with which such insert is associated.

4. In a stamping device of the character described, comprising a mounting block and stamping means carried thereby, a cover member disposed adjacent said mounting block, said block having depressions and said cover member having indented portions engaging within said depressions and adhering to the walls of said depressions to hold the cover member against movement away from the block, and an insert disposed between the cover and the block bearing identifying data visible through the cover member for identifying the stamp with which such insert is associated.

5. In a stamping device of the character described, comprising a mounting block and stamping means carried thereby, said block having flat faces and grooves, a curved cover member positioned on one of said flat faces with the convex side thereof adjacent said

face, said cover having flanges projecting from the edges thereof, said flanges engaging within said grooves to secure said cover to said block, and an insert disposed between the cover and the block and bearing identifying data visible through said cover for identifying the stamping means of the block, said insert being held in place under pressure of said curved cover against the mounting block.

6. In a stamp of the character described, comprising a mounting block and stamping means carried thereby, a cover member having turned in edges, said block being provided with grooves adapted to receive the edges of the cover member for retaining the cover and preventing movement thereof away from the block, said block having a recess therein, and an insert member disposed within said recess and bearing identifying data visible through the cover for identifying the stamp with which such insert is associated.

7. In a stamp of the charatcer described, comprising a mounting block and stamping means carried thereby, an insert card, said block being provided with a recess receiving said insert card within said recess, and a cover secured to the block and extending over said insert card, said insert card bearing identifying data visible through the cover member for identifying the stamp with which such insert card is associated.

8. In a stamp of the character described, comprising a mounting block and stamping means carried thereby, said mounting block being provided with a recess and with longitudinally extending grooves, an insert card within the recess, and a cover having turned in edges engaging within the grooves of the block, said cover being fitted tightly over the block and the outer face of the insert card, said insert card bearing identifying data visible through said cover for identifying the stamp with which such insert card is associated.

9. In a stamping device of the character described, comprising a mounting block and stamping means carried thereby, a cover member secured to the block and fitting over a surface thereof, said member being resilient and initially of concavo-convex section, and an insert disposed between the cover and the block and bearing identifying data visible through the cover member, the initially convex surface of the cover member bearing upon the insert for holding it against displacement.

10. In combination, a mounting block, a cover member secured to the block and fitting over a surface thereof, said member being resilient and initially of concavo-convex section, and an insert disposed between the cover and the block and visible through the cover member, the initially convex surface of the cover member bearing upon the insert for holding it against displacement.

11. In combination, a block having a generally rectangular section, longitudinally extending grooves in said block, a transparent cover member fitting over one face of said block and having downwardly and inwardly extending edge portions formed to provide channel elements engageable in said grooves for holding said cover member against movement away from said block, said member being resilient and initially of concavo-convex section, and an insert confined between the cover member and the block and visible through said cover member, the initially convex surface of the cover member bearing upon the insert for holding it against displacement.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 14th day of May, 1930.

LOUIS MELIND.