

C. OWENS & U. G. LEE.
 HOLDER FOR PRINTING PLATES AND THE LIKE.
 APPLICATION FILED JULY 18, 1910.

983,081.

Patented Jan. 31, 1911.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

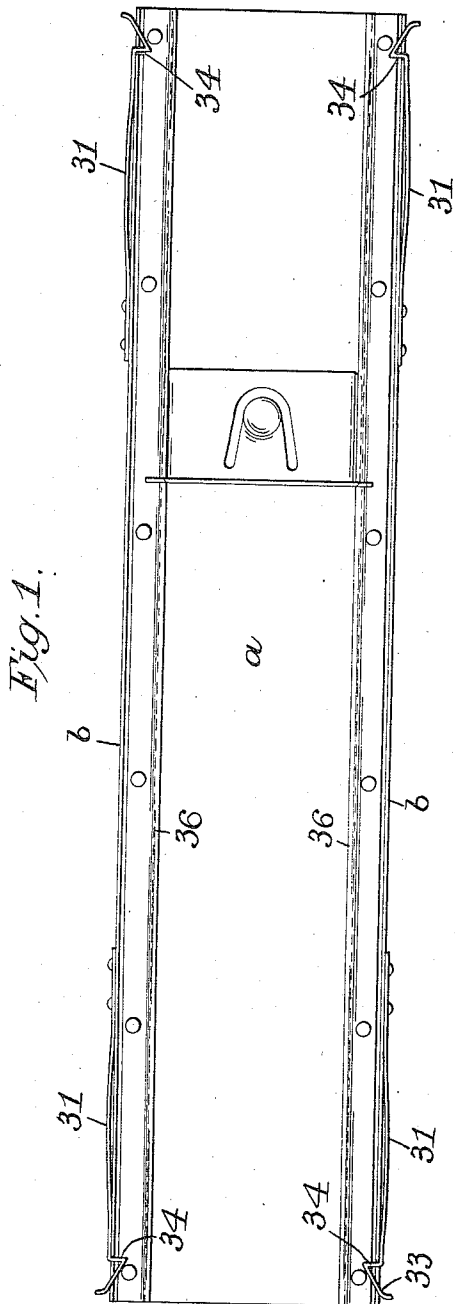


Fig. 4.

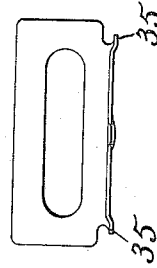


Fig. 3.

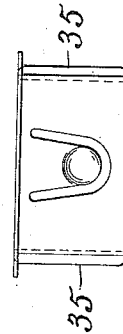
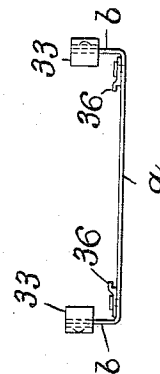


Fig. 2.



Attest:

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 Benj. M. Stahl.

Inventors:

Charles Owens,
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 Attys.

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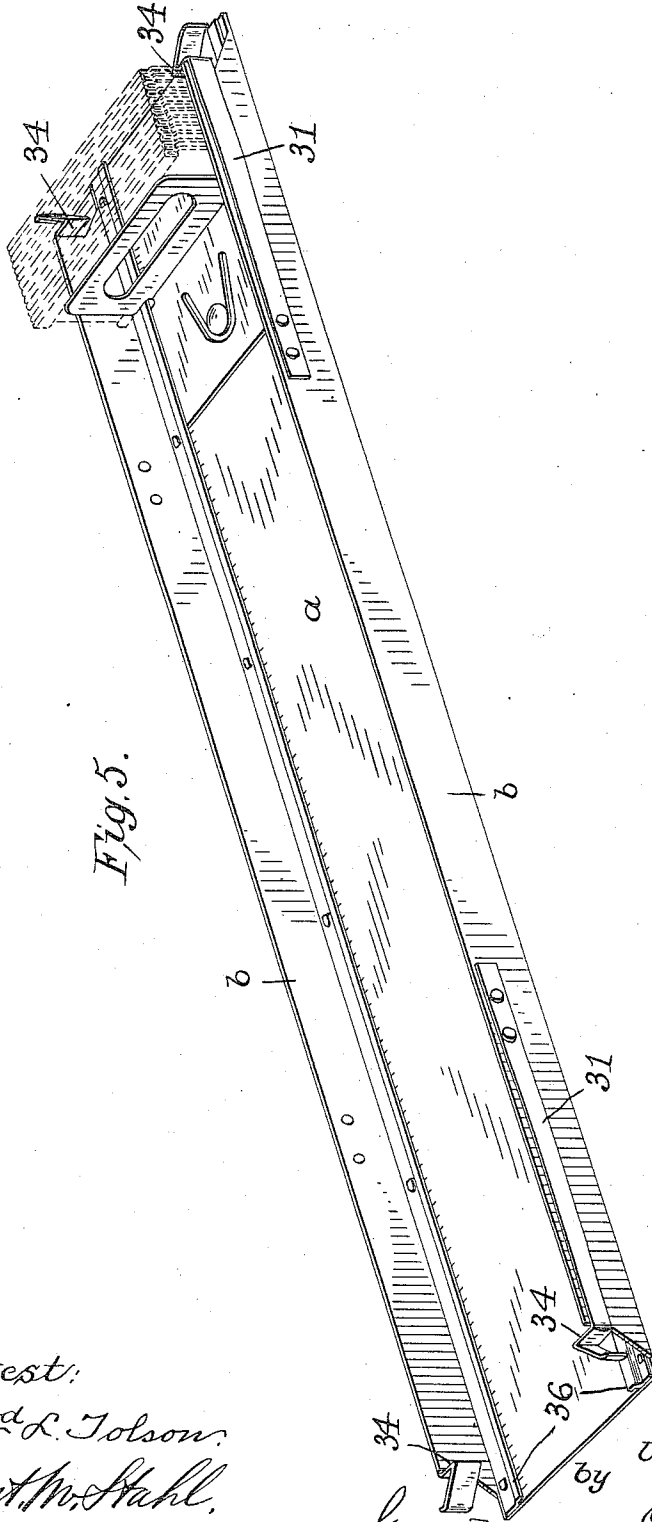


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES OWENS AND ULYSSES G. LEE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNORS TO MONTAGUE MAILING MACHINERY COMPANY, A CORPORATION OF TENNESSEE.

HOLDER FOR PRINTING-PLATES AND THE LIKE.

983,081.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 31, 1911.

Original application filed January 26, 1909, Serial No. 504,584. Divided and this application filed July 18, 1910. Serial No. 572,610.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES OWENS and ULYSSES G. LEE, citizens of the United States, residing at New York city, New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Holders for Printing-Plates and the Like, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to addressing or like apparatus, and particularly to a tray, drawer or holder for the printing plates whereby they may be kept in order and stored away for future use, or whereby they may be conveniently received from the machine packed in a certain order and may be fed to the machine in the same order.

The present case is a division of that filed by us January 26, 1909, #504,584.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 is a plan view of a tray, drawer or holder embodying our invention; Fig. 2 is an end view; and Figs. 3 and 4 are views of a follower block which is used in the tray. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the tray.

In carrying out our invention, we provide a holder or tray for the plates of channel form, having a bottom and a side wall along each longitudinal edge, said side walls extending up substantially at right angles to the bottom, the said tray presenting a throughway or channel extending from end to end for receiving the printing plates or for allowing their passage therethrough when they are used in such a form of machine as will receive the plates directly from the tray.

In the drawings, *a* indicates the bottom of the tray, and *b* the upstanding side walls. At each end of the tray we provide retaining or holding means for the plates consisting of the detents 31 formed of leaf springs having hook-shaped ends 33 presenting flaring receiving portions for the printing plates at the receiving end of the tray, and presenting shoulders 34 for holding the plates when forced into or placed within the tray. These detents are arranged in pairs at each end of the tray, and at the sides thereof, so that when a plate is forced into the tray, it will strike the inclined surfaces 33, and the detents will be forced apart to

allow the passage of the plate into position within the tray, and either end of the tray may be used as the receiving end. In some cases, the tray may be employed in a machine having a holder provided with inclined surfaces to retract the detent means by the act of placing the tray in proper position either for the discharge of the plates therefrom or the entrance therinto of the plates when fed thereto. The tray is also provided with a follower shown in end elevation, Fig. 4, and in bottom plan view, Fig. 3, the said follower having flanges 35 to move along guideways or flanges 36 on the bottom of the tray or drawer. When used in a machine in which means are provided for forcibly moving the plates into the drawer, the said plates are pressed into the drawer against the resistance of the follower, so that each plate, when forced in, will be held in upright position by the follower or the preceding plate and the shoulder 34 of the retaining device.

It will be noticed that the follower is of less width than the distance between the sides of the tray, and also of less width than the distance between the inner points of the opposite detents, so that without spreading these detents the follower may freely pass the detents so that the tray may be packed full of plates from the shoulders 34 at one end to the shoulders 34 at the other end of the tray, the plates being supported by the follower until the last plate is inserted. In other words, the detents in no way interfere with the follower in performing its functions.

We claim as our invention:

1. A tray for holding address plates, comprising a bottom and upwardly extending sides, and having a throughway from end to end with independently yielding retaining means at each end extending inwardly from the sides and above the bottom, said tray being reversible end for end, substantially as described.

2. In combination with a tray having a through way with detents at each end, and a follower guided in the tray and movable past the detents when the latter are in their holding positions, substantially as described.

3. A tray for holding address plates set
up on edge therein comprising a bottom and
upwardly extending sides and having a
throughway from end to end with inde-
5 pendently yielding retaining means at each
end extending inwardly from the sides to
engage the ends of the upstanding address
plates, said retaining means having outer
inclines and shoulders on their inner sides,
10 and said tray being reversible end for end,
substantially as described.

In testimony whereof, we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES OWENS.
ULYSSES G. LEE.

Witnesses for Charles Owens:

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FRED H. HOLMES.

Witnesses for Ulysses G. Lee:

PAUL WAHLERS,
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