June 14, 1960 H. J. DEVON 2,940,389

TYPE HOLDER

Filed June 20, 1958 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

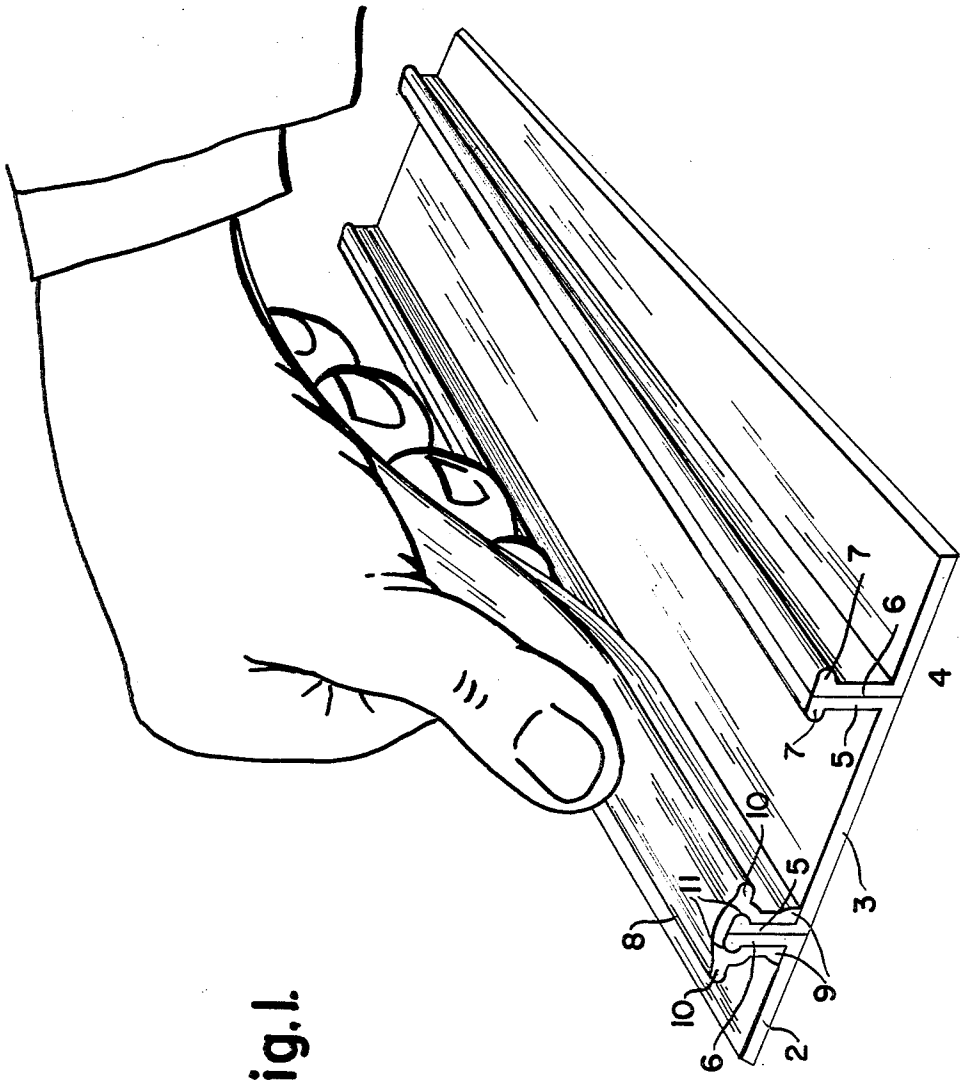

Fig. 1.

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Fig. 2.

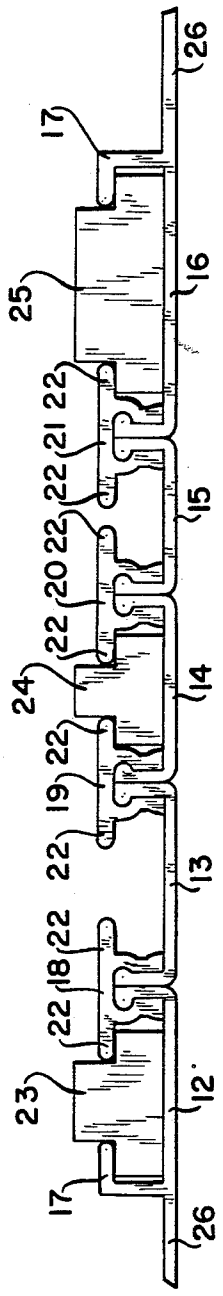

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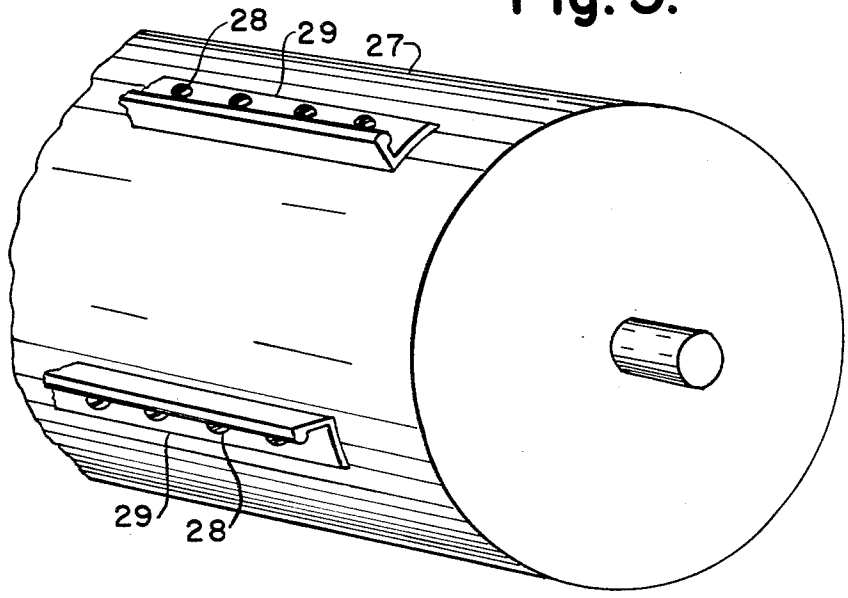
Fig. 3.



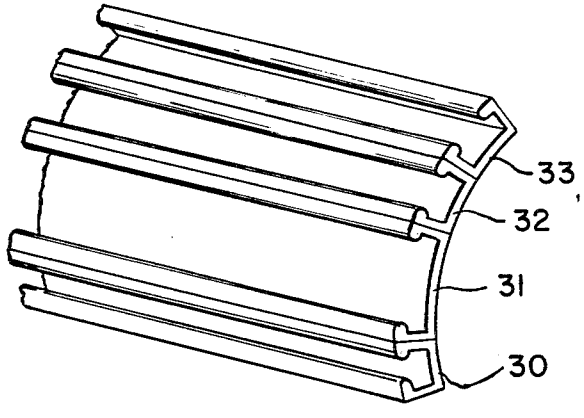


Fig. 4.

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2,940,389

TYPE HOLDER

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8 Claims. (Cl. 101—381)

This invention relates to type holders and more particularly to holders for type of comparatively large size, such as rubber or other composition type, for use in printing or in displays or announcements such as are ordinarily posted on bulletin boards and the like.

My type holder is of universal application, is inexpensive and light in weight, may be composed in a wide variety of different type channel sizes and line spacings, may be employed without the use of tools and may be cut to desired length by using regular scissors, and the components may be easily disassembled. My type holder is flexible so that it may be applied to a printing cylinder and assume cylindrical form, yet it is sufficiently stiff to normally maintain generally planar form as when applied to a flat printing form, bulletin board or the like. My type holder is of such low cost that it may be used as a one time throw-away item while on the other hand it is sufficiently durable that it may be reused many times. It is adapted to be applied to a press or other holding means by being clamped, cemented, stapled, screwed, nailed or secured in any other conventional manner.

My type holder is preferably made of sheet-like material having some flexibility yet which is normally sufficiently stiff that it maintains its shape in the absence of deforming force. Various plastic materials now available on the market are suitable for its manufacture. My type holder comprises an elongated backing portion and spaced apart holding portions generally parallel to each other, connected with the backing portion and extending generally longitudinally of the backing portion and projecting from the backing portion and also somewhat toward each other to engage the edge portions of and hold in place type disposed against the backing portion, the type holder being flexible adapting it for application to a curved surface such as the surface of a printing cylinder. Preferably at least one of the holding portions is a separate member applied to the backing member.

I normally provide two elongated elements at least one of which is a type receiving element arranged side by side each having a flange projecting laterally therefrom at the edge thereof adjacent the other element, the flanges extending in the same lateral direction, and a removable connecting strip embracing the flanges and thus connecting the elements together. Preferably the elements are relatively transversely movable so as to render the type holder flexible and adapt it for application to a curved surface such as the surface of a printing cylinder. Desirably the removable connecting strip is flexible providing for relative transverse movement of the elements. The flanges may have lateral enlargements which are embraced by the removable connecting strip and which inhibit accidental removal of the connecting strip.

In a preferred form my type holder comprises two elongated elements at least one of which is a type receiving element arranged side by side each having a flange projecting laterally therefrom at the edge thereof adjacent the other element, which flanges extend in the same lateral direction, type retaining means at the edge of the type receiving element remote from the other element and a removable connecting strip embracing the flanges and thus connecting together the elements, the removable connecting strip having type retaining means cooperating with the first mentioned type retaining means to retain type in the holder. The removable connecting strip may have a generally U-shaped connecting portion embracing the flanges and thus connecting together the elements, the legs of the generally U-shaped connecting portion of the removable connecting strip being flexible so that when the elements are turned relatively to each other generally about an axis within the generally U-shaped connecting portion and in a direction toward the removable connecting strip the legs of the connecting portion yield to permit the flanges to move out of the connecting portion. A type receiving element may have type retaining means integral therewith at the edge thereof remote from the other element.

My type holder may comprise three elongated elements arranged side by side at least the central one of which is a type receiving element, and the central element may have flanges projecting laterally thereof at the edges thereof, and each of the other two elements may have flanges projecting laterally thereof at the edge thereof adjacent the central element, all of the flanges extending in the same lateral direction, and removable connecting strips may be provided which embrace the two flanges at each edge of the central element and thus connect together the three elongated elements, the connecting strips having type retaining means for retaining the type in the central element.

Other details, objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent as the following description of certain present preferred embodiments thereof proceeds.

In the accompanying drawings I have shown certain present preferred embodiments of the invention in which

Figure 1 is a fragmentary perspective view showing one form in which my invention may be embodied and showing how a connecting strip may be applied to connect together type receiving portions of the type holder;

Figure 2 is an end view of a type holder of somewhat different form than that shown in Figure 1 and showing type held in place therein;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of a printing cylinder having connected therewith side pieces adapted to form portions of a type holder and through which the type holder is fastened to the cylinder; and

Figure 4 is a view of the remainder of the type holder adapted to be applied to the cylinder of Figure 3 but with the connecting strips omitted.

Referring now more particularly to Figure 1, that figure shows three elongated elements designated respectively 2, 3 and 4 the central one of which—3—is a type receiving element. The elements 2 and 4 are not type receiving elements but are mounting elements to aid in mounting the type holder wherever it may be desired to mount it. The elements 2, 3 and 4 are arranged side by side as shown. The type receiving element 3 has two flanges 5 projecting laterally therefrom at the edges thereof. Each of the elements 2 and 4 has a flange 6 projecting laterally therefrom at the edge thereof adjacent the element 5 as shown. The flanges of each adjacent pair of flanges 5 and 6 lie back to back and in contact with each other as shown. Each flange has a lateral enlargement 7 adjacent its extremity so that the lateral enlargements of the flanges of each pair of flanges may be embraced by a removable connecting strip as will presently be described whereby to inhibit accidental removal of the connecting strip. The elements 2, 3 and 4 may be made of any suitable material such as plastic or treated fibrous material. The elements are normally stiff enough to maintain their

shape when they are not subject to deforming pressure but are flexible and bendable, particularly in the direction transversely of the flanges.

Each adjacent pair of elements is fastened together by a removable connecting strip which may be of any suitable flexible material and which I find may satisfactorily be made of rubber or rubber-like material, either natural or synthetic. The removable flexible connecting strip, designated by reference numeral 8 in Figure 1, is of generally U shape with legs 9 and horn-like projections 10. Interiorly the strip has a longitudinal cavity or channel which is of generally the shape of the two adjacent flanges 5 and 6 as shown in Figure 1, but the strip is sized so as to snugly embrace the flanges with the lateral enlargements 7 when it is applied to the flanges whereby to connect the elements together. The channel of the connecting strip 8 has enlargements 11 receiving the enlargements 7 of the flanges.

The connecting strip 8 is applied progressively along the adjacent flanges of the elements which are being connected together by manually forcing it down over the flanges as illustrated in Figure 1 and moving the hand gradually along the flanges and strip; I find that the most practicable way to apply pressure to the strip to apply it to the flanges is with the thumb as shown. Once the end of the strip has been applied the hand can be moved along the flanges allowing the strip to pass through the hand and either maintaining constant pressure on the strip with the thumb or stopping periodically, for example at intervals of an inch, and pressing the strip down. The strip will snap into place and will firmly connect the elements together. A second connecting strip will be applied to connect together the elements 3 and 4 of Figure 1, thus forming a type holder having a single type receiving element 3 with applying elements 2 and 4 connected with the element 3 at opposite edges thereof by connecting strips 8.

Figure 2 shows a type holder made up of five elements designated respectively by reference numerals 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16. It will be noted that the elements are of different widths so that type of different widths may be held thereby and the type lines differently spaced. The three central elements 13, 14 and 15 are like the element 3 of Figure 1 although of different widths. The two outside elements 12 and 16 have integral type retaining portions 17 as shown. Each of the type retaining portions 17 is in the form of an elongated flange with a laterally projecting terminal portion, or in other words is in the form of an inverted L.

The elements 12 and 13 are connected together by a connecting strip 18, the elements 13 and 14 are connected together by a connecting strip 19, the elements 14 and 15 are connected together by a connecting strip 20 and the elements 15 and 16 are connected together by a connecting strip 21. The connecting strips 18, 19, 20 and 21 may be identical or substantially identical with the connecting strip 8 and each has projections 22 like the projections 10 of the strip 8 and for the same purpose. The projections extend longitudinally of the strip and are for the purpose of holding type in place in the type receiving elements. In Figure 2 I show type designated 23 held in place in the element 12, type designated 24 held in place in the element 14 and type designated 25 held in place in the element 16. The type 24 is held in place by the right-hand projection 22 of the strip 19 and the left-hand projection 22 of the strip 20 as clearly shown in Figure 2. The type 23 is held in place by the type retaining portion 17 of the element 12 and the left-hand projection 22 of the strip 18. The type 25 is held in place by the type retaining portion 17 of the element 16 and the right-hand projection 22 of the strip 21. Each of the elements 12 and 16 has a portion 26 projecting beyond the retaining portion 17 as shown to assist in mounting the type holder.

In preparing a type holder with type held in type receiving elements thereof the type holder may first be made by assembling the elements and connecting strips

and the type thereafter applied or the type may be disposed in the type receiving elements whereafter the elements may be laid together in the relationship shown in Figure 1 and the connecting strips applied. If the type holder is assembled before the type is applied the type will be slid in lengthwise of the type receiving elements and with projecting or flange portions of the type underlying the projections of the retaining portions or the connecting strips as clearly shown in Figure 2. The type may be common reverse or mirror type for ordinary printing or it may be directly read type for offset printing or for bulletin board displays and the like. The type may be of any suitable material, normally rubber or rubber-like material.

Figure 3 shows a printing cylinder designated generally by reference numeral 27 which may be of conventional form and may have fastened thereto, as, for example, by screws 28, elements 29 which may be identical with the elements 2 and 4 shown in Figure 1 although somewhat more widely spaced. In between the elements 29 may be disposed the remainder of a type holder which may consist of elements 30, 31, 32 and 33 which are like the elements 13, 14 and 15 of Figure 2 and may respectively be of any width desired depending upon the size of type to be held. The elements 30, 31, 32 and 33 are held together by connecting strips such as the connecting strips which have been described, but the connecting strips are omitted in Figure 4 for clarity of showing. When the portion of the type holder consisting of the elements 30, 31, 32 and 33 connected together by connecting strips is applied to the cylinder 27 it fits snugly between the flanges of the elements 29 and the outside flanges of the respective elements 30 and 33 are connected with the flanges of the respective elements 29 by connecting strips. The holder is flexible allowing it to bend to conform to the cylindrical surface of the cylinder 27. The flexibility may be due to the inherent flexibility of the material of which the elements are made or it may be due to the flexibility or resiliency of the connecting strips or it may be due to relative movement of the flanges within the connecting strips. In any case the type holder is flexible and can be made to conform to the curved surface of a printing cylinder or other structure on which the type holder is to be mounted.

No tools whatever are needed to form and apply the type holder and to apply type thereto. The elements of the type holder and the connecting strips may be cut to desired length with ordinary scissors.

My type holder is very easily disassembled. The elements may be disassembled by simply flexing adjacent elements of the type holder relative to each other in the direction opposite the direction of curvature shown in Figure 4; the legs of the connecting strip are flexible so that when the elements are turned relatively to each other generally about an axis within the generally U-shaped connecting portion of the connecting strip and in a direction toward the connecting strip the legs of the connecting portion yield to permit the flanges to move out of the connecting portion. Thus the elements of my type holder may be disassembled by simply a quick movement of the hands taking a fraction of a second.

While I have shown and described certain present preferred embodiments of the invention it is to be distinctly understood that the invention is not limited thereto but may be otherwise variously embodied within the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. A type holder comprising two elongated elements at least one of which is a type receiving element arranged side by side each having a flange projecting laterally therefrom at the edge thereof adjacent the other element, the flanges extending in the same lateral direction, and a removable elongated connecting member of flexible material adapting the elongated connecting member to be pressed down over the flanges progressively in the

direction of the length of the flanges embracing the flanges and thus connecting the elements together.

2. A type holder as claimed in claim 1 in which the elements are relatively transversely movable so as to render the type holder flexible and adapt it for application to a curved surface such as the surface of a printing cylinder.

3. A type holder as claimed in claim 1 in which the flexibility of the removable elongated connecting member provides for relative transverse movement of the elements so as to render the type holder flexible and adapt it for application to a curved surface such as the surface of a printing cylinder.

4. A type holder as claimed in claim 1 in which the flanges have lateral enlargements which are embraced by the removable elongated connecting member and which inhibit accidental removal of the elongated connecting member.

5. A type holder comprising two elongated elements at least one of which is a type receiving element arranged side by side each having a flange projecting laterally therefrom at the edge thereof adjacent the other element, which flanges extend in the same lateral direction, type retaining means at the edge of the type receiving element remote from the other element and a removable connecting strip embracing the flanges and thus connecting together the elements, the removable connecting strip having type retaining means cooperating with the first mentioned type retaining means to retain type in the holder.

6. A type holder comprising two elongated elements at least one of which is a type receiving element arranged side-by-side each having a flange projecting laterally therefrom at the edge thereof adjacent the other element, the flanges extending in the same lateral direction, and a removable connecting strip having a generally U-shaped connecting portion embracing the flanges and thus connecting together the elements, the legs of the generally U-shaped connecting portion of the removable connecting strip being flexible so that when the elements are turned relatively to each other generally about an axis within the generally U-shaped connecting portion and in a direction toward the removable connecting strip the legs of the connecting portion yield to permit the flanges to move out of the connecting portion.

7. A type holder comprising two elongated elements at least one of which is a type receiving element arranged side by side each having a flange projecting laterally thereof at the edge thereof adjacent the other element, which flanges extend in the same lateral direction, type retaining means integral with a type receiving element at the edge thereof remote from the other element and a removable connecting strip embracing the flanges and thus connecting together the elements, the removable connecting strip having type retaining means cooperating with the first mentioned type retaining means to retain type in the holder.

8. A type holder comprising three elongated elements arranged side by side at least the central one of which is a type receiving element, the central element having flanges projecting laterally thereof at the edges thereof and each of the other two elements having flanges projecting laterally thereof at the edge thereof adjacent the central element, all of the flanges extending in the same lateral direction, and removable connecting strips embracing the two flanges at each edge of the central element and thus connecting together the three elongated elements, the connecting strips having type retaining means for retaining type in the central element.

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