

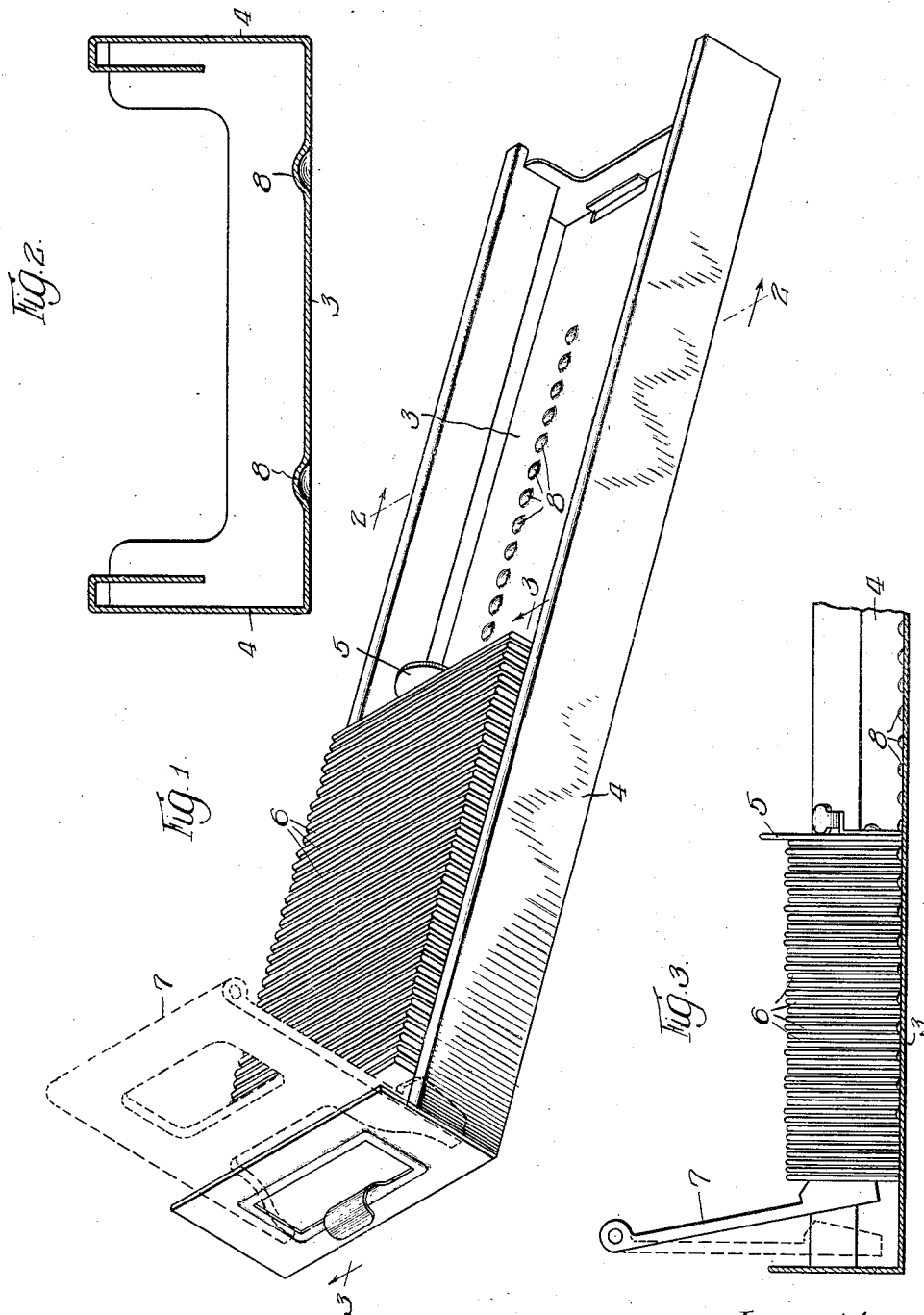
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DRAWER FOR PRINTING DEVICES

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DRAWER FOR PRINTING DEVICES

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This invention relates to drawers or trays for holding printing devices and the like and its object is to provide the drawer with means which will assist in retaining the devices in proper position in the drawer and without interfering with the required movements of the devices in the drawer.

culties by providing integral means of simple form in the bottom of the drawer to act as a retarder against any tendency of the printing devices to slide forward at their bottom edges, but without interfering with the packing movement of the printing devices from front to rear in the drawer.

Also, it becomes necessary from time to time to insert additional printing devices, and to remove some printing devices which may be discarded or replaced, in order to maintain a classification system up to date; and more or less frequently inspection of the printing devices is required depending upon different conditions. For this purpose it is sometimes necessary to release the follower and loosen the packed printing devices to facilitate insertion or removal of printing devices. If the follower is pushed back too far, or if a number of printing devices are removed without advancing the follower, the remaining printing devices in the drawer may slip down into a flat position in the drawer or otherwise become disarranged, requiring time and labor to restore them to proper position.

Another object of the invention is to provide means of simple character to assist in maintaining the printing devices in proper position in the drawer while these devices are being handled for any purpose whatever.

In the accompanying drawings I have illustrated a selected embodiment of the invention and referring thereto

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a drawer embodying the invention and showing the packer in dotted lines.

Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view through the drawer on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawings 4 is the drawer or tray, 5 is the follower, 6 designates the printing plates and 7 is the packer. The follower is engaged in a suitable manner with the drawer to maintain the printing devices in upright or about upright position under normal conditions and to feed rearward when the packer operates. The inven-

Printing devices for addressing machines are stored in drawers in cabinets in accordance with selected classifications and the practice is to discharge the contents of a drawer into the magazine of an addressing or printing machine and to run the printing devices through the machine one at a time for taking impressions therefrom. The empty drawer is supported in the machine to receive the printing devices as they are discharged from printing position and a packer operates to pack the printing devices in proper position in the drawer. The printing devices are supported in the drawer by a follower and this follower and the printing devices in the drawer are gradually moved rearward in the drawer as the printing devices are received from printing position one at a time in the front end of the drawer and pushed rearward by the packer. The packer is positively operated in a fixed arc and sometimes the body of printing devices in the drawer is caused to move further when the packer operates than is necessary to accommodate the next printing device, with the result that the printing devices become disarranged and do not pack properly. These results are more apt to occur when the drawer is tilted for receiving the printing devices, as indicated in Fig. 1, and also as the number, and consequently the weight, of printing devices increases in the drawer. The excessive movement of the body of printing devices may be due to worn parts, to momentum set up in the body of printing devices or to the spring effect which accumulates in the body of printing devices as they are packed against the follower until, from time to time, it may impart more than the usual feed movement to the follower and permit the printing devices to tilt and otherwise become disarranged in the drawer.

My invention seeks to overcome these diffi-

tion does not depend upon a drawer, a follower, a printing device or a packer of any particular size, shape or construction and I do not limit the invention to those particular parts shown in the drawings which are selected merely for illustration. One form of drawer and follower is shown in Patent No. 1,466,792, patented September 4, 1923; a form of printing device is shown in Patent No. 1,677,449, patented July 17, 1928; and Patent No. 1,460,711, patented July 3, 1923, shows the drawer arranged in a printing and addressing machine for receiving the printing devices from printing position. The packer is mounted in the machine so that the end which engages the printing devices in the drawer will have a fixed travel in an arc, or otherwise, and push the printing devices rearward in the drawer as they are discharged into the drawer from printing position.

I provide one or more rows of protuberances 8 extending longitudinally on the bottom 3 of the drawer and struck up on the inside thereof. I prefer to employ at least two rows of protuberances, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 and the protuberances of one row are alined with those in the other row. These protuberances are relatively large in area and they are of sufficient height to accomplish the desired results. I make them large in area and of gradual inclination to avoid sharp corners or shoulders which would tend to obstruct desired movement of the printing devices in the drawer. It has been found in practice that protuberances of this kind will not obstruct the packing operation or other desired bodily movement of the printing devices in the drawer, but will assist in maintaining the printing devices in proper position under normal conditions. The protuberances in a row may be spaced apart approximately the diameter of a protuberance, but this construction may be varied as found desirable. I have found it satisfactory to strike up substantially circular protuberances rounded on the top from the sheet-metal bottom of the drawer because a protuberance of this kind provides the same retarding effect at the front and at the back against forward or rearward accidental slippage of the printing devices while at the same time permitting free bodily movement of the printing devices forward or rearward during the packing operation or for other purposes.

My invention provides a simple and efficient means for maintaining printing devices in a drawer in proper position by retarding any tendency of the devices to slip on the bottom of the drawer without interfering with the feed of the devices in the drawer under the operation of the packer.

As before indicated I do not restrict the invention to the particular embodiment shown in the drawings but I reserve the right to use the invention with any other parts for

which it may be adapted within the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. A drawer having a bottom for supporting a plurality of printing devices on edge, said bottom having on the inside thereof a plurality of rows of protuberances extending longitudinally of the drawer, the protuberances of each row being spaced apart and alined with the protuberances of other rows, and said protuberances being substantially circular in form and rounded on the top.

2. A drawer having a sheet-metal bottom for supporting a plurality of printing devices on edge, said bottom having on the inside thereof a row of protuberances spaced apart and extending longitudinally of the drawer, said protuberances being struck up from said bottom and rounded on the top to form retarders against accidental slippage of printing devices on said bottom.

3. A drawer having a bottom for supporting a plurality of printing devices on edge, said bottom having its supporting surface flat, and a row of protuberances on said supporting surface extending longitudinally of the drawer, said protuberances being rounded and spaced apart and alternating with flat sections of the supporting surface to permit printing devices to be slid bodily thereover but to prevent accidental slippage of the printing devices along the supporting surface.

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