

E. D. BELKNAP
STENCIL CARD.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 2, 1914.

1,239,760.

Patented Sept. 11, 1917.

Fig:1.

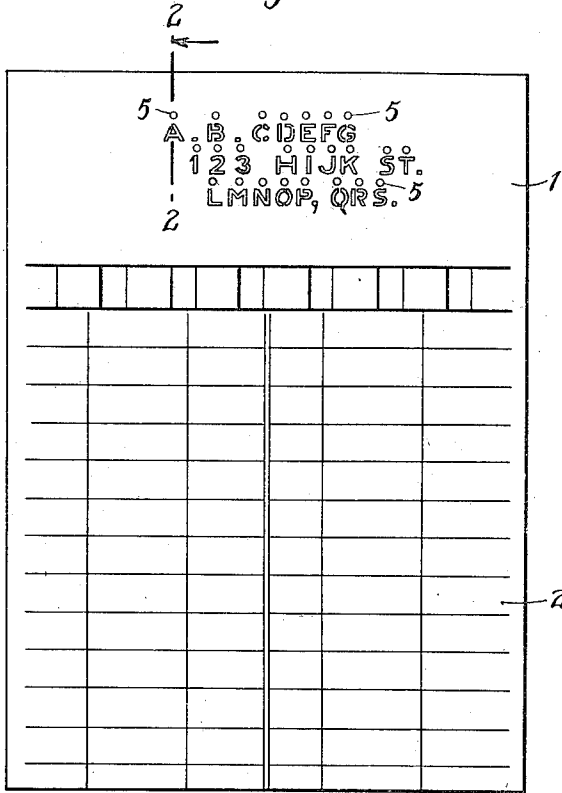


Fig:2.

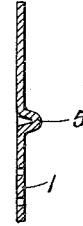


Fig:4.

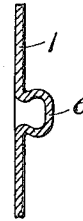


Fig:5.

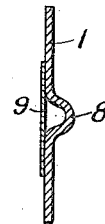
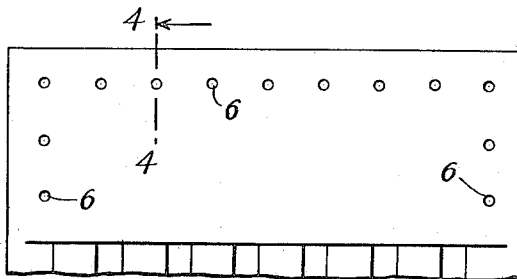


Fig:3.



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STENCIL-CARD.

1,239,760.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 11, 1917.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN D. BELKNAP, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at East Orange, county of Essex, State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stencil-Cards, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to stenciled sheets or cards bearing the addresses of customers or other persons to whom mail is to be addressed and which stenciled sheets or cards are employed in connection with automatic printing machinery to address envelopes, wrappers or other mailable matter to the persons whose addresses are so stenciled on the cards or sheets. The particular improvement hereinafter set out relates to cards of this type which are formed of fairly stiff paper of uniform thickness having the names and address stenciled in a portion thereof by an apparatus which cuts out a portion of each character, as in an ordinary metal stencil. It is especially applicable to such stencil cards or sheets which have in addition to the stenciled area an extension adapted to receive a printed, stamped or written record of various data relating to the person whose name and address is stenciled in the card proper, such as are employed by mail-order and large wholesale concerns. Cards of this character are used to print a mailing list composed of the names and addresses stenciled therein by running the cards in series through a printing mechanism which assembles each card with an envelop, wrapper, or strip of paper to be printed, and forces ink through the stenciled portions onto the surface of the associated envelop or other article, which is to be addressed. When not in use these cards are stacked one upon another in a suitable magazine, and when in use they are drawn one by one from such magazine, forced through the printing apparatus and delivered to another magazine for storage till another occasion for use. After each printing operation a considerable amount of ink is left in the cut-out portions of the stencil due to the thickness of the material in which the characters are cut forming pockets of appreciable size. While shuffling these cards one over another in pulling them from a stack in one magazine and collecting them in a stack in another, there is a pronounced tendency for the ink retained in and about these pockets to

smear over, or print the address on the adjacent cards, thus blurring the legibility of the stenciled, printed or written legends on such adjacent cards. While this blurring may not greatly interfere with the usefulness of the stenciled portion as a printing means, it has a serious effect on the legibility of the printed or written data on the record bearing extensions of such cards or sheets, and my invention is designed to avoid this as far as possible with this type of cards.

The best form of construction embodying my invention, and certain modifications thereof, are illustrated in the accompanying sheet of drawings in which—

Figure 1 is a face view, showing an embossed card of this type;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail cross section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a face view of another form of embossed card with parts broken away;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail cross section on line 4—4 of Fig. 3, and

Fig. 5 is a similar section showing a further modification.

Throughout the drawings like reference characters indicate like parts.

1, represents the stenciled area or portion of each card, and 2, the extension, suitably lined or otherwise adapted to receive the record data which may be written, typed or stamped thereon in any convenient manner, and the preservation of the legibility of which is the main object of my invention.

In Figs. 1 and 2, the separating means for section 1 of the card is produced by embossed portions, 5, 5, which are produced by a projection on the face of each stenciling die or type, which comes into operation when the character is stenciled. As shown an embossed portion is over each character, but it might be located otherwise with reference thereto. As each card has a different number of characters, differently spaced and located, at least some of the projections formed on the back of one card by the embossing action will fail to register with or nest in, any corresponding depressions formed on the face of the next card in the stack by the embossing thereof, and so the desired off-setting action will be produced.

In the form shown in Figs. 3 and 4, the embossing is done by a common and separate die along one or more of the borders of the stenciled section 1 of the card as shown at 6, 6, or at other convenient points, and these

embossed, distended portions are made larger and deeper than in Fig. 1, and are subsequently partly flattened or upset as shown in Fig. 4 so that the projections 5 formed on the back of one card will not nest in the corresponding depressions formed in the face of the next card, although they register therewith when the cards are assembled in a stack. Thus the separating action is 10 again produced. In this form of my invention the embossing would not be done by the stenciling dies, but all the cards would be separately embossed by subjecting them to the action of an embossing die before or 15 after the stenciling.

In the modification illustrated in Fig. 5, the embossing is again done by a common and separate die, but the protuberances 8, formed on the back of the card are not upset, 20 any nesting action being prevented, and the separating action secured, by pasting a thin strip of paper, 9, along the face of the card over the depressions formed by the embossing die.

25 In operation with each of the forms of card illustrated, the ink carrying pockets formed by the cutout portions of the stenciled characters are prevented from rubbing over the faces of either the record bearing 30 portions, 2, or the stenciled portions 1, of the next card in the stack, both while in relative motion in passing in and out of the magazines and when stacked and pressed together therein. Hence the records written 35 or printed or stamped on the section 2, of any card are not defaced and rendered illegible by having the stenciled matter of the upper card smeared or overlaid thereon. In the same way, the stenciled portion 1 of each

card has its legibility preserved from blurring by the overlaying on it of the stenciled 40 legend on an adjacent card.

Other devices for producing the separating action desired might be devised to produce the same result by equivalent means 45 operating in substantially the same manner which would also employ the broad principle of my invention.

Having described my invention, I claim:

1. A card of substantially uniform thickness having a portion of its area in which there is provision for stenciling a mailing address and a long extension at one side 50 ruled for the reception of data to be printed thereon, said portion to be stenciled being provided with means for separating it from a similar card when superposed thereon, said means comprising projections from a plurality of points scattered over the back 55 of the card.

2. A card of substantially uniform thickness having a portion of its area in which there is provision for stenciling a mailing address and a long extension at one side 60 ruled for the reception of data to be printed thereon, said portion to be stenciled being provided with means for separating it from a similar card when superposed thereon, said means comprising portions offset from a plurality of points scattered over the back of 65 the card and devices for preventing similar offset portions from another card entering the depressions formed in the face of the first card by the offset portions thereof. 70

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Witnesses:

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MAI FILES.