April 15, 1969 J. D. PETERS 3,438,716

STAMP DEVICE FOR WRITING INSTRUMENTS

Filed Sept. 16, 1966 Sheet 1 of 3

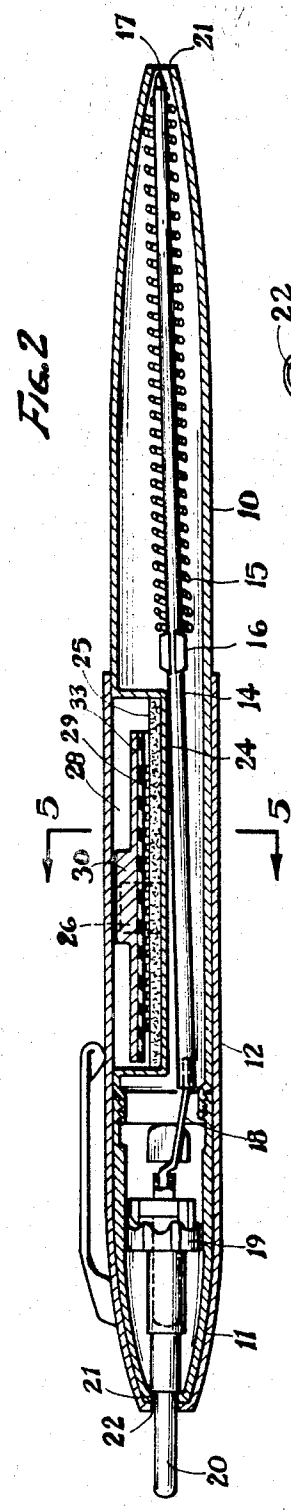


FIG. 2

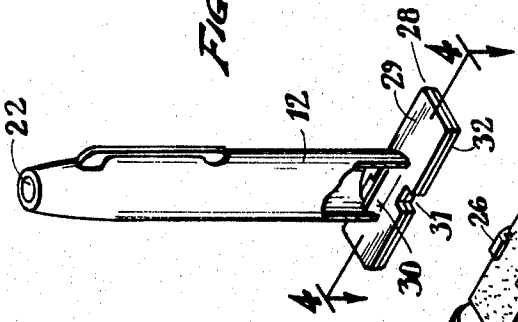


FIG. 3

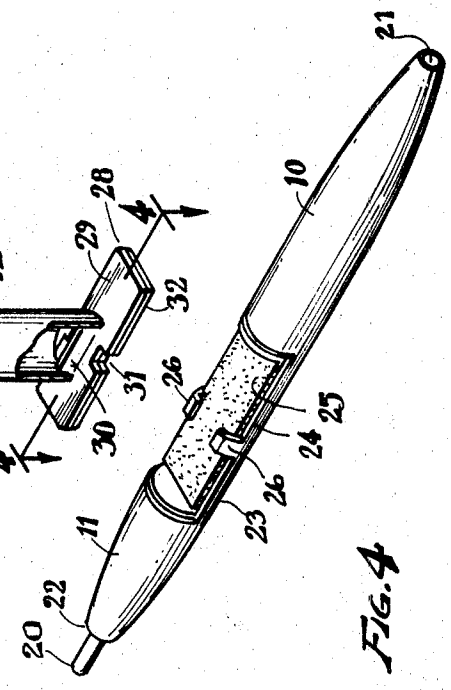


FIG. 4

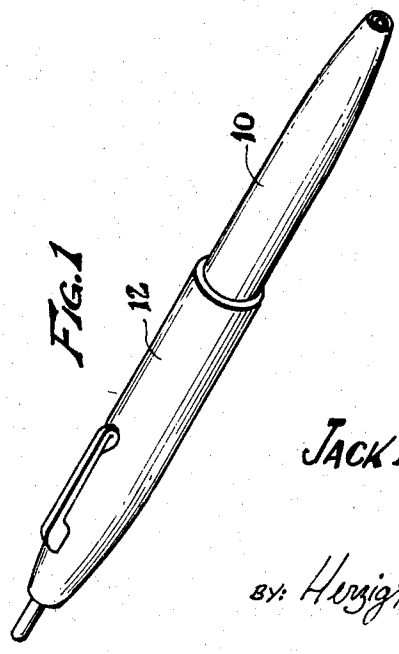
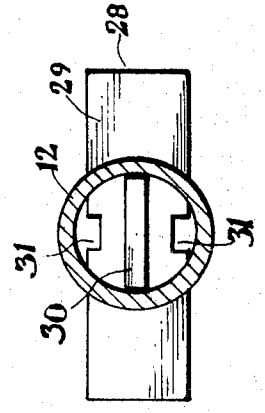


FIG. 1



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STAMP DEVICE FOR WRITING INSTRUMENTS

Filed Sept. 16, 1966 Sheet 2 of 3

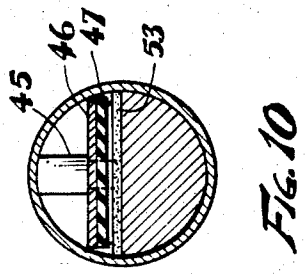


FIG. 10

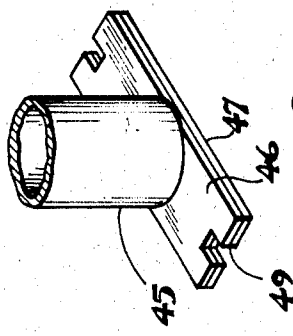


FIG. 9

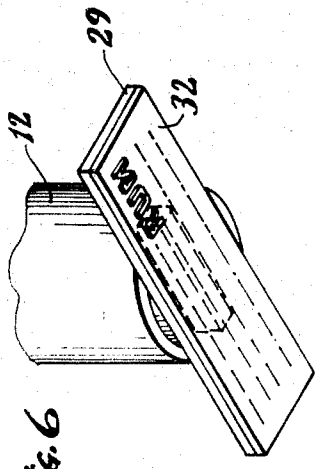


FIG. 6

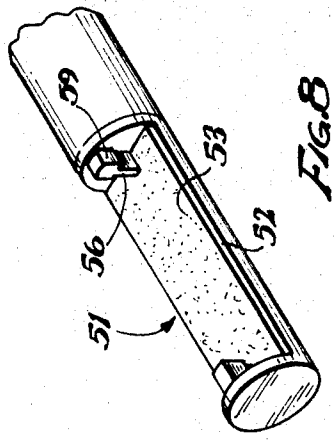


FIG. 8

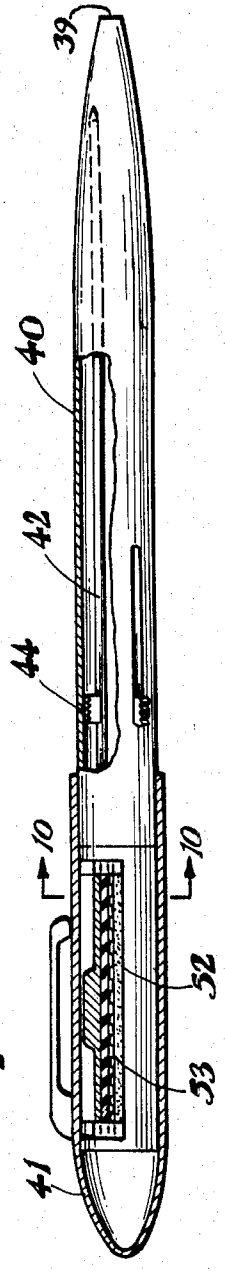


FIG. 7

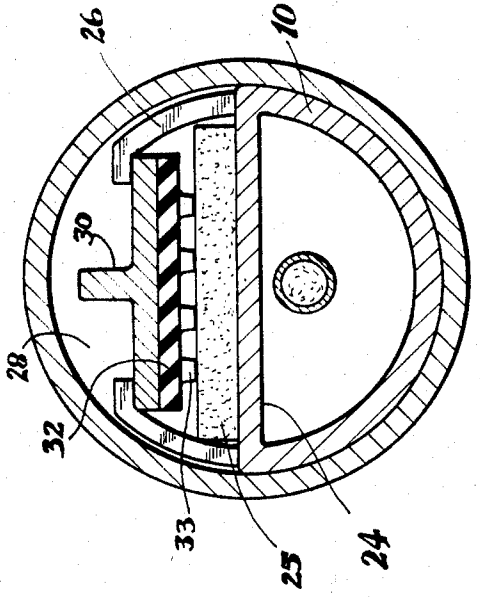


FIG. 5

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STAMP DEVICE FOR WRITING INSTRUMENTS

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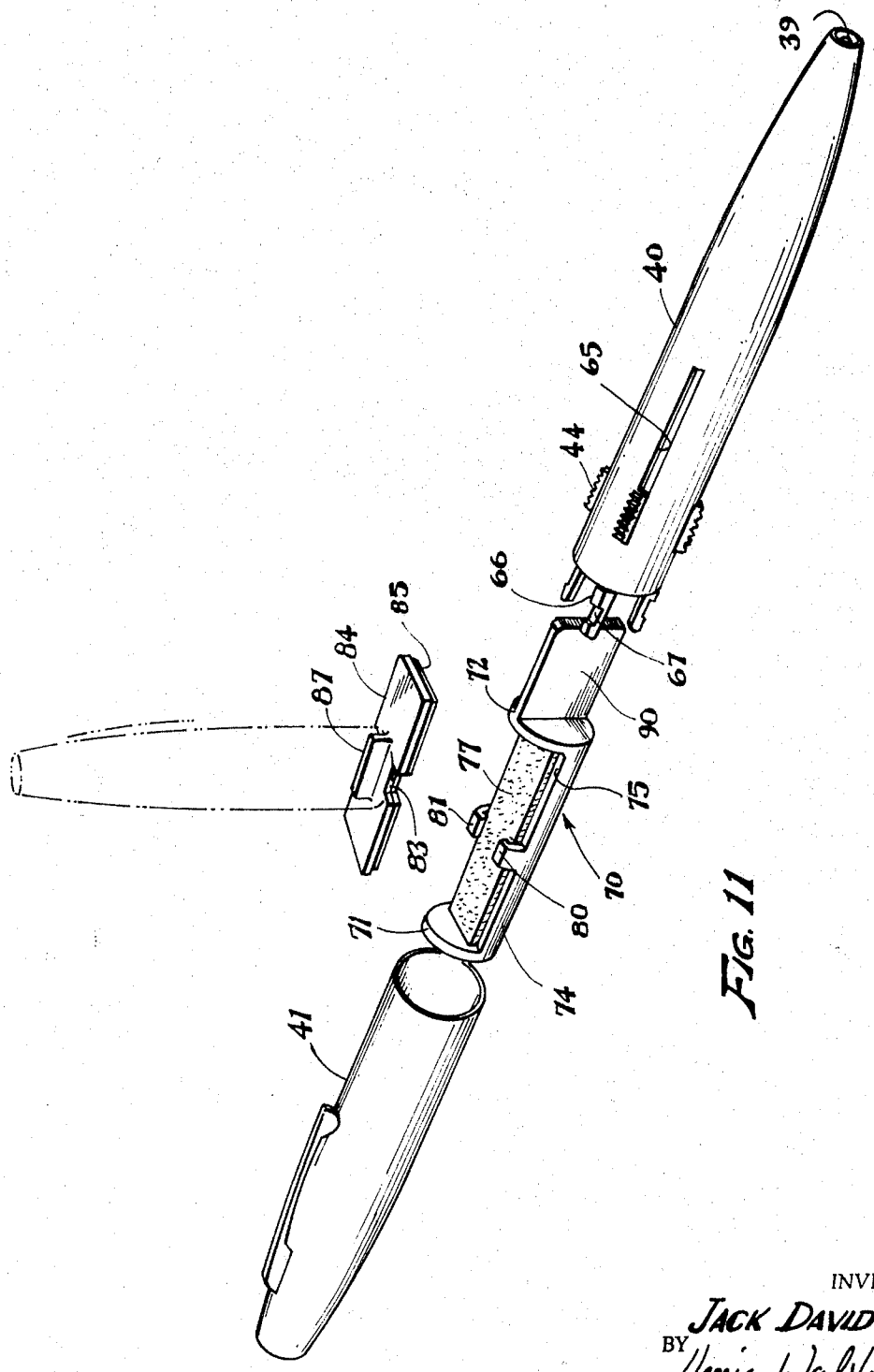


FIG. 11

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STAMP DEVICE FOR WRITING INSTRUMENTS

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Int. Cl. B43k 29/00; B41k 1/42
U.S. Cl. 401—195 5 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The device of the invention is an improved combination of inking pad and stamp embodied in an elongate body particularly a writing instrument such as a pen. The device features a receptacle for the inking pad which is constructed with means in the form of an extension so that the receptacle can be attached to or secured to the body of a pen, that is, a conventional pen, not originally constructed to be provided with an inking pad and stamp. The combination is further constructed so that operating means for the pen tip operable from the other end of the instrument extends laterally within the body of the instrument past the inking pad receptacle.

The present invention relates generally to improvements in stamping or printing devices adapted for embodiment in elongate bodies, instruments, tools, and the like, and more particularly, to a writing instrument having an inking stamp and pad house therein in a manner whereby the stamp can be easily removed and used without interfering with the writing capabilities of the instrument. The embodiment of the invention in a writing instrument is an exemplary form thereof which will be disclosed in detail herein.

An object of the present invention is to provide an inking stamp and pad which can be stored within an elongated body, such as the body of a writing instrument.

An additional object is to provide a writing instrument having a body with an integrally formed receptacle for an inking stamp and pad enclosable by a cap.

Another object is to provide an instrument as in the preceding object wherein the writing instrument has a tip and operating means therefor positioned to be actuatable with the cap in position.

A further object is to provide an instrument as in the preceding object wherein the operating means for the tip are displaced laterally of the receptacle and extend through an end opening in the cap.

A further object is to provide an inking stamp and pad storable within the body of a writing instrument or the like having the capability of removability of the inking pad without rendering the writing instrument inoperable while the stamp is so removed.

Still a further object is to provide an inking stamp retainable within receptacle of a writing instrument body independent of the closure cap.

A still further object is to provide an inking stamp retainable within a receptacle of a writing instrument body independent of the orientation of the instrument.

A further object is to provide a receptacle, stamp pad, and stamp provided as a unit, and adapted for use in conventional writing instruments having hollow bodies and end caps.

According to the present invention, one embodiment of the stamping device generally comprises a receptacle formed in the tubular body of a pen by a rectangular base aligned parallel to the axis of the pen and by the arcuate portions of the pen body at each end of the receptacle base. An inverted L tab is affixed to each longitudinal side of the receptacle base to serve as retention means and an absorbent resilient material, such as felt,

is affixed to the exposed surface of the receptacle base to serve as an ink reservoir. A stamp member having a complementary rectangular base, with resilient material with characters formed therein, is affixed to one surface of the stamp base. It has notches formed in longitudinal sides of the stamp base complementary to the retaining tabs of the receptacle base, and is removably engageable with the receptacle base by first aligning the notches and tabs, and manipulating the stamp member so as to position a portion of the stamp base beneath the tabs of the receptacle base. The stamp member is so retained independent of the pen orientation. Removal of the stamp member is accomplished by a similar manipulation.

In a preferred embodiment, the tubular cap enclosure of the pen is used as a handle means for the stamp member by providing an upstanding tab on the stamp member adapted to frictionally engage the inner surface of the cap member, thereby facilitating the insertion and removal of the stamp member into and out of the receptacle portion of the pen body, as well as to facilitate the use of the stamp member for marking purposes.

In a modified form of the device, the upstanding retaining tabs are affixed to each end of the receptacle base, said tabs having a T cross-section shape and are aligned generally with the centerline of the receptacle base. The notches in the stamp base, formed in the ends of said stamp base, are adapted to complement the receptacle base tabs. The stamp member may be removably engaged in the receptacle by first aligning the notches and tabs, then compressing the stamp member against the receptacle base, then rotating the stamp member so as to position a portion of the stamp base beneath the upper portion of the T tabs, and finally, releasing the compressive forces which will cause the stamp base to be urged into compressive engagement with said tabs by the resilient forces of the materials affixed to said receptacle base and said stamp base.

In a further modified form of the invention, as described in detail hereinafter, the receptacle, stamp, and pad are formed as an adaptor unit for use with conventional commercially available writing instruments.

The present invention, both as to its organization and the manner of operation, together with further objects and advantages thereof, may best be understood by reference to the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which like reference characters refer to like elements in the several views.

In the drawings:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of a writing instrument having a removable telescoping cap in place;

FIGURE 2 is an elevational, sectional view of a pen and stamp combination device construction;

FIGURE 3 is a perspective view similar to FIGURE 1, showing the pen body, enclosure cap and stamp in separated relation;

FIGURE 4 is a plan view of the stamp member and enclosure cap, partly in section, taken substantially along line 4—4 of FIGURE 4;

FIGURE 5 is a sectional view taken substantially along line 5—5 of FIGURE 2;

FIGURE 6 is a fragmentary perspective view of the stamp member and enclosure cap showing the enclosure cap in engagement with the stamp member;

FIGURE 7 is an elevational view, partly in section, of a second embodiment of the stamp and pen combination;

FIGURE 8 is a fragmentary perspective view of the receptacle portion of the second embodiment;

FIGURE 9 is a fragmentary view of the stamp member and enclosure cap showing the enclosure cap in engagement with the stamp member;

FIGURE 10 is a sectional view taken substantially along line 10—10 of FIGURE 7;

FIGURE 11 is a perspective view of a modified form of the invention.

As a preferred or exemplary embodiment of the instant invention, FIGURE 1 illustrates a retractable ball point pen having a pen body **10**, and a removably engageable telescoping enclosure cap **12**. The pen body **10** and enclosure cap **12** is preferably of a diameter which enables the instrument to be easily and comfortably held within the hand and fingers of the person using it, and may be formed of a suitable material, such as metal or plastic. The enclosure cap frictionally engages the pen body.

As illustrated in FIGURES 2 and 3, the pen body **10** has an aperture **21** formed therein at one end adapted for extending therethrough the writing tip **17** of an inking tube **14**. The inking tube **14** is mounted within the pen body **10** and is maintained in retractable urgement by spring **15** engaging tabs **16** affixed to the inking tube **14**. The pen body **10** has a second aperture **21** at the upper end of said body adapted to receive a plunger **20** which actuates a retraction unit **19** which is connected to the inking tube **14** by transmitting rod **18** adapted to transmit axial compressive forces from the retraction unit **19** to the inking tube **14** and thereby expose tip **17** for writing purposes.

Mounted within the pen body **10** is a stamp member **28** adapted to be removably engaged in a receptacle portion **23** of said pen body **10**. The receptacle portion **23** is comprised of a rectangular receptacle base **24** lying in a plane parallel to the diameter of the tubular pen body **10**, said rectangular receptacle base **24** having its longitudinal sides attached to or integrally formed with the tubular walls of the pen body **10**. The receptacle base **24** has affixed to its longitudinal edges opposing intermediate tabs **26**, said tabs having an inverted L cross-section with the flanged portion inwardly facing. Attached to the exposed surface of the receptacle base **24** is a pad **25** consisting of a material which is both resilient and absorbent, such as felt or like material. The pad **25** will serve in part as a reservoir for ink.

As further shown in FIGURES 1 and 2, and additionally in FIGURE 5, the stamp member **28** has a stamp base **29** of rectangular shape and substantially complementary to the receptacle base **24**. Resilient material **32**, such as rubber, is attached to the stamp base **29** and has formed therein informational characters **33**. Each longitudinal side of the stamp base **29** has an intermediately positioned slot **31** formed therein which is adapted to receive the tabs **26** of the receptacle base **24**.

In FIGURES 3, 4 and 6, the enclosure cap **12** is adapted to engage the stamp member **28** thereby facilitating the insertion and removal of the stamp member **28** into and out of the receptacle **23**, as well as facilitating the operation of impressing the inked characters **33** onto paper or like material for imprinting purposes. Upstanding tab **30** is attached to the stamp base **29** and is adapted to receive in frictional engagement the inner wall of the enclosure cap **12**.

In the operation of the instant pen and stamp combination device, as shown in FIGURE 3, the compressive material **32** of stamp member **28** is placed into opposing compressive contact with the resilient material **25** of the receptacle **23** and having the slots of stamp base **28** aligned with and receiving tabs **26** of receptacle **23**, so that the inwardly facing flanges of said tabs **26** are above the upper surface of stamp base **28** when the stamp member and receptacle member are subjected to compressive forces. By manipulation of the stamp member **28**, the tabs **26** can be brought into overlapping relationship with the stamp base **29**, so as to place the inwardly-facing flanges of tabs **26** in compressive engagement with the upper surface of the stamp base **29** when the compressive forces are released. It will be readily apparent that the enclosure cap **12** can be disengaged from tab **30** and that stamp member **28** will be retained in receptacle **23** by tabs **26** regardless of the orientation of the pen and will be so retained regardless of whether enclosure cap **12** is telescoped onto the pen body **10**. In a similar manner, the stamp member **28** may be removed from receptacle **23** by first placing the enclosure cap **12** into telescoping frictional engagement with tab **30**, imposing compressive forces between stamp member **28** and receptacle **23**, manipulating stamp member **28** so as to disengage tabs **26** and slots **31**, and thereafter using enclosure cap **12** to lift stamp member **28** out of receptacle **23**. It will be readily apparent that the pen will remain operable when the stamp member is so removed in that the stamp member **28** does not form a part of the retraction system.

FIGURE 7 illustrates a modified form of the pen and stamp combination adapted for use with another style of pen wherein the pen comprises a tubular body **40**, a telescoping closure cap **41**, and having a plurality of ink tubes **42** containing various colors of ink, said ink tubes **42** being extendable and retractable through aperture **39** by axially moving tabs **44** along the apertured slots **43** formed in the body **40** of the pen.

FIGURE 8 illustrates the modified form of the receptacle for the stamp comprising a base **52** having resilient and absorbent material **53** attached thereo. Attached to each end of the base **52** is a tab **56** having a T-shaped cross-section.

FIGURE 9 is the modified form of the stamp member **45** having a stamp base **46** with resilient material **47** attached thereto. At each end of the stamp base **46** is a slot **49** formed therein adapted to receive tab **56** when stamp member **45** is inserted into the receptacle **51**.

FIGURE 10 illustrates the stamp member **45** inserted into compressive engagement with the flange portion **59** of tab **56**.

It will be readily apparent that stamp member **45** may be inserted into receptacle **51** with slots **49** aligned with the tabs **56**; that resilient material **47** of stamp member **45** may be compressed against resilient material **53** of receptacle **51** thereby depressing the stamp base **46** spacially below the flange member **59** of tab **56**; that rational forces may be imparted to stamp member **45** so as to place a portion of the stamp base **46** beneath the collar portion **59** of tab **56**; and thereafter the compressive forces may be released, permitting the stamp base **46** to be urged into compressive engagement with the flange member **59** of tab **56**.

FIGURE 11 shows a modified form of the invention. In this form of the invention it takes the form of an adaptor which constitutes the receptacle for the inking pad and stamp. The adaptor is constructed so that it can be used with virtually any conventional writing instrument having a tubular body. It could, of course, also be used with implements other than writing instruments.

FIGURE 11 shows a pen body **40**, which is like that of FIGURE 7 being a conventional pen having a plurality of ink tubes as in FIGURE 7 containing various colors of ink. All of the ink tubes are extendable and retractable through the aperture **39** by the axially movable tabs **44**, which move in the slots as shown at **65**. The tabs **44** extend from stems as shown at **66**, each having a detent notch as shown at **67**. The ends of these stems extend beyond the open end of the tubular part of the body **40**. The cap **41** is conventional. The adaptor containing the receptacle for the ink pad and stamp is shown generally at **70**. It comprises a body having circular end pieces **71** and **72** of a size to have the cap **41** fit thereover. Extending between, the curvature conforming to that of the end pieces **71** and **72**. The part **74** has a flat upper surface **75** supporting the pad **77** of resilient material. It has inwardly extending tabs **80** and **81** like those of FIGURE 4 cooperable with notches, one of which is shown at **83** in the stamp **84**. The stamp **84** has stamp pad **85** attached thereto, and it cooperates with the adaptor in the same manner as the stamp of FIGURES 1 to 5. It has a tab **87** on the back which can be engaged by the cap **41** for removing and using the stamp.

The adaptor **70** is provided with means for adapting it to use with the writing instrument. In the form of the in-

vention shown, this is an exntending piece **90** extending from the end member **72**. It is of a size such that it can be frictionally inserted into the end of the barrel of the body **40** of the pen between the stems **66**. This securely holds the adaptor in position and the cap **41** can be telescoped over it in the normal manner of use of the cap. Other means may be provided for adapting, that is securing, or attaching the adaptor to the pen body, or otherwise retaining it in position within the writing instrument.

From the foregoing those skilled in the art will observe that the invention as described herein achieves and realizes all of the objects and advantages as set forth in the foregoing, as well as having many additional advantages that are apparent from the detailed description.

The foregoing disclosure is representative of preferred forms of the invention and is to be interpreted in an illustrative rather than in a limiting sense, the invention to be accorded the full scope of the claims appended hereto.

What is claimed is:

1. A printing device comprising an elongate body formed with an elongate receptacle containing an elongate inking pad, and configurated to receive a relatively removable stamp, said body having a configuration adapting it for being removably held within an elongate hollow cap of a writing instrument telescopically positionable over the said body with the stamp held in the receptacle within the elongate hollow cap, the said body being provided with means whereby it can be held attached to the tubular part of a conventional writing instrument, the body being held thereby when the elongate hollow cap is removed, the body and stamp forming a unit adaptable for use with commercially available writing instruments having a cylindrical body and hollow elongate cap, the body being provided with an integral extension shaped to firmly fit within an open end part of the hollow tubular part of the writing instrument.

2. A printing device comprising an elongate body formed with an elongate receptacle in a portion therof, said receptacle opening radially and being adapted to removably receive therein an elongate inking pad and a relatively removable stamp cooperating with said pad, an elongate hollow cap removably telescoped over said body so as to cover the radial opening, said receptacle being formed as an integral part of said body, the said body having a tip part at one end, said body having operating means for the said tip including a part at the other end of the body, the operating means being positioned relative to the said body to be operable when the cap is in position in the body, the said operating means for the tip comprising a member extending longitudinally of the body and displaced laterally relative to the said receptacle.

3. A device as in claim **2** wherein said member comprises a part extending through an end part of the body and the said cap.

4. A device as in claim **2** wherein said receptacle includes at least one portion positioned to overhang an intermediate portion of said stamp for retention of the stamp.

5. A device as in claim **4** wherein the stamp has a slot cooperating with said overhanging portion.

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U.S. Cl. X.R.

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