LEDGER AND STATEMENT COLLATING MEANS

Arthur C. Porter, Rexburg, Idaho

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1 Claim. (Cl. 281—1)

This invention relates to improvements in collating means for rapidly and effectively assembling a ledger and statement into a unit for effecting a convenient and labor-saving posting of the ledger and statement and has for its primary object to provide mechanical means for attaching a statement to a ledger and to provide a novel arrangement of slits in the ledger for receiving the corners of the statement. Another object of this invention is to provide a novel ledger, which is adapted to receive the corners of statements of various sizes by means of slits arranged obliquely at spaced points therein and to provide an inserting frame which is especially designed and formed to facilitate the insertion of the corners of a statement into the slits in the ledger.

A further object of this invention is to provide an economical and time saving, as well as labor saving, collating unit which may be easily assembled and retained as a distinct work piece for progressive postings.

These and ancillary objects and structural features of merit are attained by the invention, the preferred embodiment of which is set forth in the following description and illustrated in the accompanying drawings whereina:

Figure 1 is a plan view of a composite ledger and statement, designed and assembled in accordance with this invention;
Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Figure 1;
Figure 3 is a transverse sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Figure 1;
Figure 4 is a fragmentary perspective view, illustrative of the means for mounting the corners of the statement in the ledger;
Figure 5 is a fragmentary sectional view illustrative of the means for attaching a carbonized statement to the ledger;
Figure 6 is a perspective view of a statement and carbon;
Figure 7 is a plan view of an inserting frame;
Figure 8 is a longitudinal sectional view thereof, and,
Figure 9 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on line 9—9 of Figure 7.

Referring now more particularly to the accompanying drawings, the reference numeral 10 designates a ledger sheet, which is conventionally employed in bookkeeping systems to permanently record a series of financial transactions. A statement or bill 12 is depicted, the statement being conventional in appearance and adapted to be attached in a superimposed fashion to the upper face of the ledger sheet. The statement may either be of the carbonized type, or a sheet of carbon paper 15 may be glued or otherwise secured along its lower edge as at 14 in Figure 6, to the ledger sheet.

To securely affix the statement to the ledger 10, the ledger is formed with opposed columns 16 and 18 of oblique slits 50. Each column has a top section 20 of slits, which extend downwardly and outwardly, and a lower or bottom section 22 of slits, which extend upwardly and outwardly. The slits of each section are parallel and equally spaced to define straps 24, with pockets 26 being formed at each end of the column of slits.

In order to facilitate the insertion of the statement, which fits at its corners in the slits 50, as seen in Figure 1, into the statement, an inserting frame 28 is provided, as seen in Figures 7—9. The frame includes a flat board 30 having marginal upstanding sides 32 and ends 34. The size of the board is dependent upon the size of the ledger 10 and is formed flat to receive the ledger, which is placed flat on the upper face thereof. Obliquely arranged projections 36 are formed on the board, preferably integral therewith, the projections being rectangular shaped and have opposing beveled sides 38. The projections are arranged on the board to engage certain of the straps 24 and are formed of a size complementary to the straps and arranged in conformance with the size of the statement to push the engaged straps upwardly from the ledger and thus protrude the straps and open the slits 50, so that the corners of the statement can be conveniently and simultaneously at each end inserted in the slits.

The sides 38 of the projections are beveled so that the corners of the statement will come over the sides without bending and will easily slide under the raised straps and be positioned under the raised straps and over the adjacent normally positioned straps.

As seen in Figure 1, the statement 12 has its lower corners 40 and 42 inserted under the lower straps 26 and 28 of the columns 16 and 18 with its upper corners 44 and 46 inserted under the straps 24 and 24'. The corners of the statement are inserted through the slits and under a strap to be engaged by the strap and overlap the straps 24 adjoining the straps under which they are inserted, whereby a secure and positive engagement of the corners is obtained. Thus, the corners are on the upper face or side of the ledger and do not protrude from the underside thereof.

It can thus be seen that the statement, once having been accordingly inserted in the slits 50 and attached to the ledger will remain permanently in place and in exact alignment with the ledger for progressive postings. Of course, the slits 50 are equally usable in a manner as described, from the back of the ledger, in which instance the mounting of the statement is the same as on the front of the ledger. Also, the slits are arranged for progressive postings and the statements can be attached to the ledger with ease and assurance of permanency of union, the size of the carbon being variable as desired, and to permit the statement to be moved downwardly on the ledger, as the number of postings increase. Thus, the statement can be moved downwardly on the ledger for progressive postings from month to month or other periods and will remain in the set position on the ledger until it is again moved.

The board 30 is for this reason provided on its side flanges 52 and 54 with arrows 56. The arrows are transversely inscribed thereon and, when inserting a statement over a ledger, the last entry on the ledger is aligned with the arrows, following the first month's entry to automatically locate the proper slits in the ledger for the corners of the statement. Of course, since other forms can be used, dependent upon the need for a particular size, type and form in various bookkeeping systems, modification can be resorted to within the scope of the appended claim.

Having described my invention, what is claimed as new is:
A frame for inserting rectangular statements into rectangular ledger sheets of that type having a plurality of vertically arranged downwardly and outwardly extend-
ing parallel slits adjacent each side of the upper portion thereof and a plurality of vertically arranged downwardly and inwardly extending parallel slits adjacent each side of the lower portion thereof, said slits defining straps therebetween, said frame comprising a rectangular board, a first upper projection affixed to said board adjacent one side thereof, a first lower projection affixed to said board adjacent said one side thereof, a second upper projection affixed to the board adjacent the other side thereof, and a second lower projection affixed to the board adjacent the other side thereof, said upper and lower projections in each case being in vertical planes in spaced parallel relation to the adjacent side of the board, said upper projections being in a plane in spaced parallel relation to the upper edge of the board, said lower projections being in a plane in spaced parallel relation with the lower edge of the board, said projections each being elongated and relatively short, the longitudinal axes of said projections extending at a 45° angle with respect to the sides of the board, and the longitudinal axes of the first and second upper projection being respectively parallel to the longitudinal axes of the second and first lower projection, said projections being adapted to engage certain straps in said ledger sheet whereby to spread them to receive the corner portions of the statement.

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