June 7, 1932. J. A. B. SMITH 1,861,459

COUPON FOLDER

Filed July 24, 1929

Fig. 1.

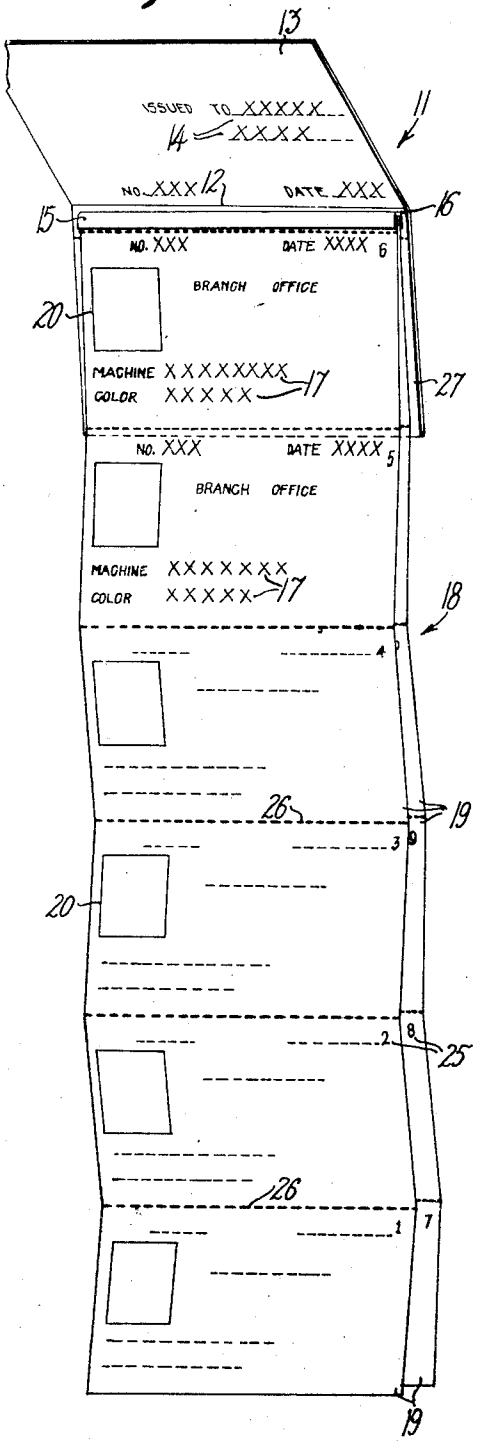


Fig. 2.

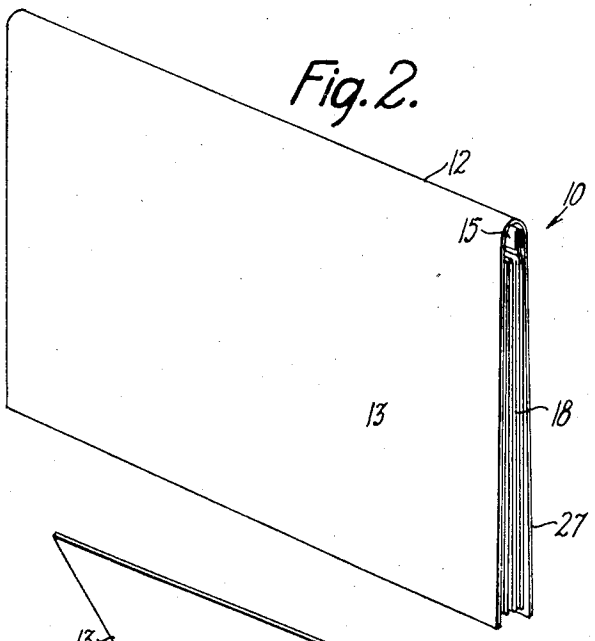


Fig. 3.

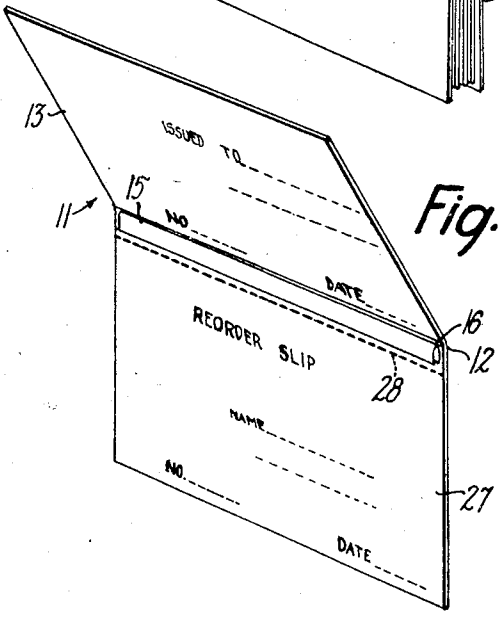
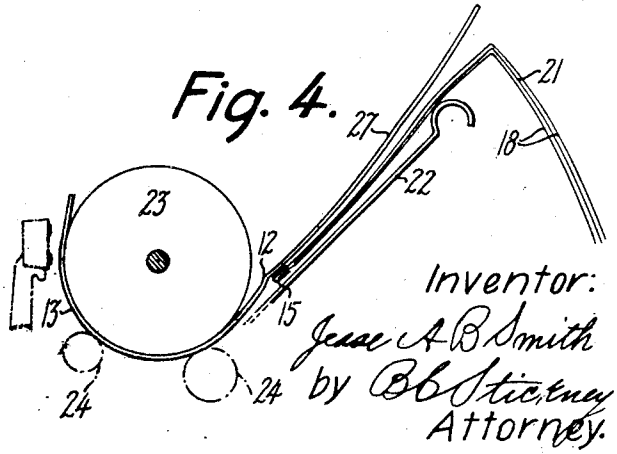


Fig. 4.



Inventor:
Jesse A B Smith
by B B Stickney
Attorney.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JESSE A. B. SMITH, OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO UNDERWOOD ELLIOTT FISHER COMPANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF DELAWARE

COUPON FOLDER

Application filed July 24, 1929. Serial No. 380,512.

This invention is in the nature of strips of coupons adapted for insertion in a typewriting machine.

Typewriter-ribbons and other goods are often ordered by means of coupons, which may be mailed to an office of the typewriter company, who in return ship the goods to the customer. These coupons may be sold in lots of ten or twelve or more, and are shipped from a central headquarters to the various branch offices or representatives. Prior to their being so shipped certain data must first be filled out on the coupons. After reaching the branch office further data has to be filled out before delivering them to the customer.

A feature of this invention is to so provide for the ready insertion of the coupons in a typewriting machine, to permit said data to be easily typed thereon. For this purpose a work-holder is provided, which is in the nature of a flexible sheet, readily insertible into a typewriting machine from the rear thereof. Certain data is typed on the holder.

The holder is provided with means which may be in the form of a cross-piece of attached woven fabric suitably having one side provided with an adhesive, by means of which the strips of coupons may be attached to said work-holder. Each strip consists of six coupons, consecutively numbered and joined to one another by means of weakened lines, to enable the coupons to be easily severed, and also to permit them to be cross-folded into a condensed form to fit within the work-holder and make therewith a book.

When it is desired to type, a carbon-sheet is first laid between the coupon-strips and the work-holder inserted into the typewriting machine and positioned for the first line of typing. The coupon-strips, being firmly attached to said work-holder, will be drawn into the machine thereby as the work-holder is advanced during the typing. The folded cross-piece forms a convenience in the introduction of the coupon-strips into the typewriting machine, as it guides the strips between the rolls and avoids danger of tearing or injury to the strips.

After said holder has been typed, it is fed upward, and the first set of coupons is brought to typing position, and the necessary data typed thereon. The strips or sheets are then fed through the typewriting machine to permit the necessary data to be manifolded on each set of coupons.

The work-holder is further provided with a re-order form which may be typed or otherwise filled in by the consumer or may be filled in at the branch office by front-inserting the form in the typewriting machine. The re-order form is shipped to the company or branch office together with the last coupon. This re-order form comprises part of the work-holder, and is joined thereto by means of a weakened line, so that when all the coupon-strips have been used the order-form may be easily torn off from the work-holder and mailed, together with the last coupon, to the company.

Other features and advantages will hereinafter appear.

In the accompanying drawing,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the holder with the slips permanently attached thereto prior to insertion in a typewriting machine.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the holder and slips in their folded or book form.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the work-holder.

Figure 4 is a diagrammatic side view of a typewriter-carriage showing the work-holder in typing position and the coupon-strips, together with the interleaved carbon, about to be fed into the machine.

A coupon-book 10 includes a flexible work-holder 11 which may be folded over at 12 and has a head-portion 13 upon which data 14 is to be typed. Below the head-portion 13 and close to the fold there is provided a strip or cross-piece 15 which may be made out of woven fabric and glued, stitched, or otherwise permanently secured to the work-holder. The cross-piece 15 is folded over at 16, and has its inner surface provided with an adhesive to which work-strips 18 are permanently bound. The work-strips are formed of a series of coupons 19. There may be conveniently five, six or twelve coupons

making up each strip and each coupon may be for one, six or twelve boxes of ribbons. Each coupon may have printed matter thereon, together with the company's trade-mark or other means, as indicated at 20 in the drawing. The printed matter may consist of "Date issued", "Strip number", and, in the case of a typewriter ribbon, there may be printed a proper heading for designating the style of typewriting machine on which the ribbon is to be used, and captioned spaces for the color of the ribbon, the grade of the inking, and whether the ribbon is to be inked with the record or copying ink, and there may also be spaces for the name of the branch office and for the name of the manager or authorized person who issues the coupons.

These coupons and the work-holder have to have some of the spaces for data filled in at the central headquarters from where they are shipped, and the other spaces have to be filled in at the branch offices before delivering them to the customer. For this purpose a carbon-sheet 21 is placed between the strips so that they may be typed simultaneously in a typewriting machine. The work-holder with the slips attached thereto is inserted down into a typewriting machine over a usual rear paper-table 22, between a platen 23 and feed-rolls 24 and up to the printing point and positioned for the first line of typing. After the head-portion has been typed, it is fed upward so as to feed the strips into the machine for typing the data 17 on the coupons.

The fold 16 of the cross-piece 15 to which the work-strips 18 are attached forms a reinforcing member for the leading edges of said strips and aids in their introduction into the typewriting machine as it guides the leading edges of the strips between the platen and feed-rolls and avoids any danger of tearing or injury to said strips. The strips may then be typed upon until all the necessary data on each coupon has been filled in at the central headquarters, after which the carbon-sheet 21 is removed from said strips and the coupon-book shipped to the designated branch office. The branch office, in turn, reinserts the work-holder 11 and strips 18, together with an interleaved carbon-sheet 21, into the typewriting machine and types further data thereon.

The coupons may be consecutively numbered as shown at 25, beginning with the outermost coupon of the top strip and running from 1 to 6, while the second strip is correspondingly numbered from 7 to 12. The coupons are divided from one another by perforated lines 26 which enable them to be cross-folded into a compact form to be enclosed within the work-holder 11 (as shown in Figure 2), and also permits them to be easily torn off, so as to be mailed to the company's office.

The strip 15 holds each coupon 19 of the underlying strip 18 in accurate register with the overlying coupon as they are typed. Thus two or more of the carbon-interleaved coupon-strips 18 can be as easily inserted and have indicia typed on their coupons as accurately as if one longer strip were used having an equal number of coupons. Furthermore, the time required for filling in the coupons, according to the present invention, would be one-half as long, or less, than if only one strip 18 was used.

A re-order slip 27 is provided and forms the lower portion of the work-holder 11. This re-order slip may be filled in by the consumer, or may be partly filled in at the branch office by front inserting the slip into the typewriting machine. The data may consist of the customer's name and address, and the date issued, leaving only a space for the signature of the party who re-orders a coupon-book. The re-order slip is joined to the work-holder by means of a weakened line 28, so that it may be easily torn off, and may be mailed to the company together with the last coupon.

It will be noted that the re-order slip portion 27 is arranged so that it serves well as a reminder for the consumer to order a new coupon-book by being placed so that it is exposed prominently to view upon severance of the last coupon 19 from the cover or work-holder 11. Also such words as "Re-order slip", appearing on the lower portion of the work-holder, help to remind the consumer to order a new supply of coupons. It will be understood that various combinations of words may be printed on the lower portion 27 to serve as a reminder in addition to "Re-order slip".

Variations may be resorted to within the scope of the invention, and portions of the improvements may be used without others.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A coupon-book for receiving typed data including a cover having a head-member arranged for receiving indicia individual to said book, and a lower member integrally joined to said head-member along a fold-line, a flexible coupon-fastening piece fixed to said lower member below said fold-line, and a plurality of superposed, carbon-interleaved coupon-strips longitudinally separated and fixed at one end to said fastening piece, said coupon-strips each including a succession of detachable coupons adapted to fit within the cover-members when the coupon-strip is folded, each coupon arranged for receiving said indicia individual to said coupon-book, said cover and said coupon-strips being sufficiently flexible whereby said coupon-book may be inserted in a typewriting machine, said top member leading, to have said indicia typed on said top member, and on each suc-

ceeding group of superposed carbon-interleaved coupons, said lower cover-member being separable from said cover along a weakened line below said fastening piece, adapted to bear indicia connecting it with said coupon-book, whereby it may serve as a re-order slip for a like coupon-book.

2. A coupon-book insertible in a typewriting machine, including a flexible cover having a head-member arranged for receiving indicia individual to said book, and a lower member integrally joined to said head-member along a fold-line, a flexible coupon-fastening piece fixed to said lower member below said fold-line, and a plurality of superposed carbon-interleaved coupon-strips longitudinally separated and secured at one end in said cover and held therein so as to leave said head-member exposed, said coupon-strips each including a succession of detachable coupons adapted to fit within the cover when the coupon-strip is folded, each coupon arranged for receiving in predetermined positions thereon said indicia individual to said coupon-book, the flexibility of said cover permitting said coupon-book to be inserted in said typewriting machine, said top member leading, to have said indicia and other data typed on said top member, and on each succeeding group of superposed carbon-interleaved coupons, said coupon-strips attached to said coupon-fastening piece in a vay to hold the superposed groups of coupons in register as they are advanced to the printing field of said typewriting machine.

JESSE A. B. SMITH.