L. H. STEPHENSON.

CHECK PROTECTOR.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 13, 1916.

1,228,844. Patented June 5, 1917.

Fig. 1.

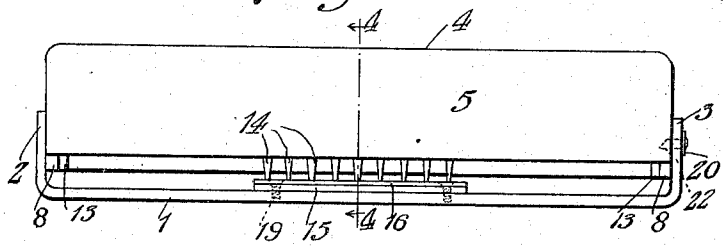


Fig. 2.

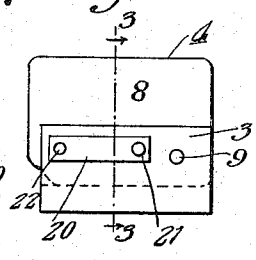


Fig. 3.

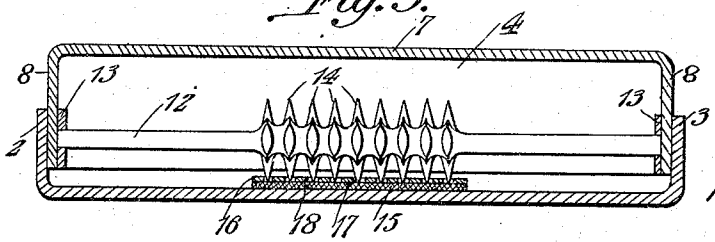


Fig. 4.

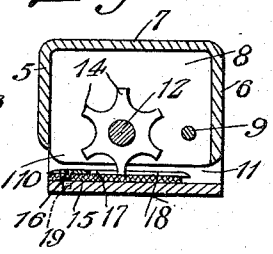


Fig. 5.

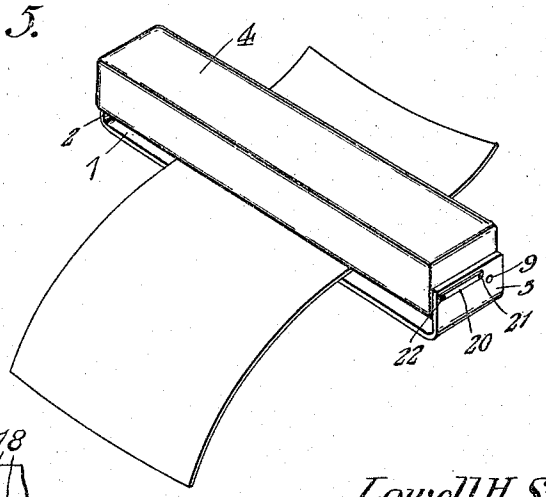
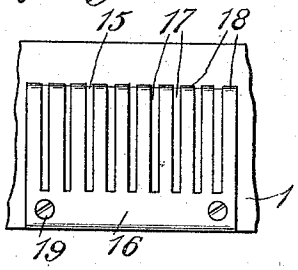


Fig. 6.



Lowell H. Stephenson,
Inventor

By Geo. P. Kimmel.
Attorney

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOWELL H. STEPHENSON, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

CHECK-PROTECTOR.

1,228,844. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 5, 1917.

Application filed March 13, 1916. Serial No. 83,849.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOWELL H. STEPHENSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at San Francisco, in the county of San Francisco and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Check-Protectors, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to canceling devices and has particular reference to new and useful improvements in check protectors.

An object of my invention is to provide in a compact and simple structure a check canceling device having means for partially mutilating the surface of the check at which the amount is written, as well as imprint marks in ink on the check.

Another object of my invention is to provide a check protector of the character above described in which the parts thereof are readily detachable for replacement and for renewal of the ink pad.

Other objects and advantages will appear from the following detail description and the claim taken with an inspection of the accompanying drawing in which,

Figure 1 is a front side elevational view of a check protector embodying the improvements of my invention,

Fig. 2 is an end elevational view of the same,

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2 looking in the direction of the arrow,

Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrow,

Fig. 5 is a reduced perspective view of my improved check protector showing the same in use, and

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary top plan view of an inking pad and holder therefor.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, wherein similar characters of reference designate like and corresponding parts throughout the various views 1 designates what I shall hereinafter term the base of my device, the free ends thereof being formed with upstanding portions 2 and 3 forming ears for supporting the upper section 4. The upper section 4 is preferably rectangular and is provided with front and rear walls 5 and 6, a top wall 7, and end walls 8. The top section 4 is hingedly mounted between the ears 2 and 3 on a shaft 9, said shaft extending through the length of said top section and engageable in suitable openings in the ears 2 and 3. The side walls 5 and 6 terminate at the lower edges above the base I whereby to provide entrance and exit openings 10 and 11 respectively for the check or similar paper to be canceled. It will be understood, of course, that the openings 10 and 11 are termed entrance and exit openings, respectively, for convenience in describing the use of the invention hereinafter embodied in this description and I do not limit myself to any particular direction of movement of the check through the canceling device.

The canceling mechanism of my invention embodies preferably a shaft 12 the free extremities of which are mounted in suitable bearing plates 13 carried by the end walls 8 of the upper section 4, said shaft having a plurality of radially extending teeth 14 arranged in sets and having sharpened free extremities for a purpose which will hereinafter appear.

Coöperating with the teeth 14 and located beneath the same I provide an inking pad 15 mounted on the base 1 and retained in position by means of a metallic plate 16 provided with notches 17 forming parallel extending tongues 18, between which tongues the teeth 14 are adapted to operate. Removable screws 19 serve to retain the plate 16 and pad 15 in position.

In order to retain the top section 4 in the position shown in the drawing I provide a locking means comprising a flat spring member 20 riveted at 21 to the ear 3 and having a pin 22 carried by the free end thereof, said pin being engageable through registering openings in the ear 3 and one end wall 8 of the top section 4.

In operation a check is inserted edgewise through the entrance opening 10 and is adapted to pass above the plate 16 and below the shaft 12, the teeth 14 serving to partially mutilate the surface of the check adjacent the amount, the inking pad imprinting ink upon the paper, it being understood that the portions of the check above the openings 17 are forced downwardly into engagement with the inking pad by means of the teeth 14. It will thus be seen that when the check is drawn through the canceling device a plurality of short indentations are formed on the check adjacent the amount whereby to prevent altering the value of the check. It will be seen that the

inking pad may readily be removed by removing the fastening screws 19, access being had thereto by unlocking the top section 4 and throwing the same back on the hinged shaft 9. It will also be apparent that this device may be made in various sizes, however a convenient size sufficiently large for all types of checks could be made to fit in the vest pocket so that the same might be used as a watch charm or anchoring weight for a watch chain.

From the above description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, it is thought that a clear and comprehensive understanding of the construction, operation and advantages of my invention may be had, and while I have shown and described my invention as embodying a specific structure, I desire that it be understood that I may make such changes on said structure as do not depart from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters-Patent is:—

A device of the class described, including a base, a top section hingedly mounted thereon, ears formed on the free ends of the base to support the said top section, an ink pad carried by said base, a metallic plate having notches formed thereon, bearing plates carried by the end walls of said top section, a shaft having the free extremities thereof mounted in the said bearing plates, a plurality of teeth mounted on the said shaft coöperating with the said plate for indenting a check when inserted between the said teeth and the metallic plate and drawn therethrough.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

LOWELL H. STEPHENSON.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."