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H. T. WILKINS

1,805,897

RECORDING AND PROMPTING DEVICE

Filed Feb. 1, 1930

Fig. 1.

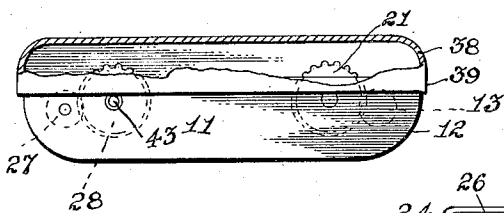


Fig. 2.

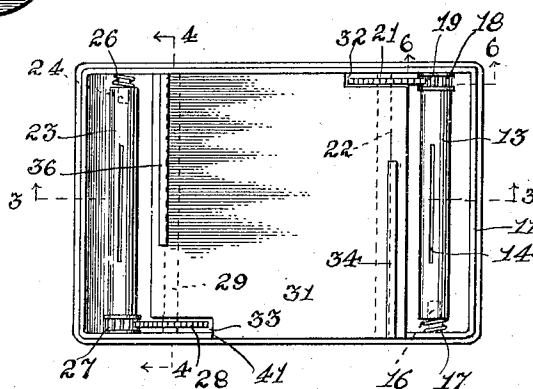


Fig. 3.

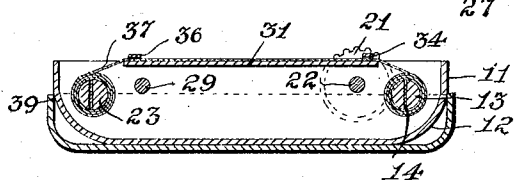


Fig. 4.

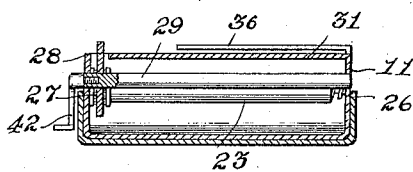


Fig. 5.

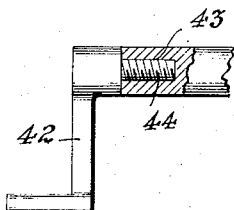
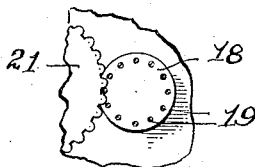


Fig. 6.



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RECORDING AND PROMPTING DEVICE

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This invention relates to a note recording and prompting device and particularly to a device which contains a long strip of paper or other material on which notes may be jotted
5 down from time to time and which may be used as a prompter when making a speech or when writing a chronical of the events or things suggested by the notes.

The object of the invention is to provide a
10 device which will be provided with a movable recording strip on which notes may be jotted down and which may be used in the future for preparing complete chronicals or as a reminder when making an address.

15 A further object of the invention is to provide such a device with sufficient tension means for keeping the recording strip flat and supported so that the records may be readily made thereon.

20 Another object is to provide a device which may be of such construction that it may be concealed in the hands of a speaker and may be operated so as to move the strip to reveal new subjects in proper sequence.

25 According to the invention the device is rectangular in form and is provided with a supply roll containing a recording strip and a take-up roll for receiving the strip after it is passed over a table where notes and mem-
30 oranda may be written thereon, means for providing proper tension to keep the strip taut between the rolls, means for operating either of the rolls for advancing or retracting the strip, and means for holding the strip flat on
35 the table portion.

The drawings illustrate an embodiment of the invention and the views therein are as follows:

40 Figure 1 is a side view of the device showing a portion of the cover broken away,

Figure 2 is a top plan view with the recording strip omitted and shows the cover removed and placed beneath the body of the device,

45 Figure 3 is a longitudinal sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2 and with the recording strip incorporated therein,

Figure 4 is a cross-sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 2 and shows a crank
50 connected to one of the advance pinions to

advance or retract the strip and is primarily intended for devices of a larger size than those used for concealment in the hand,

Figure 5 is a fragmentary detailed view showing the manner of connecting the crank, 55 and

Figure 6 is a fragmentary sectional view of the pinion and pilot wheel and is taken on the line 6—6 of Figure 2.

The device comprises a casing 11 which is
60 generally rectangular in shape and has its end walls curved, as at 12. Mounted in one end of the casing is a roll 13 which may be made of wood and provided with a tapering
65 slot 14 extending through the same for receiving the tapered end of a recording strip so as to secure the same to said roll and insure the take-up thereof when said roll is turned.

This roll fits at one end onto the pin 16
70 between which said roll and the inner part of the casing is a small spiral spring 17 which urges the roll toward the other side of the casing and presses the pilot wheel 18 against said casing. 75

This pilot wheel is secured to the end of the roll and its bars 19 are spaced to mesh with the teeth of an operating pinion 21 which is mounted on a shaft 22 rotatably
80 mounted in the sides of the casing.

The other end of the device is also provided with a roll 23 whose one end fits on the pin 24 and this pin is also provided with a spring 26 for pressing the pilot wheel 27
85 against the opposite side of the casing and the bars of this pilot wheel mesh with the pinion 28 which is mounted on the shaft 29 extending between the sides of the casing.

The arrangement of parts in the rolls 13
90 and 23 are exactly opposite, that is to say, they are reversed so that the pilot wheel and pinions 18 and 21 of the front roll and the pilot wheel 27 and pinion 28 of the rear roll are on opposite sides of the casing. 95

Between the rolls 13 and 23 and flush with the top of the casing 11 is a platform or table 31 and this table is cut out at the points 32 and 33 to provide a space for permitting the
100 upper end of the pinions to extend above the

casing so that they may be readily operated by the thumb of the user.

The platform is provided with confining strips 34 and 36 extending from opposite sides of the casing and along opposite edges of the table so as to hold the recording strip 37 flat on said table.

The casing is provided with a cover 38 whose inturned walls 39 snugly fit over the casing 11 and when the device is in use the cover may be removed from the position in which it is shown in Figure 1 and slipped under the casing, as shown in Figures 3 and 4.

The casing 11 and cover 38 may be made of any light metal pressed to shape or of any light material such as bakelite, etc.

The table 31 may be formed integral with the casing 11 and its one side, such as shown at 41, may be bent over and its other side may be brazed or soldered to the upper edge of the casing.

This table or platform is perfectly level and forms a means for properly supporting the recording strip so that notes may be made thereon by merely holding the device in one hand and writing upon the strip with the other hand, the pinion 28 being used to advance the recording strip and to unroll the same from the roll 13 and to roll the recorded part onto the roll 23.

When the device is used for a reminder or prompter by a speaker, its small size will permit of its being concealed in either hand, the strip on which the notes are recorded having been wound onto the roll 13, these notes may be passed across the table by the speaker merely rotating the pinion 28 while, if desired, and if it is necessary to refer to any notes formerly exhibited, the pinion 21 may be likewise rotated in the reverse direction.

In Figures 4 and 5 I have shown the shaft 29 provided with a crank 42. If desired, both rolls may be arranged to connect the crank. This will, of course, be utilized where devices larger than the hand type are used and particularly in the case of musicians and others who wish to advance or retract copy.

The end of the shaft 29 is provided with a threaded hole 43 while the crank is provided with a threaded pin 44, which said pin fits into the threaded hole and when the crank is turned the shaft rotates therewith. This will advance the recording strip from the roll 13 to the roll 23 and will eliminate the fumbling of copy by musicians and others.

Of course, as a prompter, the device may be used by actors, singers, clergymen, stationers, sight-seeing and points of interest announcers, by guides in public and private places, and also by instructors and salesmen.

It is particularly adapted for memorizing any subject and may be carried in the vest-pocket by the owner, although for other pur-

poses the device may be made in varying sizes.

Of course, the recording and prompting device illustrated may be modified and changed in various ways without departing from the invention herein set forth and hereafter claimed.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A recording and prompting device comprising a casing, a table within the casing, supply and receiving rollers journaled upon opposite sides of the table and provided with elements defining the width of the strip to be employed, and confining fingers juxtaposed to the table and attached at one end thereto and projected from opposite sides substantially parallel with the rollers and each stopping short of the side opposite its attachment, said fingers being spaced apart a distance greater than the width of the strip defined by the rollers.

2. A recording and prompting device comprising a casing, a table within the casing, supply and receiving rollers journaled upon opposite sides of the table and provided with heads defining the width of the strip to be employed, and confining fingers juxtaposed to the table and attached at one end thereto and projected from opposite sides substantially parallel with the rollers and each stopping short of the side opposite its attachment, said fingers being spaced apart a distance greater than the width of the strip defined by the rollers.

3. A recording and prompting device comprising a casing, a table within the casing, supply and receiving rollers journaled upon opposite sides of the table and provided with elements defining the width of the strip to be employed, and confining fingers juxtaposed to the table and attached at one end thereto and projected from opposite sides substantially parallel with the rollers and free at the end opposite its attachment, said fingers being spaced apart a distance greater than the width of the strip defined by the rollers.

4. A writing device including a platen, means for supporting a record strip in position to be led longitudinally over the platen, and retaining fingers extending in opposed relation substantially across the platen at its opposite ends, the fingers being secured in position at opposite marginal edges of the platen.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

HARRY T. WILKINS.