June 29, 1948. G. GORDON 2,444,160

INK PAD

Filed Sept. 3, 1943

Fig. 1

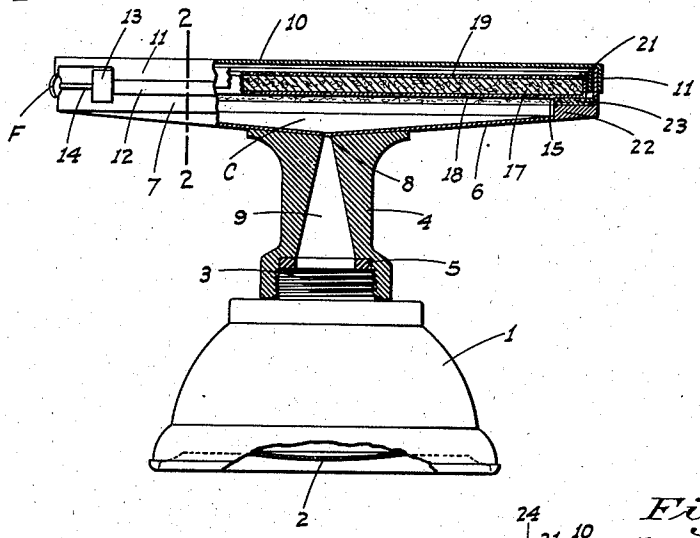


Fig. 2

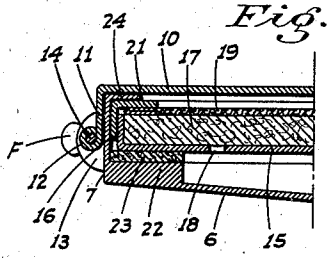


Fig. 3

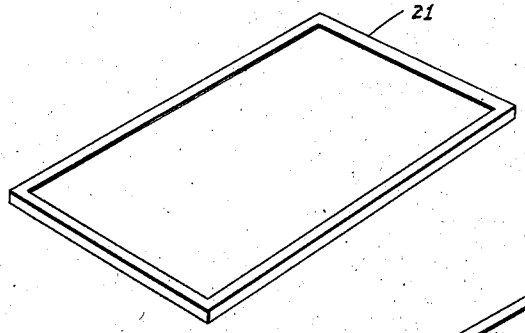


Fig. 4

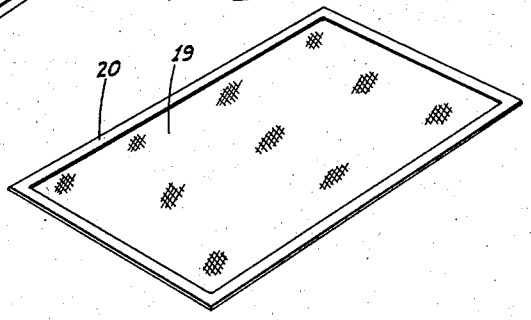
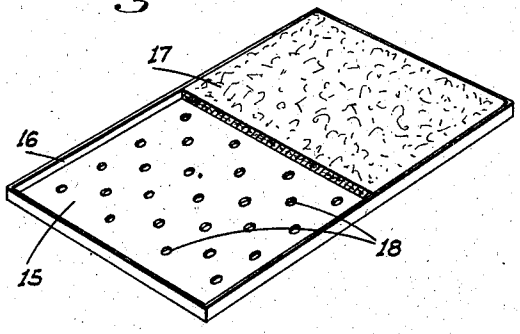


Fig. 5



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INK PAD

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4 Claims. (Cl. 91—54.5)

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This invention relates in general to an improved ink pad, and in particular the invention is directed to, and one of my objects is to provide, an ink pad unit which includes a reservoir of ink from which ink may be readily and easily fed to the pad when necessary, said reservoir comprising a metallic container normally disposed below the pad, and having a spring or snap bottom manually operable upon inversion of the unit to cause ink to be delivered to the pad.

A further object of the present invention is to provide an ink pad unit, as above, in which I include an ink diffusion plate interposed between the ink reservoir and the pad whereby to assure of proper distribution of ink to said pad.

A still further object of this invention is to provide an ink pad unit which is designed for convenient hand support, and is constructed with a removable lid, whereby when the unit is to be continuously used for a substantial length of time, as for example by meat inspectors, the lid can be removed and set aside so as to not cause annoyance and inconvenience.

An additional object of this invention is to provide an ink pad unit which is constructed so that the top cover thereof, and which cover is the portion directly engaged by the rubber or metal stamp, is removable for replacement; this being a great advantage, as it permits the changing of the pad cover when the same is worn out, wrinkled, excessively gummed or clogged with animal grease or fat, as occurs when the pad is used in connection with meat-inspection stamping. Further, where metal stamps are used these soon cut or wear out the pad cover.

It is also an object of this invention to provide an ink pad unit which is stable and remains in upright leak-proof position when set down, and the unit is so designed that it is easy to pick up and handle; the hand engaging portions of the unit being free of ink.

I also provide an ink pad which is clean, economical and a time saver.

A further object of the invention is to produce a simple, inexpensive, and long-wearing device, and yet one which will be exceedingly effective for the purpose for which it is designed.

These objects I accomplish by means of such structure and relative arrangement of parts as will fully appear by a perusal of the following specification and claims.

In the drawings similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several views:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the device partly in section.

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Figure 2 is an enlarged cross section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the flanged border frame, detached, which is employed to secure the removable cover on the pad.

Figure 4 is a perspective view, detached, of the removable cover.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the pad supporting tray, detached, and with the pad partly broken away to disclose the bottom of said tray, which is formed as a perforate ink diffusing plate.

Referring now more particularly to the characters of reference on the drawings, the device comprises a round ink can or container 1 which tapers somewhat towards its upper end, and which container includes a spring or snap bottom 2. At its upper end the container 1 includes a neck 3 threaded into the lower end of an upstanding tubular stem 4, there being a washer or gasket 5 between the outer end of neck 3 and a matching shoulder in stem 4, whereby to prevent leakage.

At its upper end the tubular stem 4 is fixedly secured in centered relation on the bottom 6 of an ink pad holding or supporting box or shell 7, which is rectangular in plan and relatively shallow.

The bottom 6 of the shallow box 7 slopes inwardly and downwardly from its edges to a center point at which there is a relatively small orifice 8 opening through said bottom into the passage 9 and stem 4, and which passage is gradually reduced in diameter from its lower to its upper end; the upper end of said passage being of a diameter substantially equal to that of the orifice 8.

The box 7 includes a lid 10 having depending flanges 11 about the edges thereof, and which flanges engage with the sides of the box 7 when the lid is closed. Along one side of the box the lid flange 11 is formed with a hinge sleeve 12 disposed between outwardly projecting perforate ears 13 secured in connection with the box. A removable hinge pin 14, having a finger piece F on one end thereof, slidably and removably projects through the ears 13 and sleeve 12, to hingedly secure the lid 10 on the box 7. When the device is to be continuously used over a substantial length of time and the operator desires to avoid the annoyance which the lid would cause, the pin 14 is withdrawn and the lid separated from the box and laid aside.

The box 7 encloses a pad unit of novel construction, and which comprises a relatively shallow

tray 15 having narrow sides 16, and in which tray an ink pad 17 is disposed. The bottom of tray 15 is perforated, as at 18, whereby said bottom forms an ink diffusion plate. An initially separate, fabric pad cover 19, provided with a marginal frame 20, is disposed on top of the ink pad 17; said cover matching the pad 17, and being removably retained in place thereon by a flanged border frame 21 which closely and frictionally engages on the tray 15; the flanges of the border frame 21 engaging and matching the marginal frame 20 on the cover.

The above described ink pad unit is of a size and configuration to snugly seat in the box 7; said box adjacent its sides and below the ink pad unit including a horizontal seat 22, and a leak preventing gasket 23 is disposed between seat 22 and the bottom of the ink pad unit adjacent the edges of the latter.

The box 7 along one side includes an inwardly projecting, locating flange 24 which closely engages on top of the ink pad unit along the corresponding side, removal of said ink pad unit being accomplished by raising the latter on the side opposite the flange 24.

In use of the device, re-inking of the pad is accomplished merely by inverting the device and pressing on the spring or snap bottom a few times. A quantity of ink from a supply previously placed in the container 1 is thus discharged through the relatively small orifice 8 into the ink receiving chamber C formed between the bottom 6 of box 7 and the perforate bottom or ink diffusion plate 18 of tray 15. From chamber C the ink passes through the diffusion plate 18 into the pad. After the pad has been thoroughly inked, the device is returned to normal upright position and any excessive ink drains down the sloping bottom 6, through the orifice 8, and thence through the passage 9 into the container 1.

When the fabric cover 19 requires replacement for any one of the reasons hereinbefore enumerated, it is only necessary to remove the ink pad unit from the box 17, whereupon the flanged border frame 21 can be removed from the tray 15, permitting easy and ready replacement of the fabric cover 19.

The above described ink pad unit is designed for, and will be found useful in connection with, all commercial and industrial stamping, as for example by meat, dairy, and fruit inspectors, and in offices, warehouses, packing houses, creameries, wholesale and retail establishments, and many other industries where there is need for rubber and metal stamp use.

From the foregoing description it will be readily seen that I have produced such a device as substantially fulfills the objects of the invention as set forth herein.

While this specification sets forth in detail the present and preferred construction of the device,

still in practice such deviations from such detail may be resorted to as do not form a departure from the spirit of the invention, as defined by the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and useful and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. An ink pad unit comprising an ink container having a snap bottom, a tubular stem upstanding from the container, a relatively shallow, upwardly opening box mounted on the upper end of said stem, the latter connecting the container and the box at the bottom in communication, an ink pad retaining tray disposed in close fitting relation in the box, and an ink pad in said tray; said tray having apertures in the bottom thereof for the passage of ink.

2. An ink pad unit as in claim 1 in which the bottom of the box slopes inwardly and downwardly from its edges to an orifice, said orifice being in communication with said tubular stem.

3. An ink pad unit comprising an ink container having a snap bottom, a tubular stem upstanding from the container, a relatively shallow, upwardly opening box mounted on the upper end of said stem, the latter connecting the container and the box at the bottom in communication, an ink pad retaining tray disposed in close fitting relation in the box, and an ink pad in said tray; said tray having apertures in the bottom thereof for the passage of ink, and a pad cover removably mounted in connection with said tray.

4. An ink pad unit comprising an ink container having a snap bottom, a tubular stem upstanding from the container, a relatively shallow, upwardly opening box mounted on the upper end of said stem, the latter connecting the container and the box at the bottom in communication, an ink pad retaining tray disposed in close fitting relation in the box, and an ink pad in said tray; said tray having apertures in the bottom thereof for the passage of ink, and a leak preventing gasket between the bottom of the tray adjacent its edges and a seat formed in the box adjacent the bottom thereof.

GEORGE GORDON.

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