

Jan. 19, 1965

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3,166,309

METHODS FOR MAKING AND DISTRIBUTING PRINTED ARTICLES

Filed Feb. 11, 1963

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

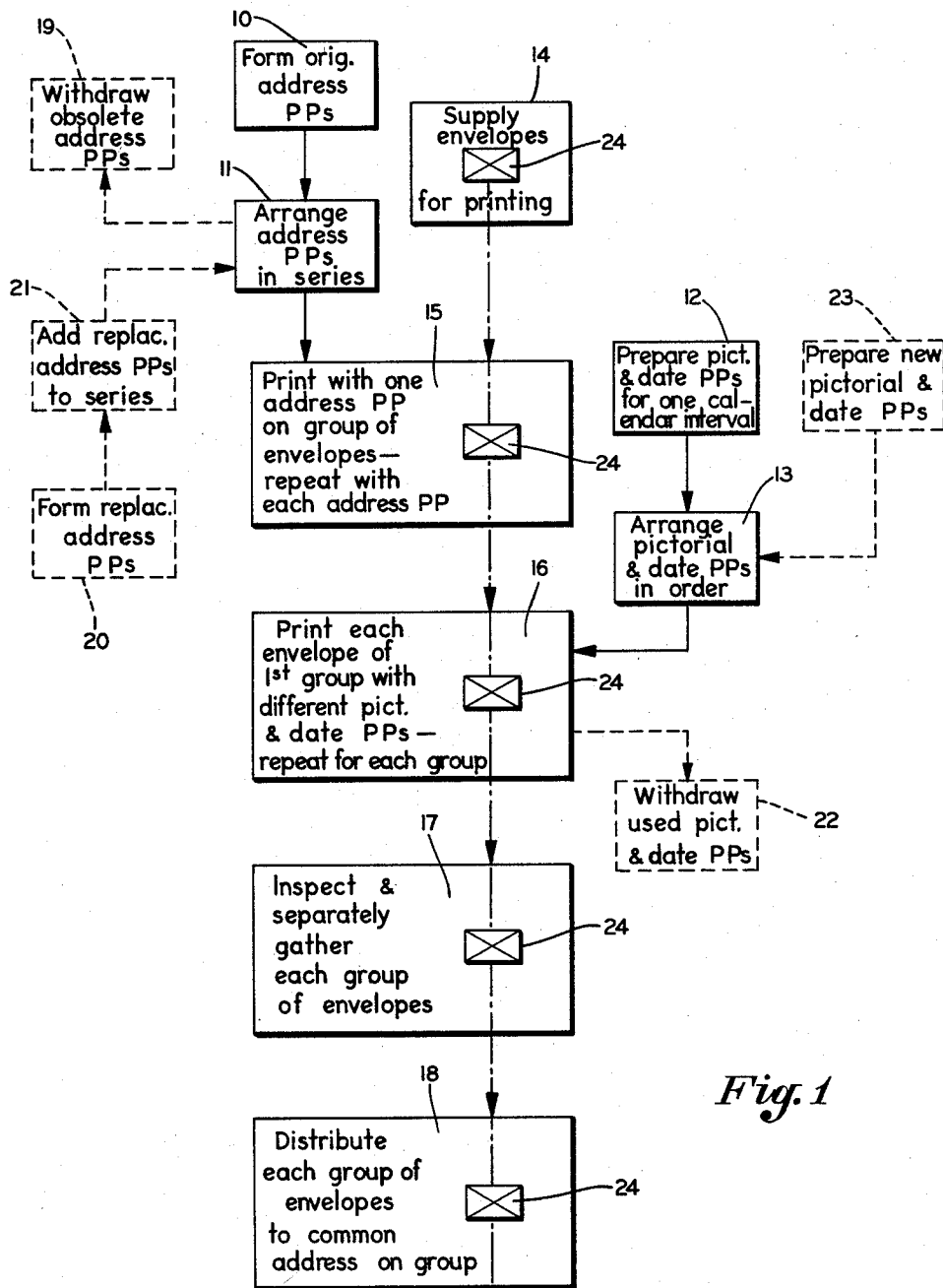


Fig. 1

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3 Sheets-Sheet 2

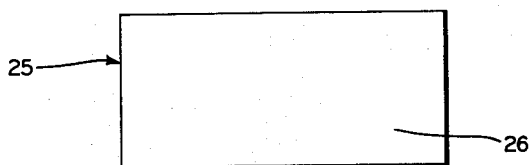


Fig. 2

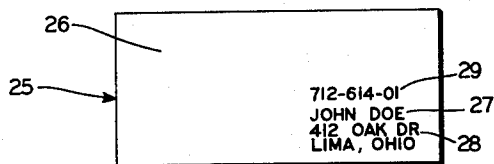


Fig. 3

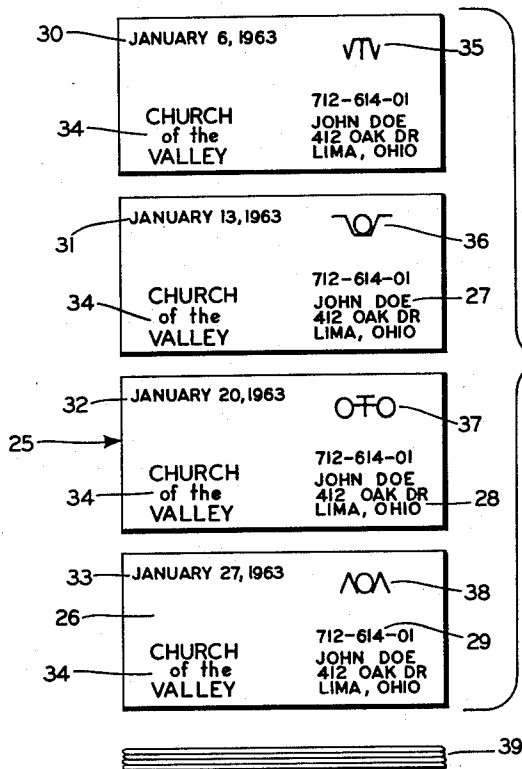


Fig. 4

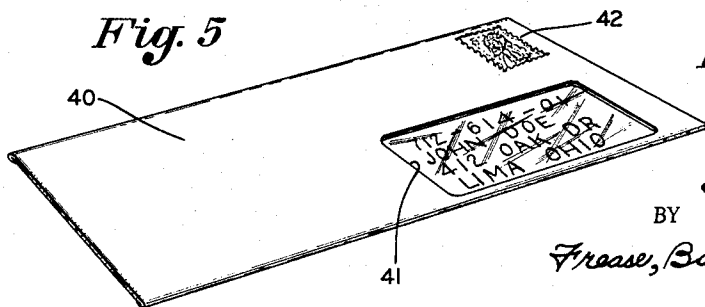


Fig. 5

Fig. 6

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3 Sheets-Sheet 3

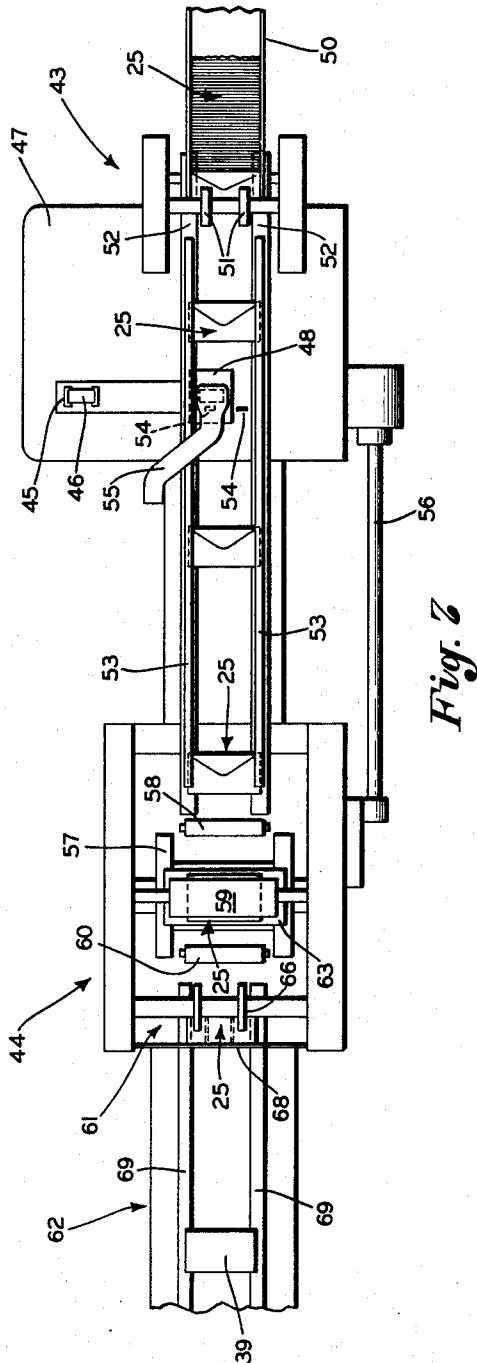


Fig. 7

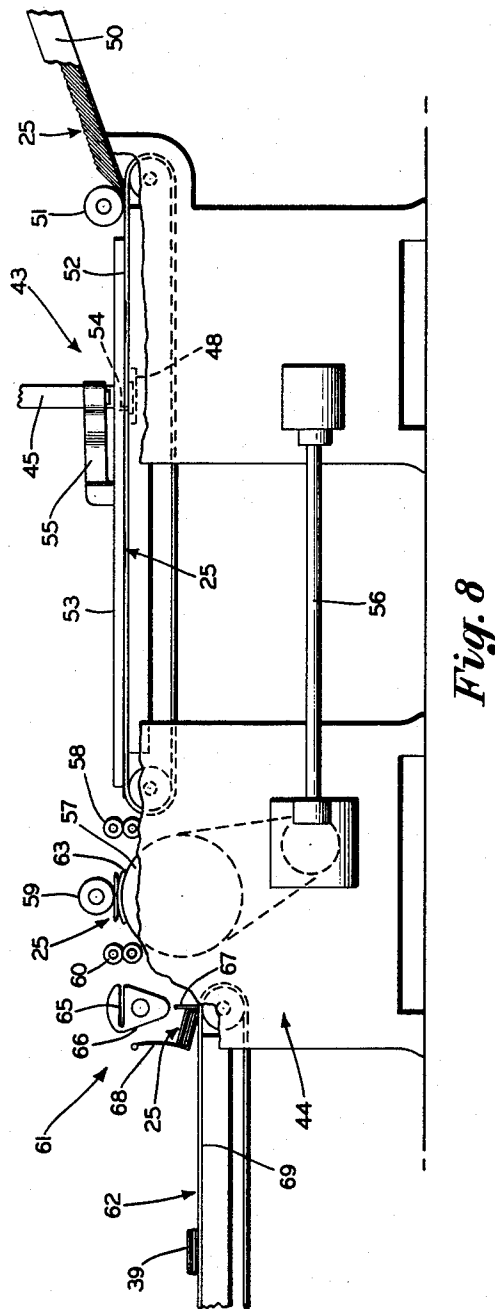


Fig. 8

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1

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Filed Feb. 11, 1963, Ser. No. 257,603

10 Claims. (Cl. 270—1)

My invention relates to methods for making and distributing printed articles. More specifically, my invention relates to methods for printing and distributing groups of printed articles in which each article contains some printed matter common to all articles of the group and certain printed matter different from each of the other articles of the group, and in which each group is individually distributed. Furthermore, the methods of the present invention are particularly advantageous and provide a unique method for printing and distributing the type of printed article such as church collection envelopes.

The usual practice in the use of church collection envelopes is to provide the church member with a group of envelopes into which the particular church member's contribution can be placed and the envelope deposited in the church collection plate. Further, each church member is supplied with one such envelope for each Sunday or other religious meeting day throughout the year, as well as for other special religious occasions.

Each of these church collection envelopes of each group may normally have printed thereon the church member's name and address, as well as frequently the church account number of the particular member. Further, each church member's group of envelopes may be provided with a different date printed on each envelope corresponding to the consecutive Sundays or other church meeting periods, and each envelope of the group may normally have different pictorial and textual matter conforming to various religious periods or occasions falling within the various calendar periods of the year.

The usual prior method for providing each church member with a properly printed group of church collection envelopes has been to first identically print a series of blank collection envelopes equal in number to the total church membership, plus a given number of spare envelopes, with the date and pictorial and textual matter appropriate for the first calendar date of the church fiscal year. This procedure is repeated for each of the remaining calendar dates throughout the church year, resulting in a separate series of envelopes for each of the calendar dates during the church fiscal year, and each series must be placed in storage in such a manner that the various series are kept separated.

Next, the first calendar date series of these envelopes for the year is taken from storage and addressed, either by hand or by use of a usual automatic addressing machine, placing a different church member's name on each of the envelopes. If the initial distribution is to be for a one or two month period, this procedure is repeated for each of the series of pre-dated envelopes for use, according to this pre-dating, during this one or two month period.

This results in the various separate series of envelopes usable by the church members during this one or two month period each being properly addressed but with the envelopes still separated into the original separate series, each series containing one envelope for each of the various church members. Thus it is then necessary to collate these various commonly dated and separately addressed series of envelopes either by use of a usual mechanical collator or by hand into groups of envelopes all of which are commonly addressed but carry the various appropriate dates throughout this one or two month period.

2

After collating, the various groups of commonly addressed envelopes may then be distributed to the various church members according to the addresses appearing thereon. This foregoing procedure is then repeated at the proper times throughout the church fiscal year in order to maintain all of the church member supplied with properly dated and addressed church collection envelopes. Further, this original distribution may be for the entire year, in which case, further distribution is eliminated.

In this manner, it is possible to provide each member, either by various monthly periods or in one distribution for the entire year, with proper and sufficient envelopes for use throughout the entire church fiscal year, and each envelope will be properly dated, as well as include the church member's name, address and account number so that the members' contributions when made may be properly recorded on the accounts at the church. Further, if new church members are added to the church membership during the church fiscal year, it is possible to supply such new members with envelopes by making use of the spare unaddressed envelopes originally provided. Also, where address changes of existing members occur and the distribution is carried out on a one or two month basis, it is possible to make address corrections at these intervals, but if the distribution is for the entire fiscal year, then the spare envelopes originally provided must also be made use of for these address changes with extra distribution being required.

Thus, following this prior procedure, it is obviously necessary to attempt to provide a sufficient number of spare envelopes in each original pre-dated series of envelopes in order to take care of the additional new members, and in some cases, the address corrections which might occur during the church fiscal year. In addition to this difficulty, it is necessary to provide considerable storage space for carrying out this prior procedure, as well as the necessity of providing a collating operation with the consequent time, labor and equipment expenses.

Also, a further difficulty with this prior procedure is that not only can a considerable number of envelopes be wasted by having to attempt to predetermine the number of spare pre-dated but unaddressed envelopes which will be required during the church fiscal year, but additional envelopes can be wasted during the collating operation which necessarily takes place after the entire date printing and addressing operations. If, during collating and the subsequent handling, one pre-dated and pre-addressed envelope is mutilated or otherwise destroyed, it is necessary to remove that particular church member's group of envelopes and replace the particular mutilated or destroyed envelopes with one that is properly dated and properly addressed making use of a spare envelope out of storage which is likewise time consuming and expensive.

Some improvements have been made in the foregoing usual procedure by providing special printing press constructions for printing the main portion of the printed matter on the envelopes, that is, the date, pictorial and textual matter but excluding the church member's name, address and account number. This printing press construction includes a full series of different printing plates mounted thereon with a plate being provided for each of the calendar intervals throughout the church year, so that each plate would include a different date and usually different pictorial and textual matter appropriate for that date.

This full series of different printing plates are arranged with the printing press construction so that each plate will print once in order completely through the entire series. In this manner, the properly collated groups of church envelopes may be made up by gathering directly from this printing press construction, and this thereby

eliminates one of the intermediate storage operations as well as the collating operation from the foregoing prior procedure.

Other than the elimination of these two operations, however, this improved procedure still includes all of the other storage problems as well as the wastefulness of requiring a large number of extra groups of properly printed and collated envelopes to take care of the new member and address change requirements during a church year. It has further been found by the churches from experience that in providing a church member with a supply of envelopes to be used over an entire church year period, these church envelopes are frequently lost or misplaced, which results in the necessity of either additional envelopes being supplied or the church member not having such envelopes with all of the many obvious inconveniences and disadvantages thereof both to the church member and the church.

It is, therefore, a general object of the present invention to provide methods for making and distributing printed articles such as church collection envelopes which eliminate the foregoing problems, difficulties and disadvantages.

It is a primary object of the present invention to provide methods for making and distributing printed articles such as church collection envelopes in which all of the printing, collating and distribution is carried out in one continuous procedure, thereby eliminating the need for one or more storage steps and the additional handling and space required therefor.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide methods for making and distributing printed articles such as church collection envelopes which is most easily adapted to printing and distributing such church collection envelopes on a monthly basis rather than the usual yearly basis, thereby eliminating a large portion of the loss of the envelopes by the church member as well as making it convenient for adding new church members and changing addresses of current church members each month, as well as changing the color or style of the envelopes from month to month, if desired.

It is still a further object of the present invention to provide methods for making and distributing printed articles such as church collection envelopes which may be carried out through the use of modern high speed equipment in a continuous production printing and gathering line, whereby blank envelopes may be fed into one end of the printing line and properly addressed, printed and collated stacks of envelopes, each comprising a proper group for an individual church member, may be received from a conveyor at the other end of the printing line to be placed in enclosures for distribution by mailing.

Finally, it is an object of the present invention to provide methods for making and distributing printed articles such as church collection envelopes which satisfy all of the foregoing objects in a simple, efficient and economical manner.

These and other objects are accomplished by the methods, procedures, arrangements, combinations and sub-combinations comprising the present invention, a preferred embodiment of which—illustrative of the best mode in which applicant has contemplated applying the principles—is set forth in the following description and illustrated in the accompanying drawings; and which is particularly and distinctly pointed out and set forth in the appended claims forming a part hereof.

In general terms, the methods for making and distributing printed articles may be stated as being applicable to printed articles which must be made and distributed to a series of different individual persons with the various groups of articles having sequential alphabetic-indicia and possible sequential numeric-indicia, and each of the individual groups having sequential calendar-indicia for each of a series of calendar intervals, and selected pictorial and textual matter with variable pictorial and

textual matter for each calendar interval. Further, the alpha-numeric quantities may vary for each calendar interval.

As applied, for instance, to church collection envelopes, the sequential alphabetic-indicia for the various groups of envelopes would be the names and addresses of the various church members, and the sequential numeric-indicia would be the individual members' account numbers. Also, the sequential calendar indicia for each group of envelopes would be the sequential dates included in a particular calendar interval, such as the various weeks of a given month, and the selected pictorial and textual matter would be the church name, religious features, scriptural text and other desirable printed material. Finally, the alpha-numeric quantities, that is, names and addresses, and account numbers, may vary in number from calendar interval to calendar interval or month to month as new members are added and the addresses are changed for current members.

The method steps of the present invention may be stated as including the forming of a series of individually different printing plates with alphabetic or alpha-numeric indicia thereon, each identifying a different individual person; arranging the individual printing plates in a predetermined order in the series, such as arranging the plates alpha-sequentially and/or numeric-sequentially; preparing a series of printing plates for a calendar interval with predetermined or sequential calendar-indicia and selected varying pictorial and textual matter thereon; arranging the series of calendar interval printing plates in preferably sequential calendar-indicia order; then printing on a selected number of articles, corresponding in number to the number of plates in the calendar interval series, the alphabetic or alpha-numeric indicia of the first alpha-numeric-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series for an individual person; then printing on the selected number of thus alpha-indicia-printed articles for an individual person, the different calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter preferably in sequential calendar-indicia order with the series of calendar interval plates; then preferably inspecting and gathering preferably in sequential calendar-indicia order the selected number of articles thus printed with the same alpha-indicia and each article with different calendar-indicia into a calendar interval pack for an individual person; repeating said successive alpha-indicia and calendar-indicia printing operations for each alpha-indicia-containing plate, to thereby provide a pack of printed articles for each calendar interval for each individual person identified by the alpha-indicia plates of the series; and finally distributing said packs to each individual person identified by the alpha-indicia printed thereon.

The methods of the present invention may further include the steps for the next calendar interval of forming additional individually different printing plates for additional persons with alphabetic or alpha-numeric indicia thereon; adding said additional plates to the series of individual plates arranged in said predetermined or alpha-sequential and/or numerical-sequential order at the proper location according to said order; preferably withdrawing selected obsolete alpha-indicia plates from the series; withdrawing the series of calendar interval plates previously used; preparing a series of printing plates for said next calendar interval with sequential calendar-indicia for said next calendar interval and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; preferably arranging the next calendar interval printing plates in sequential calendar-indicia order; and repeating the printing, inspection and gathering, and distributing steps.

By way of example, the procedural steps which may be followed, representative articles that may be made, and representative equipment which may be used for carrying out the principles of the present invention are illustrated in the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof,

5

wherein like numerals indicate similar parts throughout the several views, and in which:

FIG. 1 is a diagrammatic view illustrating the procedural steps of the preferred form for carrying out the method principles of the present invention;

FIG. 2, a front face view of a representative blank church collection envelope representing one of the total number required for a particular calendar interval;

FIG. 3, a view similar to FIG. 2 showing the representative envelope of FIG. 2 with the individual person's name, address and account number printed thereon;

FIG. 4, views similar to FIG. 2 of the total selected number of the envelopes of FIG. 3 required for the complete calendar interval, with the envelopes having sequential calendar dates and selected pictorial and textual matter printed thereon;

FIG. 5, an edge view of the envelopes of FIG. 4 stacked in sequential order according to the calendar dates printed thereon;

FIG. 6, a perspective view of the stack of envelopes of FIG. 5 positioned in a mailing enclosure with the name, address and account number of the individual person on the first envelope of the stack visible through a transparent window of the mailing enclosure;

FIG. 7, a fragmentary top plan view of representative equipment for carrying out the preferred form of the methods of the present invention; and

FIG. 8, a fragmentary side elevation of the equipment of FIG. 7.

The methods for making and distributing printed articles of the present invention may be clearly illustrated using the example of church collection envelopes discussed in the foregoing. A preferred form of these methods is illustrated diagrammatically in FIG. 1, wherein the various procedural steps are set forth generally in the preferred order in which these steps will be performed.

In the case of church envelopes, in view of the many advantages previously discussed, it is preferred that the packs of envelopes will be made up or printed for calendar intervals of one month and will be distributed preferably by mailing shortly prior to the month for which the particular packs are to serve. In this case, the packs will contain four or five envelopes individually dated to serve for the weeks of the particular month and the number will, of course, depend on the number of weeks in that particular month.

In addition, where there are special religious occasions involved in a particular month, appropriately printed and properly dated envelopes can be properly integrated in the monthly pack as required, either by printing these special envelopes along with usual weekly envelopes directly according to the methods of the present invention or by separately printing and inserting these special envelopes by hand in the packs after the usual printing and gathering of the packs according to the methods of the present invention and prior to distribution of these packs. These special envelopes for the special occasions will not be discussed further, but it should be understood that they may be included as set forth and are intended to be covered by the methods of the present invention.

It should be further understood that although the methods of the present invention are illustrated for use with church collection envelopes, these methods may be advantageously applied to other types of printed articles requiring similar printing and distribution. Thus, it is fully intended that the broad principles of the present invention shall apply to the making and distributing of these other types of printed articles.

Referring to FIG. 1, in originally preparing for use of the methods of the present invention for making or printing and distributing church collection envelopes on a monthly basis, preferably the first step would be to form the original address printing plates, as indicated at 10. These address printing plates may be of the usual type

6

used in the usual high speed automatic addressing machines, one of which will be hereinafter described more in detail, and each address printing plate will have formed thereon the particular church member's name and mailing address, as well as preferably that church member's account number conforming with the account number used by the church for maintaining records of the church members' contributions.

Next, these address printing plates, including an address printing plate for each member to receive a monthly pack of church collection envelopes, will be arranged in a particular predetermined series, as indicated at 11. This arrangement in series might be alphabetically according to the church members' last names, numerically according to the church members' account numbers, or both alphabetically and numerically, with this latter arrangement being preferred and being adaptable with modern accounting and record keeping procedures.

The next step is preferably to prepare pictorial and date printing plates for one calendar interval, which would be the one month period to be covered by the first pack of envelopes to be provided each member, as indicated at 12. In the case of four weeks in the particular month making up this one calendar interval, four such plates would be prepared, each having a different date corresponding to, for example, the Sundays of the particular month. Further, each plate might include the name of the church, various forms of religious pictures, and scriptural text appropriate for that particular week, with the pictures and scriptural text preferably being varied from week to week.

These pictorial and date printing plates will then be arranged in a predetermined order, as indicated at 13, and this order of arrangement will preferably be sequentially by date. Further, these pictorial and date printing plates will preferably be of the type for use on a printing press on which all of these plates may be mounted at one time for sequential printing in this predetermined order, preferably sequentially by date, a form of such printing press being hereinafter discussed more in detail.

Next, a supply of preferably preformed but blank church envelopes is provided as indicated at 14 and at this stage all of these envelopes are preferably substantially identical. These envelopes may be preformed by any usual method and are preferably at this stage in form for distribution and use with the exception of not being printed.

Starting the actual printing steps, the blank envelopes are fed into the high speed automatic addressing machine in which has been mounted the prearranged series of address printing plates, and since the particular calendar interval being illustrated is a one month period having four weeks, the addressing machine would be set to print four envelopes in sequence from one address printing plate prior to changing to the next address printing plate. Thus, as indicated at 15, the blank envelopes are printed with the address printing plates in group of four envelopes for each address printing plate, and this is repeated for the entire series of address printing plates.

As the blank envelopes are printed with the address printing plates they are preferably automatically fed in sequence to the printing press for printing with the pictorial and date printing plates. As the pre-addressed group of envelopes are preferably automatically fed into the pictorial and date printing press, as indicated at 16, the first envelope of each commonly addressed group is automatically printed with the first in order of the pictorial and date printing plates, the second envelope of such group with the second of the pictorial and date printing plates, and so forth, until the four commonly addressed envelopes of the group are each printed with one of the pictorial and date printing plates in order. Continuously thereafter, the first envelope of the next commonly addressed group is automatically printed by the first in order of the pictorial and date printing plates to start the

repeat of this sequence, which is continued until all of the commonly addressed groups of envelopes are printed with the pictorial and date printing plates in order.

As the now fully printed envelopes of each group pass preferably automatically from the pictorial and date printing press, these printed envelopes are preferably inspected and automatically gathered into groups or packs of commonly addressed envelopes, as indicated at 17. Due to the pictorial and date printing plates preferably printing in sequential date order, these envelopes are automatically gathered in order according to the dates thereon.

Thus, all of the envelopes of each pack or group will have the same church member's name, mailing address, and account number printed thereon, and each of the envelopes of each pack will have a different date in order and preferably different pictorial and scriptural matter printed thereon. Furthermore, each pack or group of envelopes will include four properly dated envelopes covering the one calendar interval.

Finally, as the packs or groups of envelopes are gathered, these packs are preferably distributed, as indicated at 18, by placing each pack in a separate mailing enclosure or envelope and distributing the same by mailing to the particular church member whose name, address, and account number appears on each of the envelopes of the pack. In this manner, each of the church members will be supplied with proper collection envelopes for the single calendar interval, which in this case will be one month.

For the next calendar interval, in the event new church members have been added and certain address changes have occurred for some of the existing members, although this might not occur every month, it is first necessary to withdraw from the arranged series of address printing plates, those address printing plates which have become obsolete, as indicated at 19. It is then necessary to form replacement address printing plates, as indicated at 20, which may include new address printing plates for the new members and corrected address printing plates for the existing members who have had address changes.

The next step for the second calendar interval or second month printing will then be to add these replacement address printing plates to the originally arranged address printing plate series, as indicated at 21. The manner in which these replacement address printing plates are integrated into the original series will, of course, depend on the original order of the series, that is, properly integrated alphabetically according to the church members' last names or numerically according to the church members' account numbers, or both alphabetically and numerically, with, as before indicated, this latter being preferred.

Still further, the next step for providing this second calendar interval or second month's packs of envelopes will be to withdraw the previously used pictorial and date printing plates used for the first calendar interval or the first month from printing press upon which they are used, as indicated at 22, and preparing new pictorial and date printing plates with proper dates, pictorial, and scriptural matter appropriate for the various periods or weeks within the second calendar interval or month, as indicated at 23.

Finally, in preparation for the second calendar interval printing, the new pictorial and date printing plates are arranged on the printing press preferably sequentially by date as previously discussed with reference to the first calendar interval and indicated at 13. Thereafter, the envelope supplying step indicated at 14, the address printing step indicated at 15, the pictorial and date printing step indicated at 16, the inspection and gathering step indicated at 17, and the pack distribution step indicated at 18 are all repeated in the same manner as previously discussed for the first calendar interval.

For convenience in illustrating the flow of envelopes through the preferred procedural steps of the present in-

vention, an envelope symbol is indicated at 24, in the envelope supplying step indicated at 14, and this envelope symbol 24 is carried, with the aid of broken directional lines, through the remaining envelope printing, inspection and gathering, and distributing steps 15 through 18. Thus, the envelope flow is preferably automatically from the supplying step 14, to the address printing step 15, to the pictorial and date printing step 16, to the inspection and pack gathering step 17, and finally to the pack distribution step 18.

In referring to the sequential alphabetical arrangement of the address printing plates herein and as referred to in the claims, these terms should be broadly construed. For instance, the usual sequential alphabetical arrangement would be by direct order of the alphabet, but if for some reason it were more convenient, it could be the reverse order of the alphabet, or starting with some intermediate point in the alphabet to the end and then from the beginning back to this intermediate point, and all such variations are intended to be covered within the reference terms used.

Furthermore, the same is true where references are made herein and in the claims to arrangement of these address printing plates sequentially-numerically or terms with like meaning. The main purpose in either case is that these address printing plates are arranged in some common alphabetical or numerical order or both, so that when it is desirable to remove obsolete plates or insert new plates, there is a predetermined order by which the location of these plates can be readily determined.

Also, in the case of the arrangement of the pictorial and date printing plates by calendar date such arrangement can be directly by order of date from the earliest to the latest, or could be merely the reverse thereof, and the references to the arrangement sequentially by calendar date or terms of like meaning, whether of these printing plates or the gathering of the envelopes being printed by these plates, are intended to cover either situation. Still further, in the case of packs of church envelopes being printed merely for four or five week months, so that only four or five articles are involved in each pack, it is not absolutely necessary that the envelopes in the pack be exactly arranged according to date, since so few envelopes are involved, although in the preferred form in the methods of the present invention, these envelopes will be arranged by order of date when distributed, whether direct or reverse order.

Thus, a method for making and distributing printed articles such as church envelopes is provided and includes the steps of forming a series of individually different printing plates with alphabetic or alpha-numeric indicia thereon, each identifying an individual person, which is the address printing plate forming step indicated at 10; arranging these alpha-numeric printing plates preferably both alpha-sequentially and numeric-sequentially in a series, which is the address printing plate arranging step indicated at 11; preparing calendar interval printing plates with sequential calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon, which is the pictorial and date printing plate preparation step indicated at 12; and arranging the calendar interval printing plates in preferably sequential calendar-indicia order, which is the pictorial and date printing plate arranging step indicated at 13.

Further, the method of the present invention includes the steps of then printing on a selected number of articles corresponding in number to the number of calendar interval plates in the series, the alphabetic or preferably alpha-numeric-indicia of one alpha-numeric-indicia-containing plate for an individual person, which is the address printing step as indicated at 15, using the first of the address printing plates; then printing on the selected number of thus alpha-indicia-printed articles for the individual person; the different calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter with the series calendar interval plates, which is the printing step indicated at 16 using the pic-

torial and date printing plates; then preferably inspecting and gathering the selected number of articles thus printed with same alpha-numeric-indicia and each article with different calendar-indicia in a calendar interval pack for an individual person, which is the inspection and gathering step for the first group of envelopes indicated at 17; repeating the successive alpha-numeric-indicia and calendar-indicia printing operations for each alpha-numeric-indicia containing plate, which is the repeating of the address printing, the pictorial and date printing, and the inspection and gathering steps indicated at 15, 16, and 17 for each of the address printing plates in the series; and then distributing these packs to each individual person identified by the alpha-numeric-indicia printed thereon, which is the envelope pack distribution indicated at 18, preferably by mailing.

Still further, the methods of the present invention may include the steps for the next calendar interval of, withdrawing selected obsolete alpha-numeric-indicia plates from the series, which is the address printing plate withdrawing step indicated at 19; forming additional individually different printing plates for additional persons with alphabetic or alpha-numeric-indicia thereon, which is the forming step indicated at 20; adding these additional plates to the series of individual plates arranged in alpha-numeric-sequential order at the proper location according to said order, which is the step of adding the replacement address printing plates as indicated at 21; withdrawing the series of calendar interval plates previously used, which is the pictorial and date printing plate withdrawal step indicated at 22; preparing a series of sequential calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual printing plates for the next calendar interval, which is the pictorial and date printing plate preparation step indicated at 23; arranging these next calendar interval printing plates in calendar-indicia order, which is the pictorial and date printing plate arranging step indicated at 13; and finally repeating the printing, inspection and gathering, and distributing steps, which is the repeating of the address printing step, the pictorial and date printing step, the inspection and gathering step, and the distributing step indicated at 15, 16, 17 and 18.

Thus, according to this method of the present invention as applied to church collection envelopes, a pack of church collection envelopes is distributed to each church member on a monthly basis and each monthly pack of envelopes will contain individual envelopes properly dated for the various church meeting days throughout that particular month. Furthermore, as new members are added to the church and the addresses of current members change, these additions and corrections may be conveniently incorporated each month as is necessary, and without the destruction of any previously printed envelopes nor the necessity of printing a large number of extra unaddressed envelopes which may never be used.

Illustrated in FIGS. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are the various steps through which the envelopes proceed for illustrating the principles of the present invention.

As illustrated in FIG. 2, a church collection envelope, generally indicated at 25, is shown in preformed condition, but prior to any printing steps, so that the front face 26 is blank. This envelope 25 is representative of all of the envelopes to be supplied for printing as previously discussed and indicated at 14 in FIG. 1.

As shown in FIG. 3, the first printing step is to print the name, address and account number of an individual church member on a group of the envelopes 25, equal in number to the weeks or church meeting periods during a given month. In the case illustrated, the particular month would have four weeks, so that four of these envelopes 25 would have this particular individual's name 27, address 28, and account number 29 identically printed thereon, with this printing being in the identical location on each of the front faces 26 of the envelopes 25. Furthermore, this is accomplished in the address-printing step indicated at 15 in FIG. 1.

Next, as shown in FIG. 4, each of the four address-printed envelopes of FIG. 3 is printed with an individual date corresponding to the Sundays or church meeting periods during the particular calendar month, and not only are these dates different on each envelope, but also the pictorial and textual matter may be different. This printing is accomplished by the pictorial and date printing step indicated at 16 in FIG. 1. As shown in FIG. 4, the dates 30, 31, 32 and 33 may correspond to the four Sundays of a given month, the identical church name 34 may be printed on each, and different pictorial and scriptural matter may be printed on each, as illustrated by the symbols 35, 36, 37 and 38 on each of the envelopes 25.

The envelopes of FIG. 4 are shown stacked in FIG. 5 making up an envelope pack 39 for one individual church member. This pack 39 preferably includes the four envelopes of FIG. 4 stacked in sequence by date, and this would be accomplished in the inspecting and gathering step indicated at 17 in FIG. 1.

Finally, the individual envelope packs 39 of FIG. 5 are inserted in a mailing envelope or enclosure 40, with this mailing envelope preferably having the usual transparent window 41 with which the address and account number printing of the top envelope will align and so that this information can be read through this window 41. Thus, it is merely necessary to seal the mailing envelope 40, apply a stamp 42 thereto and mail, thereby distributing the particular pack of envelopes to the particular individual church member, which accomplishes the distributing step indicated at 18 in FIG. 1.

Illustrated in FIGS. 7 and 8 is representative equipment for carrying out the printing, inspecting and gathering steps of the methods comprising the present invention. As shown in FIGS. 7 and 8, an automatic addressing machine is indicated at 43 and an automatic printing press is generally indicated at 44.

As previously discussed, the addressing machine 43 may be generally of the usual automatic construction which makes use of the preformed address plates including the particular person's name, address and account number, if such account numbers are used. An example of such an automatic addressing machine which may be satisfactorily used to carry out the addressing function according to the methods of the present invention is one commercially available and known as "Addressograph Speedamat," "Class 2600," which is a motor-driven addressing machine manufactured by the Addressograph Division of Addressograph-Multigraph Corporation of Cleveland, Ohio.

This addressing machine 43 has removably mounted thereon an address plate feed magazine 45 in which are slidably mounted the series of address plates 46. The machine is constructed so that the address plates 46 are fed one at a time beneath the surface of the work table 47 to the printing station 48, where the particular address plate is positioned beneath a usual printing ink ribbon (not shown).

Furthermore, this addressing machine is constructed so that each of the printing plates will remain at the printing station 48 for any given number of consecutive printing operations, as predetermined by the particular setting of the machine, after which, each plate will automatically be moved from the printing station and deposited in a plate discharge magazine (not shown) and maintained in the same order as used for the printing operation. Thus, each address printing plate will be moved in order as these printing plates are arranged in the feed magazine 45 to the printing station 48 and will remain at this printing station, for example, for four consecutive printings, after which, these printing plates will be removed to and deposited in the plate discharge magazine and maintained in this discharge magazine in the same order as these plates were in the feed magazine, as well as in the same order as these plates were used for the address printing operation.

11

The church envelopes 25 to be printed are mounted on an envelope feeder attachment 50 from which these envelopes are automatically fed, one at a time, by means of the feeder rolls 51 face down or printing surface down onto the conveyor belts 52 beneath the conveyor guides 53. The conveyor belts 52 move these envelopes 25 automatically, one at a time, to the printing station 43 where the envelopes are stopped and held properly positioned by the stop fingers 54.

Immediately upon the particular envelope being properly positioned at the printing station 43 by the stop fingers 54, the stamper arm 55 moves downwardly causing the printing of the name, address and preferably account number from the particular address plate 46 on the particular envelope 25. Immediately after this printing has taken place, the stop fingers 54 are automatically withdrawn, permitting the conveyor belts 52 to move the particular envelope 25 away from the printing station 43 and on toward the printing press 44.

The automatic printing press 44 is preferably of the construction disclosed in my co-pending U.S. patent application entitled "Printing Press Construction," Serial No. 207,925, filed July 6, 1962, and this printing press is preferably driven and synchronized with the addressing machine 43 through the driving and synchronizing linkage 56. The complete construction and operation of the printing press 44 is set forth in said co-pending application No. 207,925, so that such description is not repeated herein, but only that portion of the printing press construction and operation necessary for a clear understanding of the principles of the methods of the present invention.

As shown, the printing press includes a printing cylinder 57, feed rolls 58, an impression roll 59, receiving rolls 60, gathering and stacking means, generally indicated at 61, and a stack conveyor, generally indicated at 62. The envelopes 25 move individually along the conveyor belts 52 from the printing station 43 of the addressing machine 43 and these envelopes are positioned in proper spaced relationship along the conveyor belts 52 as determined by the printing operations of the addressing machine and the timed release of these envelopes after printing by the stop fingers 54, so that these envelopes are received by the feed rolls 58 of the printing press 44 in properly spaced and timed relationship.

On the printing press 44, the various printing plates 63 are mounted movable with the printing cylinder 57 by chains or belts (not shown) and these printing plates 63 are properly spaced and arranged so that the printing plates will arrive consecutively at the impression roll 59 in exact timed relationship for printing an envelope received from the feed rolls 58. In the case of the four church collection envelopes 25 to be printed for each church member, covering the four weeks of a particular calendar month, there will be four different printing plates 63, each including the appropriate calendar date, and pictorial and scriptural matter appropriate for that date, and these plates may be arranged to print consecutively by date. Thus, the first four envelopes will be printed consecutively, each by a different printing plate, after which, the next four envelopes will be printed in the same manner and order.

As each of the envelopes 25 is printed at the printing press 44, this envelope is moved automatically to and through the receiving rolls 60 and into the receiving slots 65 of the inverting discs 66, which inverting discs form a part of the gathering and stacking means 61. Inverting discs 66 are properly rotatably timed and synchronized to carry the particular envelope 25, while at the same time inverting the same, and depositing the envelope between the stationary stop members 67 and the releasable stop member 68.

The releasable stop member 68 is properly timed and synchronized so that this releasable stop member remains in its gathering position, as shown in FIG. 8, until a predetermined number of printed envelopes 25 is received.

12

In the case of four printing plates 63, this would include the four envelopes printed, after which, the releasable stop member 68 automatically releases the stack of envelopes onto the conveyor belts 69 of the stack conveyor 62.

It will be noted that the envelopes 25, originally having been fed to the addressing machine 43 face down, have the addresses printed thereon by the addressing machine on the under or face side thereof, and these envelopes are also received and printed by the printing press 44 on this same under-face surface, so that when the envelopes are received by the inverting disc 66 and inverted or turned over, face up, for deposit between the stationary and releasable stop members 67 and 68, as each envelope is deposited, all of the printing thereon will be exposed face up and this printing can be inspected at the particular moment these envelopes are deposited.

Furthermore, by arranging the printing plates 63 in consecutive date order, the envelopes of each group or stack will be printed in consecutive date order and will be received and stacked by the gathering and stacking means 61 in consecutive date order. Thus, as these stacks of printed envelopes are released and carried away by the conveyor belt 69 of the stack conveyor 62, each stack will have the proper number of envelopes each individually dated and all commonly addressed for the same church member and it is only necessary to then deposit a particular stack either automatically or otherwise into the mailing enclosure 40, previously described and shown in FIG. 6, for distribution by mailing.

Taking for example, the case of church collection envelopes, a calendar interval of one month, and four weeks in that particular month, and relating the envelopes of FIGS. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, previously described, to the printing equipment of FIGS. 7 and 8, the blank envelopes 25 of FIG. 2 are those envelopes 25 positioned on the envelope feeder attachment 50 of FIGS. 7 and 8. Furthermore, the first four of these envelopes 25 will be printed automatically with the particular church member's name 27, address 28, and account number 29, as shown in FIG. 3, at the printing station 43 of the addressing machine 43 in consecutive order by the first of the address plates 46.

Still further, these four envelopes 25, which have now been addressed at the proper location on each envelope, will be moved consecutively and in properly spaced relationship from the addressing machine 43 to the printing press 44 by the conveyor belts 52. At the printing press 44, these four envelopes 25 will be printed consecutively, each by a different printing plate 63, each with one of the consecutive dates 30, 31, 32, 33, each with the church name 34, and each consecutively with the symbols 35, 36, 37 and 38 representing the varying pictorial and textual matter, as shown in FIG. 4.

Immediately as these envelopes 25 are printed by the printing press 44, they will be consecutively gathered, preferably inverted for inspection, and stacked by the gathering and stacking means 61, thereby forming the pack 9, shown in FIG. 5, which includes the four consecutively dated envelopes in proper order for distribution to the first church member whose name, address, and account number has been printed on each of the envelopes of this pack. Finally, the pack of envelopes is released from the gathering and stacking means 61 to the stack conveyor 62 and is conveyed away from the printing press 44 on the conveyor belts 69 to a point where this stack may be inserted in the mailing enclosure 40 with the church member's name, address, and account number visible through a transparent window thereof, so that this pack may be then distributed to the church member by mailing.

The foregoing is, of course, automatically and consecutively repeated for each of the different address plates 46 so that a monthly pack of envelopes properly dated, consecutively arranged by date, and each envelope pro-

perly containing the name, address, and account number of the particular church member, is conveniently distributed by mailing to each of the church members. Furthermore, at the time of distributing the next month's packs of church envelopes to the individual church members, the same procedure is followed, with the exception that prior to the next month's printing, the address plates 46 are corrected as to new church members and changes in existing members' addresses, and new printing plates 63 for the printing press 44 are provided on this press with the appropriate consecutive dates for that particular month and the new or altered varying pictorial and textual matter.

Thus, according to the principles of the present invention, unique methods are provided for making and distributing printed articles, such as church collection envelopes, in which packs of church collection envelopes may be distributed on a monthly basis, with each envelope being properly dated and containing the particular church member's name, address, and account number. Furthermore, according to the methods of the present invention, new members' names may be conveniently changed prior to each month's printing and distribution, and with virtually no waste of envelopes, while at the same time, virtually eliminating the necessity of any storage of printed envelopes. Also, monthly changes in color or style of envelope can be accomplished as required without waste.

In the foregoing description, certain terms have been used for brevity, clearness and understanding but no unnecessary limitations are to be implied therefrom, because such words are used for descriptive purposes herein and are intended to be broadly construed.

Moreover, the embodiment of the improved methods illustrated and described herein is by way of example and the scope of the present invention is not limited to the exact details of the methods shown.

Having now described the invention, the methods, operation and use of a preferred embodiment thereof, and the advantageous new and useful results obtained thereby, the new and useful methods and reasonable equivalents thereof obvious to those skilled in the art are set forth in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. The method of making and distributing a series of articles printed for a series of different individual persons with sequential alphabetic-indicia, different selected calendar-indicia for each article of each of a series of calendar intervals, and selected pictorial and textual matter for each article of each calendar interval; the steps of forming a series of individually different printing plates with alphabetic-indicia thereon each identifying a different individual person; alpha-sequentially arranging the individual plates in the series; preparing a series of printing plates for a calendar interval with different selected calendar-indicia of said calendar interval and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; printing on a selected number of articles, corresponding in number to the number of plates in the calendar interval series, the alphabetic-indicia of one alphabetic-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series for an individual person; then printing on the selected number of thus alphabetic-indicia-printed articles for an individual person, each article with different selected calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter from the series of calendar interval plates; gathering the selected number of articles thus printed with the same alphabetic-indicia and each article with different calendar-indicia into a calendar interval pack for an individual person; repeating said successive alphabetic-indicia and calendar-indicia printing operations for each alphabetic-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series, thereby providing a pack of printed articles for the calendar interval for each individual person identified by the alphabetic-indicia plates of the series; distributing said packs to each individual person identified by the alpha-

betic-indicia printed thereon; then for the next calendar interval, withdrawing the series of calendar interval plates previously used and preparing a series of printing plates for said next calendar interval with different selected calendar-indicia of said next calendar interval and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; and repeating the printing, gathering and distributing operations.

2. The method of making and distributing a series of articles printed for a series of different individual persons with different alphabetic-indicia, sequential numeric-indicia, different selected calendar-indicia for each article of each of a series of calendar intervals, and selected pictorial and textual matter for each article of each calendar interval; the steps of forming a series of individually different printing plates with alpha-numeric-indicia thereon each identifying a different individual person; numeric-sequentially arranging the individual plates in the series; preparing a series of printing plates for a calendar interval with different selected calendar-indicia of said calendar interval and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; printing on a selected number of articles, corresponding in number to the number of plates in the calendar interval series, the alpha-numeric-indicia of one alpha-numeric-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series for an individual person; then printing on the selected number of thus alpha-numeric-indicia printed articles for an individual person, each article with different selected calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter from the series of calendar interval plates; gathering the selected number of articles thus printed with the same alpha-numeric-indicia and each article with different calendar-indicia into a calendar interval pack for an individual person; repeating said successive alpha-numeric-indicia and calendar-indicia printing operations for each alpha-numeric-indicia containing plate of the arranged series, thereby providing a pack of printed articles for the calendar interval for each individual person identified by the alpha-numeric-indicia plates of the series; distributing said packs to each individual person identified by the alpha-numeric-indicia printed thereon; then for the next calendar interval, withdrawing the series of calendar interval plates previously used and preparing a series of printing plates for said next calendar interval with different selected calendar-indicia of said next calendar interval and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; and repeating the printing, gathering and distributing operations.

3. The method of making and distributing a series of articles printed for a series of different individual persons with sequential alphabetic-indicia, sequential numeric-indicia, different selected calendar-indicia for each article of each of a series of calendar intervals, and selected pictorial and textual matter for each article of each calendar interval; the steps of forming a series of individually different printing plates with alpha-numeric-indicia thereon each identifying a different individual person, alpha-sequentially and numeric-sequentially arranging the individual plates in the series; preparing a series of printing plates for a calendar interval with different selected calendar-indicia of said calendar interval and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; printing on a selected number of articles, corresponding in number to the number of plates in the calendar interval series, the alpha-numeric-indicia of one alpha-numeric-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series for an individual person; then printing on the selected number of thus alpha-numeric-indicia printed articles for an individual person, each article with different selected calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter from the series of calendar interval plates; gathering the selected number of articles thus printed with the same alpha-numeric-indicia and each article with different calendar-indicia into a calendar interval pack for an individual person; repeating said successive alpha-numeric-indicia and calendar-indicia printing operations for each alpha-numeric-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series, thereby providing a pack of

printed articles for the calendar interval for each individual person identified by the alpha-numeric-indicia plates of the series; distributing said packs to each individual person identified by the alpha-numeric-indicia printed thereon; then for the next calendar interval, withdrawing the series of calendar interval plates previously used and preparing a series of printing plates for said next calendar interval with different selected calendar-indicia of said next calendar interval and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; and repeating the printing, gathering and distributing operations.

4. The method of making and distributing a series of articles printed for a series of different individual persons with sequential alphabetic-indicia, sequential calendar-indicia for each article of each of a series of calendar intervals, and selected pictorial and textual matter for each article of each calendar interval; the steps of forming a series of individually different printing plates with alphabetic-indicia thereon each identifying a different individual person; alpha-sequentially arranging the individual plates in the series; preparing a series of printing plates for a calendar interval with sequential calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; arranging the series of calendar interval plates in sequential calendar-indicia order; printing on a selected number of articles, corresponding in number to the number of plates in the calendar interval series, the alphabetic-indicia of one alphabetic-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series for an individual person; then printing on the selected number of thus alphabetic-indicia-printed articles for an individual person, each article with different sequential calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter from the series of calendar interval plates in the arranged order of said plates; gathering the selected number of articles thus printed with the same alphabetic-indicia and each article with different calendar-indicia into a calendar interval pack for an individual person by order of the calendar-indicia printing; repeating said successive alphabetic-indicia and calendar-indicia printing operations for each alphabetic-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series, thereby providing a pack of printed articles for the calendar interval for each individual person identified by the alphabetic-indicia plates of the series; distributing said packs to each individual person identified by the alphabetic-indicia printed thereon; then for the next calendar interval, withdrawing the series of calendar interval plates previously used and preparing a series of printing plates for said next calendar interval with sequential calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; arranging the series of calendar-indicia printing plates in sequential calendar-indicia order; and repeating the printing, gathering and distributing operations.

5. The method of making and distributing a series of articles printed for a series of different individual persons with sequential-alphabetic-indicia, sequential numeric-indicia, sequential calendar-indicia for each article of each of a series of calendar intervals, and selected pictorial and textual matter for each article of each calendar interval; the steps of forming a series of individually different printing plates with alpha-numeric-indicia thereon each identifying a different individual person; alpha-sequentially and numeric-sequentially arranging the individual plates in the series; preparing a series of printing plates for a calendar interval with sequential calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; arranging the series of calendar interval plates in sequential calendar-indicia order; printing on a selected number of articles, corresponding in number to the number of plates in the calendar interval series, the alpha-numeric-indicia of one alpha-numeric-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series for an individual person; then printing on the selected number of thus alpha-numeric-indicia printed articles for an individual person, each article with different sequential calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter from the series of calendar interval plates in the arranged

order of said plates; gathering the selected number of articles thus printed with the same alpha-numeric-indicia and each article with different calendar-indicia into a calendar interval pack for an individual person by order of the calendar-indicia printing; repeating said successive alpha-numeric-indicia and calendar-indicia printing operations for each alpha-numeric-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series, thereby providing a pack of printed articles for the calendar interval for each individual person identified by the alpha-numeric-indicia plates of the series; distributing said packs to each individual person identified by the alpha-numeric-indicia printed thereon; then for the next calendar interval withdrawing the series of calendar interval plates previously used and preparing a series of printing plates for said next calendar interval with sequential-calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; arranging the series of calendar-indicia printing plates in sequential calendar-indicia order; and repeating the printing, gathering and distributing operations.

6. The method of making and distributing a series of articles printed for a series of different individual persons with sequential alphabetic-indicia, different selected calendar-indicia for each article of each of a series of calendar intervals, and selected pictorial and textual matter for each article of each calendar interval; the steps of forming a series of individually different printing plates with alphabetic-indicia thereon each identifying a different individual person; alpha-sequentially arranging the individual plates in the series; preparing a series of printing plates for a calendar interval with different selected calendar-indicia of said calendar interval and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; printing on a selected number of articles, corresponding in number to the number of plates in the calendar interval series, the alphabetic-indicia of one alphabetic-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series for an individual person; then printing on the selected number of thus alphabetic-indicia-printed articles for an individual person, each article with different selected calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter from the series of calendar interval plates; gathering the selected number of articles thus printed with the same alphabetic-indicia and each article with different calendar-indicia into a calendar interval pack for an individual person; repeating said successive alphabetic-indicia and calendar-indicia printing operations for each alphabetic-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series, thereby providing a pack of printed articles for the calendar interval for each individual person identified by the alphabetic-indicia plates of the series; distributing said packs to each individual person identified by the alphabetic-indicia printed thereon; then for the next calendar interval, forming additional individually different printing plates for additional persons with alphabetic-indicia thereon; adding said additional plates to the series of alpha-sequentially arranged individual plates at the proper alpha-sequential locations; withdrawing selected obsolete alphabetic-indicia plates from the series; withdrawing the series of calendar interval plates previously used and preparing a series of printing plates for said next calendar interval with different selected calendar-indicia of said next calendar interval and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; and repeating the printing, gathering and distributing operations.

7. The method of making and distributing a series of articles printed for a series of different individual persons with different alphabetic-indicia, sequential numeric-indicia, different selected calendar-indicia for each article of each of a series of calendar intervals, and selected pictorial and textual matter for each article of each calendar interval; the step of forming a series of individually different printing plates with alpha-numeric-indicia thereon each identifying a different individual person; numeric-sequentially arranging the individual plates in the series; preparing a series of printing plates for a calendar interval with different selected calendar-indicia of said calendar

17

interval and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; printing on a selected number of articles, corresponding in number to the number of plates in the calendar interval series, the alpha-numeric-indicia of one alpha-numeric-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series for an individual person; then printing on the selected number of thus alpha-numeric-indicia printed articles for an individual person, each article with different selected calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter from the series of calendar interval plates; gathering the selected number of articles thus printed with the same alpha-numeric-indicia and each article with different calendar-indicia into a calendar interval pack for an individual person; repeating said successive alpha-numeric-indicia and calendar-indicia printing operations for each alpha-numeric-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series, thereby providing a pack of printed articles for the calendar interval for each individual person identified by the alpha-numeric-indicia plates of the series; distributing said packs to each individual person identified by the alpha-numeric-indicia printed thereon; then for the next calendar interval, forming additional individually different printing plates for additional persons with alpha-numeric-indicia thereon; adding said additional plates to the series of numeric-sequentially arranged individual plates at the proper numeric-sequential locations; withdrawing selected obsolete alpha-numeric-indicia plates from the series; withdrawing the series of calendar interval plates previously used and preparing a series of printing plates for said next calendar interval with different selected calendar-indicia of said next calendar interval and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; and repeating the printing, gathering and distributing operations.

8. The method of making and distributing a series of articles printed for a series of different individual persons with sequential-alphabetic-indicia, sequential numeric-indicia, different selected calendar-indicia for each article of each of a series of calendar intervals and selected pictorial and textual matter for each article of each calendar interval; the steps of forming a series of individually different printing plates with alpha-numeric-indicia thereon each identifying a different individual person; alpha-sequentially and numeric-sequentially arranging the individual plates in the series; preparing a series of printing plates for a calendar interval with different selected calendar-indicia of said calendar interval and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; printing on a selected number of articles, corresponding in number to the number of plates in the calendar interval series, the alpha-numeric-indicia of one alpha-numeric-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series for an individual person; then printing on the selected number of thus alpha-numeric-indicia printed articles for an individual person, each article with different selected calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter from the series of calendar interval plates; gathering the selected number of articles thus printed with the same alpha-numeric-indicia and each article with different calendar-indicia into a calendar interval pack for an individual person; repeating said successive alpha-numeric-indicia and calendar-indicia printing operations for each alpha-numeric-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series, thereby providing a pack of printed articles for the calendar interval for each individual person identified by the alpha-numeric-indicia plates of the series; distributing said packs to each individual person identified by the alpha-numeric-indicia printed thereon; then for the next calendar interval, forming additional individually different printing plates for additional persons with alpha-numeric-indicia thereon; adding said additional plates to the series of alpha sequentially and numeric-sequentially arranged individual plates at the proper alpha-numeric-sequential location; withdrawing selected obsolete alpha-numeric-indicia plates from the series; withdrawing the series of calendar interval plates

18

previously used and preparing a series of printing plates for said next calendar interval with different selected calendar-indicia of said next calendar interval and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; and repeating the printing, gathering and distributing operations.

9. The method of making and distributing a series of articles printed for a series of different individual persons with sequential alphabetic-indicia, sequential calendar-indicia for each article of each of a series of calendar intervals, and selected pictorial and textual matter for each article of each calendar interval; the steps of forming a series of individually different printing plates with alphabetic-indicia thereon each identifying a different individual person; alpha-sequentially arranging the individual plates in the series; preparing a series of printing plates for a calendar interval with sequential calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; arranging the series of calendar interval plates in sequential calendar-indicia order; printing on a selected number of articles, corresponding in number to the number of plates in the calendar interval series, the alphabetic-indicia of one alphabetic-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series for an individual person; then printing on the selected number of thus alphabetic-indicia printed articles for an individual person, each article with different sequential calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter from the series of calendar interval plates in the arranged order of said plates; gathering the selected number of articles thus printed with the same alphabetic-indicia and each article with different calendar-indicia into a calendar interval pack for an individual person by order of the calendar-indicia printing; repeating said successive alphabetic-indicia and calendar-indicia printing operations for each alphabetic-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series, thereby providing a pack of printed articles for the calendar interval for each individual person identified by the alphabetic-indicia plates of the series; distributing said packs to each individual person identified by the alphabetic-indicia printed thereon; then for the next calendar interval, forming additional individual different printing plates for additional persons with alphabetic-indicia thereon; adding said additional plates to the series of alpha-sequentially arranged individual plates at the proper alpha-sequential location; withdrawing selected obsolete alphabetic-indicia plates from the series; withdrawing the series of calendar interval plates previously used and preparing a series of printing plates for said next calendar interval with sequential calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; arranging the series of calendar-indicia printing plates in sequential calendar-indicia order; and repeating the printing, gathering and distributing operations.

10. The method of making and distributing a series of articles printed for a series of different individual persons with sequential-alphabetic-indicia, sequential numeric-indicia, sequential calendar-indicia for each article of each of a series of calendar intervals, and selected pictorial and textual matter for each article of each calendar interval; the steps of forming a series of individually different printing plates with alpha-numeric-indicia thereon each identifying a different individual person; alpha-sequentially and numeric-sequentially arranging the individual plates in the series; preparing a series of printing plates for a calendar interval with sequential calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; arranging the series of calendar interval plates in sequential calendar-indicia order; printing on a selected number of articles, corresponding in number to the number of plates in the calendar interval series, the alpha-numeric-indicia of one alpha-numeric-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series for an individual person; then printing on the selected number of thus alpha-numeric-indicia printed articles for an individual person, each article with different sequential calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter from the series of calendar interval plates in the arranged order

of said plates; gathering the selected number of articles thus printed with the same alpha-numeric-indicia and each article with different calendar-indicia into a calendar interval pack for an individual person by order of the calendar-indicia printing; repeating said successive alpha-numeric-indicia and calendar-indicia printing operations for each alpha-numeric-indicia-containing plate of the arranged series, thereby providing a pack of printed articles for the calendar interval for each individual person identified by the alpha-numeric-indicia plates of the series; distributing said packs to each individual person identified by the alpha-numeric-indicia printed thereon; then for the next calendar interval, forming additional individually different printing plates for additional persons with alpha-numeric-indicia thereon; adding said additional plates to the series of alpha-sequentially and numeric-sequentially arranged individual plates at the proper alpha-numeric-sequential location; withdrawing selected obsolete alpha-

numeric-indicia plates from the series; withdrawing the series of calendar interval plates previously used and preparing a series of printing plates for said next calendar interval with sequential-calendar-indicia and selected pictorial and textual matter thereon; arranging the series of calendar-indicia printing plates in sequential calendar-indicia order; and repeating the printing, gathering and distributing operations.

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