March 20, 1928. 1,663,198

C. B. HARRISON

POSTING TRAY

Filed Nov. 24, 1924 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

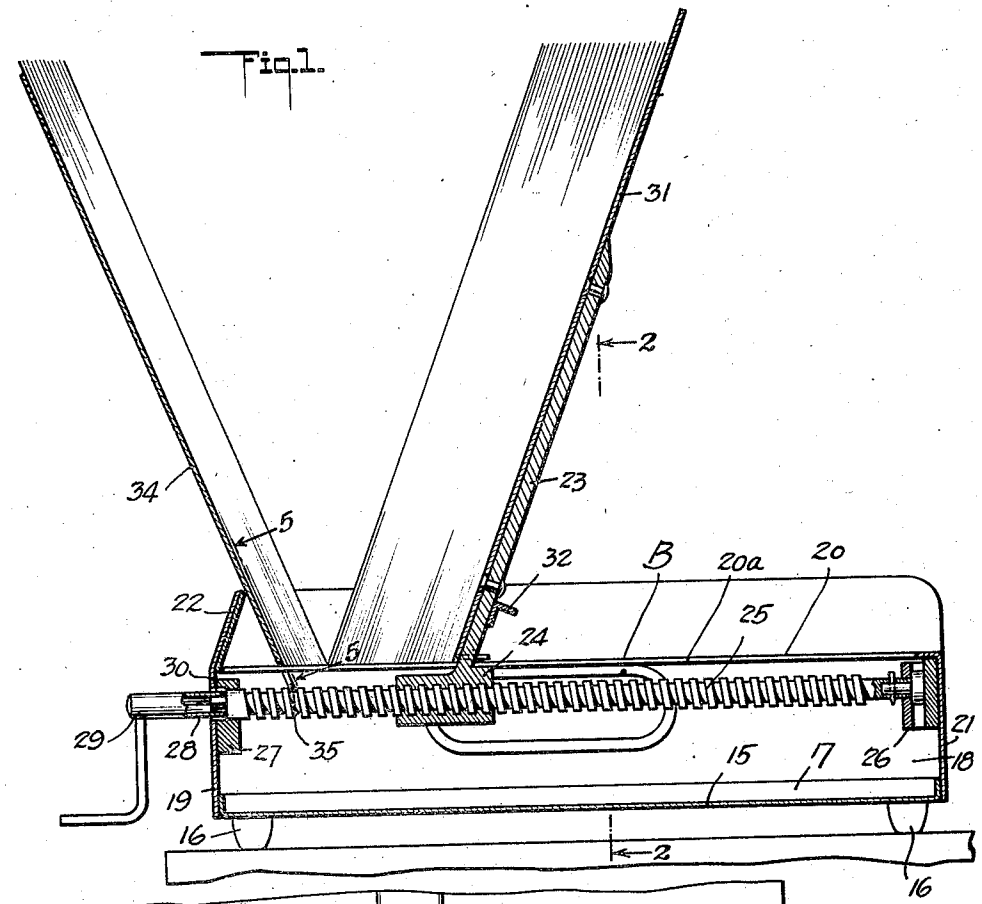

Fig. 2.

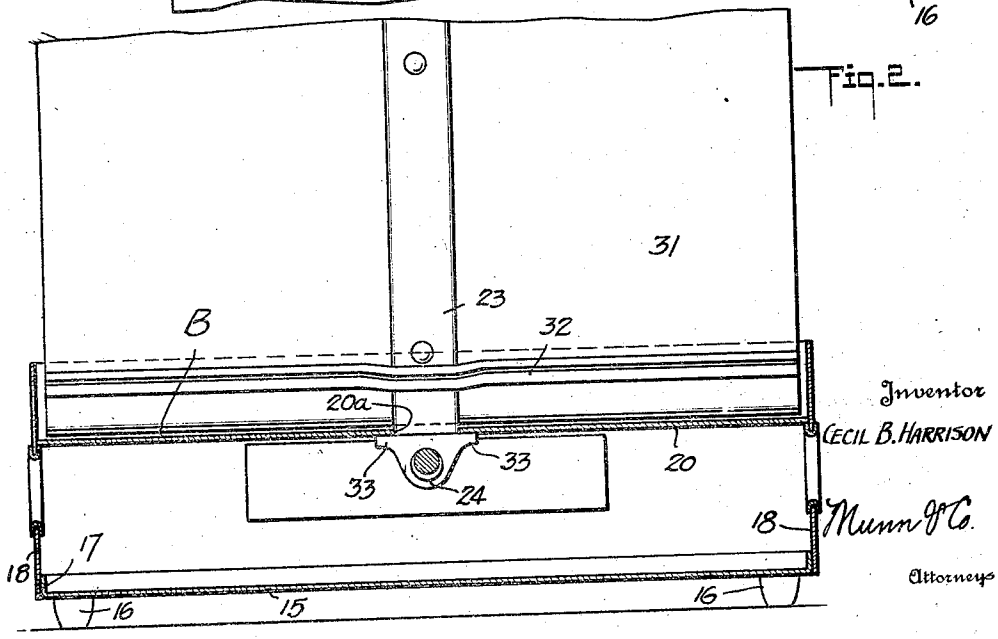

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Fig. 3.

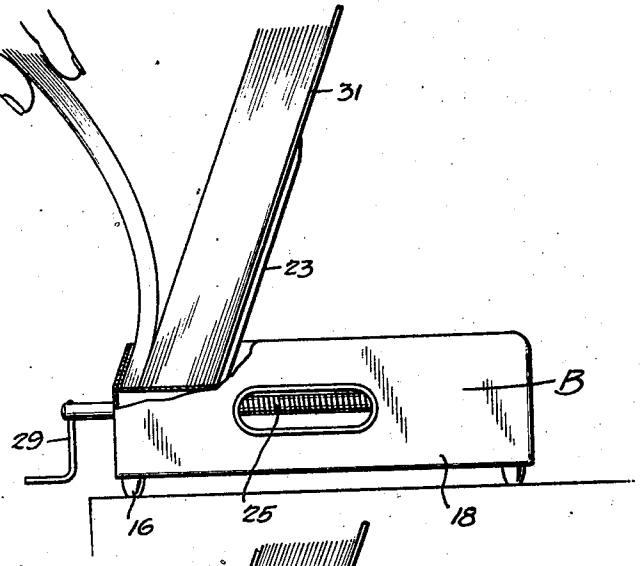


Fig. 4.

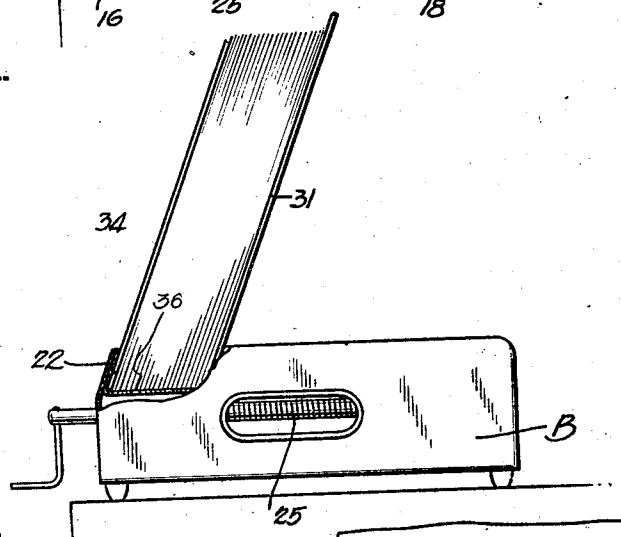


Fig. 6.

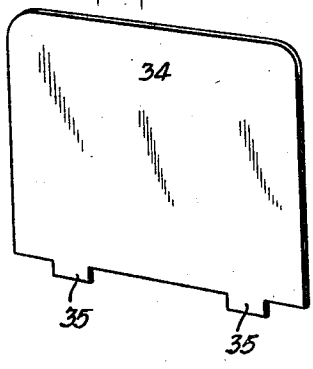
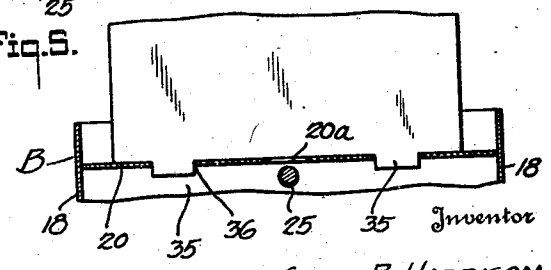


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CECIL BERNARD HARRISON, OF HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO BANKERS EQUIPMENT COMPANY, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, A CORPORATION OF CALIFORNIA.

POSTING TRAY.

Application filed November 24, 1924. Serial No. 751,722.

My invention relates to what are commercially known as posting trays designed for holding a plurality of ledger sheets in vertical position to facilitate reference thereto and posting thereon of records of any description.

It is a purpose of my invention to provide a posting tray of the above described character having ledger sheet supporting members which are adjustable and separable one to the other whereby the sheets can be removed for posting, separated without removal for reference purposes, and securely clamped together when the tray is not in use, thus affording a protecting means and support for the sheets.

I will deseribe only one form of posting tray embodying my invention, and will then point out the novel features thereof in claims.

In the accompanying drawings

Figure 1 is a view showing in vertical longitudinal section one form of posting tray embodying my invention;

Figure 2 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figures 3 and 4 are views showing in side elevation and partly in section two positions and uses of the sheet clamping means embodied in the posting tray shown in the preceding views;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 1;

Figure 6 is a detail perspective view of the movable portion of one of the sheet clamping members embodied in the tray shown in the preceding views.

Similar reference characters refer to similar parts in each of the several views of the drawing.

Referring specifically to the drawings, and particularly to Figures 1 and 2, I have here shown a base B formed of sheet metal or other suitable material and including a bottom 15 supported on legs 16 and provided with an up-turned flange 17 to which are secured sides 18; a front 19 and a top 20 having a depending portion 21 constituting the back wall of the base and which is secured to the flange 17. The top 20 constitutes the floor of the tray upon which the ledger sheets are adapted to be supported, and this top is provided at its forward edge with an upstanding lip that co-operates with another lip formed on the front wall 19 to provide a stationary plate 22 which is inclined as shown. The top 20 is formed centrally with a longitudinally extending slot 20^a in which a standard 23 is mounted to slide longitudinally with respect to the floor 20. The lower end of the standard 23 is formed with a sleeve 24 which is interiorly threaded to receive and engage a screw threaded shaft 25 arranged beneath the floor 20 and having its rear end rotatably and detachably associated with a suitable support 26. The forward end of the screw shaft 25 is rotatably mounted in a bearing plate 27, and this plate is formed with an opening which registers with an opening in the front wall 19 of the base so as to permit a socket 28 of a crank 29 to be applied to the shaft to receive a head 30 on the forward end of the shaft, whereby the shaft can be manually rotated by the crank. The crank can be detached from the shaft when not in use.

Riveted or otherwise secured to the standard 23 is a plate 31, the standard and plate constituting the back member of a clamping device for supporting a stack of ledger sheets in inclined position. For the purpose of reinforcing the back plate 31 an angle bar 32 is secured to the plate and arranged in spanning relation to the standard, as clearly shown in Figure 2. The sleeve 24, as shown in Figure 2, is provided with extensions 33 which contact with the under side of the floor 20 at opposite edges of the slot 20^a in serving to maintain the standard 23 and the plate 31 in rigid upright position.

The remainder of the sheet clamping device includes a stationary plate 22 and a movable plate 34, the latter being formed at its lower edge with tongues 35 (Figure 5) which are removably fitted in transverse slots 36 formed in the floor 20 and at points adjacent the stationary plate 22 in order that the latter may function to support the movable plate in the inclined position shown in Figure 1. In this position of the plate 24 it is disposed in diverging relation with respect

to the plate 31. The plate 34 is also capable of occupying another position in which it is parallel to the plate 31, as clearly shown in Figure 4. In this position of the plate the tongues 35 are removed from the slots 36, and the plate lies contiguous to the stationary plate 22 so that the two co-act with the back plate 31 in firmly clamping the ledger sheets in stacked formation.

In operation, the back member including the plate 31 and the standard 23 can be adjusted longitudinally of the floor 20 by a rotation of the shaft 25, the sleeve 24 being thus actuated through the threads so as to be moved longitudinally of the shaft and to thereby effect a corresponding adjustment of the back member of the clamping device. With the back member in the position shown in Figure 1, and the movable plate 34 occupying a diverging position with respect to the back member, it will be clear that the stacked sheets illustrated can be readily separated to permit the withdrawal of the sheets for posting purposes. It will be understood that the entire stack of sheets is normally supported in inclined position by the back member of the clamping device and that they may be moved singly or in groups to the movable plate 34 and retained in such position by virtue of the inclination of such plate.

When it is desired to refer to any of the sheets of the stack, and at the same time to secure the sheets against removal or disarrangement, the back member can be advanced by manipulation of the shaft to the position shown in Figure 1, wherein the stack of sheets is forced into clamping engagement with respect to the stationary plate 22, and the sheets thus held at their lower marginal edges to permit flexing of the same as illustrated. It will be understood that in this use of the posting tray the movable plate 34 is removed from the tray. When the ledger sheets are not in use, they may be firmly clamped in stacked relation as illustrated in Figure 4 by interposing the movable plate 34 between the stationary plate 22 and the stack of sheets so that by advancing the back member in the direction of the stationary plate, the sheets will be firmly clamped between the plates 31 and 34.

In order to facilitate movement of the tray from place to place, the side walls 18 are formed with hand openings 37, which allow the gripping of the base, as will be understood. It is to be particularly noted that the side walls 18 are extended above the floor 20 so that they co-operate with the clamping device in preventing lateral displacement of the sheets from the stack.

Although I have herein shown and described only one form of posting tray embodying my invention, it is to be understood that various changes and modifications may be made herein without departing from the spirit of the invention and the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. A posting tray comprising a base, a back plate in inclined position on the base to support stacked sheets approximately vertically thereon, a front plate supported on and removable from the base, a stationary plate on the base, and means for moving the back plate on the base toward or away from the front and stationary plates.

2. A posting tray as embodied in claim 1, wherein the stationary plate is disposed in parallelism to the back plate and is adapted to maintain the front plate in a corresponding position when the back plate is moved forwardly to cause the stacked sheets to engage the front plate.

3. A posting tray comprising a base, a back plate, a front stationary plate on the base, disposed in parallelism to the back plate, and means for moving the back plate toward or away from the front plate, whereby the back plate can be moved toward the front plate to cause the two to cooperate in clamping sheets therebetween and in such manner that the sheets can be bent outwardly for reference purposes.

4. A posting tray comprising a base, a back member on the base against which stacked sheets are adapted to be supported in approximately vertical position, a front member including a stationary portion fixed to the base and a movable portion movable on the base to occupy one position in which it is supported in inclined position by the stationary portion and in divergent relation to the back member and another position in which it is parallel to and between the back member and the stationary portion, and means for moving the back member on the base to cause the stacked sheets to be clamped between the back and front members when the said movable portion is in the second-mentioned position, and to support the sheets in divergent relation when the movable portion is in the first-mentioned position.

5. A posting tray as embodied in claim 4, wherein the movable portion is removable from the base to allow the stationary portion to co-operate with the back member in clamping the stacked sheets so that they can be singly referred to.

6. A posting tray comprising a base having a floor formed with a slot, a screw threaded shaft journaled in the base below the floor, a sleeve threaded on the shaft, a standard secured to the sleeve and projecting through the slot of the floor, a back plate secured to the standard, a stationary plate at one end of the floor, side walls projecting above the floor, a movable front plate removably associated with the floor, and means by which

the shaft can be rotated for the purpose described.

7. A posting tray as embodied in claim 6, wherein the base is formed with hand receiving openings.

8. A posting tray comprising a base having a floor formed with longitudinal and transverse slots, a screw threaded shaft journaled in the base below the floor, a sleeve threaded on the shaft, a standard secured to the sleeve and projecting through the longitudinal slots of the floor, a sheet supporting member connected to the standard, a stationary element at one end of the floor, a movable member associated with the sheet supporting member and being formed with tongues removably fitted in the transverse slots of the floor, and means comprising a crank detachably associated with the shaft for operating the same.

9. A posting tray comprising a base, a back plate in inclined position on the base to support stacked sheets approximately vertically thereon, a front plate supported on the base to occupy one position in which it is parallel to the back plate and another position in which it is divergent with respect to the back plate, and means for moving the back plate on the base toward or away from the front plate.

10. A posting tray comprising a base, a member in inclined position on the base to support stacked sheets approximately vertically thereon, a second member supported on and removable from the base, a stationary member on the base, and means for moving the first member on the base toward or away from the other members.

11. A posting tray as embodied in claim 10, wherein the base is provided with means for confining the sheets between the members against edgewise displacement from the base.

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