Dec. 27, 1927. 1,654,041

J. S. DUNCAN

PRINTING DEVICE

Filed March 27, 1926

Fig. 1

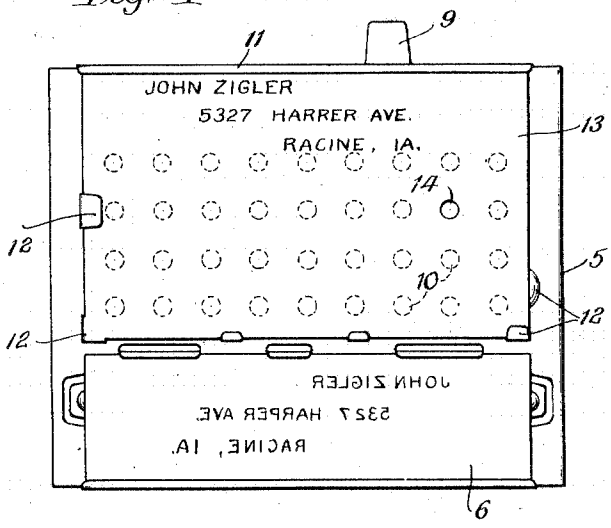
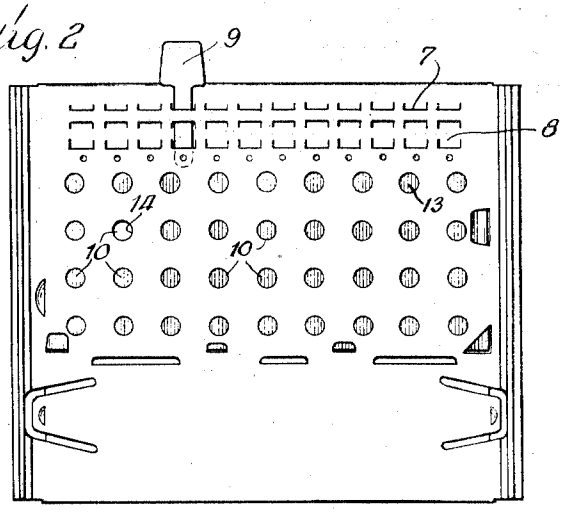


Fig. 2



Inventor:
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Patented Dec. 27, 1927. 1,654,041

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH S. DUNCAN, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO ADDRESSOGRAPH COMPANY, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, A CORPORATION OF DELAWARE.

PRINTING DEVICE.

Application filed March 27, 1926. Serial No. 97,830.

In my Patents No. 1,082,505 and No. 1,082,506, patented December 30, 1913, I have described the use of index tabs adapted to be detachably engaged with printing devices for controlling the printing operations of a printing machine, and I have disclosed several tab constructions to provide for a variety of classifications. My present invention has for its object to provide another means of classification for printing devices to be used independently of or in conjunction with any or all of the means disclosed in my patents aforesaid, whereby a greater number of classifications may be obtained, if desired.

And a further object of the invention is to provide a simple form of classification means which can be easily set and which is not likely to become disarranged or inoperative.

In the accompanying drawings I have selected for illustration a printing frame form of printing device to which the invention is well adapted and referring thereto

Fig. 1 is a front view, and

Fig. 2 is a back view of the printing device embodying the invention.

Referring to the drawings, 5 designates a frame which is provided with suitable devices for receiving and holding a plate 6 which bears the printing characters in relief thereon. The frame is preferably provided with a plurality of slots to form keepers 7, 8 which are arranged in a series or row across the frame adjacent the top thereof. One or more detachable tabs 9 is adapted to be engaged with any pair of keepers, and this tab may be made in any desired form and may be secured in the frame in any desired manner.

I provide the frame, between the series of keepers and the printing plate, with a plurality of spaced openings 10 which are preferably positioned in a predetermined arrangement providing a plurality of horizontal and perpendicular rows of openings, the openings in each row being in alignment.

It is customary in printing devices of this general class to provide the frame with a bead 11 and with other devices 12 for receiving and holding an information card which is detachably engaged therewith. I have shown in the drawings devices which have been satisfactorily employed for this purpose and a card 13 arranged in its proper position on the front of the frame in Fig. 1. In my present invention this card is provided with an opening 14 to register with an opening 10 in the frame and positioned according to a desired classification.

Printing devices of this character are fed one at a time through an addressing or other printing machine, which comprises certain controller devices adapted to be set for operation by the printing devices of a certain classification. In my patents aforesaid, and in my companion application, Serial No. 97,829 filed concurrently herewith, the index tab also performs the function of a control unit to operate the controller devices and effect an operation of the machine to produce an impression from the printing device carrying the tab, but in this invention I provide for operating the controller devices independently of an index tab and, in fact, the printing device may be used without an index tab.

These printing devices are generally arranged in accordance with a card index system in trays or drawers and all of the printing devices in a tray may be deposited in a magazine of the machine from which they are fed automatically one at a time through the machine and discharged into the tray from which they were removed and in accordance with their original classification and arrangement. The opening in the card and frame may be disposed in accordance with any desired classification. I have shown 36 openings in the frame to provide 36 different classifications, but the classifications may be increased or reduced in number by correspondingly increasing or reducing the number of openings in the frame. When the printing devices are run through the machine, one at a time, the controller devices will be operated by those printing devices only of a selected classification and for which the controller devices of the machine have been set; all of the other printing devices will travel through the machine without causing a printing operation. I have not considered it necessary to show the controller because that forms no part of the present invention and it may be varied in construction and operation in many ways. I may mention however, that the controller may consist of a single finger adapted to be

adjusted to any classification position so that it will enter the aligned openings 14, 10 of every printing device of that classification that is fed from the magazine through the machine and produce a printing impression therefrom. All other printing devices, of other classifications, will travel through the machine without effecting a printing operation. This construction contemplates a card with only one opening, cards for different classifications having openings differently positioned therein. Or a plurality of controller fingers may be provided and only one set for a particular classification; in which case the set finger would enter the opening of the selected classification, while the other fingers would either be held free from engagement with the printing device or would be obstructed by engagement with the unperforated part of the card. The perforated frame 5 is standard for all the classifications and it is only necessary to punch the card for different parts of the classification; but the card may be provided with openings to correspond with all of the openings in the frame and a single controller finger set for a selected classification. The printing device may be used with controller systems and with classification systems which vary more or less from those described herein which are referred to for a better understanding of the invention rather than as a limitation of the scope of the invention.

My present invention provides a control unit for operating the controller of a printing machine which permits of a very large number of classifications, since it will be understood that the openings 14, 10 may be very small and may be greatly multiplied as compared with those shown. And the classification may be carried further by forming combinations of two or more openings; that is to say, by providing the frame with the standard openings and punching two or more openings in the cards and adjusting controller fingers to operate in said openings.

The invention is simple in character, it can be easily produced in a commercial way and practiced without special skill, and it enables an extended system of classification which is sometimes highly desirable. The card conforms with the practice now prevailing of providing printing devices of this character with cards for carrying information, and I utilize the card in the manner described as the means for making the printing device a control unit.

My invention can be embodied in other kinds of printing devices of the type shown and also in one-piece plate printing devices constituting, in effect, frames carrying cards, and various changes in the form, construction and arrangement of the parts may be made within the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. A printing device for printing addresses or the like comprising a frame having a restricted opening within its margin and a card carried by the frame on the front thereof and provided with a classification opening registering with said opening in the frame, both openings being adapted to receive a controller device for operating a printing machine.

2. A printing device for printing addresses or the like comprising a frame having a plurality of spaced openings within its margin, and a card detachably mounted on the frame over said openings and having one or more classification openings in alignment with one or more of said openings in the frame, the aligned openings being adapted to receive controller means for operating a printing machine.

3. A printing device for printing addresses or the like comprising a frame having a plurality of classification openings therein, and means on one side of the frame obstructing all except one or more of said classification openings.

4. A printing device for printing addresses or the like comprising a frame having a plurality of classification openings therein, and changeable means on one side of the frame obstructing all except one or more of said classification openings in the frame.

5. The combination of a frame for a printing device for printing addresses or the like and having a plurality of classification openings within its margin and means for receiving and holding a card, and a card arranged on the frame over said openings and engaged with said means and having an opening registering with an opening in the frame to designate the device according to a predetermined classification.

JOSEPH S. DUNCAN.