May 19, 1925. 1,538,386

A. DE MEURISSE

FORM HOLDER

Filed Dec. 9, 1924

Fig. 1

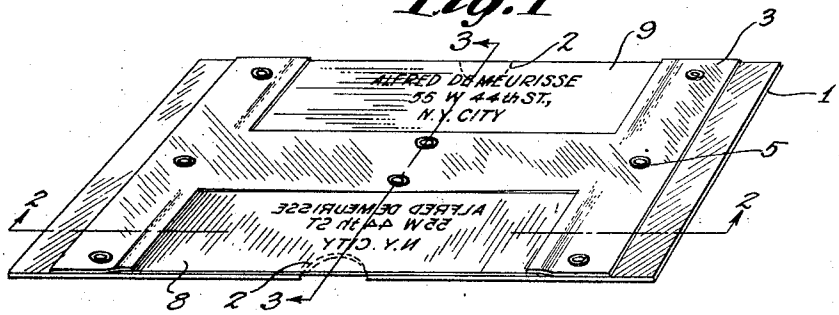



Fig. 2

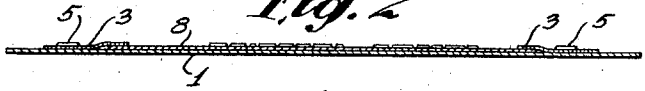


Fig. 3

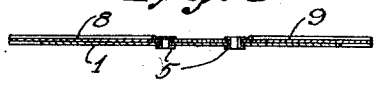


Fig. 4

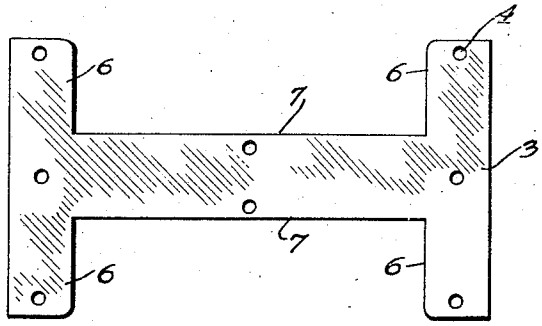


Fig. 6

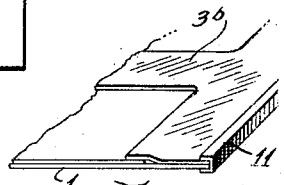
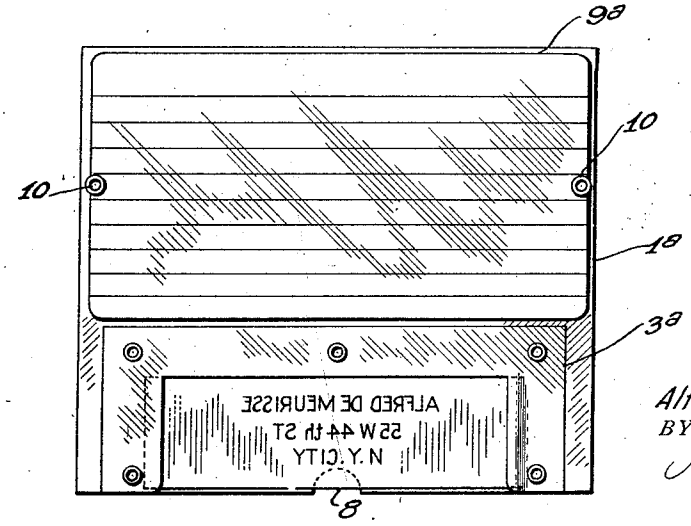


Fig. 5




INVENTOR.
Alfred de Meurisse
BY Jas. H. Griffin
ATTORNEYS.

Patented May 19, 1925. 1,538,386

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFRED DE MEURISSE, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

## FORM HOLDER.

Application filed December 9, 1924. Serial No. 754,788.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALFRED DE MEURISSE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Form Holder, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is a form holder adapted to support a form and is particularly intended for use in connection with addressing and printing machines of the character described and claimed in my copending application, Serial No. 665,542, filed September 29, 1923 and of which application the present application forms, in part, a division.

It is common in addressing machines to employ form plates made of zinc, phosphor bronze or some other thin sheet metal, these form plates being embossed with the letters characters or symbols to be printed and it is the object of this invention to provide a holder for such form plates adapting them to be readily catalogued or stored within drawers or boxes commonly employed in conjunction with card indices, said holders being further adapted to support the form plates not only when not in use, but also while employed to make the impressions in the stamping or printing machine.

Aside from this general object, the invention further seeks to produce an unusually simple and compact arrangement of form plate and holder with which may be also associated means for maintaining an index card on the holder, said card being adapted to receive notations or other data adapted to be applied from time to time as occasion may require. As a result of this construction a holder is provided which serves to support the form plate at all times and to also support a data card, the whole being so constituted that when not in use it can be maintained in a drawer or box after the manner of a card in a card index.

An important feature of the present invention resides in the marked simplicity of the structure, its economy of manufacture, its compactness for storage and its convenience and utility.

Features of the invention, other than those adverted to, will be apparent from the hereinafter detailed description and claims, when read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

The accompany drawings illustrate different practical embodiments of the invention, but the constructions therein are to be understood as illustrative, only, and not as defining the limits of the invention.

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the preferred form of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a face view of a retaining member forming part of the construction of Figure 1;

Figure 5 is a face view illustrating a modified form of the invention; and

Figure 6 shows a further modified form.

In the preferred form of the invention shown in Figures 1 to 4 inclusive, the body 1 of the holder is preferably in the form of a rectangular card of relatively thin fiber which, because of its strength and durability readily lends itself to use for this purpose, although I wish it understood that any other suitable material may be employed in lieu of the fiber. The part 1 is made of a convenient size to adapt it to fit into drawers or boxes, such as are commonly used for card indices and midway of its longitudinal upper and lower edges, the body is cut away to provide semicircular finger openings 2, the purpose of which will be hereinafter more fully explained. Mounted on the face of the body 1 is a retainer 3 which is preferably also made of fiber and in the preferred form of the invention shown in Figure 1, this retainer is preferably H shaped.

The retainer is made of a size to lie upon the body plate 1, as shown in Figure 1, and both retainer and body are provided with alined perforations 4 through which eyelets 5 or other suitable retaining means are passed for the purpose of binding the retainer firmly to the body 1. The position of the eyelets or other equivalent means is important if the best results are to be obtained. It will be noted that the eyelets are positioned an appreciable distance from the edges 6 of the retainer, while two of the eyelets are positioned relatively close to the edges 7 of the retainer. The purpose of this arrangement will be apparent from Figures 1, 2 and 3 since, when a form plate

8 is brought into the position shown in Figure 1, the ends of the plate will extend beneath the margins at the edges 6 of the retainer while the upper longitudinal edge of the form will abut the lower edge 7 of the retainer as is best seen in Figures 2 and 3. Inasmuch as the retainer is of a resilient material, the margins adjacent the edges 6 will give sufficiently to permit the form to be slid into the position of Figure 1 and will hold the form in place under elastic pressure exerted at the opposite ends of the form leaving both longitudinal edges of the form free from attachement, so that a better impression may be obtained than would be the case if the longitudinal edges of the form were tightly gripped.

In the latter case, the form would be held more or less rigid and would not be capable of that slight yielding motion which is conducive to the best impressions.

It will be apparent from Figure 1 that the lower half of the holder serves to retain a form in position while the upper half of the holder is utilized to hold a card 9 of the same size as the form and in the same manner. In practice, the form is first introduced and thereupon inserted into a printing machine for the purpose of printing the card 9, which is thereafter placed in the holder so that the card 9 will show the character of the impression to be obtained from the form 8 held in the same holder. This arrangement greatly facilitates setting up of a series of holders since it is not necessary to write or typewrite on each holder the subject matter of the associated form.

It will furthermore be noted that the cut away parts 2 facilitate the removal of both the form 8 and card 9 in the event that a different form and different card are to be substituted.

In practice, the parts are preferably so proportioned that the lower edge of the form and the upper edge of the card 9 will come flush with the longitudinal edges of the body 1, while the upper edge of the form and the lower edge of the card 9 are in face abutting relation with the corresponding horizontal edges of the retainer.

In Figure 5 of the drawing, I have shown a slightly modified form of the invention. In this showing, the retainer instead of being made double, as shown in Figure 4, is made single, i. e., is made to embody only a lower part and its retainer, which is designated $3^a$, is secured to a body plate $1^a$ in the same manner as before to provide only for the support of a form 8. Instead of constituting the retainer to support a card in addition to the form a somewhat larger card $9^a$ similar to those used in card indices is detachably held on the body $1^a$ by means of projections or eyelets 10 which cooperate with slots at the opposite ends of the card after the manner shown and described in my Patent No. 1,467,140, dated September 4, 1923.

To accommodate this larger card $9^a$, the body $1^a$ is made somewhat larger than is shown in Figure 1. The card $9^a$ may, if desired, contain an impression obtained from the form 8 although, in this arrangement, the card $9^a$ is preferably used as a data card on which notations may be made from time to time as may be desired.

It will be apparent from the foregoing detailed description that the invention embodies many novel features among which is the fact that the form is supported only at its opposite ends leaving its longitudinal edges free to permit of good impressions. Moreover, it is found in practice that the arrangement of this invention is much more compact than any of the prior known devices intended for the same general purpose. It may be noted in this regard that the holder with the form in place thereon will not take up appreciable space in an index drawer or box, whereas many of the prior devices for holding forms of stamping and addressing machines are so thick that only a relatively small number of them can be housed in a drawer or box which would contain many more holders of the present invention.

The present arrangement, moreover, is simple in construction and economical to manufacture and lends itself to use with many of the standard addressing forms now on the market.

The holder shown in Figure 1 is reversible. That is to say, the form 8 and card 9 are interchangeable so that no care need be taken in introducing these elements into the holder.

In Figure 6 of the drawings I have illustrated a slightly modified form of construction which I find to give very good results particularly in holders of the smaller sizes where fastening by means of rivets or eyelets would unduly weaken the construction. In this figure, the retainer $3^b$ is shown as of the same width as the base member 1, so that the lateral edges of the retainer and said member come flush with one another. These edges are united at each side of the holder by means of a metallic binding 11, which may be tightly forced into gripping relation with both parts by a suitable brace in order that the parts may be firmly united. The cross portion of the H-shaped retainer can be secured by an eyelet if desired, but in this form of the invention I prefer to paste or glue it down to the body 1, thereby dispensing with the use of eyelets and at the same time giving a very strong and durable construction.

I have described the invention in its preferred practical forms, but I wish it under-

stood that the invention is fully commensurate with the appended claims.

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

1. A holder of the character described comprising a body, a retainer of resilient material secured to one face of the body and including gripping flanges adapted to grip the opposite ends of the form, while leaving the longitudinal edges of the form free of attachment.

2. A holder of the character described comprising a body, a retainer of resilient material secured to one face of the body and including gripping flanges adapted to grip the opposite ends of the form, while leaving the longitudinal edges of the form free of attachment, and said retainer also having additional flanges adapted to grip the opposite ends of a card whereby the form and card are detachably maintained on the holder.

3. A holder of the character described comprising a body provided with resilient gripping flanges adapted to overlie and grip and hold the opposite ends of a form while leaving the longitudinal edges of the form free from attachment.

4. A holder of the character described comprising a body provided with resilient gripping flanges adapted to overlie and grip and hold the opposite ends of a form while leaving the longitudinal edges of the form free from attachment, and also provided with means for detachably holding the card.

5. A holder of the character described comprising a flat rectangular piece of sheet material constituting the body of the holder, and a retainer of sheet material secured to one face of the holder, and having certain marginal portions of said retainer unattached with respect to the body to permit a form plate to be brought into gripped relation with said marginal edges.

6. A holder of the character described comprising a flat rectangular piece of sheet material constituting the body of the holder, and a retainer of sheet material secured to one face of the holder, and having certain marginal portions of said retainer unattached with respect to the body to permit a form plate to be brought into gripped relation with certain of the marginal portions of the retainer, and a card to be brought into gripped relation with certain other marginal edges.

7. A holder of the character described comprising a flat rectangular piece of sheet material constituting the body of the holder and on one face of which is superimposed a retaining member of sheet material having a cut away portion, the longitudinal marginal edge of which is maintained in engagement with the body and the lateral marginal edges of which cut away portion are directly unattached to the body, whereby a form plate may be slipped between the lateral marginal edges of the retainer and the body for the purpose of holding said plate in gripped relation, the longitudinal marginal edge of the cut away portion serving as a stop for one longitudinal edge of the form plate.

8. A holder of the character described comprising a flat rectangular piece of sheet material constituting the body of the holder and on one face of which is superimposed a retaining member of sheet material having two cut away portions, the longitudinal marginal edges of which are maintained in engagement with the body and the lateral marginal edges of which cut away portions are directly unattached to the body, whereby a form plate may be slipped between the lateral marginal edges of one cut away portion and the body, and a card may be slipped beneath the lateral marginal edges of the other cut away portion and the body to maintain the form and card in position on the holder, the longitudinal edges of the cut away portions serving as stops for the form and card.

In testimony whereof I have signed the foregoing specification.

ALFRED DE MEURISSE.