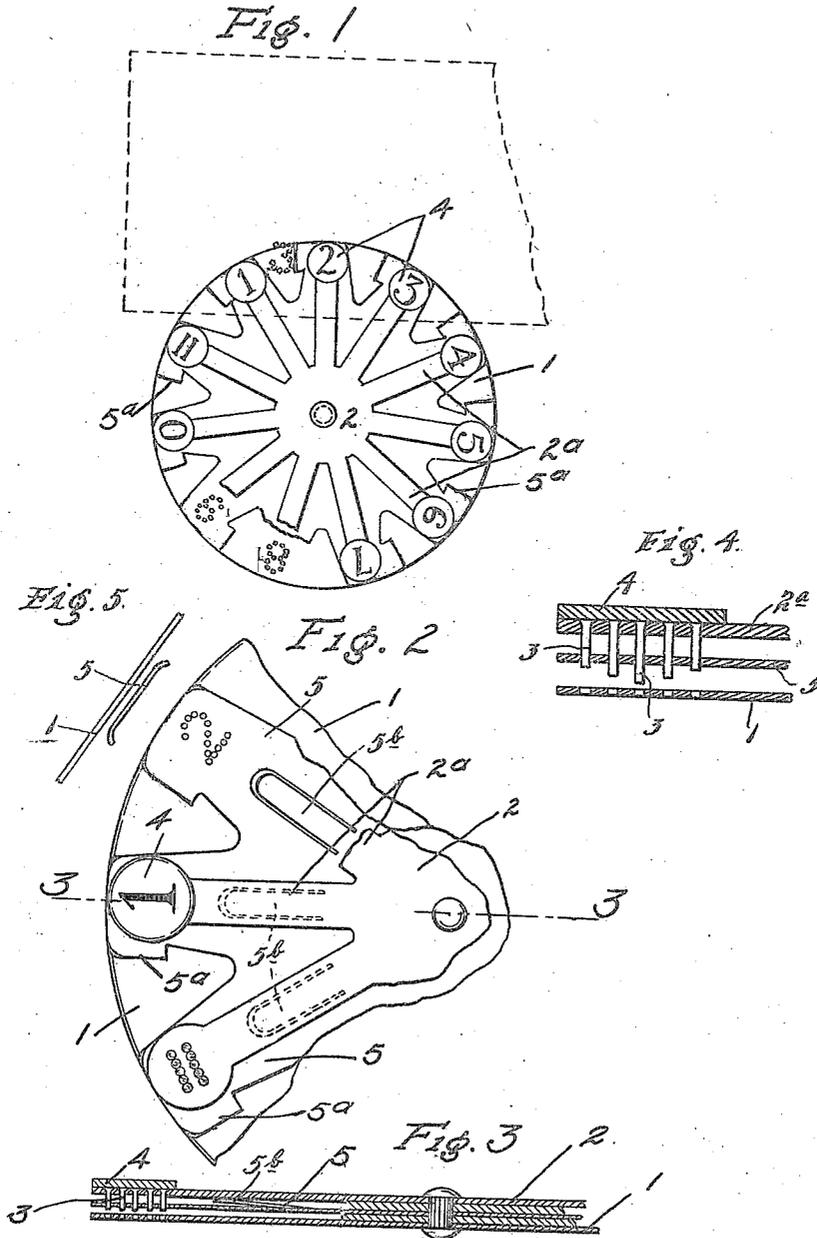


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V. A. BOKER.
CHECK PROTECTOR.
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CHECK PROTECTOR.

Application filed July 29, 1921. Serial No. 438,393.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, VITUS A. BOKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Minneapolis, in the county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Check Protectors; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to a check protector, and particularly to a small manually operated device adapted to be carried in the pocket or in an ordinary bank check book.

The invention disclosed herein is an improvement upon the check protector described and claimed in my co-pending application S. N. 363,727, filed March 6th, 1920, and allowed May 23rd, 1921.

It is an object of this invention to improve the structure disclosed in said application by providing gauging means by which the successively punched characters may be accurately located relatively to each other.

It is a further object of the invention to provide effective means for mounting and securing the punches used in the device.

The objects and advantages of the invention will be fully set forth in the following description made in connection with the accompanying drawings in which like reference characters refer to the same parts throughout the different views, and in which,

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the device, certain portions being broken away, a portion of a check being shown in dotted lines;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of a part of the device on an enlarged scale, certain portions being broken away;

Fig. 3 is a partial central vertical section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged partial sectional view showing the punches; and

Fig. 5 is a partial elevational projection of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings, the device dis-

closed is generally similar to that disclosed in my co-pending application referred to above and comprises a lower die plate 1 of circular form having around its edge spaced groups of small perforations or female dies, these perforations being arranged to constitute character designations. A punch plate 2 forms the top of the device and is provided with radial arms 2^a having enlarged circular portions at their outer ends, and in which are mounted depending punches 3. The punches 3 on the various arms are arranged to form character designations and co-operate with the dies in the plate 1. The lower ends of the punches are made with sharp edges so that a sheet of paper placed between the punch and die plates may be punched and have holes made therethrough, the paper from the holes being entirely and cleanly severed. The punches 3 are inserted through holes in the arms 2^a and the upper ends of said punches are riveted or countersunk into depressions in the top of the arms 2^a, so that the top surface of the punches lie in the plane of the top surface of said arms. The punches are thus firmly secured in the arms 2^a and to prevent all possibility of their being forced upwardly, disks 4 are soldered or brazed to the top surface of the arms 2^a over the punches, the tops of the members 3 having therein character designations corresponding to the designations of the punches and dies.

The cutting ends of the punches are, as shown in Fig. 4, preferably arranged in different planes, the punches near the center of the characters being longer than the others, the punches thus decreasing in length toward the ends of the characters. This feature results in a progressive punching of the paper, requiring less pressure of the fingers.

A stripper plate 5 is mounted between the plates 1 and 2 and is notched at some distance from its periphery so as to have radially projecting teeth or arms adjacent its outer edges which underlie the enlarged ends of the punch plate. Perforations are formed through the stripper plate in line

with and corresponding to the punches 3 so that the punches will extend through the same. The lower surface of the stripper plate normally lies substantially above the plane of the bottom ends of the punches so that when a sheet of paper is placed between the ends of the punches and the die plate it will be punched by pressing downwardly the arms 2^a of the punch plate, and said sheet will be stripped from the punches by the resilient action of the arms 2^a and the stripper plate 5, when the same resiliently resume their normal positions. In order to properly locate and aline the characters punched from the paper or check, the stripper plate is provided with lateral extensions 5^a having lateral edges extending parallel to the central radial line of the adjacent arm 2^a. The outer corners of the stripper plates are bent up slightly, as clearly shown in Fig. 5. This greatly facilitates the entrance of the check between the stripper plate and the plate 1, and in effect forms a flaring guide for the edge of the check. The stripper plate is also provided with punched out and bent up tongues 5^b, arranged radially in alinement with the arms 2^a and contacting therewith. These tongues form springs and assist the arms 2^a in springing back to normal position.

An additional washer plate may be interposed between the stripper plate 5 and the die plate 1 or the central portion of the stripper plate may be bent downwardly and contact directly with the plate 1.

The operation of the device will be apparent but may be briefly described as follows:

The check to be perforated will be placed between the plates 1 and 5 and the character designation brought over the desired places on the check. Members 1 and 4 will then be pressed between the thumb and finger and the character will be punched in the check and formed therein by clean cut holes. To punch the next desired character, the edge of the extension 5^a will be brought in line with the adjacent edge of the character already punched, as illustrated in Fig. 1 and the operation will then be repeated. The successive characters are thus easily and quickly punched, properly spaced and arranged in perfect alinement.

From the above description it is seen that applicant has provided an improved check protector which may be made quite small and thin in practice, and yet which will effectively perforate the check to form the character designations therein. By cleanly cutting out the holes forming the characters it is unnecessary to provide any inking device, such as have been used in the prior art and it is practically impossible to obliterate or obscure the punched characters.

It will, of course, be understood that va-

rious changes may be made in the form, details and arrangement of the device without departing from the scope of applicant's invention, which generally stated, consists in the matter shown and described and set forth in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A pocket check protector having in combination a punch plate having radial arms, and punches independently mounted at the outer ends thereof, said arms having character designations on their top surfaces, a die plate having dies co-operating with said punches, and a notched stripper plate extending between said punches and dies and having lateral extensions thereon constituting a gauging means.

2. The structure set forth in claim 1, the lateral edges of said extensions being parallel with the center line of the adjacent radial arm of the punch plate.

3. A pocket check protector having in combination a punch plate having radial arms, punches carried thereby, and character designations on the top surface of said arms, a die plate adapted to co-operate with said punch plate, and a gauging means adapted to co-operate with the character designations on the arms of the punch plate to properly locate the successively punched characters.

4. A pocket check protector comprising a punch plate having independently mounted therein groups of punches arranged to form character designations, said punches extending through said punch plate and having enlarged heads countersunk in the upper surface thereof to have their upper surfaces flush with the surface of said punch plate.

5. The structure set forth in claim 4, plates secured on the top of said groups of punches and preventing upward movement thereof, said plates having character designations on their top surfaces.

6. A pocket check protector comprising a die plate having perforations forming female dies, punches having flat ends normal to their axes co-operating therewith, the punches and perforations being arranged to form characters, the punches being of different lengths.

7. The structure set forth in claim 6, the punches being longest at the center of the characters and decreasing in length toward the ends thereof.

8. A pocket check protector comprising a punch plate a die plate and a stripper plate with radial arms having free ends, the outer corners of said arms being upturned to form guiding means for said check.

9. A pocket check protector comprising a punch plate having radial arms carrying punches, a die plate, a stripper plate interposed between said punch and die plates, and having spring means thereon contacting said arms.

10. The structure set forth in claim 10, said spring means comprising radial tongues struck upwardly from said stripper plate. die plates and being perforated to have the punches pass therethrough and spring means 10 for separating said punch plate and stripper plate, said spring means being integral with the stripper plate.

5 11. A pocket check protector comprising a punch plate having radial arms carrying depending punches, said punches having flat ends normal to their axes, a die plate, a stripper plate interposed between said punch and

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

VITUS A. BOKER.