V. W. BOLLER.

MULTIPLE SELF INKING STAMP HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 3, 1909.

948,811. Patented Feb. 8, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

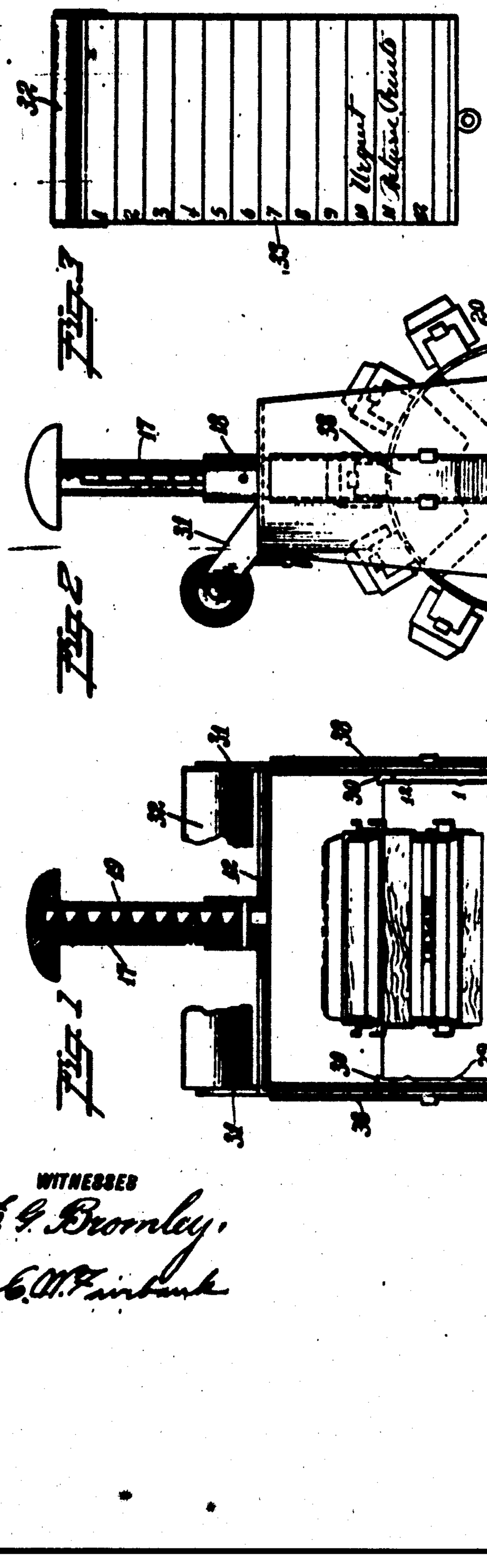

FIG. 1.

FIG. 2.

FIG. 3.

WITNESSES

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Fig 4

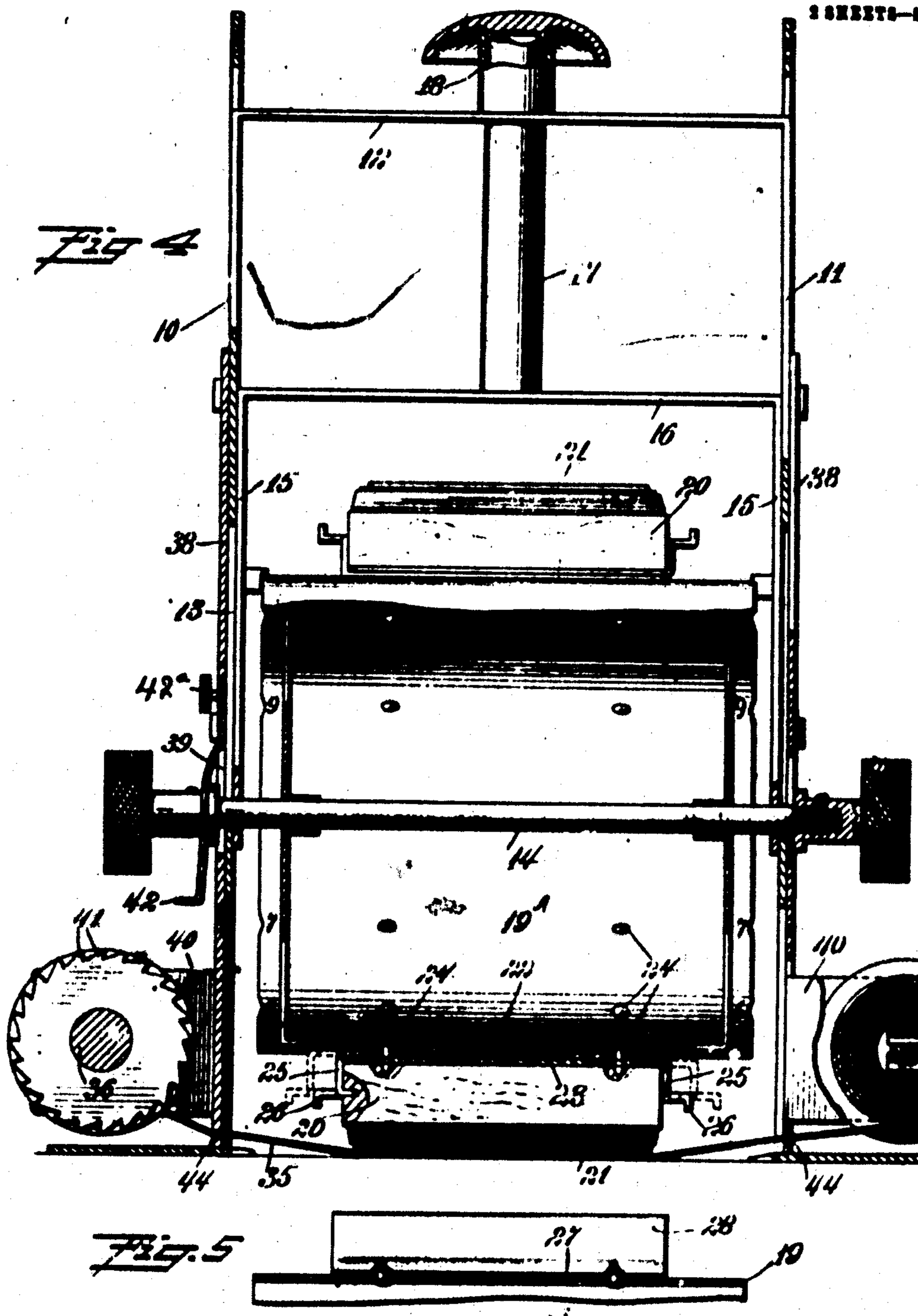

Fig. 5

Fig 6

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VERNON W. BOLLER, OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

MULTIPLE SELF-INKING STAMP HOLDER.

948,811. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 8, 1910.

Application filed June 3, 1909. Serial No. 499,843.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, VERNON W. BOLLER, of the United States Army, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Fort Thomas, in the county of Campbell and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and Improved Multiple Self-Inking Stamp Holder, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to certain improvements in stamp holders, and more particularly to certain improvements whereby any one of a series of stamps carried by the holder may be brought into operative position in respect to the inking device, and, at the same time be in proper position for application to the surface to be stamped.

One of the main objects of the invention is to provide a support for the stamps, which may be moved to bring the stamps into position, said support having inking means corresponding to a list or chart carried by the machine, by means of which the particular stamp which is in operative position may be readily ascertained.

Other distinguishing features entering into the construction of my improved device will appear from the fuller description hereinafter given.

The invention will be described in detail with respect to its distinguishing structural and functional characteristics in connection with what I believe to be the preferred construction.

The applicability of specific distinguishing features to other purposes or to other constructions may be kept in view as far as possible in the description, and in the claims I shall endeavor to clearly point out the particular features which distinguish my invention from previously existing constructions to the best of my ability in the light of my present knowledge and belief.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures, and in which —

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a device constructed in accordance with my invention, a portion thereof being broken away; Fig. 2 is an end view of the device shown in Fig. 1, one of the ribbon spools being shown in section; Fig. 3 is a plan view of the chart accompanying and forming a portion of my device; Fig. 4 is a vertical section through the device in a plane parallel to the plane of the view shown in Fig. 5; Fig. 5 is a detail showing a modified form of clamp or retainer for the stamps; and Fig. 6 is a transverse section through the form shown in Fig. 5.

In the specific form of my device illustrated in the accompanying drawings, I provide two uprights, standard or end members 10 and 11, held rigid in respect to each other by a cross member 12 at their upper ends. Each of these uprights is provided with a vertically-extending slot 13 through which extends a shaft 14. Adjacent the inner sides of the end members 10 and 11 are two slides 15 connected together at their upper ends by a transverse bar 16 and having apertures at their lower ends, through which extends the shaft 14. The bar 16 carries a rod 17 intermediate its ends and extending outwardly midway between the two ends 10 and 11 and substantially parallel thereto. The rod extends through a collar 18 on the transverse member 12 and is preferably hollow to receive a spring 19, which normally tends to lift the rod to its upper limiting position. By pressing down on the upper end of the rod, the spring may be compressed and the slides 15 moved downwardly to lower the shaft 14, while upon releasing the rod 17, the spring raises it and the slides and drum 19^a upwardly. If desired, the two slides 15 may extend upwardly through apertures in the cross member 12 to a height above said cross member equal to the height of the rod 17, the two slides being connected together at their upper ends by another transverse bar similar to the transverse bar 16, the rod 17 being fastened at its upper end to the under surface of the transverse bar, thus eliminating the knob on said rod. The slots in the ends 10 and 11 guide the shaft during its vertical movement and may also serve to limit the extent of such movement. The shaft carries the hollow sheet metal drum 19^a, to the outer periphery of which are secured the several stamps. The stamps may be secured to the drum in various different

ways, two of which I have illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

In Figs. 1, 2 and 4, I have illustrated each stamp as comprising a block of wood 20 having its outer face presenting a type strip 21 of rubber or other suitable material. Each block is secured in place by a holder formed of two strips of metal 22 and 23, held to the drum by suitable screws or rivets 24, which extend through slots in the strips and permit them to move longitudinally in respect to each other and in respect to the surface of the drum. Each strip at one end extends outwardly from the drum to form a clamping jaw 25, the two jaws being movable relatively to each other by the longitudinal movement of the strips. Each jaw at its outer end is provided with a flange extending beyond the other jaw, and the blocks 20 are provided with apertures in their ends to receive these flanges. Each jaw may have a portion thereof extending outwardly to form a catch 26, by means of which the jaws may be moved into or out of locking engagement with the type block. The screws or rivets 24, which hold the two strips 22 and 23 to the drum, are preferably pointed at their outer ends and extend into holes in the block of wood 20. This serves to hold the block in proper alinement even though the flanges of the jaws fit loosely in the apertures in the ends of the blocks; also, to hold these jaws in place after being once adjusted on the block, the engaging surfaces of the two strips 22 and 23 are preferably roughened, corrugated or provided with indentations to prevent slipping.

In the specific form illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6, I have shown a single sheet metal strip 27 riveted to the periphery of the drum and extending longitudinally thereof, said strip having its opposite edges rather than its opposite ends bent outwardly to form two jaws 28 spaced apart. These jaws are somewhat resilient so that they have a relative movement and are adapted to receive between them the type block 20 to hold the latter in position in respect to the drum. The rivets which hold the strip 27 in place, are also preferably pointed at their outer ends to hold the type block against longitudinal movement.

Any desired number of type blocks may be secured to the drum dependent upon the size of the drum and the size of the type blocks, but in the form illustrated, I employ twelve of these blocks spaced at equal distances apart. The drum at one or both ends is provided with notches or recesses 29, which may engage with catches 30 on the slides 15, so as to retard the rotation of the drum and to retain said drum with one of the stamps in operative position.

As the type on the strips 21 is reversed and cannot easily be read, I provide the drum with a series of numerals around one end thereof, and extending to the several stamps. Mounted upon the transverse member 12 of the frame, I provide brackets 31 between which is journaled a spring roller 32 and around which is wound a chart 33 bearing the fac-similes of the various stamps carried by the drum. These fac-similes are numbered and the corresponding numbers are on the drum, but the number opposite to each stamp does not correspond to the number opposite the fac-simile on the chart. One of the slides 15 carries a pointer 34 extending inwardly and terminating adjacent the periphery of the drum and adjacent the row of numerals thereon. The pointer is in approximately the same horizontal plane as the shaft 14, so that the stamp adjacent the pointer is not the stamp in operative position on the under side of the drum. I therefore arrange the numbers and stamps so that when any given number is opposite the pointer, the stamp in operative position will produce a fac-simile of that on the chart and opposite to the aforementioned numeral. Thus, when it is desired to use any one of the stamps, the operator pulls out the chart, notes the number opposite to the fac-simile of that stamp, and then rotates the drum to bring the corresponding number on the latter to the pointer. The roller 32, which carries the chart, is preferably constructed similar to ordinary window shade rollers, so that the chart will automatically become rewound upon the roller when the operator releases the free end of the chart.

In connection with the type block, I employ an ink ribbon 35 having its opposite ends mounted on two spools 36 and 37 carried by the device at the outer sides of the standards or uprights 10. Each standard carries a second slide 38 having a slot 39 to receive the shaft, so as to permit of a vertical movement of the shaft and drum independently of the slides. The length of these slots is less than the range of movement of the shaft, so that the slides 38 are caused to move with the shaft but have lost motion in respect thereto. Each slide at its lower end is provided with two outwardly-extending brackets 40, which serve as supports for the spools and means are provided for rotating the spools to slowly transfer the ribbon from one spool to the other as the device is used. Either one or both rollers may be arranged to be positively rotated by the operation of the slide, and the rotating means may be such that the ribbon will travel in either direction desired dependent upon the character of the operating dog. In the specific form illustrated I

have shown the roller 36 provided with ratchet teeth 41 about the periphery thereof, and a spring dog 42 is mounted on the upright 16, so as to engage with the teeth of the spool during the reciprocation of the slides 38. As the slides move downwardly the dog engages with the side of the spool toward the standard and slips over the teeth, while a pivoted catch 43 engages with the teeth to prevent the rotation of the spool. During the upward movement of the slide, the dog engages with the teeth to rotate the spool and advance the ribbon. If both rollers are constructed to be positively rotated, each of the spring dogs 42 may be held in place by thumb nuts 42ª, so that either spring dog may be loosened and thrown out of alinement when necessary. Thus the direction of travel of the ribbon may be controlled by whichever dog happens to be in operation.

The two standards are provided with vertically-extending slots 44 adjacent their lower ends and through which the ribbon extends from one spool to the other. With the parts in their normal position, the ribbon is drawn taut a short distance below the lower stamp, so that the drum may be freely rotated to bring any desired stamp into position. As pressure is applied to the rod 17, the drum with its stamps is moved downwardly while the outer slides 38 travel in advance and maintain the distance between the stamps and ribbon substantially constant. When the ribbon reaches a position closely adjacent the surface to be stamped, further movement thereof is limited by the engagement of the lower ends of the slides 38 with outwardly-extending base flanges 45 on the standards, and the drum may then move in respect to the ribbon to bring the stamps into engagement with the upper surface of the latter. This movement of the stamp-bearing drum in respect to the ribbon is permitted by the slots 39 in the slides 38. The outwardly-extending base flanges 45 are preferably provided with small pointers 45ª extending inwardly from the center of the base to indicate the center line of impact of the stamp impression.

Either or both spools may be removed from their brackets in any suitable manner. For instance, either or both brackets 40 may be provided with inwardly-extending slots 46 of a diameter to receive the spindles of the spools and spring-pressed catches 47 may hold the spindles in position at the inner ends of their slots. For preventing the spool 37 from rotating to unwind the ribbon too fast, a spring 48 may be pivoted to one of the brackets and frictionally engage with one end of the spool.

Various changes may be made in the construction and operation of the device and within the terms of the appended claims, without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. In combination, two uprights, each having a vertical slot therein, a shaft extending through said slots, a rotatable drum carried by said shaft, slides carried by said uprights, spools carried by said slides, a ribbon extending from one spool to the other, and a plurality of stamps carried by said drum and operatively disposed above said ribbon.

2. In combination, two uprights, each having a vertical slot therein, a shaft extending through said slots, a rotatable drum carried by said shaft, slides carried by said uprights, spools carried by said slides, a ribbon extending from one spool to the other, and a plurality of stamps carried by said drum and operatively disposed above said ribbon, said slides having lost motion connections with said shaft.

3. In combination, a pair of standards substantially rigid in respect to each other, a slide carried by one of said standards, a rotatable drum carried between said standards, a spool carried by said slide and presenting peripheral series of teeth, a pawl carried by said slide for preventing rotation of said spool in one direction, and a spring dog carried by one standard for rotating said spool during the reciprocation of the slide.

4. In combination, two uprights substantially rigid in respect to each other, a substantially horizontal shaft extending from one upright to the other and vertically movable along said uprights, a rotatable drum carried by said shaft, spools adjacent said uprights, a ribbon extending from one spool to the other, a plurality of stamps carried by said drum and operatively disposed above said ribbon, and means for engaging with one of said spools to rotate the latter and advance the ribbon during the vertical movement of the drum.

5. In combination, two uprights substantially rigid in respect to each other, slides carried by said uprights, a spool carried by said slides, a ribbon extending from one spool to the other, a stamp carrier vertically movable upon said uprights, and means movable with said stamp carrier for rotating one of said spools to advance the ribbon during the reciprocation of the carrier.

6. In combination, two uprights, a rotatable stamp-carrying drum disposed between said uprights and vertically movable, slides carried by said uprights, spools carried by said slides, a ribbon extending from one

spool to the other, and operatively disposed beneath the stamps on said drum, said slides being vertically movable upon said uprights and having lost motion connections with said drum.

7. In combination, two uprights, a stamp-carrying drum vertically movable upon said uprights, ribbon-carrying slides vertically movable upon said uprights and having lost motion connections with said drum, and means for advancing the ribbon during the relative vertical movement of the drum and ribbon-carrier.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

VERNON W. BOLLER.

Witnesses:
JOHN WM. HEUVER,
THOS. P. CAROTHERS.