POSTAGE PRINTING TAPE ADAPTER

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This invention relates to postage printing on tape in a postage printing machine which is solely constructed for the printing of postage on letters.

In organizations which only occasionally require postage for parcel post pieces of mail but have daily requirement for the use of postage printing on letters, it is the practice to sell a machine limited to letter printing. The customer thus saves a considerable amount in the purchase price of the machine. However, in order for the invention to be impracticable for the machine for the occasional printing of postage for parcel post, a device has been provided which simulates a letter or envelope and is adapted to be passed through the machine in the manner as a letter for the printing of postage. Instead of said postage being printed on the surface of an envelope, it is printed on the uppermost strip of a superimposed number of strips of gummed tape assembled in pad form on a flat plate in the position where a postage impression would normally appear on a letter.

The flat plate will be provided for permanent use, whereas the gummed strip pads will be removably mounted thereon and sold in convenient packages lots thus reducing the cost to a minimum for the pads. It is the object of the invention therefore to provide for use in a postage printing machine, a device simulating a letter, wherein a pad of gummed strips is adapted to be removable mounted on a permanently usable flat plate for the printing of postage stamps thereon when required for use in mailing parcel post packages.

A preferred embodiment of the invention is disclosed in the drawings wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a postage printing machine showing a stamp pad plate in an operative printing position on a postage printing machine and further showing the said plate in an ejected relation to the machine in broken lines;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the stamp pad plate with a removable stamp pad assembled thereon which is suitable for the printing of both a postage indicia impression and a slogan;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view similar to Fig 2 but showing a stamp pad of shorter length assembled on the plate for the purpose of printing only the postage indicia, that is, without a slogan;

Fig. 4 is a composite view showing a stamp pad plate with a fixture mounted thereon providing ways arranged for the reception of a stamp pad, the latter being shown in a removed position;

Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of the pad portion of Fig. 4, showing the structure of the fixture portion as mounted on the plate;

Fig. 6 is a sectional view taken along the line 6—6 of the pad portion of Fig. 4; and

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the lower length of pad mounted on a base which is adaptable for insertion in the fixture portion of the plate.

Referring to the drawings in detail, the operator of a postage printing machine of the type shown in Fig. 1 normally uses the machine for the printing of postage directly on the envelope portion of letters and hence has become proficient in the use of the machine for such purposes. When it becomes necessary to provide postage for an occasional piece of parcel post, means has been provided for the printing of postage on a gummed strip so that the same may be moistened and applied to the package for mailing. Inasmuch as the operator is accustomed to printing postage on letters, means has been provided which simulates the identical condition of printing postage on letters. Said means comprises the provision of a plate 10 of permanent material such as plastic, for example, which preferably would have the dimensions of an envelope of the short #6 type. At the upper right-hand corner position of said plate 10 there is secured a fixture 11 having a flat base portion 12 and curved ends 13—13 to provide ways for receiving and securing a stamp pad therein.

The stamp pad as seen in Fig. 6 comprises a base portion 14 of preferably cardboard or similar material and has mounted thereon a pad of gummed strip material 15. The pad which is shorter than the width of the base portion 14 and which is centrally located thereon, provides flanges 16—16 for said base portion, which flanges are adapted to slide into recesses of the curved ends 13—13 of the fixture 11. At the trailing end of the base portion 14 the flanges are extended to form stop tabs as indicated at 17—17 for the purpose of limiting the distance the pad portion might be inserted, thereby maintaining the uppermost strip of the pad 15 in proper position to receive a postage impression when the plate 10 is passed through the machine, as shown in Fig. 1.

Two sizes of stamp pads will be provided as best indicated in Figs. 2 and 3, one for the purpose of printing both the postage indicia and slogan on a longer length of gummed strip and the other for the purpose of printing only the postage indicia impression on a shorter length of strip.

By means of the device of this invention it will be readily seen that an inexpensive device is offered the customer who has a machine which is normally limited to the printing of postage on letters which will provide for printing postage on an occasional gummed stamp which stamp is then moistened and applied to a piece of parcel post mail. Further, the operator of the machine will require no instruction in the use of the machine for the printing of postage on the gummed tape for the latter purpose inasmuch as the device provided functions in the identical manner as the printing of postage on letters.

What is claimed is:

1. A stamp pad device for use in a postage printing machine to receive postage impressions as an envelope would when passed through the postage printing machine and comprising, a flat rectangular shaped plate of envelope dimensions, ways forming a permanent path for the plate and located within the postage printing upper right hand corner area thereof, a pad of superimposed strips removably mounted within the ways, and a base for said
pad having a flange portion extended beyond each side of the superimposed strips and slidable within the ways.

2. A stamp pad device for use in a postage printing machine to receive postage impressions as an envelope would when passed through the postage printing machine and comprising, a flat rectangular shaped plate of envelope dimensions, ways forming a permanent part of the plate and located within the postage printing upper right-hand corner area thereof, a pad of superimposed strips removably mounted within the ways, a base for said pad having a flange portion extended beyond each side of the superimposed strips and slidable within the ways, and laterally extended stop portions at the trailing end of the pad base to limit the distance of pad insertion within the ways.

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