

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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INSTRUCTION DEVICE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that THOMAS H. VAN ORDER, citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, State of Maryland, has invented certain new and useful Improvements in Instruction Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an instruction device and more particularly to a device designed to teach and instruct telegraphic codes and other analogous systems used in communication at a distance.

One of the objects of this invention is accordingly to provide an instruction device of simple and durable construction.

A further object of this invention is to provide an instruction device which is compact in form and of such a simple character as to be readily usable.

A still further object of this invention is to provide a device for the simple, rapid, and comprehensive instruction in code signals.

Other and further objects of this invention will appear from the more detailed description which follows in which description the drawing shows by way or example.

In Figure 1, a plan view of the completed device partly in section showing the sliding members in their operative positions.

In Figure 2, a section taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

In Figure 3, a plan view of the back of the instruction device partly in section.

It will be apparent at this point that this invention broadly comprises a set of slips each of which carries a series of symbols or characters corresponding to a series of words, letters, numerals, or other indicia used in communicating at a distance, the symbol etc. corresponding to the character, word, numeral, letter, etc.

In the preferred form of this invention as set forth in the drawings, there is shown such a set of slips sliding within a frame having means for indicating any preferred symbol etc. As therein set forth, the device is shown in use with the instruction of the symbols used in telegraphic communication. A cover member 1 and a back member 2 are supplied each of the same size and superimposed, and each provided with a transverse slot, 3 and 4 respectively, extending across the greater width of the cover

and of the back, at about their transverse centers, the slots preferably being in alignment. The cover 1 is also provided with a series of vertical or longitudinal slots 5, 5 extending from a point near the lower edge to within a short distance of the slot 3. In the completed device there is located beneath each of these longitudinal slots 5, 5 a slip 6, the slips 6, 6 lying adjacent each other and each capable of movement up to and beyond the slots 3 and 4. In practice it is found to be desirable, though not essential, to have a frame member 7 placed between the members 1 and 2 to space them apart so that the sliding members or slips 6, 6 may be moved readily between these members.

The cover 1 carries a table 8 as shown on the lower left hand margin, indicating the letters of the alphabet in inverse order, and a table 9 on the lower right hand margin, showing the numerals and certain desired words. The lower face of the cover member 1, is lined, and each of the letters and numerals and words is placed in a space between these lines. Each of the slips 6 carries on its front face, the symbols corresponding to the letters or numerals or words as the case may be, and on its reverse face, the letters, numerals, words, etc. themselves, in reversed position. In its preferred form, each slip 6 is also provided with a perforation 10 at its lower end. A button may be used also if found necessary. When a button is used it extends above the surface of the member 1. In either case, the perforation or button is alined for movement in the longitudinal slots 5, 5, so that a slip may be moved up past the slots 3 and 4. The arrangement of the symbols, letters, words, and numerals is such that when the button or perforation of the slip 6 is moved to a position on a line opposite the chosen letter, numeral or word, the slip will show in the slot 3 the symbol of that letter, numeral, or word, and in the slot 4, in inverted position, the letter, numeral, or word itself. In general only one slip will be used for indicating numerals and special words and this slip will be the slip on the extreme right so that words may be spelled out by the letters and symbols on the other slips.

From the structure thus set forth, the use of the instruction device will be apparent.

For example, if it is desired to learn the symbols of the word "friend", the slip on the extreme left is moved by the button or perforation until the button or perforation is alined with the letter "f". The next slip is then moved until its button or perforation is alined with the letter "r". In this manner the word "friend" is spelled out and as a result of the operations described there will appear in the slot 3, the symbols corresponding to the word "friend". Furthermore, if the device is turned completely over on its back, the word "friend" will appear in the slot 4 thus checking the operations that have just been performed. In the arrangement disclosed, it has been found desirable to indicate a dot by the word "dit" and to indicate a dash by the word "da".

It will at once be obvious that as many slip members 6 may be used as is desired and that in the method indicated any word may be spelled out or any number indicated. In actual practice, it has been found desirable to provide about six slips, each slip being about five to six-sixteenths of an inch wide and about three and a half inches in length. The front and back members may also vary, but convenient sizes will be found to be from three to ten inches in length and about seven inches in width. The slots are about one-sixteenth to one eighth of an inch in width.

Generally it will be profitable to incorporate advertising matter on the upper half of the front or cover member and to place instructions for use and other desired matter on the back member.

It will be recognized that various changes may be made in the structure set forth, in size, shape, number of slips, etc. without departing from the scope or spirit of this invention. From the disclosure, those skilled in the art will be able to adapt this structure as they desire.

Having thus set forth this invention, I claim:

1. An instruction device comprising a member, slot in said member, a table of characters on said member, and means adjacent said member for indicating a symbol in

said slot corresponding to each of the characters in the said table.

2. An instruction device comprising a back member, a cover member superimposed upon said back member, a transverse slot in said cover member, a table of characters on said cover member, a sliding member located between said back and cover members, a table of symbols on said sliding member corresponding to the said table of characters, and means for moving said sliding member past the slot to show any desired symbol in said slot.

3. An instruction device comprising a back member, a transverse slot in said back member, a cover member superimposed upon said back member, a slot in said cover member in alinement with said first named slot, a table of characters on said cover member, longitudinal slots in said cover member, sliding members placed between the back and cover members carrying a table of symbols on one face and a table of characters on the other face, one sliding member lying beneath each of the longitudinal slots, and means on the lower ends of the sliding members for moving them past the slots so that a symbol will appear in the slot on the cover member, and a character in the slot on the back member.

4. An instruction device comprising a back member, a slot in said back member, a cover member, superimposed upon said back member, a slot in said cover member, sliding members placed between the back and cover members carrying a table of symbols on one face and a table of characters on the opposite face, the sliding members being movable so that a symbol will appear in the slot of the cover member, while the character corresponding to that symbol will appear in the slot of the back member, said symbols and characters being so arranged that when the device is turned on its short edge through an angle of 180 degrees, the symbols and characters will appear in their proper upright positions.

In testimony whereof he hereunto affixes his signature.

THOMAS HOWARD VAN ORDER.