

No. 881,625.

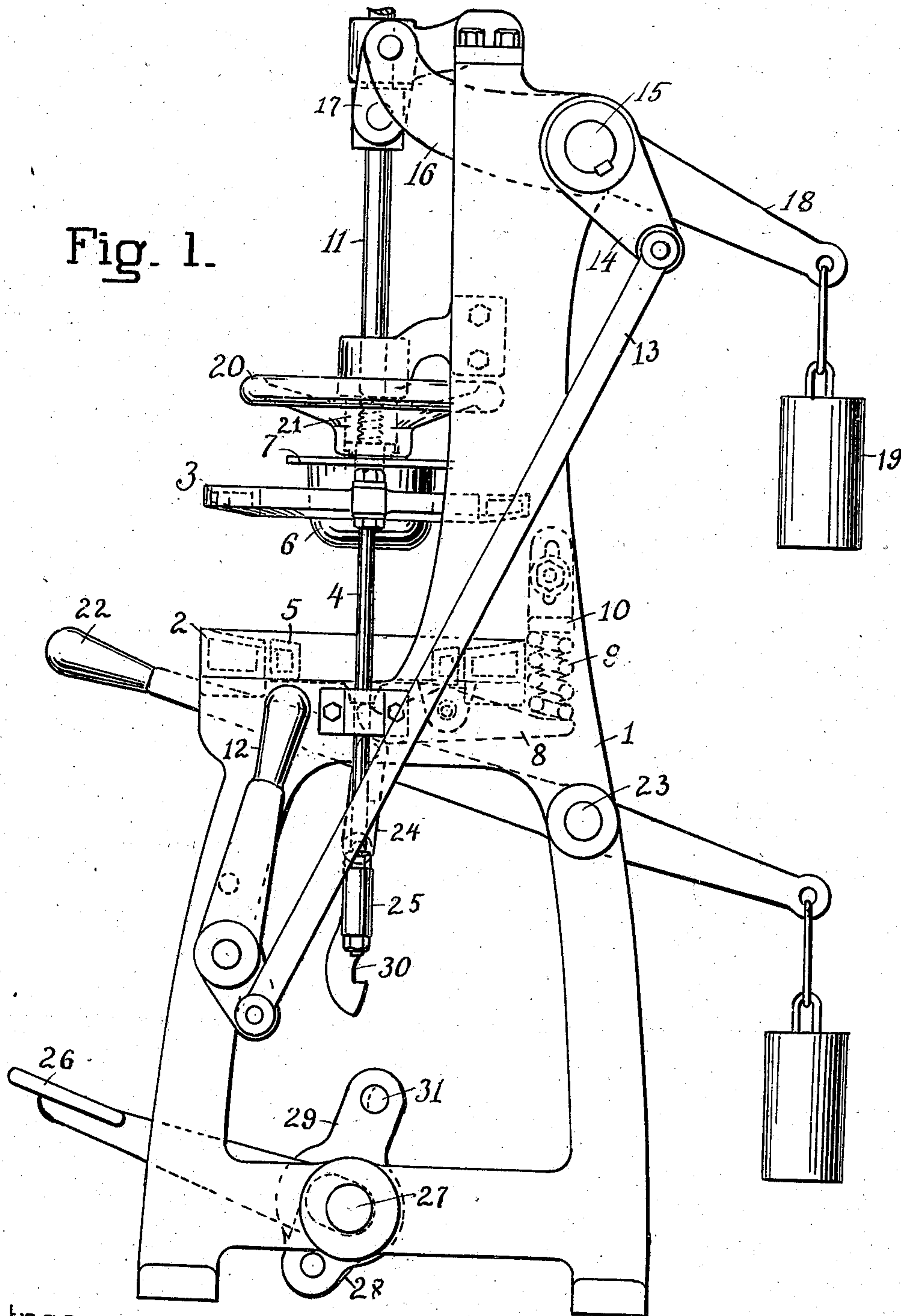
G. SEGSCHNEIDER.

PATENTED MAR. 10, 1908.

BRIM STRETCHING AND HAT BLOCKING MACHINE.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 3, 1906. RENEWED OCT. 2, 1907.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses:

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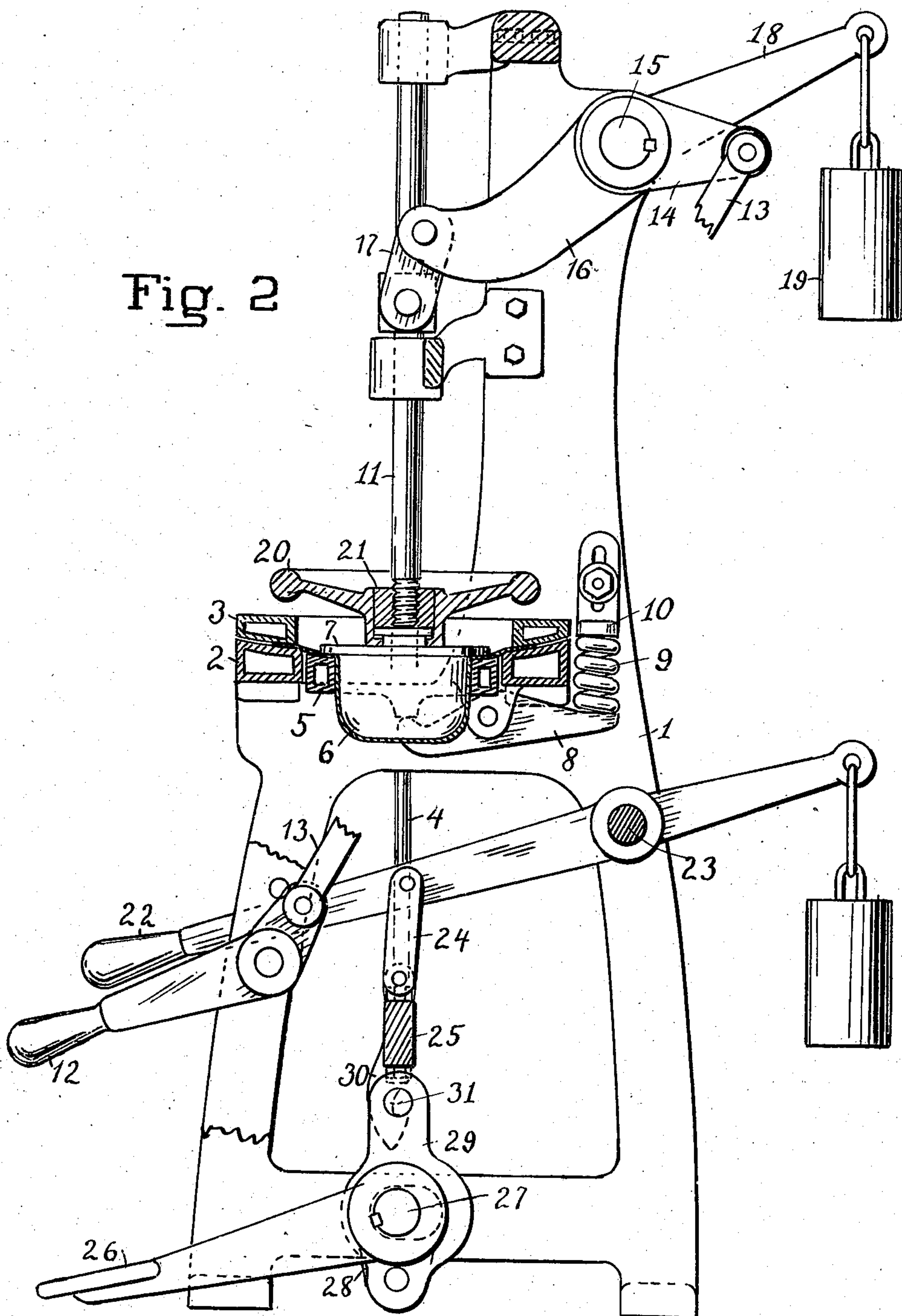
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2



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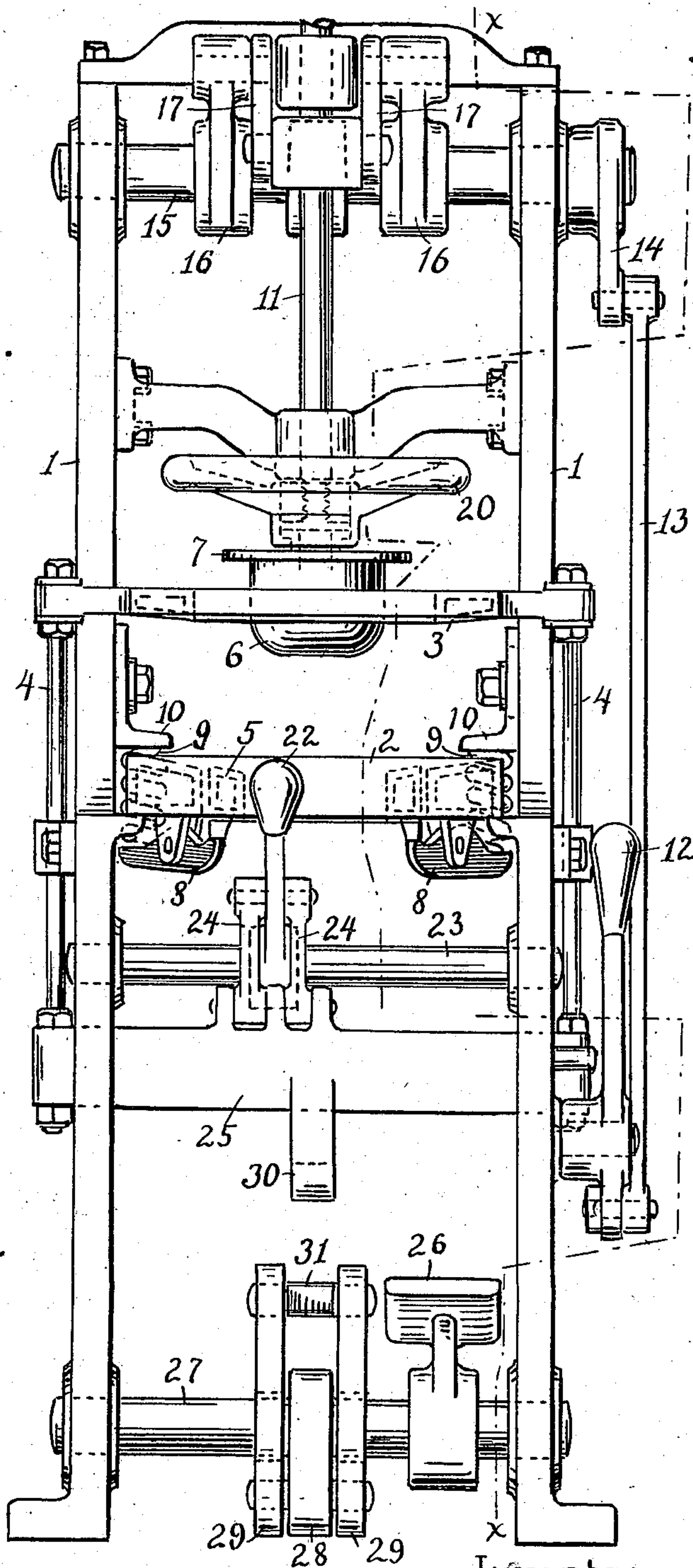
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 3.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GUSTAV SEGSCHEIDER, OF YONKERS, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO WARING HAT M'FG CO.,  
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## BRIM-STRETCHING AND HAT-BLOCKING MACHINE.

No. 881,625.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 10, 1908.

Application filed January 3, 1905, Serial No. 239,312. Renewed October 2, 1907. Serial No. 395,523.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GUSTAV SEGSCHEIDER, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Yonkers, county of Westchester, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Brim-Stretching and Hat-Blocking Machines, of which the following is a specification.

10 The chief object of this invention is to effect a stretching of hat-brims in directions radial to the hat which is being operated upon. This stretching, with the machine herein described, is confined to the intermediate portion of the hat-brim between the outer and inner margins, and is effected by two concentric pairs of clamps, one a pair of brim-clamps for clamping the outer margin of the hat-brim, and the other pair, which will, for convenience, also be termed brim-clamps, for clamping the hat-brim at a point closely adjoining the line of juncture of the brim and hat-body while the intermediate portion of the hat-brim, which lies between the inner and outer margins, is not clamped. At the moment of closure of the two pairs of clamps they are preferably in position to bring the outer and inner margins of the brim into the same plane. Then while both pairs are clamping the hat-brim, one pair is moved out of the plane of the other pair and the desired brim stretching is thereby effected. In this manner a certain amount of slack is given to the intermediate portion of the brim which is advantageous in the subsequent operation of imparting the curl. The brim stretching operation is performed in conjunction with instrumentalities for blocking the hat-body.

40 Referring now to the accompanying three sheets of drawings, which form a part of this application, Figure 1, is a side elevation of the machine with the clamps separated and the parts in position to permit the removal or insertion of a hat. Fig. 2, is a side elevation and vertical section broken away on the line  $x-x$  of Fig. 3, showing the clamps closed and the parts fully operated. Fig. 3, is a front elevation of the machine with the operative parts relaxed as in Fig. 1.

The several parts of the machine are supported in a main frame comprising two parallel frame castings 1 1. The castings support between them a lower brim-clamp 2,

which is a hollow steam chest by which the hat-brim is heated when operated upon. An upper brim-clamp 3, coöperates with the lower brim-clamp to clamp the outer margin of the hat-brim. It is also hollow, so that it can be heated with steam. The upper brim-clamp is supported by two vertically sliding side rods 4 4, which are guided in bearings attached to the side frames of the machine. Lying within the lower brim-clamp is a concentric clamping ring 5 against which the hat-brim and the hat-body at their point of juncture are clamped by a hat-block 6, and brim-clamp 7, attached to the hat-block, which are brought into clamping engagement concentric with the brim-clamps for the outer margin of the hat-brim. The concentric clamping ring is supported at the ends of two levers 8 8, the other ends of which are pressed by springs 9 9, so that the top of this ring, against which the inner margin of the brim is clamped, will be on about the same level or plane with that part of the surface of the lower brim-clamp against which is clamped the outer margin of the hat-brim, as shown in Fig. 1. Adjustable abutments 10 10, are provided, and the tensions of the springs are such that they will be overcome when sufficient pressure for the proper clamping of the hat-brim is brought to bear on top of the clamping-ring by the brim clamp attached to the hat-block.

The hat-block is supported by a central vertically sliding rod 11, which is guided in bearings supported by braces between the side frames. The rod is operated by a hand-lever 12, through a connecting-rod 13, arm 14, rock-shaft 15, arms 16 16, and links 17 17. An arm 18, rearwardly projecting from the rock-shaft has a weight 19, attached thereto, which counterbalances the hat-block and other parts moving with the hat-block. The arm of the hand-lever to which the connecting-rod is attached is brought into line with the rod, and hence on the center, so as to lock the parts when the lever is fully operated. Additional clamping pressure and adjustment is afforded by a hand-wheel 20. A nut 21, carried by the hand-wheel, engages a thread on the lower end of the central vertically sliding rod, and the hand-wheel has a swivel connection with the hat-block. The hat-block is hollow, so that a gas burner may be placed therein.



The upper brim-clamp is operated for rapid opening and closing by a hand-lever 22, which is fulcrumed on a shaft 23. It is connected through links 24 24, with a cross-bar 5 25, between the lower ends of the vertically sliding side rods. For the more powerful operation of clamping, a treadle 26, is provided. This is keyed to a shaft 27, and the shaft carries an arm 28, to the end of which 10 two links 29 29 are hinged, preferably with a slight friction, so that the links, when not otherwise supported, will remain in the relation to the arm in which they are illustrated in Fig. 1. On the operation of the brim- 15 clamp by the hand-lever, a hook 30, attached to the cross-bar is brought opposite to a bar 31, between the upper ends of the links, and operation of the treadle first engages the bar and hook, thereby coupling the brim-clamp 20 to the treadle, and then the arm and links are thrown onto the center, as illustrated in Fig. 2, thereby acting as a power device, and the upper brim-clamp is clamped against the lower brim-clamp with great power and 25 locked by reason of the arm and links being brought into line.

In operating the machine, the parts are first relaxed as shown in Fig. 1 for the removal of the hat previously operated upon, 30 and the insertion of another. Then the upper brim-clamp is brought down, first by the hand-lever, and then the power device operated by the treadle is coupled to the brim-clamp and then operated, thereby 35 clamping and locking the brim-clamps for the outer margin of the brim. Next, the hat-block is brought down by the operation of the hand-lever with which it is connected. It first blocks the hat-body and clamps the 40 hat and preferably the hat-brim at the line of juncture between the brim and body against the concentric clamping-ring, and second, by continued movement forces the clamping ring downward to the position illustrated in 45 Fig. 2, and thereby stretches the brim by drawing it into an oblique position, as set forth and illustrated.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. In a hat-blocking machine, the combination of concentric pairs of brim-clamps, means for operating each pair of clamps, and means for moving one pair of clamps from the plane of the other pair of clamps while clamping, substantially as described. 50 55

2. In a hat-blocking machine, the combination of concentric pairs of brim-clamps, means for operating each pair of clamps, and means for moving the inner pair of clamps from the plane of the other pair of clamps 60 while clamping, substantially as described.

3. In a hat-blocking machine, the combination of concentric pairs of brim-clamps, means for operating each pair of clamps, a hat-block, and means for moving the hat- 65 block through the brim-clamps and for moving one pair of clamps from the plane of the other pair of clamps while clamping, substantially as described.

4. In a hat-blocking machine, the combination of concentric pairs of brim-clamps, means for operating each pair of clamps, a hat-block, and means for moving the hat- 70 block through the brim-clamps and for moving the inner pair of clamps from the plane of the other pair of clamps while clamping, substantially as described. 75

5. In a hat-blocking machine, the combination with a clamping device, of a hand-lever for the rapid opening and closing of the 80 movable part of the clamping device, a treadle, a power device operated by the treadle, and means for coupling the power device to the movable part of the clamping device when the clamping device has been 85 closed by the hand-lever, substantially as described.

Signed at Yonkers, New York, this 30th day of December, 1904.

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Witnesses:

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