

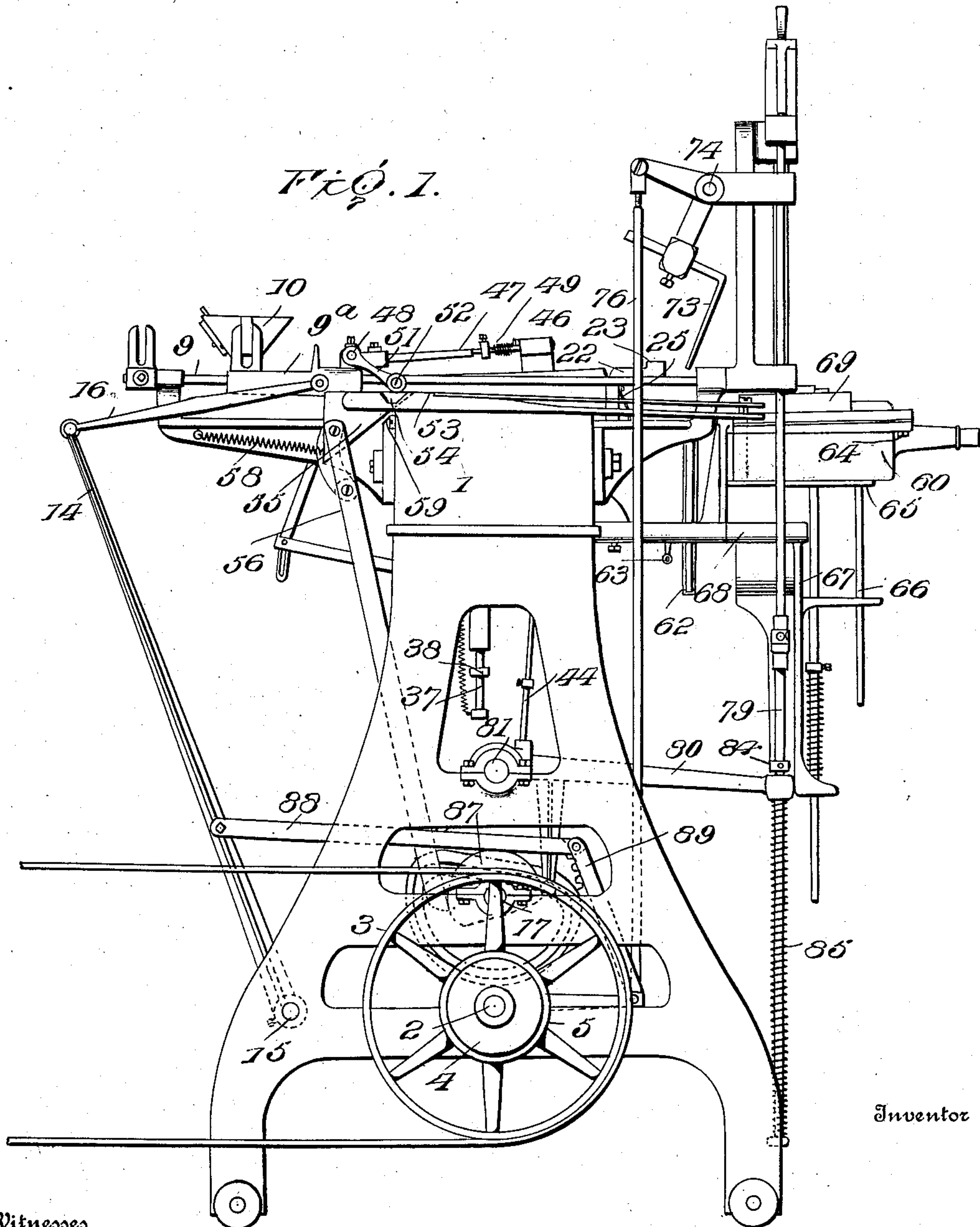
No. 889,753.

PATENTED JUNE 2, 1908.

J. M. BROWN.
LABEL AFFIXING MACHINE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 24, 1907.

8 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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Witnesses

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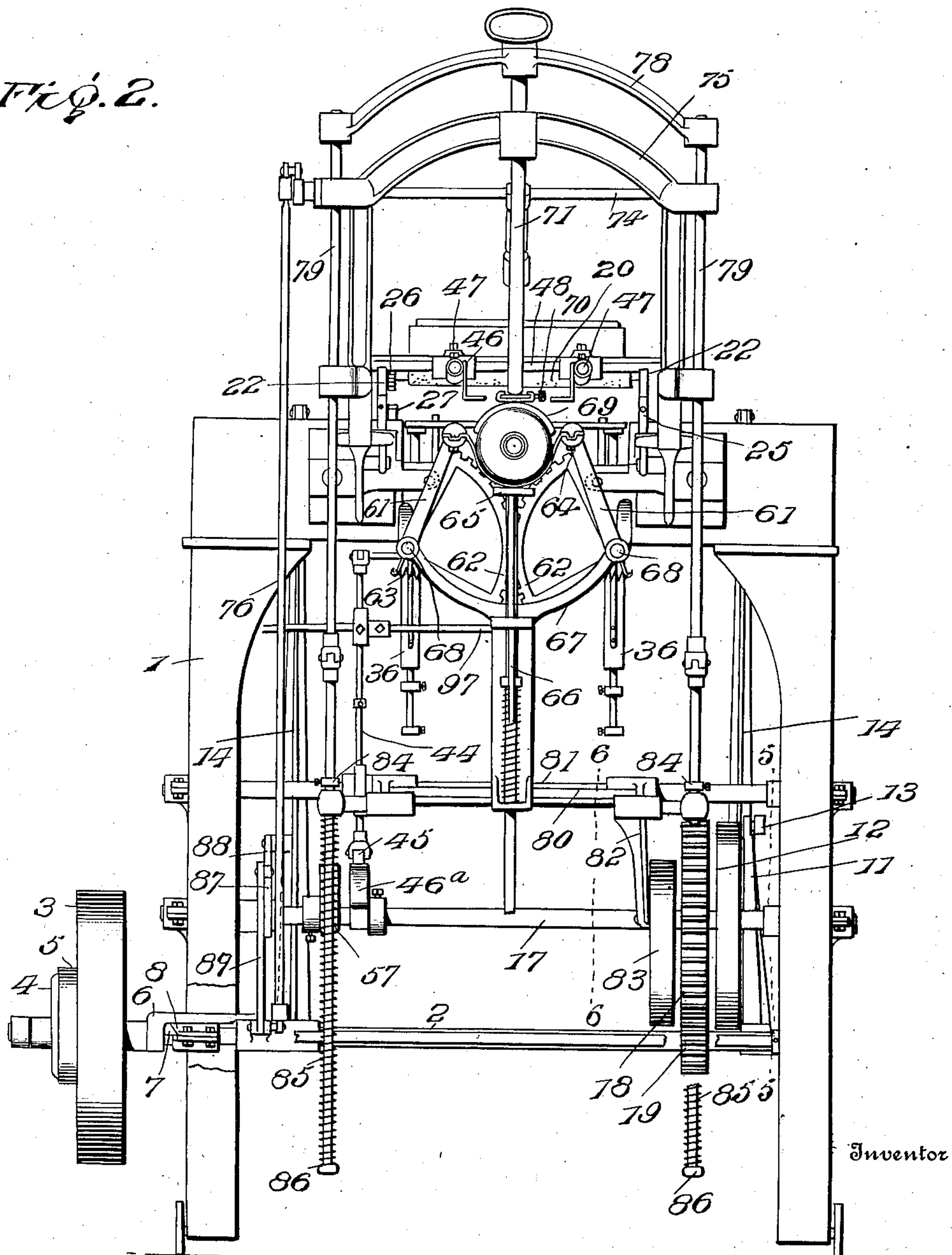
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8 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

FIG. 2.



Witnesses

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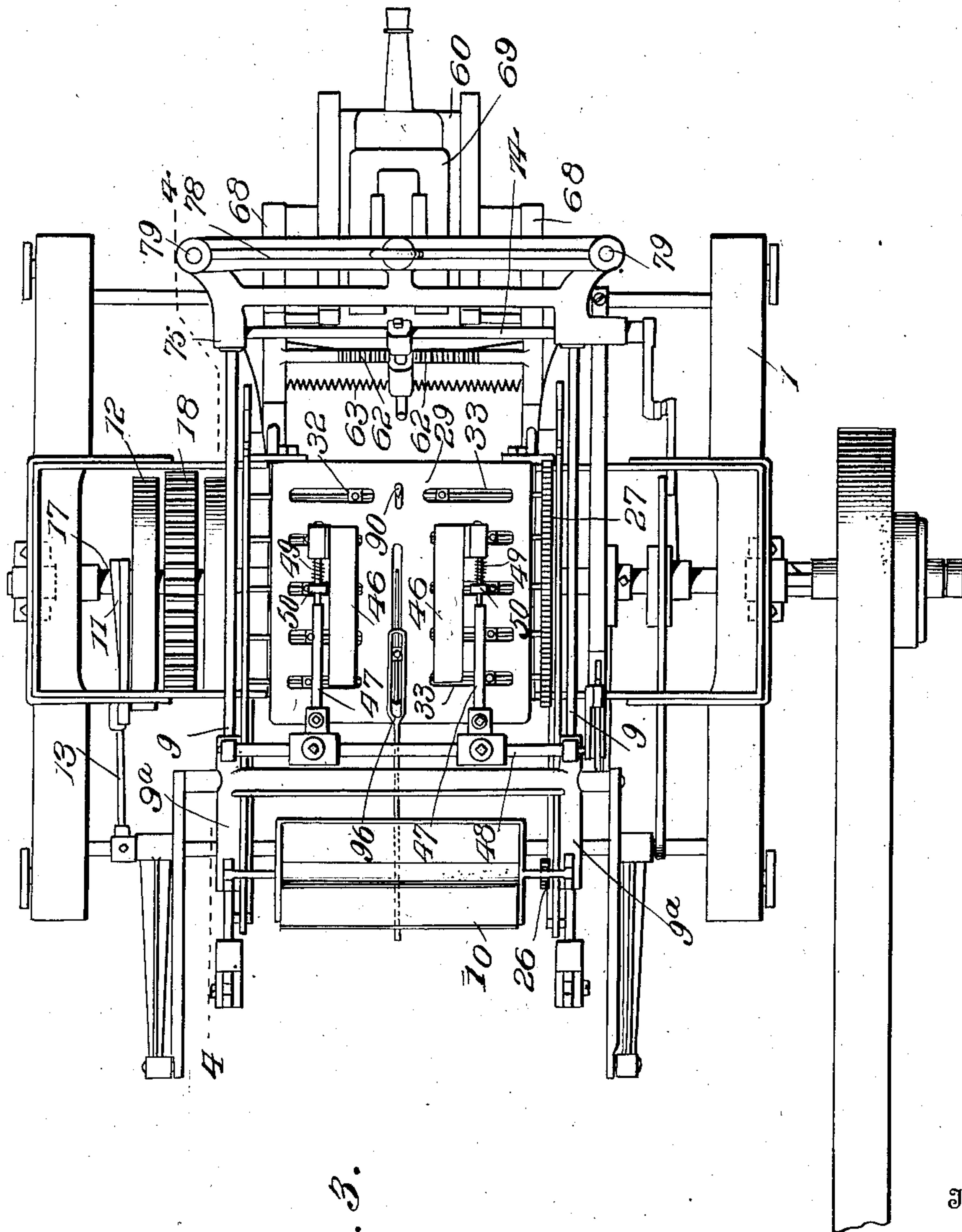
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8 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



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Fig. 3.

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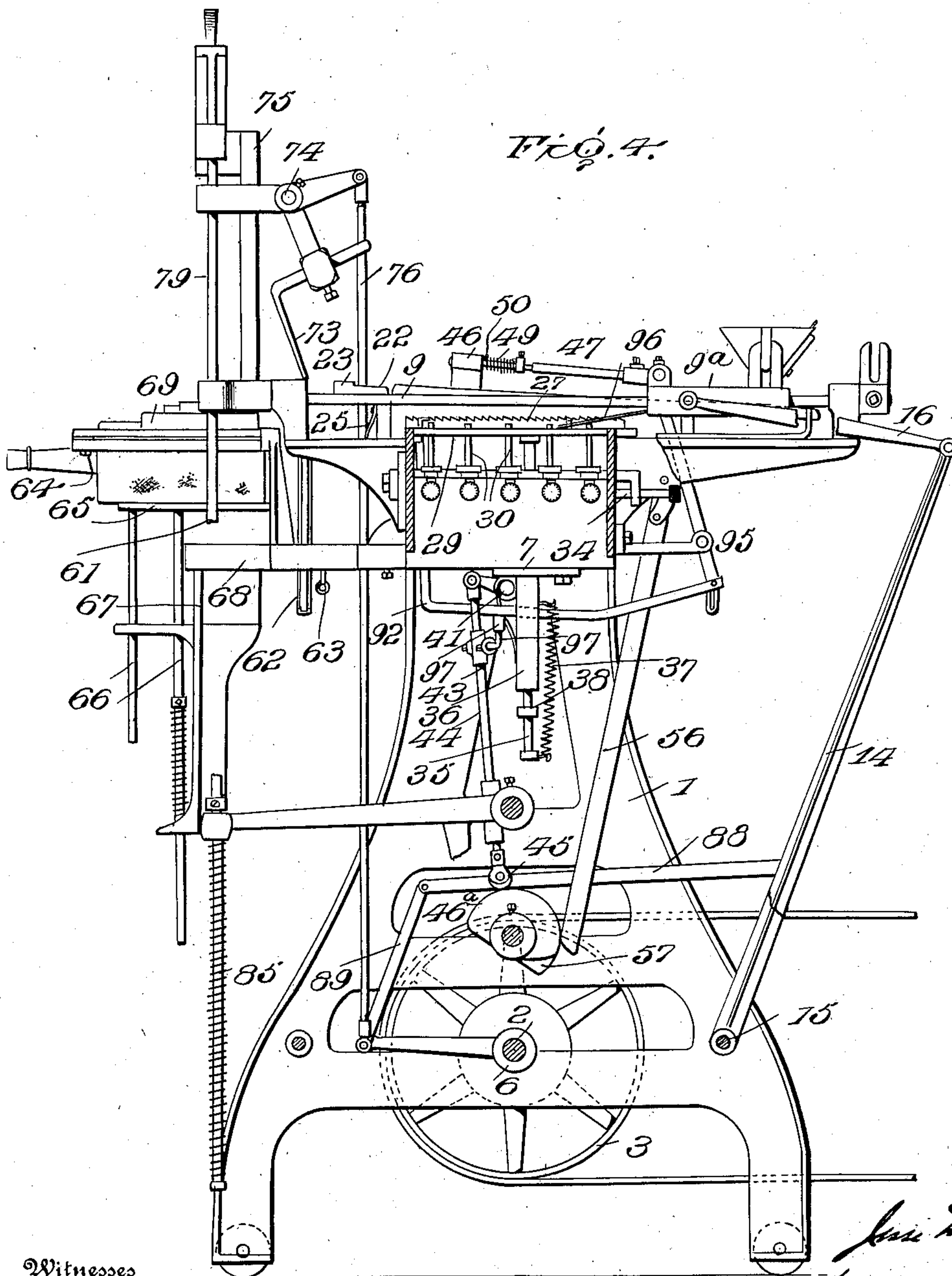
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8 SHEETS—SHEET 4.



Witnesses

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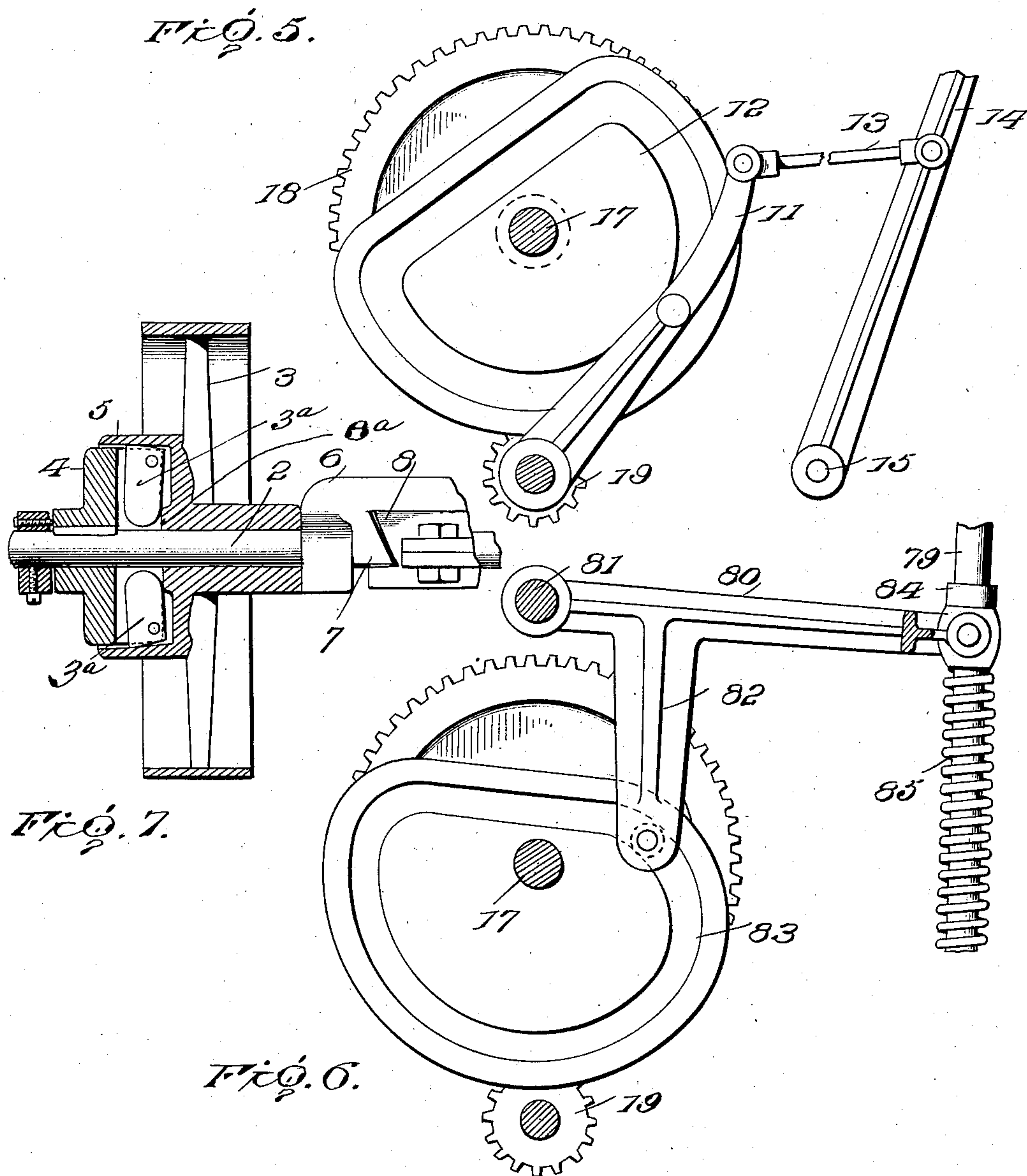
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8 SHEETS—SHEET 5.



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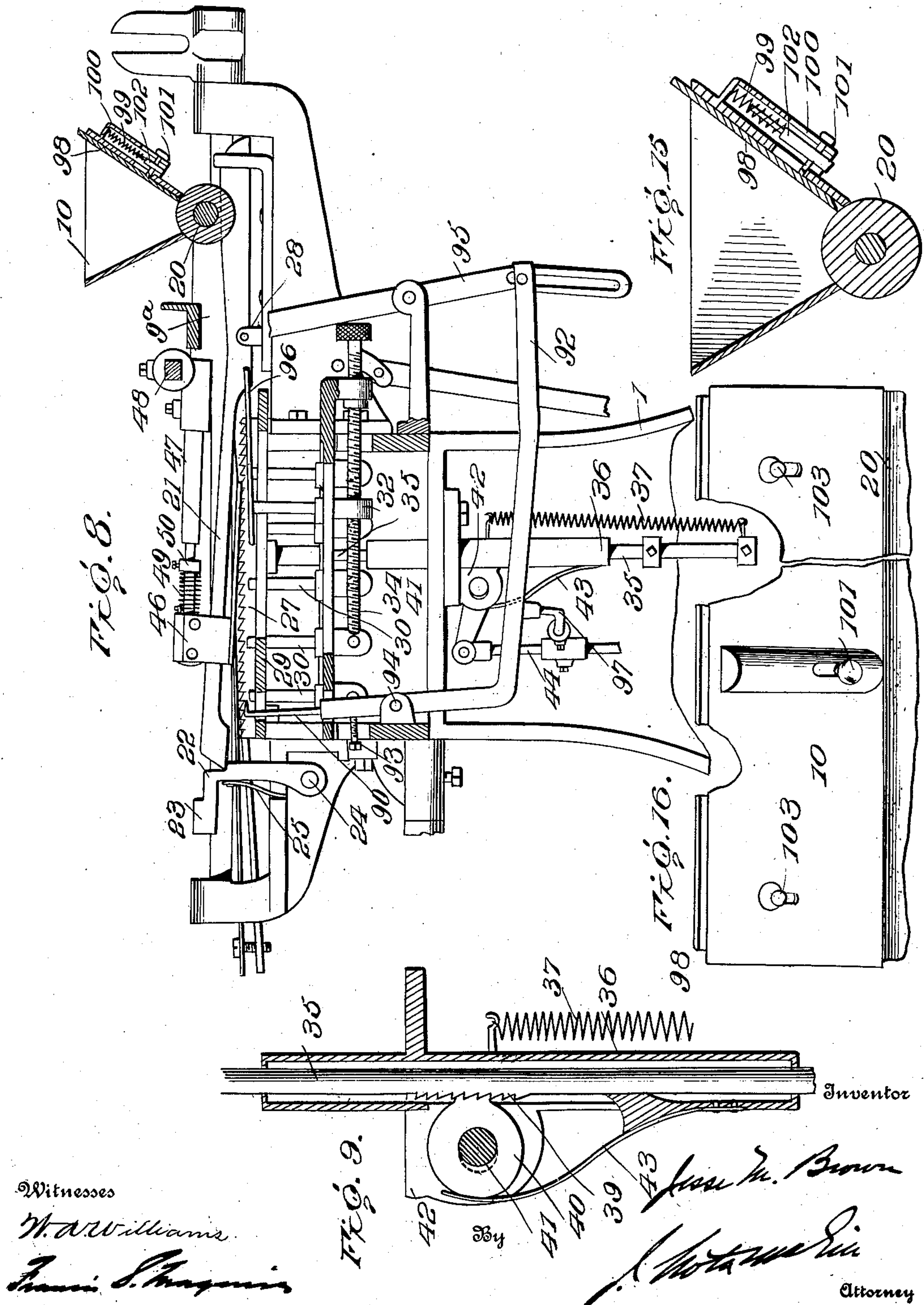
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8 SHEETS—SHEET 6.



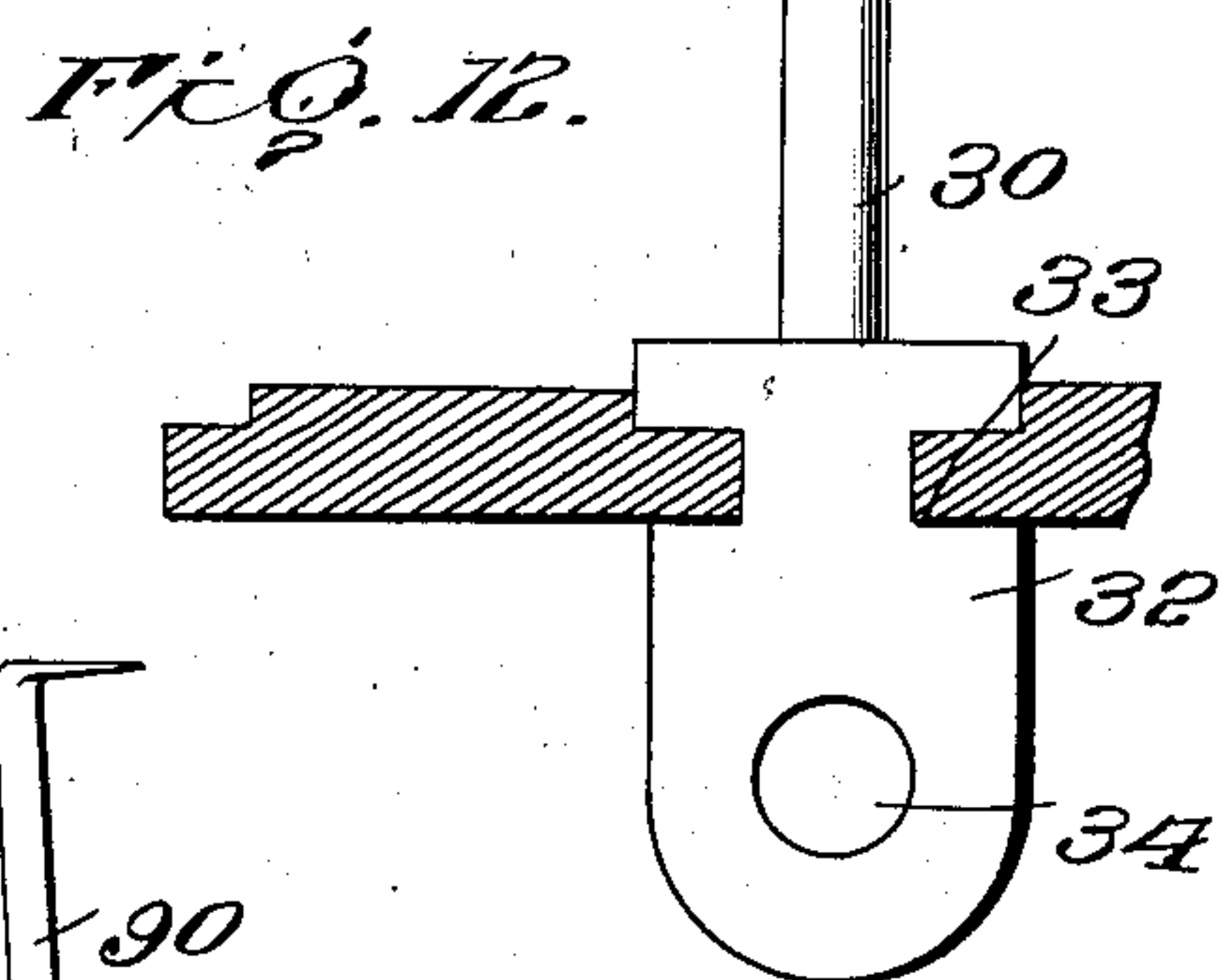
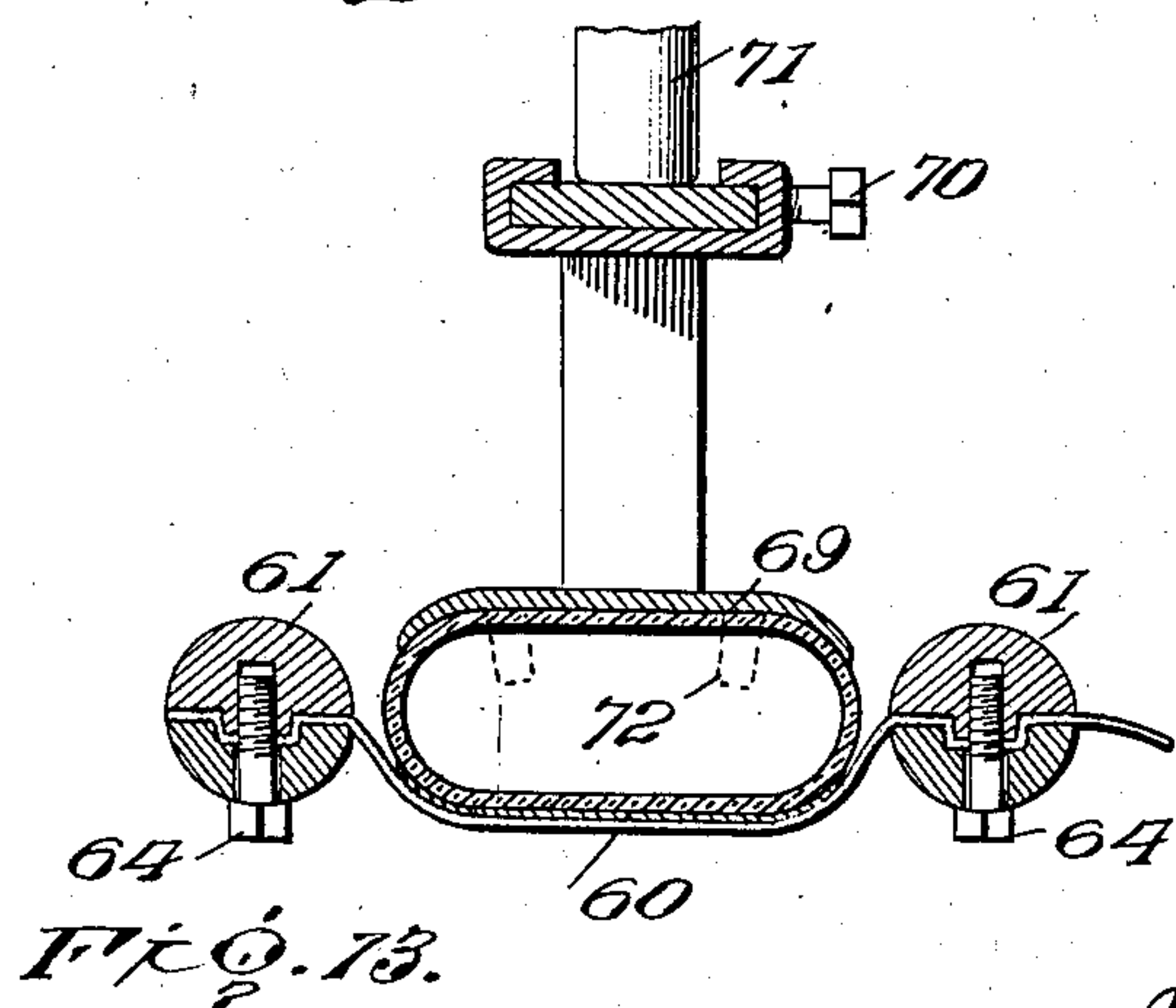
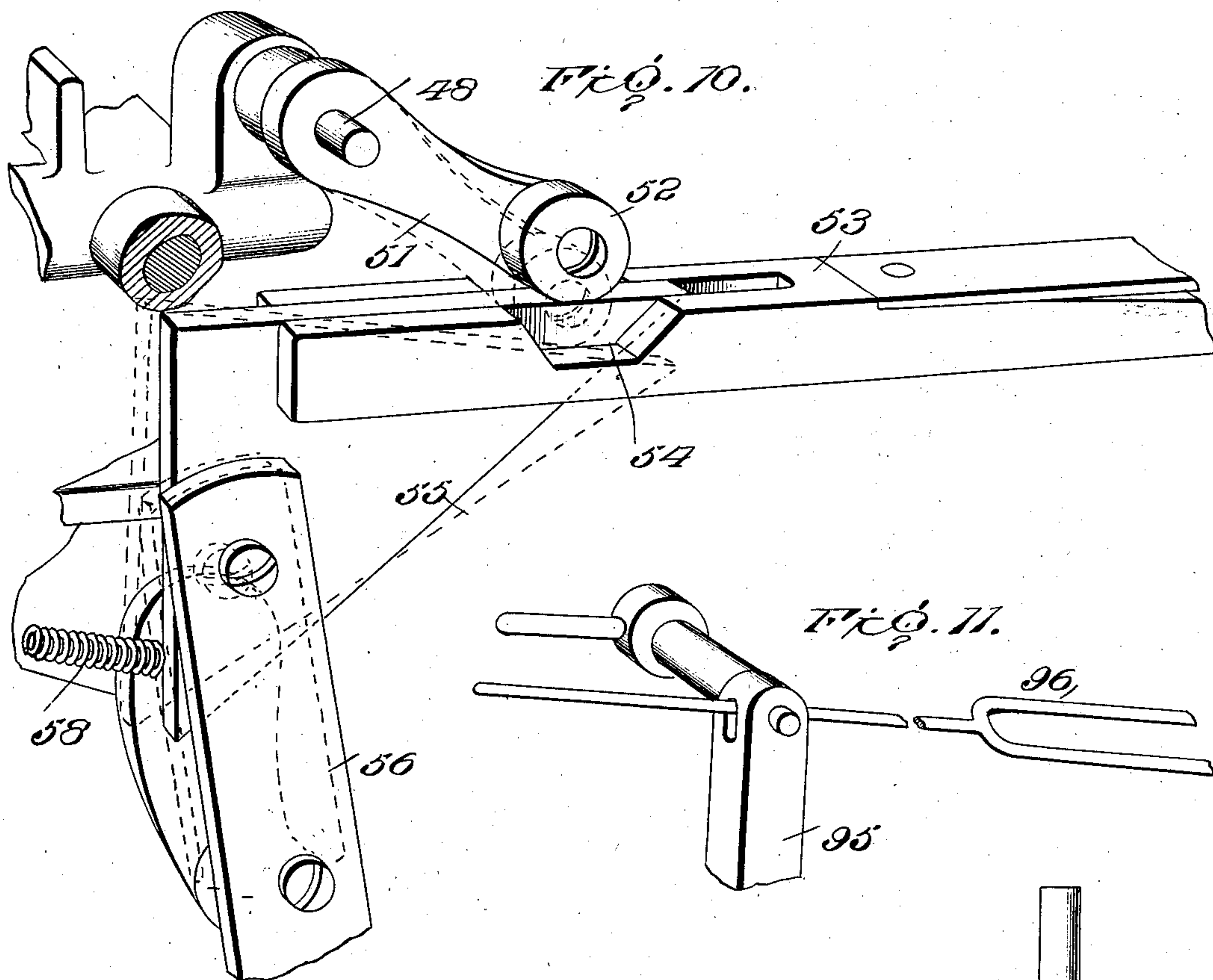
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8 SHEETS—SHEET 7.



Witnesses

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Fig. 14.

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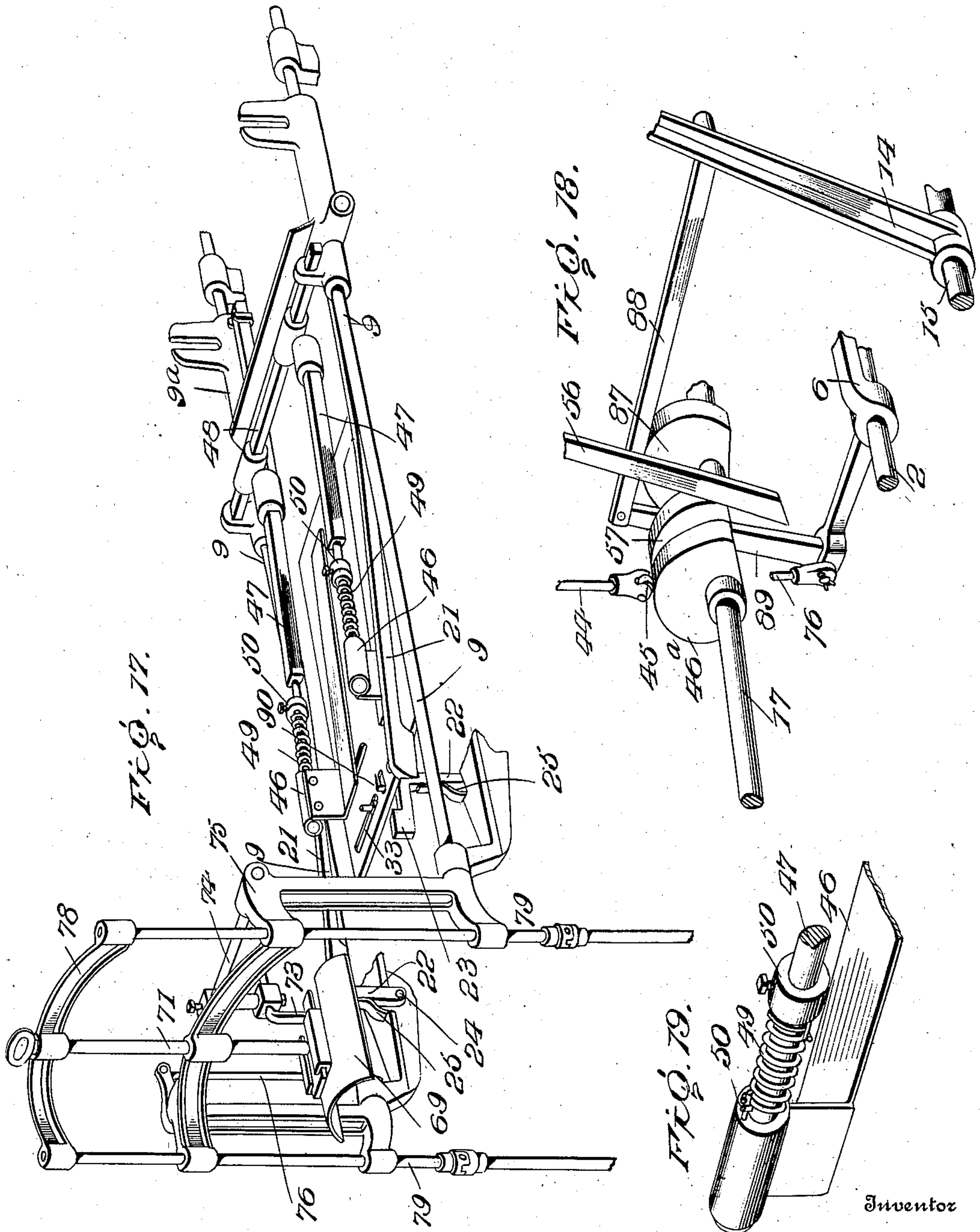
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APPLICATION FILED APR. 24, 1907.

8 SHEETS—SHEET 8.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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LABEL-AFFIXING MACHINE.

No. 889,753.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 2, 1908.

Application filed April 24, 1907. Serial No. 369,930.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JESSE M. BROWN, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Label-Affixing Machines; 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.

The primary object of my invention is to render unnecessary the constant holding of the bottles, by the operator, during the application of the labels.

A further object is to effect the automatic retention of the parts in operative relation, during a portion of each cycle of operation.

The present invention also contemplates, among others, improvements in respect to the paste-applying agency; the means for controlling the position thereof in its travel over the label-bed; the means for retaining the labels and preventing more than one at a time being removed from the pile; and also in respect to the construction and operation of the pickers.

The invention will be hereinafter fully set forth and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view in side elevation, showing a bottle under pressure. Fig. 2 is a front view. Fig. 3 is a plan view. Fig. 4 is a side elevation, looking in the opposite direction from Fig. 1, with a portion of the frame in section. Fig. 5 is a face view of the lever, and its cam for operating the paste-transferrer and picker carriage. Fig. 6 is a view of the rocking frame, and its cam for actuating the bottle presser. Fig. 7 is an enlarged sectional view of the driving pulley and clutch, with a portion of the shifter broken away. Fig. 8 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional view taken centrally through the label-bed plate. Fig. 9 is an enlarged view of one of the label-bed rods. Fig. 10 is a view in perspective, with parts broken away, showing the means for rocking the picker-shaft. Fig. 11 is a view of a label separating finger. Fig. 12 is an enlarged view of one of the hopper pins. Fig. 13 is a vertical sectional view through the presser, the belt, and the supports therefor, the presser being of different formation from that shown in the other figures. Fig. 14 is

an enlarged view of the label retaining rod. Fig. 15 is a transverse sectional view of the paste reservoir. Fig. 16 is a rear view thereof, with parts broken away, and others omitted. Figs. 17, 18 and 19 are views of details in perspective.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates the supporting frame or stand; 2 the main operating shaft, whereon is loosely mounted a constantly-operated band-pulley 3, which, by a slight lateral movement, will throw the pivoted dogs 3^a of a clutch 4 into engagement with a ring or band 5 carried by such pulley, thus transmitting power to shaft 2, the clutch being keyed thereon. The shifting of the pulley into engagement with the clutch dogs is effected by a shifter 6 loose on shaft 2, which shifter is shown as having a ring formed within a cam surface 7 which, when the ring is turned axially, is forced longitudinally of the shaft by engaging the cam surface 8 of a stationary part, preferably the shaft-bearing secured to frame 1. The actuation of the shifter is effected when a bottle is in position for engagement with a pasted label. The dogs 3^a are pivotally mounted in clutch 4 so that when engaged at their inner ends by enlargement 8^a of the pulley they are turned on their pivots until their outer corners bind against the inner face of the band 5.

9 designates two parallel guide-rods, at the top of frame 1, whereon travels the carriage 9^a of the paste receptacle 10. The reciprocation of the carriage is effected by a lever 11, actuated by a cam 12, and connected by a link 13 to one of two arms 14, keyed on a common shaft 15, and connected at their upper ends, by means of links 16, to the carriage 9^a. The cam 12 is mounted on a countershaft 17 carrying a gear wheel 18 in mesh with a gear pinion 19 on the main shaft.

The paste receptacle is, in the main, constructed after the form embraced by Letters Patent of the United States No. 678,832, of July 16, 1901, and No. 756,580, of April 5, 1904. The axle of the paste-pot roller 20 travels on two rails 21, which, as the paste-receptacle is moved toward the front, over the label-bed, hold it out of engagement with the labels. For this purpose, each of the rails is held raised at its forward end by spring-pressed catches 22, having shoulders upon which the rails bear. As the carriage 9^a reaches the limit of its forward movement, a

portion thereof engages projections 23 of the catches, effecting the turning of the latter on their pivots 24, as against the tensions of their springs 25, the rails being lowered under the weight of the paste-receptacle, which moves downwardly in its end-bearings. When the paste-receptacle is so lowered, the ratchet wheel 26 of the paste roller engages a fixed rack-bar 27, as in the last of the before noted patents, the revolution of the paste roller continuing while the receptacle is passing rearwardly over the label-bed. As it clears the latter it effects the reengagement of the forward ends of the rails with their retaining catches, the weight of the receptacle causing the rails to turn on their fulcrums 28.

The rails are slightly inclined upwardly along their upper edges from a point about at their pivots to their rear ends (see Fig. 8), so that as the paste receptacle approaches the limit of its rearward movement, it will be gradually raised, and as the rear end of the top-most label adheres to the paste roller, it will be held from the pile while the separating finger hereinafter described enters beneath the top label and bears on the pile.

29 designates the label-bed plate; and 30 the hopper pins. The former is provided with two series of parallel slots to accommodate the side and front-end hopper pins. Each pin projects upwardly from a nut 32 fitted in guide-ways 33 and engaged by a screw-rod 34. By turning these screw rods, the pins may be adjusted to form hoppers for labels of different sizes.

The label-bed plate 29 is carried by two vertically-disposed rods 35 passed downwardly through two depending tubular castings 36, said plate being always under the tension of springs 37 engaging the rods 35, the upward movement of the table being limited by stops 38. Each of these rods 35 is provided with a rack 39, with which racks engage pinions 40 fast on a common shaft 41, fitted loosely in bearings 42. The pinions are yieldingly held in engagement with the racks by plate springs 43. These springs will yield to permit the label-bed plate to be forced downward by hand without danger of injury to the racks or pinions.

To a crank of shaft 41 is secured a rod 44 having at its lower end a roller 45 with which is designed to engage a cam 46^a on counter-shaft 17. The action of this cam on rod 44 effects the partial rotation of shaft 41, and hence the lowering of the label-bed plate 29 as against the tension of springs 37. While the cam so acts on the rod, the label-bed plate will be locked in its lowered position. As soon as the rod is disengaged by the cam, the plate will be raised under the action of the springs 37. If, while the plate is locked, it be desired to lower or depress it to provide for additional labels, this may be done be-

cause of the yielding engagement of the racks and pinions.

46, 46, designate the label pickers. They are shown in the form of horizontal plates having at their forward ends upwardly extended right-angular portions journaled on two arms 47 of a rock shaft 48 mounted on carriage 9^a. Coil springs 49 on arms 47 yieldingly hold the pickers against stops 50, and allow such pickers to be swung laterally as when a bottle is passed downwardly between them. Rock shaft 48 has at one end a crank arm 51 carrying a roller 52 which travels on a track 53, whereby the pickers 46 are held in their normal, approximately horizontal, position. To allow the pickers to fall against the pile of labels, to take up the top-most member thereof, I form in track 53 a cut-out 54 into which roller 52 will enter as the pickers are returned to position over the labels. (See Fig. 10.) After the pickers have engaged the top-most or pasted label, and before starting on their forward movement, they are slightly elevated by the rocking of shaft 48. For this purpose roller 52 is engaged by plate 55, located in a slot in the end of track 53 extending into recess 54, said plate being actuated to an extent sufficient to again raise roller 52 onto the plane of the track. This actuation of plate 55 is effected by a lever 56 engaged by a cam 57 on counter-shaft 17. A spring 58, connected to the plate 55, tends to retain such plate in its depressed position, and aids in holding lever 56 against cam 57. This plate is shown as of triangular formation, with its lower edge engaging a shoulder 59 on frame 1, such shoulder serving as a fulcrum for the lever.

60 designates a band by which each label is pressed evenly against a bottle. As pointed out in Patent No. 756,580, this band is hung on bearings consisting of two crank shafts 61 having intermeshing gear segments 62, the shafts being held in their normal positions, with the band extended, by a spring 63. Instead of using an endless band or belt of the type shown in the last mentioned patent, I prefer to employ a single piece of flexible material, and adjustably secure it to its bearings. For this purpose, each of the latter is formed in two parts, (see Fig. 13) one having a tongue and the other a groove, and both parts are held by a clamping screw 64.

A spring-pressed follower 65 is located beneath band 60, and has depending rods 66 guided by a bracket 67 hung on rods 68, upon which the crank shafts 61 are mounted.

69 designates a presser for engaging a bottle and bearing it down onto the band and holding it firmly during a portion of the operation. It may be of any desired contour, the form shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3 and 17, being concaved on its lower face to conform to the contour of a round bottle; while in Fig. 13 the presser is of the type employed for bottles

having flat sides. Each presser is removably secured by a screw 70 to the lower end of a vertically movable rod 71, and from the inner face of the presser, at the rear end thereof, project stop lugs 72 to limit the positioning of the bottle above the band.

The pressure is shown as being formed with a slot or central cut-away at its inner end to accommodate a trip arm 73 depending from a rock-shaft 74 mounted on a superstructure 75 and having at one end a crank-arm which is connected by a rod 76 to shifter 6. As a bottle is positioned beneath the presser it will force the trip arm rearwardly, thereby effecting a partial rotation of rock-shaft 74, and, through the connection 76, the actuation of the shifter to lock the band pulley to shaft 2. The trip arm is shown as being adjustably secured to rock-shaft 74, so as to regulate the actuation of the shifter by the position of the bottle relative to the presser, thus providing for bottles of different lengths. In practice the trip arm may be located at any suitable point and operated by hand, or by foot-pressure.

The pressure-carrying rod 71 depends from a yoke 78 mounted on the upper ends of two parallel rods 79 which are actuated by a rocker frame 80, fast on a shaft 81, and having an arm 82 arranged by a cam 83 fast on shaft 17. The connection between the rocker-frame and the rods 79 is shown in the form of two I-bolts, through which said rods are passed, stop collars 84 on said rods being engaged by said bolts to effect the upward movement of the presser. Surrounding the lower portion of each of these rods is a coil spring 85 between the I-bolts and tension-adjusting nuts 86 on the lower ends of such rods. The initial downward movement of the presser is effected by the engagement of the rocker frame with the springs 85, but when the presser has forced the bottle downward, within the fold of the band, until arrested thereby, the further downward movement of the rocker frame is taken up wholly by the coil springs. In this way the danger of injuring or breaking bottles while under pressure is avoided.

To insure the completion of one cycle of operation, without the necessity of the bottle remaining in engagement with the trip-arm, I mount on the counter-shaft 17 a cam 87 for engaging a link 88 connected at one end to one of the carriage shifting arms 14, and at the other end by a second link 89 to the arm of shifter 6. The cam 87 when in engagement with link 88 holds the shifter in the position in which it is placed by the bottle being labeled, and the parts will be so held until the label has been caused to adhere to the bottle, the pressure elevated, and the picker-arms carried back and dropped upon the pile of labels, but unless a bottle be again brought into position the presser, the paste

receptacle, and the picker arms, will cease to operate, since as soon as the link 88 is deprived of the support of cam 87 the shifter will assume its normal position.

90 designates a label-pile holder. It embodies a vertically-disposed rod having a rearwardly extended hook at its upper end, and supported by a spring 91 in the end of a lever 92 extended longitudinally of the machine, beneath the label-bed, the hooked rod being held by a screw 93, the end of which projects into a slot in such rod. The lever 92 is fulcrumed at 94, and its rearward end is connected to the slotted end of a second lever 95, carrying a label separating finger 96. Initially this finger is adjusted so as to extend slightly over the rear edge of the label-pile. As paste is applied, the top label by adhering to the roller will be drawn from beneath the finger, and when freed of the roller will, at the rear, rest on the finger. In this way only one label is removed at a time by pickers, such finger being further projected over the pile when the hooked rod 90 is released therefrom. The lever 92 is actuated by an arm 97 carried by the rod 44 by which the label-bed plate is actuated. The label engaging hook, and the label separating finger are simultaneously operated as the label-bed plate is lowered, leaving the top-most label in engagement with the pickers.

The paste-roller 20 does not contact with the rear wall of the paste-receptacle, but is engaged by a plate 98 fitted against said wall and constantly under the tension of a spring 99 within a socket 100. (See Fig. 15.) By moving upwardly a pin 101, secured to a second pin 102 against which spring 99 bears, the plate may be raised to temporarily allow a greater outflow. By indenting or cutting out the lower edge of this plate at one or more points provision may be made for an irregular or uneven flow. This is desirable where a greater supply of paste is required at some point or points than elsewhere. A new or different plate may be easily substituted for this purpose. Each plate carries lugs 103 which projects into openings in the rear wall of the paste receptacle.

In practice, the hopper pins are adjusted, or such of them as may be necessary, to retain the labels in position, and the label-bed plate is depressed to an extent to insure the top of the label-pile being slightly above the pins. Power being constantly applied to band pulley 3, the machine is set in motion by the actuation of the trip arm 73.

Assuming that the pickers, with a pasted label adhering thereto, have already been moved forward into position above the flexible band (as by hand operation), the presser-carrying yoke is lowered by the rocker-frame 80 and the bottle is forced down between the picker arms, turning the latter laterally, the pasted label remaining between the bottle

and the band, which latter is caused to partly encircle the bottle. The downward movement of the presser is limited by the folding of the band on the bottle. By this time cam 87 on shaft 17 will be in engagement with link 88, and the band pulley will be held locked to the main shaft, enabling the operator to temporarily release his hold on the bottle, as while reaching for another. During the rearward stroke of the carriage the paste roller applies paste to the topmost label, the rails 21 having been lowered at their front ends, and as the carriage reaches the limit of its rearward movement and the rails 21 are again raised at their front ends, the pickers are dropped onto the label pile. Thereupon cam 46^a coming into engagement with rod 44 effects the lowering of the label-bed plate a slight distance, leaving the topmost label adhering to the under side of the pickers. As the rod 44 is raised by cam 46^a, lever 92 is actuated by arm 97, causing the hooked rod 90 to be moved out of engagement with the labels, and the label-finger 96 to be moved forward further over the pile. At this point, cam 57 acts on lever 56 to cause plate 55 to effect the raising of the picker arms out of engagement with the label pile, and cam 46^a allows rod 44 to start to move downward, releasing arm 97 from engagement with lever 92, to permit the label-retaining hook 90 to move forward above the label pile, and as rod 44 is freed of the cam the label-bed plate resumes its elevated position under the action of springs 37. The carriage 9^a is then moved forward by the action of cam 12 on the lever 11, and the pickers transfer the pasted label into position above the band 60 ready to be engaged by a bottle.

It will be observed that the label-bed plate is lowered at the time the pickers contact with the top of the pile so that the upward pressure of the latter, as a whole, will be lessened, the pasted label alone adhering to the pickers. When the label-bed plate is so lowered, the labels are retained in place by the hopper pins and the rear finger 96.

I claim as my invention:

1. In a label-affixing machine, in combination, a constantly driven pulley, a main shaft, a clutch thereon, a shifter, a trip connected to said shifter, and means for automatically locking said shifter during a portion of the cycle of operation.

2. In a label-affixing machine, in combination, a constantly driven pulley, a main shaft whereon said pulley is loosely mounted, a clutch keyed on said shaft and capable of being locked to said pulley by the lateral shifting of the latter, a shifter for engaging the pulley, a trip connected to said shifter, and means for automatically locking said shifter during a portion of the cycle of operation.

3. The combination with a main operating shaft, of a clutch thereon and a pulley, one fast and the other loose, a shifter for locking said clutch and pulley, a trip-arm connected to said shifter, and means for automatically locking said shifter during a portion of the cycle of operation.

4. The combination in a bottle-labeling machine, with the main-operating shaft, of a clutch fast thereon having pivoted dogs, a driven pulley having a flange with which said dogs are designed to engage at one end when acted upon at their other ends by said pulley, a fixed cam, a shifter having a cam surface for engaging said fixed cam, said shifter being designed to cause said pulley to engage said dogs, and a trip for said shifter.

5. The combination with a main operating shaft, a clutch thereon and a pulley, one fast and the other loose, of a shifter for locking said clutch and pulley, a trip connected to said shifter, a cam actuated by the rotation of said main shaft, and a link designed to be engaged by said cam, said link being connected to said shifter.

6. In a label-affixing machine, a label-bed plate having slots therein, hopper pins projecting upwardly through said slots, means for applying paste to a label-pile on said plate, pickers for moving a pasted label, means for lowering said plate as the pickers are raised from said label-pile, and means for actuating the pickers.

7. In a label-affixing machine, a label-bed plate having slots therein, hopper pins projecting upwardly through said slots, means for applying paste to a label-pile on said plate, pickers for removing a pasted label, springs tending to raise said plate, means for lowering said plate as the pickers are raised from said label-pile, means for permitting said plate to be adjusted relative to said pins and said lowering means, and means for actuating the pickers.

8. In a label-affixing machine, a label-bed plate having slots and depending rods, the latter carrying racks, hopper pins projecting upwardly through said slots, a shaft, pinions thereon in mesh with said racks, means yieldingly holding said pinions in mesh with said racks, and means for actuating said shaft.

9. In a label-affixing machine, a label-bed plate having slots and depending rods, the latter carrying racks, hopper pins projecting upwardly through said slots, a shaft, loose bearings for said shaft, pinions on the latter in mesh with said racks, springs normally holding said pinions in mesh with said racks, and means for actuating said shaft.

10. In a label-affixing machine, a label-bed, a paste-transferrer movable back and forth over the label-bed, movable rails upon which said transferrer is designed to travel, and means for permitting said rails to lower

as the transferrer reaches the limit of its movement in one direction, said rails being returned to their raised positions as the transferrer reaches the limit of its return movement.

11. In a label-affixing machine, a label-bed, a paste-transferrer movable back and forth over the label-bed, movable rails upon which said transferrer is designed to travel, and means for holding said rails raised as the transferrer is moved in one direction, portions of said rails being inclined upwardly to effect the raising of the paste-transferrer from the label-bed on its return movement.

12. In a label-affixing machine, a label-bed, a paste-transferrer movable back and forth over the label-bed, pivoted rails upon which the transferrer is designed to travel, means for holding the forward ends of said rails raised as the transferrer is moved in one direction, and means for releasing such holding means, said rails being returned to their normal positions under the weight of the paste-transferrer on the rear ends of the rails.

13. In a label-affixing machine, a label-bed, a paste-transferrer, a carriage for moving said transferrer over the label-bed, pivoted rails for said transferrer, and spring-pressed catches for holding the forward ends of said rails, such catches being disengaged from said rails by the engagement therewith of a portion of the carriage as the latter is moved forward, and said tracks being returned into engagement with said catches by the turning of said tracks on their pivots under the weight of the transferrer.

14. In a label-affixing machine, a label-bed plate, a rod having its upper end hooked and extended over a label-pile on said plate, a support for said rod, a paste-transferrer, pickers for removing a pasted label from the label-pile, means for effecting the lowering of said plate as the pickers engage the topmost label, and means for removing the hooked rod as the pickers remove the topmost label.

15. In a label-affixing machine, a label-bed plate, a rod having its upper end hooked and extended over a label-pile on said plate, a support for said rod, a paste transferrer, pickers for removing a pasted label from the label-pile, a separating finger for engaging the label-pile opposite to said hooked rod, means for effecting the lowering of said plate as the pickers engage the topmost label, and means for simultaneously moving the hooked rod from above the label-pile and projecting said separating finger over such pile as the pickers remove the topmost label.

16. In a label-affixing machine, a label-bed plate, a rod having its upper end hooked and extended over a label-pile on said plate, a separating finger designed to extend over the label-pile, a lever upon which said hooked rod is mounted, a second lever designed to be

actuated by the first mentioned lever and to which said finger is connected, a paste-transferrer, pickers, means for lowering said plate as the pickers engage the topmost label, and means for simultaneously actuating said levers.

17. In a label-affixing machine, a label-bed, a paste-transferrer, a reciprocating carriage, a shaft mounted thereon, pickers carried by said shaft, means for rocking the latter to permit said pickers to engage a label-pile on said label-bed, and a band forward of said label-bed, said pickers being designed to convey pasted labels to a point above said band.

18. In a label-affixing machine, a label-bed, a paste-transferrer, a reciprocating carriage, a shaft mounted thereon having a crank arm at one end, a track whereon said arm is designed to travel, said track having a cut-out into which said arm is designed to drop, pickers carried by said shaft, means for raising said crank arm from said cut-out, and a band forward of said label-bed, said pickers being designed to convey a pasted label to a point above said band.

19. The combination with a carriage, of a shaft mounted thereon having forwardly extended arms, approximately horizontally-disposed plates having upward extensions journaled on said arms, springs for yieldingly-holding said plates and permitting them to move laterally away from each other, and means for operating the carriage.

20. The combination with a carriage, of a track paralleling the line of movement thereof, said track at one end having a cut-out and an intersecting slot, a shaft mounted on said carriage, pickers carried by said shaft, a pivoted plate fitted in said slot and designed to extend into said cut-out, means for actuating said carriage, and means for actuating said plate to effect the elevation of said pickers through the operation of such shaft.

21. In a label-affixing machine, a band designed to partly encircle a bottle, means for positioning a pasted label above said band, bearings for said band, a presser for engaging and forcing a bottle against a pasted label on said band, and means for automatically returning the band to its normal position upon the release of the pressure of the presser on the bottle.

22. In a label-affixing machine, a band designed to partly encircle a bottle, means for positioning a pasted label above said band, movable bearings for said band, a presser for engaging a bottle and forcing it against said band, means for returning the band to its normal position upon the release of the pressure of the presser on the bottle, a yoke carrying said presser, and means for actuating said yoke.

23. In a label-affixing machine, a band designed to partly encircle a bottle, means for

positioning a pasted label above said band, movable bearings for said band, a presser for engaging a bottle and forcing it against said band, a yoke carrying said presser, vertically
5 movable rods secured to said yoke, a rocker-frame, means for actuating the latter, and means connecting said rocker-frame to said rods.

24. In a label-affixing machine, a band de-
10 signed to partly encircle a bottle, means for positioning a pasted label above said band, movable bearings for said band, a presser for engaging a bottle and forcing it against said band, a yoke carrying said presser, vertically
15 movable rods secured to said yoke, a rocker-frame, means for actuating the latter, means connecting said rocker-frame to said rods, and means for relieving pressure of the presser on the bottle after the band has fully en-
20 gaged therewith.

25. In a label-affixing machine, a band de-
signed to partly encircle a bottle, means for positioning a pasted label above said band, movable bearings for said band, a presser for

engaging a bottle and forcing it against said 25
band, a yoke carrying said presser, vertically-
movable rods secured to said yoke, springs
encircling said rods at the lower ends thereof,
a rocker frame, means for actuating the lat-
ter, I-bolts carried by said rocker frame 30
through which said rods are passed, said
bolts resting on said springs, and stops on
said rods above said I-bolts.

26. In a label-affixing machine, a band de-
signed to partly encircle a bottle, movable 35
bearings for said band comprising each a two
part clamping member, one part being
formed with a tongue and the other with a
groove, and means for binding together the
parts of each member. 40

In testimony whereof, I have signed this
specification in the presence of two subscrib-
ing witnesses.

JESSE M. BROWN.

Witnesses:

CHARLES J. MADDEN,
RICHARD M. WALSH.