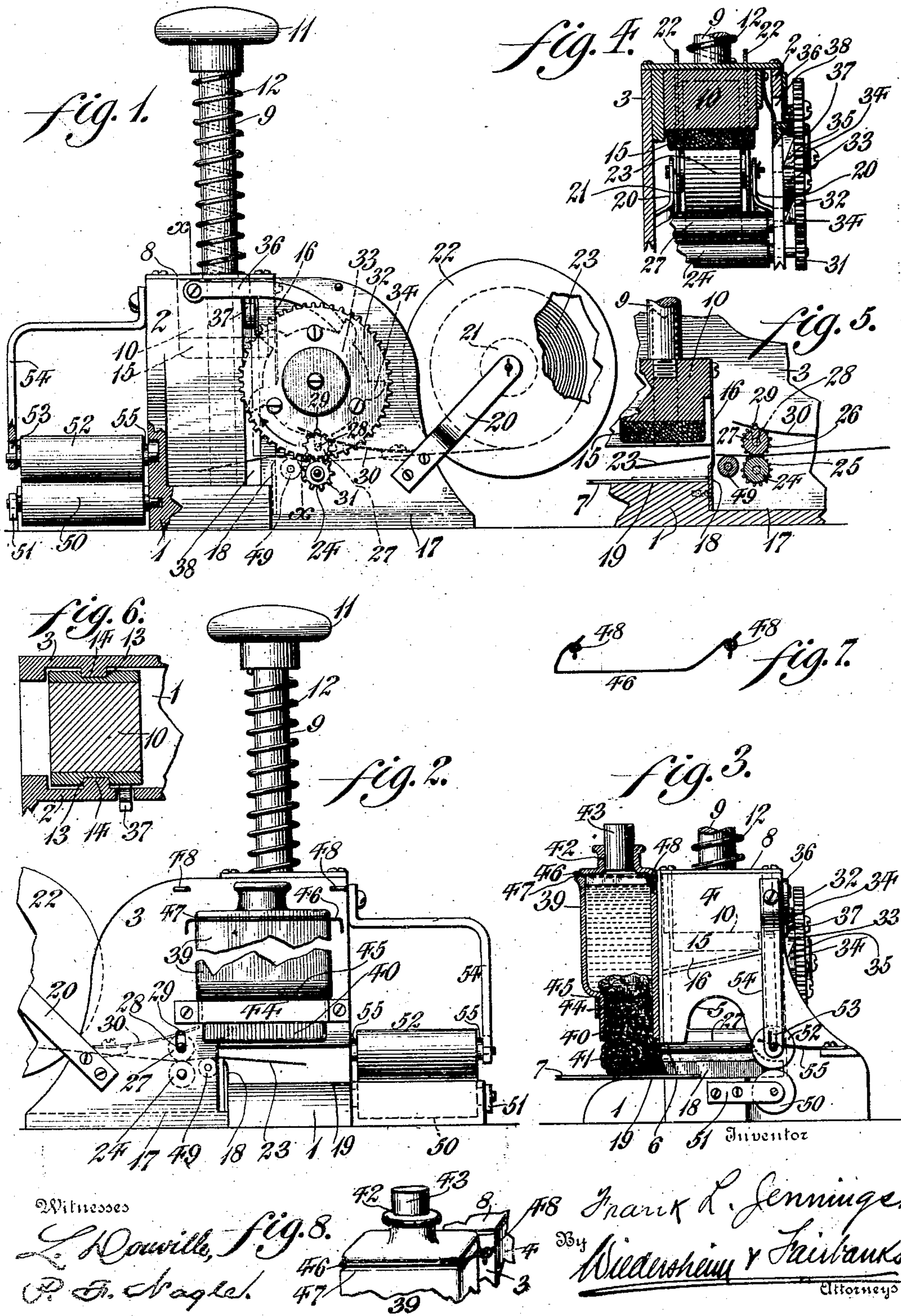


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PATENTED JUNE 23, 1908.

F. L. JENNINGS.
STAMP AFFIXER.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 5, 1906.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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STAMP-AFFIXER.

No. 891,701.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 23, 1908.

Application filed June 5, 1906. Serial No. 320,252.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK L. JENNINGS, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Stamp-Affixer, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a new and useful stamp affixer and envelop sealer and consists in providing means for feeding the stamps automatically to their proper position and cutting the same at the proper time.

It further consists of a novel device for moistening the envelop.

It further consists of novel details of construction, all as will be hereinafter set forth.

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a stamp affixer embodying my invention.

Fig. 2 represents an elevation of the device from the opposite side showing a portion broken away. Fig. 3 represents a partial

end elevation and partial sectional view thereof. Fig. 4 represents a sectional view on line $x-x$, Fig. 1. Fig. 5 represents a sectional view of a portion of the device. Fig.

6 represents a sectional view of a portion of the plunger. Fig. 7 represents a perspective view of the means for securing the upper portion of the moistening device. Fig.

8 represents a perspective view of a portion of the moistening device employed.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in the figures.

Referring to the drawings:—In the drawings I have shown a construction for carrying out my invention, although it will be evident that other instrumentalities may be employed for effecting the same results.

1 designates a base or standard of the device from which extend the side pieces 2 and 3 which are connected at the front by a plate 4, the lower portion of which is cut away as at 5 and the side plate 3 of which is cut away at 6 to permit the passage of the envelop 7 thereunder. Passing through the top plate 8 of the device is the plunger 10, carrying the rod 9 said rod having a suitable head 11 thereon and having the spring 12 for holding and returning the same to its normal position after operation. In the sides of the plunger 10 are the grooves 13 which are adapted to receive the guides 14 formed on the inner walls of the side pieces

2 and 3, said guides serving to hold the plunger in its proper position in its vertical movement between the side pieces. In the present instance, I have provided the lower face of the plunger 10 with the cushion 15 of rubber or other suitable material and the plunger rod 9 is screwed to the said plunger 10 as best understood from Fig. 5. Carried on the side of the plunger is a knife 16 which is moved with said plunger, the cutting face of which is preferably at an angle as seen in Fig. 3. The base 1 is cut away as at 17 and mounted or secured to the base at the cut away portion is the stationary knife 18, the same being so situated with respect to the movable knife 16 that the two form a shear in order to sever the stamp as hereinafter described. The lower portion of the knife 16 is permitted to pass the side of the knife 18 a sufficient extent so that the plunger 10 may contact with the envelop upon the face 19 of the base 1 which serves as a table or support therefor, when the said envelop has been passed beneath the plunger.

20 designates arms or supports carrying the drum or roller 21, which carries two disks or plates 22 and between which and upon the roller 21, is mounted, the strip of stamps 23, it being understood that the space between the two plates 22 is of sufficient width to receive a single stamp so that the strip of the same may be properly carried therebetween and guided to the cutters.

24 designates a roller which is journaled in the side walls 2 and 3 and which is provided with a gear 25 which meshes with a gear 26 the latter being carried on a second roller 27 provided with pins 28 which project through slots 29 in the said walls 2 and 3 a sufficient distance in order to be capable of engagement by hand in order that the said roller 27 may be raised as desired, to place the first stamp on the strip therebetween, said roller 27 having springs 30 bearing thereupon in order to hold the same normally in close contact with the roller 24, said springs 30 being supported in any desired manner on the sides 2 and 3.

31 designates a gear carried by the roller 24 exterior of the side 2 which meshes with a gear 32 pivotally mounted upon the side 2, said gear 32 having a spur-wheel 33 connected therewith, provided with the teeth

34 of the form shown, the inner faces of said teeth 34 being inclined as at 35, as best understood from Fig. 4.

36 designates a dog pivoted to the side 2 and having an end adapted to engage with the flat face of the teeth 34 in order to prevent improper movement of the wheel 33 and gear 32.

37 designates a spring-actuated pawl carried by the plunger 10 which moves in a slot 38 in the side 2 of the frame, said dog having an inclined face adapted to contact with the inclined face 35 of the teeth 34 in order to freely pass the same upon the downward movement of the plunger 10 but engaging with one of the teeth when the plunger is elevated. Secured to the side 3 of the frame is the water receptacle or chamber 39 which is provided with the reduced portion 40 adapted to receive and hold a sponge 41 which is so situated with respect to the opening 6 in the side 3 and the base 1 of the device that the said sponge will contact with an envelop 7 passed between the same and said base 1 as shown in Fig. 3. The receptacle is provided with the opening 42 closed by the stopper 43 to prevent the too rapid flow of the water.

44 designates a strap secured to the side 3, which serves to receive the reduced portion 41, and upon which rests the shoulder 45 formed on the receptacle. A strap 46 which is adapted to be situated in a groove 47 formed in said receptacle, is connected with the eyes 48 or other suitable means for holding the same connected with the side 3 so that the receptacle 39 is properly supported. A roller 49 is secured to the sides adjacent the rolls 24 and 27 and over which the stamps 23 pass in order that the same will be properly directed to the knife 18, it being seen that the knife 16 passes between the said roller 49 and the said knife 18.

50 designates a roller mounted in suitable ears 51 carried by the frame 1, and 52 designates a second roller carried in slots 53 in a support 54, said roller having the spring 55 bearing thereupon for holding the same normally in proper position with respect to the roller 50.

The operation of the device is as follows: The stamps after being properly connected in a strip, are mounted on the drum 21 and by raising the roller 27 which the operator can do, as before stated, by grasping the extending end 28 thereof, the first stamp may be passed between the roller 27 and 24 and can be adjusted by hand into the proper position so that the perforations will be directly beneath the knife 16. The envelop 7 to which it is desired to attach the stamp is now passed between the sponge 41 and base 1 so that a portion thereof is properly moistened and the envelop is placed in the proper place in the device, so that the moistened portion is di-

rectly beneath the first stamp of the strip 23. By pressing upon the handle 11 the plunger rod 9 is depressed and with it, the plunger 10, the pawl 37 freely passing the tooth 35 which is in its path, as best understood from Fig. 4, and the knives 16 and 18 sever the first stamp, at the perforations, the continued downward movement of the plunger 10 pressing the stamp upon the moistened portion of the envelop. The handle 11 is then released, the spring 12 causing the return of the plunger carrying with it the pawl 37. In its upward movement, the flat face of the pawl 37, engages with the flat face of the tooth 35 in its path, causing a partial revolution of the spur wheel 33 which carries with it, the gear 32 and this being in mesh with the gear 31, rotates the same and with it, the roller 24. This forces the forward movement of the strip of stamps a sufficient distance, since the parts are so rotated that the rotation will so properly actuate the stamps, that the next stamp is in position for attachment and the first line of perforations, are beneath the knife 16, it being noted that the pawl 36 is properly raised as the pin-wheel 33 rotates and engages with the next succeeding tooth 35 to prevent improper return of the parts. After the stamp has been affixed, the envelop can be moistened for sealing purposes by passing the flap of the envelop beneath the sponge 41 after which the envelop can be passed between the rollers 50 and 52 so that the envelop is sealed.

It will be apparent that the device is simple in construction, positive in action and can be operated as quickly as the envelops can be fed thereunder.

It will be further apparent that the water receptacle while simple in construction, is positive in its action, since the sponge allows but a sufficient amount of water to be taken up and applied to the envelop, thus preventing too much wetting of the same which is both injurious to the contents of the envelop and to the proper securing of the stamp thereto.

It will be seen that by the construction of the water receptacle the same can be quickly and easily removed and replaced in position with respect to the device and that the stopper 43 can be replaced after filling the receptacle and when in position, by reason of the fact that no air can reach the water to exert a pressure thereon, the rapid flow of the water is prevented and the sponge will remain at a proper moisture in consequence.

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

1. In a device of the character described, a casing having a slot therein, a spring-actuated plunger, a knife carried thereby, a stationary knife, suitably supported rollers between which the stamps are passed, gears on

said rollers whereby the same are positively actuated, one of said rollers being vertically movable with respect to the other, a spring bearing on said roller for holding the same in normal position, a gear for actuating said rollers, teeth on said gear and a spring-actuated pawl carried by said plunger, moving in said slot and adapted to engage with said teeth, upon the return movement of said plunger, and a roller for receiving stamps and supporting the same after they have passed the feeding rollers.

2. In a device of the character described, a casing having a slot therein, a spring-actuated plunger, a knife carried thereby, a stationary knife, suitably supported rollers between which the stamps are passed, gears on said rollers whereby the same are positively actuated, one of said rollers being vertically movable with respect to the other, a spring bearing on said roller for holding the same in normal position, a gear for actuating said rollers, teeth on said gear and a spring actuated pawl carried by said plunger moving in said slot and adapted to engage with said teeth, upon the return movement of said plunger.

3. In a device of the character described, a plunger, a knife carried thereby, rollers for feeding the stamps, gears on said rollers whereby the same are positively actuated, a roller for receiving the stamps and supporting the same after they have passed the feeding rollers, a gear suitably supported, a spur-wheel connected with said gear, a pawl engaging said spur-wheel to prevent improper movement of the wheel, teeth on said spur-wheel having inclined faces, and a spring actuated pawl having an inclined face adapted

to pass said teeth on the downward movement of said plunger and to engage with said teeth on the return movement thereof.

4. In a device of the character described, a casing having a slot therein, a spring-actuated plunger, a knife carried thereby, a gear suitably supported, a spur-wheel connected with said gear, a pawl engaging said spur-wheel, teeth on said spur-wheel having inclined faces, a spring actuated pawl moving in said slot and having an inclined face adapted to pass said teeth on the downward movement of said plunger, and to engage with said teeth on the return movement of said plunger, a roller actuated by said gear and a second roller having a gear meshing with the gear of the first mentioned roller whereby said gears are positively actuated together.

5. In a device of the character described, a frame, a portion of the same serving as a support for the envelop, a cut away portion in said frame, a stationary knife attached to the said frame, at said cut away portion, a plunger, a movable knife carried by said plunger, a cushion on said plunger, a rod connected to said plunger for actuating the same, means for feeding a strip of stamps into proper position with respect to said knives step by step actuated upon the return movement of the plunger and rotary means for supporting the stamp after it has passed the feeding means.

FRANK L. JENNINGS.

Witnesses:

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C. D. McVAY.