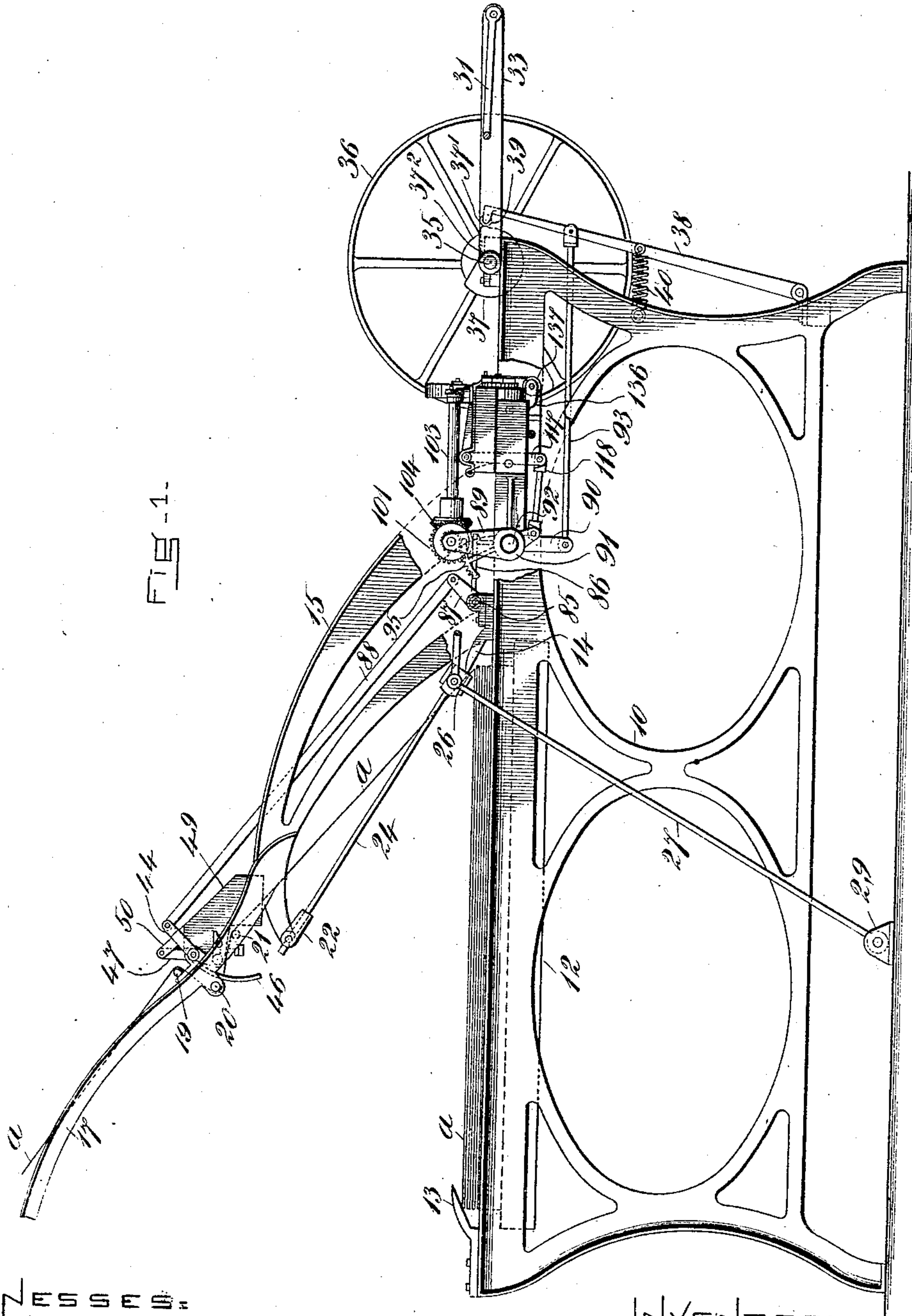


J. A. BUTLER & L. FLICK.
FABRIC INSPECTING AND MARKING MACHINE.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 21, 1908.

915,267.

Patented Mar. 16, 1909.

6 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES:

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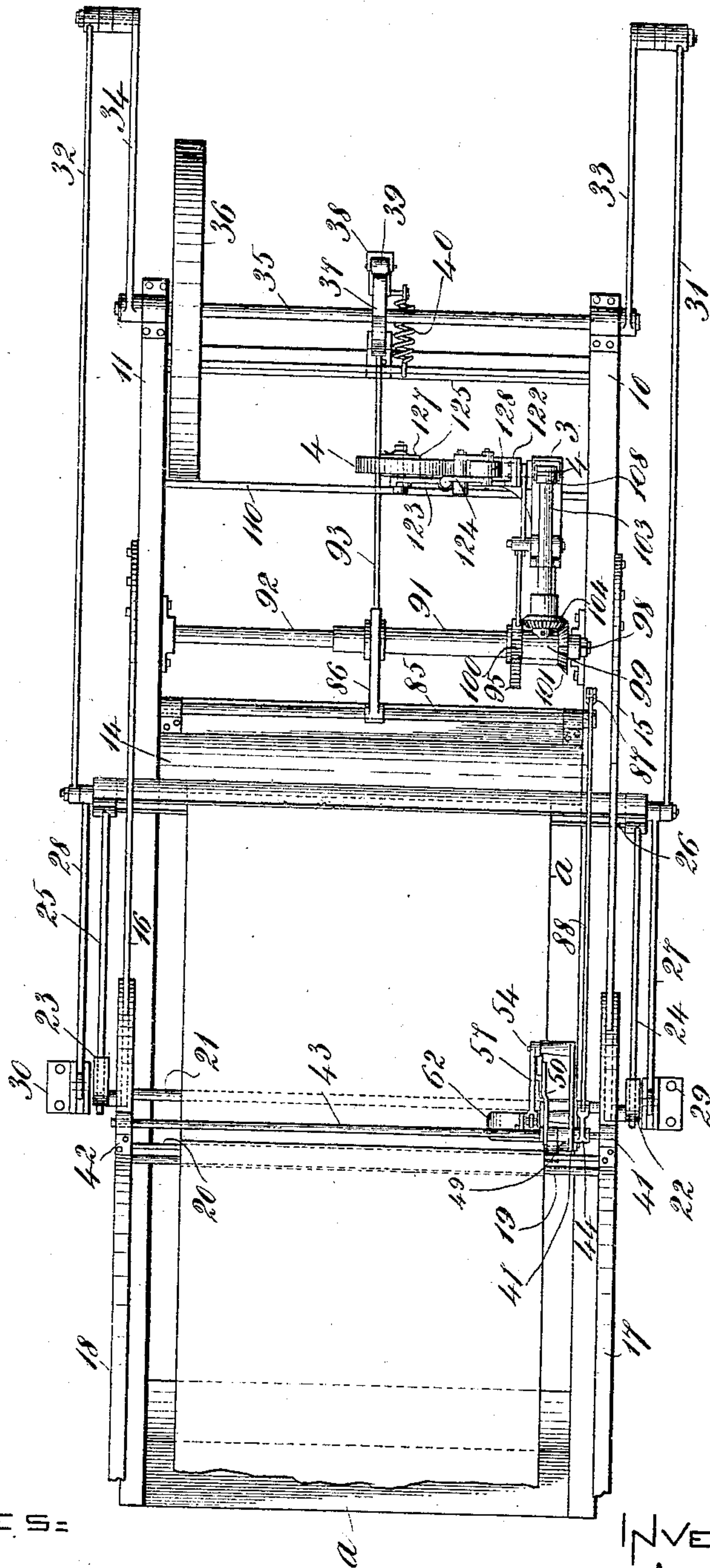


FIG. 2.

WITNESSES:
F. S. Tucker
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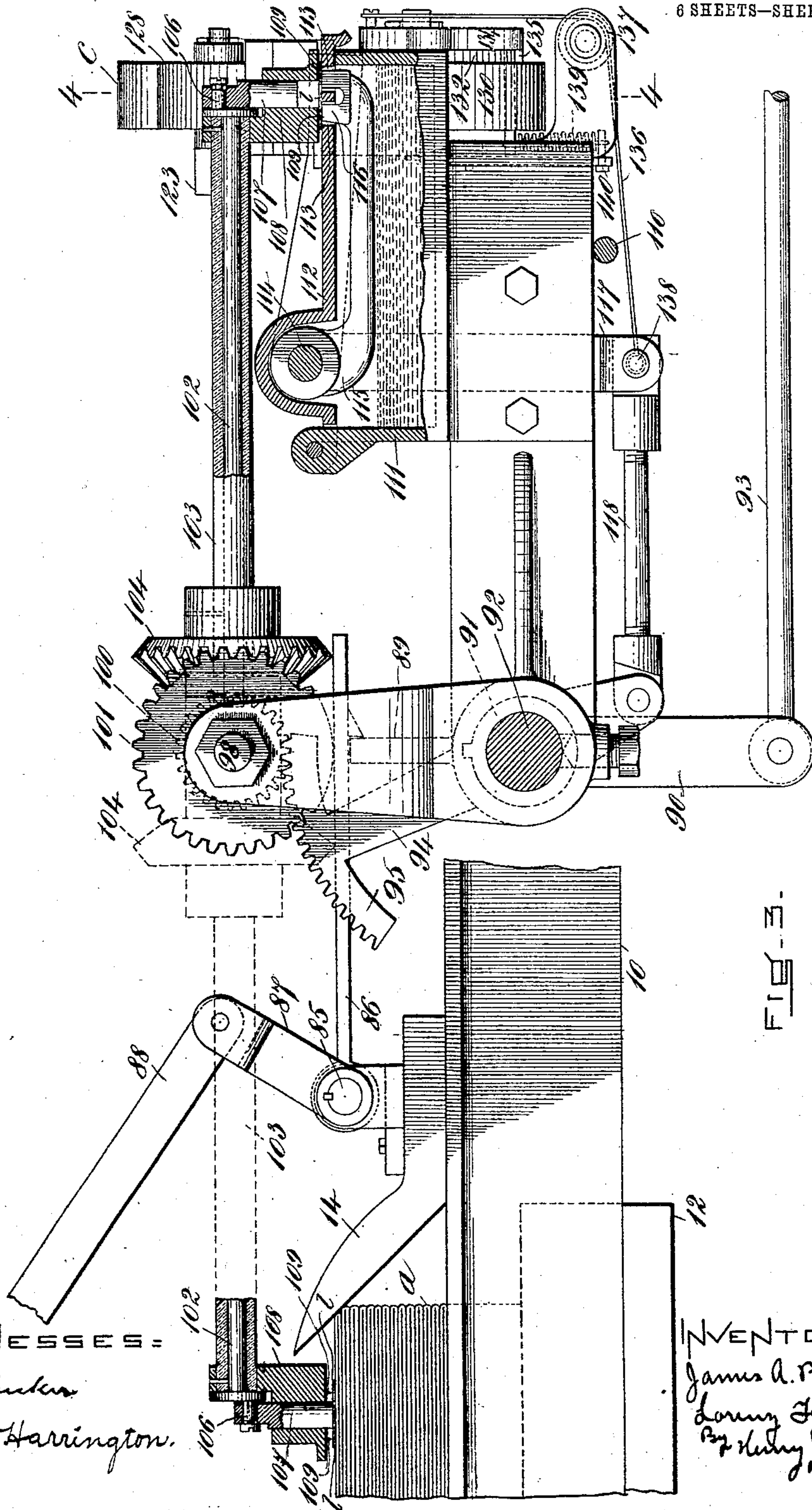
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6 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



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6 SHEETS—SHEET 4.

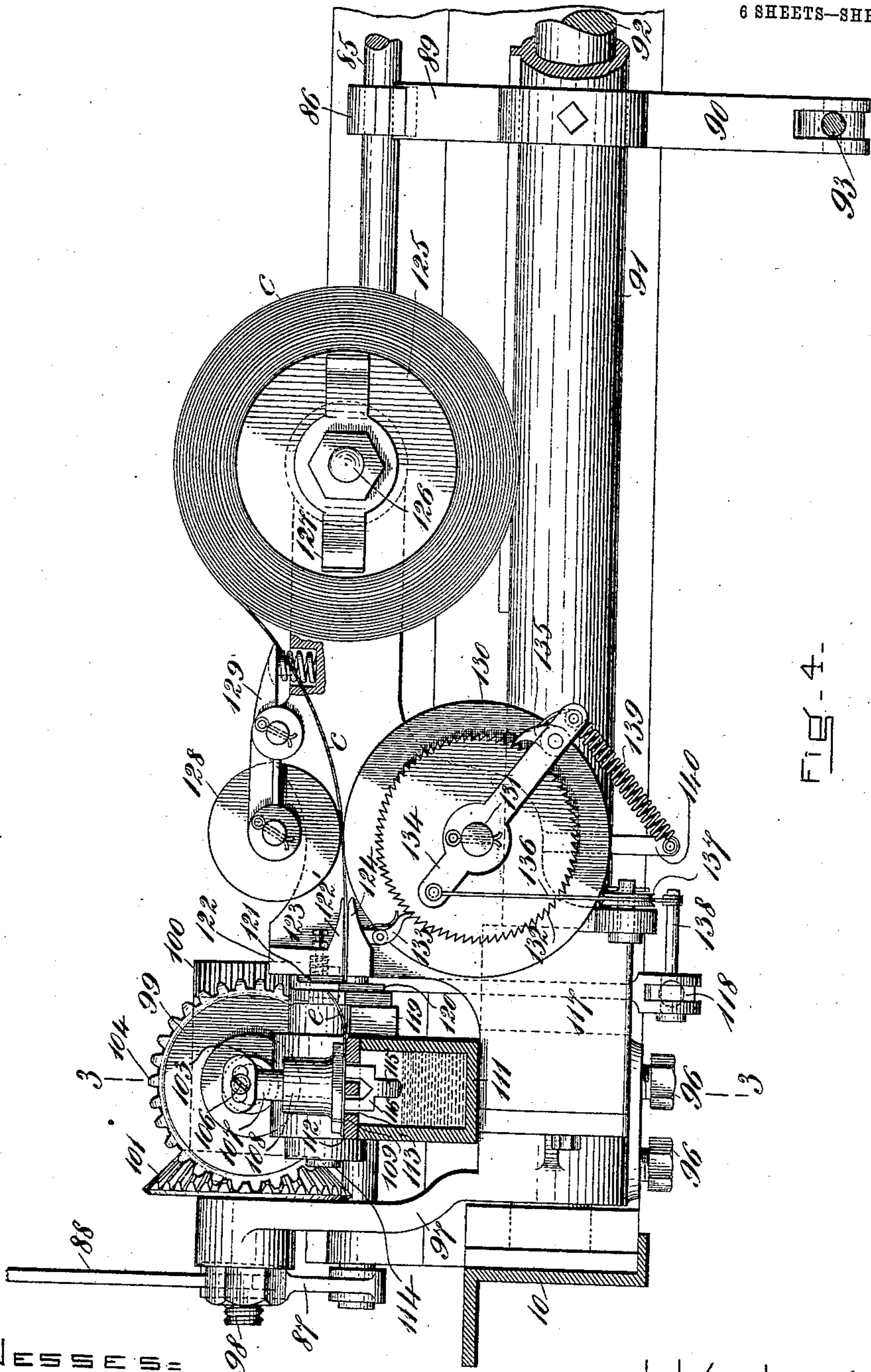


FIG. 4-

WITNESSES=

E. S. Tucker
M. M. Harrington.

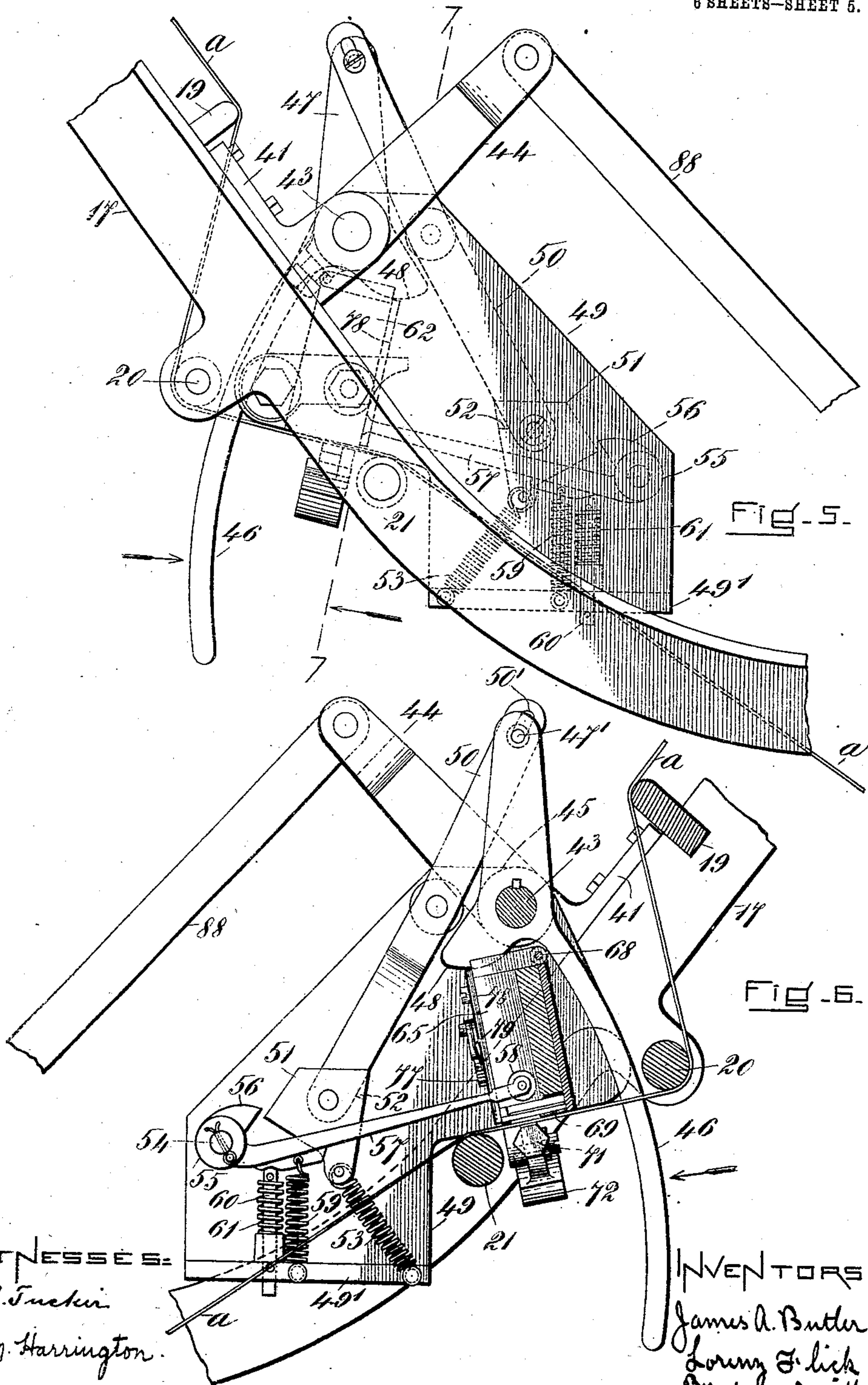
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6 SHEETS—SHEET 5.



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6 SHEETS—SHEET 6.

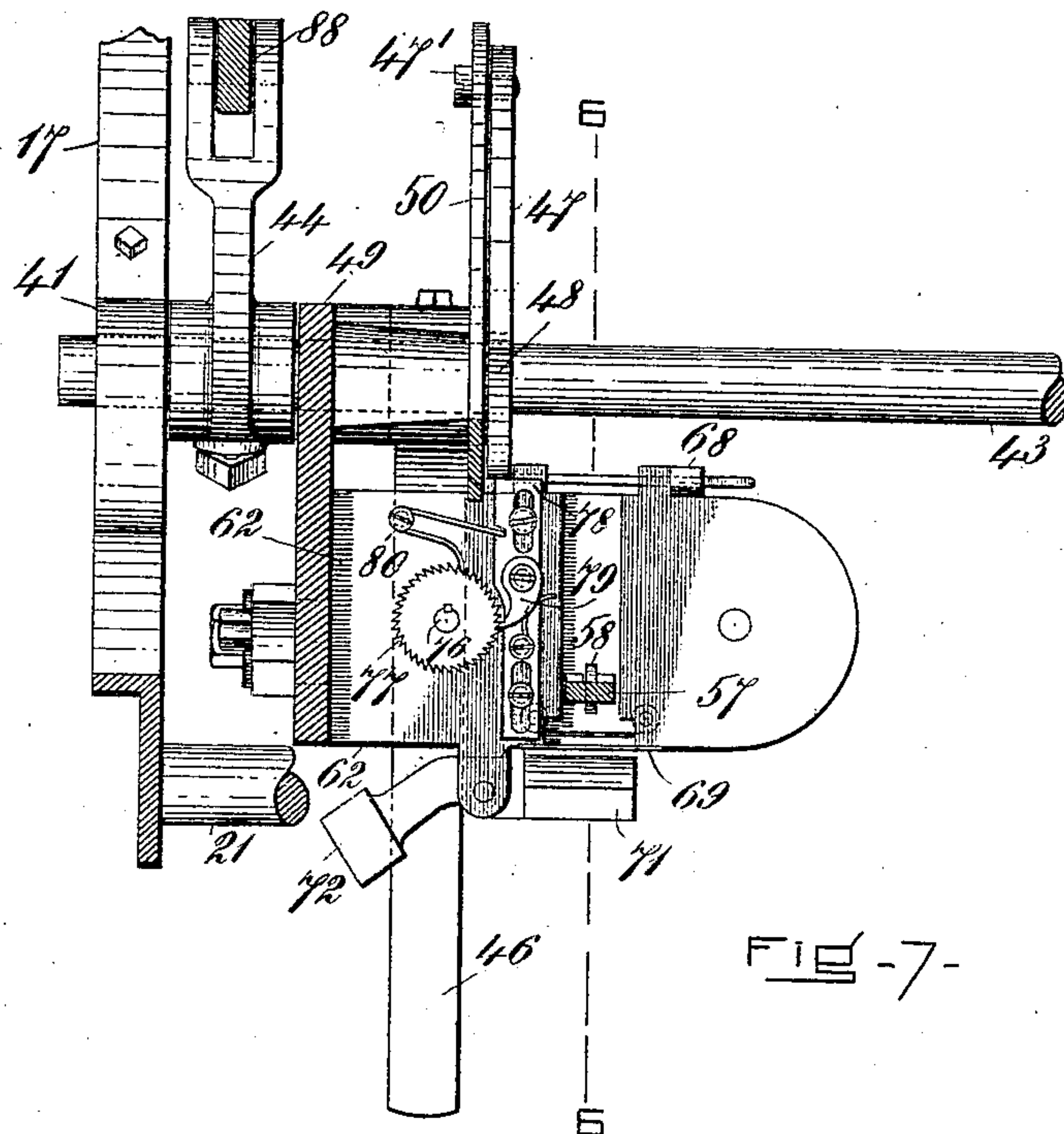


FIG. 7-

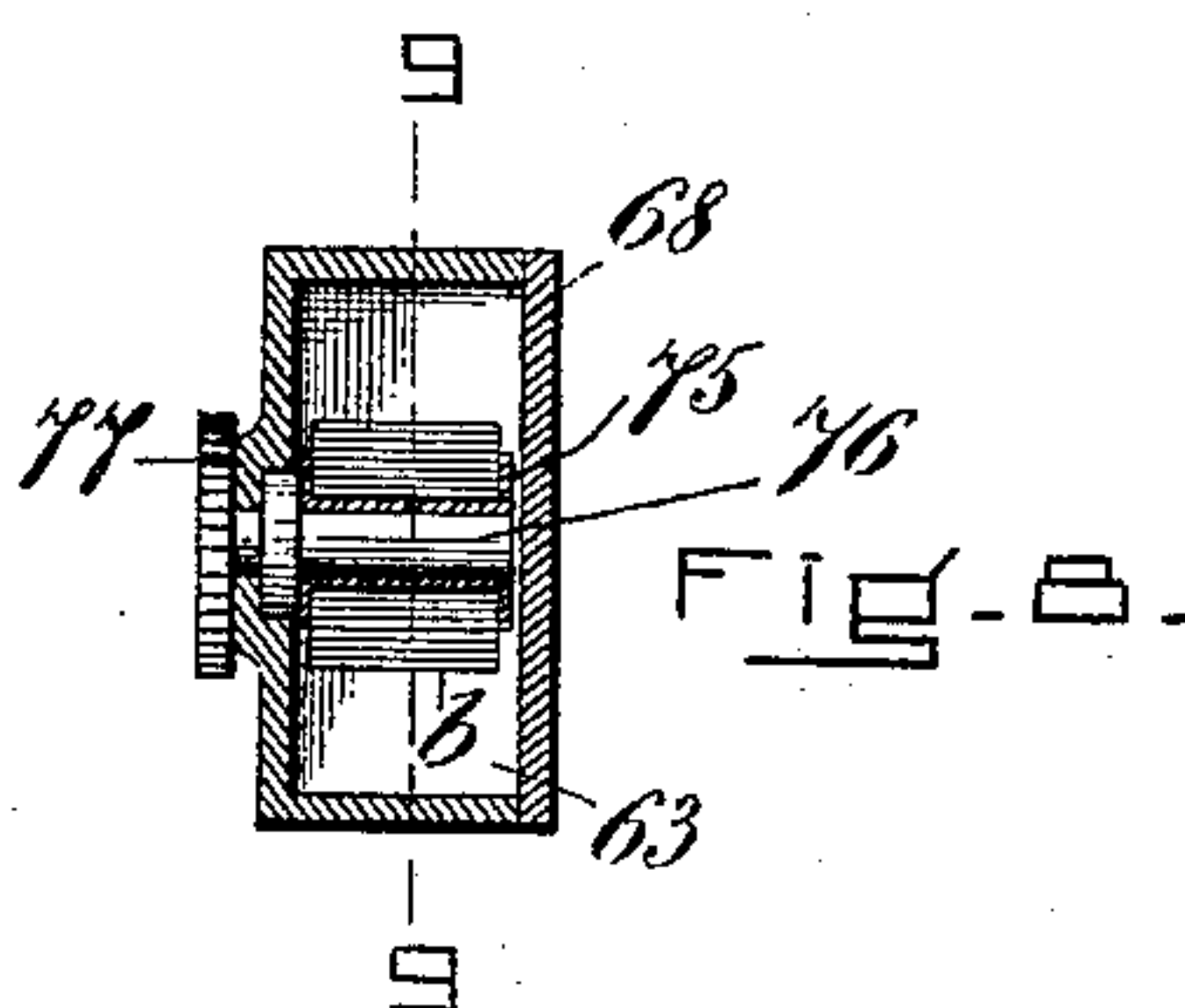


FIG. 8-

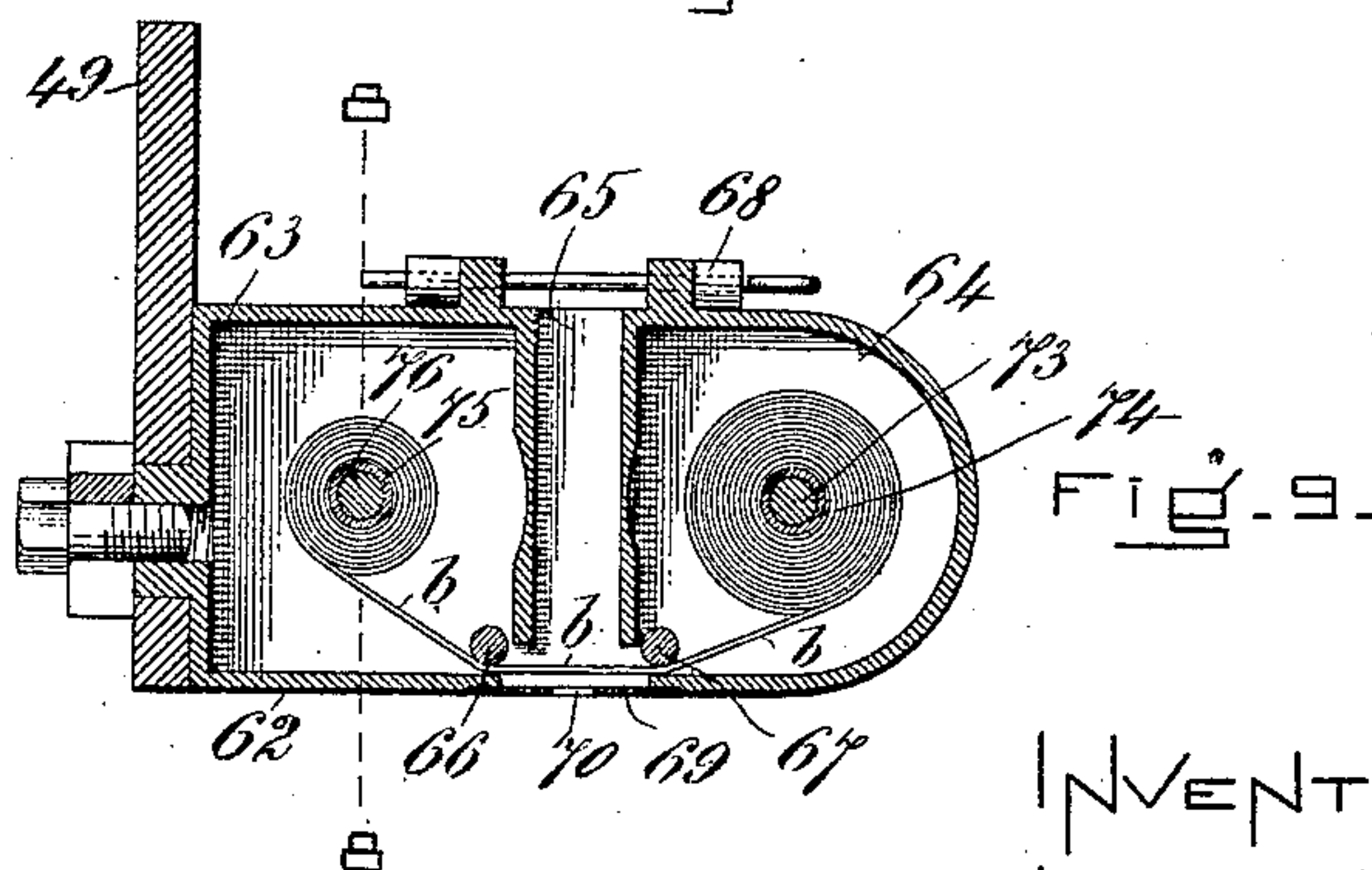


FIG. 9-

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FABRIC INSPECTING AND MARKING MACHINE.

No. 915,267.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 16, 1909.

Application filed July 21, 1908. Serial No. 444,663.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JAMES A. BUTLER, of Winthrop, in the county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, and LORENZ FLICK, of Saylesville, in the county of Providence, State of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fabric Inspecting and Marking Machines; and we hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in machines adapted to feed forward fabric for inspection and the invention resides principally in mechanical means for marking or indicating portions of the fabric containing faults or to indicate portions of such fabric not necessarily containing faults, to which it is desired to subsequently attract attention.

One object of this invention is to so construct a fabric marking machine, through which fabric to be inspected may be passed, that particular parts of said fabric may receive surface marks and that the portion of fabric receiving such surface mark may have affixed thereto an outwardly extending indicator which, when the fabric is rolled or folded, is designed to call attention to that portion of the fabric to which said surface mark has been applied.

Another object of this invention is to so construct a fabric feeding machine, adapted to fold fabric fed therethrough, that an indicating label may be mechanically applied to the marginal portion of such fabric.

Another object of the invention is to improve the construction of the label affixing means.

Other objects of the invention will appear from the following description.

The invention consists in the peculiar construction of the color mark printing device.

The invention also consists in the novel label affixing mechanism.

The invention still further consists in such other novel features of construction and combination of parts as shall hereinafter be more fully described and pointed out in the claims.

Figure 1, represents a side elevation of a fabric feeding and folding machine to which the improved marking mechanism is applied, parts of the machine being broken away to more clearly show portions of the label affixing means. Fig. 2, represents a plan view of

the fabric feeding machine showing the location and, to some extent, the construction of the parts thereof. Fig. 3, represents an enlarged sectional view of the label affixing means, and some of its connections taken on line 3—3 Fig. 4. This figure also illustrates the application of the label. Fig. 4, represents a similar view taken on line 4—4 Fig. 3. Fig. 5, represents an enlarged side elevation of the color mark printing means and parts of the machine adjacent thereto. Fig. 6, represents a sectional view of some of the parts shown in Fig. 5 taken on line 6—6 Figs. 2 and 7. Fig. 7, represents a sectional view thereof taken on line 7—7 Fig. 5. Fig. 8, represents a sectional view of parts of the color ribbon carrier taken on line 8—8 Fig. 9. Fig. 9, represents a sectional view of the color ribbon carrying means taken on line 9—9 Fig. 8.

Similar numerals and letters of reference designate corresponding parts throughout.

Machines of the character to which this invention is applicable, particularly in the specific structure shown herein, are designed to feed forward fabric in such manner that the same may be inspected and any faults, such as thin spots, detected. As heretofore used such machines have fed the fabric forward with considerable rapidity and it has been found desirable that the machine should act to fold the fabric, so fed forward, in layers of approximately equal length whereby the operator could estimate the length of the folded material by the number of laps or layers and, upon the discovery of a fault in the uppermost layer during such folding operation, could designate the particular layer, to which it was desired to call the attention of subsequent inspectors, by placing on said faulty layer a marker, usually a piece of paper or other, preferably flexible, material which was supposed to be held in place by the subsequently superposed layers of such fabric. After the inspection and folding of the desired number of layers of fabric the folded material was torn off from the main length and forwarded to another inspector who was supposed to examine the layers of fabric designated by the inserted markers and determine the disposition to be made of such portions. This method has many objectionable features among which are the facts that the fabric is fed forward so rapidly in the folding machine that the inspector or operator must

be extremely alert to detect a fault and, simultaneously to place the marker in position, also that such loosely placed marker often slips out from between the folds of fabric and the particular fault designed to be designated thereby is not called to the attention of the second inspector, while, if such second inspector is lax in his duties there is no indication of the fact and the blame for the appearance of the fault in the finished goods falls on the first inspector.

In carrying this invention into practice it has been our main object to provide a machine in the operation of which the attention of the inspector can be wholly directed to the detection of faults in the fabric fed forward by the machine, or to such parts of the fabric as it is desired to mark, and that marking mechanism can be brought into operation by the intuitive act of the operator with the least possible movement and that the mark and indicator may be positive and act as a guard against the negligence of the second inspector. To this end we take a machine of any well known character designed to feed forward fabric for inspection and to such machine we apply a lever actuated impression mechanism adapted preferably to print a color upon the surface of the fabric near its margin and with some movable part of such impression mechanism we connect a label affixing means which is designed to be actuated by or through the operation of such impression device whereby an outwardly extending label is affixed or delivered to the marginal portion of the fabric adjacent the point at which the color mark has been applied. Thus, it will be noticed, the label being preferably affixed to the fabric is not liable to fall out while the color imprint indicates, of itself, the detection of the fault by the first inspector if the label be removed.

As shown in the drawings the invention is applied to a fabric pulling or feeding and folding machine of well known construction in which 10 and 11 are side frames connected by suitable braces and having the usual support 12, to receive the folded fabric, and the inclined plates 13 and 14 extending transversely of the machine near the ends of said fabric support 12. From the frames 10 and 11 extend upwardly the inclined arms 15 and 16 having respectively the extensions 17 and 18 furnished with the transverse guide bars 19, 20 and 21. The upper ends of the arms 15 and 16 carry the pivotally mounted sleeves 22 and 23 in the bores of which are respectively slidable the folder arms 24, 25 which carry at their lower ends the usual folder guide 26 to the ends of which are pivotally connected the rods 27—28 having their lower ends pivotally mounted in the floor brackets 29 and 30 respectively. Also pivotally connected with the ends of the guide 26 are the drive rods 31—32 pivoted at their

other ends to the pivots of the crank arms 33—34 of the drive shaft 35 journaled in bearings of the frames 10 and 11 and furnished with the fly wheel 36 and the cam 37 which has the extreme throw 37' and the curved way 37². Pivotally mounted between the frames 10 and 11 is the lever 38 having the roller 39 which is held against the cam 37 by the spring 40 connected with said lever 38 and a fixed part of the machine.

The machine thus described with the exception of cam 37 and the lever 38, may be considered to represent any old and well known fabric feeding machine which in a broad sense, may be considered as a whole an operative group of mechanism essential to the new invention but which in its specific construction must not be understood as restricting the invention. In such machines the fabric *a—a* is led over the guide 19, under the guide 20 and over the guide 21 to and through the folder guide 26 by the vibration of which said fabric is laid in folds on the fabric support 12 with the ends of said folds extending beneath the inclined plates 13 and 14, the fabric being inspected before it reaches the guide 19.

Mounted on the extensions 17 and 18 of arms 15 and 16 are brackets 41—42 in which is journaled the shaft 43 having thereon the arm 44 and furnished with the sleeve 45, keyed to said shaft 43 to permit sliding adjustment of said sleeve on said shaft, said sleeve having the hand lever 46, the arm 47 and the cam 48, see Fig. 6. At the inner side of the extension 17 is slidably mounted on the shaft 43 the plate 49 which rests on the guide 21 and has the cross member 49', and pivotally mounted on a stud extending from said plate is the lever 50 having at its upper end a slot in which the pin 47' of the arm 47 is slidable, while at the lower end of said lever 50 is pivoted the pawl 51 having the stop 52 adapted to engage the edge of the lever 50 to limit the swing of said pawl under the action of its spring 53 which is connected with said pawl and a stud extending from the plate member 49'. At this lower portion of the plate 49 is the stud 54 on which is journaled the sleeve 55 having the tooth 56, extending into the path of the pawl 51, and the impression lever 57 having the rotatable impression disk 58 at its free end. This lever 57 is drawn downward constantly by the retraction spring 59 secured to said lever and to a stud extending from the plate member 49' and a spring buffer, is furnished comprising the rod 60 slidably mounted at this portion of the plate 49 and having the expansion spring 61 which tends to limit the movement of the rod 60 when struck by the lever 57 under the retractive action of its spring 59.

Removably secured to the plate 49 is a casing 62 comprising the compartments 63 and 64 separated by the vertical channel 65,

in which the free end of the impression lever 57 works, and having openings in the lower portions of its walls which communicate with the interiors of compartments 63 and 64 near the guide rolls 66 and 67. At the upper end of casing 62 is hinged the side closure 68 and the lower end of channel 59 is furnished with the plate 69 having the opening 70, and below this opening is the impression receiving member 71 pivotally mounted in extensions from the casing 62 and having the counter weighted arm 72.

Extending transversely through compartment 64 is the spindle 73 on which is rotatably mounted the spool 74 carrying color ribbon *b—b*, of any well known nature similar to that usable in typewriters, which ribbon extends under the guides 66 and 67 and to the receiving spool 75 removably mounted and frictionally held on the shaft 76 journaled in a bearing in the wall of the compartment 63 and having at its outer end the ratchet 77. On the exterior of that part of casing 62 which forms compartment 63 is slidably mounted the pawl plate 78 having the pivoted spring pressed pawl 79 which is designed to engage the teeth of the ratchet 77 and effect the rotation of said ratchet against the resistance of one arm of the spring 80 when said plate 78 is moved downward by the pressure thereon of cam 48 bearing thereagainst, while, on the upward movement of cam 48 the other arm of said spring 80, in engagement with the plate 78, tends to move said plate 78 upward.

Journaled in bearings located approximately at the junction of the arms 15 and 16 with the side frames 10 and 11 is the rock shaft 85 having the detent 86 and keyed to this shaft is the arm 87 to which is pivotally connected the lower end of the connecting rod 88 the upper end of which is pivotally connected with the arm 44 so that when the shaft 43 is rocked by the movement of the hand lever 46 the rocking of the shaft 85 will be effected through said members 44, 88 and 87 to swing the free hook end of the detent 86 upward. This hook end of said detent 86 normally engages the finger 89 of the lever 90 which is keyed to the sleeve 91, rotatable on shaft 92 carried by the side frames 10 and 11, and the lower end of said lever 90 is connected by the rod 93 with the lever 38 so that while the detent 86 is engaged with the arm 89 of said lever action of spring 40 to draw lever 38 is prevented while said spring it permitted to act by the release of said detent to effect the swinging of the lever 90 whereby the sleeve 91 is rocked and the lever 94, carried by said lever, and its quadrant rack 95 is swung.

Mounted on the shaft 92 and fixed from movement by the screws 96—96 is a frame having the upwardly extending arm 97 carrying at its upper end the shaft 98 on which

is journaled the sleeve 99 having the pinion 100 which meshes with the quadrant rack 95 and is rotatable with respect to the bevel gear 101 mounted on said shaft 98. From said sleeve 99 extends the shaft 102, Fig. 3, on which is journaled the sleeve 103 having at one end the bevel gear 104, which meshes with the bevel gear 101 and at the outer or free end the crank 106 the pin of which is engaged in a transverse slot at the upper end of the pusher 107 on which is slidable the guide formed in the head 108 which head is fixed on the sleeve 103 and has a flat lower end furnished with spurs 109.

The cross brace or bar 110 extends between the frame members 10 and 11 at a distance from the shaft 92 and on this cross bar is supported the glue reservoir 111 braced from one bearing of shaft 92 and having the hinged cover 112 furnished with openings 113 with which the head 108 of the label carrier is designed to register at times. In the wall of this glue reservoir is journaled the shaft 114 having, on that portion within the reservoir, the arm 116 furnished with the glue carrying head 115 designed to enter the perforations 113 when sprung upward. Said shaft 114 is rocked by means of its lever 117 to which motion is transmitted by the rod 118 from the lever 94. From the glue reservoir 111 extends the block 119 which is designed to support a portion of the label strip at times and on the outer end of the shaft 114 is the cutting member 120 which is free to work between said block 119 and the cutting member 121 carried by the projection 122 of the glue frame member 123 and fixed with relation to the movement of the cutter 120. The lower portion of the projection 122 is extended to form the guide member 122' and a similar member 124 is positioned on said frame member 122 below said projecting member 122'.

The ribbon *c—c*, from which labels 1 are cut, is carried on the spool 125 rotatably mounted on the stud shaft 126 extending from the plate 123, frictional resistance to the free rotation of said spool being offered by the spring plate 127 secured on said shaft 126 and bearing on said spool. From the spool 125 the ribbon *c—c* usually of paper, is carried between the presser roll 128, rotatably mounted on a shaft carried by the pivoted spring pressed arm 129, and the friction feed roll 130 which is rotatable on the shaft 131, extending from plate 123, and is furnished with the ratchet 132 with which the spring actuated holding ratchet 133 engages, see Fig. 4. Operation of the feed roll 130 is effected by means of the lever 134 pivoted on shaft 131 and having the pivoted spring pressed pawl 135 designed to engage the teeth of said ratchet 132 on its forward movement. The lever 134 is actuated by the belt 136 working over pulley 137 and connected

with said lever and the pin 138 extending from the lever 117, while said lever 134 is retracted by spring 139 connected with said lever and with the fixed arm 140.

5 After the strip of fabric *a*—*a* has been led through the machine over the guide 19, under guide 20 and over guide 21 the marking mechanism comprising sleeve 45 and its lever 46 and the parts directly related thereto are
10 adjusted transversely of the machine so that the edge portion of said fabric may be fed forward between the block 71 of the counter-weighted lever 72 and the opening in the plate 69. The shaft 35 being now driven in
15 any usual manner the fabric is drawn into the machine by the vibration of the folder guide 26 which lays the folds regularly between and beneath the inclined plates 13 and 14, and the operator stands in position to
20 carefully examine the fabric passing to guide 19. If now a fault in the fabric is detected before it reaches said guide 19 the operator presses lever 46 in the direction indicated by arrows in Figs. 5 and 6 to swing the lever 50
25 and to rock the shaft 43. In this forward movement of lever 50 its pawl 51 engages with the projection 56 of the pivoted arm 57 and swings the free end of said arm upward against the action of its spring until a point
30 is reached where the pawl 51 is free to pass the end of the projection 56 when said spring is free to retract and draw downward the arm 57 until said arm is intercepted by the spring buffer rod 60, the spring of which is overcome
35 by the impetus of the lever 57 and the impression member 58 strikes the color ribbon and prints therefrom a mark on the fabric *a*—*a* and then rebounds under the action of the spring buffer 60—61. During said move-
40 ment of the lever 46 the pawl plate 78 is moved downward and its pawl 79 acts on the ratchet 77 to partially rotate shaft 76 and its take up spool to draw forward the color ribbon *b*—*b* from the spool in compartment 64,
45 and when the lever 46 is permitted to swing back to the inoperative position the spring 80 acts to move said pawl plate 78 upward; at the same time the pawl 51 is carried back to its normal position and is free to swing on its
50 pivot to clear the end of the projection 56 of lever 57. When shaft 43 is rocked the rod 88 is actuated through lever 44 to swing lever 87 and rock shaft 85 whereby the hook end of the detent 86 is disengaged from the member
55 89 of lever 90 whereby this member 89 is allowed to move under the action of spring 40 and the connections therewith controlled, however, by the cam 37 against which the bearing roll 39 of the spring actuated lever 38
60 bears. While the high point 37' of the cam 37 is passing the roll 39 no inward movement of said roll and its lever 38 can take place but at any other point in the rotation of said cam said roll may move under action of
65 spring 40 sufficiently to effect the swinging

of arm 89 to a point beyond the hook end of detent 86, and hence said member 89 is free to swing when the contracted portion of cam 37 is passing roll 39. Under said movement of the lever 90 the sleeve 91 is rotated on its
70 shaft 92 and the arm 94 with its rack 95 is swung to rotate pinion 100 and the sleeve carrying shaft 102 and, at approximately the same time, to actuate rod 118, through the depending extension of arm 94, and the lever
75 117 whereby the free end of the glue delivery arm 115 is moved downward from the label 1, then in place beneath the label carrier 108 and severed from the strip or ribbon *c*. As said sleeve of pinion 100 rotates it swings
80 upward arm 102 and the label 1 engaged on pins 109 moves upward with its carrier 108 mounted on sleeve 103. In this movement gear 104 on said sleeve 103 being engaged with the gear 101 is caused to rotate and
85 effects the rotation of its sleeve 103 as said sleeve and its shaft 102 is swung over as is indicated in Fig. 3 until the label carried by the carrier 108 is positioned over the upper
90 reach or fold of the fabric *a* with the glued side downward when the relative movement between said carrier 108 and its plunger 107 effects the projection of said plunger through the bore of the carrier to push the label 1
95 from the spurs 109 and to press said label down on to the upper surface of the fabric. When, in the rotation of drive shaft 35 the higher portion of cam 37 begins to act against bearing 39 of lever 38, said lever is swung
100 backward against the action of spring 40 and lever 90 is swung in the reverse direction to bring the parts to their original positions, in which movement the sleeve 103 is swung
105 backward and partially rotated until its carrier approaches the label support 112 with its spurs 109 in position to engage a label thereon. During the movement of the arm
110 94 which effects the swinging of shaft 102 and its sleeve 103 the swinging of the lever 117 acts on the belt 136 to actuate pawl lever 134 and to partially rotate the friction feed wheel 130, through its ratchet, whereby the
115 strip or ribbon *c* is fed forward over the perforations 113 of the glue reservoir sufficiently to provide material for the next label and, during the reverse movement of the mechanism the cutter member 120 swings upward and severs said strip while the free end of the
120 glue delivery arm 115 which has taken up a supply of glue delivers said glue through the perforations 113 to the under surface of the label, and the machine is ready for another operation.

Having thus described our invention, we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters
125 Patent.

1. The combination with means for feeding forward fabric to be inspected, of printing means therefor, label affixing means, operating means for said label affixing means, and
130

a detent for said operating means connected with said printing means.

2. The combination with means for feeding forward fabric, a label affixer, and operating means for said label affixer controlled by the fabric feeding means, of printing means, and a detent for said label affixer operatively connected with said printing means.

3. The combination with fabric feeding means furnished with a cam, a label affixer, and operating means for said label affixer having an element in operative relation with said cam, of a printing mechanism, a detent adapted to engage a movable part of said label affixer operating means, and connections between said printing mechanism and said detent.

4. The combination with fabric feeding means, of printing means, and label delivering means operating in sequence to said printing means to deliver a label to said fabric.

5. The combination with means for continuously feeding forward fabric, or printing means through which said fabric is fed, a label affixer located beyond the point to which said fabric is fed, and means for operating said label affixer to affix a label to said fabric.

6. The combination with means for continuously feeding forward fabric, and a receiver for said fabric, of printing means through which said fabric is fed, and a label affixer operating to affix a label to said fabric after said fabric reaches said receiver.

7. The combination with means for feeding forward fabric, and a receiver for said fabric, of printing means, and a label affixer furnished with a label carrier for delivering a label to said fabric after said fabric reaches the receiver.

8. The combination with means for continuously feeding forward fabric, and a receiver for said fabric, of printing means, and a label affixer located at a distance from said receiver and having means for delivering a label to fabric on said receiver.

9. The combination with means for continuously feeding forward fabric, of a manually operated printing means, a label affixer, operating means therefor, and means connected with said printing means for normally holding said operating means out of operation.

10. The combination with means for continuously feeding forward fabric, of a manually operated printing means located at a point past which said fabric is fed, a label affixing machine located at a distance from such point and furnished with a label carrier for delivering a label to said fabric adjacent the part of said fabric on which said printing device is designed to act.

11. The combination with means for feeding forward fabric to a point of delivery and

for then directing said fabric away from such point, of printing means located to act on said fabric before the fabric reaches said delivery point, and means for subsequently delivering a label to said fabric.

12. The combination with means for feeding forward fabric to a point of delivery and for then directing a portion of said fabric away from said point, of printing means positioned to act on said fabric as such fabric moves toward such point, and means for delivering a label to such printed portion subsequent to the time the fabric reaches said delivery point.

13. The combination with vibratory means for feeding forward fabric, a printing means positioned to act on said fabric before it reaches said vibrator, and means for delivering a label to said fabric.

14. The combination with vibratory means for feeding forward fabric, of printing means positioned to act on said fabric before it reaches said vibrator, and means for delivering a label to the printed portion of said fabric after it is acted upon by said vibrator.

15. The combination with vibratory fabric feeding and folding means, and means for receiving said fabric when folded, of printing means positioned to act on said fabric in its movement toward said folder, and means for delivering a label to the upper layer of the folded fabric.

16. The combination with vibratory fabric feeding and folding means, and means for receiving the folded fabric, of manually operated printing means positioned to act on said fabric during its movement toward said folder, label delivering means for delivering a label to the upper layer of the folded fabric, operating means for said label delivery, a detent for said operating means, and operative connections between said detent and a movable element of said printing means.

17. The combination with vibratory fabric feeding and folding means, and means for receiving the folded fabric, of a label affixer positioned beyond the limit of movement of said vibrator, and furnished with means for delivering a label between the limits of movement of said vibrator, and means for operating said label affixer.

18. The combination with vibratory fabric feeding and folding means, operating means therefor and a receiver for the folded fabric, of a label affixer furnished with means for delivering a label to said fabric between the limits of movement of said vibrator, and operating means for said label affixer comprising a controlling element controlled by the vibrator operating means.

19. The combination with vibratory fabric feeding and folding means, operating means therefor furnished with a controlling element, and a receiver for the folded fabric, of a label affixer, toward and from which

said vibrator is movable, means, forming part of said label affixer, for delivering a label between the limits of movement of said vibrator, and operating means for said label
5 affixer including a controlling element cooperating with the controlling element of the vibrator operating means whereby said label delivery means is held from delivery movement during the forward movement of the
10 vibrator.

20. The combination with fabric feeding means, of printing means comprising a movable impression element, retracting means for said element including a lever, a
15 label affixer, operating means therefor including a controlling lever, a detent for engaging said lever, and means operatively connecting said detent and the lever of said retracting means, as and for the purpose
20 described.

21. The combination with fabric feeding means, of printing means comprising inking means, impression means, retracting means for said impression means including a manu-
25 ally operated lever, a lever operated detent operatively connected with said retracting means, a label affixer, and operating means therefor comprising a lever adapted to be engaged by said detent, and a spring actuated
30 control lever connected with said detent engaged lever, as described.

22. The combination with fabric feeding means, and driving means therefor, of printing means, a label affixer, operating means
35 therefor, means in operative relation to the printing means for locking said label affixer operating means against movement, and means in operative relation to the fabric feed driving means for controlling the operation of said label affixer when the same is
40 released from said locking means.

23. The combination with fabric feeding means, of a rock shaft extending transversely of said line of feed and having a lever,

printing means slidable for adjustment on
said rock shaft and including a lever for
rocking said shaft, a label affixer, operating
means therefor, a detent for locking said
operating means and connections between
said detent and said rock shaft lever.
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24. The combination with vibratory fabric feeding and folding means, and driving means therefor, of mechanism, controlled through said driving means, for taking a
label from a point at a distance from the end
55 of the folded fabric, and for carrying and delivering said label to the upper surface of the folded fabric with the glued side down.

25. The combination with vibratory fabric feeding and folding means, driving means
60 therefor, and a receiver for the folded fabric, of a label affixer comprising a shaft and a sleeve mounted to swing and having a relative rotary movement, one of said elements having a label carrier, means for swinging
65 said elements, means for rotating one of said elements with respect to the other, and operating mechanism therefor controlled from the vibrator driving means.

26. The combination with vibratory fabric
70 feeding and folding means, driving means therefor having a cam, and a receiver for the folded fabric, of label gluing means, a shaft pivotally mounted at a point intermediate said gluing means and said receiver,
75 a sleeve journaled on said shaft and furnished with a label carrier, means for rotating said sleeve, and means for swinging said shaft comprising a pair of connected levers the movement of one of which levers is controlled
80 by the cam of the vibrator driving means, substantially as and for the purpose described.

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Witnesses:

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