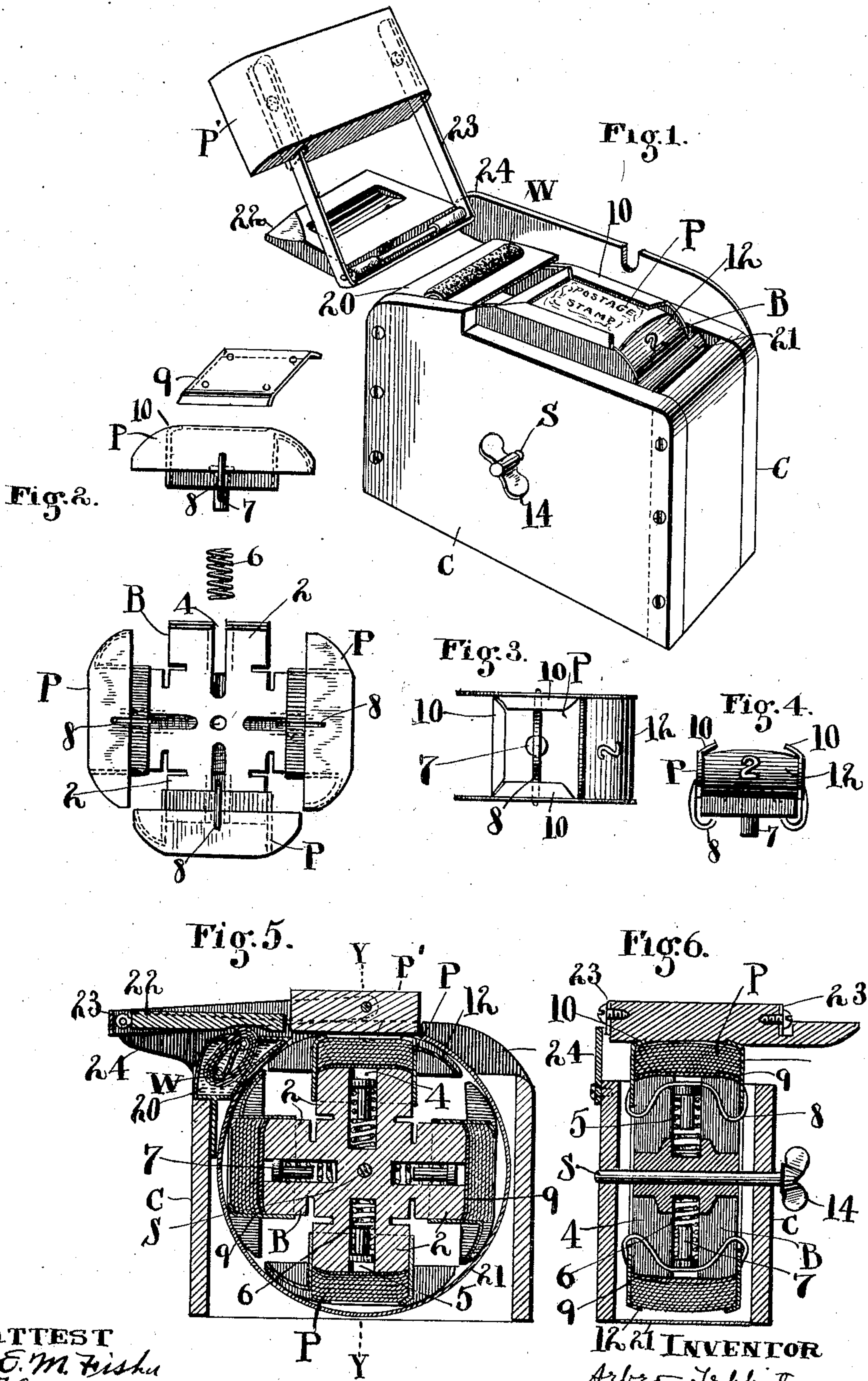


A. TEBBIT.
 DEVICE FOR AFFIXING POSTAGE STAMPS TO LETTERS.
 APPLICATION FILED MAY 4, 1908.

928,713.

Patented July 20, 1909.



ATTEST
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DEVICE FOR AFFIXING POSTAGE-STAMPS TO LETTERS.

No. 928,713.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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Application filed May 4, 1908. Serial No. 430,646.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARBER TEBBIT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Medina, in the county of Medina and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Affixing Postage-Stamps to Letters, and do declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to an improvement in devices for affixing postage stamps to letters, and the invention consists in the construction and combination of parts substantially as shown and described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device shown with certain of the parts in open position. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the rotatable cross shaped member or body adapted to carry the stamps excepting as to the pocket that is uppermost, which is shown as separated from said body and with its details apart one from the other to disclose their construction more clearly. Fig. 3 is a reduced plan view of the slidable member forming one of the stamp pockets at the top as in the other views. Fig. 4 is an end elevation of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a sectional elevation of the entire device disclosing the internal portions and with the parts otherwise in operating relation. Fig. 6 is a vertical cross section of Fig. 5 on line *y—y*.

As thus shown, the device is intended more particularly to be used as a medium for containing and affixing postage stamps to letters, but is preferably so constructed as to be used also as a paper weight and for such associate purposes as may be found convenient upon a desk or table. Essentially and primarily, however, the device is to be considered as a stamp containing and affixing mechanism, and as such comprises a suitable casing C, whether it be of the exact form and construction shown herein or of any other suitable form and material. In respect to material, it may be made of wood or of sheet or cast metal of a suitable weight, and of course may be made more or less ornamental or decorative in respect to design and finish as taste may dictate. As to these particulars, I do not deem it necessary that there should be any distinct limitation or peculiarity beyond making ample provision inside

for the revolving member B, which carries the stamps. The said member is provided with four equal arms 2 radial as to its axial center and at right angles to each other successively, and said arms have substantially square or flat top surfaces with a transverse slot 4 in each one and a central bore 5 adapted to receive a spiral spring 6 of a length relatively greater than the depth of said bore so as to afford a lifting movement to the stamp carrying pockets P. Said pockets fit upon or over said arms and are adapted to slide thereon within limits to accommodate the same to the delivery of stamps to the envelop as it is pressed down upon the top of the pocket, the portion of the letter to be stamped having previously been moistened by the wick W. The construction of the said pockets, so-called, is seen most clearly in Figs. 2, 3 and 4, disclosing the details of construction. Thus, the said pocket is made preferably of sheet metal of a size and shape in cross section corresponding to the size and shape of an ordinary stamp and has a central headed stem 7 rigidly supported by a wire or yoke 8 from the sides of the pocket and rigid therewith and adapted to enter the bore 4 and into the spiral spring 6 which bears against the head of said stem and in such relations thereto as to cause the said spring to lift the said pocket to its limit normally, the movement being about a quarter of an inch, more or less, which also determines the depth of the stamps that can be placed in the pockets.

A flat plate 9 is affixed to the outer face of each arm 2 on said rotatable head and limits the outward movement of the stamp pocket under the pressure of spring 6 by reason of being over said stem 7 and yoke 8, on said pocket. This outward position is the normal position of these parts, and depression of each pocket occurs only as it is brought into service to yield a stamp. Then there need be no more depression thereof than is sufficient to bring the envelop into engaging relation with the upper stamp, it being understood that the stamps are inverted with their adhesive side upward, and each pocket has narrow flanges 10 around three of its edges which help to confine the stamp when the pocket is inverted but leave them free enough to make engagement with the envelop and to be drawn out affixed thereto.

The four sides of each pocket are shaped to correspond to the four sides of the arms of

the rotating member B, and which constitute guides for the pockets. Each pocket also has at least one inclined face portion 12 upon which I affix a number corresponding to the denomination of the stamp, whatever it may be, such as 1, 2, 5 and the like, and any denomination of stamp may of course be pocketed in this machine. The said member or head B is supported on a shaft S, with a suitable finger grip or key 14 to rotate the same, and said head or member is held in any given position to which it may be turned, preferably by friction. However, if a definite lock be required to hold it, one may be employed, but mere friction serves every purpose, and after a given denomination of stamp has been turned to the top, the machine naturally holds that position until it is purposely rotated to another.

Now, in order that the machine may be complete as to all details, I provide a moistening tank 20 with a wick W therein in position to contact the corner of the envelop therewith where the stamp is to be applied, and a cover 22 for this tank and wick is pivoted at one edge between two side arms or bars 23, which are supported at their rear or outer ends on suitable supports from the main casing. The said cover 22 serves to press the envelop down upon the wick while the envelop is being drawn forward over the wick, and when thus moistened and withdrawn the said cover drops down and forms one side of an angle for engaging the edge of the envelop while the other edge is engaged by outer edge or border plate 24. Thus the envelop is brought into exactly right position to affix the stamp by putting its corner into this angle over the stamp pocket, and then as the pad P', which is pivotally supported in and between arms 23, is depressed by hand the moistened surface of the envelop picks up the top stamp from the pocket at the same time that a depression of the pocket is produced to make the arm beneath act as a lift for pressing the stamp firmly up against the envelop.

In the casing there is arranged a shell 21 of band shape and which is firmly engaged between the sides of the casing and open only at its top. The armed body B is built to revolve closely within this shell and has such close working engagement therewith as to frictionally hold the body in any position to which it may be turned. This close circular fit between the said body and shell also con-

finer the stamps in the pockets when turned down and there is no possible tendency for them to fall or work out. Specifically the outer edges and portions of the stamp pockets are circular and make the frictional engagement referred to, but they constitute an essential portion of the entire revolving member B.

What I claim is:—

1. A single casing and a circular rotatable member therein provided with spring pressed stamp pockets radially mounted on said member at right angles to each other, in combination with a moistening wick in said casing and a hinged cover having an opening over said wick, and a pad hinged at one of its sides on a side projection on said casing and free on the other side from the casing, said pad adapted to swing into position on its hinge and press an envelop upon one of said pockets and affix a stamp thereto.

2. A machine to affix postage stamps to letters comprising a depressible pocket for the stamps having inwardly extending flanges at its top overlapping corresponding edges of the stamps, and adapted to removably confine the stamps, a rotatable support on which said pocket is slidably confined and a spring to press said pocket outward, in combination with a main casing, a pad and pivotally supported arms carrying said pad, one of said arms pivoted on said casing and the other arm free therefrom, a rotatable member mounted in the lower portions of said arms and means in said casing to moisten an envelop adapted to be covered by said member.

3. A postage stamp affixing machine comprising a stamp pocket slidably mounted in said machine and open at its top, a moistening device for an envelop next in advance of said pocket and a swinging cover therefor, and a pad to press the envelop on said pocket and cause the top stamp therein to adhere to the envelop, arms supporting said pad and cover and an extension on one side of said machine on which one of said arms is pivotally supported the other arm being free at its lower end and thereby providing room to insert and moisten an envelop.

In testimony whereof I sign this specification in the presence of two witnesses.

ARBER TEBBIT.

Witnesses:

H. L. FISHER,
F. C. MUSSUN.