

STAMP AFFIXING MACHINE.

Patented Dec. 21, 1909.

4 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

*INVENTOR :*

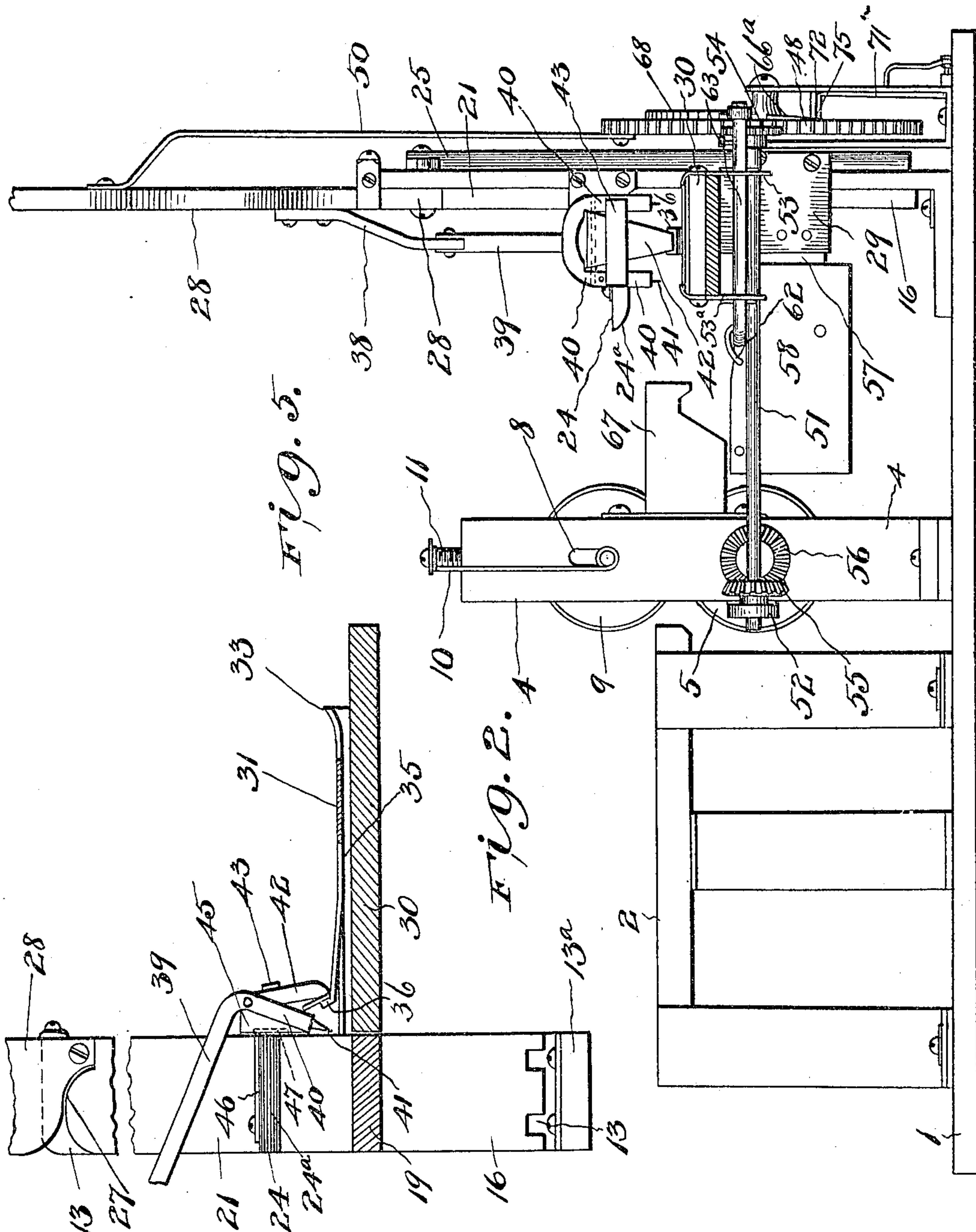
INVENTOR;  
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Attorney

943,952.

J. W. McCANN.  
STAMP AFFIXING MACHINE.  
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 23, 1908.

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4 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



WITNESSES  
Joseph H. Blackwood  
W. O. Blackwood

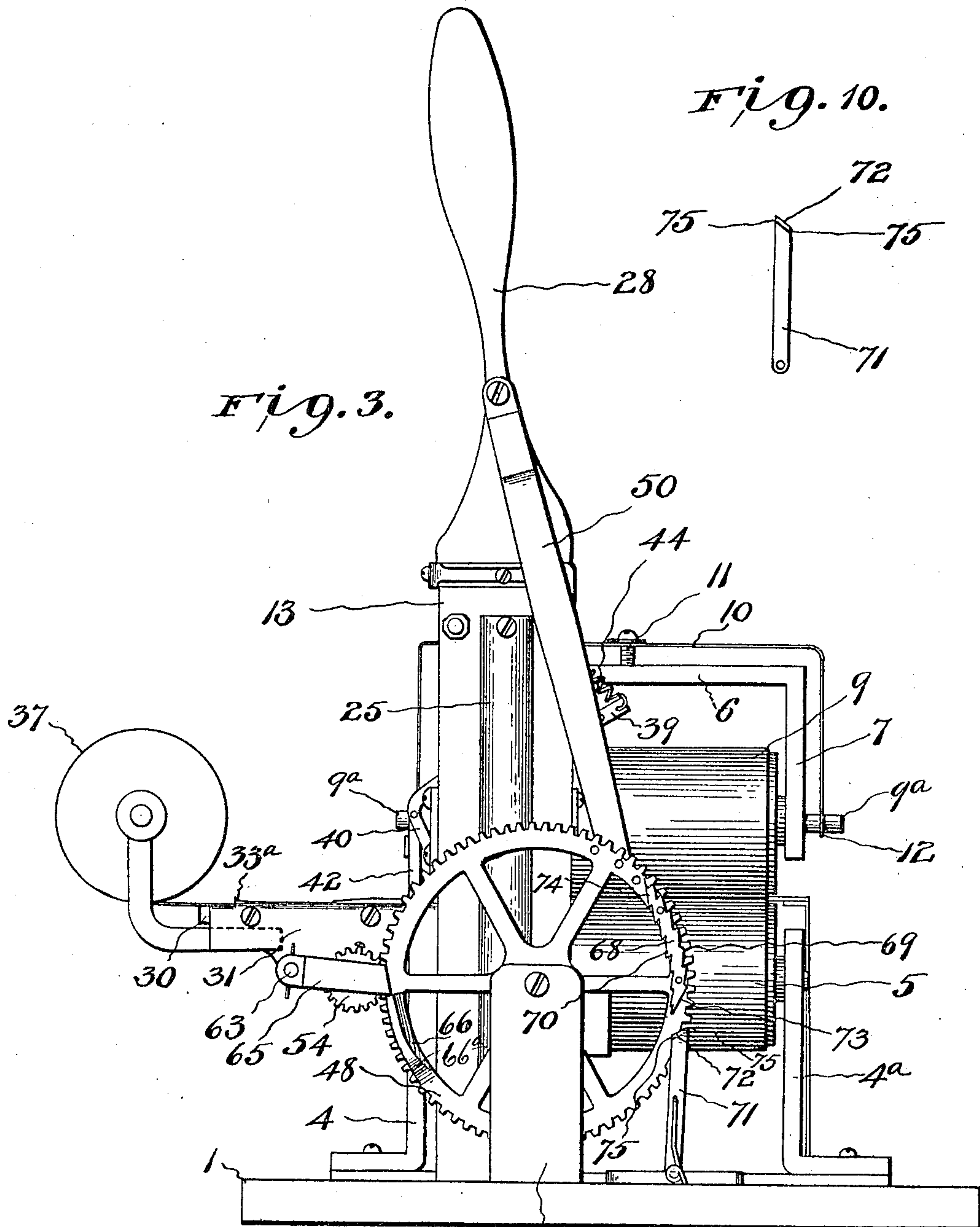
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4 SHEETS—SHEET 4.

Fig. 4.

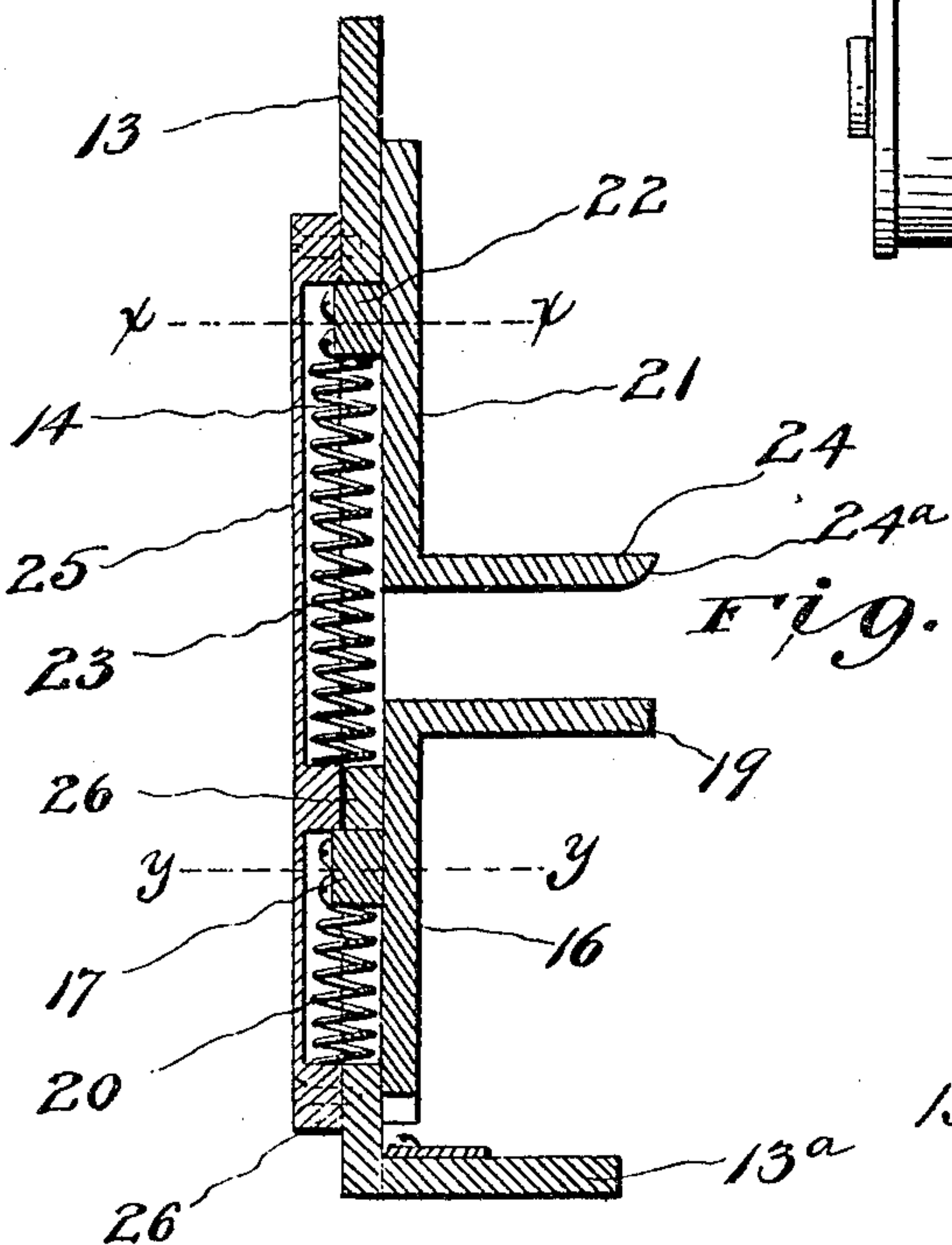
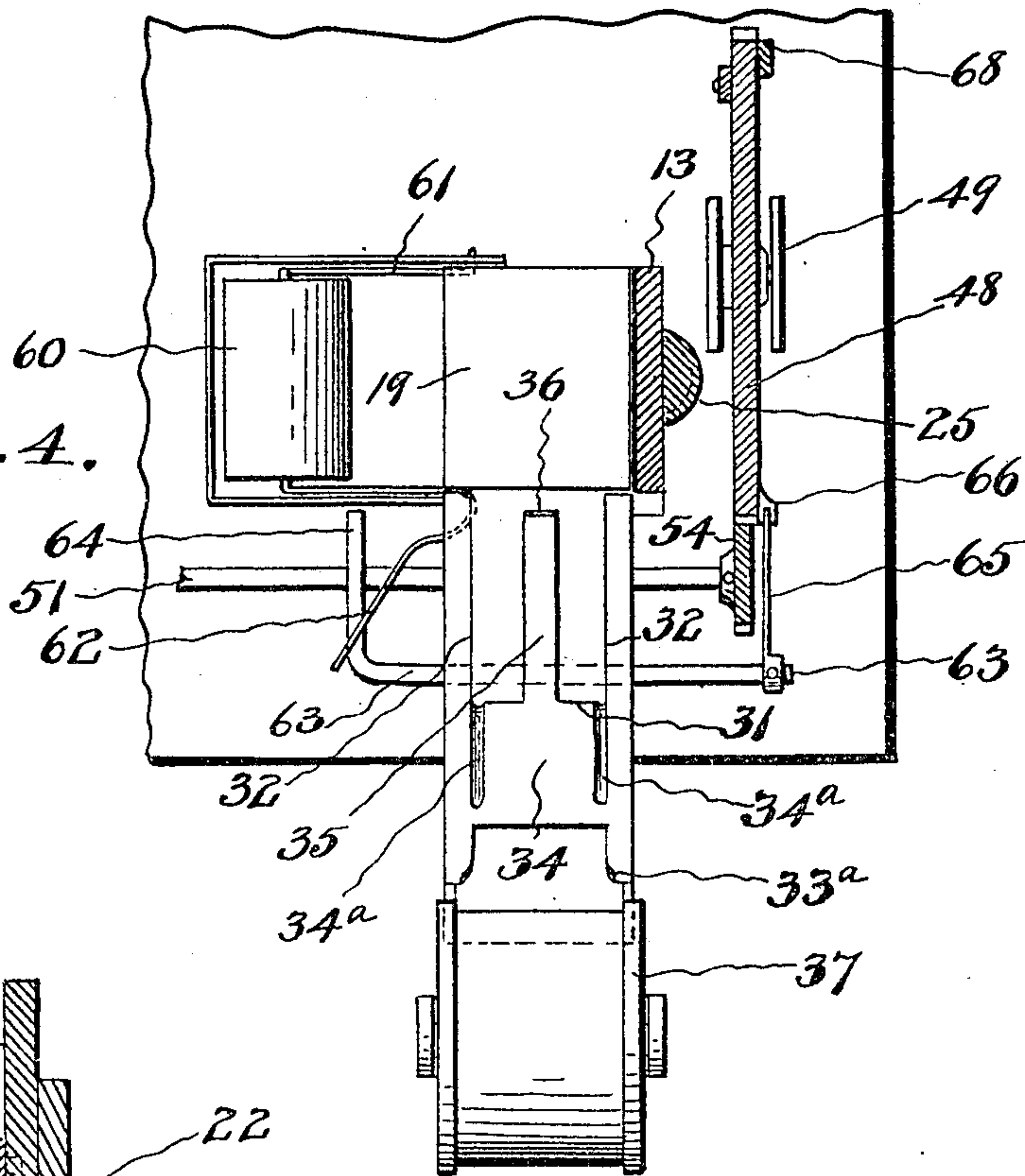


Fig. 7.

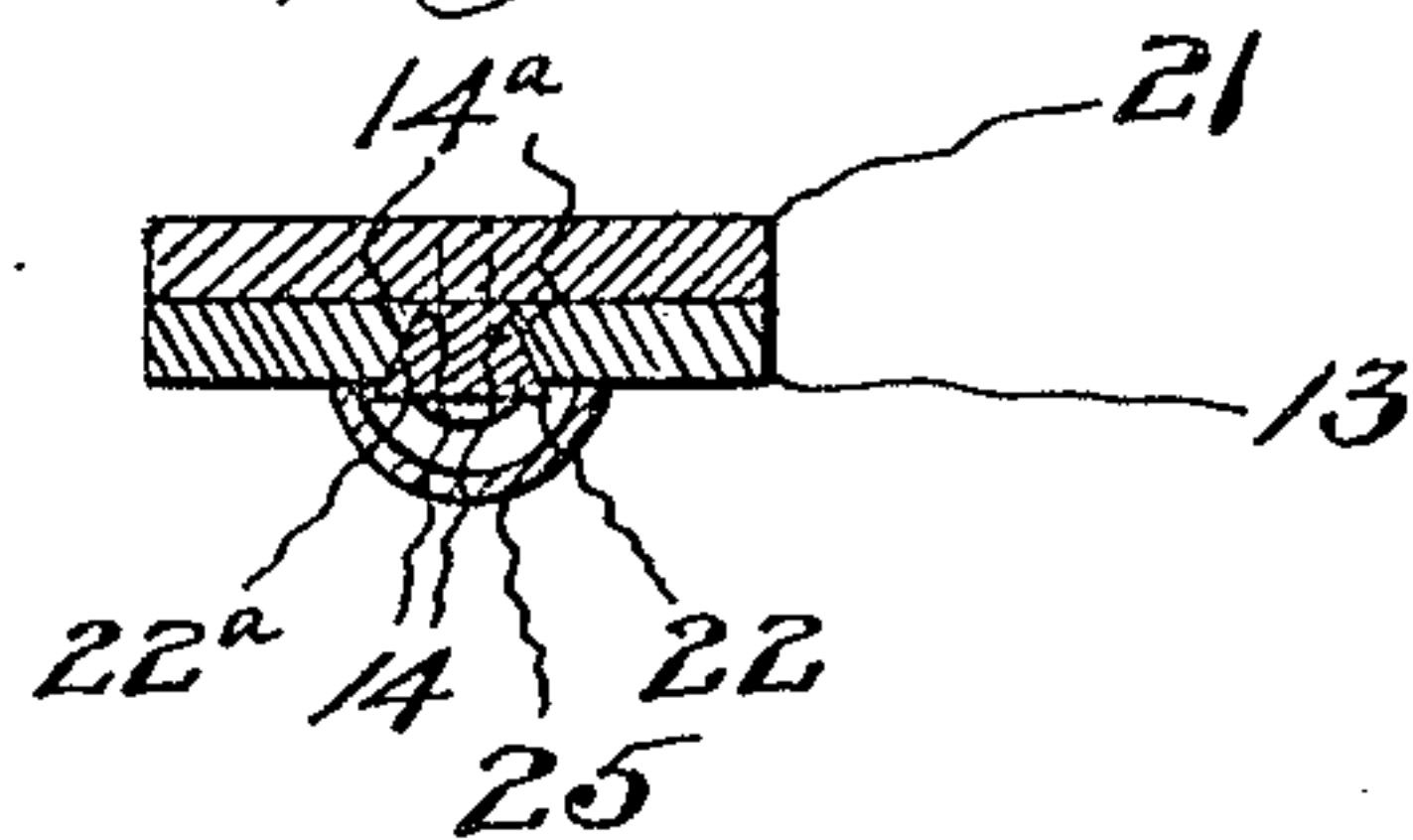
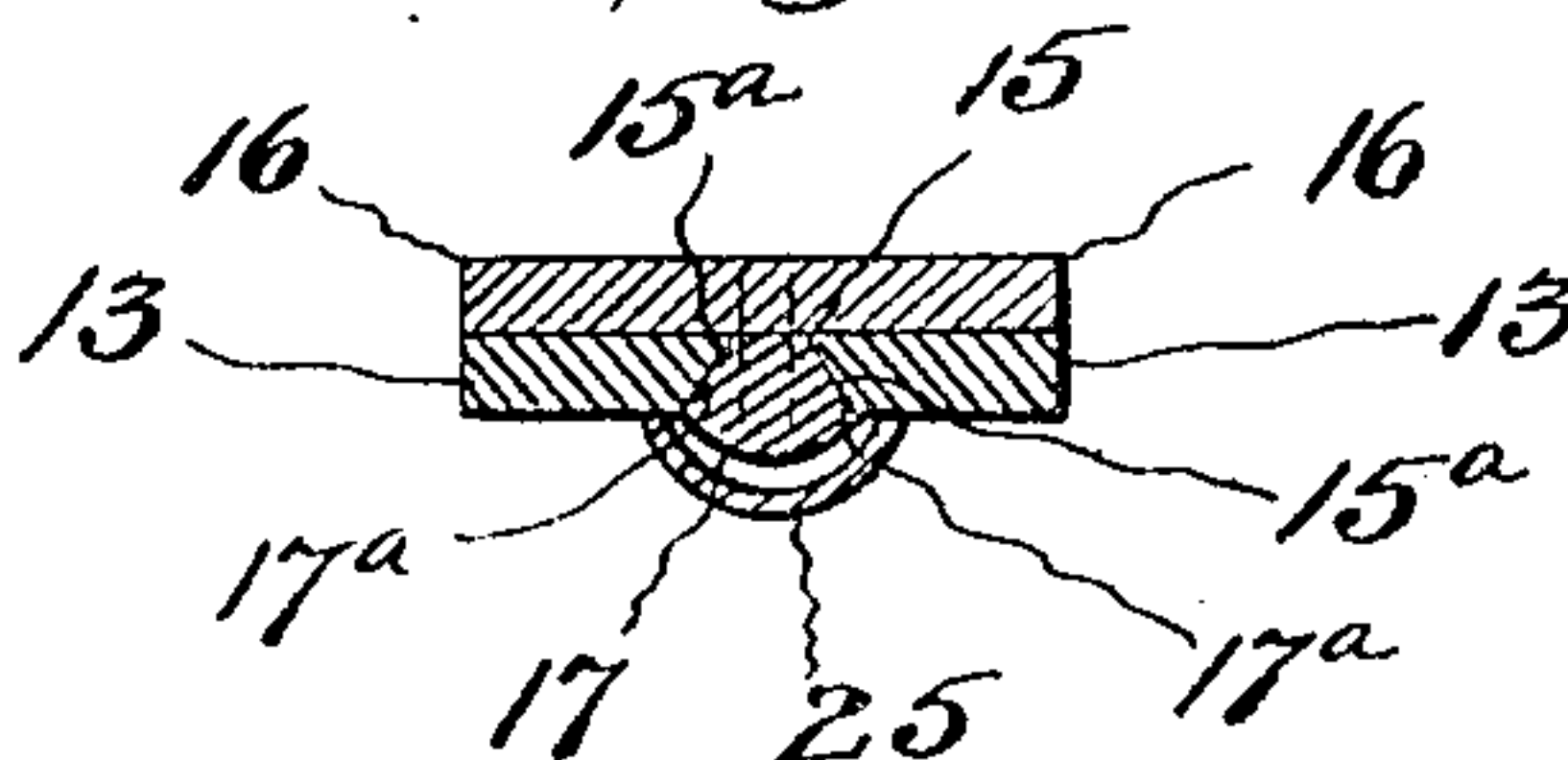


Fig. 8.



WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH W. McCANN, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

## STAMP-AFFIXING MACHINE.

943,952.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 21, 1909.

Application filed October 23, 1908. Serial No. 459,195.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH W. McCANN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stamp-Affixing Machines, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to machines for affixing postage stamps to envelopes, post-cards, etc., and has for its object the provision of a machine provided with means to feed the mail matter to the stamp-affixing mechanism, having a device for moistening the mail piece, and a mechanism for delivering the stamps singly to the envelop and pressing them into position thereon.

My invention will be described in detail hereinafter, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view in elevation of one side of my improved machine; Fig. 2, a similar view of the opposite side; Fig. 3, an end view; Fig. 4, a detail view of the envelop-moistening device; Fig. 5, a view of the stamp-affixing device in the position assumed before an envelop is inserted; Fig. 6, a central vertical sectional view of the stamp-affixing mechanism; Fig. 7, a horizontal sectional view on the line *x x* of Fig. 6; Fig. 8, a similar view on the line *y y* of Fig. 6; Fig. 9, a fragmental detail view showing the pressure-block in position to affix the stamp; and Fig. 10, a detail view of the pawl controlling the operation of the machine showing the reverse side from that shown in Fig. 3.

In the drawings similar reference characters indicate corresponding parts in all of the views.

1 indicates the base, having the table 2 thereon to receive the envelop or post-card to be stamped, and provided with an upwardly-extending flange 3 on one side to correctly position the envelop or post-card.

4 and 4<sup>a</sup> indicate standards secured adjacent to one end of table 2, having a roller 5 journaled thereon. The standard 4<sup>a</sup> ends above the journal of collar 5, but the standard 4 is extended upwardly and formed with a cross-bar 6 and vertical extension 7. Standard 4 and extension 7 are provided with vertical slots 8 in which are mounted the trunnions 9<sup>a</sup> of roller 9 that is held normally in engagement with the surface of

roller 5 by means of a U-shaped spring rod 10, secured to pin 11 on cross-bar 6, and having the ends of its arms provided with eyes 12 engaging trunnions 9<sup>a</sup>. 13 indicates another standard secured to base 1, having vertical slots 14 and 15 therein, with beveled walls 14<sup>a</sup> and 15<sup>a</sup>, respectively.

16 indicates a plate slidably mounted on standard 13 and secured thereon by means of lug 17, removably secured thereto, mounted in slot 15, and provided with beveled sides 17<sup>a</sup> to engage beveled walls 15<sup>a</sup>.

19 indicates a horizontal table extension on the upper end of plate 16.

20 indicates an expansible coil-spring engaging the lower end of slot 15 and the under side of lug 17 to hold the plate 16 and table 19 in a normally raised position. As the lower end of plate 16 when in its raised position nearly reaches the base 13<sup>a</sup> of standard 13, it will be understood that it has but slight movement downward and is intended to tear off the stamp from the strip after being affixed to the envelop by the mechanism hereinafter described.

21 indicates another plate slidably mounted on standard 13 by means of a lug 22, secured thereto, mounted in slot 14 and having beveled sides 22<sup>a</sup> engaging beveled walls 14<sup>a</sup> of said slot, said plate being held in a normally raised position by means of an expansible coil-spring engaging the under side of said lug 22 and the lower end of slot 14.

24 indicates a presser-block extending from the lower end of plate 21 and having its outer edge beveled, as shown at 24<sup>a</sup>, to guide the envelop or post-card into position between the block 24 and table 19.

25 indicates a semi-cylindrical casing secured to standard 13 to cover slots 14 and 15, and provided with partitions 26 opposite the ends of the slots to form bearings for the lower ends of the springs 20 and 23.

The upper end of plate 21 is provided with a cam-face 27, and 28 indicates a lever fulcrumed on standard 13 and having a cam-face that engages cam-face 27, it being understood that when the lever 28 is swung downwardly the plate 21 is actuated downwardly also and the envelop or post-card that may be between the table 19 and block 24 is submitted to pressure.

29 indicates a plate secured to standard 13, having a horizontal table 30 secured



thereto or formed integral therewith, and 31 an inverted channel-shaped guide-plate secured to side edges of table 30 and cut away, as shown at 32, to form overhanging  
 5 flanges 33, a web 34 connecting said flanges and a central integral tongue 35 extending toward table 19 with an upwardly-extending beveled lug 36 on the end thereof. The outer ends of flanges 33 are curled up, as  
 10 shown at 33<sup>a</sup>, to guide the strips of stamps between the table 30 and guide-plate 31, said strips being mounted on a reel 37 journaled on the end of said table 30.

38 indicates an arm secured to lever 28  
 15 and 39 a rod pivotally secured to the free end of said arm having a downwardly-extending bifurcated extension 40 on one end with pin points 41 on the ends of its prongs that engage the perforations between the  
 20 stamps when the lever is actuated.

42 indicates a block pivotally secured between the flanges 40 that rides on tongue 35 when the lever is actuated downwardly and provided with a cross-bar 43, secured there-  
 25 to, that engages said prongs so that the points 41 are held from engagement with the stamps when the rod 39 is actuated toward the outer end of guide-plate 31, while when the rod 39 is drawn toward the presser  
 30 block 24 the block 42 swings clear of the prongs so that they enter the cut-away portions 32 to engage the stamps as stated. The web 34 is formed with grooves 34<sup>a</sup> to receive the points 41 and guide them into  
 35 said cut-away portions 32.

44 indicates a spring secured to arm 38 and short arm of rod 39 to hold the prongs 40 and block 42 normally in a lowered position.

45 45 indicates a lug on the inner side of one of the prongs 40 that engages the edge of the presser-block 24 when the rod 39 reaches the limit of its rearward stroke in pulling the stamp under said block 24, and when the  
 45 block 24 raises to release the stamped mis- sive thereunder the prongs are also raised out of engagement with the stamps at the same time. The block 42 by engaging lug 36 is held over tongue 35 in position to en-  
 50 gage the tongue 35 on the next downstroke of the lever and hold the prongs from engaging the stamps during the outward stroke of said rod 39.

46 indicates a spring-tongue secured to the  
 55 top of presser-block 24 and having a downwardly extending end 47 that engages the perforations between the stamp under said block 24 and the next succeeding stamp to hold the strip of stamps stationary while the  
 60 stamp is being affixed to the envelop or card, the downward movement of the table 19 when actuated by block 24 operating to tear said stamp from the strip.

48 indicates a gear-wheel journaled on  
 65 supports 49, secured to base 1, and 50 a pit-

man connecting lever 28 and said gear-wheel to give it a rocking motion each time that the lever is actuated as above described.

51 indicates a shaft journaled on support  
 52, secured to standard 4 and an extension 70  
 53 of one side of guide-plate 31.

54 indicates a pinion secured to shaft 51 and meshing with gear-wheel 48, and 55 a beveled pinion, also secured to said shaft and meshing with beveled pinion 56 secured  
 75 to the trunnion of roller 5. It will be understood from this construction that when the gear-wheel 48 is turned clockwise by the downward movement of lever 28 the roller 5 is rotated in the direction to move an en-  
 80 velop toward standard 13, while when the lever swings upwardly so as to reverse the movement of the wheel 48 the roller 5 is turned in the opposite direction to return the envelop or card to table 2.  
 85

57 indicates a bar secured to plate 29 and 58 a pan having straps 59 secured thereto, loosely engaging bar 57 so that it may be removed and replaced, as desired, said pan being designed to hold a moistening agent  
 90 when the strip of stamps is already supplied with an adhesive, or when the strip is not provided with an adhesive the pan is supplied with a liquid adhesive.

60 indicates a roller journaled on a crank- 95  
 shaft 61, journaled in the sides of pan 58, and having one end extended and forming a crank, as shown at 62.

63 indicates a rock-shaft journaled in ex-  
 100 tensions 53 and 53<sup>a</sup> of guide-plate 31, having an angular extension 64 at one end that en- gages crank 62 and a spring-arm 65 secured to its other end that engages lug or projec-  
 105 tion 66 on gear-wheel 48 when the wheel is turned clockwise, as above stated, and rock said shaft 63 to raise roller 60, the top of the lug 66 being beveled, as shown at 66<sup>a</sup>, so that the spring-arm 65 rides backward on the top of said lug when the wheel 48 is turned  
 110 counter-clockwise by the upward movement of the lever 28.

67 indicates a plate secured to standard 4 to limit the upward movement of roller 60, and also to restrain its rotation so that its contents are impressed on the envelop or  
 115 post-card and the moistening more effectually accomplished.

68 indicates another projection on gear-wheel 48 having oppositely-disposed ratch-  
 120 ets 69 and 70 on its two faces, and 71 a spring-actuated pawl mounted on base 1 and having its free end formed with an L-shaped end 72, provided with beveled faces 73 and 74 at the two ends of projection 68. The purpose of pro-  
 125 jection 68 and pawl 71 is to insure a complete rocking of the lever up and down each stroke to insure a complete operation of the machine, the pawl 71 engaging the teeth of ratchets 69 or 70 to prevent return of the  
 130



lever unless a complete stroke is accomplished.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

5 1. In a stamp-affixing machine, the affixing device, a stamp-table suitably supported adjacent to the affixing device, a rocking arm, a rod pivotally secured to said arm, prongs extending from said rod to engage  
10 the stamps, and means to hold said prongs from engagement with the stamps when the prongs are moved away from the affixing device, substantially as shown and described.

15 2. In a stamp-affixing machine, the affixing device, a stamp-table suitably supported adjacent to the affixing device and delivering thereto, a guide secured to said stamp-table having a central integral tongue and cut-away portions on each side of said tongue,  
20 a rocking arm, a rod pivotally secured to said arm, prongs extending from said rod to enter said cut-away portions, and means secured to said prongs and engaging said tongue to hold the prongs out of engagement  
25 with said cut-away portions, substantially as shown and described.

3. In a stamp-affixing machine, the affixing device, a stamp-table suitably supported adjacent to said affixing device and delivering  
30 thereto, a guide secured to said stamp-table having a central integral tongue and cut-away portions on each side thereof, a rocking arm, a rod pivotally secured to said arm, prongs extending from said rod to  
35 enter said cut-away portions, and a block pivotally secured to said prongs and engaging said tongue to hold the prongs out of engagement with said cut-away portions, substantially as shown and described.

40 4. In a stamp-affixing machine, the affixing device, a pan supported adjacent to said affixing device, a crank-shaft journaled in said pan, a roller journaled on said crank-shaft, a wheel suitably journaled, means to  
45 simultaneously actuate the affixing device and rock said wheel, and operative connections between said wheel and the roller-shaft to elevate said roller, substantially as shown and described.

50 5. In a stamp-affixing machine, the affixing device, a pan supported adjacent to said affixing device, a crank-shaft journaled in said pan, a roller journaled on said crank-shaft, a wheel suitably journaled, means to  
55 simultaneously actuate the affixing device and rock said wheel, a projection on said wheel, and a shaft having an arm engaging the roller-shaft and an arm engaging the projection on the wheel to actuate the said  
60 roller, substantially as shown and described.

6. In a stamp-affixing machine, rollers for actuating the mail pieces, a gear-wheel suitably journaled, a lever suitably fulcrumed, a  
65 pitman connecting said lever and gear-wheel, and gearing connecting said gear-

wheel and one of the rollers aforesaid, substantially as shown and described.

7. In a stamp-affixing machine, rollers for actuating the mail pieces, a gear-wheel suitably journaled, a lever suitably fulcrumed,  
70 a pitman connecting said lever and gear-wheel, a shaft suitably journaled, a pinion secured to the shaft and meshing with the gear-wheel, and beveled gearing connecting said shaft and one of the rollers aforesaid,  
75 substantially as shown and described.

8. In a stamp-affixing machine, a slotted standard, a table slidably mounted in one of the slots, a spring for holding the table in a raised position, a presser-block slidably  
80 mounted in the other slot in the standard, and a lever fulcrumed in the standard and engaging said presser-block, substantially as shown and described.

9. In a stamp-affixing machine, a slotted  
85 standard, a plate mounted in one of the slots in the standard, a table extending from said plate, a spring for holding said table and plate in a raised position, another plate slidably mounted in another slot in the standard  
90 and having a cam on its upper edge, a presser-block extending from the last-named plate and adapted to engage said table, a spring for holding the presser-block from engagement with the table, and a lever ful-  
95 crumed on said standard and having a cam-face to engage the cam-face on the plate aforesaid to depress the presser-block and the table, substantially as shown and de-  
100 scribed.

10. In a stamp-affixing machine, a stand-  
ard, a table slidably mounted on the stand-  
ard, a presser-block also slidably mounted on the standard and adapted to engage the table,  
105 a stamp-table secured to the standard and positioned to deliver stamps onto the slidably mounted table, a lever fulcrumed on the standard and engaging the presser-block, an arm secured to the lever, a rod pivotally se-  
110 cured to said arm, and prongs extending from said rod and engaging the stamp-table at times, substantially as shown and de-  
scribed.

11. In a stamp-affixing machine, a stand-  
ard, a table slidably mounted on the stand-  
ard, a presser-block also slidably mounted  
115 on the standard and positioned to engage the table when depressed, a stamp-table se-  
cured to the standard and positioned to de-  
120 liver stamps onto the slidably mounted table, a lever fulcrumed on the standard and en-  
gaging the presser-block, a clamp secured to the presser-block and engaging the stamp-  
table when the block is depressed, an arm  
125 secured to said lever, a rod pivotally se-  
cured to said arm, and prongs extending from said rod and engaging the stamp-table at times, substantially as shown and de-  
scribed.

12. In a stamp-affixing machine, a stand- 130



ard, a stamp-affixing mechanism mounted on said standard, a stamp-delivery table also mounted on the standard and positioned to deliver to said affixing mechanism, a lever 5 fulcrumed on the standard and operatively connected to said affixing mechanism, stamp-delivering mechanism mounted on the lever, a mail-piece delivery mechanism positioned adjacent to said standard, a moistening 10 mechanism mounted on the standard, and mechanism operatively connected to said lever to actuate the delivery and moistening mechanisms, substantially as shown and described.

15 13. In a stamp-affixing machine, a standard, a stamp-affixing mechanism mounted on said standard, a stamp-delivery table also mounted on the standard and positioned to deliver to said affixing mechanism, a lever 20 fulcrumed on the standard and operatively connected to said affixing mechanism, an arm secured to the lever, a rod pivotally secured to the arm, prongs secured to said rod to engage said stamp-delivery table at times, 25 rollers journaled adjacent to said affixing mechanism and positioned to deliver thereto, a pan mounted between the rollers and affixing mechanism containing a moistening agent, a moistening roller mounted in said pan, a gear-wheel suitably journaled, and 30 operatively connected with said lever, mechanism operated by said gear-wheel to actuate the moistening roll, and gearing connecting the gear-wheel and the delivery rollers, substantially as shown and described. 35

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH W. McCANN.

Witnesses:  
E. B. SHAVER.  
JAMES K. POLK.