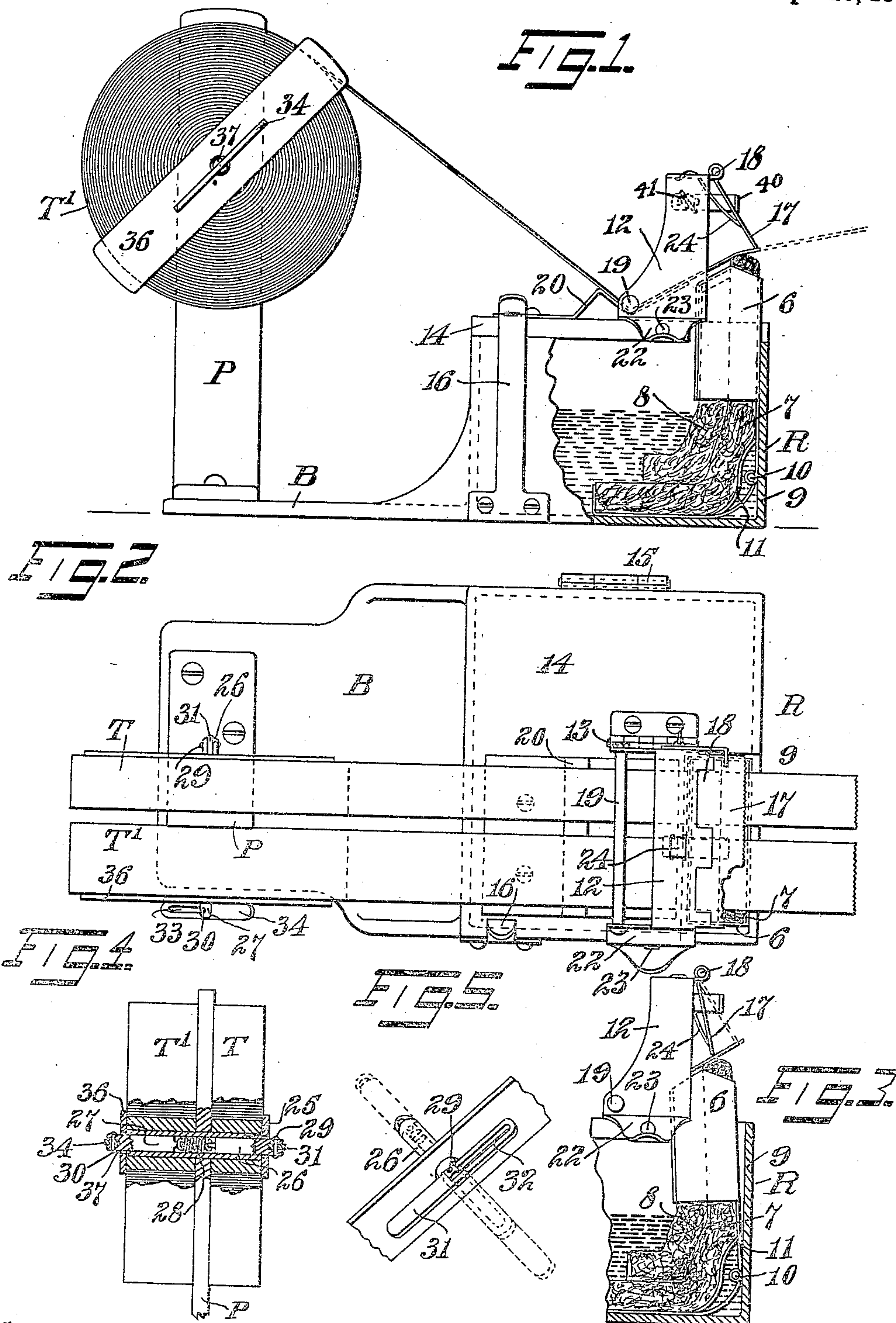


A. N. SOUTHWICK.  
MOISTENING MACHINE.  
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 15, 1909.

955,708.

Patented Apr. 19, 1910.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT N. SOUTHWICK, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

MOISTENING-MACHINE.

955,708.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 19, 1910.

Application filed June 15, 1909. Serial No. 502,228.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALBERT N. SOUTHWICK, a citizen of the United States, residing in New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Moistening-Machines, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to moistening devices especially to the form used for moistening a strip of gummed tape as it is pulled off of a roll and at the same time the tape can be severed in desired lengths.

The object of the invention is to provide an improved device whereby an absorbent member will be automatically moistened at each operation by engaging the end of the tape to draw it off the roll and sever the end.

In the accompanying drawings representing one embodiment of my invention Figure 1 is a side elevation, with one side of the receptacle broken to show the interior. Fig. 2 shows the same in plan. Fig. 3 is a partial view similar to Fig. 1 showing the parts in another position. Fig. 4 is a section through the holder for the rolls of tape and Fig. 5 is a detail of the securing means for the rolls.

The invention is shown as comprising a receptacle denoted generally by R, having the base B, extended, to which is secured an upright P, for supporting a roll of gummed tape T. At one end of the receptacle is arranged a frame or holder 6, shown as rectangular, for receiving one end of an absorbent member 7 preferably of felt or the like material. Instead of one thick member, two members 7 and 8 are shown. The holder 6 projects above the side 9 of the receptacle and is suitably secured to the receptacle by a hinge to swing inward, as indicated in Fig. 3. It is shown hinged at 10 near the bottom of the receptacle and provided with a spring 11 tending to retain it in the upright position shown in Fig. 1. The upper end of the absorbent member 7 is shown as projecting slightly above the holder 6, and the lower end extends down to the bottom of the receptacle, and then is bent to extend along the bottom; and the lower end of the other absorbent member 8 is bent in a similar manner. The receptacle is about half filled with water whereby the lower ends of the absorbent material are always wet. The upper ends will become moistened also by

the natural capillary attraction of the felt, but the feed of the water to the felt is greatly assisted by swinging the holder 6 that will serve to compress the felt, and when it expands it will absorb or suck up the water, and this is done by swinging the frame inwardly as shown in Fig. 2.

The tape T supported on the arm is guided to move across the top of the absorbent piece in the holder 6. This is preferably done by providing a frame 12, hinged at 13 on the lid member 14, of the receptacle. The lid is hinged at 15 to the receptacle, and is shown as secured by a spring arm 16 on the opposite side having its upper end bent inward. The frame 12 at its upper part has a blade or cutter 17 hinged thereto at 18, the blade having preferably sharp teeth on its lower end. The blade is hinged directly above the projecting end of the absorbent member in the holder, so that the tape can be drawn between the lower end of the blade and the felt, to be moistened on its lower gummed face by the felt, before it is severed. The tape from the roll passes under a guide pin or bar 19 carried by the frame 12. It is pressed against this guide by a spring plate 20 that is secured to the lid 14. By this means the tape can be placed in position by swinging the frame 12 upward on the hinge 13, to place the tape underneath the bar and lay it across the felt. Then the frame is swung downward and the tape will be pressed against the bar by the spring plate 20. It will be observed that these members are carried by the swinging lid 14, except the resilient member, so that when the lid is swung upward they will all be carried with it, exposing the absorbent member in the receptacle, whereby, the latter can be readily renewed, or receive other attention, and which will facilitate the filling of the receptacle. The frame 12 is secured in position by having a spring end 22 containing an aperture that engages a pin 23 on the lid 14.

The blade 17 engages a spring 24 carried by the frame 12 that normally holds it a short distance away from the felt piece 7, as indicated in Fig. 1. A bent arm 40 has a slotted end through which passes a screw 41 turning in the upright 12 by which the bent arm is adjusted to limit the swing of the blade 17.

In the operation of the device, the tape after being severed will normally lie with



its extremity engaging the end of the blade as shown in Fig. 1. By pressing inwardly on the frame 6 carrying the absorbent material, and at the same time pressing inwardly on the blade, the tape that is held between the spring 20 and the guide pin 19, will thereby be caused to project a short distance beyond the blade and the felt. These two members can readily be swung in this manner by pressing with the thumb and first finger, by which means the projecting end of the tape can be grasped and pulled forward. This will cause the lower gummed face of the tape to wipe against the end of the felt and thereby be moistened. Obviously, as soon as sufficient tape is drawn out as required, the tape can be given an upward movement to cause it to be severed by the edge of the blade 17. As soon as the thumb and finger start to pull the tape, the felt and blade are released and will return to their normal position. This swinging of the holder 6 for the felt will each time cause water to be sucked up into the felt and keep it constantly in a moist condition. As each piece of tape is cut by the blade, the severed end of the tape will lie against the lower end of the blade and the said inward swinging movement of the blade and the holder 6 will permit the end of the tape to be engaged and drawn outward.

The upright P is shown as carrying a tube 25, secured in an aperture therein, in which tube are two plungers 26 and 27, having their inner ends connected by a coil spring 28. The outer end of these plungers are slotted and carry cross pins 29 and 30. On one end is a bar 31 having a slot 32, in which engages the pin 29, whereby the bar is secured to the plunger. At the other end is a bar 34 having a slot 33 in which rides the pin 30 by which means the bar slides in the slot in the plunger 27. By drawing the bar endwise until the end of the slotted portion engages the pin, it can be extended in alinement with the plunger and the roll of tape is then slipped on the tube. Then a retaining plate 36 having an opening 37 is passed over the slotted bar, and the latter is pulled outwardly until it can be turned transversely to the plunger, which is permitted by the coil spring, and the bar is slid until its middle portion is engaged by the plunger, when the spring will draw the bar to press the plate 36 against the roll T and retain it in position. This operation is the same on the other side where a roll of tape T' can be placed of greater width than the roll T. The moistening and severing parts are made wide enough to admit these two rolls as shown.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. The combination with a receptacle, of a holder located at one end of the receptacle

and projecting beyond the top thereof, the holder having a hinge connection with the receptacle near the bottom, and an absorbent member in the holder having one end projecting up beyond the holder and the other end extending down to and along the bottom of the receptacle whereby the absorbent member is bent at its intermediate portion upon swinging of the holder.

2. The combination with a receptacle, of a holder located at one end of the receptacle and projecting beyond the top thereof, the holder having a hinge connection with the receptacle near the bottom, and an absorbent member in the holder having one end projecting up beyond the holder and the other end extending down to and along the bottom of the receptacle whereby the absorbent member is bent at its intermediate portion upon swinging of the holder, and a cutting blade movably supported above the upper end of the absorbent member in the holder whereby the blade and absorbent member are brought into engagement upon the swinging of both the holder and the blade members.

3. The combination with a receptacle, of a holder located at one end of the receptacle and projecting beyond the top and having a hinge connection with the said end near the bottom of the receptacle, a spring tending to press the holder against the end of the receptacle, and an absorbent member in the holder having one end projecting up beyond the same with the other end extending down to the bottom of the receptacle and along the bottom of the receptacle.

4. The combination with a receptacle, of a holder hinged adjacent one end of the receptacle and extending beyond the same at the top, an absorbent member in the holder having one end projecting above the same with the other end extending down into the receptacle and organized to be compressed by the swinging of the holder, a cutting blade pivoted above the upper end of the absorbent member arranged to swing into engagement with the end thereof, a frame to which the blade is pivoted, a tape guide carried by the frame, the frame being hinged to the receptacle to swing open for inserting the tape, and locking means for securing the frame in position for operation of the blade.

5. The combination with a receptacle, of a holder hinged adjacent one end of the receptacle and extending beyond the same at the top, an absorbent member in the holder having one end projecting above the same with the other end extending down into the receptacle and organized to be compressed by the swinging of the holder, a blade pivoted above the upper end of the absorbent member arranged to swing into engagement with the end thereof, a



frame to which the blade is pivoted, a tape guide carried by the frame, the frame being hinged to the receptacle to swing open for inserting the tape, locking means for securing the frame in position for operation of the blade, and a spring member arranged to press the tape against the guide.

6. The combination of a receptacle, an absorbent member carried by the receptacle and projecting upward therefrom, a cover hinged on the receptacle at one side, securing means for the cover at the other side, a hinged blade supported from the cover to swing into engagement with the absorbent member, and a guide member for tape also connected with the cover.

7. The combination of a receptacle, an absorbent member carried by the receptacle and projecting upward therefrom, a cover hinged on the receptacle at one side, securing means for the cover at the other side, a hinged blade member supported from the cover to swing into engagement with the absorbent member, a guide member for tape also connected with the cover, and a reel connected with the receptacle for supporting tape.

8. The combination of a receptacle, an absorbent member in the receptacle projecting upward beyond the same, a swinging frame in the receptacle for engaging the upper end of the absorbent member, a lid hinged to the receptacle, securing means for the frame, and a blade hinged to the frame to swing into engagement with the upper end of the absorbent member.

9. The combination of a receptacle, an absorbent member in the receptacle projecting upward beyond the same, a swinging frame in the receptacle for engaging the upper end of the absorbent member, a lid hinged to the receptacle, securing means for the lid, a frame hinged on the lid, securing means for the frame, a blade hinged to the frame to swing into engagement with the upper end of the absorbent member, a guide for tape carried by the frame, and a spring on the lid arranged to press the tape against the guide.

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