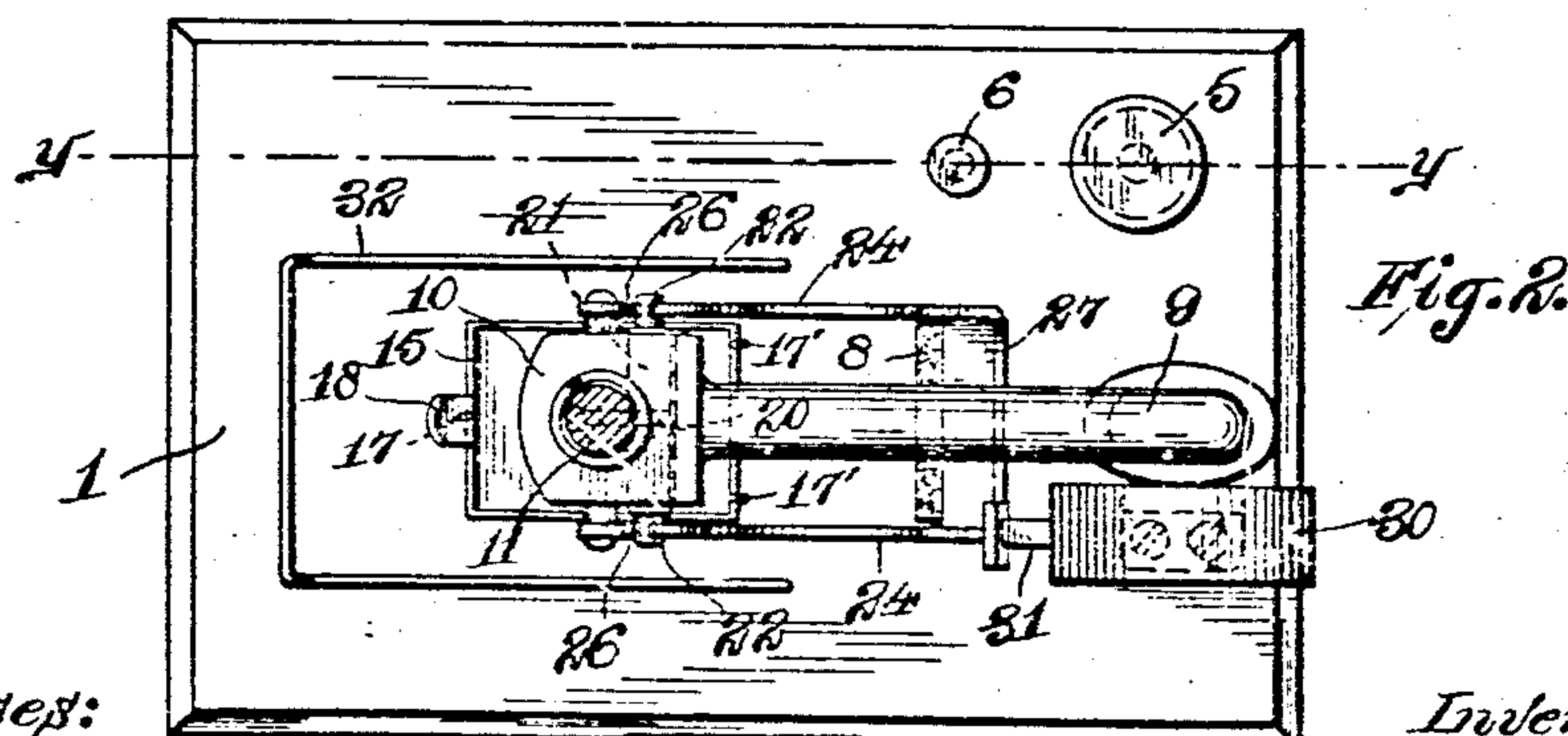
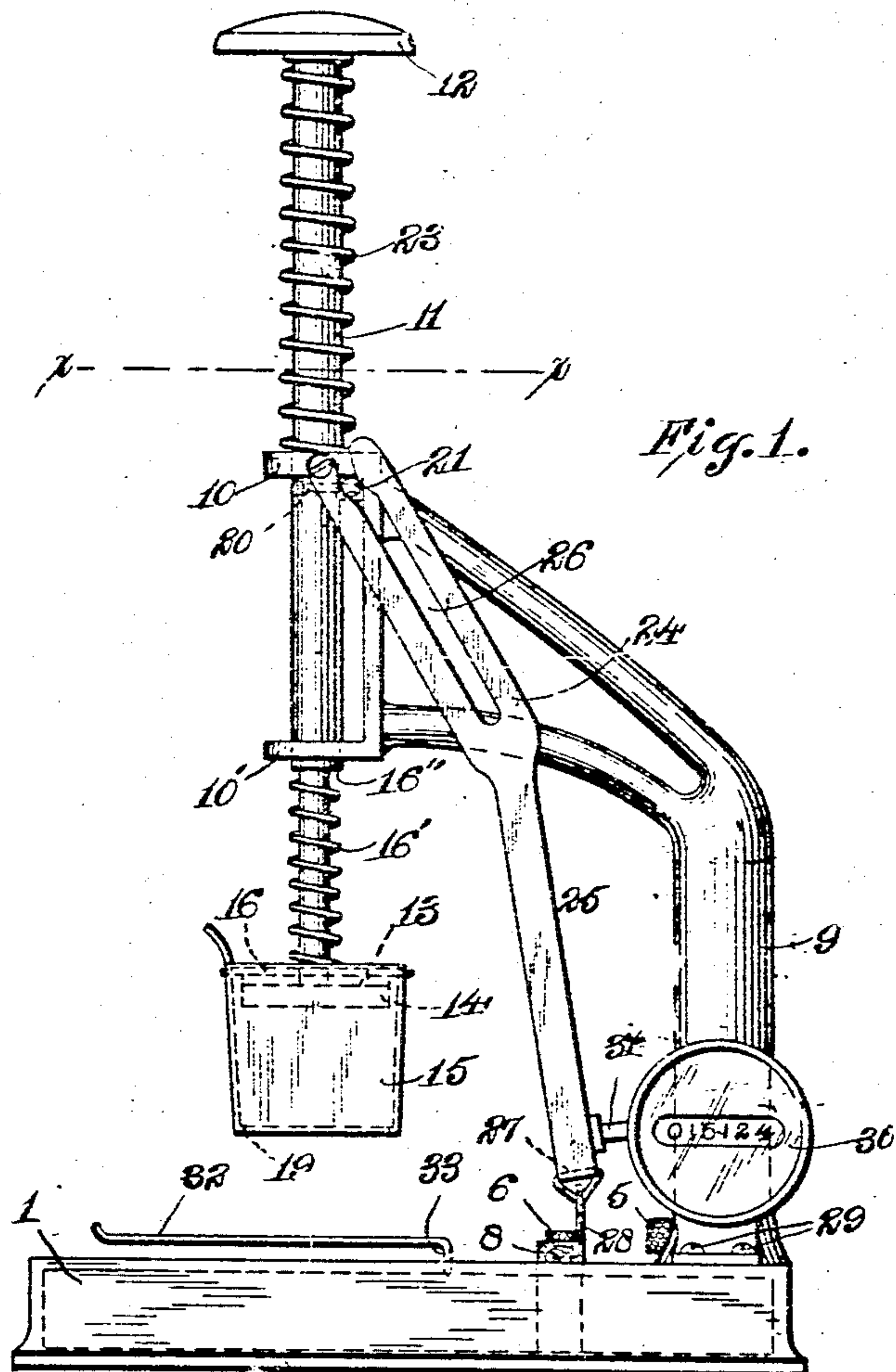


R. ABRAM.
STAMP AFFIXING MACHINE.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 22, 1909

965,497.

Patented July 26, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses:
A. A. Olson
B. G. Richards

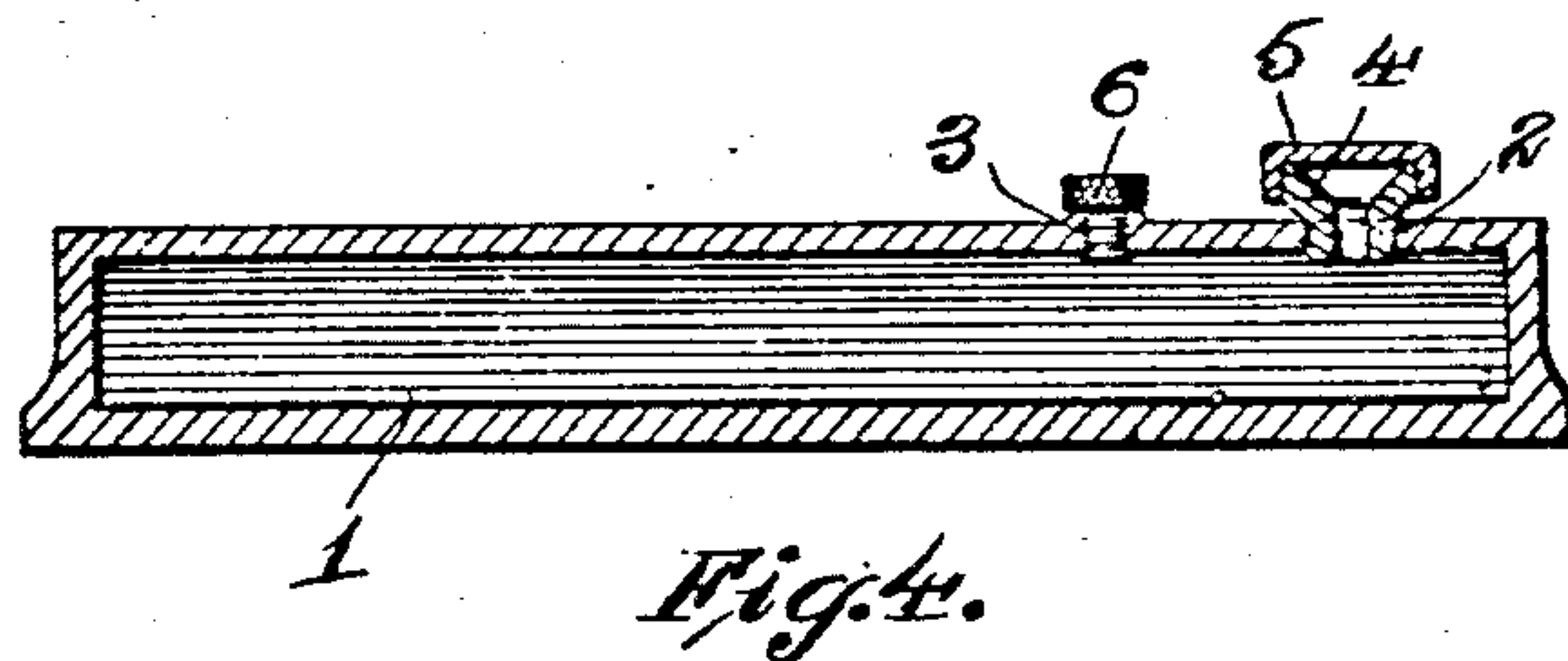
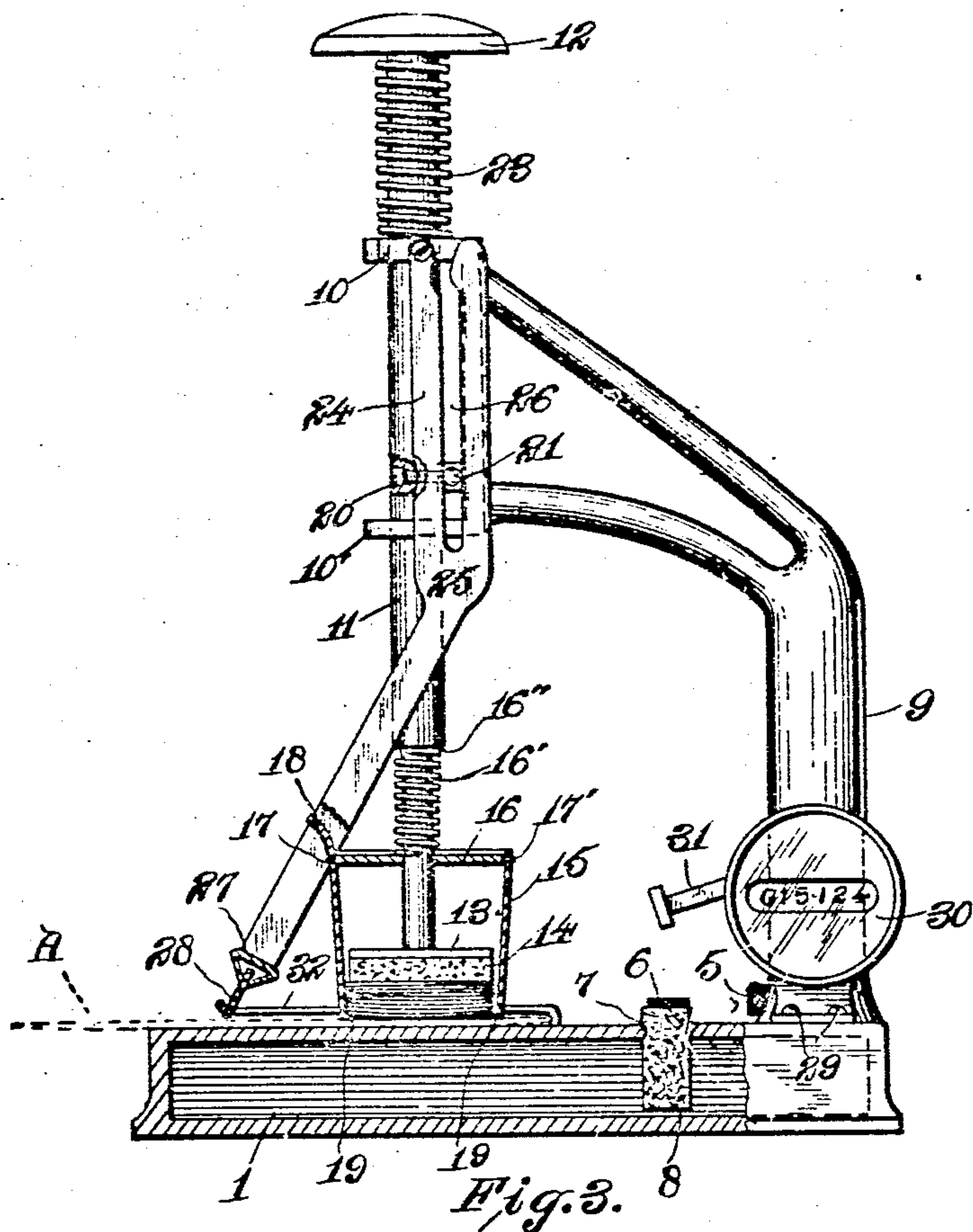
Inventor:
Richard Abram
by Joshua R. Stone
his Attorney.

R. ABRAM.
STAMP AFFIXING MACHINE.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 22, 1909.

965,497.

Patented July 26, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses:
A. Q. Olson
B. G. Richards

Inventor:
Richard Abram
by Joshua N. Lane
his Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD ABRAM, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

STAMP-AFFIXING MACHINE.

965,497.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 26, 1910.

Application filed June 22, 1909. Serial No. 503,725.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD ABRAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stamp-Affixing Machines, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in stamp affixing machines, that is to machines designed to effect the mechanical affixing of postage stamps to envelopes or the like.

The object of my invention is to provide a machine of the character mentioned the employment of which will effect the expeditious and ready affixing of stamps.

A further object is to provide a device as mentioned which will be of the highest possible efficiency and which will be strong, durable, and comparatively simple and inexpensive of construction.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

With these objects in view my invention consists in improvements in a stamp affixing machine characterized as above mentioned and in certain details of construction and arrangement of parts all as will be hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

My invention will be more readily understood by reference to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, and in which,

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my device in its preferred form showing the presser rod at the upper extremity of its movement, Fig. 2 is a transverse section thereof taken on the line $x-x$ of Fig. 1, Fig. 3 is an elevation similar to that of Fig. 1, the presser arm being shown at its lower extremity of movement, portions of the device being broken away and portions being shown in section to better illustrate its construction, and Fig. 4 is a vertical longitudinal section of the reservoir-forming base member of the device taken on the line $y-y$ of Fig. 2.

Referring now to the drawings 1 indicates the preferably rectangular reservoir and base of my device in the upper wall of which are provided, preferably close to one corner thereof, openings 2 and 3; the former being provided to serve in the capacity of a liquid admission passage, and the latter as an exhaust passage for air from the reservoir during the filling of the latter with liquid. Threaded in the opening 2 is a funnel 4 which serves an obvious purpose and closing

the latter is a removable cap 5 preferably in threaded connection therewith. A headed plug 6 threaded in the opening 3 normally closes the latter. Extending transversely in the upper wall of the reservoir is also a larger, preferably rectangular opening 7 supported in and extending through which is a wick 8 of any suitable absorbent material such as felt or the like, said wick extending to the bottom of the interior of the reservoir and projecting slightly above the upper surface of the latter, as clearly shown in Fig. 3.

Formed upon and upwardly projecting from the base 1 is an arm 9 in the horizontally disposed vertically aligning lugs 10—10' formed at the upper end portion of which is slidably mounted, a presser rod 11 provided at its upper extremity with a preferably convex disk or hand piece 12. Provided at the lower extremity of the rod 11 is a preferably rectangular plate 13 secured to the under side of which is a preferably soft rubber cushion 14. Slidably carried upon the lower end portion of said rod is a preferably slightly tapering substantially rectangular stamp container or carrier 15 the cover or top 16 of which is normally held in engagement with the plate 13 by a helical compression spring 16' interposed between the upper surface of said top 16 and a shoulder 16'' formed upon said rod. Said container is preferably of dimensions such as to adapt the same to contain from 200 to 250 postage stamps, it being understood, however, that I do not wish to limit myself to such capacity thereof but may form the same of any dimensions desired. The top 16 of said container in order to effect access to the latter in supplying stamps thereto is detachably connected, such connection being effected by means of lugs or pins 17—17' projecting from the front and rear edges respectively of said cover and engaging perforations provided for the reception thereof in the end walls of the container adjacent the upper edge thereof. Upon desiring to detach the body of the container, the spring projection 18 thereof needs only to be sprung outwardly sufficiently to disengage the lug 17 engaged thereby, whereupon the former by a slight rearward movement may be disengaged from the lugs 17' with the desired result. The bottom of said container is open except that a narrow inwardly projecting

flange or simply a plurality of inwardly extending fingers 19 is provided for the support of the stamps therein.

Suitably secured, as by a screw 20 to the rearward side of the rod 11, intermediate the extremities thereof, is a bar 21 the end portions 22 of which are cylindrically formed. Said bar acts as a stop to limit the upward movement of the rod 11, the latter being normally held in a position in which said bar is resting in contact with the under surface of the lug 10, by a helical compression spring 23 interposed between the hand piece 12 and the upper side of said lug.

Having the upper extremities of its parallelly extending end portions 24 pivotally secured to the lateral edges of the lug 10, is a depending oscillatory substantially U-shaped arm 25 of a length such that when the same is oscillated, the lower extremity thereof will pass in close proximity to the upper surface of the base 1. Provided in the upper extremities of the arm end portions 24, are cam slots 26 which are engaged by the cylindrically formed end portions 22 of the bar 21. Said slots are of such form that, said bar 21, when the rod 11 is in its normal position, holds the arm 24 in a rearwardly inclined position, as shown in Fig. 1, and, that upon depression of the rod 11, said bar by traveling in said slots, will cause the forward rocking of said arm, to a position as shown in Fig. 2, the same being adapted, upon the return movement of said rod to normal position, to cause the return of said arm to its initial position. Further, said slots are of such shape that said arm, upon the lowering of the bar 21, will be rocked forwardly quickly enough to cause the lower cross bar 27 thereof to pass under the lower extremity of the descending stamp container 15 which it is seen is actuated simultaneously with said arm.

Slidably secured to and depending from the cross bar 27 of the arm 25 is a strip 28 of absorbent material, preferably similar to that forming the wick 8. The arm 25 is so adjusted that, when in normal or rearwardly inclined position, the strip 28 will rest in engagement with the wick 8 through the medium of which it is clear moisture will be conveyed to it from the reservoir below.

Suitably secured, as by screws 29, to base 1 is a register 30 of any ordinary or preferred design, the same being so arranged that the actuating stem 31 thereof will be engaged and depressed to actuation by the arm 25 upon the returning oscillation thereof. With such provision it is clear that the number of oscillations of the latter, and hence the number of stamps fixed by the device will be registered upon the register, the advantage of such provision being obvious.

The operation of the device is as follows:

An envelop or other article to which the

stamp is to be affixed is placed upon the base 1 with the corner thereof upon which the stamp is desired to be placed, positioned directly below the stamp container. To facilitate such positioning, a wire member 32 is provided the extremities 33 of which are suitably secured to the base 1, the body thereof projecting forwardly parallel to the upper surface of said base in close proximity therewith, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. Now, upon depressing the presser rod 11, the arm 25 will be rocked forwardly, the moist strip 26 being in such event, drawn over the upper surface of the envelop causing the moistening of the same. The stamp container is now brought to contact said upper surface of the envelop, the stamps contained therein, which are arranged with their gummed sides facing downwardly, being depressed by said rod, as clearly shown in Fig. 3, causing the lowermost thereof to be forced into engagement with moistened surface of the envelop; the stamp because of such moisture fixedly adhering thereto and being drawn from the container. Hence it is clear that with each depression of the rod 11 a stamp will be removed from the container and affixed to the envelop arranged below the same, the number of stamps affixed being registered upon the device 30.

While I have shown what I deem to be the preferable form of my stamp affixing machine I do not wish to be limited thereto as there might be many changes made in the details of construction and the arrangement of parts without departing from the spirit of my invention comprehended within the scope of the appended claims. And although I have designed my device with special reference to the affixing of postage stamps I may use the same to affix any other articles of a similar nature to which it is applicable.

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

1. In a device of the class described, a reservoir and an envelop rest in combination with a wick extending upwardly from said reservoir, a moistening device adapted to reciprocate from said wick to said envelop rest, a plunger for applying stamps to moistened envelops, means actuated by said plunger for reciprocating said moistening device, a register arranged adjacent said wick and means for operating said register actuated by the reciprocation of said moistening device, substantially as described.

2. In a device of the class described, an envelop rest and a reciprocating envelop moistener, in combination with a plunger for affixing stamps to the moistened envelops, means carried by said plunger for actuating said moistener, a register and an actuating arm on said register extending into the path

of said reciprocating moistener, substantially as described.

3. In a stamp affixing machine, a reservoir-forming base having a liquid admission opening and an air exhaust opening in its top wall, a funnel threaded into said liquid admission opening, a removable cap covering said funnel, a plug threaded into said air exhaust opening, an exteriorly projecting wick extending through said top wall of said base and depending into said reservoir, an upright upwardly projecting from said base carrying a vertically disposed presser rod, a stamp container slidably carried at the lower end portion of said rod, a depending arm pivoted to said upright, a cam and pin connection between said rod and

said arm whereby upon the reciprocation of said rod said arm will be simultaneously oscillated, means carried at the lower extremity of said arm normally resting in contact with said wick, said means being adapted to absorb moisture from said wick and deposit the same beneath said stamp container upon the oscillation of said arm, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

RICHARD ABRAM.

Witnesses:

HELEN F. LILLIS,
JOSHUA R. H. POTTS.