LE ROY B. HUDDLESTON.

MOISTENING ATTACHMENT FOR TYPE WRITER RIBBONS.

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1,298,045. Patented Mar. 25, 1919.

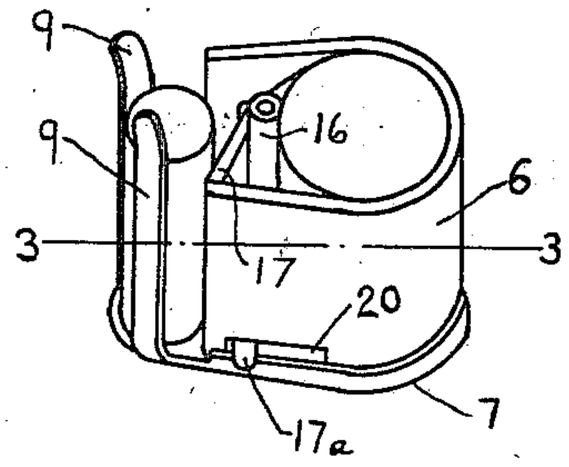

Fig. 1.

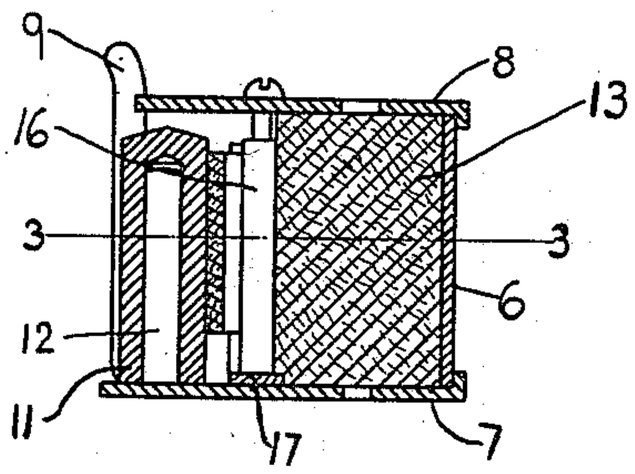

Fig. 2.

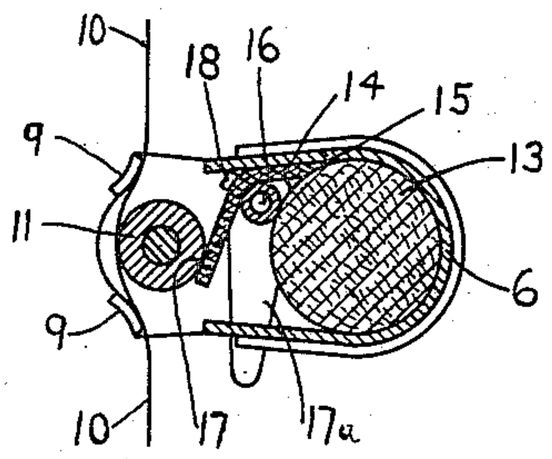

Fig. 3.

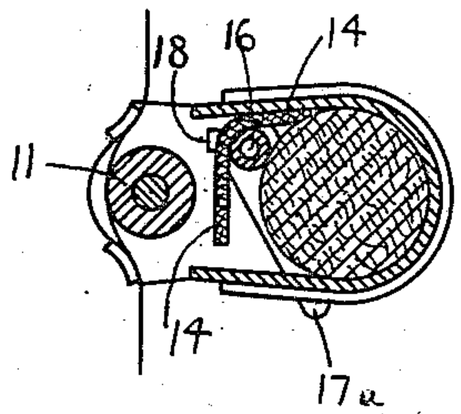

Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LE ROY B. HUDDLESTON, OF LAKEWOOD, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO THE RIBBON LIFE COMPANY, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, A CORPORATION OF OHIO.

MOISTENING ATTACHMENT FOR TYPE-WRITER RIBBONS.

1,298,045. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 25, 1919.

Application filed October 23, 1918. Serial No. 259,389.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LE ROY B. HUDDLESTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lakewood, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Moistening Attachments for Type-Writer Ribbons, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an attachment for typewriters designed to provide improved means for moistening or renewing the typewriter ribbon while it is in use. Devices for the same purpose have been proposed as for example in the patent to Phelan and MacAlpine No. 1,251,691. The present invention is an improved device for supplying the moistening fluid to the ribbon. Means are provided for throwing the device into or out of action when desired, means are also provided to prevent the binding and curling of the typewriter ribbon as it passes across the roller from which it receives its moistening substance, and to prevent the flooding of typewriter ribbon with oil. The device has certain other advantages of construction and operation as will more fully appear from the following description.

In the accompanying drawings—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device with the cover removed.

Fig. 2 is a vertical section.

Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Figs. 1 and 2.

Fig. 4 is a similar section with the wick in different position.

Referring specifically to the drawings, I provide a casing consisting of a curved shell 6, a bottom 7 and a cover 8. These parts may be made of sheet metal or the like, and the bottom is provided at its front end with a pair of upwardly extending fingers 9 which form guides for the ribbon 10 which is threaded through behind said fingers and partly around the roller 11 which turns on a pivot 12 on the bottom plate. Referring again to the fingers 9 it will be noted that the inner faces of said fingers are curved thereby insuring a free movement of the ribbon 10 and eliminating all binding and curling of the ribbon as it is fed across the roller 11, another advantage of having the faces of the fingers 9 curved is that there are no sharp edges with which the ribbon comes in contact and consequently there is no danger of scraping lint or other substance from the ribbon and depositing the same into the device.

The roller 11 may be made of metal and acts to supply liquid to the face of the ribbon by contact therewith. 13 is a block or plug of felt or similar absorbent material which is saturated with the water or other liquid to be supplied to the ribbon. This plug fits within the rear part of the bottom of the casing. If for any reason an excess amount of liquid should be supplied to the block or plug 13, the same will be drained off at the lower end of the fingers 9 without saturating or flooding the ribbon 10.

14 is a wick of felt or similar material the inner end of which is confined, as indicated at 15, between the plug 13 and the side wall of the casing, and the outer end of which extends across the stud 17 to contact at 17 with the roller 11. The liquid will be conducted by capillary attraction from the porous plug 13 through the wick 14 to the roller 11, and the surface of the latter will thereby be moistened.

To throw the wick out of contact with the roller, I provide a small lever or finger piece 17^a which is pivoted on the stud 16 and has an upwardly projecting finger 18 which bears against the side of the wick 14 near the free or outer end thereof. The outer end of the lever 17^a works through a slot 20 in the wall of the casing, and by pushing this end inwardly or to the right in Fig. 3, the finger 18 presses against the free end of the wick 14 and swings the same out of contact with the roller 11, as shown in Fig. 4. By swinging the lever 17^a in the other direction the wick 14 springs back to its original contacting position, as shown in Fig. 3. The cover 8 is conveniently held on the casing by a screw tapped into the end of the stud 16.

As the ribbon is drawn through the device the moisture supplied to the roller 11 is applied to the face of the ribbon which is thereby moistened or renewed, but by operation of the finger lever 17^a as above described, the wick is thrown out of contact with the roller and the action is stopped. The device may be used on a typewriter or any other machine employing a ribbon and may be mounted in any suitable way on the machine to permit the ribbon to be passed through the same.

I claim:

1. A ribbon moistening attachment com-

prising a box, a roller therein over which the ribbon passes, means to supply moisture to the surface of the roller including a wick, and a device for moving the wick into or out of contact with the roller.

2. A ribbon moistening attachment comprising a box, a roller therein over which the ribbon passes, a wick provided with a fluid supply and normally resting in contact with the roller, and means engaging the wick to move the same out of contact with the roller.

3. A ribbon moistening attachment comprising a casing, a plug of porous material therein, a roller over which the ribbon passes, and a wick extending from the plug to contact with the roller, to conduct moisture from the former to the latter.

4. A ribbon moistening attachment comprising a casing, a plug of porous material therein, a roller over which the ribbon passes, a wick extending from the plug to contact with the roller, to conduct moisture from the former to the latter, and a finger lever engaging the wick and movable to swing the same out of contact with the roller.

5. A ribbon moistening attachment comprising a casing, a roller therein, means to supply moisture to the roller, and a pair of fixed curved guide fingers on the casing, projecting at opposite sides of the roller, the ribbon passing between said fingers and the roller and said fingers acting to scrape excess moisture from the ribbon.

In testimony whereof I do affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

LE ROY B. HUDDLESTON.

Witnesses:

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