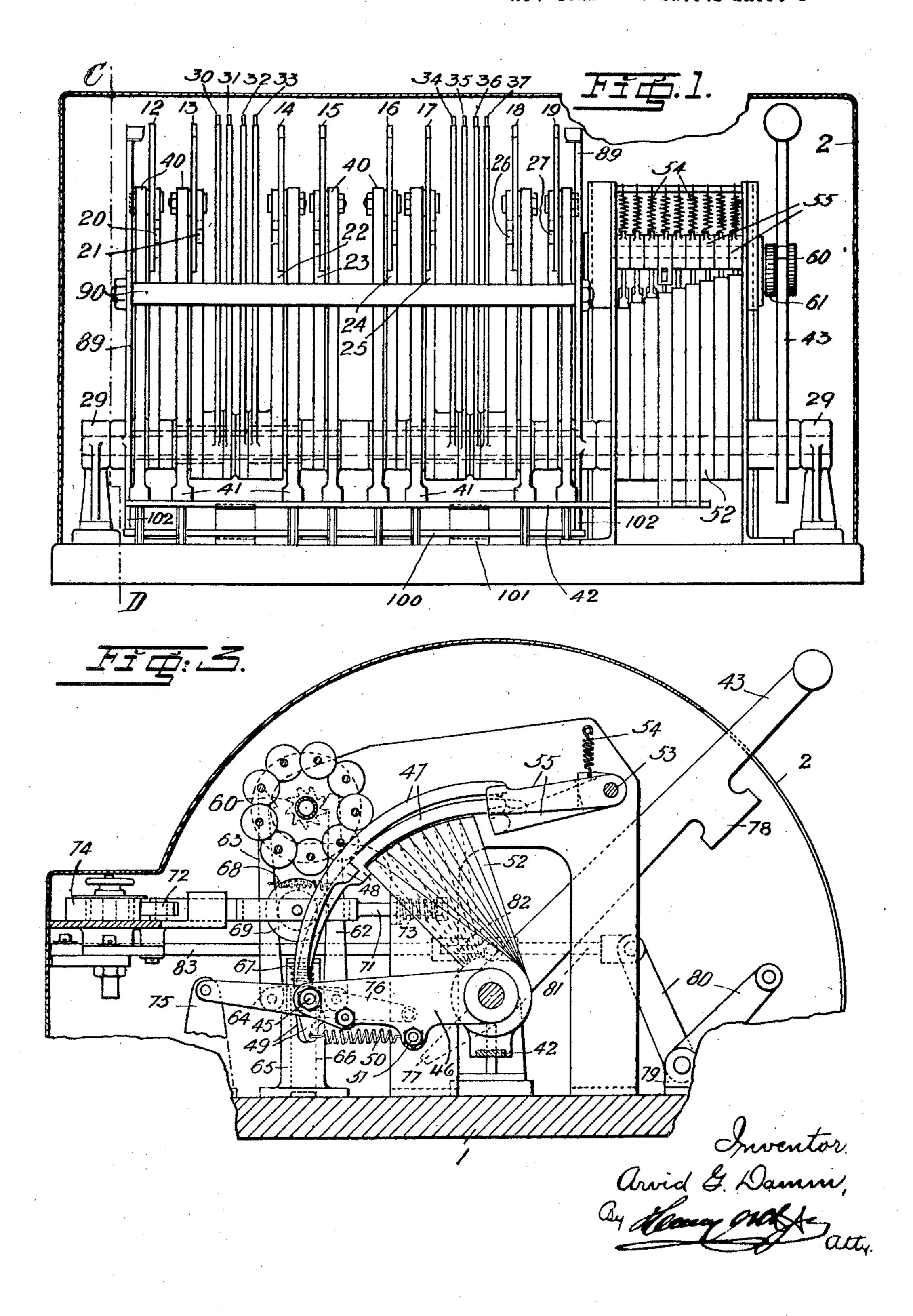
A. G. DAMM

APPARATUS FOR CIPHERING AND DECIPHERING CODE EXPRESSIONS

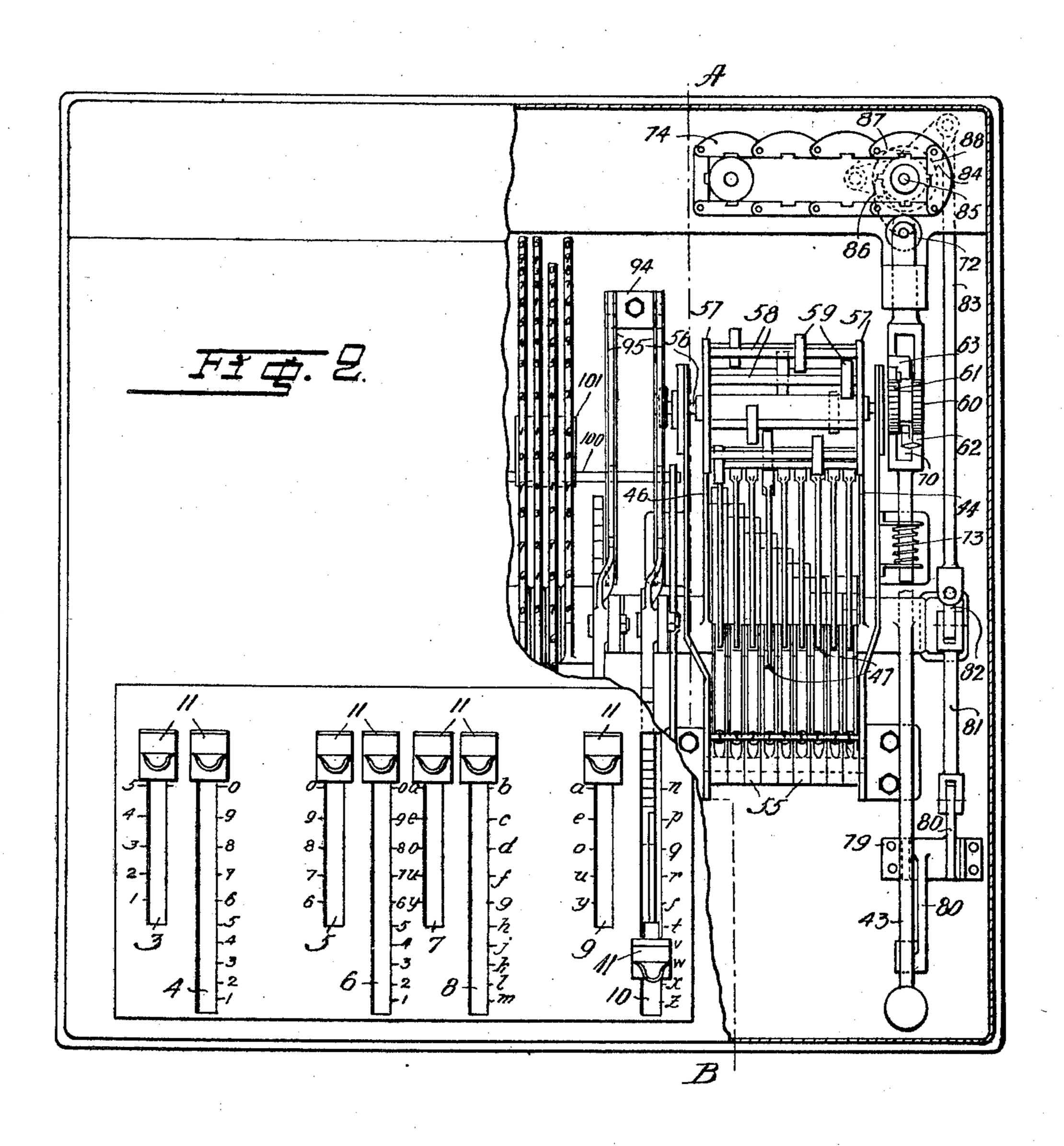
Filed March 25. 1922 3 Sheets-Sheet 1



A. G. DAMM

APPARATUS FOR CIPHERING AND DECIPHERING CODE EXPRESSIONS

Filed March 25. 1922 3 Sheets-Sheet 2

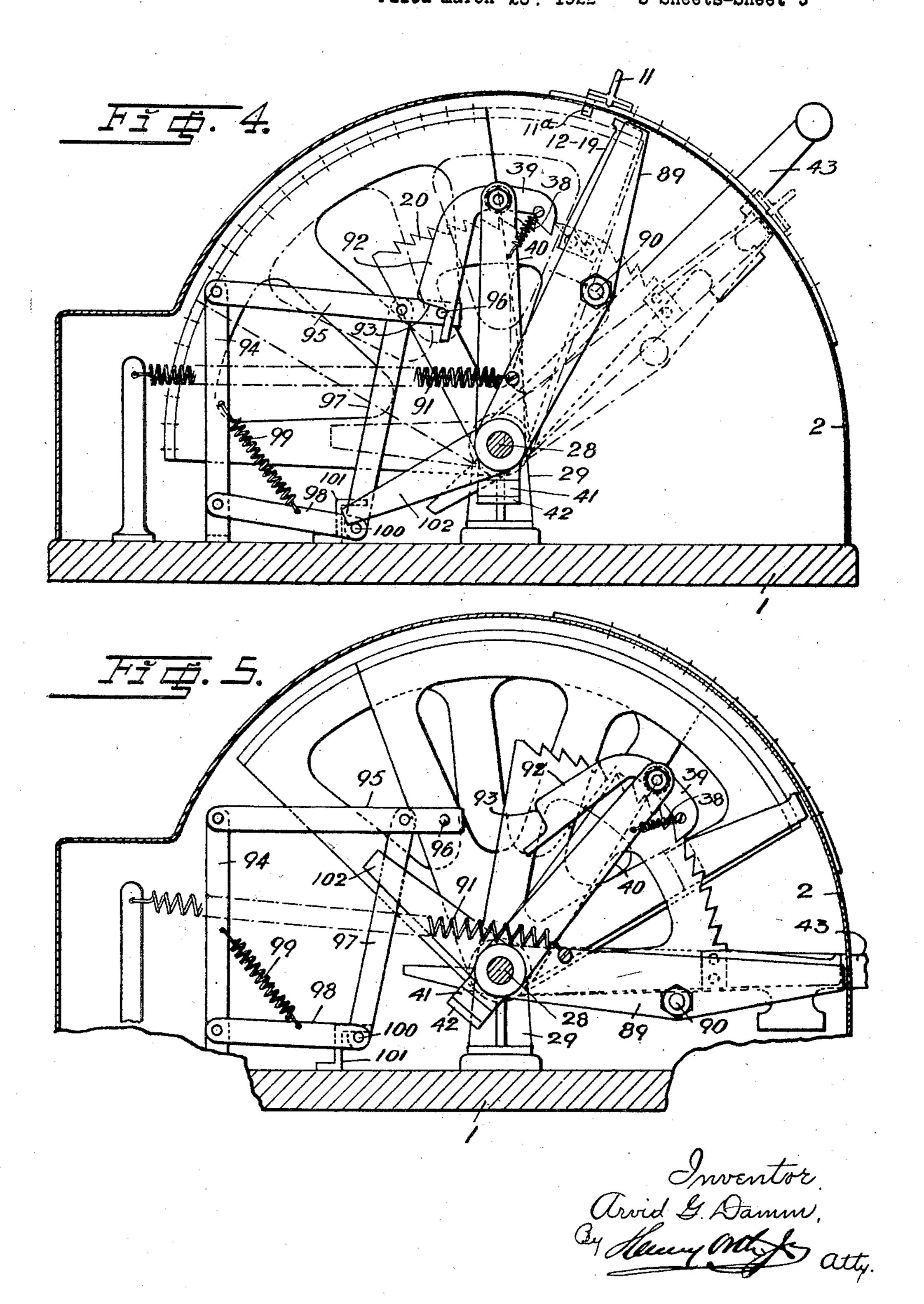


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A. G. DAMM

APPARATUS FOR CIPHERING AND DECIPHERING CODE EXPRESSIONS

Filed March 25, 1922 3 Sheets-Sheet 3



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARVID GERHARD DAMM, OF RONNINGE, SWEDEN.

APPARATUS FOR CIPHERING AND DECIPHERING CODE EXPRESSIONS

Application filed March 25, 1922. Serial No. 546,886.

To all whom it may concern:

a citizen of the Kingdom of Sweden, residing at Ronninge, Sweden, have invented new 5 and useful Improvements in Apparatus for Ciphering and Deciphering Code Expressions, of which the following is a specification.

In commercial telegraphic correspond-10 ence code books are extensively used, by means of which commercial denominations, embracing one or several words or even complete phrases, may be rendered by one single abbreviated group of signs, usually compris-15 ing 4-6 letters or figures. The object of the codes published is to reduce the cost of telegrams. As a means of safeguarding the secrecy of messages such codes are of no real practical value, being always available in the open market for the translation of such telegrams into plain language. Even the use of a private code, which is kept secret, always implies a considerable risk, as the code must soon become known to a num-25 ber of persons, and besides may be lost, stolen or copied, for instance photographically, this often not being known to the correspondents until a considerable number of telegrams have been despatched. The nu-30 merous simple methods of a subsequent ciphering of the code expressions, hitherto applied in order to avoid such risks, have rarely proved satisfactory, a real security having been obtained only by continuously changing the principle of ciphering, a procedure which at all events implies loss of time and frequent mistakes and errors.

According to the international telegraphic service regulations a group of 5 arbitrary figures or else a pronounceable group of 10 letters is taxed as a unit. Consequently a figure cipher telegram containing for instance 20 figures is taxed as 4 units of 5 letters each, while the same telegram, if translated into pronounceable groups of letters, will be taxed only as 2 units of 10 letters each, and the tariff expense will in the latter case be 50% of that in the former. The object of this invention is to effect such a translation by mechanical operations of a kind to admit of a simultaneous and unequivocal ciphering and deciphering impenetrable to parties not concerned and of its immediate recording in type-print. This result, hitherto not obtainable by any known mechanical r, s, t, v, w, x, z.

o all whom it may concern: ciphering device, is made possible by the use Be it known that I, Arvid Gerhard Damm, of a special kind of letter groups comprising two signs, of which one is always a vowel and the other always a consonant, and by a special arrangement of the type-carrying 60 members of the apparatus relatively to its members adjustable in accordance with the signs to be translated.

> This relation is schematically shown by the following table:

Arrangement of types (Type wheels) Enciphering. $\rightarrow 0 \rightarrow 0$ 75 Scale of adjustment (Key board)

According to the above two kinds of letter groups are used, consisting eithor of a vowel followed by a consonant or of a consonant followed by a vowel, in which any letter used 85 must unequivocally correspond to one of the ten figures. As the use of ten vowels is not permitted in international telegraph correspondence, certain vowels would have to correspond to two figures, and conse- 90 quently unequivocal deciphering would be impossible, if no possibility existed in each instance to determine the casual meaning of a vowel generally corresponding to two figures.

Such a possibility does, however, exist, twenty consonants telegraphically permitted being available as equivalents, which renders it possible always to translate a figure by two different consonants alternatively, so 100 that one of these consonants is used when the vowel adjoined has one of its figure meanings, and the other consonant, when the vowel in question has its other meaning.

In the above table the letter groups used 105 are of the type ab, in which a represents any one of five admissible vowels a, e, o, u, y and b any one of the twenty admissible consonants b, c, d, f, g, h, j, k, l, m, n, p, q,

the ciphering is represented in the table by sition, and for ek in columns C, which rethe two double-figure columns A and B, and cords 28 in C₁. 5 figure is supposed to be effected by the dis-double columns A, B has to be used for 70

10 wheels, are represented in the table by the columns. two double-letter columns A₁ and B₁, which If the ciphering operation is effected by upward as the indicator is moved down-left column of double columns A and B, let-15 wards relatively to the corresponding ter-groups of the type ba instead of ab will 80 column of the scale of adjustment, so that be produced. 20 resulting. As shown by the table, the vowel evident that their initial positions may be 85 25 vowel columns correspond to figure columns ent individual operation or as a member of 90 30 taining the ten figures and corresponding ciphering operations by the influence of 95 to the two consonant columns.

35 wards, the left one by three steps and the 1,233,035. right one by seven steps, which according In the accompanying drawings I have 73.

Supposing a couple of digits 28 is to be bers in different positions. In Figs. 4 and 110 adjustment will have to be performed with- the figures clearer. movements of columns A, and in the cipher 50 ek.

Thus in both these instances the first figure is rendered by letter e with a different signification in each instance.

55 that the deciphering will give an unequivo- in accordance with the columns A, B, C and 120 clearly shown by columns C, D and C, D₁ 60 respectively.

follows:

65 effects a corresponding movement of columns fixed to the hub of each ratchet sector. These 130

The scale of adjustment (key-board) for D₁ bringing the figures 73 into recording po-

the adjustment for ciphering of a certain Whether the one or the other of the placement of the indicators represented by ciphering or the one or the other C, D for arrows to the left of each column. deciphering, will be obvious on account of The type-carrying members for recording the fact, that a group of figures or of letters the cipher, consisting in reality of type- can be found only within one of those double

are supposed to be movable in such a way, ciphering the first figure according to the that a letter column is moved as many steps right and the second figure according to the

the indicators represented by arrows to the If the series of signs within A₁ B₁ C₁ and left of each letter column A₁, B₁ are brought D₁ are cyclically arranged, for instance as into a position to point out the cipher sign types on the circumference of wheels, it is columns A, and B, contain the same five arbitrarily varied relatively to each other vowels, repeated twice in the same order, and to the scale of adjustment. Consewhile each of the consonant columns con-quently, as every single operation of ciphertains ten different consonants. The two ing may be considered either as an independ-A and B, representing the type-carrying a continuous series of such operations, it is members, each of which contains five differ- also evident that, when continuously cipherent figures, repeated twice in each column ing, the relative initial positions can always in the same sequence as in the columns con- be arbitrarily varied between two individual some key-mechanism, for instance by relat-Supposing a couple of digits 73 is to be ing to a member, representing a series of ciphered, the indicators to the left of the figures and movable in two different direcdouble column B must be moved down-tions, according to the U.S. Patent No.

to the above supposition effects an upward shown one embodiment of my invention. movement of the left column B, by three Fig. 1 shows a front elevation of the appasteps, the indicator then pointing at letter ratus, the one side of the cover being re-40 e, and of the right column B, by seven steps, moved. Fig. 2 is a view from above with 105 the indicator then pointing at letter q, by part of the cover removed. Fig. 3 is a secwhich operation the letter group eq is ob-tion on line A—B in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a tained as an equivalent of the figure group section on line C-D in Fig. 1, and Fig. 5 the section last mentioned with some memciphered, the corresponding operations of 5 certain details are omitted in order to make

in columns A, resulting in corresponding In the drawings 1 indicates a bottom plate and 2 a cover formed with eight slots, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 (Fig. 2), in each of which 115 a slide 11 having a lug 11^a is movable. The sides of said slots are provided with uniformly divided scales, the divisions of which By means of the table it will be shown, are marked with figures or letters, arranged cal result. The reversed order of signs in the D of the table mentioned above. Each of scale of adjustment and on the typewheels said indicator slides actuates a lever 12, 13, relatively to the columns for ciphering is 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 respectively (Figs. 1, 4 and 5) by the lug 11^a on each slide, each lever being fixed to a ratchet sector 20, 21, 22, 125 The deciphering operations will be as 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 respectively. These sectors are swingably journalled on a shaft 28 As shown by the arrows the indicators mounted in bearings 29, another sector 30, are adjusted for eq in columns D, which 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37 respectively being

sectors are attached respectively one to each trary length is of the greatest importance as of the ratchet sectors, 30 to 13, 31 to 12, 33 to regards its resistance to analytic decoding by 22, 32 to 23, 34 to 17, 35 to 16, 37 to 18 and outsiders. As shown in the drawings the de-39 to 19, 33, 22 for instance being coupled vices for this purpose are as follows: together by a tube, journalled on another tube

On the hub of a driving lever 43 an arm 70 coupling together 32 and 23 and journalled 44 is fixed, connected by an axle 45 (Fig. 3) in its turn on the shaft 28. On the circum- to an arm 46 (Figs. 2 and 3), both members ference of the sectors 30-37, denominated 43 and 46 swinging on shaft 28. typesectors, types are arranged in accordance On the axle 45 nine arms 47 are swinging. 10 with the columns A₁, B₁, C₁ and D₁ of the The contour of these arms is circular and 75 table mentioned above, so that the type sector each is provided with a catch 48 and is ex-30 corresponds to the right and the type tended on the other side of axle 45 as an sector 31 to the left column A_1 , the type sec- arm 49, influenced by a spiral spring 50, attor 32 to the right and 33 to the left column tached to a rod 51, which connects the two 15 B₁, the type sector 34 to the right and 35 to arms 44 and 46. The catches 48 are adapted 80 the left column C, the type sector 36 to the to actuate a fan-shaped member 52, which

20 5), carried by the long arm of a lever 40, placed stepwise relatively to each other, 85 25 ing position the ratchets engage the first in such a position by the springs 50, that 90 30 stance to the seventh line of division of the scribed below is kept down in spite of the 95 35 to engage the seventh tooth of the ratchet fan-shaped member 52 at the end of its 100

40 in Fig. 4 reaches a position perpendicularly member referred to above consists in the 105 of said movement being determined by two down (compare Fig. 3). The rollers 59 115 imparting such a variable movement were with an arbitrary series of figures. not used, the pronounceable letter cipher ob- Supposing the key-member just described tained would become what is technically to be in such a position, that one of its roll- 120 termed "elementary," that is, a couple of ers actuates an arm 47 corresponding to that consecutive figures, for instance 35, would in- part of the fan-shaped member 52, which in variably be translated for instance by "up", Fig. 3 is shown farthest to the right and while an additional and variable movement which also is nearest to the guide arms 55 of the type sectors has the effect of render- and farthest away from the catches 48, the 125 ing the ciphering result variable, so that said turning downwards of the driving lever 43 couple of figures will alternatively be trans- will cause the arm 47 in question by its lated for instance by "up", "ab", "iq" and catch 48 to turn the member 52 an angle so forth. It is well known that the vari- corresponding to one division of the ratchet ability of a cipher during a period of arbi-sectors, the member 52 being at the end of 130

right and 37 to the left column D_1 . swings on the shaft 28 and consists of nine Each ratchet sector is operated by a pawl parts of the same shape and fixed together.

39, kept down by a spring 38 (Figs. 4 and The nine parts of member 52 are disswingable on the shaft 28. Below the shaft each step corresponding to the division of 28 the levers 40 are provided with short arms the ratchet sectors, respectively to the dis-41, on which a bar 42 is fixed, rigidly contance between the types of the type-sectors. necting all levers 40 to each other. In start- The curved arms 47 are, when in rest, kept tooth (farthest to the right in Figs. 4 and 5) when the driving lever 43 is turned down, of each ratchet sector. When one of the all catches 48 pass the fan-shaped member indicator slides 11, for instance the second 52 without actuating same, except one, one from the left in Fig. 2, is moved for in- which by the pressure of a key-member decorresponding scale, as indicated by dash action of its spring 50. The upper ends lines in Fig. 4, the corresponding lever 13 of the arms 47 are guided by slotted arms and ratchet sector 21 partake of this move- 55, swinging on an axle 53 and actuated by ment, through which the pawl 39 is brought springs 54, which also serve to arrest the sector, counting from the right in Figure 4. movement. This latter member 52 is rigid-The type sector joined to the ratchet sector ly connected to the above-mentioned bar 42, in question is hereby turned a corresponding which connects the shorter arms 41 of the angle, so that its seventh type from the right levers 40 carrying the ratchets 39. The keyabove the centre of the shaft 28, which posi-embodiment shown of two disks 57, both tion corresponds to that of a printing mech-fixed on an axle 56, the said discs 57 being anism of a known kind (not shown in the connected by nine rods 58 (Fig. 2) placed drawings), by means of which a print of the at the same radial distance from the axle type in question can be obtained on a paper 56 and at the same peripherical distance 110 band or the like. Before, however, said print-from one another. Each of these rods 58 ing mechanism is brought into action, a fur-carries an adjustable roller 59, which, in a ther movement must be imparted to said type certain position of the disks 57, serves to sector by means of its ratchet sector, the length keep one of the curved arms 47 pressed co-operating members, each representing an may be adjusted, relatively to each other arbitrary series of figures. If a device for and to the arms 47 influenced, in accordance

this movement arrested by the guiding arm 55 depressed by the arm 47 in question.

If the key-member occupies such a position, that one of its rollers 59 is keeping 5 down the second arm 47 from the right in Fig. 2, the member 52 will be turned an ver 80, journalled in bearing 79, its other angle corresponding to two divisions of the arm being pivoted to a bar 81, connected by 10 rollers 59 of the key-member, the ratchet 84 (Fig. 2), swinging on the axle 85 of a 75 driving lever 43, receive a turning move- the chain 74. have been adjusted.

wheel having nine teeth. Each of these 25 ratchet wheels 60, 61 can be engaged by a pawl 62, 63 respectively. These pawls are linked to a cross bar 64 placed on a sliding rod 66 perpendicularly movable in a stud 65 and pressed down by a spring 67. The 30 pawls are attracted towards each other by a spring 68, and between them a roller 69 is placed, said roller being disposed in a one end this rod 71 carries another roller 35 72, a spiral spring 73 pressing the rod and said roller 72 against the links of a chain 74. As described in the U.S. Patent No. 1,233,035 this chain is composed of flat links and segment-shaped ones arranged in 40 accordance with an arbitrary series of figures. When the roller 72 meets a flat link, the pawl 62 will engage the ratchet wheel 60, as shown in Fig. 3, whereas, when the roller 72 meets a segment link, the rod 71 45 is displaced to the right in Fig. 3, pawl 63 consequently engaging ratchet wheel 61. A knob on the sliding rod 66 enters into a groove in a lever 76. One end of said lever 76 turns on a journal in a support 75 50 and its other end is at the end of the downward movement of the driving lever 43 actuated by an arm 77 fixed thereto, this causing the sliding rod 66 to move upwards against the spring 67, so that either of the 55 pawls 62 or 63 momentarily engaging its ratchet wheel can engage a new tooth of that ratchet wheel. When the driving lever 43 is then turned back into its idle position, the key-member will, on account of 60 the downward action of spring 67 on the pawl-mechanism described, turn one step in one direction or the other, the direction depending upon the momentary position of

the chain 74.

sponding to the length of one link by each downward movement of the driving lever 43. At the end of each such movement a protruding part 78 of said lever 43 actuates one of the arms of a double-armed le- 70 ratchet sectors and so forth. Thus, de- a universal coupling 82 to a sliding rod 83, pending upon the occasional positions of the which is pivoted to a double-armed lever sectors may, by the turning down of the ratchet wheel 88 fixed to a prism 86 driving

ment corresponding to any number from Said double-armed lever 84 carries a pawl one to nine of the divisions of the ratchet 87 engaging the ratchet wheel 88. When 15 sectors, said movement of the driving le- the arm to the right in Fig. 3 of lever 80 80 ver 43 taking place after the indicators 11 is pressed down by the portion 78 of the driving lever 43 and the rod 83 is pushed In the embodiment shown the occasional to the right in Fig. 3, which movement corposition of the key-member is determined responds to an upward movement in Fig. 2. 20 by the following arrangement (Figs. 2 and the pawl 87 will turn the ratchet wheel 88 85 3). On the axle 56 of the key-member two such an angle that the chain 74 moves the ratchet-wheels 60, 61 are fixed with their length of one link. When the driving lever teeth pointing in opposite directions, each 43 is turned upwards, a spring (not shown on the drawings) moves the sliding bar 83 so far downwards in Fig. 2 that the pawl 87 90 engages the next tooth of the ratchet wheel 88.

In order to return the ratchet- and typesectors into their idle positions the following device is provided. On the shaft 28 are 95 journalled two arms 89 (Figs. 1 and 5), rigidly connected to each other by a rod 90, slot 70 (Fig. 2) in a sliding rod 71. At which by a spring 91, is pressed against the ratchet sectors. When the driving lever 43 is turned upwards from the position shown 100 in Fig. 5, the arms 44 and 46 (Figs. 2 and 3) turn to the left in Fig. 3, in which movement the bent arms 47 partake, one of these having, as described above, at an earlier moment turned the fan-shaped member 52 to 105 the right in Fig. 3. This member 52, connected by the bar 42 to the double-armed levers 41, 40, which carry the pawls 39, will then be turned to the left in Fig. 3 by the spring 91, which forces all ratchet- and 110 type-sectors back to their starting position. Each of the pawls 39 is provided with an arm 92 (Fig. 4), having at its lower end a recess 93, one side of which is slightly rounded. Said arm 92 enters between two 115 parallel arms 95, rigidly connected to each other and pivotally connected to a fixed support 94, a pin 96 or the like being fixed in said arms.

By a link 97 the arms 95 are connected to 120 an arm 98 pivotally connected to the support 94 and actuated by a spring 99 tending to lift the arm 98. All arms 98 are connected together by a rod 100, which also serves to connect the links 97 and the arms 125 98 and which, when lifted by the action of the spring 99, presses against a stop 101 secured to the base plate 1.

Before those ratchet sectors, the type-sec-This chain is moved a distance corre- tors of which have occasionally been adjust- 130

ed for enciphering or deciphering, come three and four steps, respectively. As the of their pawls 39 will engage the correspond- ward movement of the driving lever 43 will ing pins 96, thus, as the movement con-5 tinues, disengaging the pawls 39 from their ratchet sectors 20. Just before these ratchet sectors, respectively the arms 89, reach their idle position (Fig. 4) a projection 102 of each arm 89 will force the rod 100 down- In order to decipher this code word, the the arms 95 and the pins 96 by means of the are placed in the same initial positions as links 97. The pins 96 now engage the recesses 93 of the pawl-arms 92, which latter again engage the ratchet sectors 20.

When a group of figures, for instance 353567 is to be ciphered, the operations and their results are as follows, it being supposed that the initial positions and arrangement of the chain 74 and the revolving key 25 the chain 74, a series of figures 6, 2, 5, 8, 4, 1, 7, 3, 9, each figure of which equals the given to the sectors by means of the fan-

the sectors, as is evident from Fig. 4.

shaped plate 52.

35 figure is first made, thus in this instance the roller of the revolving key member to press 100 first indicator from the left on 5, the second indicator from the left on 3, by which operation the type sector 31 is not turned, while the type sector 30 is turned seven steps. Then the driving lever 43 is pressed down, this movement bringing a high link of the chain 74 to bear against the roller 72 and turning, by the action of the sixth lever 47 from the right on the fan-shaped plate 52, 45 the type sectors six steps. At the end of the downward movement of the driving lever the type sector 31 thus has been turned six steps while the type sector 30 has been turned thirteen steps. The types of these sectors being in printing position thus are y and k respectively, which letters will be ing lever 43, the pawl 63 (Fig. 3) will turn of one vowel and one consonant and constithe revolving key member so as to make a tuting cipher-equivalents of two-figure roller 59 press down the second lever 47 groups, and for the rendering in type-print 120 The downward movement of the driving the combination of a scale of adjustment, operative position, will move the sectors two figure groups, comprises four series of fig. 125 steps, bringing into printing position u and ures, two of these series containing ten difc, recorded as c u.

on 6, turning the type sectors 33 and 32 ferent in one series as compared to the other, 130

back into their position of rest, the arms 92 additional movement caused by the downbe five steps the types o and p of the type sectors will come into printing position and 70 will be recorded as p o.

Thus the figures 353567 will be ciphered

as ky cu po.

wards, this movement being transmitted to revolving key member and the key chain 75

used for the ciphering.

The adjustments will be: the sixth indicator from the left on k and the fifth indicator from the left on y, turning the type 80 sectors 34 and 35 seven and four steps respectively. The additional movement imparted by the fan-shaped plate 52 will be six steps, bringing the types 3 and 5 respecmember are as shown in Fig. 2, a roller 59 tively into printing position to be recorded 85 pressing down the fourth lever 47 from the as 35. When returning the driving lever, left. According to said drawing the revolv-the pawl 63, (Fig. 3) will turn the reing key member represents, if rotating in volving key member so as to make a roller the direction determined by a high link of 59 press down the second lever 47 from the right, in Fig. 2. The next adjustments will 90 be: the sixth indicator from the left on c number of steps of additional movement and the fifth indicator from the left on u, turning the type sectors one and three steps respectively. The additional movement of It should be noted that the slides during these sectors caused by the fan-shaped plate 95 the first step of adjustment will not actuate will be two steps, bringing the types 3 and 5 into printing position, recorded as 35. The When ciphering, which always comprises movements of the driving lever have then two figures, the adjustment for the second brought a new high link of the chain and a down the fifth lever 47 from the right or left into active position. The next adjustments will be: the eighth indicator from the left on p and the seventh indicator from the left on o, turning the type sectors 36 and 37 105 one and two steps respectively. The additional movement is five steps, thus bringing the type 6 of the type sector 36 and the type 7 of the type sector 37 into printing position, to be recorded as 67.

Thus the code word ky cu po has been deciphered into the original sequence of the figures 353567.

Having now described my invention I declare that what I claim is:—

In an apparatus for recording in typerecorded as ky. When returning the driv-print two-letter syllables, always composed from the right in Fig. 2. The next ad- two-figure groups, constituting cipher-equivjustments of the indicators are the same. alents of two-letter syllables of said kind, lever, which brings a new high link into one part of which, for the ciphering of twoferent figures in arbitrary order and the The next adjustments will be: the third other two series containing each five figures indicator from the left on 7 and the fourth in arbitrary order, these figures being dif-

and the other part of which scale, for the to that of one of the series of five vowels of 5 trary order and the two other both contain adjustable according to the letter-series 10 dependent, as to their movements, each on a ing to one of the series containing ten 15 pendent each on a member adjustable ac- type-wheels, each of which is dependent on

25 quence on each type-wheel and for each

type-wheel in reversed order, as compared

ciphering of two-letter syllables, comprises the scale of adjustment, the four type-wheels four series of letters of which series two con- carrying figure-types being dependent tain each ten different consonants in arbi- as to their movements each on a member 30 the same arbitrary sequence of five vowels, of the scale of adjustment, the arrangeand eight rotary type-wheels, four carrying ment of the figure-types being such that letter-types and four figure-types, of which the two type-wheels, each of which is detype-wheels those carrying letter-types are pendent on a member adjustable accord- 35 member adjustable according to one of the consonants, both carry the same figure-types, four series of figures of the scale of adjust- for each wheel in reversed order as comment, the arrangement of the letter-types pared to that of one of the ten-figure series being such, that the two type-wheels de- of the scale of adjustment, and that the two 40 cording to the series of ten figures carry each a member adjustable according to one of ten consonant-types, for each wheel the the five-vowel series, carry each five different same as are comprised in one of the series figures repeated twice in the same order on of ten consonants of the scale of adjustment, each wheel and for each wheel identical to 45 20 though in reversed order, and that the two those of one of the five figure series of the type-wheels, which are dependent each on a scale of adjustment, but arranged in remember adjustable according to one of the versed order.

series of five figures, carry the same five In testimony whereof I have signed my vowel-types repeated twice in the same se- name.

ARVID GERHARD DAMM.