Sept. 28, 1937. J. H. YANCEY 2,094,566

AUTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Filed Feb. 5, 1936 4 Sheets-Sheet 1

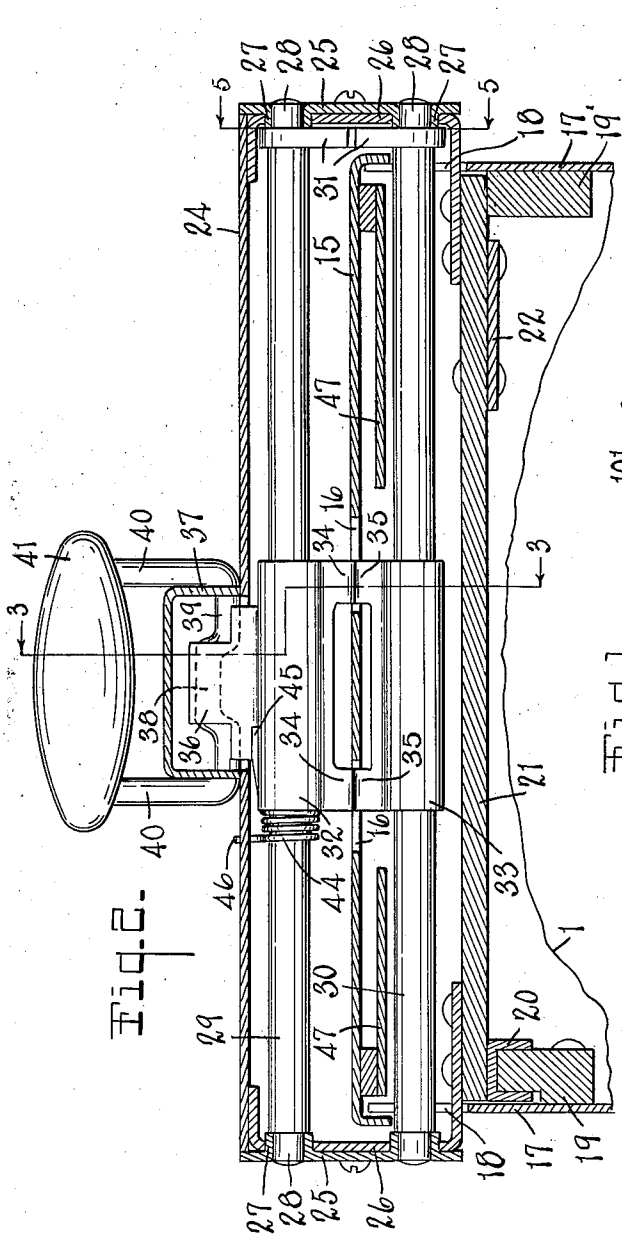


Fig. 2.

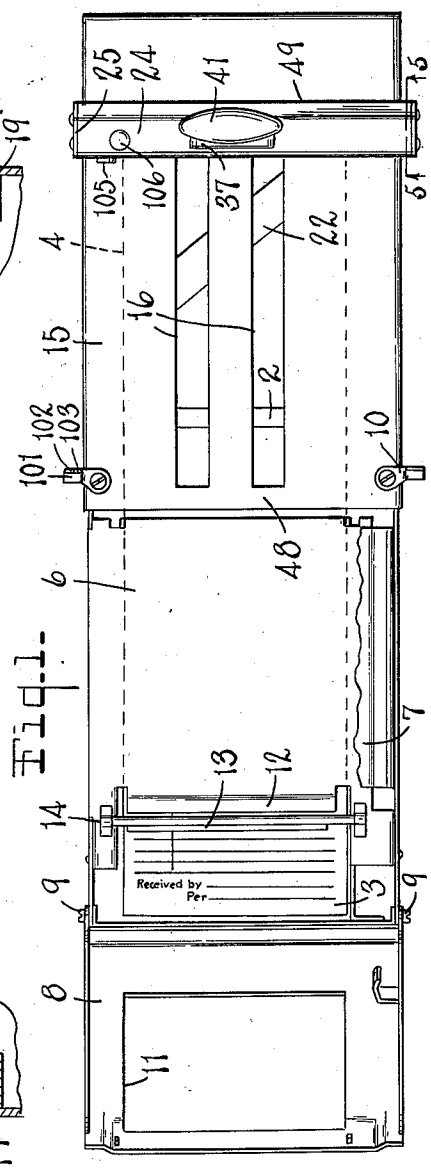


Fig. 1.

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AUTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Filed Feb. 5, 1936 4 Sheets-Sheet 2

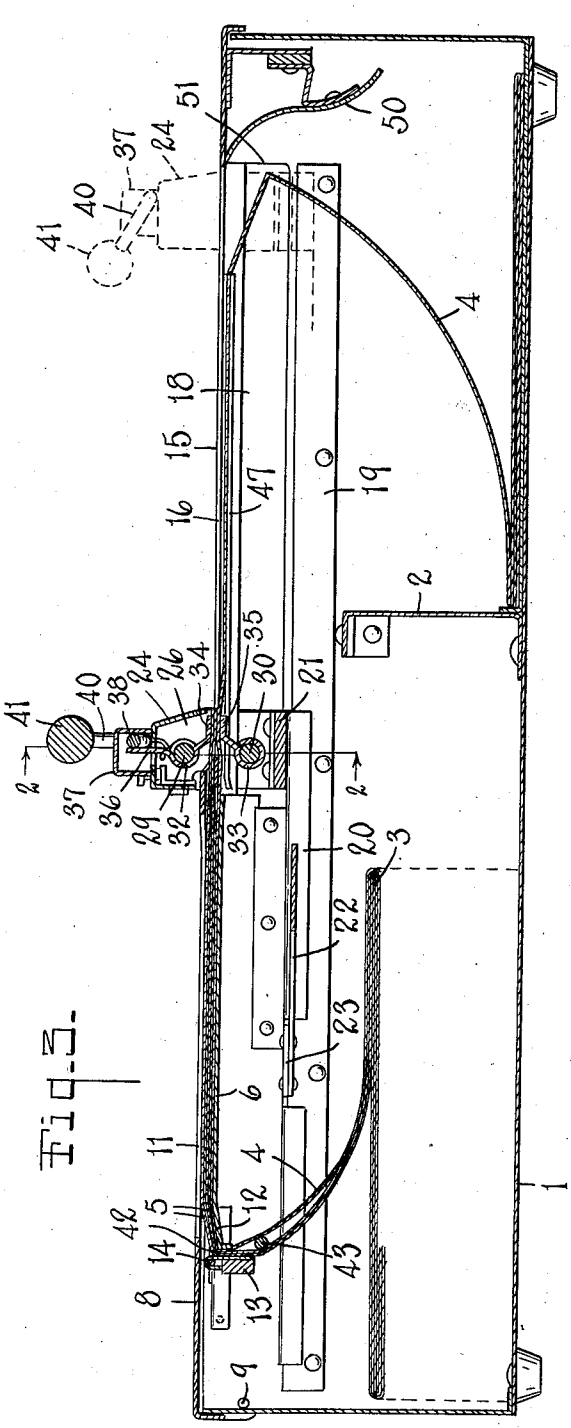


Fig. 3.

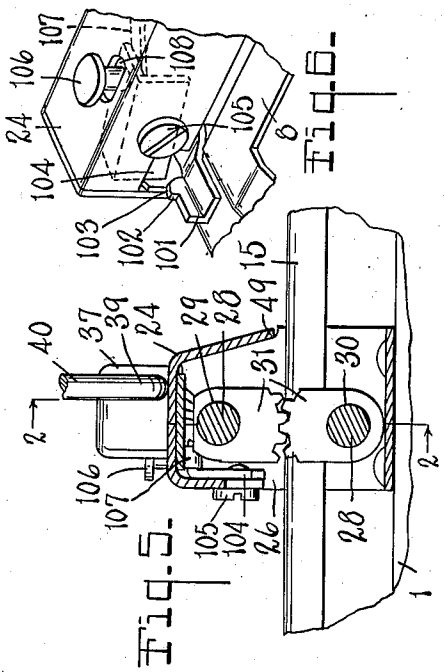


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

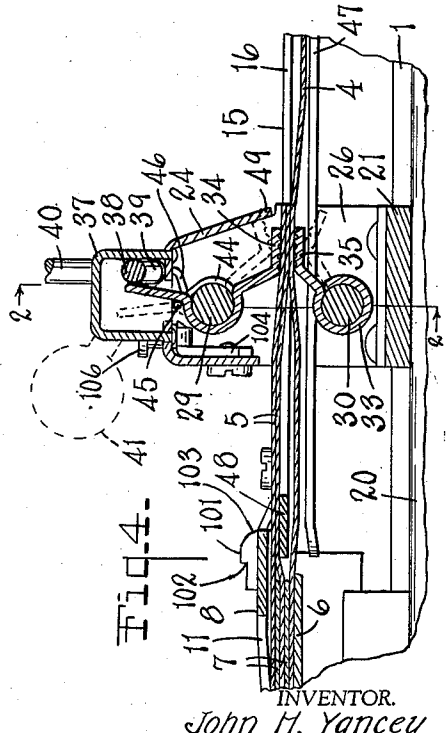


Fig. 4.

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Sept. 28, 1937. J. H. YANCEY 2,094,566

AUTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Filed Feb. 5, 1936 4 Sheets-Sheet 3

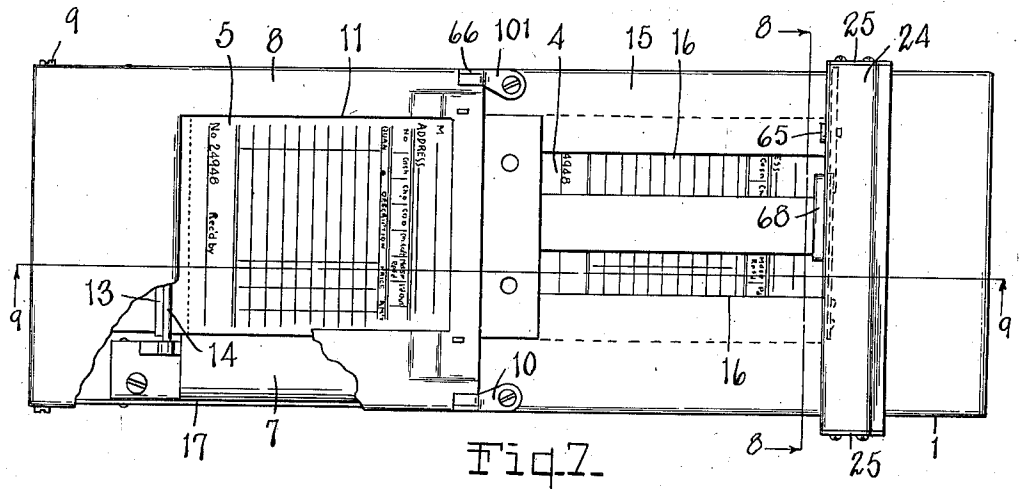


Fig. 7.

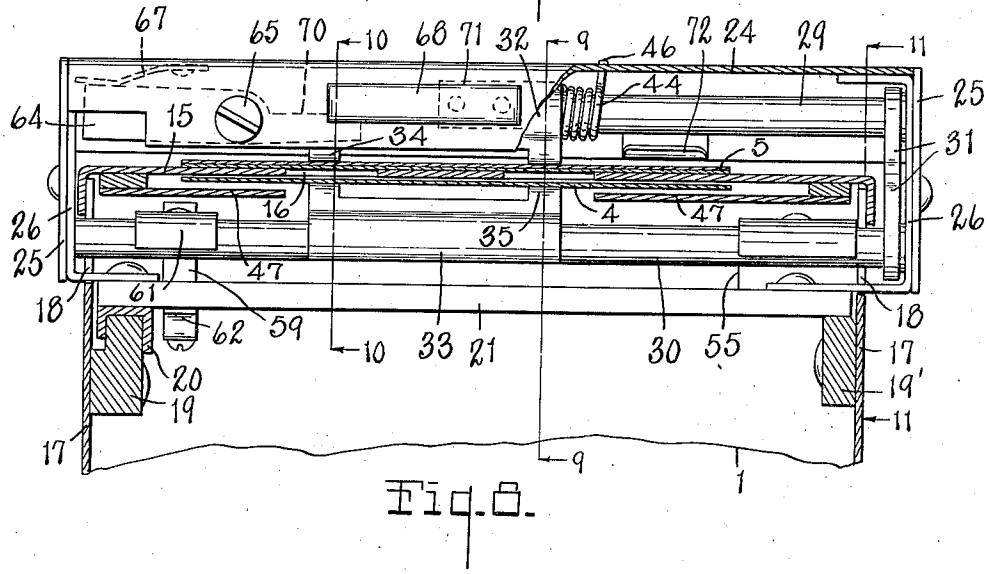


Fig. 8.

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AUTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Filed Feb. 5, 1936 4 Sheets-Sheet 4

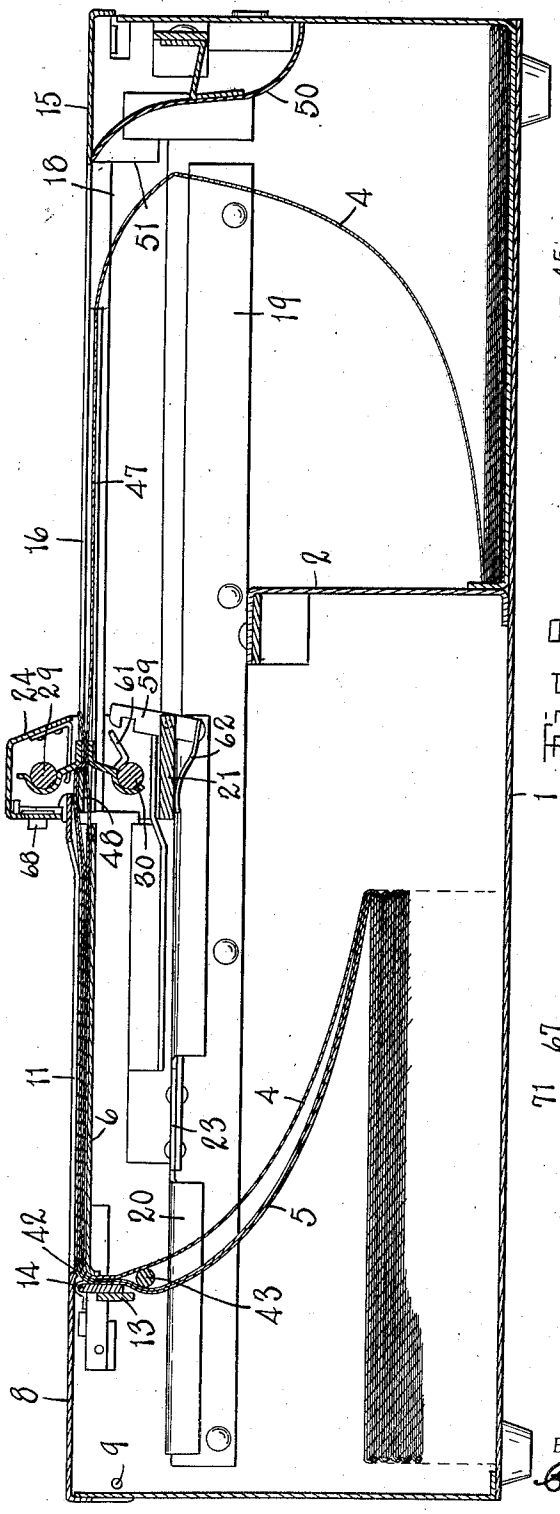


Fig-9.

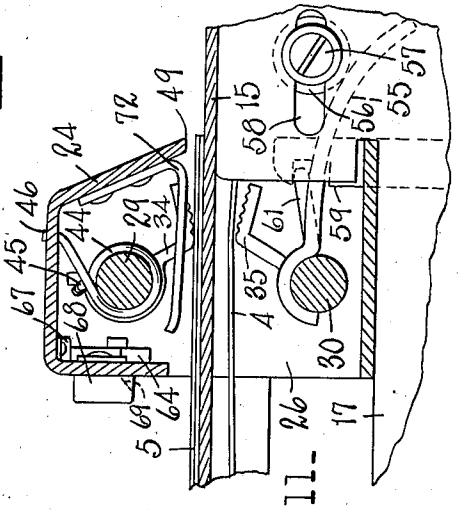


Fig-11.

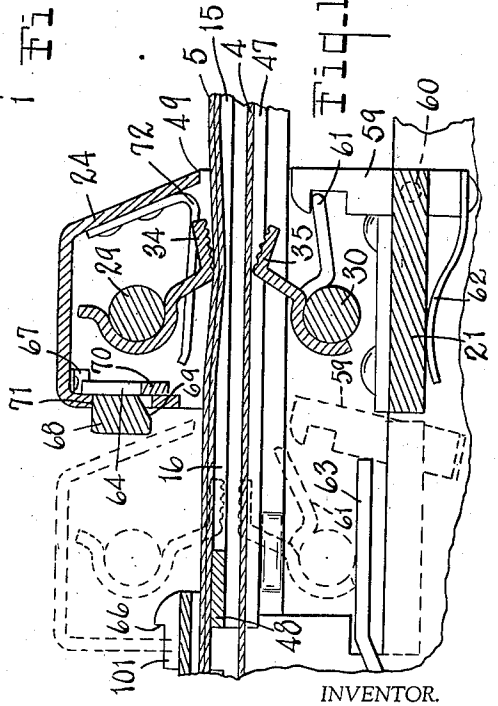


Fig-10.

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Patented Sept. 28, 1937 2,094,566

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,094,566

AUTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

John H. Yancey, Sturgis, Mich., assignor to National Carbon Coated Paper Company, Sturgis, Mich.

Application February 5, 1936, Serial No. 62,442

22 Claims. (Cl. 271—2.5)

This invention relates to improvements in autographic registers.

The main objects of this invention are:

First, to provide in an autographic register of the pull-out type an improved pull-out means which is very easily operated and is very effective in its grip upon the stationery or record strips and is effective in keeping them in properly aligned relation.

Second, to provide in an autographic register of the pull-out type a structure which is compact and simple in its parts and at the same time strong and durable.

Objects relating to details and economies of the invention will appear from the description to follow. The invention is defined and pointed out in the claims.

A preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a plan view with the rear cover in open position, the carriage being shown in its advanced position.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail view partially in vertical section on a line corresponding to line 2—2 of Figs. 3, 4 and 5 with the carriage in its retracted position, the stationery being shown in operative position to the carriage and associated parts.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section on a line corresponding to line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail longitudinal section of parts shown in Fig. 2, the jaws being shown in engaged position by full lines and in disengaged position by dotted lines.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged detail in section on line 5—5 of Figs. 1 and 2.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary perspective view illustrating the automatic means for latching or locking the carriage in its retracted position.

Fig. 7 is a plan view of a modified form or embodiment of my invention, portions being broken away to better illustrate structure, the carriage being shown in its advanced position.

Fig. 8 is an enlarged view mainly in transverse section on a line corresponding to line 8—8 of Fig. 7, parts of the carriage being also shown in vertical section.

Fig. 9 is an enlarged longitudinal section on a line corresponding to line 9—9 of Figs. 7 and 8.

Fig. 10 is a fragmentary longitudinal section on a line corresponding to line 10—10 of Fig. 8, the carriage being shown in partially retracted position by full lines and in fully retracted position by dotted lines.

Fig. 11 is an enlarged fragmentary view on line 11—11 of Fig. 8 with the carriage in advanced jaw-releasing position.

In the embodiment of my invention illustrated, the casing 1 is of box-like form and has a transverse partition 2 therein providing a rear compartment for a packet of multi-strip fanfold stationery designated at 3 and a forward compartment adapted to receive the record strip 4. In the embodiment illustrated, the stationery comprises three strips, the strip 4 constituting a record strip and the strips 5 being adapted to be severed into slips as is quite customary in autographic registers. Above the stationery supply compartment is a tablet or writing table 6 adapted to support the strips to permit entries being made thereon. Carbon paper is illustrated at 7, this being adapted to be interleaved with the record strips.

The cover 8 is hinged at 9 to be closed over the platen of the table 6 and is retained in its closed position by the catches 10. This cover has a suitable opening 11 to expose the record strips for entries thereon.

The rear end of the table is directed downwardly at 12 and a weighted member 13 pivoted at 14 is disposed in opposed relation to this downturned end to apply friction to and direct the record strips to the table, holding them against buckling or looping action on the table.

The front end of the casing is provided with a top plate 15 having spaced parallel longitudinal slots 16 therein. The side walls 17 of the casing have longitudinal slot-like openings 18 below the top plate.

On the inner side of the side walls of the casing I mount a pair of slideways 19 and 19′ slidably supporting the pull-out carriage which is provided with a downwardly facing channel-shaped slide 20 coacting with the slideway 19. The slide 20 is of substantial length, the slideway 19 extending nearly the full length of the casing and the slide being approximately one-half the length of the casing. This slide 20 is mounted at one end of the cross bar or carriage member 21, the other end of this bar being slidably supported by the slideway 19′. The slide 20 is braced to this cross member 21 by means of the diagonally disposed brace 22, a portion of the inner flange of the slide being turned up at 23 for convenient attachment of the brace. With this arrangement of parts, the carriage slides very freely and it is not likely to bind even though the walls of the casing might become somewhat warped or distorted relative to

each other and also it avoids the necessity of great accuracy in manufacture.

The carriage housing 24 is disposed transversely above the top plate and is provided with end members 25 secured by means of angled brackets 26 to the carriage cross member 21, the lower horizontal arms of these brackets being arranged through the slots 18 as clearly shown in Fig. 2. The front and rear end top walls of the housing are preferably formed of a sheet metal stamping.

The end plates 25 are provided with bearings 27 receiving the journals 28 of the rockshafts 29 and 30. The lower rockshaft 30 is disposed below the top plate 15 and projects through the openings 18 in the side walls of the casing. The upper rockshaft is disposed above the top plate. These shafts are connected to rock in opposite directions, the connections in the embodiment illustrated being the toothed segments 31 secured to the rockshafts.

Jaw members 32 and 33 are mounted on the rockshafts 29 and 30 respectively, these jaw members being provided with opposed pairs of coacting jaws 34 and 35, the jaws being aligned with the slots in the top plate so as to swing into engaging position therethrough. The jaw member 32 is provided with an upwardly projecting arm 36 projecting into the housing enlargement 37 in position to be engaged by the cam offset 38 on the pintle 39 of the inverted bail-shaped handle shank 40.

A coiled spring 44 mounted on the upper rockshaft 29 has one of its ends 45 engaged with the arm 36, its other end 46 being engaged with the carriage housing. This spring acts to urge the jaws to closed position. A rearward pull on the handle or hand piece 41 opens the jaws against the tension of this spring and continued pull will move the carriage to its rearmost position. As soon as the hand piece is released, the jaws automatically engage.

On the under side of the top plate 15, I mount opposed longitudinally disposed record strip supporting guides 47, these being spaced so that the jaws can reciprocate between them. These guides support the record strip 4, there being a spreader piece 48 at the front end of the table which serves to separate the strips 5 from the strip 4. It will be understood of course that they are manually separated when the machine is threaded up.

A spreader rod 43 is preferably provided to separate the record strip 4 from the tear-off strip 5 as they pass onto the table. This is found to assist in keeping the strips in alignment. It will be noted that the parts are so arranged that when the parts are in the writing position shown in Fig. 3, the folding line of the strips registers with the rear edge of the table, this folding line being indicated at 42, in Fig. 3.

The carriage is provided with a shear or severing bar 49 disposed in advance of and slightly above the jaws so that the strips 5 can be conveniently severed by an upward shearing pull thereon while they are effectively grasped by the jaws preventing the strips from being displaced or gotten out of alignment. The faces of the jaws are preferably serrated, as illustrated, to provide a better gripping hold on the stationery.

The forward compartment, as stated, is designed to receive the record strip and a downwardly projecting curved deflector 50 is provided at the front of the guides 47 acting to direct the record strip into the front storage compartment and causing it to fold therein along zig-zag fold scoring lines.

With this arrangement of parts, the packet of record strips, such as the zig-zag folded strips shown in Fig. 3 is arranged in the compartment provided therefor and properly threaded into the machine, is gripped by the jaws.

To prevent accidental or careless manipulation of the carriage, means are provided for automatically locking or latching it in retracted position. This means in the embodiment shown in Figs. 1 to 6, as best shown in Fig. 6, comprises a keeper 101 having a rearwardly facing latch engaging portion 102 and a rounded face 103 over which the latch 104 pivoted at 105 rides when the carriage is drawn to retracted position into engagement with the keeper. A finger piece 106 projects from the top of the carriage housing through the slot 108, a spring 107 urging the latch yieldingly into engaging position. When it is desired to actuate the carriage, it is first necessary to release the same by pressing downward on the finger piece 106. The purpose of this is to prevent careless or accidental manipulation or reciprocation of the carriage. For example, with the register standing upon a counter, customers or clerks may absent-mindedly shift the carriage and this locking means is designed to prevent such manipulation, at the same time the latch is readily released. The strips, after the desired entries are made thereon, will pull out merely by grasping the hand piece 41 and pulling forwardly or toward the right, as shown in Fig. 3. The forward ends 51 of the slots 18 serve as stops limiting the forward stroke of the carriage. With the carriage in its fully advanced position, a rearward pull on the hand piece 41 will first open the jaws and then slide the carriage to its rear position and when the hand piece is released the jaws automatically grip the paper and the strips 5 are torn off, the severing bar 49 facilitating this tearing or severing. The carriage may be very rapidly operated in either direction without displacing the record strips and the manipulation is entirely through the hand piece 41 which, as stated, opens the jaws and then will slide the carriage to its retracted or initial position.

In the embodiment of my invention shown in Figs. 7 to 11 inclusive, the handle for manipulating the carriage is omitted, the carriage being manipulated by directly grasping the housing 24. The rockshafts and the jaws are arranged and operatively connected as has been described, the main difference being that the jaws are mounted to engage the strips at a less angle relative to the rockshafts. The jaws are urged to their closed position by the springs 44 but are automatically opened at the end of the forward stroke of the carriage by means of the cam arm 55 on the lower rockshaft 30 engaging the roller tappet 56 which is adjustably mounted by means of the screw 57 engaging the slot 58. The parts are shown in released position in Fig. 11. The jaws are automatically locked in released or open position by means of the catch 59 pivoted at 60 to coact with the arm 61 on the rockshaft 30. The spring 62 acts to urge the latch to its engaging position, as shown in Fig. 10. When the carriage is moved to fully retracted position, this catch or dog 59 is disengaged by coming into contact with the fixed tappet or strike 63 which is mounted in proper position to release the catch or dog 59

allowing the jaws to close as shown by full lines in Fig. 9 and dotted lines in Fig. 10. The carriage is locked in its retracted position by the engagement of the catch 64 pivoted at 65 with a keeper 66 corresponding to the keeper that has been described for the embodiment shown in Figs. 1 to 6.

The latch 65 is urged to engaging position by the spring 67 and is released by the finger piece 68 operatively associated with the inner end of the pivoted latch so that an inward pressure on the finger piece will disengage the latch or swing the engaging end out of engagement with the keeper. The finger piece has a cammed surface 69 coacting with the end 70 of the lever. This finger piece is set into a slot 71 in the rear wall of the housing so that it can be pressed with one finger of the hand grasping the housing as a hand-piece for manipulating the carriage. To facilitate threading the web 5 under the housing, I provide guides 72 attached to the front wall of the housing and projecting rearwardly above the path of the webs.

With this embodiment of my invention, the jaws are automatically engaged and released as has been described by the reciprocation of the carriage and they cannot be released until the carriage has completed its full stroke which is a matter of considerable advantage as it avoids careless or inapt manipulation of the machine and they will not re-engage until the full stroke is completed, so that the structure has some advantages over that previously described.

The parts may be very largely formed as stampings. The structure is very economical both in the producing of the parts and the assembling thereof. Further, the structure is strong and durable even when made of comparatively light material.

I have illustrated and described my improvements in embodiments which I have found highly satisfactory. I have not attempted to illustrate or describe other modifications or adaptations of my improvements as it is believed that this disclosure will enable those skilled in the art to embody or adapt my improvements as may be desired.

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

1. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing having a supply stationery compartment at its rear end and a record stationery compartment at its front end and provided with a table at its rear end and provided with a top plate at its front end having spaced longitudinal slots, the side walls of the casing below said top plate being longitudinally slotted, slideways mounted within said casing in a plane below said side wall slots, a reciprocating carriage slidable on said slideways and provided with a channeled slide coacting with one of said ways, a carriage cross member, a carriage housing disposed transversely above said top plate and comprising end members provided with brackets disposed through said slots in said casing side walls and mounted on said carriage cross member, a pair of rockshafts journaled in the end members of said housing, the upper rockshaft being disposed above said top plate and the lower below and projecting through said slots in said casing side walls, spaced opposed longitudinally disposed record strip supporting guides mounted on the under side of said top plate above the lower rockshaft, opposed jaw members on said rockshafts and provided with coacting pairs of spaced jaws aligned with said slots in said top plate, the upper jaw member having an upwardly projecting arm, toothed segments connecting said rockshafts so that they are simultaneously rocked in opposite directions, a spring mounted on the upper rockshaft with one end in engagement with the upper jaw member and the other with the housing whereby the spring acts to urge said jaws to engaging position, and a hand piece for reciprocating said carriage provided with a shank journaled in said housing and having a cam member engaging said arm on the upper jaw member so that a rearward pull on the hand piece acts to open the jaws and retract the carriage.

2. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and with a top plate at its front end having spaced longitudinal slots, the side walls of the casing below said top plate being longitudinally slotted, slideways mounted within said casing in a plane below said side wall slots, a carriage slidable on said slideways, and comprising a cross member disposed below the top plate, a carriage housing disposed transversely above said top plate and comprising end members provided with brackets disposed through said slots in said casing side walls and mounted on said carriage cross member, a pair of rockshafts journaled in the end members of said housing, the upper rockshaft being disposed above said top plate and the lower below and projecting through said slots in said casing side walls, opposed jaw members on said rockshafts and provided with coacting pairs of spaced jaws aligned with said slots in said top plate, the upper jaw member having an upwardly projecting arm, toothed segments connecting said rockshafts so that they are simultaneously rocked in opposite directions, a spring mounted on the upper rockshaft with one end in engagement with the upper jaw member and the other with the housing whereby the spring acts to urge said jaws to engaging position, and means for opening the jaws at the end of the pull-out stroke of the carriage.

3. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing having a supply stationery compartment at its rear end and a record stationery compartment at its front end and provided with a table at its rear end and provided with a top plate at its front end having spaced longitudinal slots, the side walls of the casing below said top plate being longitudinally slotted, slideways mounted within said casing in a plane below said side wall slots, a carriage provided with a channeled slide coacting with one of said slideways, and a cross member at the front end of said slide resting on the other slideway, a carriage housing disposed transversely above said top plate and comprising end members provided with brackets disposed through said slots in said casing side walls and mounted on said carriage cross member, a pair of rockshafts journaled in the end members of said housing, the upper rockshaft being disposed above said top plate and the lower below and projecting through said slots in said casing side walls, spaced opposed longitudinally disposed record strip supporting guides mounted on the under side of said top plate above the lower rockshaft, opposed jaw members on said rockshafts and provided with coacting pairs of spaced jaws aligned with said slots in said top plate, means connecting said rockshafts so that they are simultaneously rocked in opposite directions, a spring acting to urge said jaws to engaging position, and means for opening

said jaws and maintaining them in open position during the retracting stroke of the carriage.

4. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and with a top plate at its front end having spaced longitudinal slots, the side walls of the casing below said top plate being longitudinally slotted, slideways mounted within said casing in a plane below said side wall slots, a carriage comprising a cross member disposed below said top plate and slidable on said slideways, a carriage housing disposed transversely above said top plate and comprising end members provided with brackets disposed through said slots in said casing side walls and mounted on said carriage cross member, a pair of rockshafts journaled in the end members of said housing, the upper rockshaft being disposed above said top plate and the lower below and projecting through said slots in said casing side walls, opposed jaw members on said rockshafts and provided with coacting pairs of spaced jaws aligned with said slots in said top plate, means connecting said rockshafts so that they are simultaneously rocked in opposite directions, a spring acting to urge said jaws to engaging position, and means for opening said jaws at the end of the pull-out stroke of the carriage.

5. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing having a supply stationery compartment at its rear end and a record stationery compartment at its front end and provided with a table at its rear end and with a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, slideways within said casing, a carriage slidably mounted on said ways and comprising a housing disposed transversely above said top plate, rockshafts carried by said carriage and connected to rotate in opposite directions, one of the rockshafts being disposed below and the other above said top plate, opposed longitudinally disposed record strip supporting guides disposed above the lower rockshaft, opposed jaws on said rockshafts aligned with said slot in said top plate, the upper jaw being provided with an upwardly projecting arm, a spring mounted on the upper rockshaft with one end in engagement with the upper jaw and the other with the carriage housing whereby the spring acts to urge the jaws to engaged position, and a hand piece for reciprocating said carriage provided with a shank journaled in said housing and having a cam member engaging said arm on the upper jaw so that a rearward pull on the hand piece acts first to open the jaws and then retract the carriage.

6. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and with a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, slideways within said casing, a carriage slidably mounted on said ways and comprising a housing disposed transversely above said top plate, rockshafts carried by said carriage and connected to rotate in opposite directions, one of the rockshafts being disposed below and the other above said top plate, opposed jaws on said rockshafts aligned with said slot in said top plate, the upper jaw being provided with an upwardly projecting arm, a spring mounted on the upper rockshaft with one end in engagement with the upper jaw and the other with the carriage housing whereby the spring acts to urge the jaws to engaged position, and a hand piece for reciprocating said carriage provided with a shank journaled in said housing and having a cam member engaging said arm on the upper jaw so that a rearward pull on the hand piece acts first to open the jaws and then retract the carriage.

7. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing having a supply stationery compartment at its rear end and a record stationery compartment at its front end and provided with a table at its rear end and with a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, slideways within said casing, a carriage slidably mounted on said ways and comprising a housing disposed transversely above said top plate, rockshafts carried by said carriage and connected to rotate in opposite directions, one of the rockshafts being disposed below and the other above said top plate, opposed longitudinally disposed record strip supporting guides disposed above the lower rockshaft, coacting jaws on said rockshafts aligned with said slot in said top plate, a spring acting to urge said jaws to engaging position, a hand piece for reciprocating said carriage, and means operatively connecting said hand piece to the upper jaw so that a rearward pull on the hand piece acts to open the jaws and retract the carriage.

8. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing having a supply stationery compartment at its rear end and a record stationery compartment at its front end and provided with a table at its rear end and with a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, slideways within said casing, a carriage slidably mounted on said ways and comprising a housing disposed transversely above said top plate, rockshafts carried by said carriage and connected to rotate in opposite directions, one of the rockshafts being disposed below and the other above said top plate, opposed longitudinally disposed record strip supporting guides disposed above the lower rockshaft, coacting jaws on said rockshafts aligned with said slot in said top plate, and a spring acting to urge said jaws to engaging position.

9. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and with a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, slideways within said casing, a carriage slidably mounted on said ways and comprising a housing disposed transversely above said top plate, rockshafts carried by said carriage and connected to rotate in opposite directions, one of the rockshafts being disposed below and the other above said top plate, coacting jaws on said rockshafts aligned with said slot in said top plate, means acting to urge said jaws to engaging position, a hand piece for reciprocating said carriage, and means operatively connecting said hand piece to the upper jaw so that a rearward pull on the hand piece acts to open the jaws and retract the carriage.

10. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and with a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, slideways within said casing, a carriage slidably mounted on said ways and comprising a housing disposed transversely above said top plate, rockshafts carried by said carriage and connected to rotate in opposite directions, one of the rockshafts being disposed below and the other above said top plate, coacting jaws on said rockshafts aligned with said slot in said top plate, means acting to urge said jaws to engaging position, and means for releasing said jaws at the front end of the stroke of the carriage and maintaining them in released position during the retracting stroke thereof.

11. In an autographic register, the combina-

tion of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and with a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, slideways within said casing, a carriage slidably mounted on said ways and comprising a housing disposed transversely above said top plate, rockshafts carried by said carriage and connected to rotate in opposite directions, one of the rockshafts being disposed below and the other above said top plate, coacting jaws on said rockshafts aligned with said slot in said top plate, and means acting to urge said jaws to engaging position.

12. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and a top plate at its front end having spaced longitudinal slots, a reciprocating carriage, rockshafts journaled on said carriage on opposite sides of said top plate, jaw members mounted on said rockshafts and provided with coacting pairs of jaws engaging through said slots in said top plate, means connecting said rockshafts so that they are simultaneously rocked in opposite directions to open and close the jaws, and means acting to yieldingly urge said jaws to engaging position.

13. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, a reciprocating carriage, rockshafts journaled on said carriage on opposite sides of said top plate, jaw members mounted on said rockshafts and provided with coacting jaws engaging through said slot in said top plate, means connecting said rockshafts so that they are simultaneously rocked in opposite directions to open and close the jaws, means acting to yieldingly urge said jaws to engaging position, a hand piece for reciprocating said carriage, and means operatively connecting said hand piece with said jaws so that a rearward pull on the hand piece acts to open the jaws and retract the carriage

14. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, a reciprocating carriage, rockshafts journaled on said carriage on opposite sides of said top plate, jaws on said rockshafts engaging through said slot in said top plate, means connecting said rockshafts so that they are simultaneously rocked in opposite directions to open and close the jaws, means acting to yieldingly urge the jaws to engaging position, a forwardly projecting cammed arm on the lower rockshaft, a tappet with which said arm engages when the carriage reaches the end of its forward stroke to open the jaws, a spring actuated dog on said carriage, a keeper arm on the lower rockshaft which said dog engages when the jaws are in open position, a releasing tappet for said dog positioned to release the same when the carriage is returned to its retracted position, a keeper, a spring actuated catch on said carriage adapted to automatically engage said keeper when the carriage is returned to its retracted position, and manually actuated means for releasing said catch.

15. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, a reciprocating carriage, rockshafts journaled on said carriage on opposite sides of said top plate, jaws on said rockshafts engaging through said slot in said top plate, means connecting said rockshafts so that they are simultaneously rocked in opposite directions to open and close the jaws, means acting to yieldingly urge the jaws to engaging position, a forwardly projecting cammed arm on the lower rockshaft, a tappet with which said arm engages when the carriage reaches the end of its forward stroke to open the jaws, a spring actuated dog on said carriage, a keeper arm on the lower rockshaft which said dog engages when the jaws are in open position, and a releasing tappet for said dog positioned to release the same when the carriage is returned to its retracted position.

16. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, a reciprocating carriage, rockshafts journaled on said carriage on opposite sides of said top plate, jaws on said rockshafts engaging through said slot in said top plate, means connecting said rockshafts so that they are simultaneously rocked in opposite directions to open and close the jaws, means acting to yieldingly urge the jaws to engaging position, a keeper, a spring actuated catch on said carriage adapted to automatically engage said keeper when the carriage is returned to its retracted position, and manually actuated means for releasing said catch.

17. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, a reciprocating carriage, rockshafts journaled on said carriage on opposite sides of said top plate, coacting jaws on said rockshafts engaging through said slot in said top plate, means for simultaneously rocking said rockshafts in opposite directions to open and close the jaws, means for automatically opening the jaws at the end of the forward stroke of the carriage, means for holding said jaws in released position during the return stroke of the carriage, means for automatically releasing the jaws when the carriage is returned to initial or retracted position, and manually releasable automatically engaging means for locking said carriage in its retracted position.

18. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, a reciprocating carriage, rockshafts journaled on said carriage on opposite sides of said top plate, coacting jaws on said rockshafts engaging through said slot in said top plate, means for simultaneously rocking said rockshafts in opposite directions to open and close the jaws, means for automatically opening the jaws at the end of the forward stroke of the carriage, and manually releasable automatically engaging means for locking said carriage in its retracted position.

19. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, a reciprocating carriage, rockshafts journaled on said carriage on opposite sides of said top plate, coacting jaws on said rockshafts engaging through said slot in said top plate, means for simultaneously rocking said rockshafts in opposite directions to open and close the jaws, and manually releasable automatically engaging means for locking said carriage in its retracted position.

20. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, a reciprocating carriage, rockshafts journaled on said carriage on opposite sides of said top plate, coacting jaws on said rockshafts en-

gaging through said slot in said top plate, means for simultaneously rocking said rockshafts in opposite directions to open and close the jaws, means for automatically opening the jaws at the end of the forward stroke of the carriage, means for holding said jaws in released position during the return stroke of the carriage, and means for automatically releasing the jaws when the carriage is returned to initial or retracted position.

21. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, a reciprocating carriage, rockshafts journaled on said carriage on opposite sides of said top plate, coacting jaws on said rockshafts engaging through said slot in said top plate, means for simultaneously rocking said rockshafts in opposite directions to open and close the jaws, and means for automatically opening the jaws at the end of the forward stroke of the carriage.

22. In an autographic register, the combination of a casing provided with a table at its rear end and a longitudinally slotted top plate at its front end, a reciprocating carriage, rockshafts journaled on said carriage on opposite sides of said top plate, coacting jaws on said rockshafts engaging through said slot in said top plate, and means for simultaneously rocking said rockshafts in opposite directions to open and close the jaws.

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