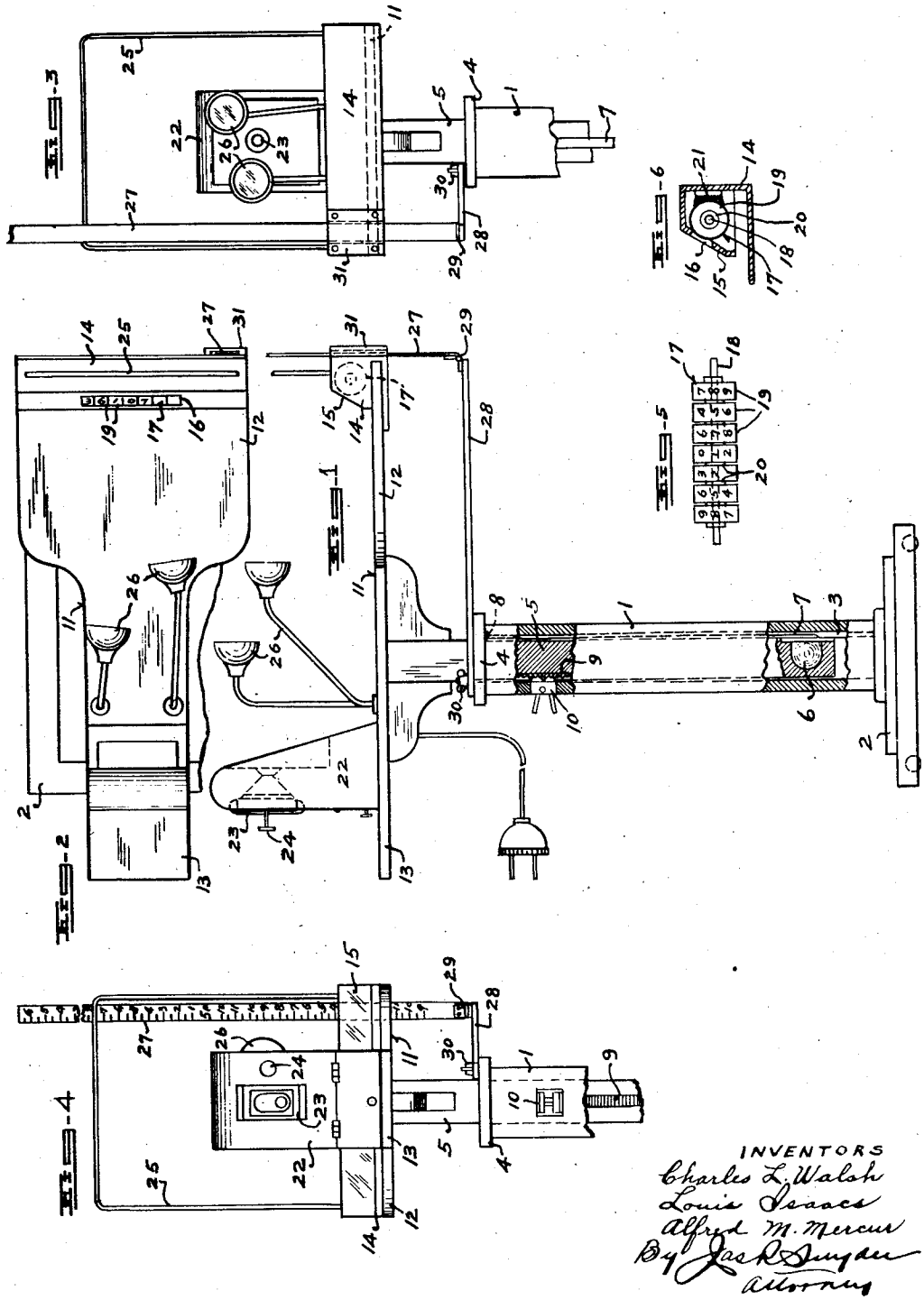
March 28, 1944. C. L. WALSH ET AL 2,345,225

PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS

Filed May 13, 1942



INVENTORS
Charles L. Walsh
Louis Isaacs
Alfred M. Mercur
By Jack R. Dugan
Attorney

Patented Mar. 28, 1944 2,345,225

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,345,225

## PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS

Charles L. Walsh, Louis Isaacs, and Alfred M. Mercur, Pittsburgh, Pa., assignors to Photographic Equipment, Inc., Pittsburgh, Pa., a corporation of Pennsylvania

Application May 13, 1942, Serial No. 442,822

1 Claim. (Cl. 95—86)

This invention relates to a photographic apparatus, and while primarily designed and intended for the production of uniform identification photographs of the type and class commonly taken of employees in industry and the like, it will be obvious that the device may be employed for any other photographic purposes wherein it is found to be applicable.

Important objects and advantages of the invention are to provide a photographic apparatus of the character described, which will facilitate and expedite the uniform production of identification photographs, which will produce a picture displaying the accurate height of the person photographed together with a distinguishing identifying number, which embodies a camera with fixed focus and lamps likewise having fixed focus supplying proper illumination for photographic production regardless of outside and surrounding lighting conditions, which may be successfully and effectively operated even by a person of ordinary skill, which is simple in its construction and arrangement, durable and efficient in its use, compact, attractive in appearance, and comparatively economical in its manufacture, operation, and maintenance.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts herein specifically described and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, but it is to be understood that changes in the form, proportions, and details of construction may be resorted to that come within the scope of the claim hereunto appended.

In the drawing wherein like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view, partly in cross section, of a photographic apparatus constructed in accordance with the invention.

Figures 2, 3, and 4 are, respectively, top plan, front elevational, and rear elevational views of the device.

Figure 5 is a side view of the number indicator embodied in the present invention.

Figure 6 is a transverse, cross sectional view of the indicator casing showing associated parts.

Referring in detail to the drawing the invention generally comprises a stationary section and an adjustable or shiftable section. The stationary section consists of a hollow stand 1 including a roller mounted base 2. The stand is preferably square in transverse cross section and has a correspondingly-shaped bore 3 extending throughout the length thereof, and is topped by an enlarged head block 4.

The adjustable section of the apparatus comprises a supporting stem 5, which is square in transverse cross section and mounted for vertical adjustment in the bore 3 of the stand 1. A conventional type of balance element 6 is mounted in the lower end of the supporting stem, and includes a steel strap 7 having its free end secured at the upper end of the stand in any suitable manner. The balance element is spring controlled and its automatic function normally tends to lift or pull the supporting stem upwardly in the stand.

A fixed, vertically extending gripping strip 9, of considerable length and comprising a plurality of transversely disposed corrugations, is carried by the rear face of the supporting stem 5. A conventional type of spring controlled locking element 10 is mounted in the rear wall of the stand 1 adjacent to the upper end of the latter. The locking element is automatically operable for engaging the gripping strip to hold the supporting stem in the adjusted position in the stand, and is manually operable for releasing said gripping strip to allow the vertical adjustment of the supporting stem in the stand.

A suitably braced, flat table 11 is permanently fixed, in the horizontal position in any suitable manner, to the top of the supporting stem 5. The front end portion 12 of the table is of considerable width, and the rear end portion 13 thereof is relatively narrow in width but is considerably longer than said front end portion 12.

An indicator casing 14 is mounted in position on the top edge margin of the front end table portion 12, and extends along the entire width of the latter. The rearward wall 15 of the indicator casing is disposed at an angle from the vertical, and is provided with a longitudinally extending, elongated opening 16.

A number indicator 17 is mounted in the casing 14, and comprises a shaft 18, which extends longitudinally in the casing, and is secured in the latter, preferably against rotation, in any suitable manner. The indicator further includes a plurality of similar disks 19, which are revolubly mounted on the shaft and slightly spaced from each other by thin interposed washers 20.

All numerical designations or figures from zero to nine together with blank space are displayed in regular, sequential arrangement on the periphery of each of the disks 19. The relative position of the latter with respect to the wall opening 16 is such that any of the disks may be manually

rotated or shifted on the shaft 18, through the opening 16, to visibly display one complete numerical designation or blank space through said wall opening 16.

A brush brake 21 is mounted in the casing 14 and frictionally brushes or engages the peripheries of all of the disks 19 to somewhat stabilize and retard the adjusting movement of the latter on the shaft 18, thereby facilitating the manual adjustment of the disks, through the wall opening 16, to combinedly provide and visibly display the identification number required through said opening 16 in position to be photographed simultaneously with the person being photographed.

A camera support 22 is mounted on and secured to the top of the table 11 adjacent to the rear end of the latter. A camera 23, of any suitable construction and provided with an operating element 24, is mounted in the support 22 and is focused forwardly. The support 22 is fixed in position to establish and maintain the predetermined proper distance of the camera from the person to be photographed, who stands forwardly of the table 11 with his chest against the forward face of the indicator casing 14.

A rectangularly-shaped, vertically disposed frame 25 is rigidly secured to respective ends of the indicator frame 14. The frame is intended to surround the person's head and facilitates the centering of the latter to proper photographic position. The camera 23 has a fixed focus best adapted for assuring photographic uniformity, clarity, and excellence.

Suitable electric lamps 26 are fixed in position to the table 11 or to any other suitable part of the adjustable section of the device. The lamps have fixed focuses, and are positioned to best provide and diffuse proper illumination for photographic purposes, regardless of surrounding lighting conditions.

A suitably graduated length scale 27, for measuring and indicating the height of the person being photographed, is carried at the forward end of a supporting arm 28, and is connected to the latter by means of a hinge 29. The rear end of the supporting arm is detachably secured to the top of the stand head 4, by means of a bolt and wing nut 30, in a manner to hold said supporting arm against movement.

The scale 27 is disposed vertically adjacent to one side and outwardly of the frame 25, and extends through a guide plate 31 which is fixed against the forward face of the casing 14. The engagement of the scale in the guide plate maintains the former in its proper vertical position, but allows the vertical adjustment of the adjustable section of the device without disturbing the position and accuracy of the length scale.

The connection and support of the length scale 27 with the supporting arm 28, by means of the interconnecting hinge 29, as stated, is an important feature of the invention. The hinge provides a flexible attachment for the length scale permitting slight, necessary, lateral movements causing the scale to properly accommodate itself, in its engagement in the guide plate 31, to movements of the adjustable section of the apparatus while said section is being adjusted in the stand.

It will here be noted that, in our improved apparatus the embodied camera 23 and lamps 26 are properly positioned, adjusted, and focused at the factory for best photographic production, and remain in such condition during use. In practice, it is only necessary for the operator to elevate or lower the adjustable section of the device to accommodate the height of the person to be photographed, and to adjust the indicator 17 to display the required identification number through the casing opening 16. The resultant picture will show the likeness of the person photographed, together with his height and identification number.

The present invention provides a most efficient device of its kind, which may be economically constructed, and conveniently operated and employed in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

What we claim is:

In a photographic apparatus, the combination of a supporting stand, a table structure vertically adjustable in said stand, means for holding said structure in the adjusted position, automatically operable means exerting an upward pull on said structure for facilitating the adjustment of the latter in said stand, a centralizing frame supported at one end of said structure, a camera carried adjacent to the other end of said structure and having a fixed focus directed toward said frame, illuminating elements mounted on said structure and having a fixed focus directed toward said frame, a numbers indicator mounted on said structure at the lower end of said frame, a supporting arm detachably fixed to said stand, a guide plate fixed to said structure, and a height measuring element having a hinged connection with said arm and extending through said guide plate.

CHARLES L. WALSH.
LOUIS ISAACS.
ALFRED M. MERCUR.