Nov. 10, 1931. R. F. BLANCHARD ET AL 1,831,700

MESSAGE COPYHOLDER AND GUMMING DESK FOR PRINTING TELEGRAPH MACHINES

Filed Sept. 4, 1929 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

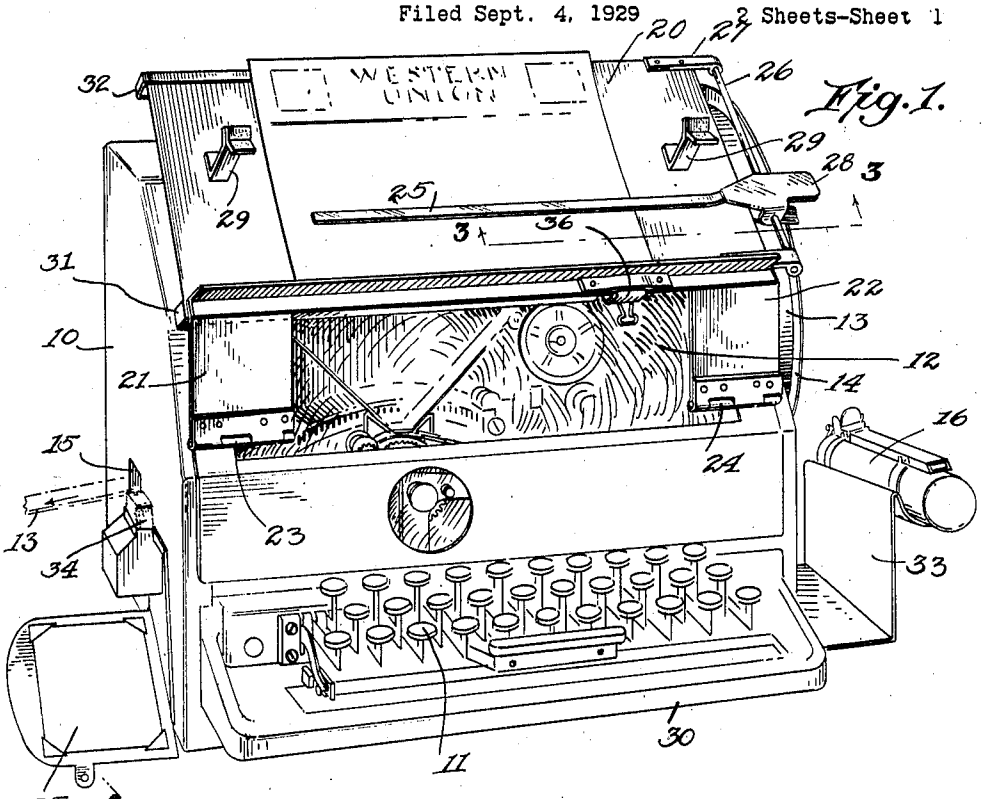


Fig. 1.

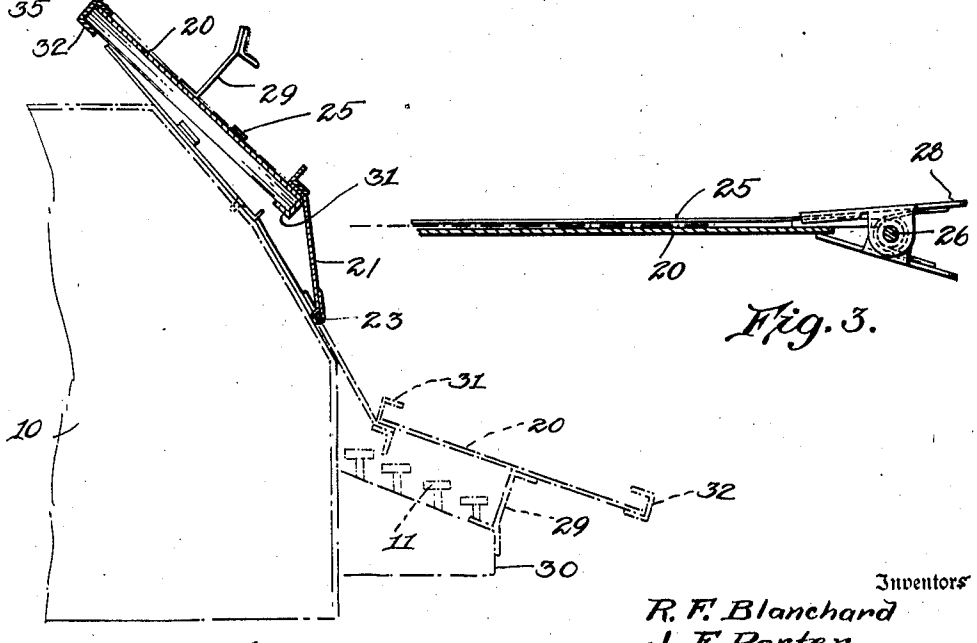


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

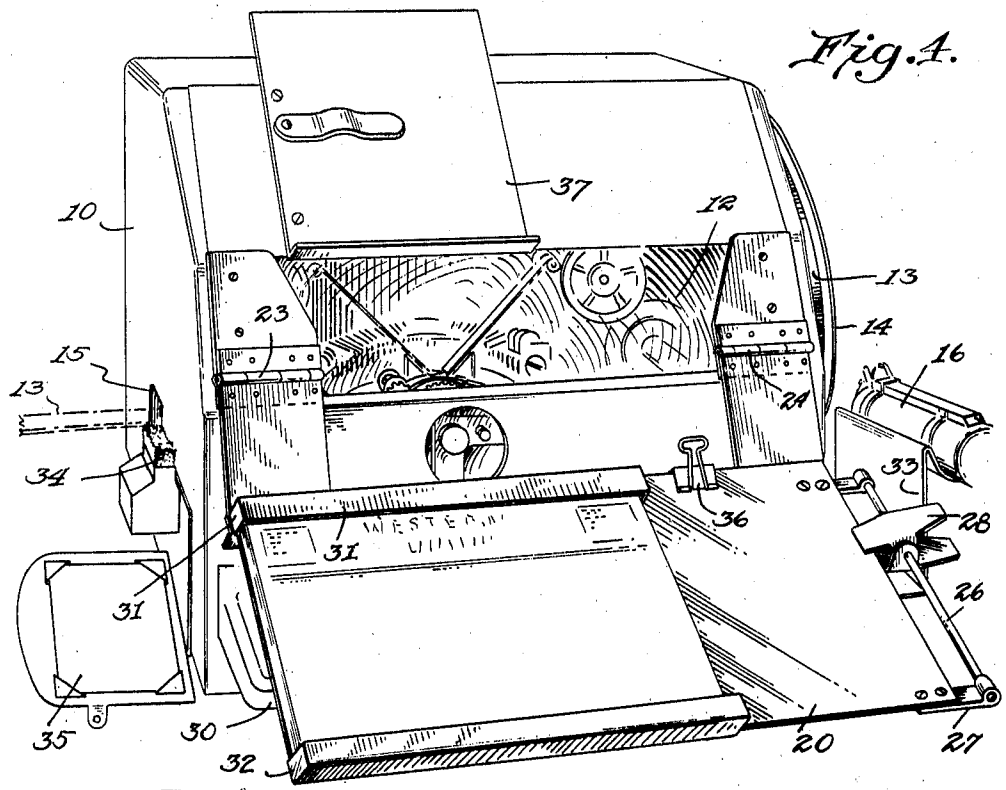
Inventors
R. F. Blanchard
J. F. Porter
George Marx
By Eugene C. Brown
Attorney

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Fig. 4.



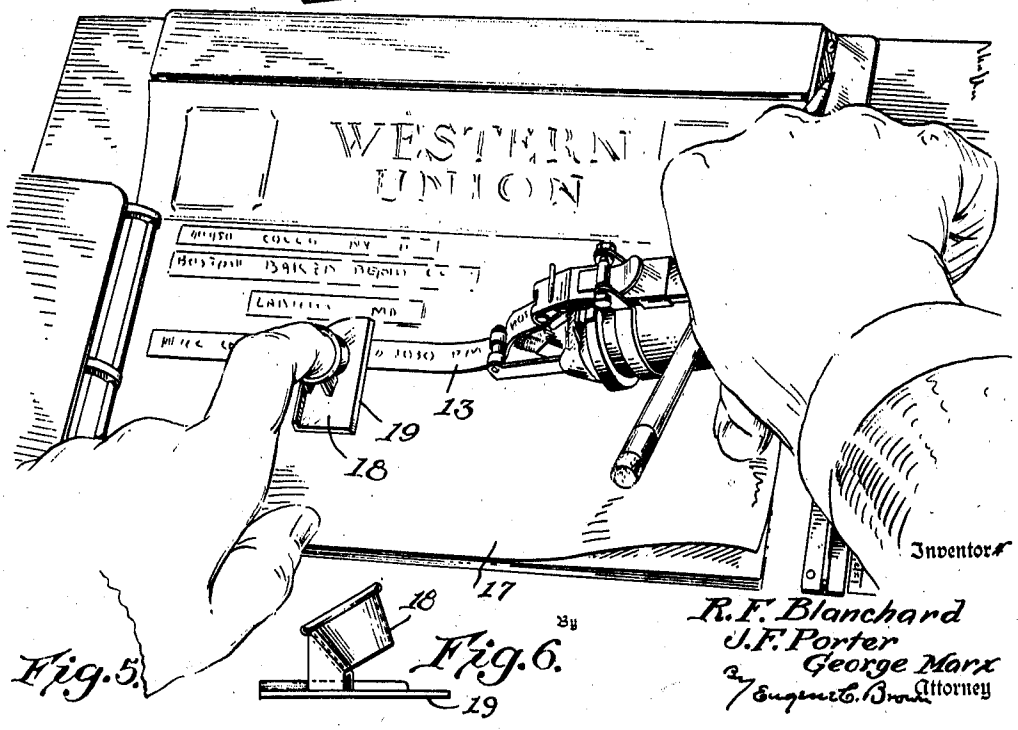


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

Inventors
R. F. Blanchard
J. F. Porter
George Marx
By Eugene C. Brown Attorney

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ROLLA F. BLANCHARD, OF WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY, AND JAMES F. PORTER AND GEORGE MARX, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNORS TO THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK

MESSAGE COPYHOLDER AND GUMMING DESK FOR PRINTING TELEGRAPH MACHINES

Application filed September 4, 1923. Serial No. 390,326.

This invention relates to a combined copy holder and working table for a printing machine such as a telegraph tape printing machine, typewriter, etc.

In printing telegraph systems it is common practice to employ at each station, a combined key board transmitter and tape printing unit for use alternatively in the interchange of messages over the same or different lines, the tape on which the message is received being gummed on the reverse side so that it may be applied to the usual telegram blank.

Heretofore, it has been necessary to provide each operator with a gumming desk alongside of the combined transmitting and printing unit to provide facilities for applying the gummed strip to the telegram blank, as the strip emerges from the printing unit. With this arrangement the operator alternatively shifts back and forth between the gumming desk and the transmitting unit with each change in the direction of the transmission.

It is one of the objects of the present invention to eliminate the need for a separate gumming desk and to save on floor space and conserve the energy of the operator by providing the printing unit with a suitable gumming desk which may be used by the operator without shifting from his regular transmitting position.

Another object is to provide a combined copy holder and working table which may be attached directly to and be supported by the transmitting and printing unit and which will not interfere with the proper functioning of the machine nor obstruct the view of the interior thereof.

In accordance with our invention we provide an attachment for a transmitting and printing unit comprising a plate hinged to the machine so as to be disposed either at the top of the machine and having one side facing the operator to serve as a copy holder or to be disposed over the keyboard and having the opposite side uppermost to serve as a working or gumming table. In the copy holding position, means is provided in engagement with the plate to hold the copy and act as a line guide, and, in the gumming position means is provided for supporting a pad or other material to be worked upon.

Reference will be had to the accompanying drawings for a detailed description of the invention in which drawings:

Figure 1 is a front perspective view of a printing and transmitting telegraph machine showing the attachment in the copy holding position;

Figure 2 is a sectional view through the attachment showing its relation to the transmitting and printing unit in both the copy holding and gumming position;

Figure 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a perspective view showing the attachment in the gumming position;

Figure 5 is a perspective view of a gumming desk showing the manner of applying the tape to the telegram blank; and

Figure 6 is an elevational view of the gumming thimble employed by the operator.

In the drawings, we have shown the invention applied to a tape printing telegraph machine to provide a combined copy holder and gumming desk, although it is to be understood that it may also serve as an attachment for a typewriter or similar machine to provide a combined copy holder and working table.

The telegraph printing machine comprises a metal casing 10 having a bank of transmitting key levers 11 at the front thereof and the printing and transmitting mechanism contained therein. A glass window 12 is provided in the front of the casing to permit the printing mechanism to be observed. The tape 13 is wound upon a reel 14 disposed at one side of the machine, and is fed through the machine emerging at the opposite side through an opening 15. The tape is gummed on the unprinted side so that it may be applied to a telegram blank.

During an interchange of business, the operator alternatively transmits, by manipulating the key levers 11 and receives, the received message being automatically printed upon the tape. As the printed tape emerges from the machine, it is threaded

through a moistening device 16, by the operator, and applied to the telegram blank. As previously stated, it has been necessary, heretofore, to perform the gumming operation at a separate desk alongside of the transmitting and printing unit. Figure 5 shows a portion of such a desk having a telegram blank pad 17 secured thereto. The tape is moistened by the device 16 held in the hand of the operator and is pressed against the telegram blank by a thimble 18 worn by the operator, as is clearly illustrated in the figure. The thimble has a straight edge 19 across which the tape is torn at the end of the line.

In accordance with the present invention we eliminate the necessity of using such separate gumming table by providing a table mounted directly upon the printing machine. A rectangular plate 20 extends across the front of the machine and has a pair of angularly disposed extensions 21 and 22 hinged at 23 and 24 to the casing of the machine so that the plate may rest against the upper portion of the casing as shown in Figures 1 and 2, or may be swung downward over the key board as shown in Figure 4 and in dotted lines in Figure 2. In the upper position the plate serves as a copy holder and for this purpose it is provided with a copy holding bar and line guide 25 pivoted on a rod 26 extending between lugs 27, at one end of the plate. The line guide is held in a set position relative to the plate by a thumb clamp 28 engaging the opposite sides of the plate. In this position the plate is elevated above the key levers 11 so as not to hinder their use by the operator, and is also positioned above the glass window 12 so as not to obstruct the view to the interior of the machine.

The copy holding side of the plate has a pair of supporting legs 29 extending therefrom which engage the frame 30 of the machine, as shown in dotted lines in Figure 2, when the plate is swung to the lower or gumming position. The legs 29 maintain the plate out of engagement with the key levers so they will not be accidentally depressed. Suitable means is provided on the gumming side of the plate for holding a pad or sheaf of telegram blanks, such means as shown comprising a pair of horizontal channels 31 and 32.

As illustrated in Figure 4, when the plate is in the gumming position the window 12 is unobstructed so that the printing operation may be observed.

After the transmission of the messages has ceased and reception commenced, the operator, without shifting his position, may swing the plate 20 to the gumming position and apply the tape to the telegram blank as it emerges from the machine. The necessary accessories are suitably supported from the casing of the machine, the moistening device 16, when not in use, being supported in the bracket 33 at one side of the machine, and a moistening wick 34 and blotter 35 being supported at the opposite side of the machine where they are convenient for cleaning the thimble and for moistening the end of the tape. Various other accessories may be provided depending upon the particular use of the machine, as for instance a confirmation clip 36 for holding a confirmation blank to which confirming pieces of tape are affixed.

A receiving number sheet 37 is also secured to the casing of the machine for holding a number sheet on which the messages may be checked off as received. The receiving number sheet is used only during reception of messages and is covered by the plate 20 during the transmission of messages.

Obviously various other accessories may be added and changes made in the construction of the combined copy holder and working table without departing from the invention, and we do not desire to be limited, therefore, to the particular details shown and described except in accordance with the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. In a transmitting and tape printing telegraph machine having a key board, a combined copy holder and gumming desk comprising a plate secured to the machine, means on one side of said plate for holding copy, means on the opposite side of said plate for holding paper blanks and means for permitting said plate to be moved so that either side may be uppermost, said plate in the gumming position being disposed above and closely adjacent to said key board and in a plane substantially parallel thereto.

2. In a transmitting and tape printing telegraph machine a combined copy holder and gumming desk comprising a plate, hinge means for the plate secured at each side of said machine so that either side of the plate may be disposed uppermost, one side serving as a copy holder and the opposite side as a gumming desk, said hinge means being offset from the plate, transversely of the machine, whereby a zone on each side of said hinge means is unobstructed in either position of said plate.

3. In a transmitting and tape printing telegraph machine having a bank of keys, a combined copy holder and gumming desk comprising a plate hinged along one side to the front of the machine centrally thereof so that said plate may be positioned over the keys to serve as a gumming table or adjacent to the top of the machine to serve as a copy holder.

4. In a transmitting and tape printing telegraph machine having a bank of keys, a combined copy holder and gumming desk comprising a plate hinged along one side to

the front of the machine centrally thereof so that said plate may be positioned over the keys to serve as a gumming table or adjacent to the top of the machine to serve as a copy holder, the central portion of the front of said machine being unobstructed in either position of said plate.

5. In a transmitting and tape printing telegraph machine having a bank of keys, a combined copy holder and gumming desk comprising a plate hinged along one side to the front of the machine centrally thereof so that said plate may be positioned over the keys to serve as a gumming table or adjacent to the top of the machine to serve as a copy holder, said plate, when serving as a gumming table, extending a substantial distance beyond the front of said keys, in a plane approaching the horizontal.

6. A working table for a key board operated machine having a bank of keys comprising a plate secured to said machine and extending across the front thereof over the key levers, means for supporting said plate closely adjacent and substantially parallel to said keys and means for permitting said plate to be moved away from said key-board so as to leave the keys unobstructed.

7. In a transmitting and printing telegraph machine a combined copy holder and work table comprising a plate hinged on one side of said machine so that either side of said plate may be disposed uppermost, one side serving as a copy holder and the opposite side as a working table, and an auxiliary work holder secured to the machine beneath said plate when it is in copy holding position and exposed when said plate is serving as a work holder.

In testimony whereof, we affix our signatures.

ROLLA F. BLANCHARD.
JAMES F. PORTER.
GEORGE MARX.