

F. R. ALLEN.
MOISTENER.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 24, 1911.

1,059,336.

Patented Apr. 22, 1913.

Fig. 1.

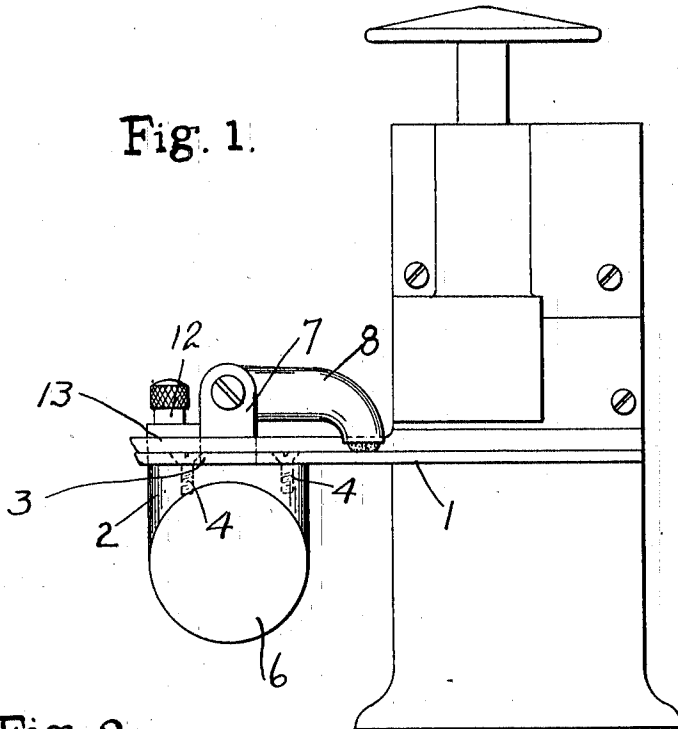


Fig. 2.

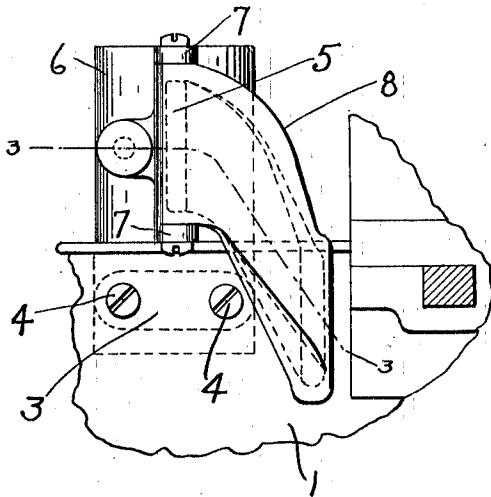
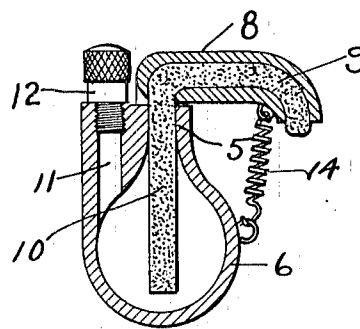


Fig. 3.



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Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRED R. ALLEN, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO NATIONAL ENVELOPE SEALING AND STAMPING MANUFACTURING COMPANY, A CORPORATION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

MOISTENER.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 22, 1913.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRED R. ALLEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of Providence, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Moisteners, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

10 This invention relates to a moistening device for envelops, labels, or other matter, and has for its object to provide a moistener of this character having a wick communicating directly with the moisture supplying
15 reservoir the free end of said wick being pivotally mounted and arranged to extend into the path of movement of the material to be moistened, whereby the wick is adapted to automatically adjust itself to the
20 varying thicknesses of the passing material and supply a uniform quantity of liquid thereto.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features
25 of construction, as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1— is an elevation showing my improved
30 moistener attached to the table of a stamp affixing machine. Fig. 2— is a plan view showing the reservoir as attached to the table and having the wick extending laterally therefrom into the path of movement of the
35 matter to be moistened. Fig. 3— is a sectional elevation through the reservoir and wick tube on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates the table over which the matter to be
40 moistened is fed, said table being illustrated herein as connected to a machine primarily adapted for affixing stamps to envelops and other mail matter. 13 designates a narrow
45 envelop or other matter under the moistener and to the machine for subsequently operating upon the same.

The moisture supplying reservoir 2 may be made in any suitable form, but I have
50 herein shown the body portion 6 of the same as constructed substantially in the form of a barrel, the upper surface at one end being flattened as at 3 and adapted to be secured by screws 4—4, or other suitable means to

the table 1. The upper wall of this barrel is provided with a slot or opening as at 5, see
Figs. 2 and 3, at either end of which are
upwardly projecting ears 7—7. Between
these ears is pivotally hung a tube 8 which
is offset laterally, see Fig. 2, so as to lead or
conduct the free end 9 of the wick 10 con-
tained within it laterally and cause the same
to extend over the table 1. The reservoir is
provided with a filling opening 11 into
which is screwed a closed plug 12.

An essential feature of my invention is the construction whereby the wick passes
through this tube 8 and through the open-
ing 9 down into the reservoir, which reser-
voir is supported at one side of the path of
movement of the material to be moistened,
while the delivery end of the tube and the
wick is offset and led to a point directly
above the path of movement of the matter
to be moistened.

Owing to the fact that one end of the tube from which the wick protrudes is gravity
pressed and free to swing vertically, the
wick will readily yield to permit the ma-
terial no matter how thick, to pass beneath
and the amount of moisture deposited there-
on will be practically uniform as the pres-
sure due to gravity is always the same.

If in practice under some circumstances it is found advisable to increase the pres-
sure of the wick upon the matter to be
moistened, a weight may be applied to the
free end of the tube, or a spring 14 may be
applied thereto for this purpose if desired.

I claim:

1. A moistener comprising a reservoir, a tube pivotally hung on said reservoir, a wick in said tube of substantially uniform width throughout its length and having one end communicating with said reservoir and its
opposite end extending into the path of
movement of the material to be moistened
whereby said wick may automatically adjust
itself to the varying thicknesses of said pass-
ing material.

2. A moistener comprising a reservoir, an offset tube pivotally hung on said reservoir, a wick in said tube of substantially uniform width throughout its length and having one end communicating with said reservoir and
its opposite end following the offset portion
of said tube and extending into the path of
movement of the material to be moistened

whereby said wick may automatically adjust itself to the varying thicknesses of said passing material.

3. In a moistening device, a table, a reservoir provided with an opening in its upper wall, an offset tube pivotally mounted to said reservoir above said opening, a wick in said tube of substantially uniform width throughout its length and having one end extending through said opening into said reservoir the opposite end of said wick following the contour of said tube and extending over said table and into the path of movement of the material to be moistened, whereby said wick may automatically adjust itself to the varying thicknesses of said passing material.

4. In a moistener, a table over which the material to be moistened is fed, a reservoir

having a slot in its upper wall, a laterally offset tube pivotally mounted on said reservoir and above said opening, a wick in said tube of substantially uniform width throughout its length and having one end extending through said slot into said reservoir the opposite end of said wick following the offset contours of said tube and extending out over said table and into the path of movement of the material to be moistened whereby said wick may automatically adjust itself to the varying thicknesses of the passing material.

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

FRED R. ALLEN.

Witnesses:

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."