

United States Patent

Robillard et al.

[15] 3,634,979

[45] Jan. 18, 1972

[54] GRINDING MACHINE

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[21] Appl. No.: 879,785

[52] U.S. Cl.51/165.8

[51] Int. Cl.B24b 49/00

[58] Field of Search51/165.77, 165.8, 165.87, 165.9

[56]

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Primary Examiner—Lester M. Swingle

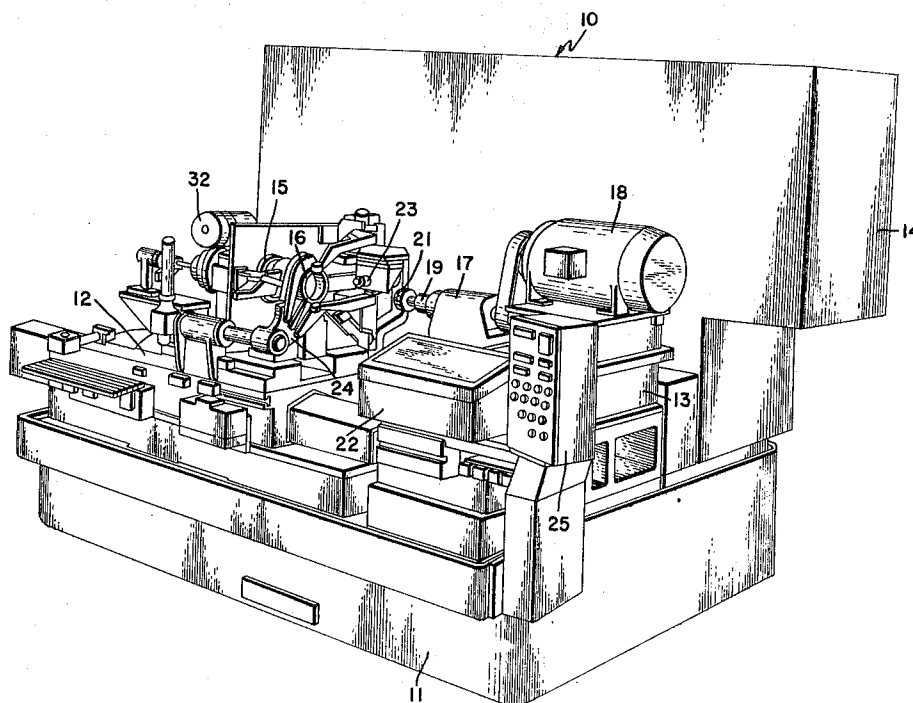
Attorney—Norman S. Blodgett

[57]

ABSTRACT

This invention relates to a grinding machine and, more particularly, to apparatus for generating a surface of revolution by the abrasive process, substantial portions of the grinding cycle being controlled by digital means.

9 Claims, 37 Drawing Figures



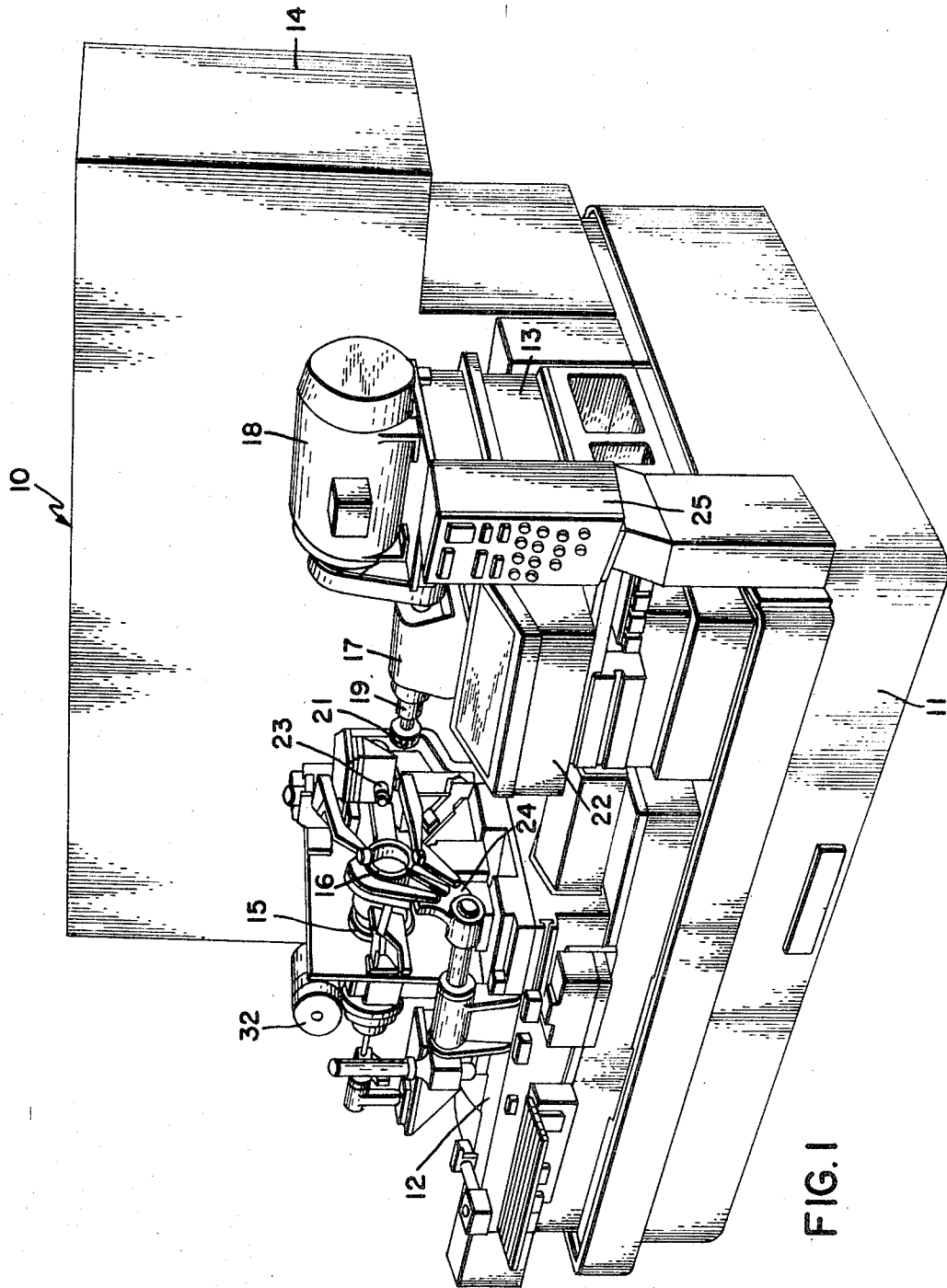
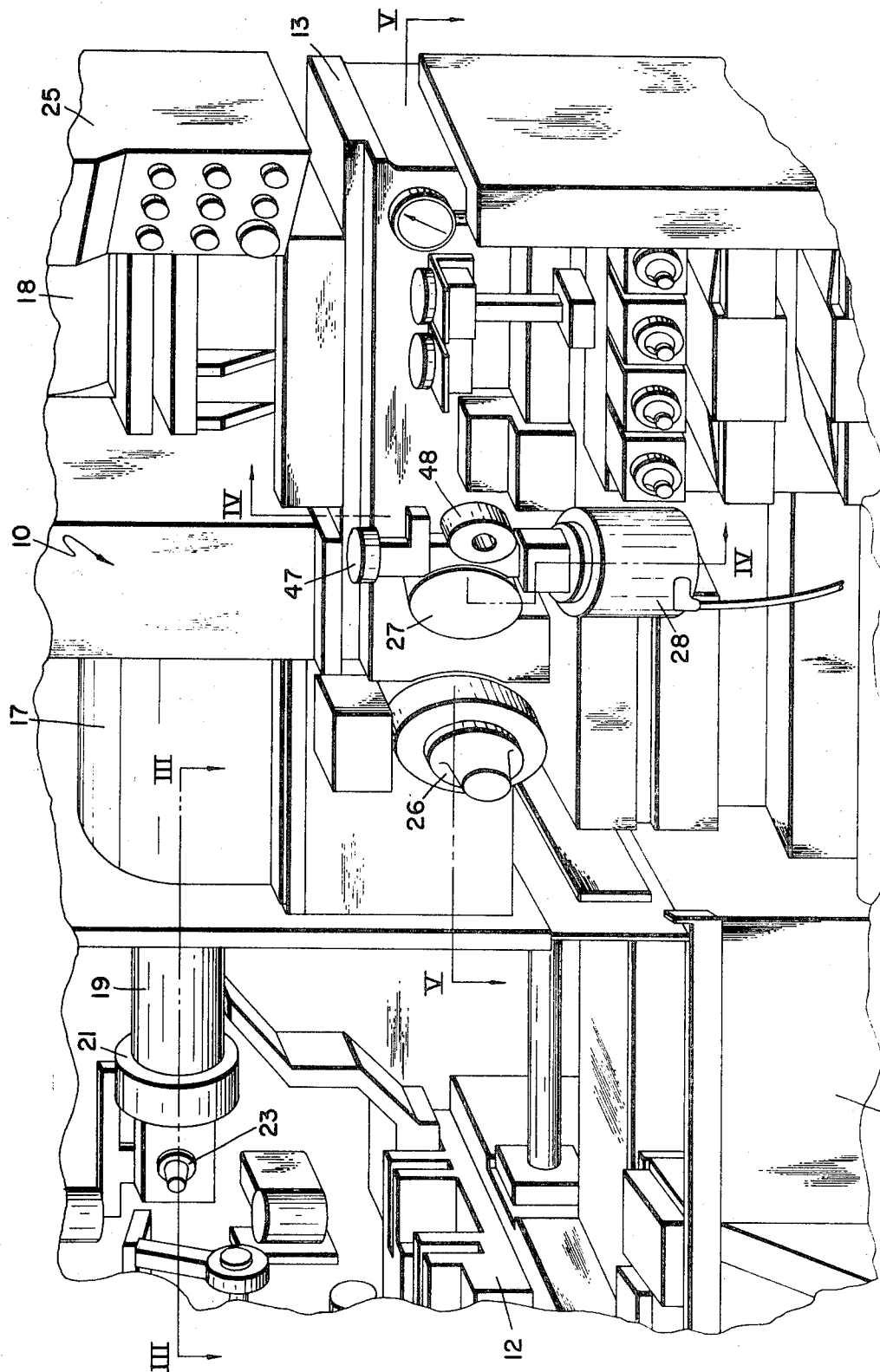


FIG. 1

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Herbert R. Uhtenwoldt
ATTORNEY



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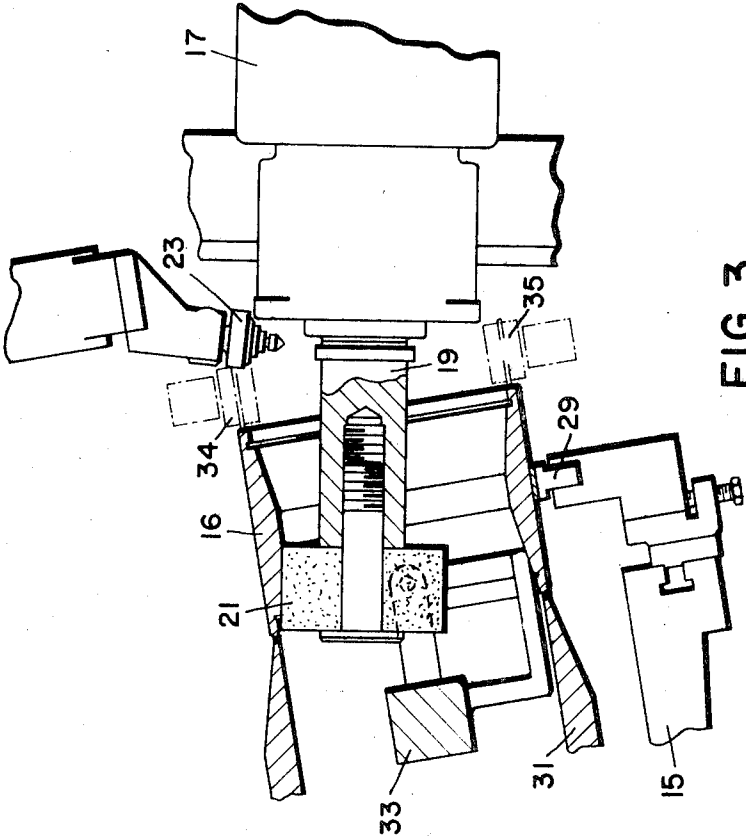
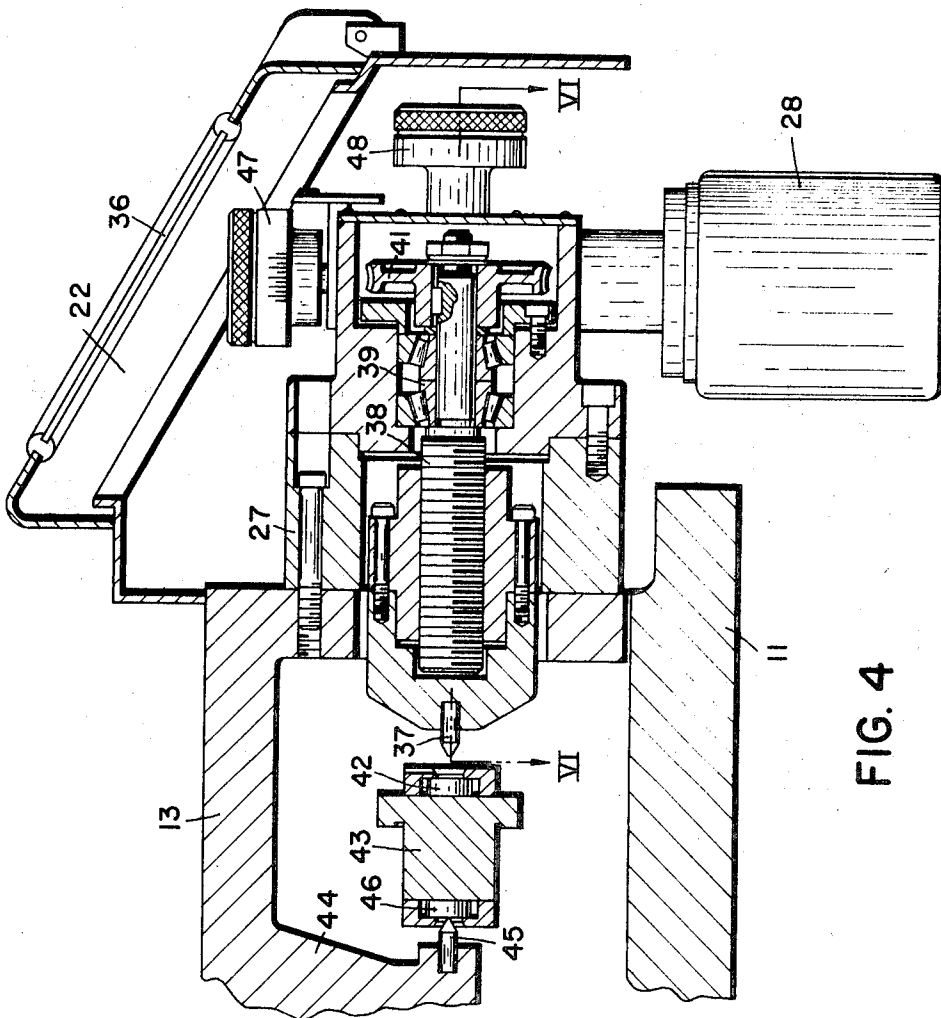


FIG. 3



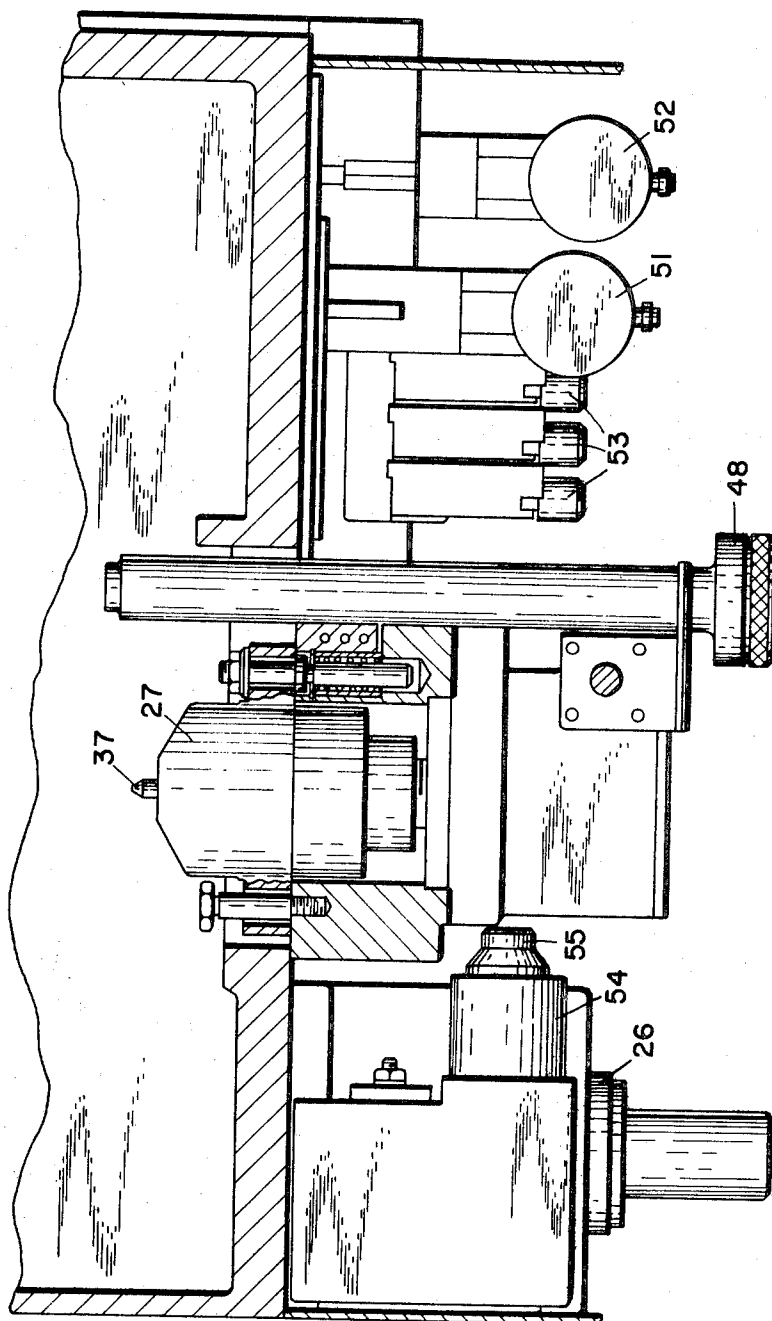


FIG. 5

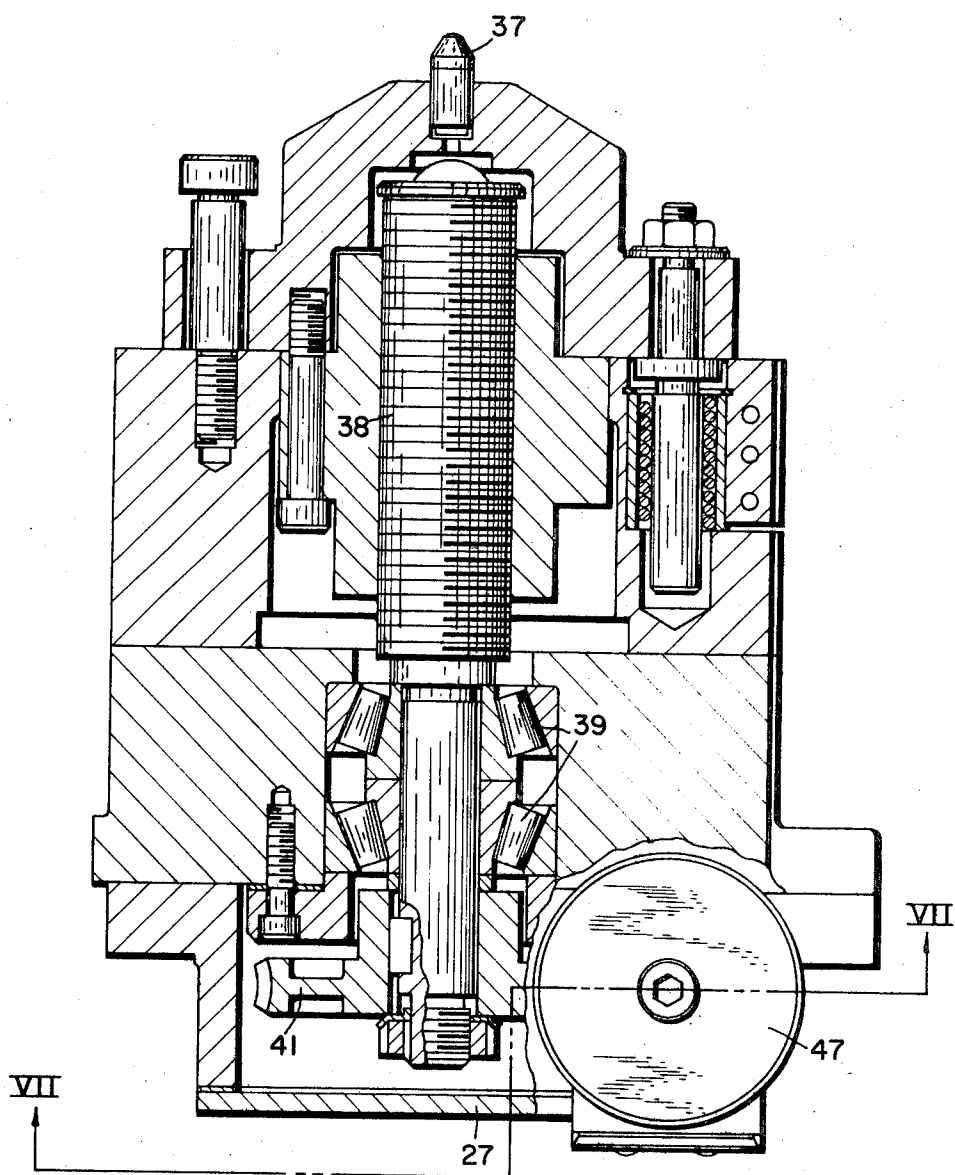
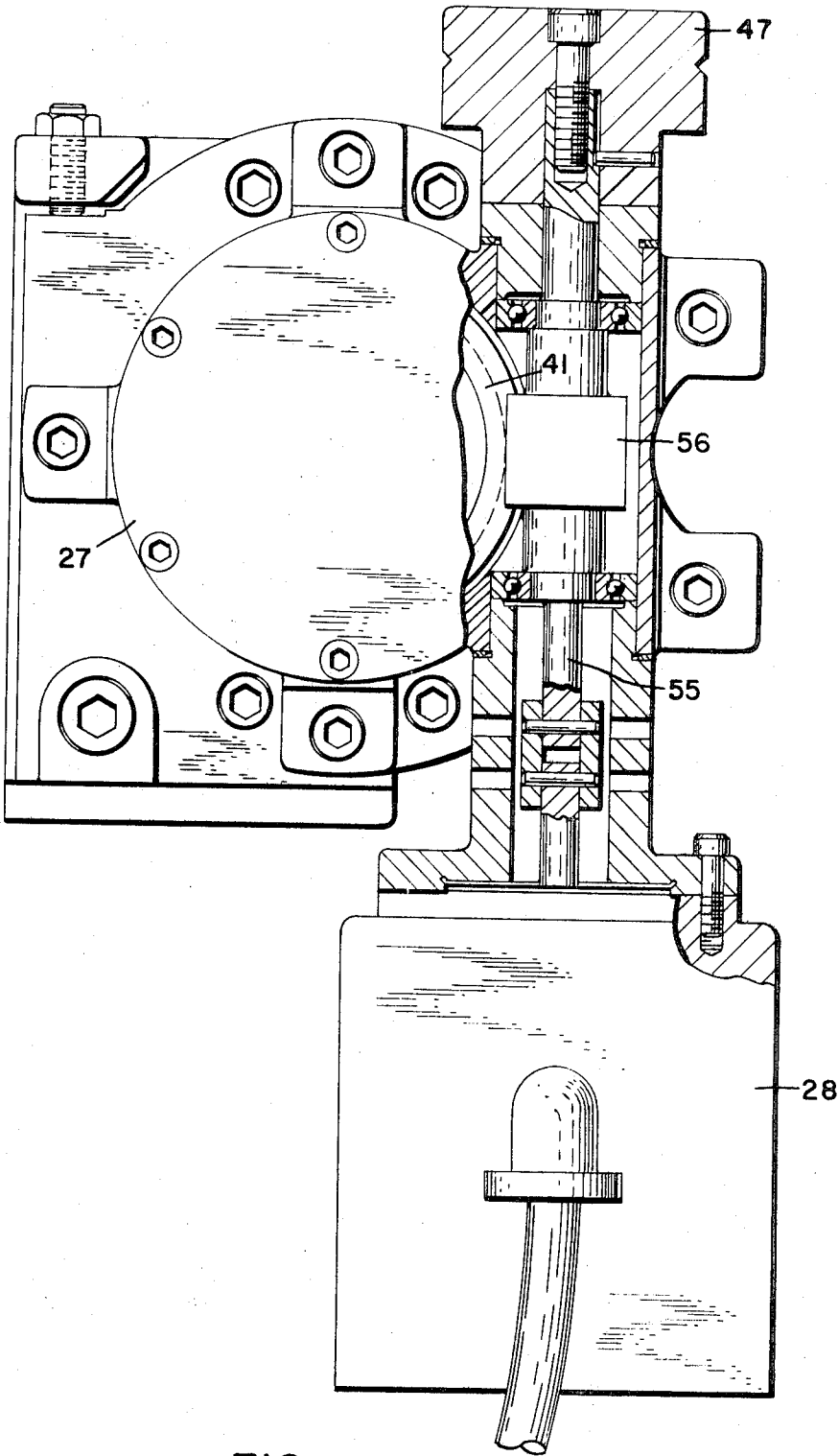


FIG. 6



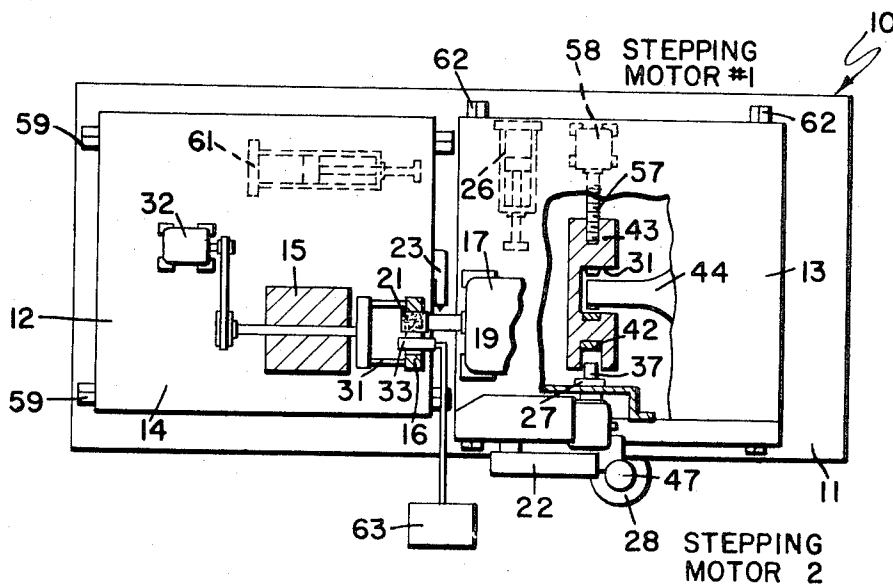


FIG. 8

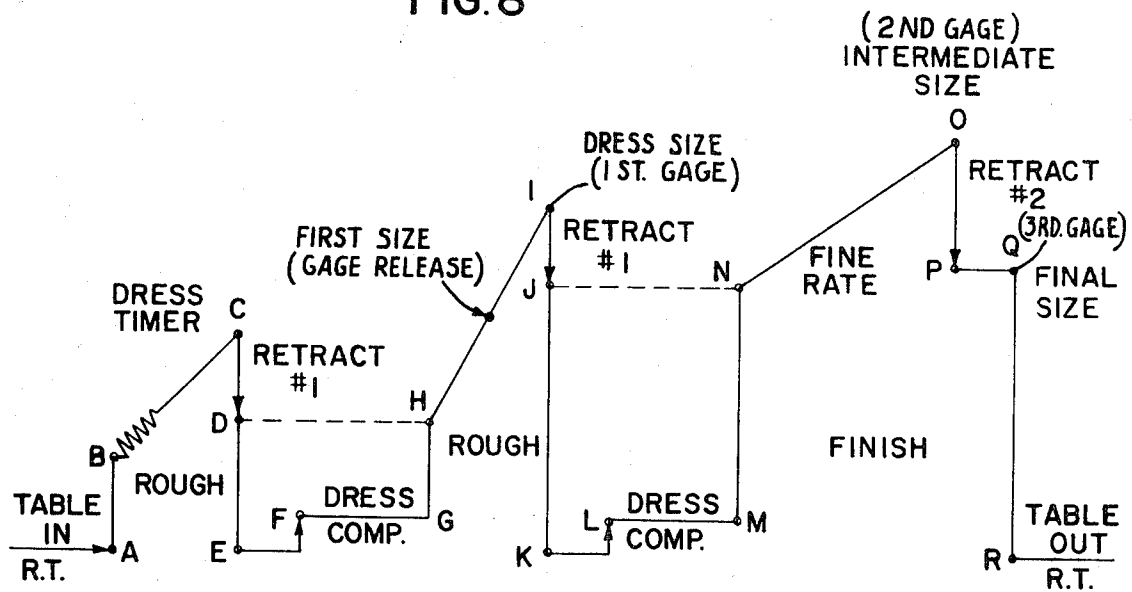
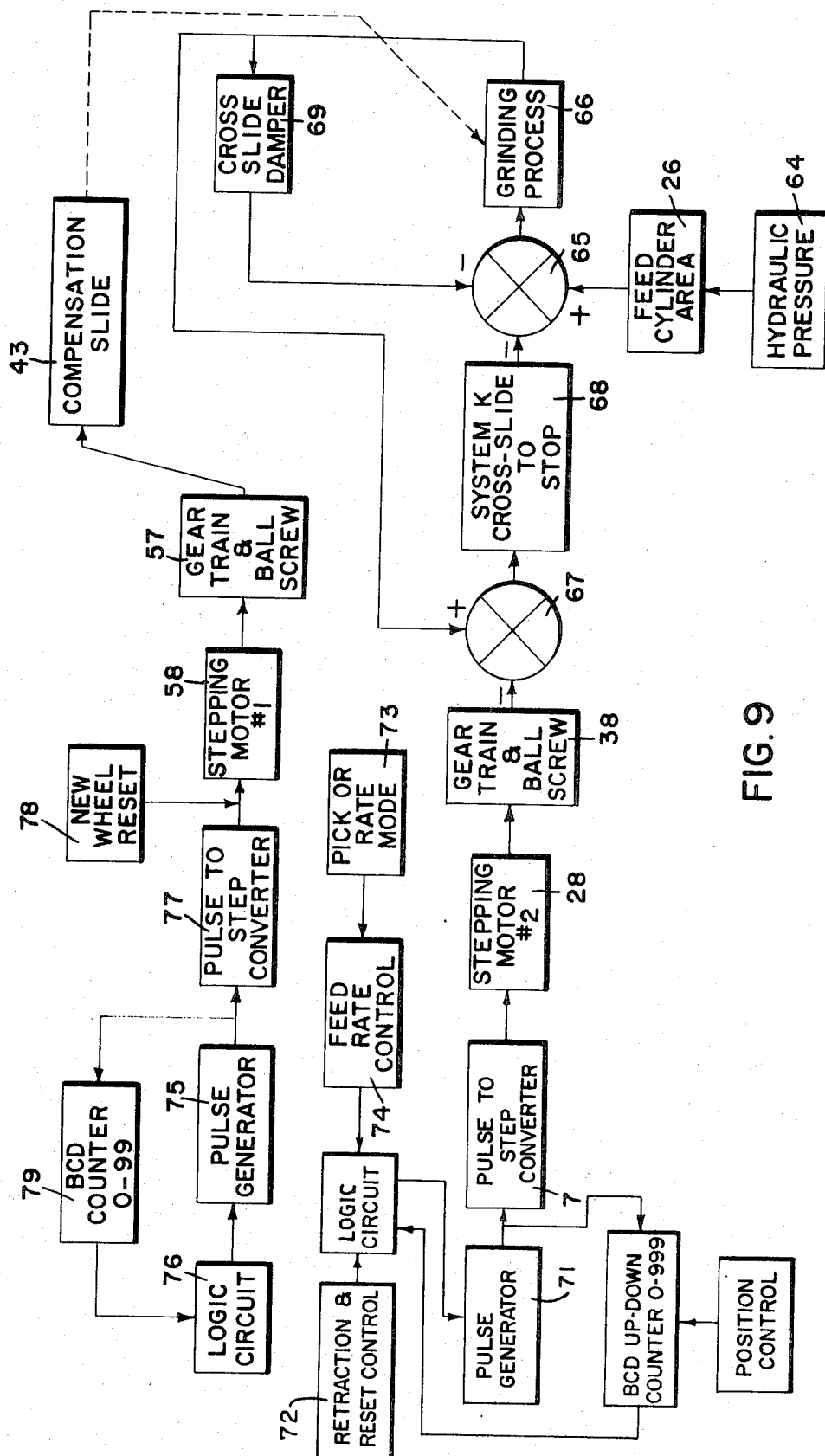
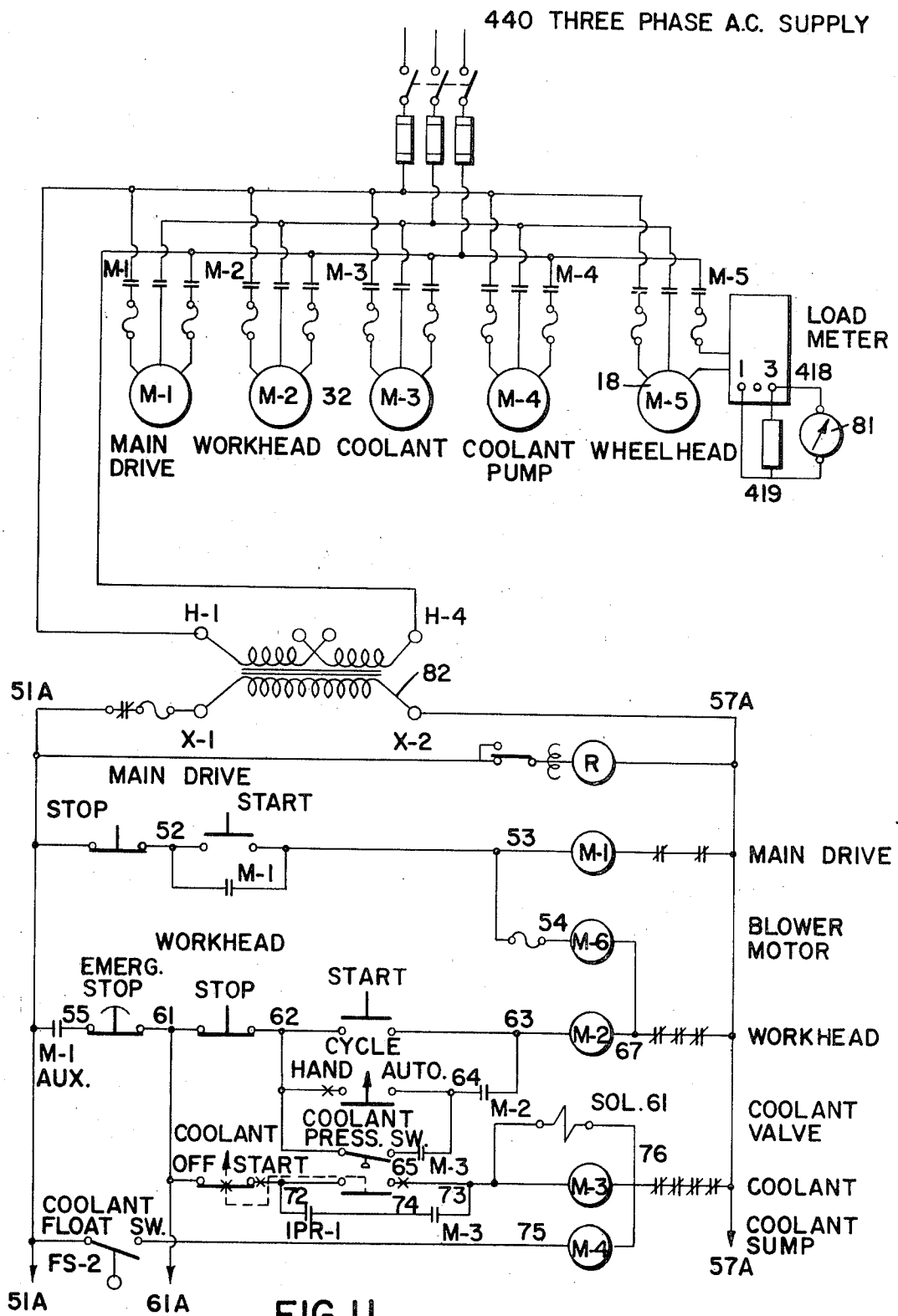


FIG. 10





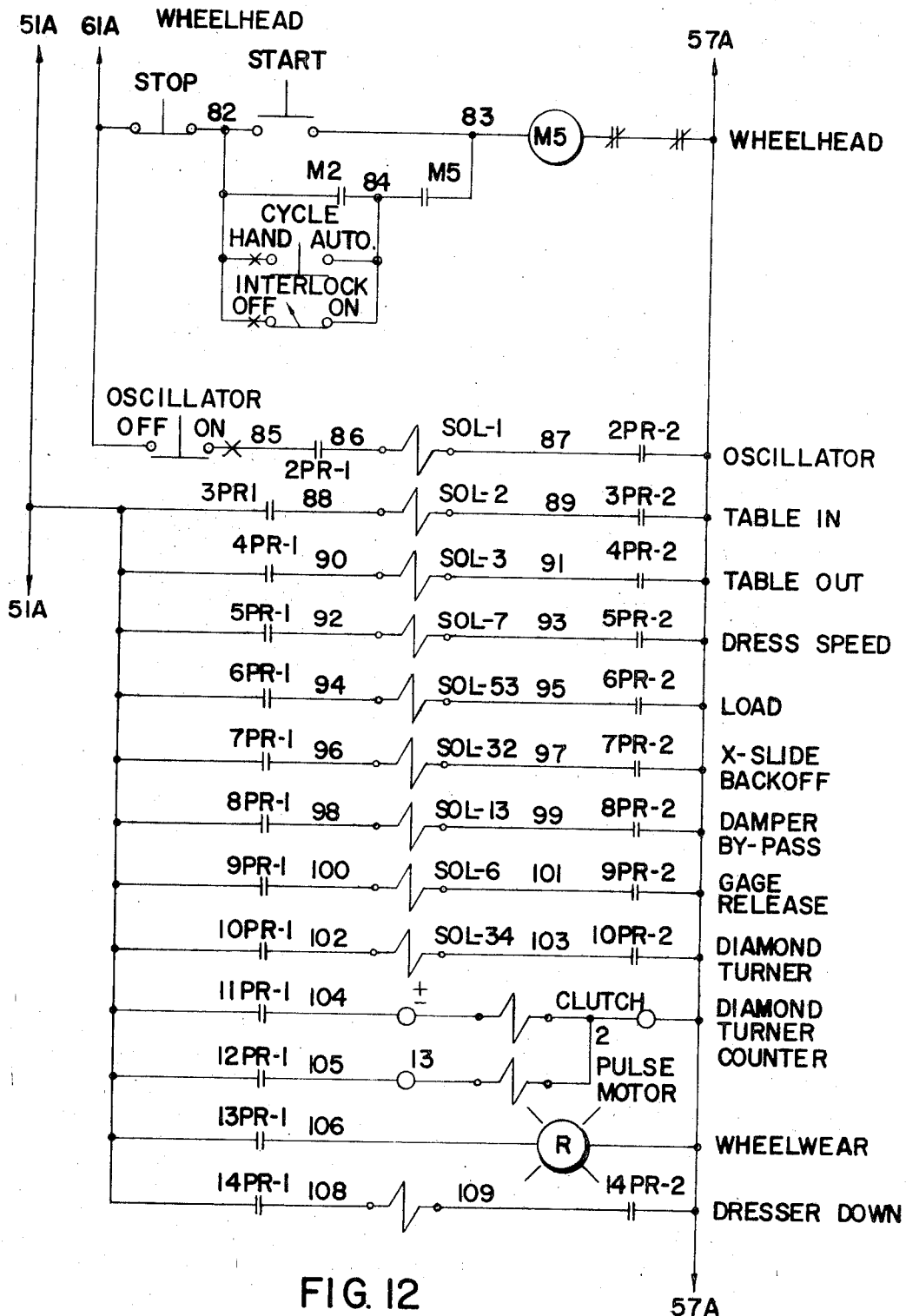


FIG. 12

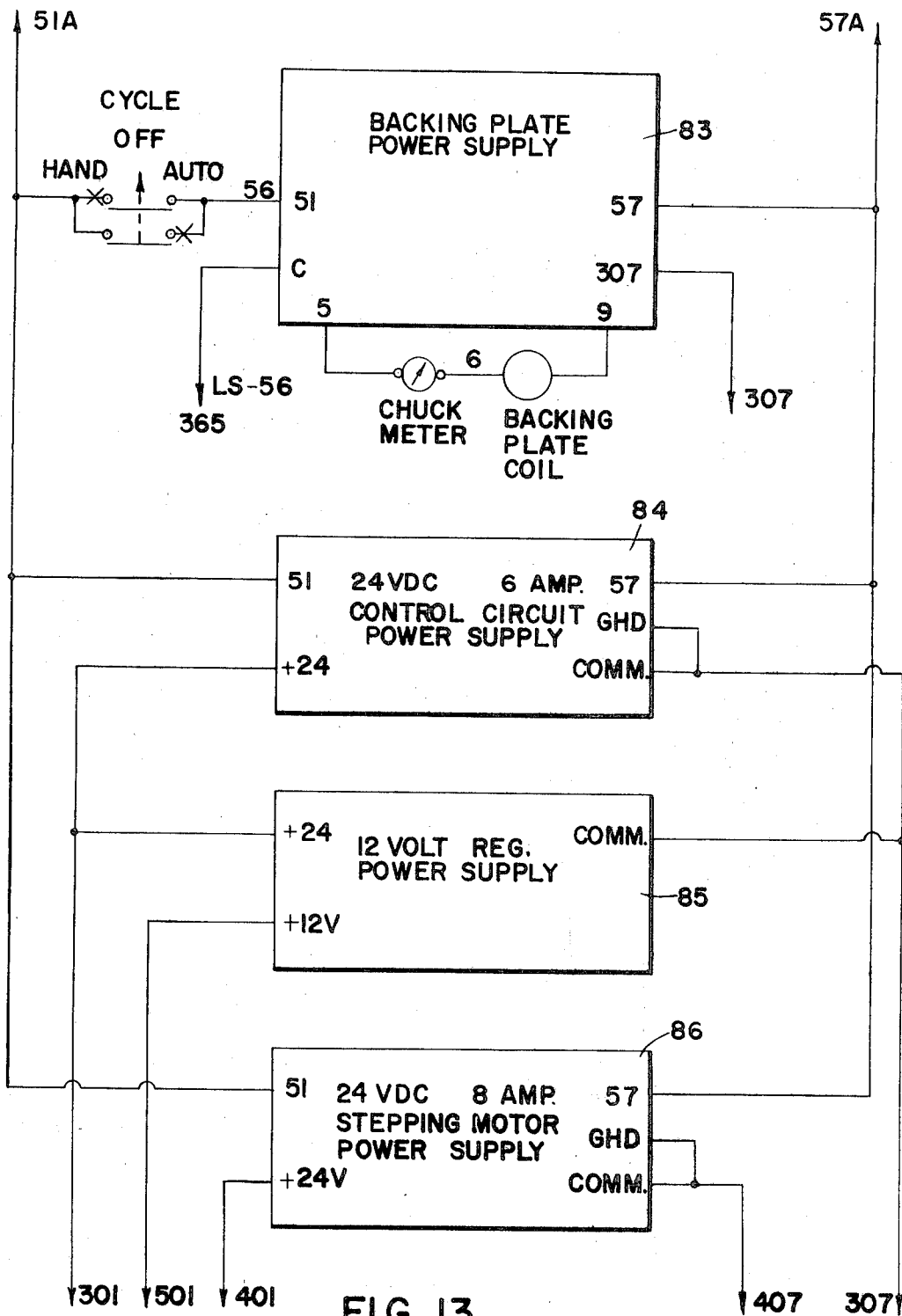
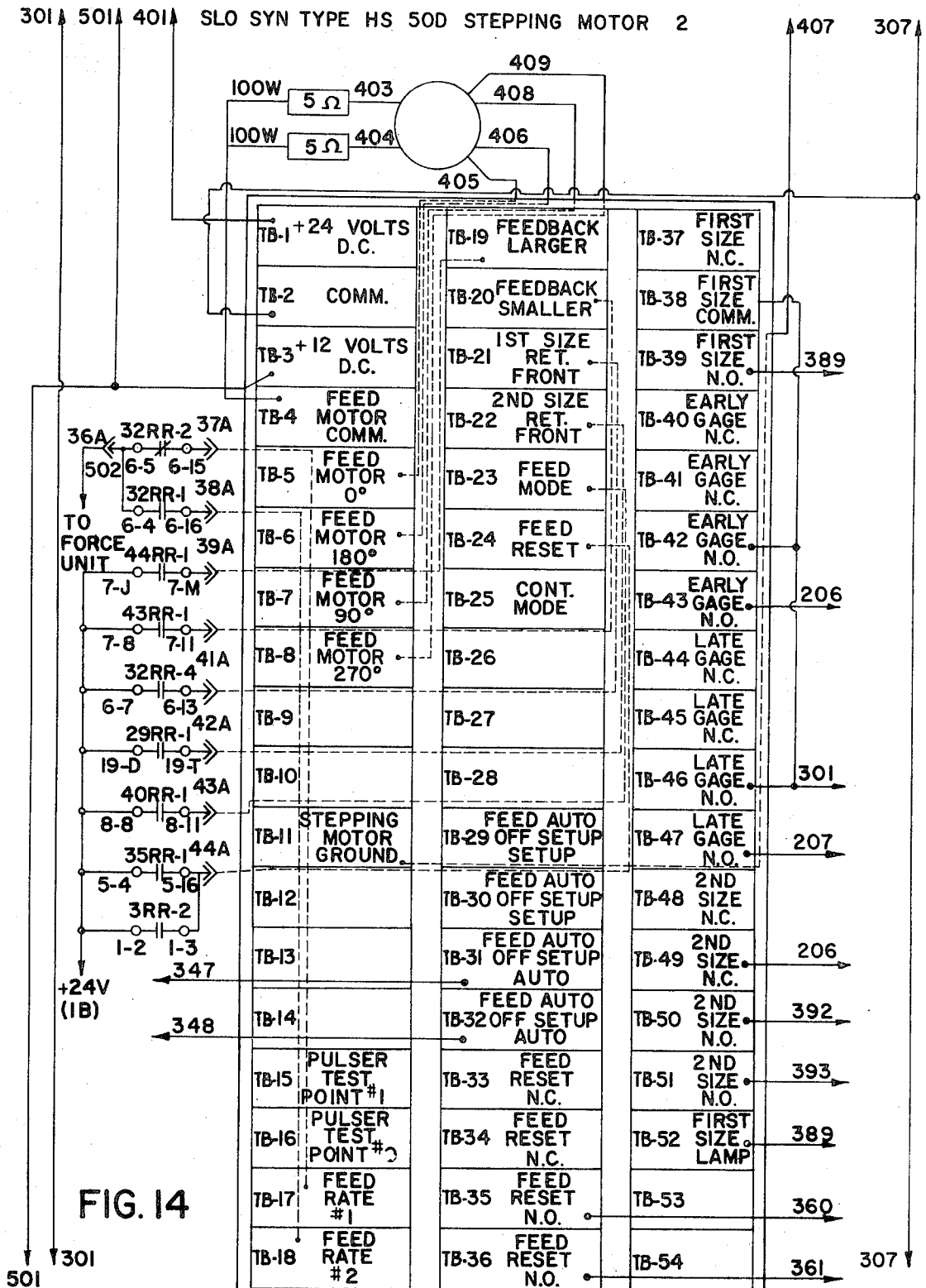
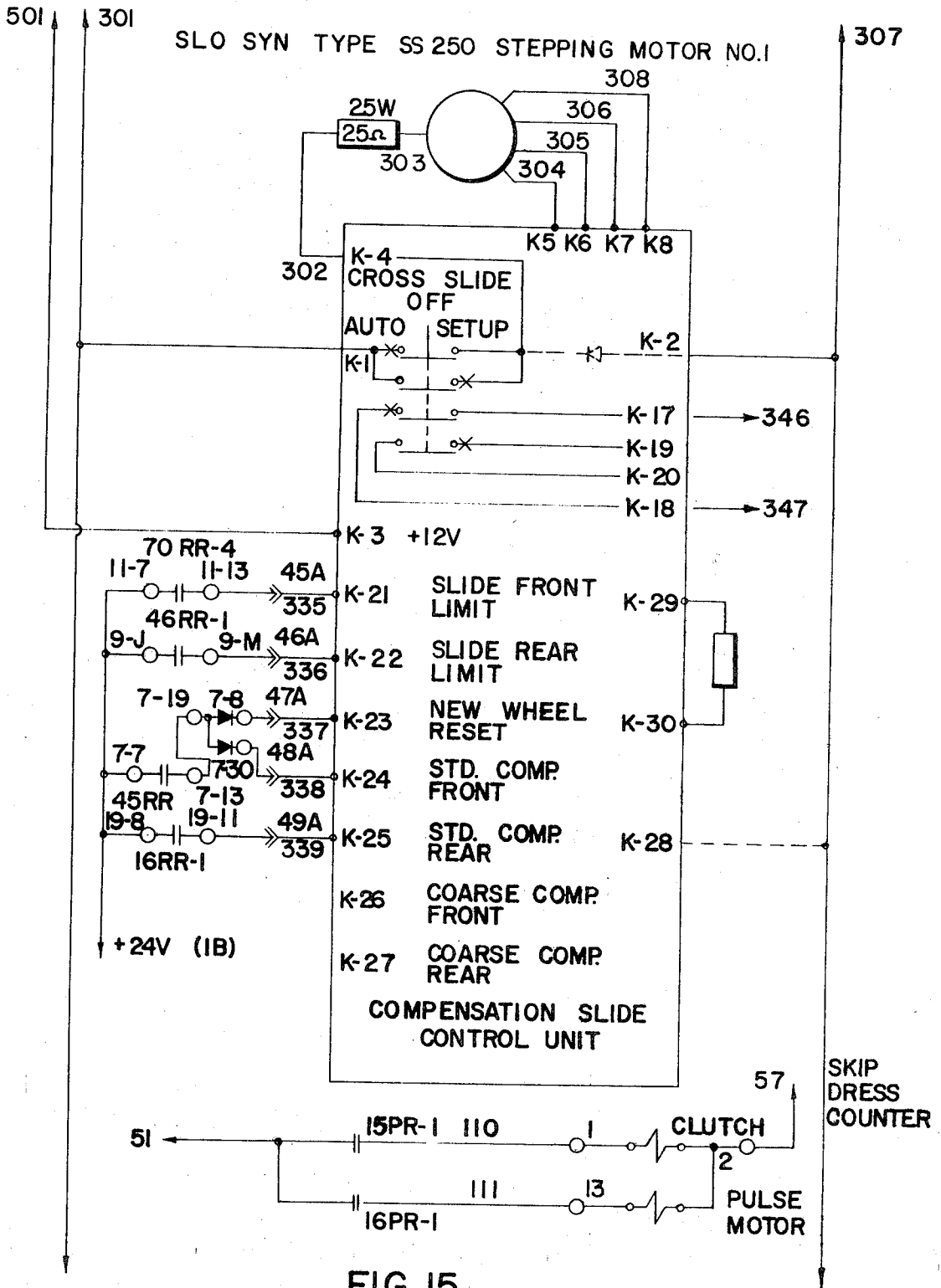
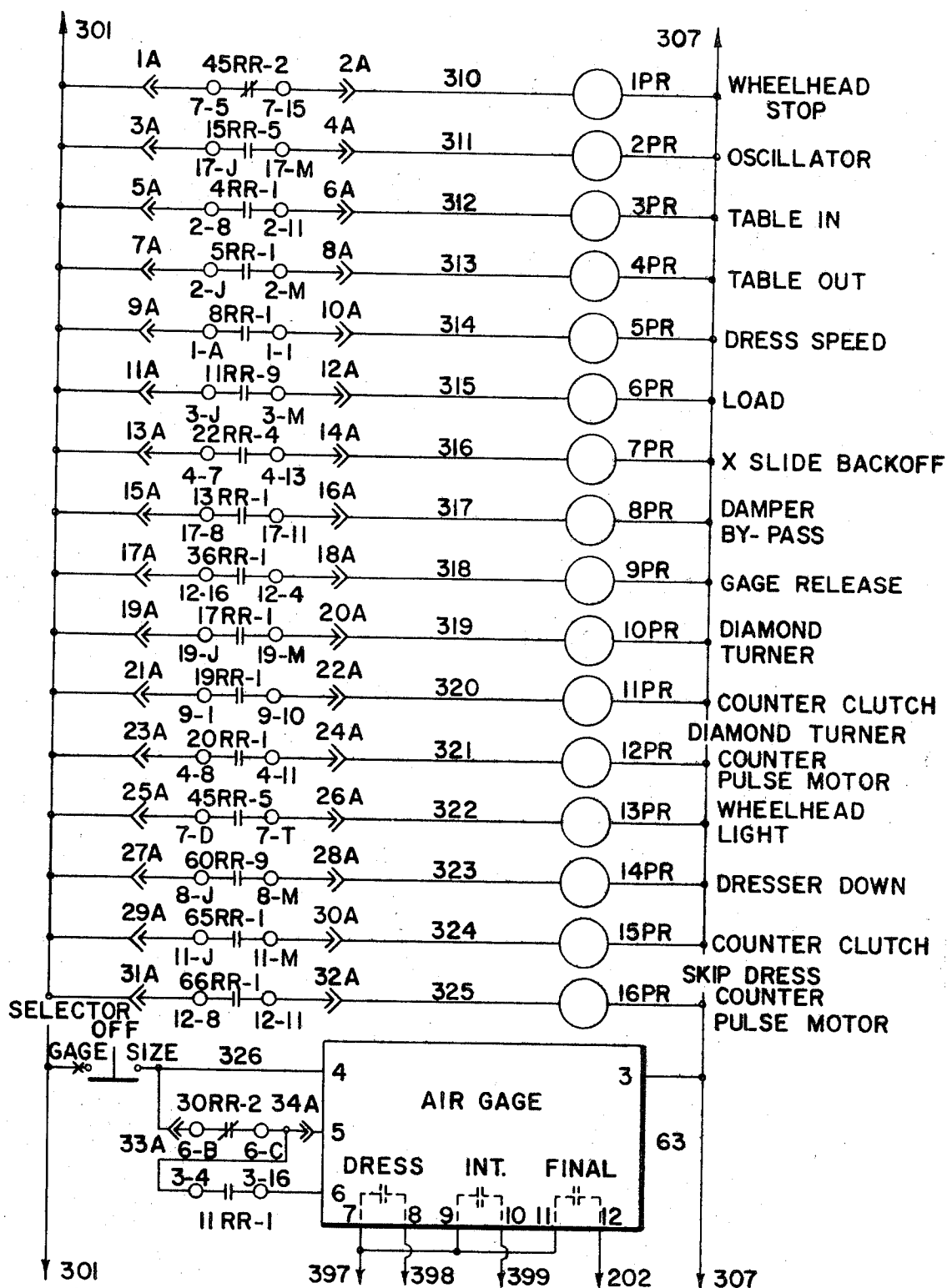
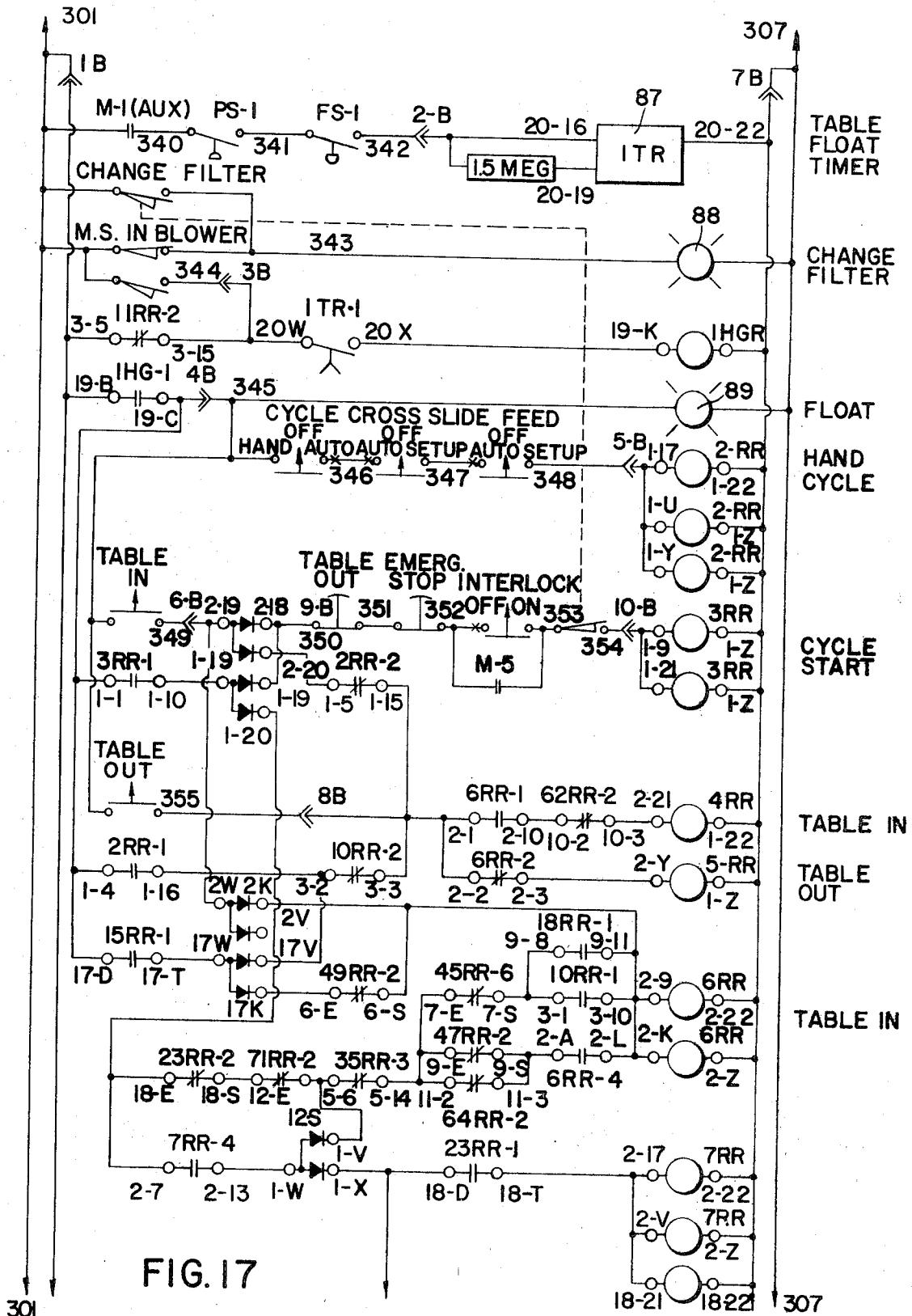


FIG. 13









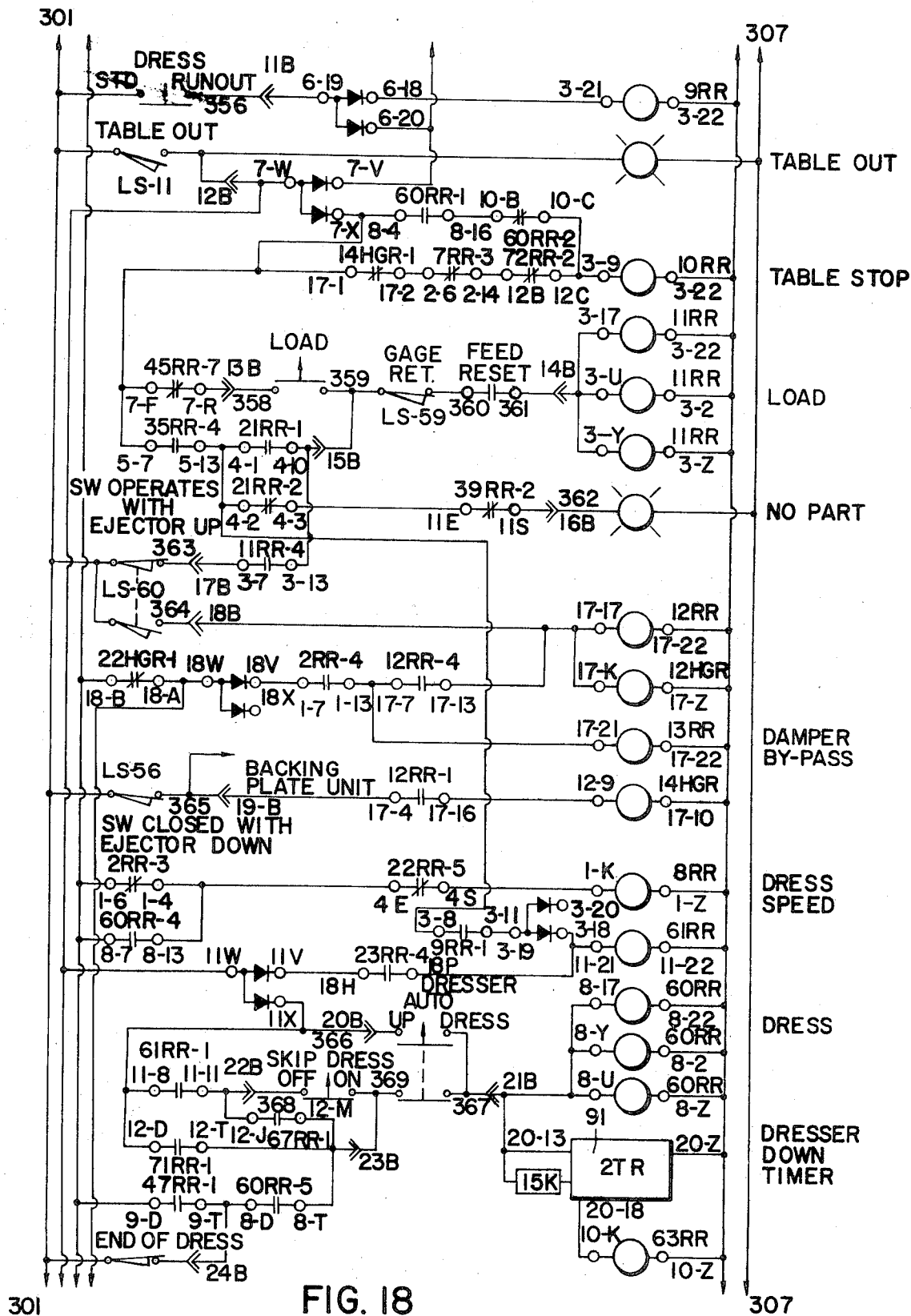


FIG. 18

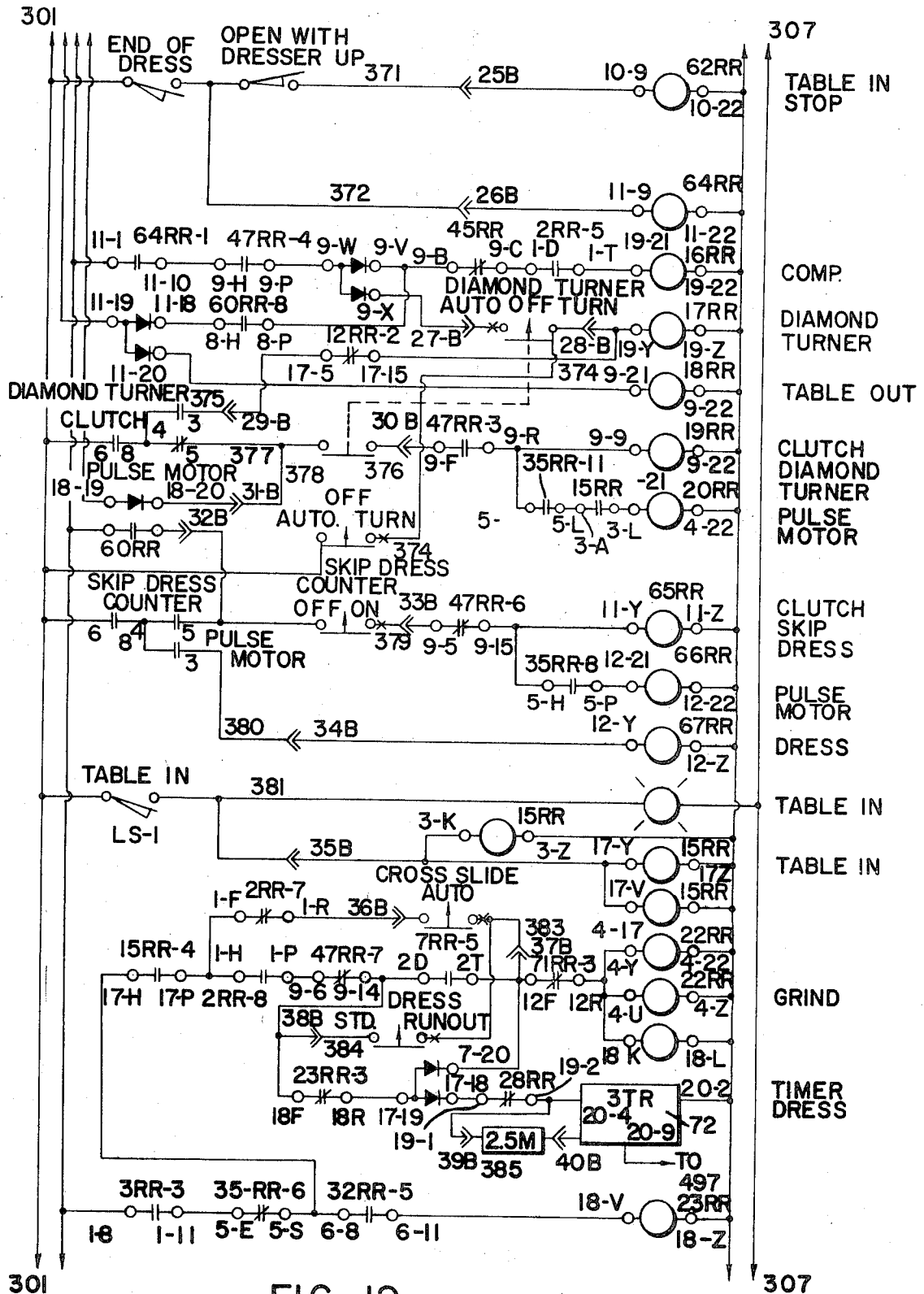
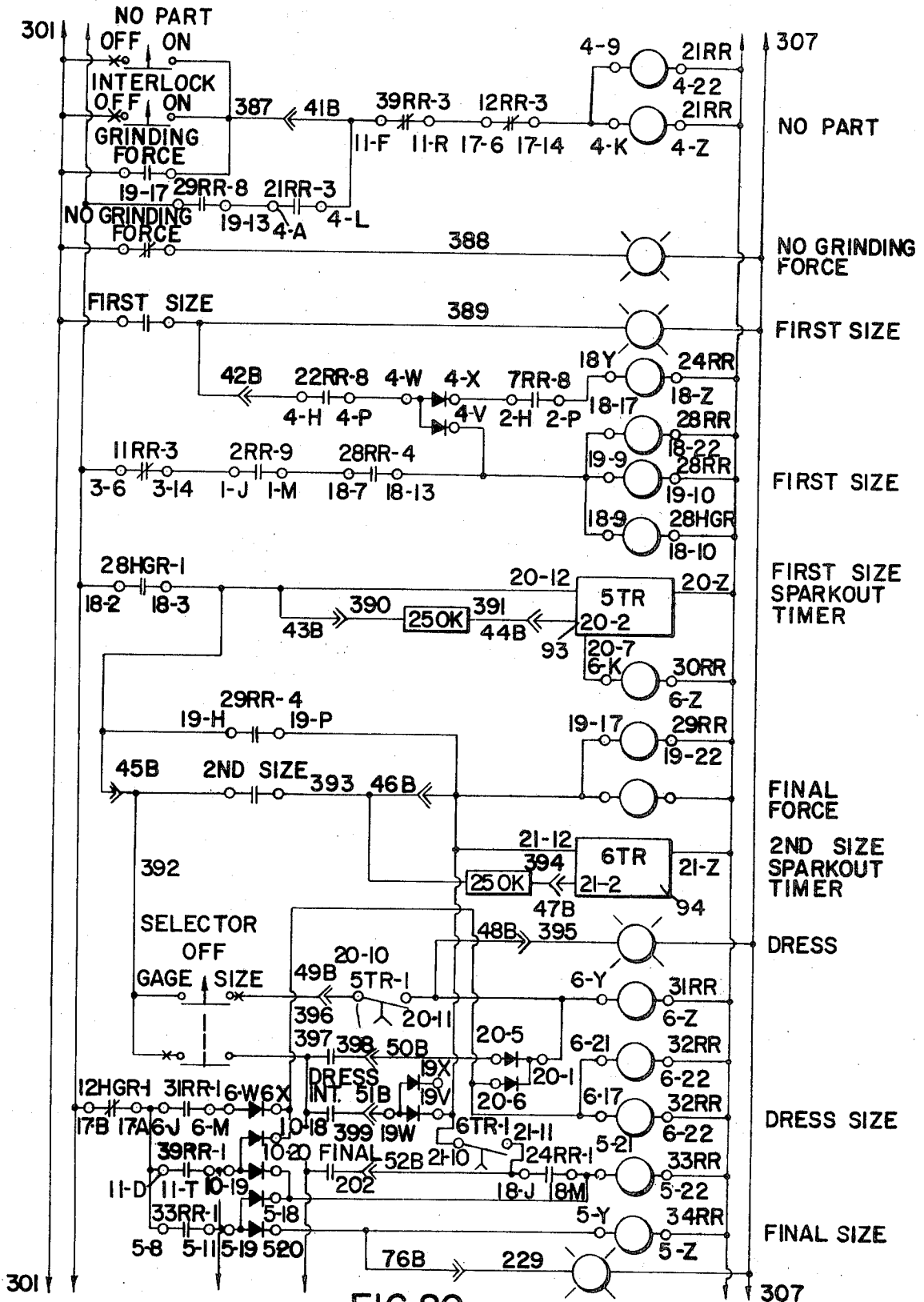


FIG. 19



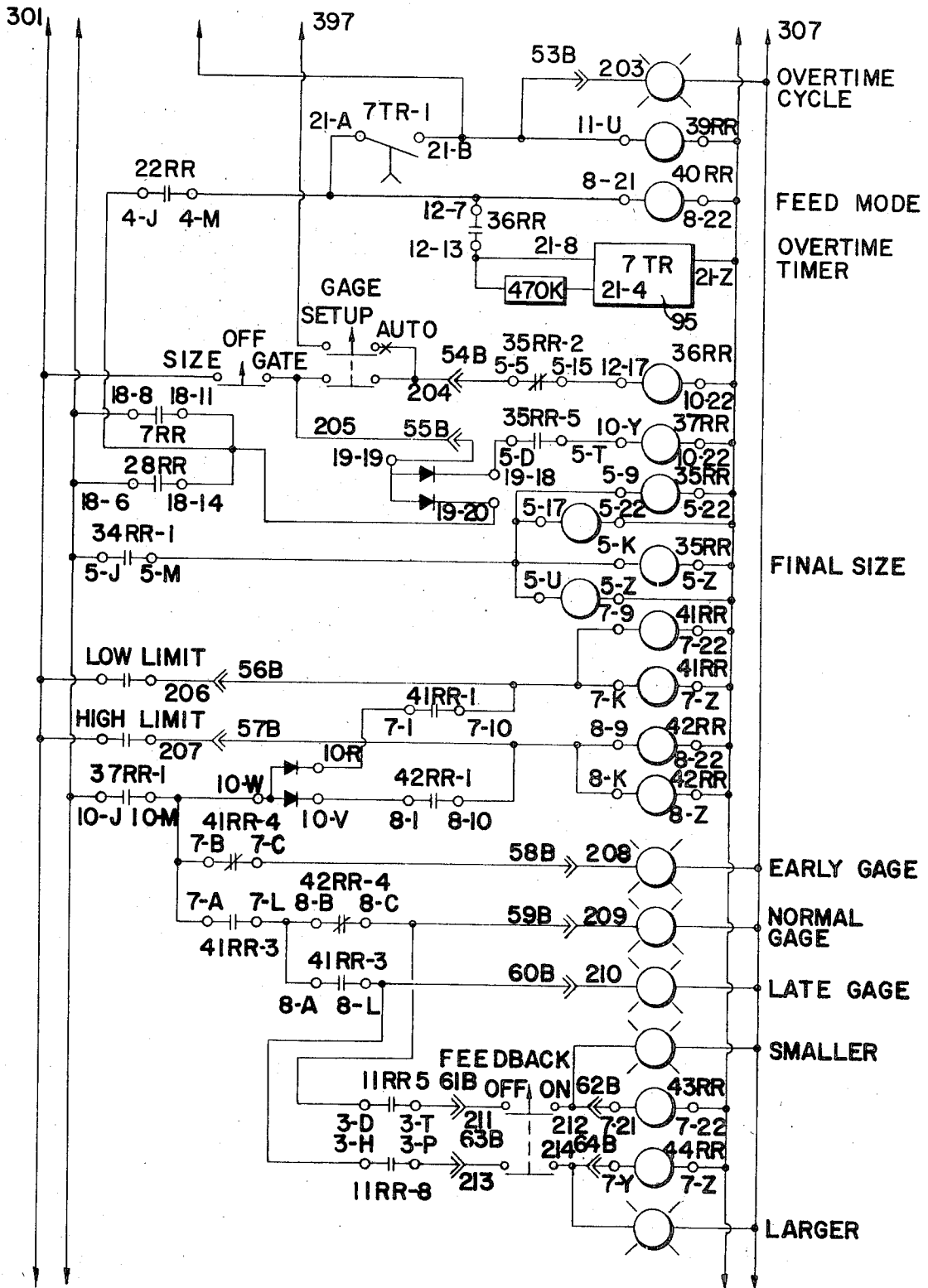
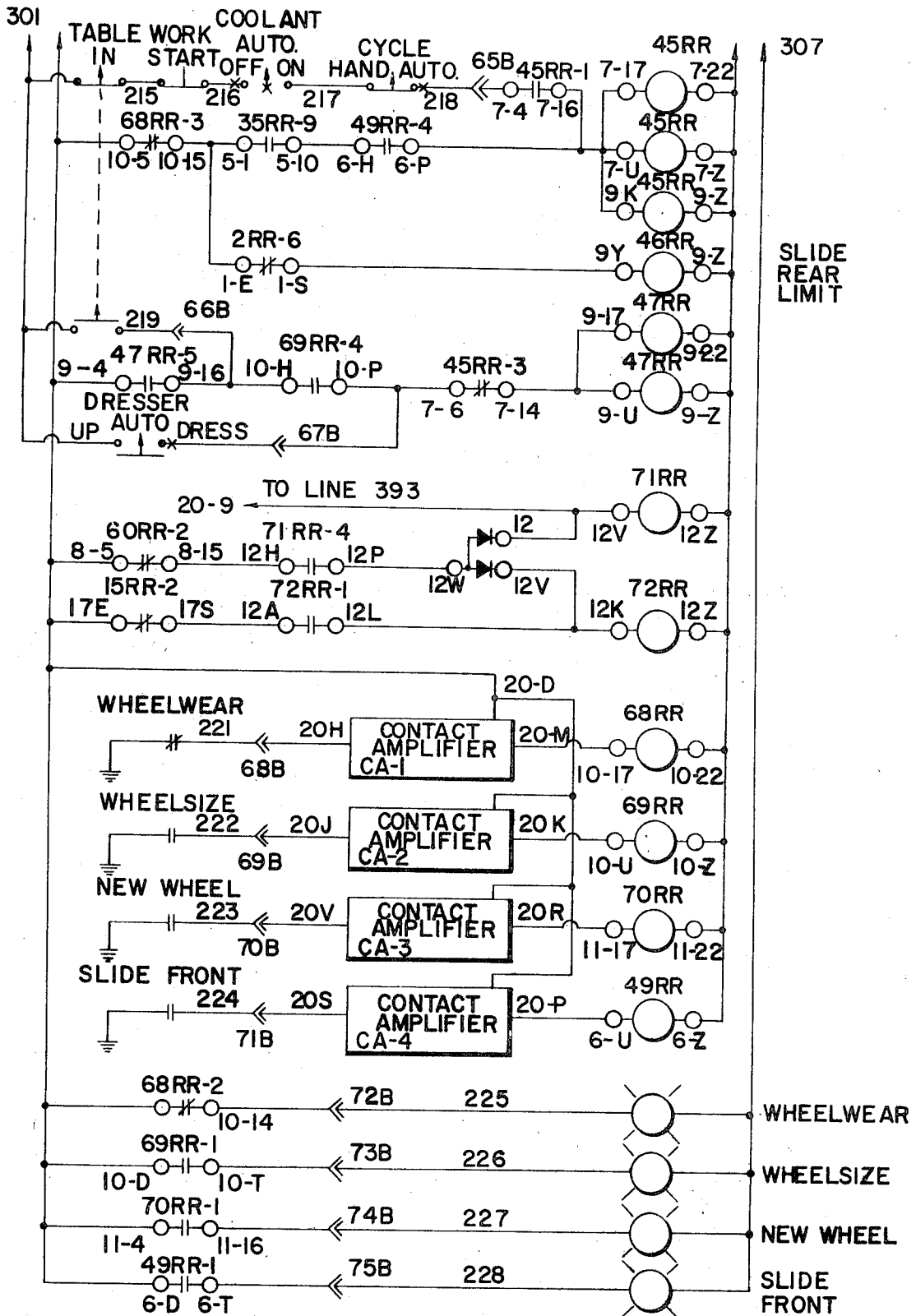
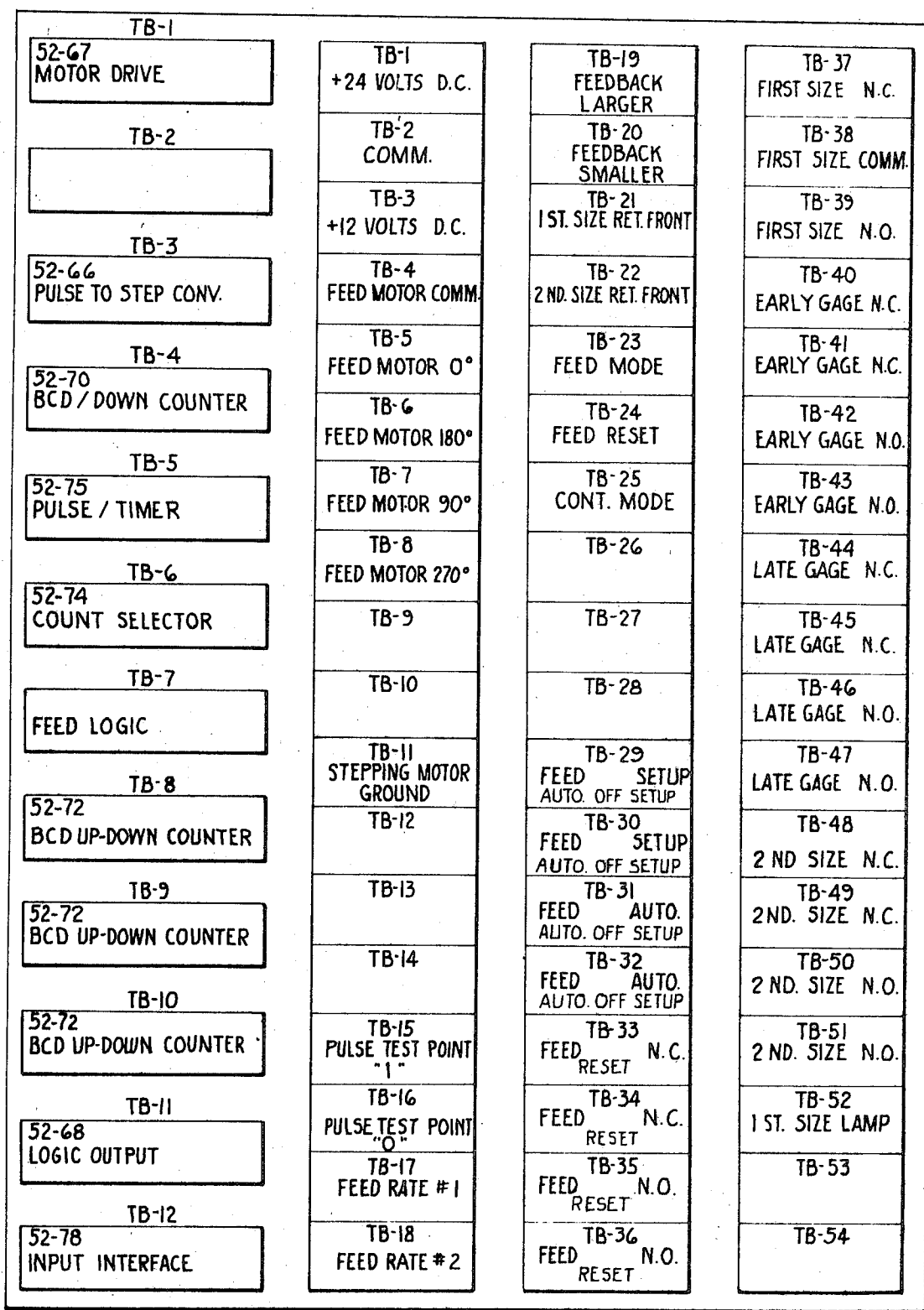


FIG. 21





I.C. FEED UNIT FOR FRONT STEPPING MOTOR
CARD CAGE & TERMINAL STRIPS VIEWED FROM WIRING SIDE

FIG. 23

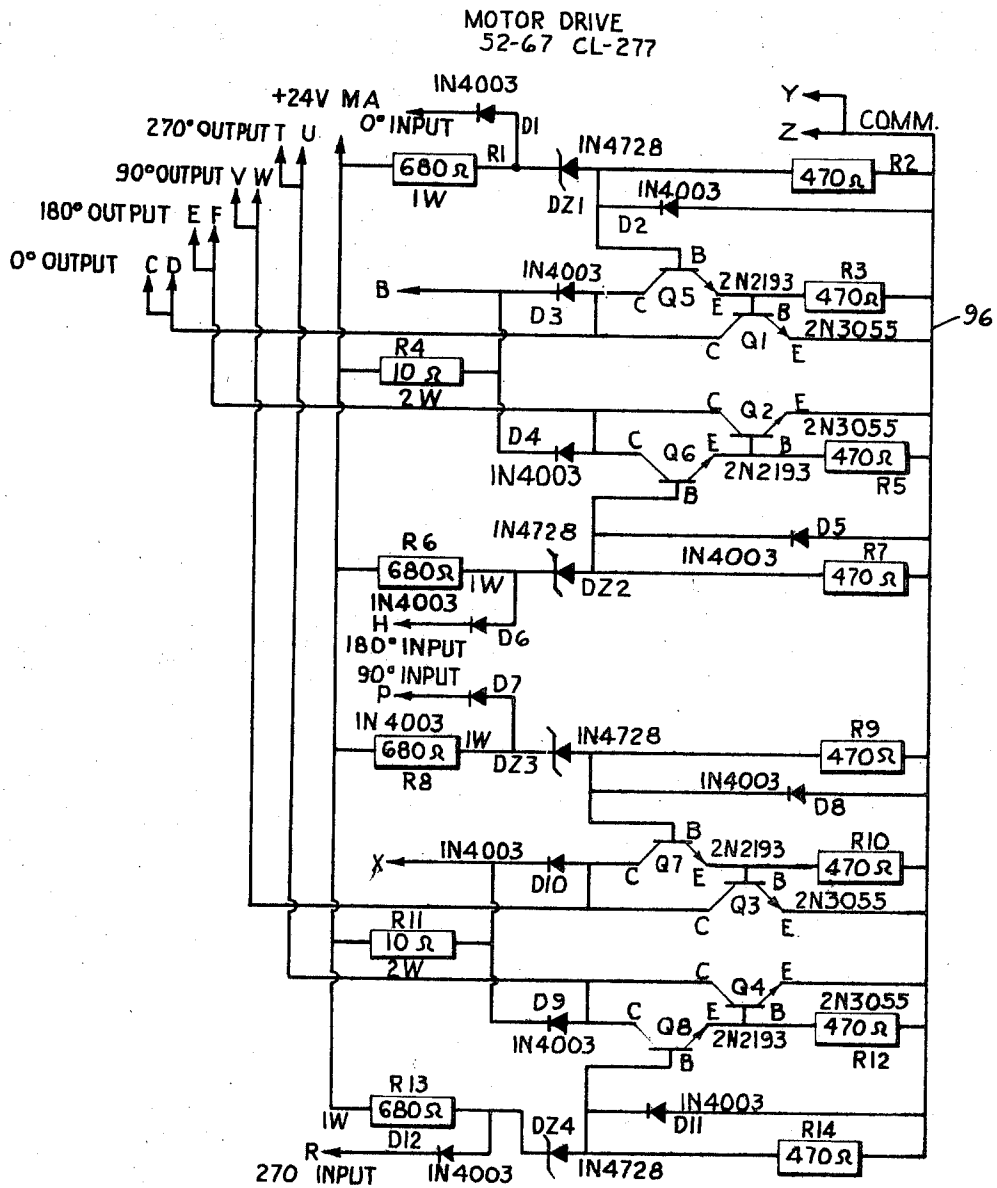


FIG. 24

PULSE TO STEP CONVERTER
CL-276
55-66

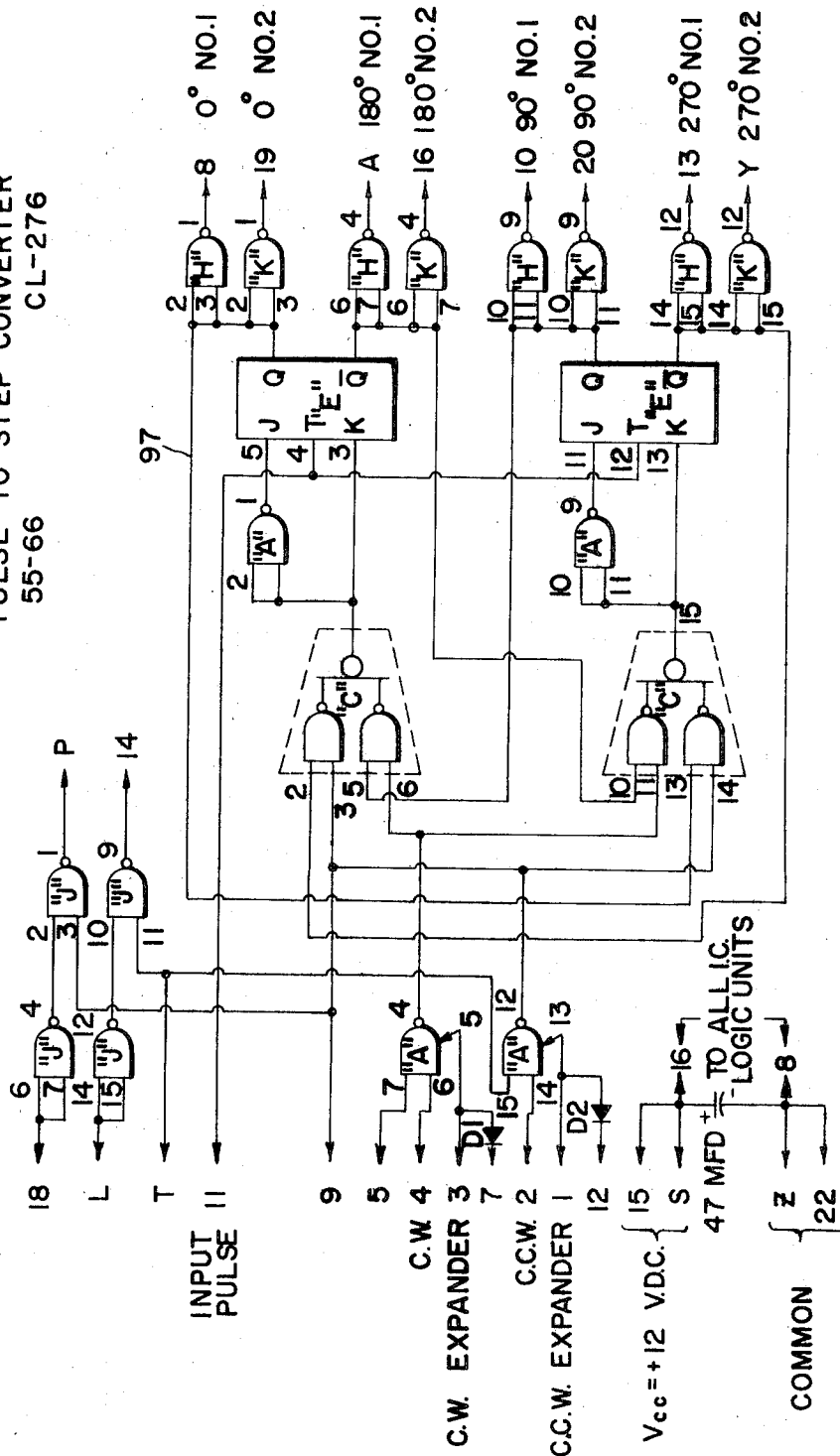
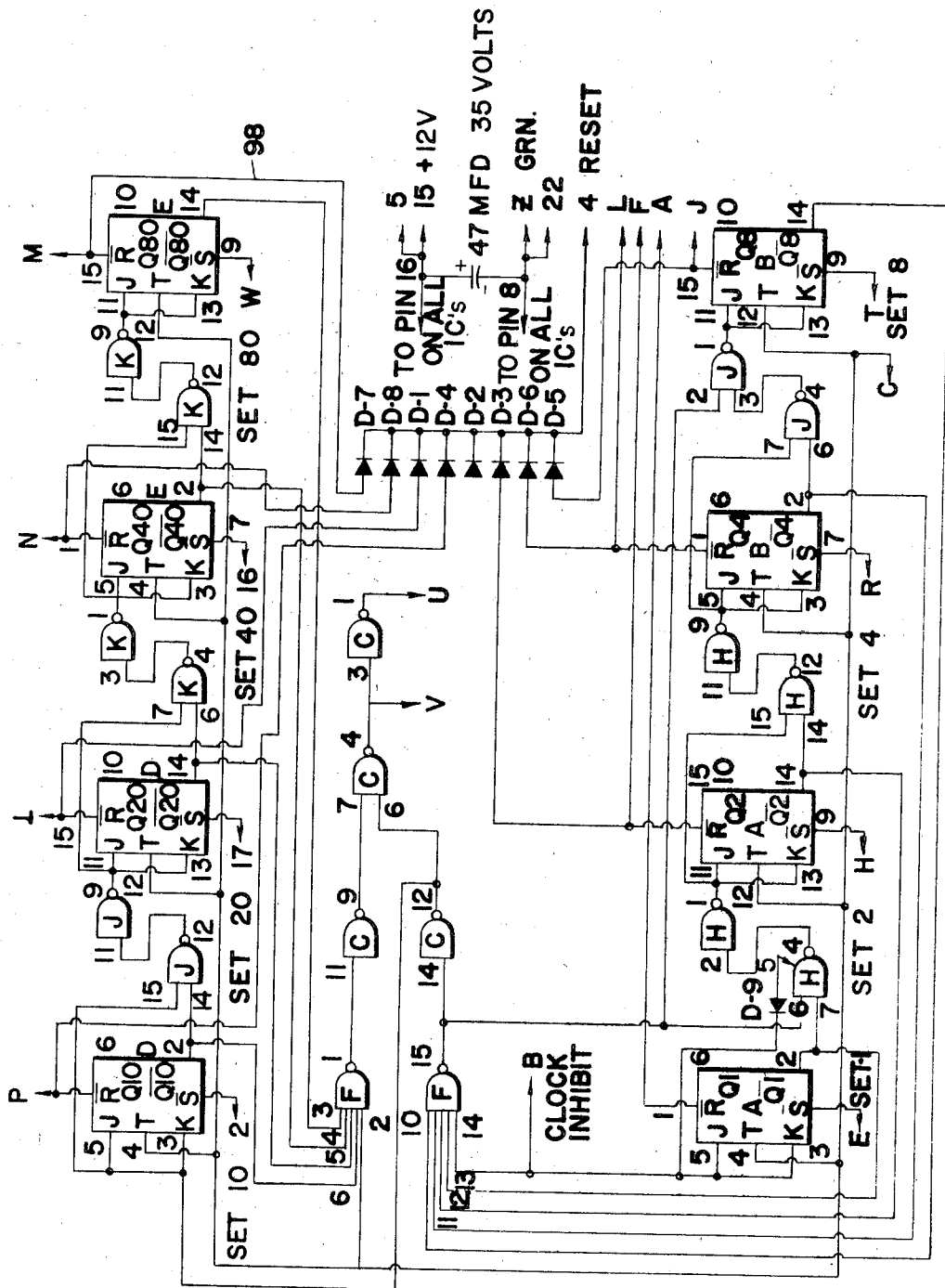


FIG. 25



BCD TWO DECADE DOWN COUNTER
52-70
CL-279

FIG.26

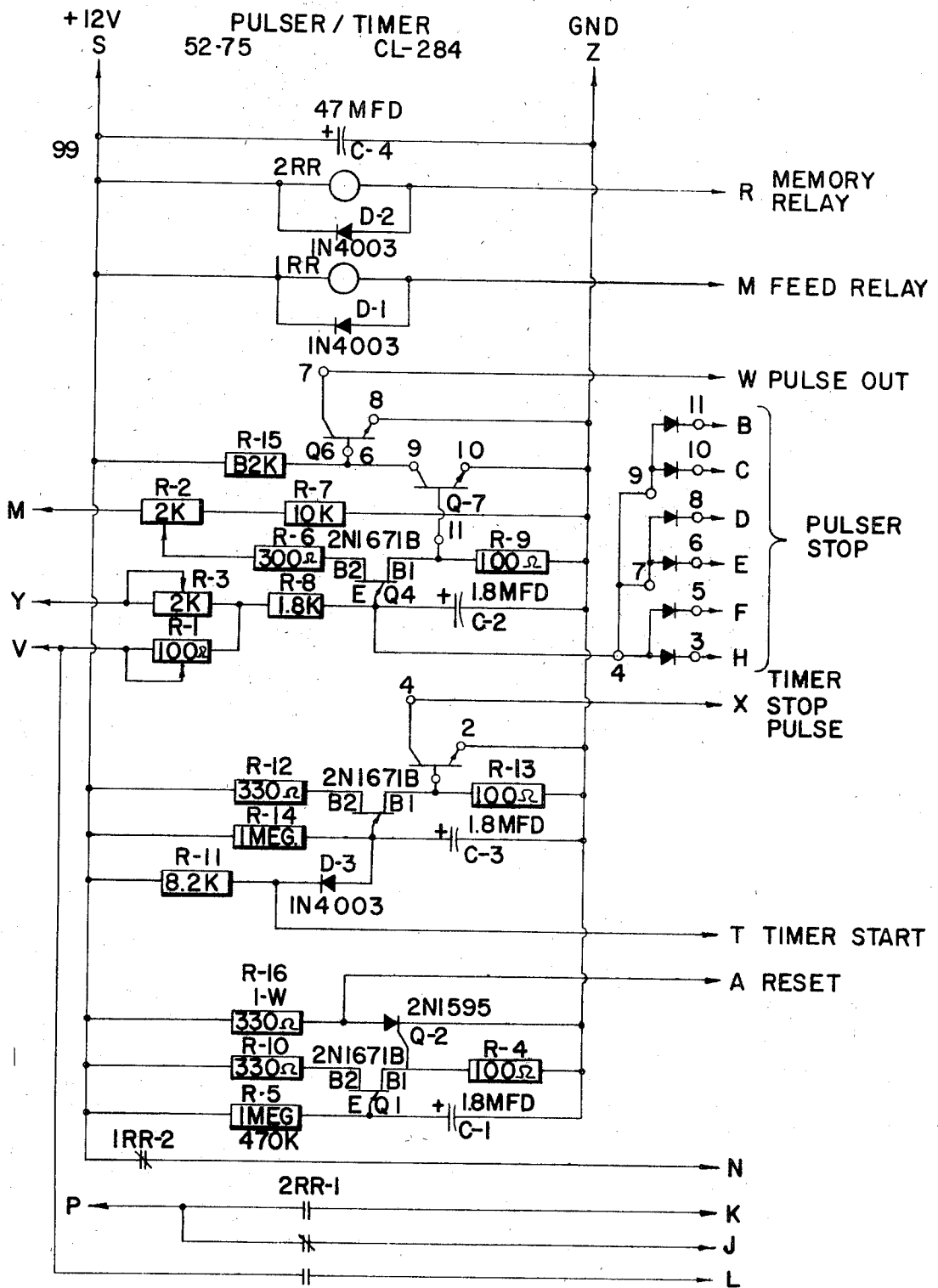


FIG. 27

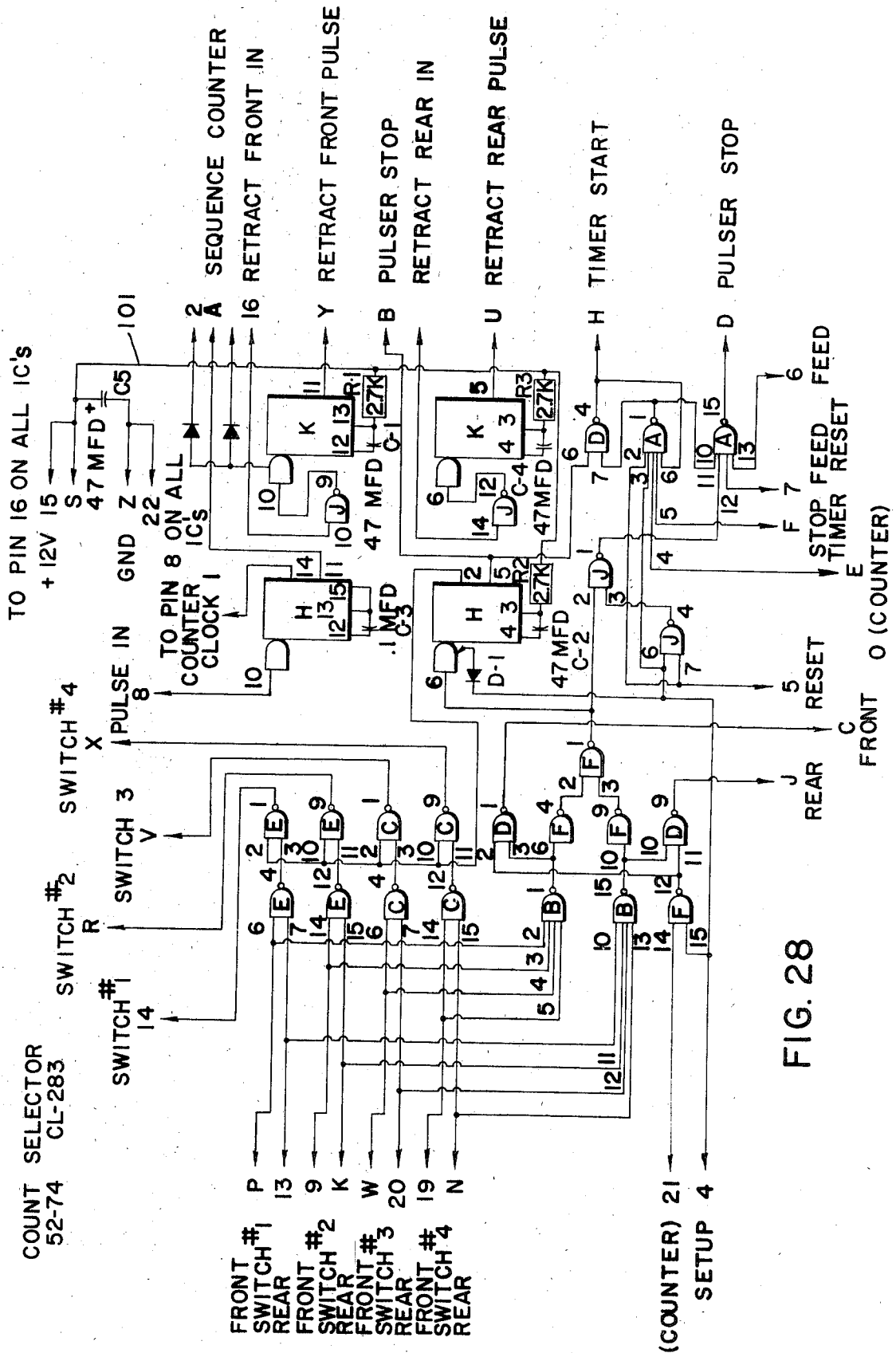


FIG. 28

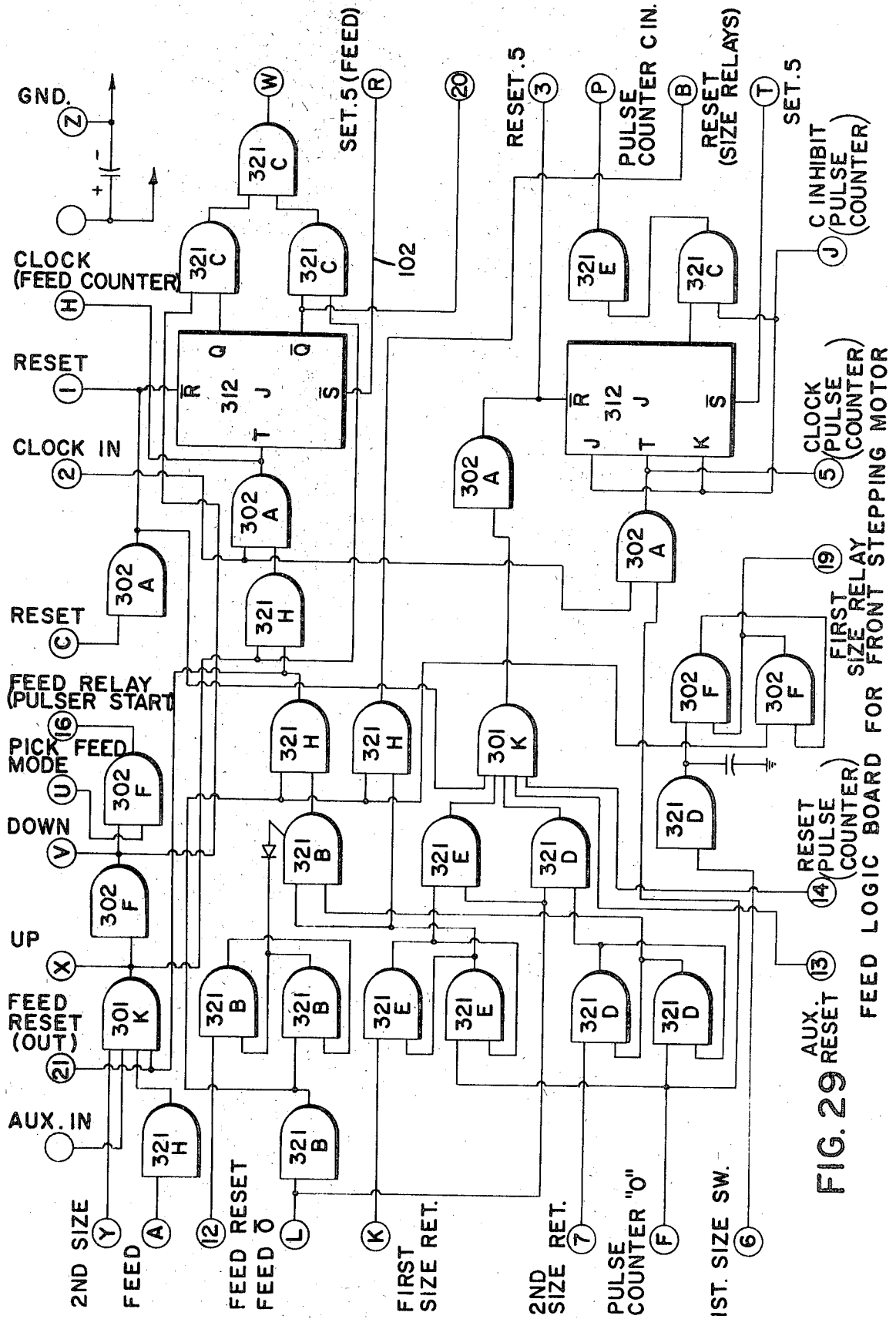
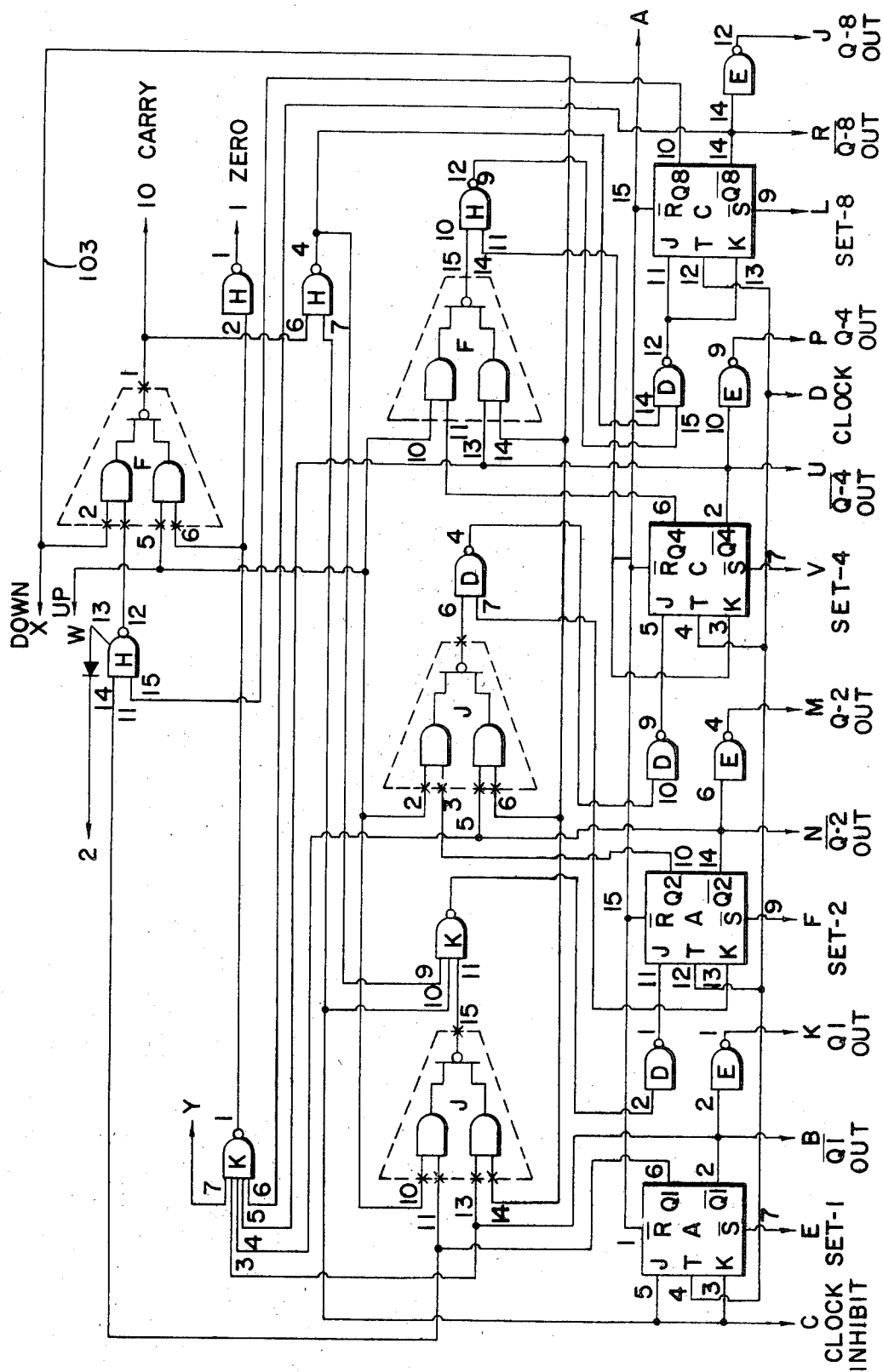


FIG. 29 AUX. RESET (13) RESET (PULSE COUNTER) (14) FIRST SIZE RELAY (19) CLOCK (PULSE COUNTER) (5) C INHIBIT (PULSE COUNTER) (J) SET.5 (T) RESET (SIZE RELAYS) (B) PULSE COUNTER C IN. (P) RESET.5 (3) SET.5 (FEED) (R) 102



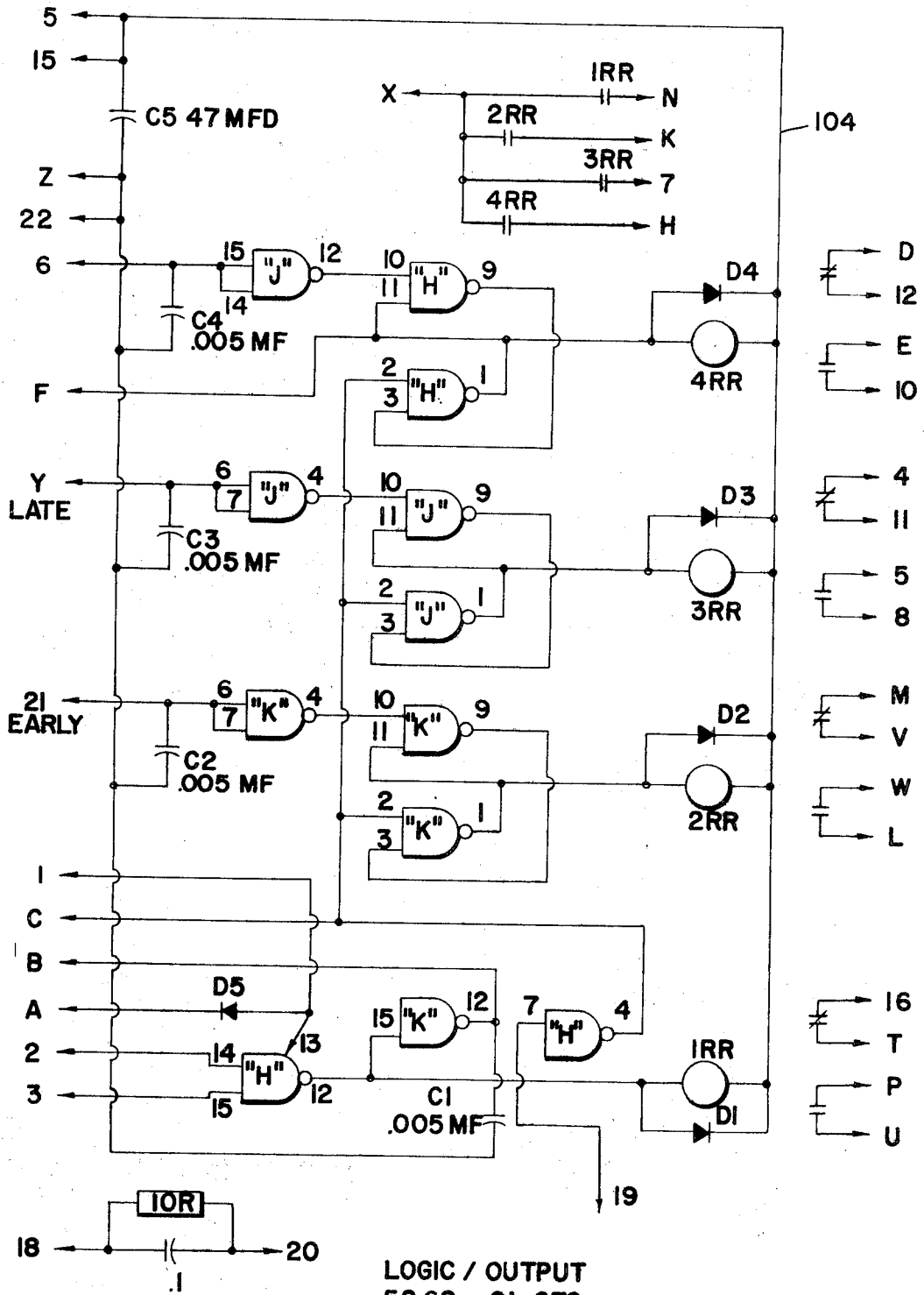
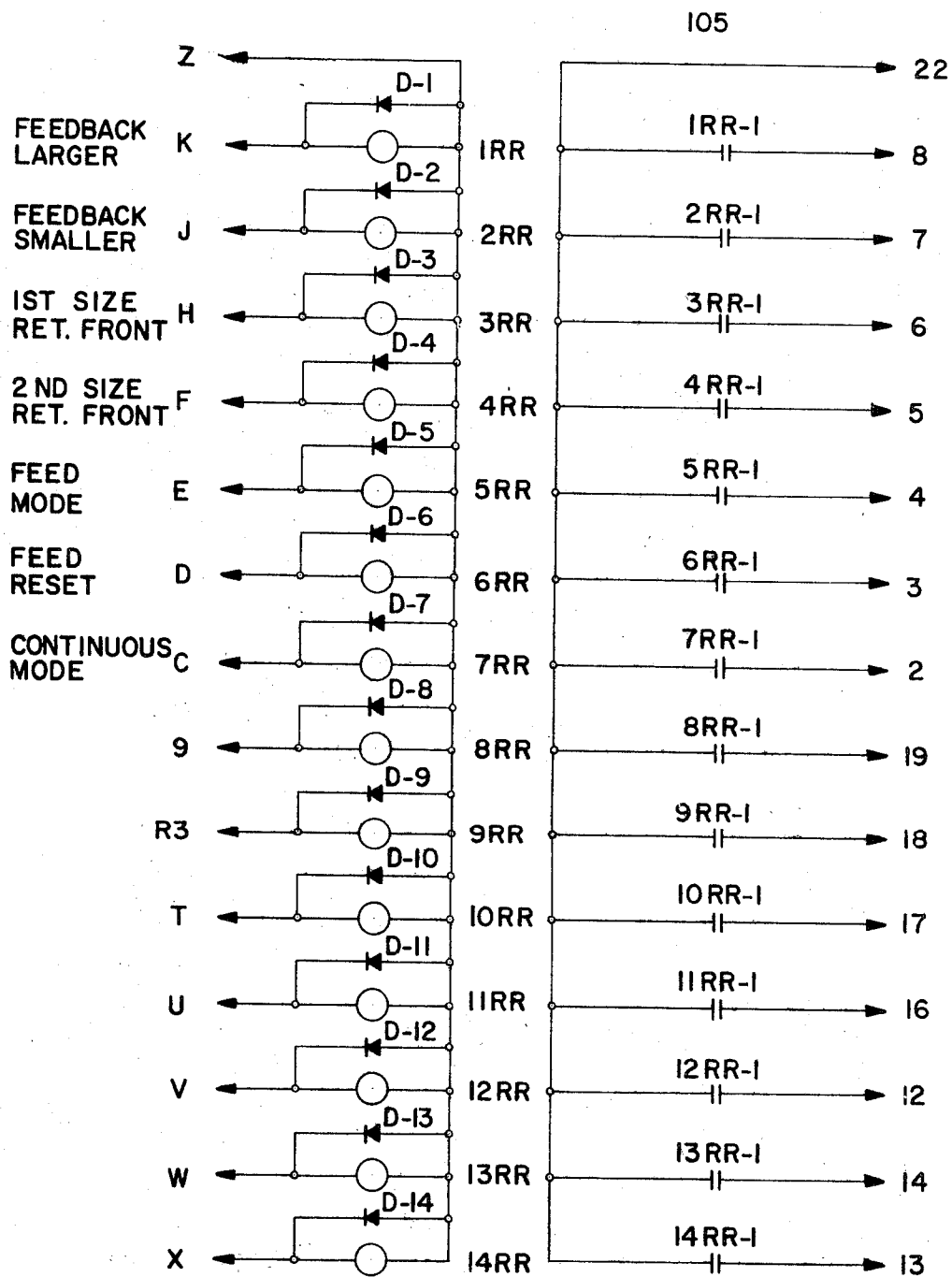


FIG. 31



— INPUT INTERFACE —

FIG. 32

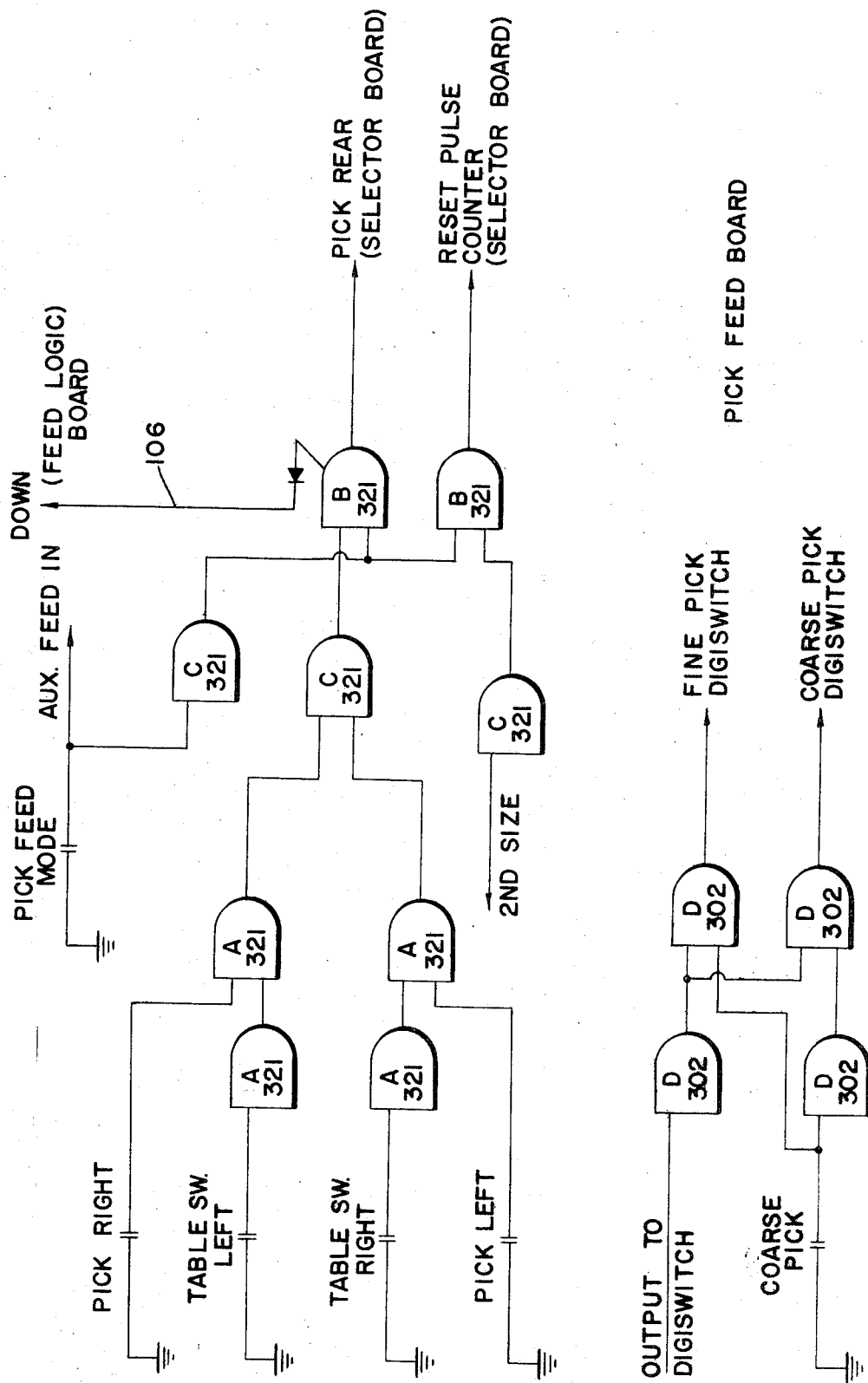


FIG. 33

CHART FOR STEPPING MOTOR #2 CONNECTIONS

TERMINAL	CONNECT TO	TERMINAL	CONNECT TO
TB -1	(SW1-1),(SW1-3),(SW2-1), (SW2-3),(SW2-5),(RL1-C), (RL2-C),(RL3-C),(J1-M), (J11-X),(RS1-1),(RS2-1), (RS3-1)	TB-24	(J12-D)
TB -2	(J1-Z),(J1-Y),(J3-Z),(J3-22), (J4-Z),(J4-22),(J5-Z),(J5-22), (J6-Z),(J6-22),(J7-Z), (J7-22),(J8-Z),(J8-22),(J9-Z), (J9-22),(J10-Z),(J10-22),(J11-Z), (J11-22),(J12-Z),(J12-22), (L1-2),(L2-2),(L3-2),(L4-2), (RS1-8),(RS2-8)	TB-25	(J12-C)
TB -3	(J3-S),(J3-15),(J4-S), (J4-15),(J5-S),(J5-15),(J6-S), (J6-15),(J7-S),(J7-15),(J8-S), (J8-15),(J9-S),(J9-15),(J10-S), (J10-15),(J11-S),(J11-15),(J12-S), (J12-15),(J7-R),(J7-T),(J8-E), (J8-F),(J8-V),(J8-L),(J9-E), (J9-F),(J9-V),(J9-L), (J10-E),(J10-F),(J10-V), (J10-L)	TB-29	(SW2-9)
TB -4 (a)	(SW2-2),(SW2-4)	TB-30	(SW2-10)
TB -4 (b)	INSTALL IN3253 DIODE (CATHODE TO J-4) (ANODE TO J-2)	TB-31	(SW2-7)
TB -5	(J1-C),(J1-D)	TB-32	(SW2-8)
TB -6	(J1-E),(J1-F)	TB-33	(J11-16)
TB -7	(J1-V),(J1-W)	TB-34	(J11-T)
TB -8	(J1-T),(J1-U)	TB-35	(J11-P)
TB -15	(J6-1),(J7-2)	TB-36	(J11-U)
TB -16	(J3-11),(J6-A)	TB-37	(J5-J)
TB -17	(E1-C)	TB-38	(J5-P)
TB -18	(F1-C)	TB-39	(J5-K)
TB -19	(J12-K),(SW1-2)	TB-40	(J11-M)
TB -20	(J12-J),(SW1-4)	TB-41	(J11-V)
TB -21	(J12-H)	TB-42	(J11-W)
TB -22	(J12-F)	TB-43	(J11-L)
TB -23	(J12-E)	TB-44	(J11-4)
		TB-45	(J11-11)
		TB-46	(J11-5)
		TB-47	(J11-8)
		TB-48	(J11-D)
		TB-49	(J11-12)
		TB-50	(J11-E)
		TB-51	(J11-10)
		J1-A	(J3-8)
		J1-H	(J3-A)
		J1-P	(J3-10)
		J1-R	(J3-13)
		J3-9	(J3-5)
		J3-P	(J5-B)
		J3-14	(J5-C)

FIG. 34

CHART FOR STEPPING MOTOR #2 CONNECTIONS

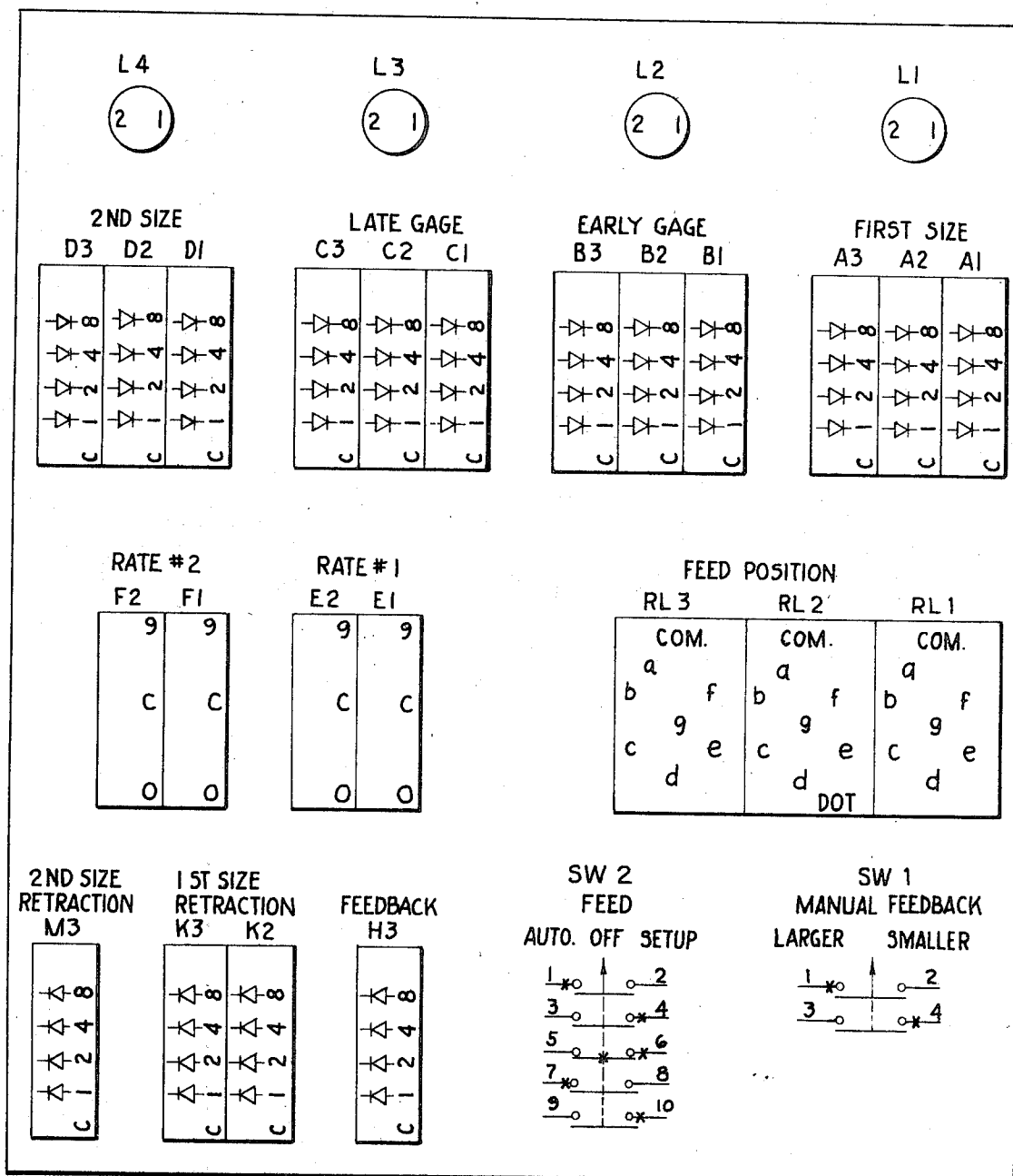
TERMINAL	CONNECT TO	TERMINAL	CONNECT TO
J3-4	(J6-C)	J6-4	(J12-2),(J7-14),(J11-20)
J3-2	(J6-J)	J6-21	(J4-U)
J3-7	(J7-16),(J6-6),(J5-M)	J6-5	(J7-1),(J8-A),(J9-A),(J10-A)
J3-12	(J7-21),(J6-7)	J6-X	(H3-C)
J4-P	(J4-1),(J4-N),(J4-M),(J4-A) (J4-F),(J4-L),(J4-J),(J7-3)	J6-V	(K3-C),(K2-C)
J4-B	(J7-P)	J6-R	(M3-C)
J4-C	(J7-5)	J6-16	(J12-6)
J4-V	(J6-E),(J7-F)	J6-Y	(J7-K)
J4-E	(M3-1),(K3-1),(H3-1)	J6-T	(J12-5)
J4-H	(M3-2),(K3-2),(H3-2)	J6-U	(J7-7)
J4-R	(M3-4),(K3-4),(H3-4)	J7-L	(J11-B)
J4-T	(M3-8),(K3-8),(H3-8)	J7-12	(J12-3)
J4-2	(K2-1)	J7-2	(J12-4)
J4-17	(K2-2)	J7-Y	(J11-F)
J4-16	(K2-4)	J7-X	(J8-W),(J9-W),(J10-W)
J4-W	(K2-8)	J7-V	(J8-X),(J9-X),(J10-X)
J5-D	(J6-D)	J7-H	(J8-D),(J9-D),(J10-D)
J5-E	(J6-B),(J11-18),(J7-J)	J7-W	(J8-C),(J8-2)
J5-A	(J7-C)	J7-20	(J8-Y)
J5-T	(J6-H)	J7-B	(J11-19)
J5-N	(J5-Y)	J7-6	(A1-C),(A2-C),(A3-C)
J5-X	(J6-F)	J8-1	(J11-3)
J5-W	(J6-8)	J8-K	(RS3-2),(A3-1),(B3-1) (D3-1)
J5-R	(J7-19)	J8-M	(RS3-3),(A3-2),(B3-2) (C3-2),(D3-2)
J5-L	(E2-C),(F2-C)	J8-P	(RS3-4),(A3-4),(B3-4) (C3-4),(D3-4)
F2-9	(F1-9)	J8-12	(RS3-5),(A3-8),(B3-8) (C3-8),(D3-8)
E2-9	(E1-9)	J8-10	(J9-C),(J9-2)
J6-19	(J12-8)	J9-1	(J11-2)
J6-N	(J12-7)	J9-K	(RS2-2),(A2-1),(B2-1) (C2-1),(D2-1)
J6-W	(J12-6)		
J6-9	(J12-5)		

FIG. 35

CHART FOR STEPPING MOTOR #2 CONNECTIONS

TERMINAL	CONNECT TO	TERMINAL	CONNECT TO
J9-M	(RS2-3),(A2-2),(B2-2),(C2-2) (D2-2)	RLI-d	(RSI-12)
J9-P	(RS2-4),(A2-4),(B2-4) (C2-4),(D2-4)	RLI-e	(RSI-13)
J9-I2	(RS2-5),(A2-8),(B2-8) (C2-8),(D2-8)	RLI-f	(RSI-14)
J9-I0	(JIO-C),(JIO-2)	RLI-g	(RSI-15)
JIO-K	(RSI-2),(AI-1),(BI-1),(CI-1) (DI-1)	RSI-6	(RS2-6),(RS3-6)
JIO-M	(RSI-3),(AI-2),(BI-2),(CI-2) (DI-2)		INSTALL IN3253(ANODE TO RSI-8)(CATHODE TO RSI-6)
JIO-P	(RSI-4),(AI-4),(BI-4),(CI-4) (DI-4)	RL2-DOT	(RS2-7)
JIO-I2	(RSI-5),(AI-8),(BI-8),(CI-8) (DI-8)		INSTALL RESISTOR BETWEEN RS2-7 & RS2-8
JIO-I	(JII-A)	RL2-a	(RS2-9)
JII-6	(DI-C),(D2-C),(D3-C)	RL2-b	(RS2-10)
JII-Y	(CI-C),(C2-C),(C3-C)	RL2-c	(RS2-11)
JII-2I	(BI-C),(B2-C),(B3-C)	RL2-d	(RS2-12)
JII-K	(L2-I)	RL2-e	(RS2-13)
JII-7	(L3-I)	RL2-f	(RS2-14)
JII-II	(L3-I)	RL2-g	(RS2-15)
F2-9	(FI-9)	RL3-a	(RS3-9)
E2-9	(EI-9)	RL3-b	(RS3-10)
RLI-a	(RSI-9)	RL3-c	(RS3-11)
RLI-b	(RSI-10)	RL3-d	(RS3-12)
RLI-c	(RSI-11)	RL3-e	(RS3-13)
		RL3-f	(RS3-14)
		RL3-g	(RS3-15)
		J-52	(LI-I)

FIG. 36



FRONT PANEL VIEWED FROM WIRING SIDE

FIG. 37

GRINDING MACHINE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In the operation of grinding machines and, particularly, those for generating internal surfaces of revolution, it has been suggested that the crossfeed movements be brought about by the use of a stepping motor. Such a grinding machine is shown in the patent application of Robillard, et al. Ser. No. 672,222, filed Oct. 2, 1967, now U.S. Pat. No. 3,503,158 dated Mar. 31, 1970. Among the advantages of such a system is the fact that the control of the movements of the cross-slide can be controlled very accurately by the use of pulses, making use of modern logic circuitry. Among the disadvantages of this basic system, however, is the fact that, when used with a complex grinding cycle, certain problems arise when a single stepping motor is used for producing the compensation motion as well as the reset and retraction motions. Among other things, it makes it impossible to carry on some of the various crossfeed motions at the same time, and it has become difficult also to keep track of the position to which the cross-slide is returned for dress. These and other difficulties experienced with the prior art devices have been obviated in a novel manner by the present invention.

It is, therefore, an outstanding object of the invention to provide a grinding machine using digital control which is capable of being used for a large variety of grinding cycles.

Another object of this invention is the provision of a grinding machine in which certain movements of the crossfeed mechanism can take place simultaneously.

A further object of the present invention is the provision of a grinding machine using stepping motors for crossfeed action wherein there is no need for reset motion following retraction.

It is another object of the instant invention to provide a grinding machine operated by the use of electrical pulses wherein the crossfeed motions of feed rate motion, retraction, and compensation can be automatically and instantaneously changed within a wide range of duration and rate.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a grinding machine having crossfeed mechanism which permits a combination of controlled force and controlled rate grinding to give the optimum geometry and quality to the finished surface.

Another object of the invention is the provision of means whereby a grinding machine cycle can be readily interrupted for dress more than once during a given cycle.

With these and other objects in view, as will be apparent to those skilled in the art, the invention resides in the combination of parts set forth in the specification and covered by the claims appended hereto.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In general, the invention consists of a grinding machine for finishing the surface of rotation of a workpiece, the machine having a base, having a workhead table mounted on the base adapted to support the workpiece, and having a wheelhead table mounted on the base adapted to support a rotatable spindle carrying an abrasive wheel. Means is provided for supporting one of the tables for sliding motion transversely of the axis of the surface of revolution and a secondary slide is associated with the said one of the tables and mounted for transverse sliding motion independently of the said one of the tables. A first stepping motor connects the base to the secondary slide for bringing about its sliding motion, and a second stepping motor is connected, on occasion, between the said one of the tables and the secondary slide to produce a sliding motion of the table.

More specifically, a control is provided to actuate the stepping motors so that the first stepping motor is used for dress compensation movements, and the second stepping motor is used for feed rate grinding movements and retraction movements. The control presents electrical pulses to the stepping motors, and the pulse frequency and the total number of pulses presented during a given movement are adjustable.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The character of the invention, however, may be best understood by reference to one of its structural forms, as illustrated by the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a grinding machine embodying the principles of the present invention,

FIG. 2 is an enlarged front elevation of the machine,

FIG. 3 is a partial sectional view of the machine taken on the line III—III of FIG. 2,

FIG. 4 is a vertical sectional view of the machine taken on the line IV—IV of FIG. 2,

FIG. 5 is a horizontal sectional view of the invention taken on the line V—V of FIG. 2,

FIG. 6 is a horizontal sectional view of a portion of the invention taken on the line VI—VI of FIG. 4,

FIG. 7 is a vertical sectional view of the invention taken on the line VII—VII of FIG. 6,

FIG. 8 is a plan view in schematic form of the grinding machine,

FIG. 9 is a schematic flow chart of the control scheme used in the machine,

FIG. 10 is a cycle diagram showing the operation of the machine,

FIGS. 11—22 are schematic electrical diagrams of the main electrical control features of the machine,

FIG. 23 is a schematic view showing the arrangements of logic circuits in the controls of the machine,

FIG. 24 is a schematic drawing of a motor driver,

FIG. 25 is a schematic diagram of a pulse-to-step converter,

FIG. 26 is a schematic diagram of a two-decade down counter,

FIG. 27 is a schematic diagram of a pulser-timer,

FIG. 28 is a schematic diagram of a count selector,

FIG. 29 is a schematic diagram of a feed logic board,

FIG. 30 is a schematic diagram of an up-down decade counter,

FIG. 31 is a schematic diagram of a logic output,

FIG. 32 is a schematic diagram of an input interface,

FIG. 33 is a schematic diagram of a pick feedboard,

FIGS. 34—36 are charts showing various stepping motor control connections, and

FIG. 37 is a schematic view of a front panel of the control as viewed from the wiring side.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring first to FIG. 1, wherein are best shown the general features of the invention, the grinding machine, indicated generally by the reference numeral 10, is shown as consisting of a base 11 on which is mounted a workhead table 12 and a wheelhead table 13. Also mounted on the base 11 behind the tables is a control cabinet 14. Mounted on the table 12 is a workhead 15 carrying a workpiece 16 which, for the purpose of illustration, is shown as the outer race of a tapered roller bearing whose bore is to be finished. Mounted on the table 13 is a wheelhead 17 driven by a motor 18 and carrying a rotatable spindle 19, the outer end of which carries an abrasive wheel 21. At the front of the table 13 is mounted a feedbox 22, while mounted on the workhead table 12 is a diamond dressing unit 23 as well as loading mechanism 24. At the front of the base is mounted a control box 25 carrying pushbutton switches and the like for the operation of the machine.

FIG. 2 shows particularly well the front of a crossfeed hydraulic cylinder 26, the front of a retractable stop mechanism 27 operated by a stepping motor 28, and various other controls associated with the machine.

In FIG. 3 the manner in which the abrasive wheel 21 and the workpiece 16 are related is clearly shown, as well as their association with the dressing unit 23. The workhead 15 is shown as having support shoes 29 which engage and support the outer surface of the workpiece. One end of the workpiece is engaged and driven by a tubular drive platen 31 which is suitably rotated by a motor 32 (see FIG. 17). Located internally of the platen is a gage 33 which takes a continuous read-

ing of the size of the bore and the workpiece that is being ground. The other end of the workpiece is engaged by clamping rollers 34 and 35 in the usual way.

FIG. 4 shows the interior of the retractable stop mechanism 27 and it also shows the manner in which the feedbox 22 is provided with an observation window 36. The stop mechanism 27 is bolted to the front of the wheelhead table 13 which, in turn, is mounted for transverse sliding motion over the base 11. The contact element 37 is slidably mounted in the housing of the stop and is propelled transversely by rotation of a ball screw 38. The ball screw is, in turn, mounted in bearings 39 and is driven by a worm gear 41.

The contact element is positioned to engage, on occasion, with a hardened element 42 mounted on a forwardly facing surface of a secondary or compensating slide 43. A horn 44 extends downwardly from the wheelhead table 13 and is provided with a contact element 45 adapted on occasion to engage a hardened metal element 46 mounted on a rearwardly directed surface of the compensating slide 43.

The worm gear 41 and, therefore, the ball screw 38, is driven by the stepping motor 28 and is manually adjustable by means of a knob 47. A manual compensating knob 48 extends from the front of the machine for a purpose to be explained hereinafter.

FIG. 5 shows a plan view of the apparatus described above showing that the knob 48 is attached to a horizontally disposed shaft 49 which extends inwardly of the machine under the table 13. To the right of the table is mounted a feed indicator 51 and a cross-slide indicator 52. Also extending from the front of the table are wheel wear switches 53. Associated with the hydraulic crossfeed cylinder 26 is a throttle 54 controlled by a knob 55.

FIGS. 6 and 7 show the details of the retractable stop mechanism 27, particularly showing the manner in which the stepping motor 28 drives a vertical shaft 55 on which is mounted a worm 56. This worm engages the worm gear 41 for the operation of the contact element in the transverse direction.

FIG. 8 shows the general layout of the machine for ease in understanding its operation. It can be seen that the compensation slide 43 is engaged at the rear by a ball screw 57 operated by a stepping motor 58. In the description that follows, the stepping motor 58 will be spoken of as stepping motor No. 1, while the stepping motor 28 will be considered as stepping motor No. 2. The workhead table 12 is mounted on ways 59 for movement longitudinally of the axis of the workpiece, and this motion is brought about by the operation of a hydraulic cylinder 61. By means of the usual controls, the table can be reciprocated also during grinding in the usual way. The wheelhead table 13 is mounted on ways 62 for transverse motion. The gage 33 is shown as being of the pneumatic type having a lead extending outwardly to a control box 63.

FIG. 9 is helpful in understanding the operation of the invention. Hydraulic pressure originating in a source 64 is passed on to the feed cylinder 26 which operates through a mixer 65 to produce the controlled force grinding process 66. These forces make themselves felt at a mixer 67 which operates through the spring constant, K, of the system (indicated by the box 68) which, in turn, feeds a force signal into the mixer 65. The grinding process also is affected by a cross-slide damper 69 receiving force in the grinding process 66 and entering into the mixer 65. At the same time, a pulse generator 71 operates the stepping motor No. 2 through the gear train and ball screw to operate through the mixer 67 on the system spring constant box 68. Retraction and reset control 72 controls the flow of pulses from the pulse generator 71 to the stepping motor No. 2. Similarly, a pick or rate mode selection 73 operates through a feed rate control 74 to also regulate the flow of pulses from the generator 71 to the stepping motor No. 2. The grinding process 66 is effected by the compensation slide 43 which, in turn, is regulated by the stepping motor No. 1 operating through a gear train and ball screw. A pulse generator 75 is controlled by a logic circuit 76 which, in turn,

operates through a pulse-to-step converter 77 in the stepping motor control, a variation in operation being possible by means of the "new wheel" reset control 78. Feedback takes place between the output of the pulse generator 75 and the input of the logic circuit 76 through a binary code decimal counter 79 (BCD counter).

The general operation of the machine can be best understood by referring to FIG. 10. The workhead table 12 moves inwardly on rapid traverse to the point A, so that the abrasive wheel 21 lies within the workpiece 16. The hydraulic crossfeed cylinder 26 is actuated to cause the wheelhead table 13 to move transversely to bring the wheel into engagement with the surface to be finished. Engagement takes place at the point B, and the workhead table begins reciprocation, while the wheel is advanced laterally into the workpiece under the hydraulic pressure in the cylinder 26 on a controlled force grinding operation. This is a rough grind that consists in rounding up the bore in the workpiece and removing substantial amounts of material from the surface. Eventually, a point C is reached as determined by a dress timer which had started at the point A. A retraction of the wheelhead table rearwardly to the point D takes place to relieve the deflection in the spindle 19 and a further action by means of the cylinder 26 carries the wheelhead back to the point E where the horn 44 engages the rearwardly facing surface of the compensation slide 43. The compensation slide is then moved rearwardly by introducing a suitable number of pulses in to stepping motor No. 1 which has the effect of carrying the wheelhead table 13 rearwardly a short compensating distance. The workhead table 12 is then operated by the cylinder 61 to cause the wheel 21 to move past the diamond dressing unit 23 to dress the wheel, at which time the point G is reached. The wheelhead 13 is then moved inwardly by the cylinder 26 to the point H, so that the wheel engages the workpiece at the point H which, because of the retraction from point C to point D that previously took place, means that the wheel begins grinding without "cutting air." Another rough grind takes place to the point I where a second dress timer times out and calls for another dress. Retraction takes place to the point J, which retraction is the same as from the point C to the point D. Then, the wheelhead table 13 is moved back to the point K, compensation takes place to the point L, and a traversing of the workhead table 12 causes a dress to take place to the point M. The wheelhead table moves inwardly again, engaging the workpiece at the point N, and a grind takes place at a low force controlled force process to the point O. The point O is indicated by the gage 33 as having arrived, and a signal takes place stopping the grinding operation and introducing a retraction movement to the point P. This retraction is considerably less than the retraction from the point C to the point D, or from the point I to the point J because the low force cutting during this finish portion of the cycle has caused a smaller deflection of the spindle 19. After the retraction takes place, the wheel is allowed to "spark out" grind the workpiece to the point Q where the gage indicates that final size is reached. The wheelhead is then backed off to the point R where the workpiece is removed and a new workpiece is inserted during the loading portion of the cycle.

The electrical controls which make this operation possible by the introduction of definite numbers of pulses at a given rate into the first stepping motor No. 1 and the stepping motor No. 2 are shown in FIGS. 11 through 34.

FIG. 11 shows the three-phase main power supply during the machining and serving to operate the various large motors in the grinding machine through the conventional main switches. The load meter 81 indicates the torque load in the wheelhead at any given time. One phase of the main power source is converted through a transformer 82 and applies 440 volts to the main lines 51a and 57a.

In FIG. 12, the main power lines are shown as connected by means of relay contacts to solenoids which operate various hydraulic valves concerned with the operation of the grinding machine. From these solenoids are the oscillator solenoid

SOL-1, the table-in solenoid SOL-2, the table-out solenoid SOL-3, the dress speed solenoid SOL-7, the load solenoid SOL-53, the cross-slide backoff solenoid SOL-32, the damper bypass solenoid SOL-13, the gage release solenoid SOL-6, and diamond turner solenoid SOL-34, and solenoids associated with the diamond turner counter, as well as a dresser-down solenoid.

In FIG. 13, the main powerlines 51a and 57a are shown as connected to a power supply 83 which is used for magnetizing the backing platen 31 on occasion. It is also connected to a 24 volt DC power supply 84 whose output lines are designated as 301 and 307. The powerlines 301 and 307 are connected to a 12 volt power supply 85 which supplies its output voltage on a line 501. The main powerlines also are connected to a 24 volt DC stepping motor power supply 86, and the output of this unit comes onto the lines 401 and 407.

FIG. 14 shows the controls associated with stepping motor No. 2 and includes an integrated circuit feed unit showing the card cage and terminal strips as viewed from the wiring side of the control box.

FIG. 15 shows the arrangement of the controls for the stepping motor No. 1. It can be seen in this view that the compensation slide and the stepping motor No. 1 are also used for the new wheel reset; that is to say, when the abrasive wheel 21 is worn down to the point where it is no longer useful, it is replaced by a new wheel and, of course, it is necessary to move the slide, particularly the compensation slide, well forward to begin the series of compensating and dressing cycles all over again. This movement takes place by use of the stepping motor No. 1 operating on the compensation slide 43.

In FIG. 16 are shown the relay coils which operate some of the solenoids described above. More specifically, the wheel-head stop relay 1PR, the oscillator relay 2PR, the table-in relay 3PR, the table-out relay 4PR, the dress speed relay 5PR, the load relay 6PR, the cross-slide backoff relay 7PR, the damper bypass relay 8PR, the gage release relay 9PR, the diamond turner relay 10PR, the clutch relay 11PR for the diamond turner counter, and the pulse motor relay 12PR also associated with the diamond turner counter, the wheelhead light relay 13PR, the dresser down relay 14PR, and the counter clutch relay 15PR for skip dress, as well as the pulse motor relay 16PR also for the skip dress counter. At the bottom of the figure are shown the air gage control 63 having the various contacts for dress, intermediate size, and final size, these contacts closing (referring to FIG. 10) at the points I, O, and Q, respectively.

FIG. 17 contains many control elements of the machine; among other things, it contains a timer 87 which assures that the table ways have been provided with hydrostatic fluid for a long enough time so that they are clearly "floating" on a hydrostatic film before any operation of the machine can take place. A light 88 is provided to assure that the oil filter is changed in time and a lamp 89 gives a continuous indication of the floating of the tables on their ways. The cycle start relays 3PR are shown in place, as well as relays associated with manual cycle start of automatic cycle table-in and table-out movement.

FIG. 18 also shows a number of control elements including regulating relays associated with table stop, load, no-part indication, damper bypass, dress, speed, dresser down, and dresser down timer, this latter being the timer 91.

FIG. 19 shows various parts of the controls for portions of the cycle, including the timer 92 which signals for the dress to take place at the point C.

FIG. 20 shows various regulating relays and their associated switches including the first size sparkout timer 93 and the second size sparkout timer 94.

FIG. 21 shows various other portions of the controls including the overtime timer 95 and including the various controls for feedback when the cycle is taking longer or shorter than a predetermined range and it seems to be desirable to make a wheel slide adjustment.

FIG. 22 shows the various parts of the control which have to do with the size of the abrasive wheel, including the new wheel controls.

FIG. 23 shows somewhat schematically the various circuit boards that are used in the regulation of the motion of the stepping motor No. 2, including the motor driver 96, and pulse-to-step converter 97, the BCD down counter 98, the pulser-timer 99, the count selector 101, the feed logic 102, the BCD up-down counters 103, the logic output 104, and the input interface 105.

In FIG. 24 is shown the motor driver 96, while FIG. 25 shows the pulse-to-step converter 97. FIG. 26 shows the BCD two-decade down counter 98, and FIG. 27 shows the circuitry used in the pulser-timer 99. FIG. 28 shows the circuitry used in the count selector 101. FIG. 29 shows the feed logic board 102 for the front stepping motor or stepping motor No. 2. FIG. 30 shows the details of the BCD up-down decade counter 103 of which there are three in the control scheme. In FIG. 31 are shown the details of the logic output 104. FIG. 32 shows the specific connections between the elements in the input interface 105 and shows the exact connections to the larger feedback, the smaller feedback, the first size front retraction, the second size front retraction, the feed mode, the feed reset, and the continuous mode method of operation of the stepping motor No. 2. FIG. 33 shows the details of the pick feedboard 106 which enables the motor No. 2 to feed only at the ends of the reciprocation stroke. Finally, in FIG. 34 are shown the connections within the various parts of the control for the stepping motor No. 2.

The study of the construction and operation of the machine will show why the use of retraction in the front stepping motor No. 2 is better than using retraction in the compensation slide stepping motion. In successively feeding and retracting in a given cycle, the stepping motor No. 2 uses a "dead reckoning" method of keeping track of its position. It is only necessary after the cycle is finished to retract back to a "zero" count. If one were to impose the retraction steps on the compensation slide, however, one would never know where to go to get the next dress, unless additional logic circuits calculated this for use. The point of dress would be a different figure after each cycle. Furthermore, it is not necessary to feed a reverse retraction of reset into the front retractable stop as would have to be done with the compensation slide retraction. Retractions do not interact with compensations in the present machine.

It is obvious that minor changes may be made in the form and construction of the invention without departing from the material spirit thereof. It is not, however, desired to confine the invention to the exact form herein shown and described, but it is desired to include all such as properly come within the scope claimed.

The invention having been thus described, what is claimed as new and desired to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A grinding machine for finishing a surface of rotation of a workpiece, comprising

- a. a base,
- b. a workhead table mounted on the base and adapted to support the workpiece,
- c. a wheelhead table mounted on the base and adapted to support a rotatable spindle with the abrasive wheel,
- d. means for supporting one of the tables for sliding motion transversely of the axis of the surface of revolution,
- e. a secondary slide associated with the said one of the tables and mounted for sliding transverse motion independently of the said one of the tables,
- f. a first stepping motor connecting the base to the secondary slide for bringing about its sliding motion, and
- g. a second stepping motor connected on occasion between the said one of the tables and the secondary slide to produce the sliding motion of the table.

2. A grinding machine as recited in claim 1, wherein the surface of revolution which is to be finished is an internal surface, wherein the spindle is mounted as a cantilever with the abrasive wheel mounted at the free end, and wherein a dressing ap-

paratus is mounted so as to be free of the movement of the said one of the tables and of the secondary slide.

3. A grinding machine as recited in claim 2, wherein the said one of the tables is the wheelhead table, wherein the workhead table is mounted for longitudinal movement relative to the wheelhead table, and wherein the secondary slide is a compensation slide.

4. A grinding machine as recited in claim 3, wherein a control is provided to actuate the stepping motors so that the first stepping motor is used for dress compensation movements and the second stepping motor is used for feed rate grinding movements and retraction movements.

5. A grinding machine as recited in claim 4, wherein the control presents electrical pulses to the stepping motors, and wherein the pulse frequency and the total number of pulses presented during a given movement are adjustable.

6. A grinding machine as recited in claim 5, wherein a hydraulic cylinder connects the wheelhead table to the base to produce a controlled force grinding movement, wherein a retractable stop extends from the wheelhead table for engagement with the compensation slide on occasion to restrict the said grinding movement, and wherein the second stepping

motor is connected to retract the stop relative to the wheelhead table at a controlled rate.

7. A grinding machine as recited in claim 6, wherein the control contains means for introducing a first predetermined number of pulses to the second stepping motor at one point in the grinding cycle for a retraction movement and introducing a second different predetermined number of pulses to the second stepping motor at another point in the grinding cycle for another retraction movement.

8. A grinding machine as recited in claim 4, wherein means is provided to bring about longitudinal reciprocatory movement between the workhead table and the wheelhead table during the grinding cycle, and wherein the control contains means to introduce the pulses to the second stepping motor at the ends only of the reciprocatory motion for feed rate grinding movement at that time.

9. A grinding machine as recited in claim 4, wherein the control contains means for introducing to the second stepping motor feedback pulses to compensate for long-range variations in the quality of the finished surfaces of successive workpieces.

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