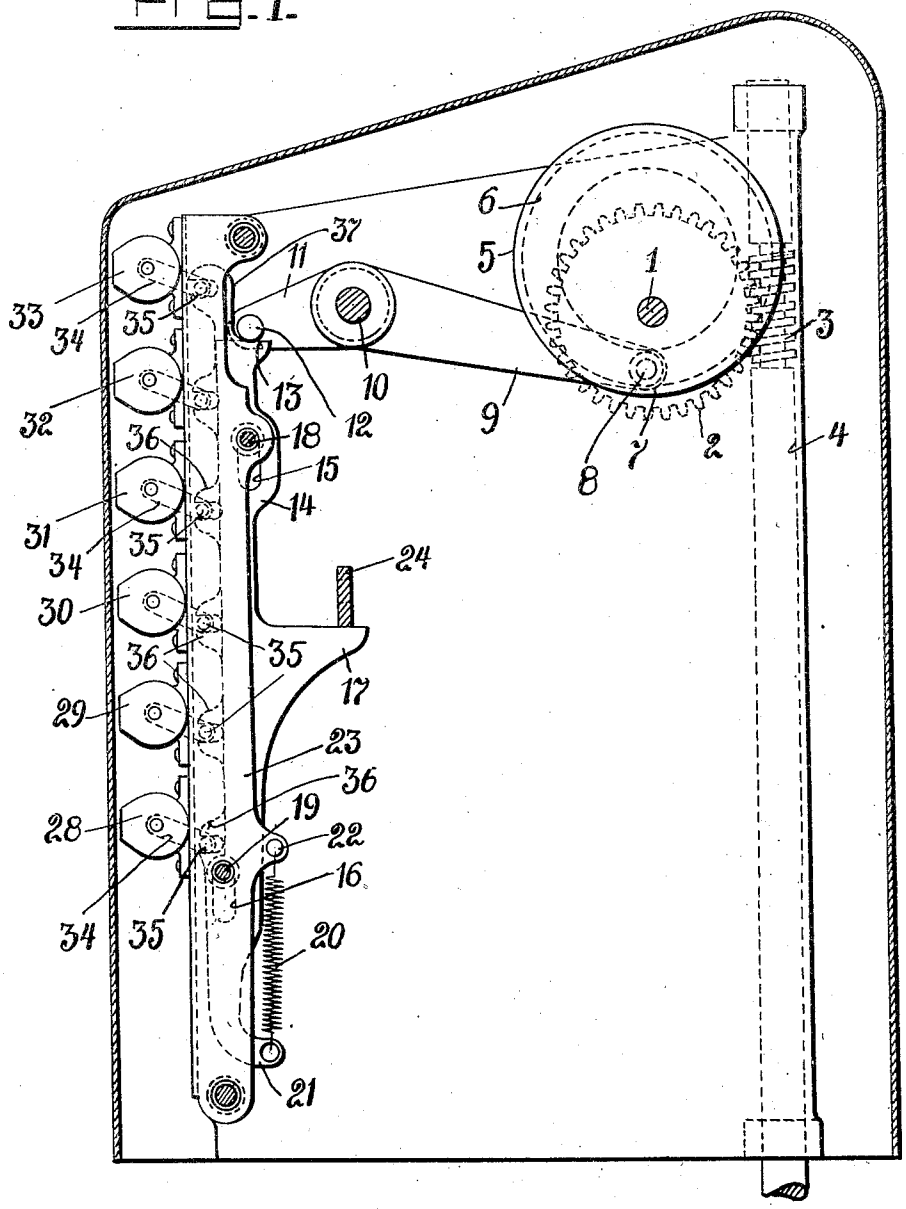
May 12, 1936. H. F. SADGEBURY ET AL 2,040,500

OPERATING MEANS FOR COUNTERS

Filed April 14, 1932 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.



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Filed April 14, 1932 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 2.

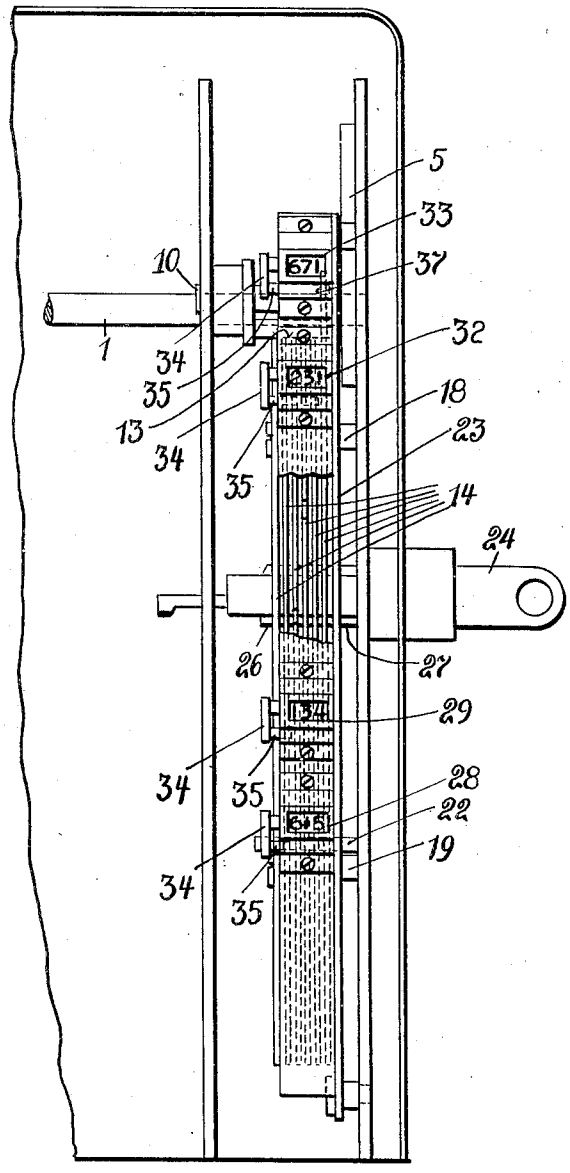


Fig. 3.

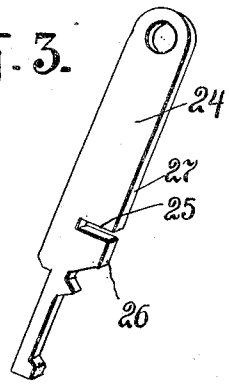
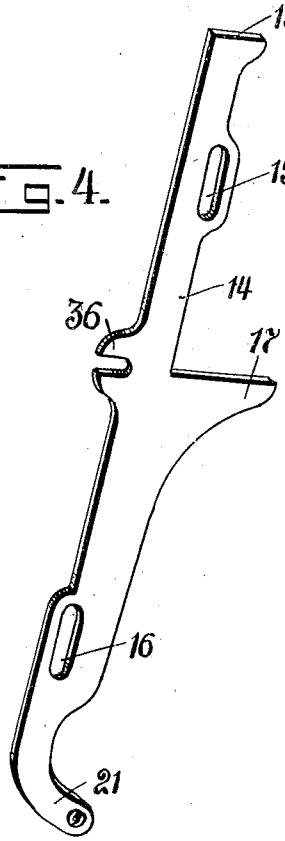


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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OPERATING MEANS FOR COUNTERS

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Application April 14, 1932, Serial No. 605,205

9 Claims. (Cl. 235—91)

This application relates to an operating means for counters of the well-known Veeder type and can be applied to any machine in which there is an operating shaft that is given one complete rotation for each operation of the machine, such as for instance, shown in our application for Recording dispenser, Serial No. 578,758, filed December 3, 1931. In particular this application refers to a means to operate any one of a plurality of counters, such as for instance, if there are six operators each one would be given a key corresponding to one of the counters so that each time that operator operated the machine, his counter would register one and no other counter would be actuated.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view partly in cross section of our invention;

Fig. 2 is a front elevational view thereof with certain parts broken away for the sake of clearness;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the keys; and

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of the lifting bars.

A shaft 1 is given one complete rotation each time the machine is operated by means of a gear 2, worm 3 and shaft 4. Mounted on the shaft 1 is a disk 5 provided with an eccentric channel 6 which receives a roller 7 mounted on a pin 8 carried by a lever 9 mounted on a shaft 10. The lever 9 is provided with an arm 11 extending beyond the shaft 10, which arm is provided with a pin 12 which engages shoulders 13 on the upper end of the lifting bars 14, there being one such bar for each counter. The lifting bars 14 are provided with guide slots 15 and 16 and with a key engaging arm 17. Rods 18 and 19 extend through the slots 15 and 16 and springs 20 extend from an arm 21 of each of the lifting bars to a bar 22 carried by the fixed frame 23. Each time the shaft 1 makes its revolution the right hand end of the lever 9, as viewed in Fig. 1, is lowered and is then raised so that the pin 12 is first elevated and is then depressed. As it is elevated, the springs 20 tend to elevate all of the lifting bars 14. Only one of these lifting bars, however, can be elevated for the operator's key 24 is provided with a single slot 25 and lower surfaces 26 and 27. The machine cannot be operated unless the key 24 has been inserted as is shown in the patent to A. S. Wheelbarger et al., 1,858,813, patented May 17, 1932. The various operator's keys are identical except that the slots 25 are differently positioned. If, for instance, there are six operators, there should be six counters 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33, each of which is provided with an operating arm 34 which carries a pin 35 which is received within a bifurcated arm 36 of the respective lifting bars 14. These bifurcated arms 36 are differently positioned on the different lifting bars, so that if there are, for instance, the six counters, one positioned above the other as shown in Fig. 1, these bifurcated arms would be one above the other and spaced a distance apart corresponding to the spacing of the counters. It is to be understood that each of the pins 35 of the various arms 34 extend into one of these bifurcated arms and that there are as many lifting bars 14 as there are counters so that when the lifting bar 14 corresponding to counter 28 is raised, the counter 28 will be actuated but none of the other counters will be actuated. The clerk who is assigned counter 28 is given a key having a slot 25 therein which, when the key is inserted, will overlie the key engaging arm 17 of the lifting bar 14 corresponding to his counter so that when the pin 12 is raised the key engaging arm 17 will be moved upwardly into the slot 25 so that the spring 20 connected to the lifting bar 14 corresponding to his counter will be raised. The lower surfaces 26 and 27 of his key prevent any other of the lifting bars from being raised and, therefore, his counter and no other will be operated.

All of the lifting bars are identical except that the bifurcated arms are differently positioned and the lifting bar connected to the highest counter 33 is provided with an upper extension 37. Obviously this extension is provided because the other lifting bars do not extend that high.

We realize that many changes may be made in the specific form of this invention shown and described by way of illustration in this application and we, therefore, reserve the right to make such changes in the specific form of the invention as shown herein as we may find to be desirable. We, therefore, claim the invention broadly except as we may limit ourselves by the appended claims.

Having now described our invention, we claim:

1. In a counting mechanism, a plurality of counters, a plurality of keys differing the one from the other and corresponding in number to the number of counters, a plurality of slides, there being one slide for each counter, means connecting each slide to its corresponding counter, and means carried by said keys to prevent the actuation of all of said slides except the slide corresponding to the key inserted.

2. In a counting mechanism, a plurality of

counters, a plurality of slides, there being one slide for each counter, means operatively connecting each slide to its counter, a projection carried by each slide, keys having flat surfaces adapted to overlie and lock against operation all of said projections except the one corresponding to the key inserted, an operating mechanism, and means controlled by the mechanism to operate only the slide and counter corresponding to the key inserted.

3. In a counting mechanism, a plurality of counters, a plurality of slides, there being one slide for each counter, means operatively connecting each slide to its counter, a projection carried by each slide, keys having flat surfaces adapted to overlie and lock against operation all of said projections except the one corresponding to the key inserted, an operating mechanism, means controlled by the mechanism to operate only the slide and counter corresponding to the key inserted, and to restore the operated slide to its normal position after its counter is operated.

4. In a counting mechanism, a plurality of counters, a plurality of slides operatively connected to said counters, there being one slide for each counter, an operating mechanism, means tending to operate all of said slides and counters when the operating mechanism is actuated, keys having different contours and corresponding in number to the number of slides and counters, and means carried by each key to lock against operation all of said slides except the one corresponding to the key inserted.

5. In a counting mechanism, a plurality of counters, a plurality of slides operatively connected to said counters, there being one slide for each counter, an operating mechanism, springs tending to operate all of said slides and counters when the operating mechanism is actuated, keys having different contours and corresponding in number to the number of slides and counters, and means carried by each key to lock against operation all of said slides except the one corresponding to the key inserted.

6. In a counting mechanism, a plurality of counters, a plurality of slides operatively connected to said counters, there being one slide for each counter, an operating mechanism, means tending to operate all of said slides and counters when the operating mechanism is actuated, keys having different contours and corresponding in number to the number of slides and counters, means carried by each key to lock against operation all of said slides except the one corresponding to the key inserted, and means forming a part of the operating mechanism to restore the selected slide to its normal position after its counter has been actuated.

7. In a counting mechanism, a plurality of counters, a plurality of slides operatively connected to said counters, there being one slide for each counter, an operating mechanism, means tending to operate all of said slides and counters when the operating mechanism is actuated, a lug carried by each slide, keys, each of which is provided with a surface adapted to engage and lock against operation all of said slides except the one corresponding to the key inserted, each of said keys being provided with a notch into which the lug of the slide corresponding to the key inserted will pass when the slide is operated.

8. In a counting mechanism, a plurality of counters, a plurality of slides operatively connected to said counters, there being one slide for each counter, an operating mechanism, means tending to operate all of said slides and counters when the operating mechanism is actuated, a lug carried by each slide, keys, each of which is provided with a surface adapted to engage and lock against operation all of said slides except the one corresponding to the key inserted, each of said keys being provided with a notch into which the lug of the slide corresponding to the key inserted will pass when the slide is operated, and means forming a part of the operating mechanism to restore the selected slide to its normal position after its counter has been actuated.

9. In a counting mechanism, a plurality of counters and corresponding operating means, means connecting each counter to its operating means, insertable keys, there being one key for each counter and operating means, a driving mechanism, means controlled by the operating mechanism tending to operate all of the operating means for the counters each time the driving mechanism is operated, and means carried by the key inserted to prevent the actuation of all of said counters except the counter corresponding to the inserted key.

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