May 21, 1929. G. SAGUE 1,714,278

STAMPING DEVICE

Filed Oct. 24, 1927 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

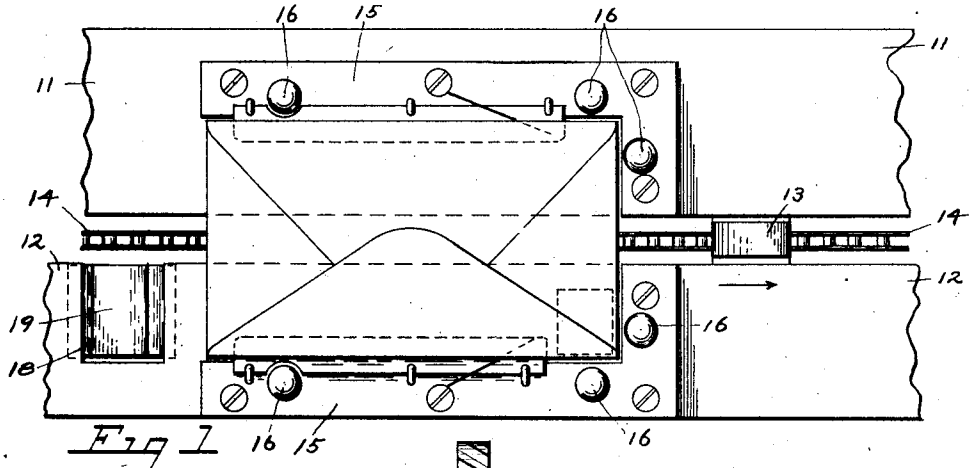


Fig 1

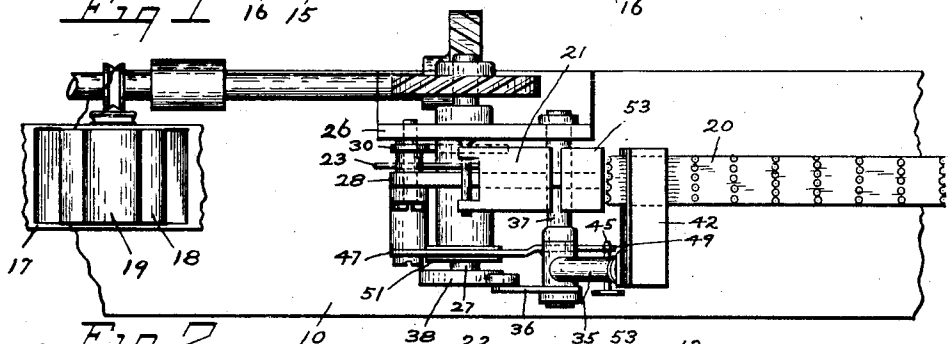


Fig 2

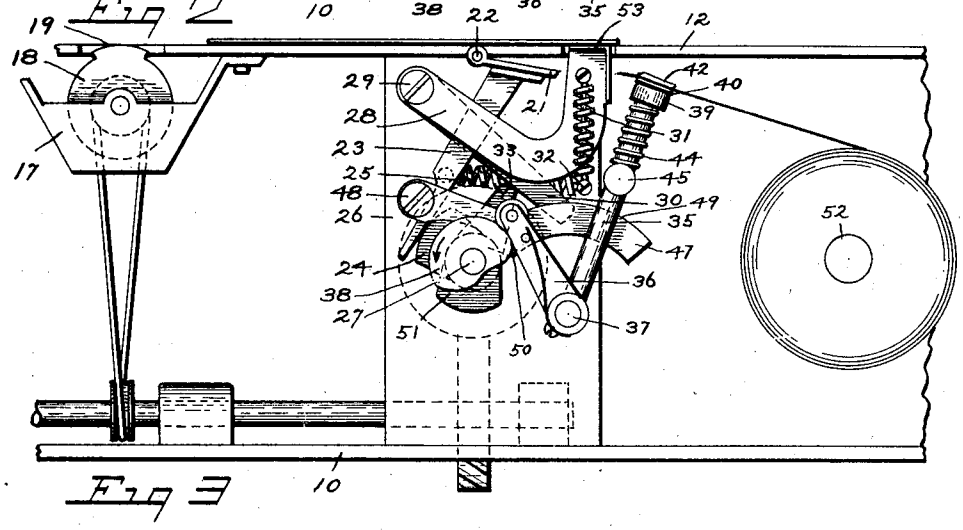


Fig 3

INVENTOR

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STAMPING DEVICE

Filed Oct. 24, 1927 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

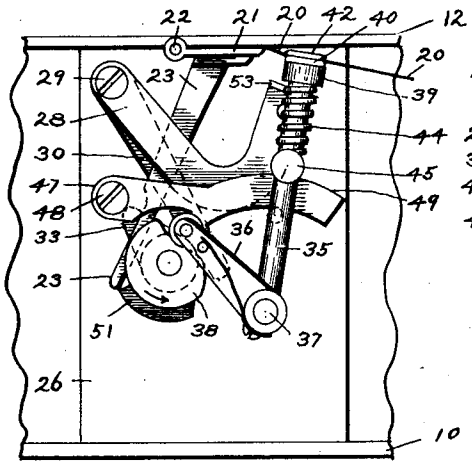


Fig 4

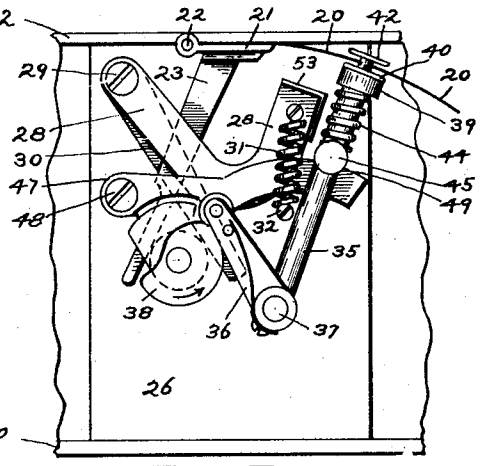


Fig 5

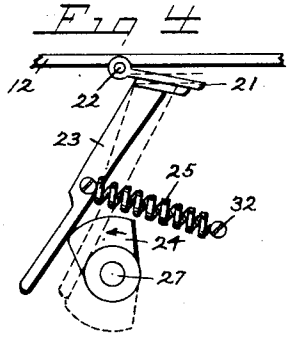


Fig 6

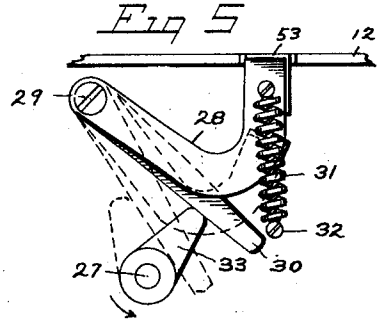


Fig 7

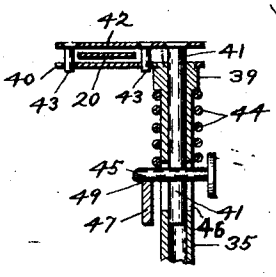


Fig 10

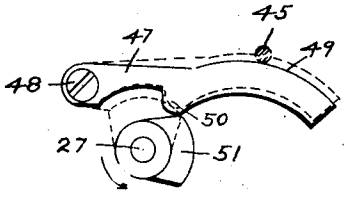


Fig 8

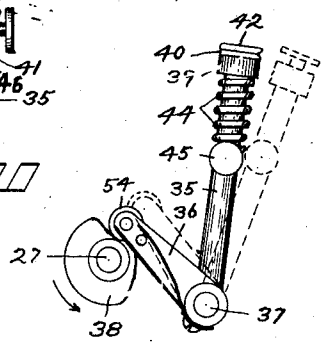


Fig 9

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Patented May 21, 1929. 1,714,278

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE SAGUE, OF OAKES, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO GEORGE SAGUE MFG. CORP., OF POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

STAMPING DEVICE.

Application filed October 24, 1927. Serial No. 228,382.

This invention relates to a device for affixing postage stamps to letters, cards, circulars, etc.; or the printing of the permit on the same, and it is intended for use in connection with a mailing machine where matter is prepared for mailing, such as filling envelopes, addressing, sealing, etc.

In the mailing of large quantities of envelopes, cards, etc., and where a permit is not printed on the face of the mail matter before filling, a postage stamp must be affixed or stuck on the face of the mail matter, and this is now done by hand or by one of the stamp affixers now on the market, in which the mail matter just be fed one at a time and the stamps supplied from a roll as furnished by the post office, but in the machines now in use, not only are they in most cases complicated, but they will not feed and affix the last few stamps of the roll, nor are they adaptable of being built in or incorporated into the mailing, inserting, or addressing machine as a part thereof.

While the present invention embodies a device which may if desired be constructed as a self contained unit to be operated by hand or power and designed to have the mail matter fed into it one at a time, it is primarily designed to be a part of or incorporated into a mailing machine, and it is here so illustrated and described, but the invention is not to be confined thereto, and as before stated may be a self contained machine; or with slight mechanical changes the device may be used to print a permit on the envelope or mail matter in place of attaching the postage stamp; a die being substituted for the presser foot, and an ink roller mounted on the top of the transfer arm.

The object of the invention is to provide a simple and effective stamp affixer or printer, containing few parts and easy of operation.

Another object is to construct a device of the kind that shall provide a positive feed for the postage stamps.

A further object is to provide in such a device a positive means for holding the stamp to be affixed, until the same is pressed upon the article to be stamped.

With these and other objects in view the invention contains certain construction and combination of parts as will hereinafter be fully described and claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawings which form a part hereof and in which like figures of reference refer to corresponding parts in all of the views, but it is understood that slight changes may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 shows a top plan view of part of a mailing machine, showing the device attached thereto and an envelope in position for stamping.

Figure 2 shows a similar view, but with the top plates removed to disclose the mechanism for operating the device.

Figure 3 is a front elevation of the same, showing the device in the act of affixing a postage stamp.

Figure 4 is a similar view, but showing the mechanism in its next position, or in the act of gripping the edge of the next stamp on the strip and the feeder or transfer device opening.

Figure 5 shows the mechanism with the feeder just about to grip the strip of stamps to feed the next stamp forward.

Figure 6 is a detail view of the jaw member of the transfer or feeder arm, actuating cam for same: showing in full lines one extreme position and in dotted lines the other position.

Figure 7 is a detail view of the stamp presser, and actuating cam, showing the same in one position, and in dotted lines in the other position.

Figure 8 is a detail view of the device for opening the jaw of the feeder, and shows the same and its cam in its two extreme positions.

Figure 9 is a detail view of the feeder and shows the same in its two extreme positions with its operating cam.

Figure 10 is a detail view of the construction of the feeder and its jaw.

Referring to the drawings, it is only necessary to describe a portion of the mailing machine to which the device is attached, and this comprises a base plate 10, the two upper or surface plates 11 and 12 which are spaced apart and which provide tracks or guides within which the gripper member 13 slides or travels by the action of the endless conveyor chain 14 which is secured thereto, and operated by any suitable means, such as sprocket wheels rotated by the main drive of the machine.

The stamping device is intended to be located adjacent to the stacker for stacking the filled and sealed envelopes, and the stacker

frame 15 and guide or piling rods 16 are shown, as well as the water tank 17 in which is mounted the water wheel 18 formed with a moistener pad 19 which at each revolution of the water wheel 18 will come into contact with and moisten that part of the face of the envelope which is to receive the stamp; the envelope being carried over the wheel and into the stacker by the conveyor 14 and gripper 13.

A portion of the plate 12 slightly larger than the size of the postage stamp 20 is cut away, and adjacent thereto and to the under side of the plate 12 is hinged one end of a retaining jaw 21 by the pin 22; said jaw 21 being provided with a depending arm 23 (see Figure 6) which is held in contact by a spring 25 with a cam 24 mounted on a shaft 27 which shaft is rotatably mounted in a bearing 26 which is secured or forms a part of the supporting frame which is attached to the base plate 10; and it will be seen by reference to Figure 6 which shows said jaw and cam in its closed position, and in dotted lines in its open position.

Taking next in turn the stamp presser as shown in Figure 7, this comprises a curved arm 28 which has one end pivoted on a stud 29 secured to the frame 26, while the other end is provided with a stamp pressing foot 53 of approximately the shape and size of a postage stamp; also said arm has attached thereto at its pivot end a depending lever 30, which is held in contact by a spring 31 having one end secured thereto and the other end to a post 32 mounted on the frame 26, with a cam 33 which is also mounted on the shaft 27 and rotated in the direction of the arrow; and by referring to Figure 7, said stamp pressing arm is shown in its operative position in full lines and in its lowered position by the dotted lines.

Next taking Figures 9 and 10, the feeder arm is shown, which comprises a tubular arm 35, which is formed with an actuating arm 36 secured at its lower end to the arm 35 and pivoted on a stud 37 attached to the frame 26; and the outer end of said arm 36 being provided with a roller 54 which is held in contact with a cam 38 mounted on the shaft 27.

To the upper end of said tubular arm 35 is secured a head 39 which is formed with a rectangular plate 40 comprising the lower or stationary part of a jaw; while within said tubular arm 35 is mounted a plunger 41, to the upper end of which is secured a plate 42 comprising the movable jaw, which is provided with the guide pins 43 secured thereto and located in holes provided in the lower jaw plate 40.

For retaining the jaw in a normally closed position, there is provided a spring 44 surrounding said arm 35 with its upper end bearing against the head 39 and its lower end in contact with a pin 45 which is secured to the side of the plunger 41 near its lower end, and projects through a slot 46 formed in the side of the tubular arm 35; and in Figure 9 said tubular arm 35 is shown in its two positions, and also its actuating cam.

For opening and closing the jaws 40 and 42 of the arm 35 there is provided an arm 47 having one end pivoted on a stud 48 attached to the frame 26; and said arm 47 is formed with a curved portion 49 in contact with said pin 45; and a rounded heel portion 50 which is held in contact with a cam 51 which is mounted on the shaft 27; the pressure of the spring 44 on the pin 45 against the arm 49 holding said arm 47 in contact with the cam; the two positions of said arm 47 being shown in Figure 8.

Now having described each piece of the device in detail, I will describe the operation of the device as a whole.

At a suitable position or location on the machine is mounted a stud or shaft 52 on which is placed a roll of strip postage stamps as furnished by the post office; and the shaft 27 is rotated to bring the feed arm 35 into the position shown in Figure 5 with the jaws 40 and 42 open, and the end of the strip of stamps is threaded through said jaws between the pins 43. The retaining jaw 21 being opened by pressing against the arm 23 the front edge of the first stamp on the strip is inserted in said jaw 21 and the jaw allowed to close on it and hold it by its extreme edge; now by the regular operation of the machine which rotates the shaft 27, the jaw 42 of the arm 35 will close on the strip; and next the presser 53 will be raised and press the postage stamp which is held by the jaw 21 against the already moistened surface of the envelope, pulling the edge of said stamp from the jaw 21 and at the same time tearing it from the strip; and next the jaw 21 opens, the presser 53 is lowered and the arm 45 carries the strip of stamps forward into the position shown in Figure 4, the edge of the end stamp entering the jaw 21; which now closes on it, the jaw 42 slightly opening and the arm 35 assuming the position shown in Figure 3, where the jaw 42 is again clamped on the strip during the operation of the presser, which now takes place; and then the entire cycle of operations is repeated; and it will be seen that not only is the first stamp of the strip used, but also the last stamp of the strip is carried to and held by the jaw 21 until placed on the envelope.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. In a stamping device employing a strip of postage stamps, and in combination with means for holding the front edge of the end stamp of the strip, means for feeding the strip of stamps one at a time to said holding means, means for severing the end stamp from the

strip while being held, and pulling said stamp from said holding means and pressing the same upon the article to be stamped.

2. A stamping device employing a strip of postage stamps, in combination with means for temporarily holding the front edge of a stamp, of means for feeding stamps to said holding means, and means for transferring stamps from said holding means to the articles to be stamped.

3. A stamping device employing a strip of stamps, in combination with means for temporarily holding the end stamp of said strip, means for severing said stamp from the strip, and pulling said stamp from the holding means and pressing the same upon the article to be stamped.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

GEORGE SAGUE.