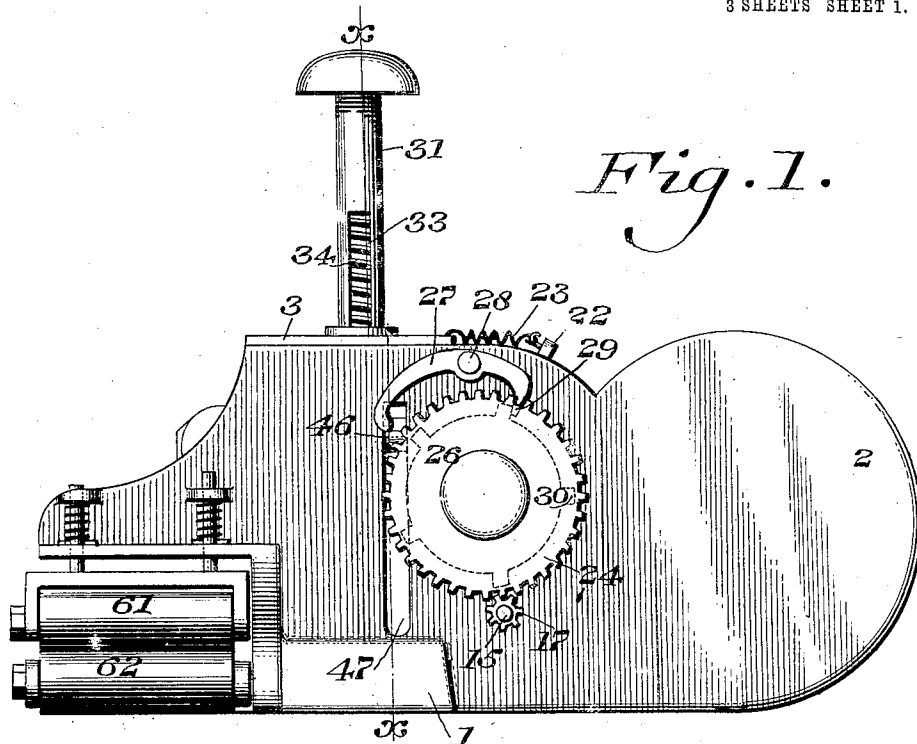


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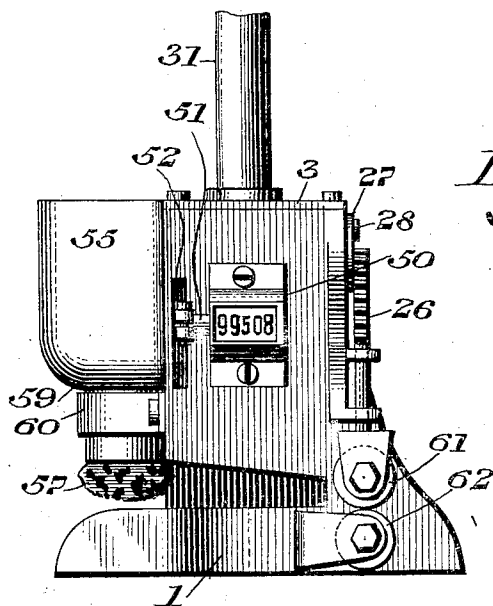
PATENTED JUNE 23, 1908.

F. L. JENNINGS.  
STAMP AFFIXER AND ENVELOP SEALER.  
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 13, 1906.

3 SHEETS SHEET 1.



*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*

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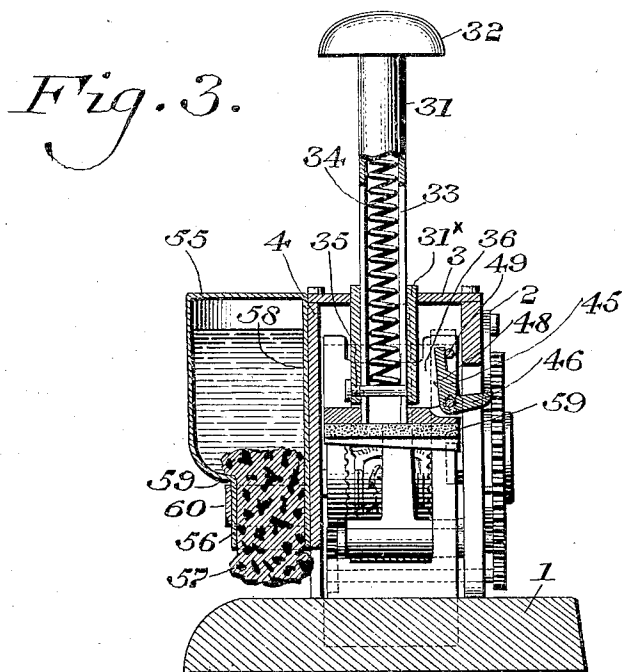
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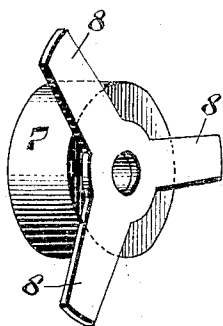
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



*Fig. 4.*



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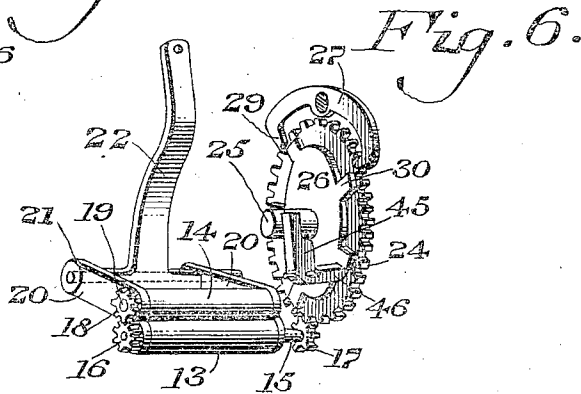
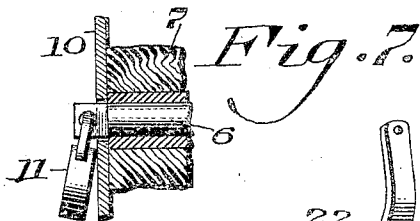
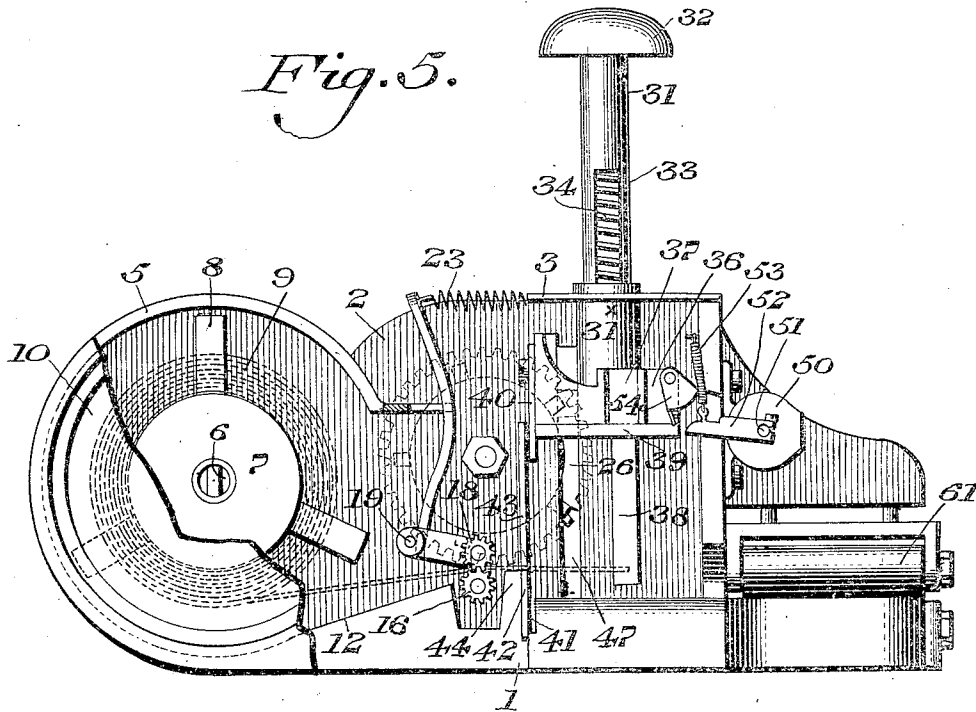
PATENTED JUNE 23, 1908.

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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## STAMP-AFFIXER AND ENVELOP-SEALER.

No. 891,702.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 23, 1908.

Application filed November 13, 1906. Serial No. 343,280.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK L. JENNINGS, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Stamp-Affixer and Envelop-Sealer, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a new and useful stamp affixer and envelop sealer and consists in providing positive means for feeding the stamp to its proper position and for cutting the same.

It further consists of a novel moistener.

It further consists of other novel features of construction, all as will be hereinafter fully set forth.

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a stamp affixer embodying my invention. Fig. 2 represents an end elevation of a stamp affixer with a portion broken away. Fig. 3 represents a sectional view on line  $x-x$  Fig. 1. Fig. 4 represents a perspective view of a reel employed. Fig. 5 represents an elevation of the stamp affixer showing one side broken away. Fig. 6 represents a perspective view of parts of the device in detached position. Fig. 7 represents a sectional view of a portion of the device showing the locking means.

In stamp affixers it is essential that the stamps be positively fed to their proper position and then cut and I have found in practice in stamp affixers heretofore made, that the stamps are not always fed at the proper time. There is also objection by reason of the fact that in moistening either the stamp or the envelop in a large majority of cases is subjected to an excess of the moistening fluid with the consequent ill results.

In the drawings, I have shown mechanism for overcoming these defects but it will be evident that other instrumentalities may be employed which will accomplish the same results and which will come within the scope of my invention and I do not therefore desire to be limited in every instance to the exact construction herein shown and described.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in the figures.

Referring to the drawings. 1 designates the base for the stamp affixer having the side 2 integral with or connected thereto in any desired manner, a suitable top 3 being connected therewith and a removable side 4

being attached in any convenient manner 55 and from one end of said side 2 extends a circular flange 5, as best seen in Fig. 5.

6 designates a bar which is connected with the side 2 upon which is rotatably mounted a reel 7, said reel having the arms 8 projecting therefrom on one side, so that the strip of stamps 9 shown in dotted lines Fig. 5, can be easily mounted upon said reel 7.

10 designates a plate, cap or cover conforming to the flange 5 and which is adapted 65 to be suitably connected or locked in position after the stamps are mounted upon the reel 7 and the said reel is in position on the bar 6. In the present instance the plate is connected with the bar 6 by a pad-lock 11, 70 so that the removal of the stamps or insertion of the same can be controlled by one person if desired.

12 designates an inclined guide forming part of or carried by the base 1 and upon 75 which the strip of stamps can rest as they leave, or are fed from the reel 7, said guide 12 serving to direct the stamps between the two rollers 13 and 14, the roller 13 of which is mounted upon a shaft 15 having a gear 16 80 at one end and a second gear 17 upon the opposite end which is situated exterior of the side 2, said gear 16 meshing with a gear 18 carried by a shaft 19 upon which the roller 14 is supported, said shaft 19 being jour- 85 naled in the links or bars 20, which are connected with a rocking shaft 21, which latter is suitably journaled and has projecting upwardly therefrom the bar 22, which at a suitable point has connected therewith one end 90 of the spring 23, the opposite end of which is connected with a stationary point in the present instance with the top 3, whereby it will be seen that the upper roller 14 can have a slight movement with respect to the roller 95 13, although the tension of the spring 23 normally tends to hold said rollers in close contact.

24 designates a gearing upon the exterior of the casing which meshes with the gear 17 100 on the shaft 15, said gear 24 being mounted upon a shaft 25 and has a spur wheel 26 connected therewith.

27 designates a locking dog which is eccentrically mounted, as at 28, as best seen in 105 Fig. 1, one end of said dog having a nose 29 adapted at the proper time to engage with the spurs 30 on the spur wheel 26, the nor-

mal position of said dog 27, by reason of its mounting, being such that the nose 29 will be out of the path of movement or of engagement with the said spurs 30.

5 31 designates a plunger removably mounted on the top 3 which is provided with a handle 32 and which has the slots 23 in its opposite sides and on the interior of which is mounted the spring 34, the lower end of  
10 which bears against the pin or cross-piece 35 carried by the boss 31\* on the casing and said slots 33 passing the pin 35 when the plunger is moved.

Suitably connected with the plunger is a  
15 head 36 in the side of which are the grooves 37 in which are seated guides 38, one of which is carried by the side 2 and the other by the side 4, whereby it will be seen that said head is moved in a proper vertical line.  
20 Upon the lower face of the head is secured a resilient pad 39 and at one side of said head is mounted the knife 40 which reciprocates with said head 36 and projects below the pad 39. In the base 1 is provided a recess  
25 or slot 41 which is adapted to receive said knife 40 when the plunger has reached its lowermost position and the pad 39 is contacting with the stamp, in order to secure the stamp to the envelop.

30 42 designates a stationary knife which is connected with the base 1 in any desired manner and which is situated adjacent the slot 41, it being noted that the movable knife 40 in its descent will shear the stamp  
35 before it reaches said slot 41.

43 designates a bar connected with the stationary knife and situated in line therewith, in order to prevent the knife 40 from passing beyond its proper plane. Situated  
40 between the rollers 13 and 14 and the knife 42, is a support 44, the upper surface of which is in substantially the same horizontal plane as the upper edge of the knife 42, so that as the stamp passes from between the  
45 rollers 13 and 14, it will rest upon the said support 44 and the upper edge of the knife 42, in order that the same will be properly supported during the cutting action of the knives. Carried by the plunger head 36 is a  
50 pivoted pawl 45 having a nose 46 projecting through and moving in a slot 47 in the side 2 of the casing, it being seen that the normal position of said nose is such that it abuts against the opposite end of the pawl 27,  
55 from that upon which the nose 29 is situated, and that the said dog 45 normally holds the said nose 29 in such position that it is in engagement with one of the spurs 30 of the spur wheel 36 thus preventing rotation of the  
60 same.

A suitable spring 48 normally holds the dog in the position best seen in Fig. 3, a pin or support 49 preventing improper movement of the dog 45 in a forward direction.

65 As the plunger head 36 is lowered, the

nose 46 of the dog 45 is removed from the pawl 27 the end of which at that time is not supported and the heavier end thereof is lowered which raises the dog 29 out of the path of the spur 30 with which it was in engagement. As the plunger head 36 descends, the nose 46 of the dog 45 rides over the spur 30, which may be in its path, until the lowermost position of the head is reached, it being seen that the pawl 45 is  
70 caused by its spring to assume its normal position as soon as the dog 45 has passed the spur 30.

When the plunger is released for its return upward movement the dog 45 will engage  
80 with the spur 30, as best seen in Fig. 6, and will carry the same with it and thus rotate the spur wheel 26 the required distance until the dog 45 releases the spur when the dog will again engage with the end of the  
85 pawl 27, and cause the nose 29 to engage with the proper spur 30, it being understood that as the spur wheel 26 is rotated it will cause rotation of the gear 24, which rotates the smaller gear 17, imparting a rotary motion  
90 to the rollers 13 and 14, advancing the strip of stamps a sufficient distance to cause the next succeeding stamp to be in position ready to be cut severed from the strip by the knives.  
95

In order to obtain a record of the number of stamps used an indicator 50 is suitably mounted upon the casing of the device and to the operating shaft 51 thereof is attached a lever 52 which is actuated by a spring  
100 for holding the same in normal position and for returning the lever to its normal position after being actuated.

54 designates a pivotally mounted cam carried by the head 36 of the plunger which  
105 in its descent will contact with the lever 52 in order to depress the same a sufficient amount to cause the indicator 50 to register the depression, and thus the use of a stamp, said cam 54 riding the lever on its return  
110 movement in order not to actuate the same, whereby it will be seen that at each depression of the plunger, at which time a stamp is used, an indication thereof will be made so that a record of the stamp used may be accurately and positively kept.  
115

55 designates a moistening device which is composed of a receptacle adapted to contain water or other fluid and which is provided with the reduced neck 56 in which is mounted  
120 a sponge 57, said reduced neck being at the lower portion of the receptacle which is an air tight compartment and to which no air can enter, the sponge serving to absorb just a sufficient quantity of water or other fluid;  
125 in order to properly moisten the envelop, it being seen that by this means excessive moistening of the envelop is prevented, since there is no possible way in which air can enter, as the only opening is in the bottom  
130

of the reduced neck in which the sponge 57 is situated. The receptacle is filled when in an inverted condition and so retains the fluid therein, since as is evident, the sides 5 and top of the receptacle are of integrally-closed construction so that in the filling of the receptacle the fluid cannot flow through the closed sides and top thereof, and but little air can enter the receptacle through the 10 bottom opening since the sponge practically forms a stopper which, however, permits subsequent dispensing of the fluid from the same in a sufficient quantity, for purposes to be hereinafter described. I preferably form the 15 receptacle with a flat side 58 which is adapted to rest against the side 4 in the present instance and form a shoulder 59 which is adapted to rest upon a strap 60 connected with the side 4, which is of sufficient size to receive the reduced neck 56 of the receptacle. In order to close the envelop, I provide the 20 rollers 61 and 62 which are suitably mounted upon the side of the frame so that after the flap has been moistened by the sponge 57, the envelop can be passed between the rollers 61 and 62 and properly sealed.

The operation is as follows:—When the plunger is depressed the spring actuated cam 54 depresses the lever 52 in order to operate the indicator 50 to register the use of another stamp. As soon as the cam 54 has passed the lever 52 the spring 53 returns to its normal position ready for the next action. When the plunger 31 is started upon its 35 downward passage the dog 45 releases the pawl 27 and the nose 29 thereof is removed from engagement with the spur 30. By the further downward movement of the plunger the knives 40 and 42 sever the stamp and 40 the pad 39 presses the same upon the envelop which has meanwhile been moistened by the sponge 57 and the stamp is firmly attached to the envelop, it being noted that the movable knife 40 enters the recess 41 as 45 already described. When the plunger is released the spring 34 returns the same to its normal position and in its movement upwardly the nose 46 of the dog 45 engages with one of the spurs 30 rotating the gear 24, which rotates the gear 17 and shaft 15 on 50 which is mounted the gear 16, which meshes with the gear 18 and rotates the roller 14, the roller 13 being rotated with the shaft 15. This causes the rollers to feed another stamp 55 into its proper position ready for cutting. After the dog 45 has passed the spur 30 with which it engages in order to rotate the gear 34, it will contact with the pawl 27 and will throw the dog 29 into engagement with another pawl thus holding the parts in position. In order to reverse the stamps the lock 11 60 can be removed and the plate or cover 10 can be taken away in order that access to the roller 7 can be had. By these means a durable construction is produced and the stamps

are positively fed evenly at all times and are properly cut by the knives and at the same time too much moistening is prevented from being applied to the envelop.

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

1. In a device of the character described, a reel upon which the strip of stamps is mounted, a casing surrounding said reel, a 75 removable cap adapted to be locked in position and serving to prevent the stamps from leaving said reel, a plunger, a knife carried by said plunger, a stationary knife with which said movable knife is adapted to coact, and 80 means situated between said reel and said knives which are adapted to be actuated by the movement of said plunger for feeding a stamp to its proper position with respect to said knives, in order that the said stamps can 85 be severed from the strip.

2. In a device of the character described, a casing, a reel adapted to be rotatably mounted in the casing, arms projecting from one side of said reel, a shaft journaled in the 90 casing and having a gear at each end thereof, a roller on said shaft, a second roller carried by a second shaft and normally situated in contact with said first mentioned roller, a gear on the second mentioned roller shaft 95 meshing with one of the gears on the first mentioned roller shaft, links upon which said second mentioned shaft is supported, a rocking shaft carrying said links, an arm projecting from said rocking shaft, a spring in engagement with said arm, a plunger, and 100 means between said plunger and said rollers whereby movement of said plunger actuates said rollers.

3. In a device of the character described, 105 means for supporting a strip of stamps, rollers between which said stamps pass and are suitably fed, a plunger having a head, a knife carried by said head for cutting the stamps from the strip, a spring actuated dog carried 110 by said plunger, a gear for actuating said rollers and having means which are engaged by said dog for actuating said gear and a pivoted pawl for locking said gear and actuated by said dog for locking and releasing said 115 gear.

4. In a device of the character described, means for supporting a strip of stamps, rollers between which said stamps pass and are fed to the knives, a plunger, a plunger head 120 having grooves therein, a knife carried by said plunger head, a spring actuated dog carried by said plunger and having a nose projecting through a suitable slot in the casing, a gear adapted to actuate said rollers, means 125 carried by said gear with which said dog engages in order to rotate the same, and an eccentrically mounted pawl having a nose adapted to engage with said gear for locking the same, and said spring actuated dog being 130

adapted to hold said pawl in its locking position.

5 5. In a device of the character described, means for supporting the stamps, rollers between which said stamps are adapted to be fed, shafts upon which said rollers are mounted, gears at each end of one of said shafts, a gear on the other shaft meshing with one of said gears on the first mentioned  
10 shaft, a gear meshing with the other gear on the first mentioned shaft, a spur wheel carried by said gear, an eccentrically mounted pawl having a nose and normally situated out of the path of movement of the spurs on  
15 said spur wheel, a plunger, a spring actuated dog on said plunger adapted to contact with said pawl and to hold the same in such position that the nose thereof engages with one of the spurs on said spur wheel, and said dog  
20 on its return movement, after the plunger has been depressed, being adapted to engage with one of the spurs on said spur wheel, in order to rotate the gear and with it the rollers

in order that the next succeeding stamp will be fed into proper position for cutting. 25

6. In a device of the character described, a reel upon which the strip of stamps is mounted, a casing surrounding said reel, a removable cap adapted to be locked in position, a plunger, a knife carried by said  
30 plunger, a stationary knife with which said movable knife is adapted to coact, means situated between said reel and said knives which are adapted to be actuated by the movement of said plunger for feeding a  
35 stamp to its proper position with respect to said knives, in order that the said stamps can be severed from the strip, and a moistening device consisting of a receptacle having an opening only in its lower wall and a sponge in  
40 said opening.

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