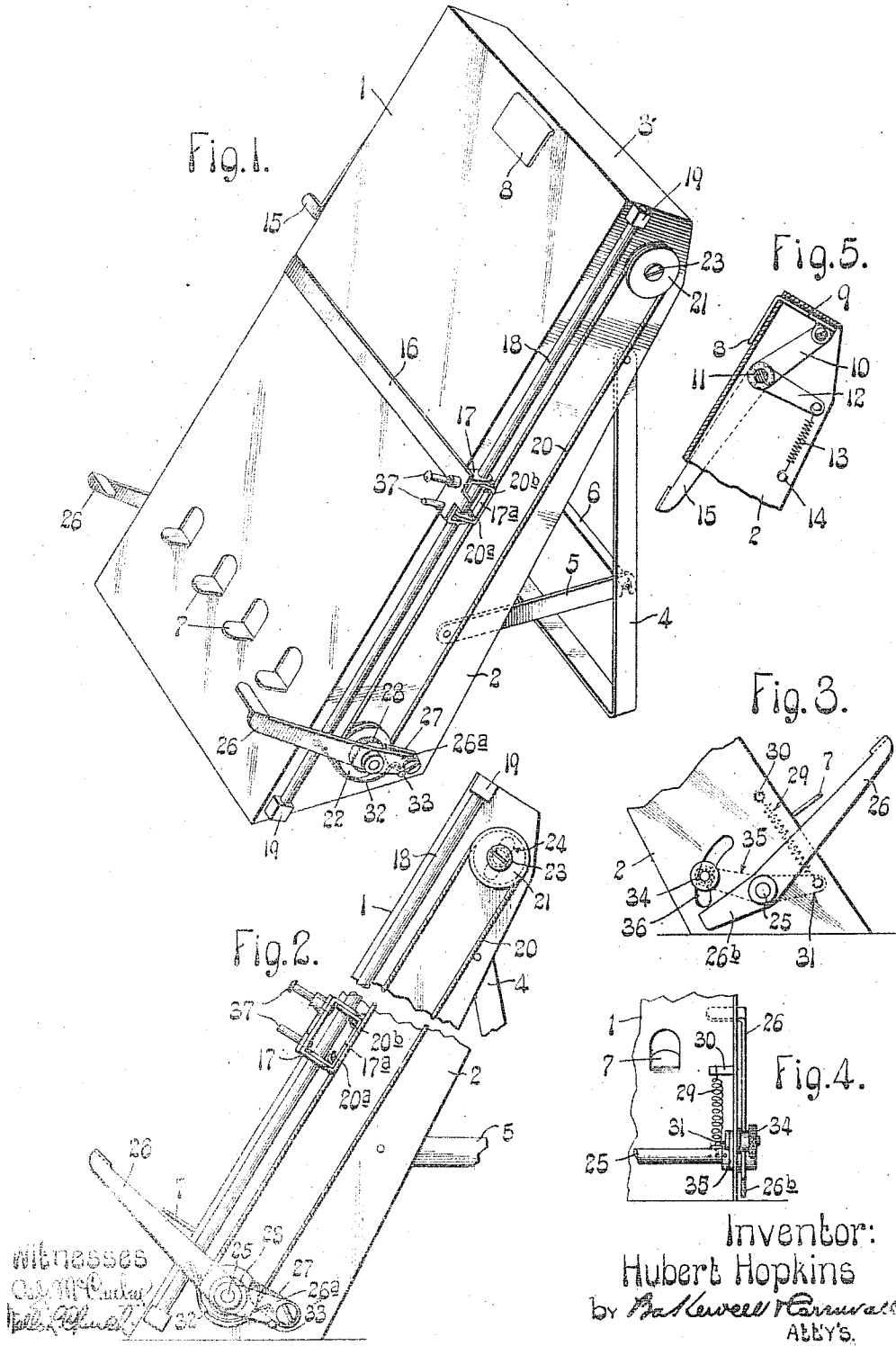


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COPY HOLDER.

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979,670.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COPY-HOLDER.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HUBERT HOPKINS, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, Missouri, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Copy-Holders, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a copy-holder constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2 is an elevational view of the righthand side of the holder; Fig. 3 is an elevational view of a portion of the lefthand side of the holder; Fig. 4 is a rear elevational view of a portion of the holder; and Fig. 5 is a detail vertical sectional view of the upper portion of the support illustrating the construction of the clamping device.

This invention relates to copy holders such as are generally used by stenographers for holding a sheet of paper or book in an approximately upright position while the contents of same is being transcribed on a typewriting machine.

One object of my invention is to provide a copy-holder that comprises a guide, and means under control of the operator for spacing said guide or moving it downwardly step by step so that the operator's eye will accurately follow the lines of printing or writing on the sheet or page that is being copied.

Another object is to provide a copy-holder having a support and a guide extending transversely over the support and constructed in such a manner that it adjusts itself automatically to the thickness of the book or other object that is arranged between the guide and support.

Another object is to provide a copy-holder having a guide, mechanism under control of the operator for moving said guide over the support, and means whereby the operator can manually move the guide without first disconnecting or changing the position of the guide-moving mechanism.

Another object is to provide a copy-holder having a clamping device and means located at one side of the support on which the sheet or book rests for operating said clamping device. And still another object of my in-

vention is to provide a copy-holder that is compact and which presents a neat and ornamental appearance.

Referring to the drawings which illustrate the preferred form of my invention, 1 designates the supporting surface of the holder on which a sheet or book is adapted to rest, said supporting surface preferably consisting of a sheet of metal that has its edge portions bent rearwardly to produce side flanges 2 and a top flange 3. The support 1 is retained in an inclined position, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, by means of a U-shaped member 4 pivotally connected to the side flanges 2 and adapted to be locked by means of hooks 5 pivotally connected to the side flanges 2 and cooperating with a bar 6 carried by said U-shaped member. When the holder is not in use the U-shaped member 4 and hooks 5 are folded inside of the side flanges 2, thus producing a device that is neat and compact. It will be obvious, however, that any suitable means could be employed for retaining the support in an upright position without departing from the spirit of my invention.

The support 1 is provided adjacent its lower end with stops 7 on which the lower edge of the sheet or book can rest and in the preferred form of my invention, as herein shown, said stops consist of portions of the support 1 that are cut and bent outwardly. At the upper end of the support is a clamping device 8 that projects over the sheet or book which rests on the support, said clamping device being provided with a shank 9 that passes through a slot in the support and is pivotally connected to an arm 10 on a transversely extending shaft 11. An arm 12 that is securely fastened to the shaft 11 is connected to one end of a coiled spring 13 which has its opposite end connected to a stud 14 on the inside face of one of the side flanges 2, as shown in Fig. 5, and on the outer end of said shaft is an operating handle or lever 15 that is located at the lefthand side of the support 1, as shown in Fig. 1. The lever 15 is adapted to be depressed to move the clamping device 8 away from the support and the spring 13 operates to draw said clamping device toward the support to securely clamp the sheet or book resting upon the support.

A guide 16 is arranged transversely of the support to assist the eye of the operator

to accurately follow the lines of printing or writing on the sheet which is being copied and means under control of the operator is provided for moving said guide downwardly step by step during the operation of transcribing the contents of the sheet. The guide 16 is carried by an approximately inverted U-shaped device 17 which is slidably mounted on a rod 18 connected to lugs 19 on the flange 2 at the righthand side of the support, and movement is imparted to said U-shaped device by means of a belt 20 that passes over pulleys 21 and 22, and has its opposite ends connected to a U-shaped device 17^a slidably mounted on the rod 18 and arranged between the legs of the device 17 that carries the guide 16. The belt 20 is preferably connected to the U-shaped device 17^a in such a manner that said device can move directly over the pulley 21 and thus carry the guide 16 up close to the upper end of the support 1, this being accomplished by connecting the end 20^a of the belt that leads from the pulley 21 to the lower leg of the device 17^a and the end 20^b of the belt that leads from the pulley 22 to the upper leg of the device 17^a, as shown clearly in Fig. 2. The pulley 21 is carried by a stud 23 that is adjustably mounted in an elongated slot 24 in the righthand side flange, as shown in Fig. 2, so as to enable said pulley to be moved away from the pulley 22 to keep the belt 20 taut. The pulley 22 is loosely mounted on a horizontal rock shaft 25 that extends transversely through the side flanges 2. Levers 26 are secured to the shaft 25 at each side of the support 1 and the lever at the righthand side of the support has an extension 26^a to which a pawl 27 is pivotally connected. This pawl 27 has fine serrations or teeth that are adapted to engage a fine toothed ratchet wheel 28 secured to the pulley 22 and thus impart movement to said pulley and to the belt 20 whenever either of the levers 26 is depressed, the movement of the belt 20 of course causing the guide 16 to move downwardly over the support 1. The levers 26 and shaft 25 are returned to normal position by means of a coiled spring 29 having its upper end connected to a pin 30 on the inside face of the flange 2 at the lefthand side of the support and its lower end connected to an arm 31 that is secured to the rock shaft 25, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4. The pawl 27 is drawn toward the ratchet wheel 28 by means of a spring 32 connected to the righthand lever 26 and having a hook that engages a pin on the pawl 27. When the rock shaft 25 returns to normal position, as shown in Fig. 2, the pawl 27 is automatically disengaged from the ratchet wheel 28 by means of a rigid stop or pin 33 with which said pawl comes in contact, said pin 33 projecting laterally from the flange 2 at the righthand side of the support and co-

operating with the extension 26^a on the righthand lever 26 to limit the movement of the rock shaft 25 in one direction. The movement of said rock shaft in the opposite direction is limited by a stop 34 that is adapted to be engaged by an extension 26^b on the lever 26 at the lefthand side of the support whenever either of the levers 26 is depressed. This stop 34 controls the stroke of the pawl 27 and thus constitutes the means for governing the feed or degree of movement imparted to the guide 16 and, in order that said guide may be moved downwardly for different distances, I have made the stop 34 adjustable.

In the preferred form of my invention as herein shown, the stop 34 consists of a clamp nut mounted on a screw-threaded device that projects laterally from a lever 35 through an elongated slot 36 in the flange 2 at the lefthand side of the support; the lever 35 being loosely mounted on the rock shaft 25. The operator can set the stop 34 in such a position that the spacing or step by step movement imparted to the guide 16 will correspond to the spacing of the lines being copied and, as the pawl 27 is automatically disengaged from the ratchet wheel 28 when the levers 26 return to their normal elevated position, the operator can manually move the guide upwardly or downwardly without first disconnecting the guide-moving mechanism or changing the position of same. The guide 16 is carried by the U-shaped device 17 that slides on the rod 18 but said guide is not rigidly connected to said device. The device 17 is provided with a pair of upwardly projecting studs 37 one of which has a head, as shown in Fig. 1, and the inner end of the guide is provided with holes through which said studs pass so that the guide can move vertically relatively to the device 17 and support 1 and thus automatically adjust itself to the thickness of the book or object interposed between the guide and support. By mounting the guide in this manner I insure that the guide will always lie parallel to the support and never at an angle thereto as would occur sometimes if the inner end of the guide was rigidly connected to the device 17 which carries it. The guide can be swung upwardly, away from the support when the sheet or book is being arranged in operative position, and when said guide is swung back to its operative position it will lie perfectly flat on the sheet or book.

A copy-holder of the construction above described is compact and presents a neat and ornamental appearance and is superior in a number of ways to the copy-holders which have heretofore been in use.

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

1. A copy holder, comprising a support, a guide, a belt connected to said guide, pulleys over which said belt passes, one of which pulleys is adjustable toward and from the opposite pulley in order to maintain the belt in a taut condition; a rock shaft extending transversely of the support and provided at each end with an operating handle or lever, a pawl on one end of said levers, and a ratchet wheel connected to one of said pulleys, with which ratchet wheel the pulley is adapted to engage.

2. In a copy holder, a support, a guide rod arranged at one side thereof, a device arranged to slide on said rod, means under control of the operator for imparting a step-by-step movement to said device, a U-shaped member loosely mounted on the rod and carried by said device, projections on the U-shaped member, and a guide, one end of which is loosely mounted on said projections.

3. In a copy holder, a support, a guide rod arranged on one side thereof, an inverted U-shaped member free to ride and rotate upon said guide rod, means for imparting an intermittent sliding movement to said member, a

pair of pins projecting upward from said member, a line guide on the support, one end of which line guide is provided with apertures which receive the pins carried by the inverted U-shaped member.

4. A copy holder comprising a support, a guide rod thereon, an endless belt, pulleys over which said belt passes, one of which pulleys is adjustable to maintain the belt in a taut condition, a shaft on which one of the pulleys is arranged, a ratchet wheel carried by the last mentioned pulley, operating handles fixed on the ends of the shaft, a pawl carried by one of the levers, which pawl is adapted to engage the ratchet wheel, a member connected to the belt and arranged to slide on the guide rod, and a line marker loosely connected at one end to said sliding member.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses, this fourteenth day of October 1908.

HUBERT HOPKINS.

Witnesses:

WELLS L. CHURCH,
GEORGE BAKEWELL.