Sept. 28, 1937. J. P. O'HALLORAN 2,094,550

TYPEWRITER

Filed June 1, 1937

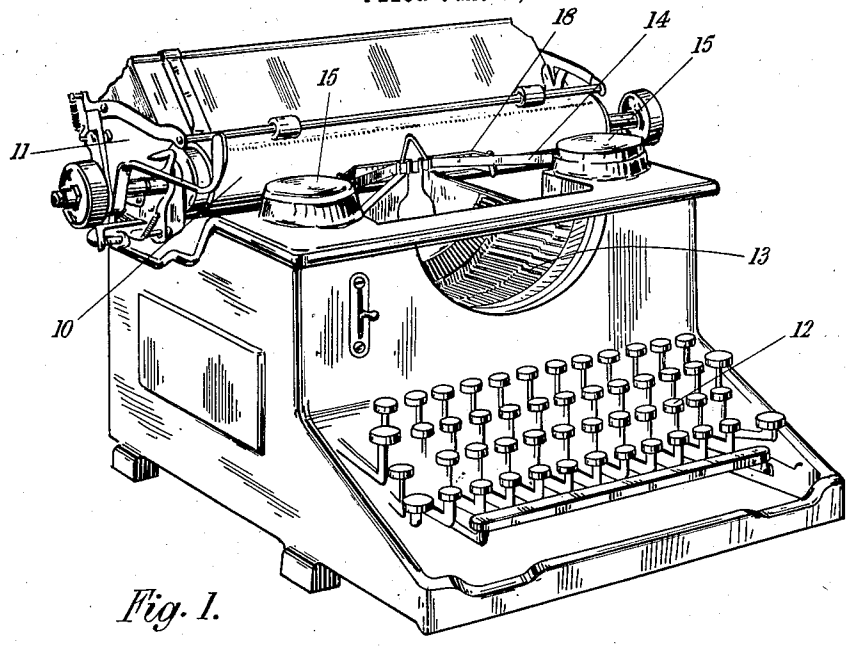


Fig. 1.

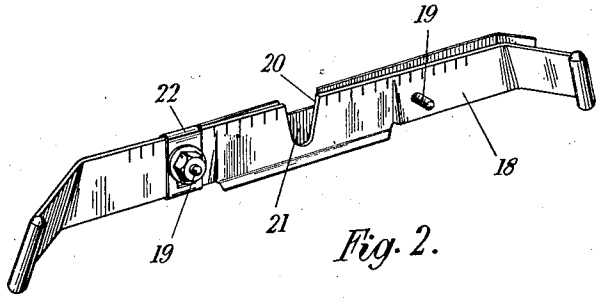


Fig. 2.

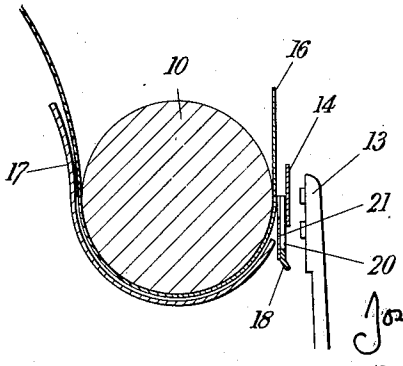


Fig. 3.

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2,094,550

TYPEWRITER

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Application June 1, 1937, Serial No. 145,863
In Great Britain May 9, 1936

3 Claims. (Cl. 197—194)

This invention relates to typewriters, calculating machines and the like. In such machines there is an inherent difficulty, in that when the paper is inserted and the typing is done there is in many cases a slight impression or mark under the letters actually typed. This may be due to the platen being too large, or the paper not fitting snugly round the platen, thus causing a bulge of paper at the point of type. This difficulty is in nearly all cases very apparent when more than two or three copies are being made, and in such cases the first paper receiving the actual impact of the type has a dirty appearance.

On the majority of machines described above, there is, attached on the front of the platen, a line gauge, with the centre piece cut out, the cut-out permitting of the passage of the type bar as it moves forward to strike the paper. The type bar generally carries two characters, one above the other, and the usual practice is for the upper character to represent a capital and the lower, a small letter. When typing capitals there is a tendency for the lower character to mark the paper beneath the capital owing to the upper part of the small character pushing the lower part of the ribbon against the paper, thus causing the typed matter to present an unpleasing appearance.

With a view to overcoming this disadvantage, the line gauge is fitted, according to the invention, with a mask attached to the back of the line gauge and extending across the lower portion of the cut-out therein, so as to intercept the portion of the type bar below the character to be typed and prevent it from marking the paper.

The mask may be of any convenient material, e. g. metal. It may be formed as a unit with the line gauge or may be constructed as a separate element attached to the back of the line gauge by welding, riveting or in any other convenient way. Being located between the ink ribbon and the paper the mask will serve to protect the paper against receiving undesired impressions. Its height must of course be sufficient to intercept the impression from the lower character on the type bar when the upper character is being typed, and so prevent any marking of the paper.

The invention will now be described in greater detail with reference to the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a conventional form of typewriter fitted with the device according to the invention;

Fig. 2 shows the line gauge and mask detached from the typewriter, and

Fig. 3 is a vertical section through the platen of the typewriter.

It will be understood that the invention is applicable not only to typewriters but also to calculating and like machines in which an imprint is made through a line gauge by means of type bars and the expression "typewriter" as used in the appended claims is intended to have this broader significance.

The typewriter is of the usual type, having a platen 10 carried by a travelling carriage 11, type keys 12, type bars 13, an ink ribbon 14 and ink ribbon spools 15. As shown in Fig. 3, the sheet 16 of paper or other material on which the typing is to be done is bent around the platen, a guide plate 17 of usual form being provided. Between the ink ribbon 14 and the front of the platen is disposed the line gauge 18 which is secured by nut and bolt connections 19 to brackets (not shown) secured to the framework of the machine. The line gauge is provided with a cut-out 20 to permit of the passage of the type bars as they move forward to type on the paper.

In order to prevent the portion of the type bar underneath the character being typed from marking the paper, a mask 21 is fitted to the rear of the line gauge. This consists of a metal strip, one end of which has a projecting portion 22 which is bent over to embrace the line gauge and serves for the attachment of the mask to the line gauge. This attachment is effected by means of the left hand nut and bolt connection 19. The other end of the mask is spaced slightly from the line gauge as illustrated. The mask, therefore, does not impede the forward movement of the type bar into printing position but it serves to protect the portion of the paper below the printing line and prevent it from being marked by the type bar.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. In a typewriter having type bars, a platen, an ink ribbon extending in front of the platen, and a line gauge, disposed between the ribbon and the platen and having a cut-out to permit of the passage of the type bars through the line gauge into position to type on a paper sheet carried by the platen, the combination with the line gauge of a mask attached to the back of the line gauge and extending across the lower portion of the cut-out therein so as to intercept the portion of the type bar below the character to be typed and prevent it from marking the paper.

2. In a typewriter, the combination as claimed in claim 1, in which the mask consists of a metal strip extending parallel to the line gauge and attached thereto at one end only.

3. A typewriter line gauge having a cut-out for the passage of type bars and a mask attached to its rear surface and extending across the lower portion of the cut-out for the purpose specified.

JOSEPH PATRICK O'HALLORAN.