

Feb. 2, 1954

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2,667,831

DATING MACHINE

Filed Aug. 30, 1950

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

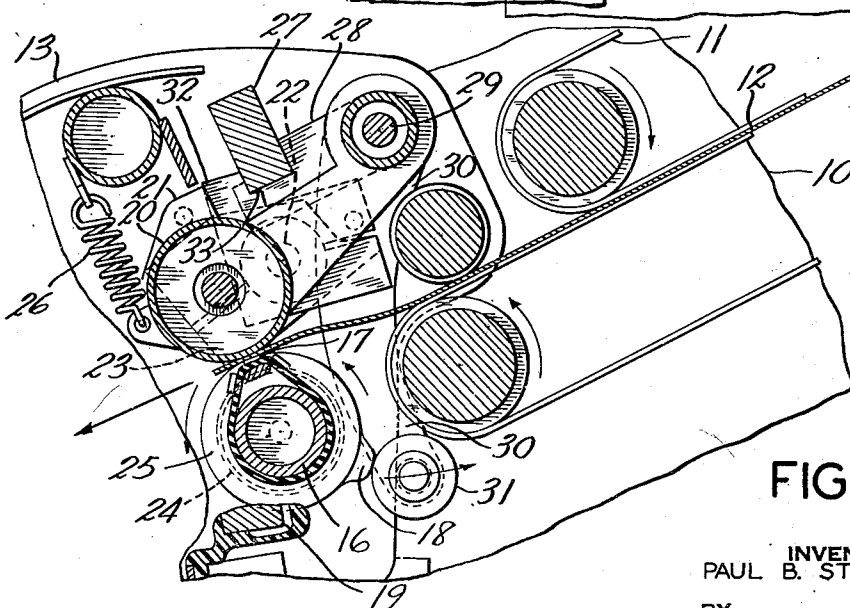
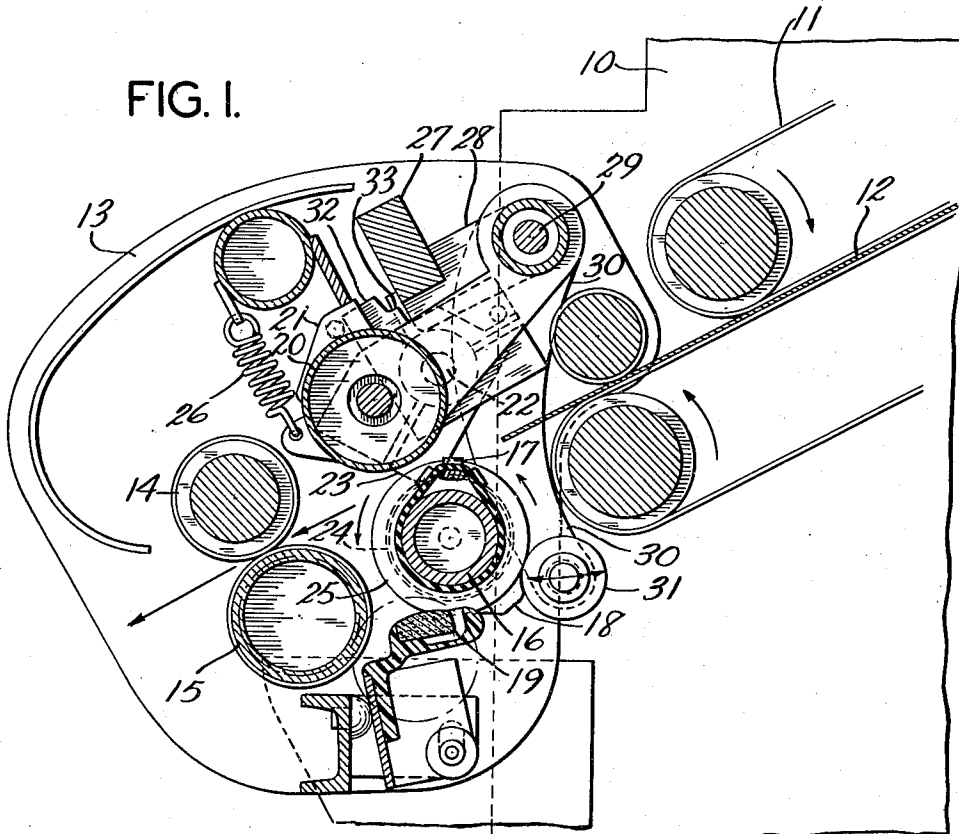


FIG. 2.

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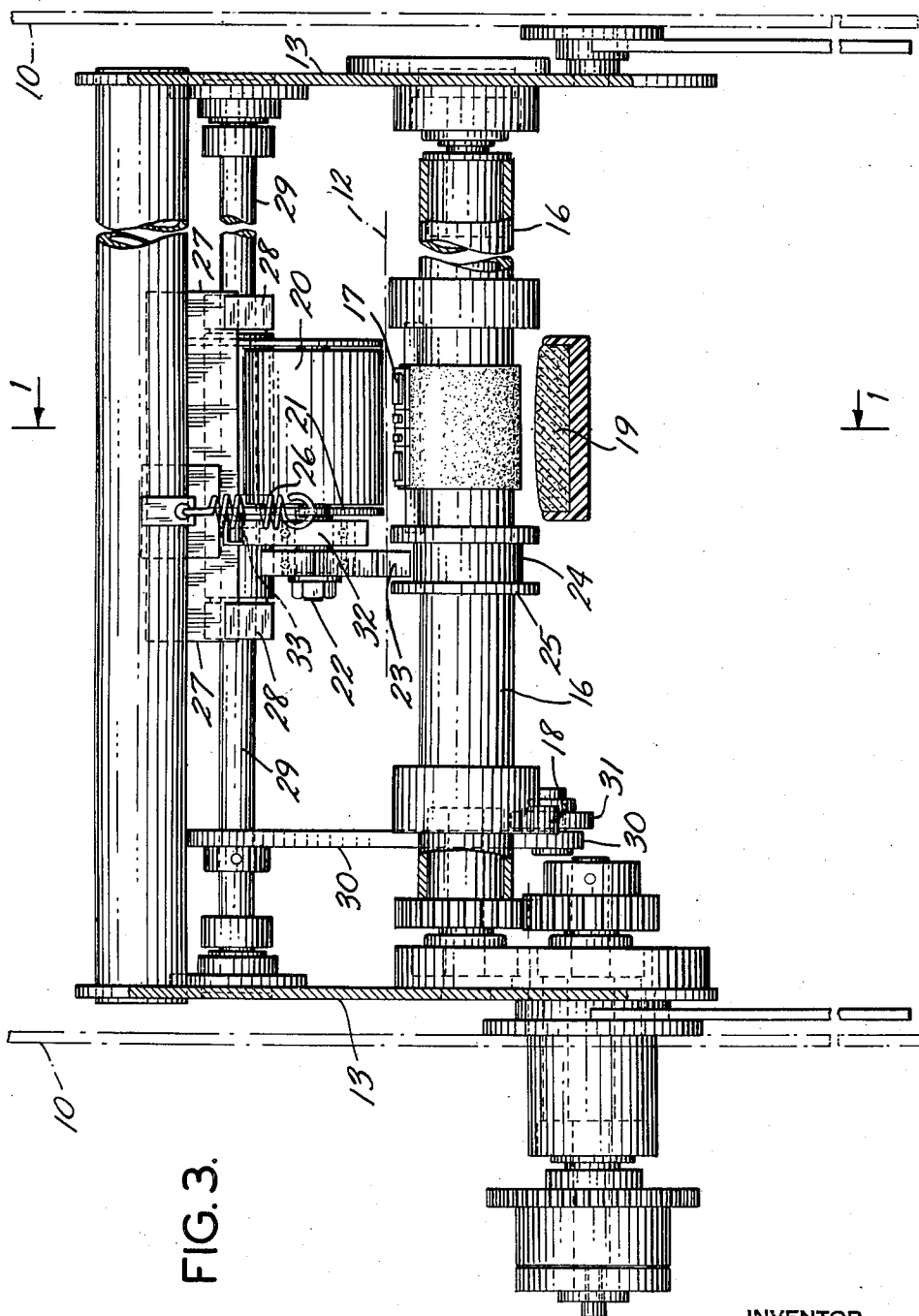
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DATING MACHINE.

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,667,831

DATING MACHINE

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6 Claims. (Cl. 101-233)

1

The present invention relates to mechanism by means of which a date stamp may be applied to sheets of paper that are delivered from photoprinting machines and the like. It is frequently important to apply a date to photoprinted copies or sheets of paper issuing from photoprinting machines, and an object of the present invention is to provide a simple and effective mechanism by means of which dates or other indicia may be applied automatically to the sheets delivered from such machines without impairing in any way the operation thereof. In accordance with the foregoing, the invention will be explained more fully in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein

Figure 1 is a view in transverse section, taken on line 1-1 of Figure 3, and looking in the direction of the arrows, and illustrating a dating mechanism constructed in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 2 is a view similar to Figure 1, but showing the mechanism in the position for printing the date or other indicia on the back of the sheet; and

Figure 3 is a partial view in front elevation showing the elements of the date printing mechanism constructed in accordance with the present invention.

Referring particularly to Figures 1 and 2 of the drawings, a photoprinting machine is illustrated generally at 10, being provided with a belt delivery or feeding mechanism 11 by means of which sheets of photoprinted paper 12 may be delivered to a suitable discharge device. As the sheets are so delivered, they are directed through a date printing mechanism illustrated generally at 13. This mechanism includes juxtaposed and contacting discharge rollers 14 and 15 between which the sheets of paper pass to the discharge device. In the travel of the sheets from the belt conveyor or feeding mechanism 11 to the rollers 14, 15, the sheets pass over a rotatable shaft 16 upon which a printing element 17 is mounted. The shaft is also provided with a cam 18 for operating a pressure roller in a manner presently to be described. The printing element 17 is inked from a suitable reservoir or ink pad 19, the particular inking mechanism forming no part of the invention, but being selected from conventional inking devices.

Above the path of travel of the paper toward the rollers 14, 15, a pressure roller 20 is provided. This roller is mounted upon a carriage 21 that is pivoted upon a shaft 29 so that

2

the carriage oscillates about the axis of shaft 29. The carriage supports a stub shaft 22 on which is mounted a trigger finger 23 that is adapted to ride in a groove 24 formed in a disc 25 that is mounted upon and rotates with the shaft 16. As the leading edge of the paper sheet advances toward the rollers 14, 15, it engages and oscillates the trigger finger 23 in a clockwise direction, as viewed in Figure 1, about the axis of shaft 22. A suitable spring 26 may be provided to counter-balance the carriage and pressure roller for swinging or pivotal movement about the shaft 29.

In order that the pressure roller 20 may be depressed at the desired time to accomplish the printing operation of applying a date or similar indicia to the back of the sheets 12, a pressure bar 27 is provided, this bar being mounted upon a frame 28 that is journaled about the axis of the shaft 29. Shaft 29 carries a lever 30, the lower extremity of which is formed with a cam follower 31 to engage the cam disc 18 and thus, upon rotation of the shaft 16, the lever 30 is oscillated back and forth, causing the pressure bar 27 to oscillate up and down in accordance with the rotation of the printing member.

Mounted on the shaft 22 of the carriage 21 to turn with the trigger finger 23 is a plate 32 having a margin step 33 that is normally out of the path of movement of the pressure bar 27. The plate 32 turns with the trigger finger 23 so that when a sheet of paper passes between the disc 25 and the trigger finger 23, the trigger finger and plate are turned in a clockwise direction (as viewed in figures 1 and 2), and the margin step 33 moves beneath the pressure bar 27. In this fashion, the pressure bar 27 causes the pressure roller 20 to move downwardly and press the sheet of paper against the printing mechanism 17. It will thus be seen that, by maintaining the pressure roller 20 normally in a retracted position, it does not become fouled with ink by engaging the inked printing element 17. The upper side of the paper thus is not smudged with ink in passing through the machine.

While the invention has been described with specific reference to the accompanying drawings, it is not to be limited save as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. Dating mechanism for photoprinting machines comprising means for feeding sheets or the like to a discharge device, date printing mechanism between the feeding and discharge devices, a pressure roller adjacent the printing

mechanism, means to mount the pressure roller and printing mechanism to cause the sheets to travel therebetween in their movement from the feeding mechanism to the discharge device, a reciprocable carriage for mounting the roller, a reciprocating pressure bar, and means operated by the sheet when the sheet is disposed between the printing mechanism and the pressure roller for connecting the pressure bar to the carriage to drive the carriage and pressure roller toward the date printing mechanism.

2. Dating mechanism for photoprinting machines comprising means for feeding sheets or the like to a discharge device, a rotatable date printing mechanism mounted between the feeding mechanism and the discharge device and on one side of the path of travel of the sheets therebetween, an oscillatable carriage mounted on the other side of the path of travel of the sheets, a pressure roller rotatably mounted on the carriage, a reciprocating pressure bar having a path of movement which is substantially parallel to the path of oscillation of the pressure roller which is mounted on the carriage, and link means actuated by the sheets of paper in their travel from the feeding mechanism to the discharge device to connect the reciprocating pressure bar to the oscillatable carriage to cause the pressure roller to be driven by the pressure bar toward the date printing mechanism to make imprints on the sheets of paper.

3. Dating mechanism for photoprinting machines comprising means for feeding sheets or the like to a discharge device, a rotatable date printing mechanism mounted between the feeding mechanism and the discharge device and on one side of the path of travel of the sheets therebetween, an oscillatable carriage mounted on the other side of the path of travel of the sheets, a pressure roller rotatably mounted on the carriage, a pressure bar, means actuated in synchronism with the rotation of the printing mechanism for reciprocating the pressure bar, and means actuated by the sheets of paper in their travel from the feeding mechanism to the discharge device to connect the carriage to the pressure bar to be driven thereby toward the printing mechanism.

4. Dating mechanism for photoprinting machines comprising means for feeding sheets or the like to a discharge device, a rotatable date printing mechanism mounted between the feeding mechanism and the discharge device and on one side of the path of travel of the sheets therebetween, an oscillatable carriage mounted on the other side of the path of travel of the sheets, a pressure roller rotatably mounted on the carriage, a pressure bar, an oscillating frame upon which the pressure bar is mounted, an arm movable with the pressure bar, a cam rotatable with the printing mechanism to actuate the arm, and means actuated by the sheets of paper in their

travel from the feeding mechanism to the discharge device to connect the pressure roller carriage to be driven by the pressure bar toward the printing mechanism.

5. Dating mechanism for photoprinting machines comprising means for feeding sheets or the like to a discharge device, a rotatable date printing mechanism mounted between the feeding mechanism and the discharge device and on one side of the path of travel of the sheets therebetween, an oscillatable carriage mounted on the other side of the path of travel of the sheets, a pressure roller rotatably mounted on the carriage, a pressure bar, an oscillating frame upon which the pressure bar is mounted, an arm movable with the pressure bar, a cam rotatable with the printing mechanism to actuate the arm, and a finger on the pressure roller carriage in the path of movement of the sheets of paper to connect the pressure roller carriage to be driven by the movement of the pressure bar toward the printing mechanism.

6. Dating mechanism for photoprinting machines comprising means for feeding sheets or the like to a discharge device, a rotatable date printing mechanism mounted between the feeding mechanism and the discharge device and on one side of the path of travel of the sheets therebetween, an oscillatable carriage mounted on the other side of the path of travel of the sheets, a pressure roller rotatably mounted on the carriage, a pressure bar, an oscillating frame upon which the pressure bar is mounted, an arm movable with the pressure bar, a cam rotatable with the printing mechanism to actuate the arm, a grooved disc rotatable with the printing cylinder, a finger pivotally mounted on the pressure roller carriage riding normally in the groove of the last named disc and in the path of movement of the sheets of paper, and a connecting member movable with the finger and adapted to be moved by the sheets of paper into the path of movement of the pressure bar to connect the pressure roller carriage to the pressure bar to be driven thereby toward the printing mechanism to cause imprints to be made on the sheet of paper which is engaged by the finger.

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