

Nov. 22, 1938.

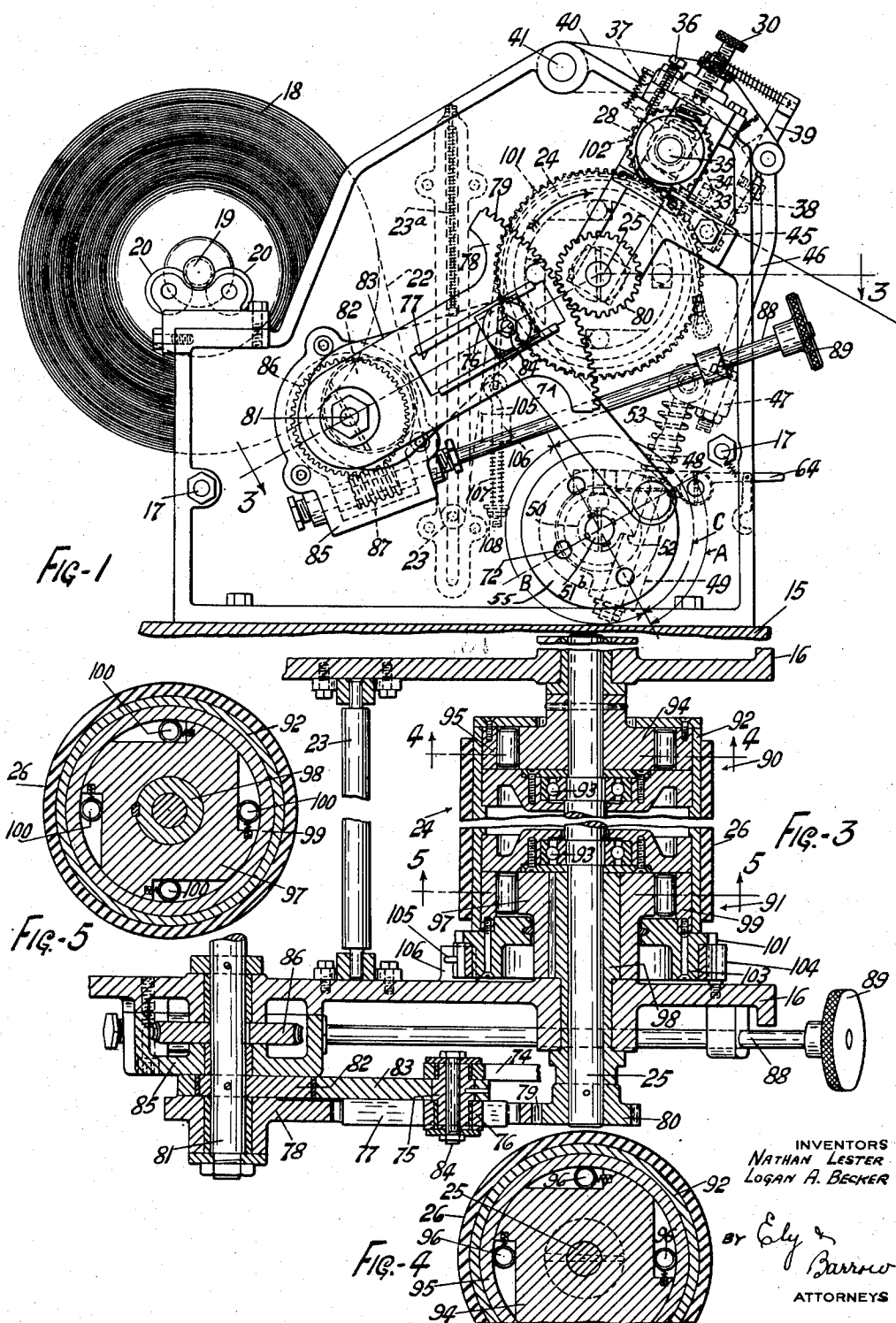
N. LESTER ET AL

2,137,724

CELLOPHANE DISPENSING MACHINE

Filed March 14, 1933

4 Sheets-Sheet 1



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CELLOPHANE DISPENSING MACHINE

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4 Sheets-Sheet 2

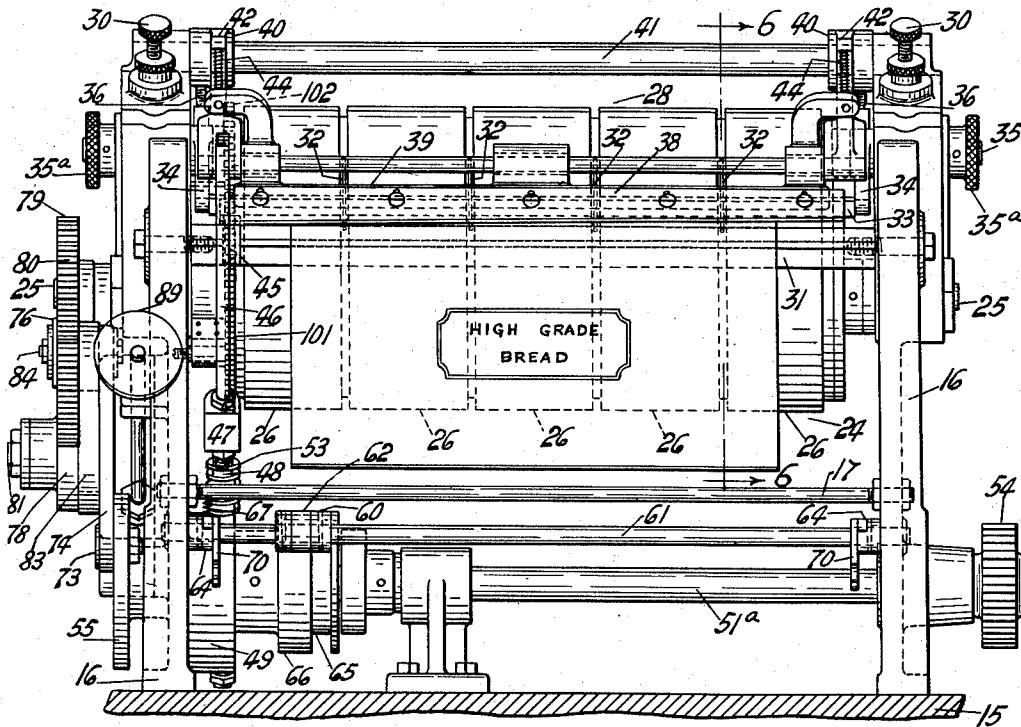


Fig. 2

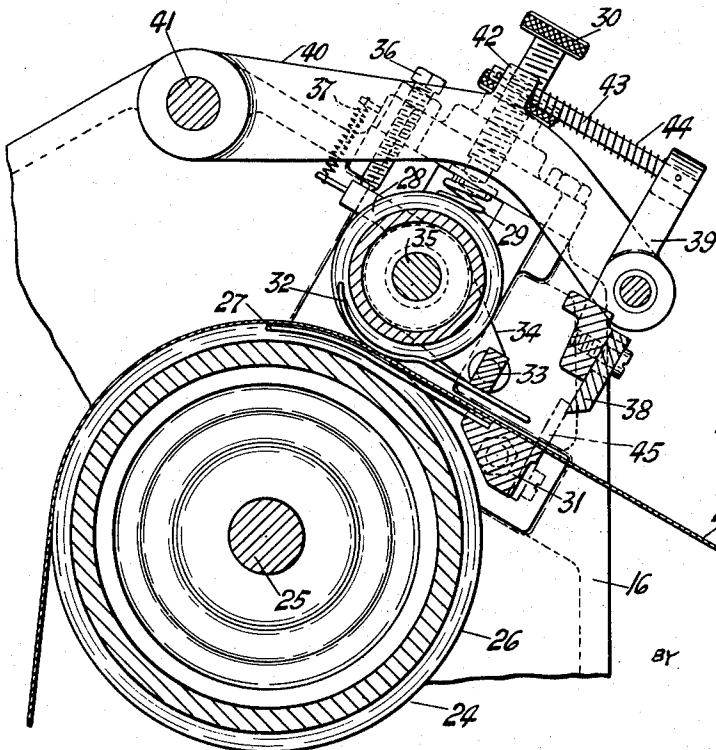


Fig. 6

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4 Sheets-Sheet 3

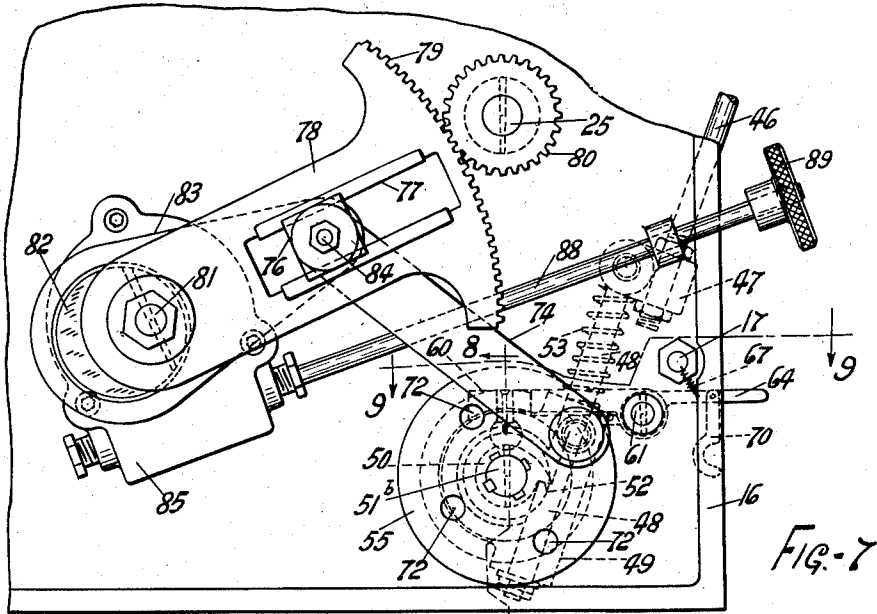


Fig. 7

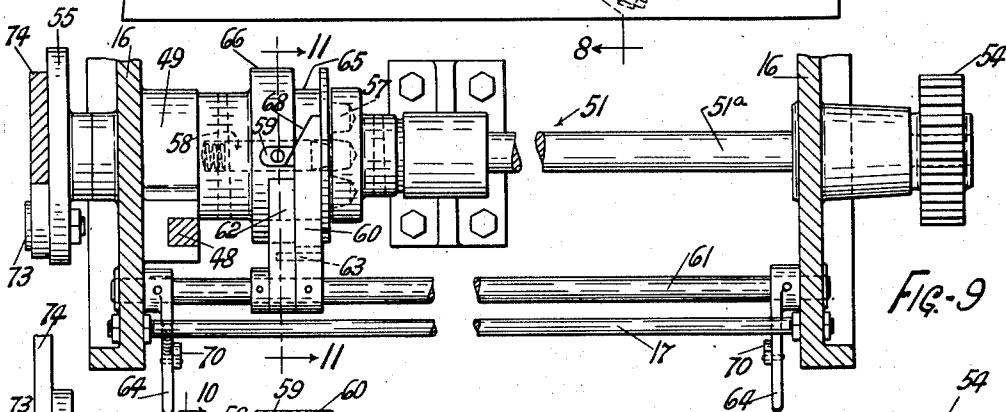


Fig. 8

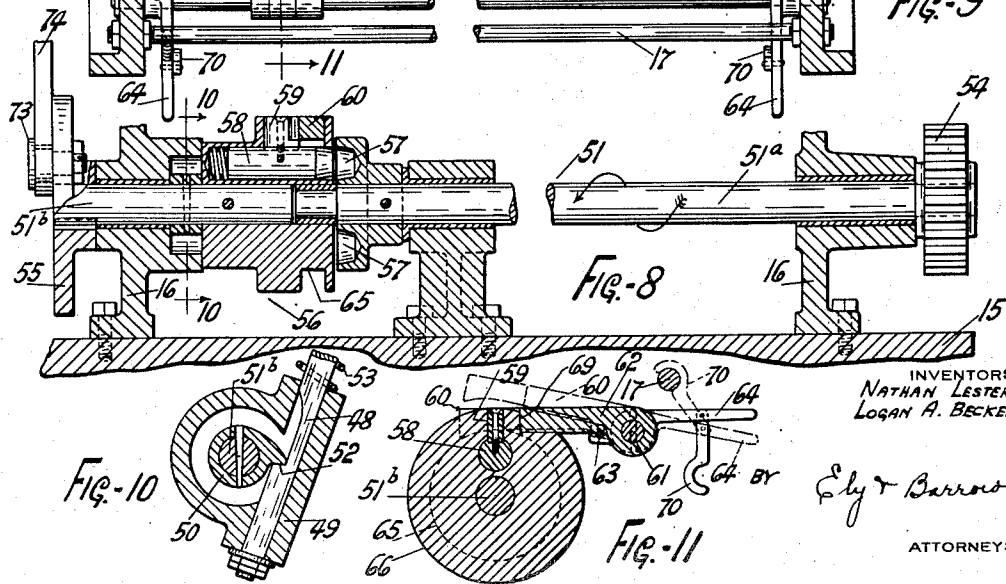


Fig. 9

Fig. 10

Fig. 11

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4 Sheets-Sheet 4

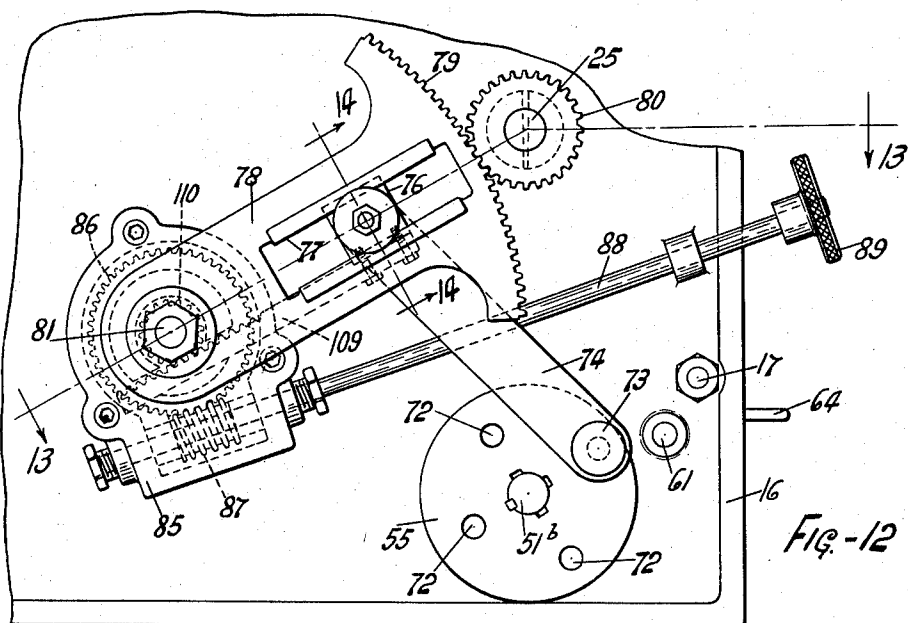


Fig. 12

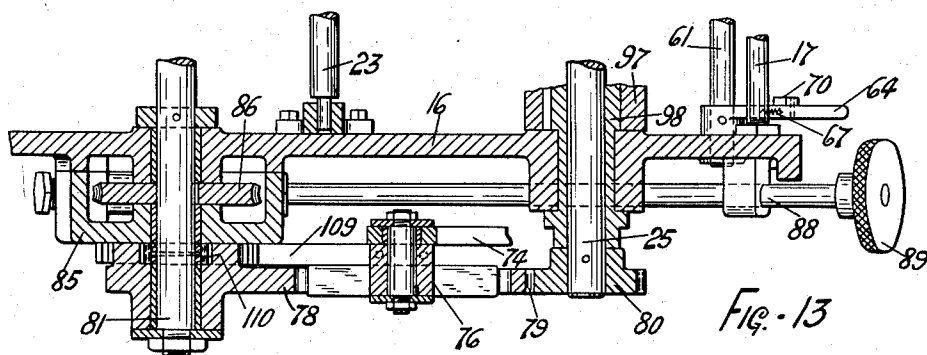


Fig. 13

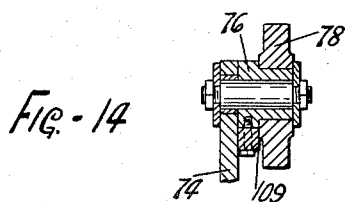


Fig. 14

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2,137,724

CELLOPHANE DISPENSING MACHINE

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Application March 14, 1933, Serial No. 660,668

15 Claims. (Cl. 164—49)

This invention relates to machines for cutting off sheets of predetermined size from a roll of sheet material, and more particularly to a machine adapted to cut sheets of a predetermined length from a roll of "Cellophane" on a dispensing basis, meaning the cutting of a single sheet at each actuation of an operating lever. The same machine is adapted to operate on a continuous cycle basis and cut sheets of "Cellophane" in quick succession.

Recently it has become quite common practice to wrap and form packages of articles with transparent paper such as regenerated cellulose sheeting, known by the trade name of "Cellophane", and the like. An instance of such use is the wrapping of foodstuffs such as sliced bacon, bread, pastry and the like, in sheets of "Cellophane". Such sheets are usually quite thin, and in the usual practice, they are cut to a predetermined length and placed in a pile from which they are taken either by a machine or by hand, and wrapped around various articles.

When the ready-cut sheets of "Cellophane" are stacked they will adhere to one another, and it is quite difficult to separate them. They are thin and transparent and even though pains are taken to try to separate the individual sheets, often the operator will take up more than one sheet and without recognizing that more than one sheet has been lifted, will wrap a package with the several layers. This results in the using of many extra sheets and a consequent waste of material which is a considerable item owing to the cost of the material. If the operator attempts to separate the sheets much time is lost which might be usefully employed in wrapping operations.

The present invention presents means to prevent the waste of materials above described, and our invention has other objects in view. Among these objects are:

First, the providing of a machine especially adapted for working with a roll of "Cellophane" sheeting, which will cut a single sheet at each actuation of an operating lever. Also to provide a machine which, in addition to the above use, may be quickly changed to cut a succession of sheets on a continuous cycle basis while the machine is in operation.

Another object is to provide a machine to accomplish the above objects which is positive, accurate and speedy in operation, and which may be readily adjusted to cut sheets of "Cellophane" within a relatively wide range of sizes by quickly and easily operable means.

Another object is to provide new and improved adjusting means for adapting the machine to cut sheets of a desired size and for selectively operating the machine on the dispensing principle or on the continuous cycle principle.

The web of "Cellophane" is usually printed with a succession of designs, trade-marks and the like, and the machine is designed to divide the web so that the individual markings are properly centered in the cut sheets, but if the feed should vary slightly, the machine may quickly be brought into proper register. As the prior practice has been to cut the printed "Cellophane" and stack the cut sheets, the handling and other operations which have been necessary in the prior practice are eliminated. The cutting operation with our invention consumes none of the operator's time, and the expense is correspondingly reduced. It is also possible to vary the size of individual sheets if desired, such operation being impossible in the prior practice.

The above and other objects will appear as the description proceeds.

We show an illustrative embodiment of our invention in the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation view of the machine with the eccentric adjusted to cut a sheet, with a given initial setting of the machine;

Fig. 2 is an end view taken from the right hand side of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3 showing the driving clutch;

Fig. 5 is a sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 3 showing the clutch, which prevents reverse rotation of the feed roll;

Fig. 6 is an enlarged sectional view on the line 6—6 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 7 is an enlarged view of a portion of Fig. 1 showing the parts adjusted to cut the longest sheet;

Fig. 8 is a sectional view on the line 8—8 of Fig. 7;

Fig. 9 is a sectional view on the line 9—9 of Fig. 7;

Fig. 10 is a sectional view on the line 10—10 of Fig. 8;

Fig. 11 is a sectional view on the line 11—11 of Fig. 9;

Fig. 12 is a fragmentary side elevation view showing a modified form of sheet length adjusting mechanism;

Fig. 13 is a sectional view on the line 13—13 of Fig. 12; and

Fig. 14 is a sectional view on the line 14—14 of Fig. 12.

5 The present embodiment of the preferred form of our invention comprises a bed plate 15, supporting vertically positioned frame members 16, joined by tie rods 17. A roll of regenerated cellulose sheeting, known by the trade name of "Cellophane" is indicated by the numeral 18, and is mounted on a shaft 19, riding on discs 20, supported on the frame members 16. A web of "Cellophane" 22 from the roll 18 passes around under compensator roll 23, which is limited in its upward movement by a spring pressed rod 23a, and then over a feed roll 24, mounted on a shaft 25, journaled in the frame members 16. The feed roll 24 is provided with an outer covering of circumferential bands of rubber 26 between which are guide wires 27, which are fixedly mounted in a lower knife block 31 carried on frame member 16. As indicated in Figure 2, this web may be printed with representations of a trade mark, label or other advertising and descriptive matter.

25 An upper roll 28, of similar construction, is provided above the feed roll 24, and is adapted to press the web of "Cellophane" 22 against the feed roll 24. The upper roll 28 is yieldingly mounted by springs 29, the tension of which can be adjusted by the adjusting screws 30, while a plurality of guide wires 32, extending around the lower portion of the upper roll 28 are secured at one end to a guide bar 33, mounted on adjustable levers 34, which are mounted on the ends of the upper roll shaft 35. The adjustment of the top guide wires is effected by the adjusting screws 36 in cooperation with the springs 37. Handles 35a are secured to the ends of the upper roll shaft 35 for operating the machine by hand.

40 After the web of "Cellophane" 22 has passed beyond the feed roll 24, a vertically reciprocating knife 38, secured to a knife carrier 39, which is mounted on hinged brackets 40, pivotally mounted on hinge pin 41, cuts off a sheet from the web 22. Lugs 42 are provided on the hinged brackets 40, while rods 43 connect the lugs 42 and the knife carrier 39, and springs 44 normally urge the knife 38 against a guide plate 45 secured to the knife block 31. The knife carrier 39 is actuated by means of a rod 46, secured at its lower end to a block 47 to which is secured a square shaft 48, operating in a boss 49, formed integral with one of the frame members 16, while a cam member 50 is secured to the main drive shaft 51. One side of the lower end of the square shaft 48 is cut away forming a notch 52, adapted to be moved downwardly by the cam member 50, a spring 53 serving to restore the parts to their normal setting shown in Figure 1. The main drive shaft 51 is provided at one end with a gear 54 which is adapted to be driven by a source of power through reduction gearing (not shown).

55 The main drive shaft 51 comprises two parts, 51a on which is mounted the driving gear 54, and a cooperating part 51b, on which is secured a driving disc 55. The part 51b of the main drive shaft 51 is operatively joined to the part 51a by means of a one revolution clutch 56. The right hand part of the clutch 56, as viewed in Figure 8, is secured to the shaft 51a, while the left hand portion of the clutch 56 is secured to the shaft 51b. The shaft 51 is adapted to be driven in the direction indicated in Fig. 8 which shows the clutch in its inoperative position. The

face of the right hand portion of the clutch 56 is provided with a plurality of radially disposed tapered cavities 57, while the left hand clutch member is provided with a spring pressed pin 58 adapted to engage in any one of the cavities 57. A cam block 59 is secured to the outer surface of the pin 58, and is adapted to cooperate with a latch member 60 secured to a rod 61, carried by the frame members 16. Freely mounted on the rod 61 is a positive stop latch 62, which is supported by a pin 63, secured in latch member 60. Two hand levers 64 are secured to the ends of the rod 61 for throwing in the clutch 56 when it is desired to throw the clutch 56 into engagement and thus cause the machine to cut a sheet from the web.

15 When the operator desires to cut a sheet from the web 22, she presses down on one of the hand levers 64, which raises the latch member 60 and positive stop latch 62 to about the position shown in dot and dash lines in Figure 11. This movement releases spring pressed pin 58 which engages in one of the tapered cavities 57 of the clutch 56, thus throwing the clutch 56 into engagement. As the hand lever 64 is released by the operator, the latch 60 will ride on the bottom of cavity 65 in the left hand portion of the clutch 56, and positive stop latch 62 will ride on surface 66. This movement is caused by the coil spring 67, one end of which is secured to a tie rod 17 and the other end to one of the hand levers 64.

25 Just before the clutch 56 completes one revolution, the cam block 59 will strike cam face 68 on latch member 60, which will push spring pressed pin 58 out of engagement with one of the tapered cavities 57, thus throwing the clutch out of engagement. At the end of a revolution the positive stop latch 62 will fall by gravity into cavity 69 in the clutch surface 66. For each revolution of the driving shaft 51, when the clutch is in engagement, the knife 38 will cut one sheet from the web 22.

30 When, however, it is desired to operate the machine on a continuous cycle basis and cut successive sheets from the web 22, the operator presses down on one of the hand levers 64, thus raising both the latch member 60 and the positive stop latch 62 to the position shown by the dot and dash lines in Figure 11, at the same time the operator places one of a pair of hook latches 70 into engagement with a tie rod 17, thus keeping the clutch 56 in engagement as long as it is desired to operate the machine. The clutch 56 will be thrown out of engagement in the same way as described above after disengaging the hook latch 70.

35 The driving means between the main drive shaft 51 and the feed roll 24 comprises the driving disc 55, secured to the main drive shaft 51b, which is provided with a plurality of apertures 72 at varying distances from the center of the disc, while a pin 73, fitting into one of the apertures 72 in the driving disc 55, secures a link 74 thereto, which, at its upper end is provided with an aperture into which is fitted a pin 75 fixed in a sliding block 76, adapted to be moved in ways 77 in a quadrant arm 78 provided with gear teeth 79, meshing with a gear 80 affixed to the end of the feed roll shaft 25. The quadrant arm 78 is pivotally mounted on a shaft 81 carried on the frame members 16. An eccentric 82 is secured to the shaft 81, while an eccentric lever 83 is mounted on the eccentric 82, the other end of the eccentric lever 83 being connected to the pin 75.

75. The cooperating parts of the sliding block 76 are held together by a bolt and washers 84.

Mounted on the side of the frame 16 is a gear housing 85, in which is mounted a worm wheel 86, fixed to the shaft 81. Cooperating with the worm wheel 86 is a worm 87, mounted on the lower end of an adjusting rod 88 having a knurled handle 89. The arrangement of the parts is such that by turning the knurled handle 89 through the worm 87 and worm wheel 86, the location of the eccentric 82 will be altered. This change of position of the eccentric 82 will move the sliding block 76 to or from the feed roll 24.

In order to cause the feed roll 24 to feed in the direction indicated by the arrow shown in Figure 1, due to the upward movement of the quadrant arm 78 and to idle when the quadrant is moved downwardly, it is necessary to provide an arrangement of clutches cooperating with the feed roll 24. One of such clutches is a driving clutch 90, and the other is a clutch 91 to prevent reverse rotation of the feed roll 24. These clutches are shown in Figures 1, 3, 4 and 5.

The feed roll 24 is mounted on the shaft 25 on which is mounted a steel tube 92 mounted on ball races 93. The driving clutch 90 comprises an inner portion 94, secured to the shaft 25, and an outer portion 95 which is secured to the inside of the steel tube 92. Located between the inner portion 94 and outer portion 95, are a plurality of spring pressed rollers 96 which serve to lock the clutch when the roll 24 is being rotated in the direction of the arrow shown in Figure 1. At the completion of the feeding operation, shaft 25 will be rotated in the reverse direction, consequently the driving clutch 90 will idle.

The clutch 91 comprises an inner member 97 fixedly secured to a bushing 98, secured to the frame 16. An outer portion 99 of the clutch 91 is secured to the inside of the steel tube 92. Located between the inner portion 97 and the outer portion 99 are a plurality of spring pressed rollers 100. As the feed roll shaft 25 is rotated in the reverse direction, during the idling operation, it tends to rotate the whole feed roll unit in the same direction, and as the inner portion 97 of the clutch 91 is fixed, the outer portion 99 will be locked through the rollers 100.

Mounted on the outer portion 99 of the clutch 91 is a gear 101 which, through gear 102, drives upper roll 28. Mounted on an extension flange 103 of the gear 101 is a brake band 104, one end of which is secured to the frame of the machine, and the other end is adjustably secured to the frame by means of a hook 105 on lug 106, secured to the frame, which can be adjusted through spring 107 and lock nuts 108. The object of this brake is to prevent over running of the feed roll 24 during the feeding operation.

In the modified form of our invention shown in Figures 12, 13 and 14, different means are used for changing the position of the slide block 76. In this form, a rack 109 secured to the sliding block 76, cooperates with a gear 110 fixed to the shaft 81. The rotation of the knurled handle 89, in this modified form, will change the position of the slide block 76 in the same manner as shown in the preferred form of the invention. An important feature of this modified form is that it gives a more uniform adjustment than can be obtained by using the eccentric and lever shown in the preferred form.

Our machine is operated as follows: A roll of "Cellophane" sheeting, preferably having advertising matter printed thereon, is placed in the

position shown in Figure 1. A web from this roll is then led under and around the compensator roll 23, and then in between the feed roll 24 and the upper roll 28. The length of the sheet to be cut from the roll is then regulated by turning the knurled handle 89 on the end of the rod 88. Suitable indicator means may be used in conjunction with the handle 89 so that the position of the handle may indicate the length of the sheet to be cut.

The feed roll 24 is driven in the direction shown by the arrow in Figure 1, through the gear teeth 79 on the end of the quadrant arm 78 meshing with the gear 80 on the end of the feed roll 24, while the upper roll 28 is driven from the feed roll 24 by gear 102 meshing with gear 101. Thus the upper roll 28 is driven in one direction only and the extent of its rotation corresponds to the rotation of the feed roll 24.

The cycle of operation is illustrated by circular lines around the driving disc 55 in which A represents the cutting portion of the cycle when the knife 38 is brought down to cut a sheet from the web 22. B represents the feeding portion of the cycle when the feed roll 24 advances the end of the web to be cut. C represents the idling part of the cycle when the feed roll idles.

The movement of the quadrant arm 78 is controlled by the link 74, one end of which is secured to the sliding block 76, while the other end of it is connected to the driving disc 55, which is secured to the main drive shaft 51. The length of the arc through which the pivotally mounted quadrant arm 78 travels, and, therefore, the extent of the movement of the feed roll in the direction indicated by the arrow in Figure 1 is determined by the position of the sliding block 76. Obviously, the greater the distance of the sliding block 76 from the shaft 81 the shorter the arc through which the quadrant arm 78 moves. The length of the travel of the quadrant arm 78 may be further regulated to secure a major adjustment of the stroke by changing the position of the pin 73 securing the link 74 to the driving disc 55, the reason for this being readily apparent. Reverse movement of the feed roll 24, when the quadrant arm 78 moves downwardly, is prevented by means of the clutch 91.

In place of changing the adjustment of the pin 73 securing the link 74 to the driving disc 55 to effect an adjustment of the feeding stroke, the same may be accomplished by substituting a driving disc of different size, or any mechanical equivalent may be used, and the same is within the scope of our invention.

The knife 38 is caused to be brought down to sever a sheet from the web 22 when the cam member 50, on the drive shaft 51, strikes against the notch 52 in the square shaft 48, and pulls it downwardly and the rod 46 on which the knife carrier 39 is mounted. The spring 53 serves to return the knife 38 to its normal or inoperative position.

In the normal or inoperative position of the parts the one revolution clutch 56 is out, and the rotation of the driving shaft 51 will produce no movement of the parts. When the operator desires to sever a single sheet from the web 22, she presses down on one of the hand levers 64 which, as previously explained, throws the clutch 56 into engagement, and thus operates the driving disc 55 to set the parts into operation. At the end of one revolution the clutch 56 will be thrown out of engagement by the pushing of the spring pressed pin 58 out of engagement with one of

the tapered cavities 57. In this manner one sheet is severed at each actuation of the hand lever 64, and a measured sheet, as shown in Fig. 2, is hanging down ready to be severed by the knife 38 the instant the operator presses down one of the hand levers 64, so that no time is lost by the operator between setting the machine in operation and producing a severed sheet. The machine can be adjusted so that any printed matter on the web will be centered in the severed sheet so that the sheet may conveniently be wrapped about the foodstuff to be packaged. The only operation required by the operator to sever a sheet being to press down at the hand lever 64.

Whenever it is desired to sever a series of sheets from the web on a continuous cycle basis, the operator presses down on one of the hand levers 64, and while it is in this position places one of the pair of hook latches 70 into engagement with a tie rod and thus prevent the disengagement of the clutch 56 at the end of each revolution.

It will be understood by those skilled in the art that our invention may be changed, used or modified without departing from the spirit of the invention or sacrificing the advantages thereof. Also, that the embodiment of our invention herein shown is illustrative only, and that our invention is not limited thereto.

What is claimed is:

1. A machine for severing sheets from a continuous web of sheeting, comprising means for supporting a roll of sheeting, a feed roll, a knife for severing a sheet from said web after it passes beyond said roll, a driving disc secured to a driven shaft, a pivoted quadrant arm engaging said feed roll at one end thereof, a link connecting said driving disc and said quadrant arm, the position of said link on said quadrant arm being readily adjustable by means of a slidably mounted block to which said link is secured on said quadrant, a shaft, an eccentric mounted on said shaft, a link connecting said eccentric and said block, and means for altering the position of said eccentric and thus varying the position of said block on said quadrant.

2. A machine for severing sheets from a continuous web of sheeting, comprising means for supporting a roll of sheeting, a feed roll, a knife for severing a sheet from said web after it passes beyond said roll, a driving disc secured to a driven shaft, a pivoted quadrant arm engaging said feed roll at one end thereof, a link connecting said driving disc and said quadrant arm, the position of said link on said quadrant arm being readily adjustable by means of a slidably mounted block to which said link is secured on said quadrant, a shaft, an eccentric mounted on said shaft, a link connecting said eccentric and said block, a worm wheel mounted on said shaft, an adjusting rod, a worm mounted on said rod and meshing with said worm wheel whereby the position of said eccentric may be varied by turning said rod and thus vary the position of said block.

3. A machine for severing sheets from a continuous web of sheeting, comprising means for supporting a roll of sheeting, a feed roll, a knife for severing a sheet from said web after it passes beyond said roll, a driving disc secured to a driven shaft, a pivoted quadrant arm engaging said feed roll at one end thereof, a link connecting said driving disc and said quadrant arm, means for causing said driving disc to make one revolution and then stop, means for causing said quadrant arm to rotate said feed roll when it is moved in one direction, and means for

causing said feed roll to idle when it is moved in the other direction.

4. A machine for severing sheets from a continuous web of sheeting, comprising means for supporting a roll of sheeting, a feed roll, a knife for severing a sheet from said web after it passes beyond said roll, a driving disc secured to a driven shaft, a pivoted quadrant arm engaging said feed roll at one end thereof, a link connecting said driving disc and said quadrant arm, means for causing said driving disc to make one revolution and then stop, a driving clutch associated with said feed roll to permit said roll to be rotated in one direction by the quadrant arm, and means for causing said feed roll to idle when it is moved in the other direction.

5. A machine for severing sheets from a continuous web of sheeting, comprising means for supporting a roll of sheeting, a feed roll, a knife for severing a sheet from said web after it passes beyond said roll, a driving disc secured to a driven shaft, a pivoted quadrant arm engaging said feed roll at one end thereof, a link connecting said driving disc and said quadrant arm, means for causing said driving disc to make one revolution and then stop, a driving clutch associated with said feed roll to permit said roll to be rotated in one direction by the quadrant arm, and a clutch means for preventing reverse rotation of said feed roll when the quadrant arm is moved in the opposite direction.

6. A machine for severing sheets from a continuous web of sheeting, comprising means for supporting a roll of sheeting, a feed roll, a knife for severing a sheet from said web after it passes beyond said roll, a driving disc secured to a driven shaft, a pivoted quadrant arm engaging said feed roll at one end thereof, a link connecting said driving disc and said quadrant arm, the instantaneous positions of said link on said quadrant arm being readily adjustable by means of a slidably mounted block to which said link is secured on said quadrant arm, a shaft, a gear mounted on said shaft, a rack secured to said block and meshing with said gear, and means for rotating said gear and thus reciprocating said rack and adjusting the instantaneous positions of said block on said quadrant.

7. A machine for severing sheets from a continuous web of sheeting, comprising means for supporting a roll of sheeting, a feed roll, a knife for severing a sheet from said web after it passes beyond said roll, a driving disc secured to a driven shaft, a pivoted quadrant arm engaging said feed roll at one end thereof, a link connecting said driving disc and said quadrant arm, the position of said link on said quadrant arm being readily adjustable by means of a slidably mounted block to which said link is secured on said quadrant arm, a shaft, a gear mounted on said shaft, a rack secured to said block and meshing with said gear, a worm wheel mounted on said shaft, an adjusting rod, a worm mounted on said rod and meshing with said worm wheel whereby the position of said rack may be varied by turning said rod and thus vary the position of said block.

8. A machine for severing sheets from a continuous web of sheeting, comprising means for supporting a roll of sheeting, a feed roll, a knife for severing a sheet from said web after it passes beyond said roll, a clutch for driving said roll the same being normally out of engagement, means for causing said clutch to engage said drive shaft, means for throwing out said clutch at each revolution of the driving shaft, means for

holding out of operation said clutch throw-out means so that said machine may operate in a continuous cycle, and means comprising a movable eccentric and worm gearing cooperating therewith for varying the peripheral speed of the feed roll without stopping the operation of the machine so as to change the length of the severed sheet.

9. A machine for severing sheets from a continuous web of sheeting, comprising means for supporting a roll of sheeting, a feed roll, a knife for severing a sheet from said web after it passes beyond said roll, a drive shaft for driving said knife and said rolls, selective means whereby said machine may be operated to sever a single sheet from said web and then stop or may be operated in a continuous cycle to cut a succession of sheets, means for varying the length of the severed sheet, said means including a pivoted quadrant arm operating said feed roll, a slidable block mounted on said quadrant arm, a disc on said driving shaft and a link connecting said block and said disc.

10. A machine for severing sheets from a continuous web of sheeting, comprising means for supporting a roll of sheeting, a feed roll, a knife for severing a sheet from said web after it passes beyond said roll, a clutch for driving said roll the same being normally out of engagement, means for causing said clutch to engage said drive shaft, means for throwing out said clutch at each revolution of the driving shaft, means for varying the length of the severed sheet, said means including a pivoted quadrant arm operating said feed roll, a slidable block mounted on said quadrant arm, a disc on said driving shaft and a link connecting said block and said disc.

11. A machine for severing sheets from a continuous web of sheeting, comprising means for supporting a roll of sheeting, a feed roll, a knife for severing a sheet from said web after it passes beyond said roll, a clutch for driving said roll the same being normally out of engagement, means for causing said clutch to engage said drive shaft, means for throwing out said clutch at each revolution of the driving shaft, means for holding out of operation said clutch throw-out means so that said machine may operate in a continuous cycle, means for varying the length of the severed sheet, said means including a pivoted quadrant arm operating said feed roll, a slidable block mounted on said quadrant arm, a disc on said driving shaft and a link connecting said block and said disc.

12. A machine for severing sheets from a continuous web of sheeting, comprising means for supporting a roll of sheeting, a feed roll, a knife for severing a sheet from said web after it passes beyond said roll, a drive shaft for driving said knife and said roll, selective means whereby said machine may be operated to sever a single sheet from said web and then stop or may be operated in a continuous cycle to cut a succession of sheets, means for varying the length of

the severed sheet, said means including a pivoted quadrant arm operating said feed roll, a slidable block mounted on said quadrant arm, a disc on said driving shaft and a link connecting said block and said disc, and means for changing the position of said block on said quadrant and thus vary the extent of rotation of the feed roll.

13. A machine for severing sheets from a continuous web of sheeting, comprising means for supporting a roll of sheeting, a feed roll, a knife for severing a sheet from said web after it passes beyond said roll, a drive shaft, a clutch for driving said roll the same being normally out of engagement, means for causing said clutch to engage said drive shaft, means for throwing out said clutch at each revolution of the driving shaft, means for varying the length of the severed sheet, said means including a pivoted quadrant arm operating said feed roll, a slidable block mounted on said quadrant arm, a disc on said driving shaft and a link connecting said block and said disc, and means for changing the position of said block on said quadrant and thus vary the extent of rotation of the feed roll.

14. A machine for severing sheets from a continuous web of sheeting, comprising means for supporting a roll of sheeting, a knife for severing a sheet from said web after it passes beyond said roll, a drive shaft, a clutch for driving said roll the same being normally out of engagement, means for causing said clutch to engage said drive shaft, means for throwing out said clutch at each revolution of the driving shaft, means for holding out of operation said clutch throw-out means so that said machine may operate in a continuous cycle, means for varying the length of the severed sheet, said means including a pivoted quadrant arm operating said feed roll, a slidable block mounted on said quadrant arm, a disc on said driving shaft and a link connecting said block and said disc, and means for changing the position of said block on said quadrant and thus vary the extent of rotation of the feed roll.

15. A machine for severing sheets from a continuous web of sheeting, comprising means for supporting a roll of sheeting, a feed roll, a knife for severing a sheet from said web after it passes beyond said roll, a drive shaft, a clutch for driving said rolls the same being normally out of engagement, means for causing said clutch to engage said drive shaft, means for throwing out said clutch at each revolution of the driving shaft, means for holding out of operation said clutch throw-out means so that said machine may operate in a continuous cycle, and means for varying the length of the severed sheet, the cycle of operation being that said knife severs a sheet and then said feed roll advances another sheet to be cut and idles while the knife severs a sheet.

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