July 11, 1939. E. W. KRAUTER 2,165,861

METHOD OF LETTERING

Filed Oct. 31, 1938

Fig. 1.

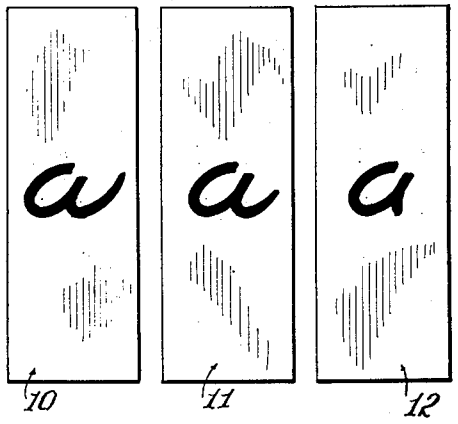


Fig. 2.

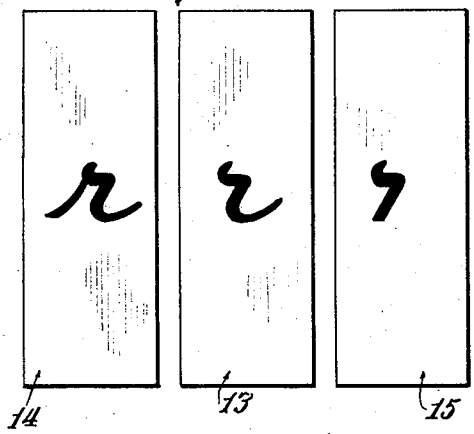


Fig. 3.

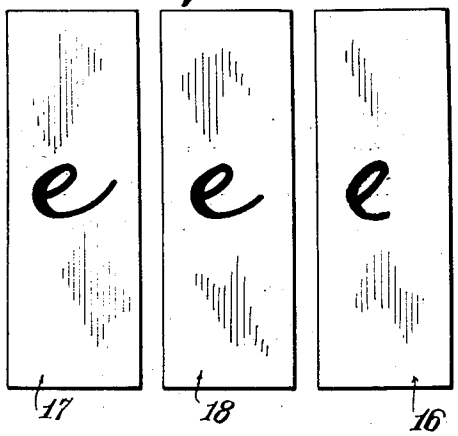


Fig. 4.

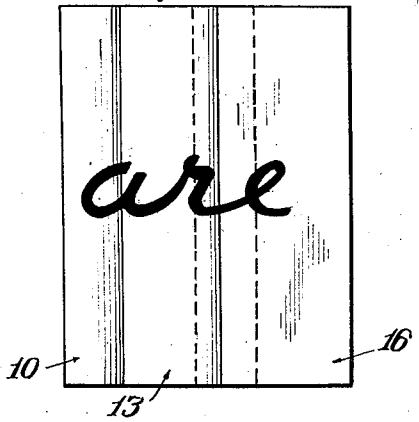


Fig. 6.

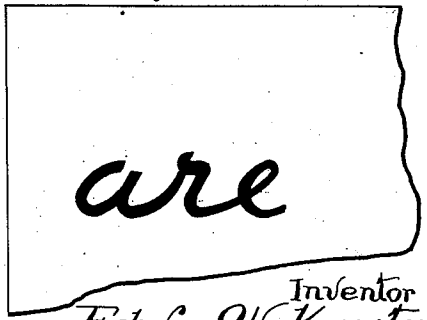
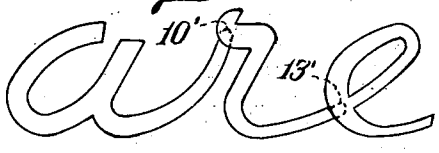


Fig. 5.



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METHOD OF LETTERING

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Application October 31, 1938, Serial No. 237,811

2 Claims. (Cl. 95—5)

This invention relates to a method of lettering, particularly script lettering, to take the place of the hand-lettering method now frequently used in the composition or production of copy for catalogues or other printed matter. This application is a substitute in part for abandoned application Serial No. 731,921, filed June 22, 1934. For example, in a printed article consisting of letter-press and/or illustrations it is often desirable, in order to get a better or different effect from that producible by printing from type, to have an artist skilled in lettering to make by hand a drawing of the title or some other part of the article, and to use this drawing, together with the letter-press and/or cuts, in making the plate from which the printing is done.

Hand-lettering, however, is a slow and relatively expensive operation, if artistically and carefully executed; and if quickly or carelessly executed, the effect, sought to be obtained by the hand-lettering, may be entirely lost.

It is the object of the present invention to provide a mechanical method of script lettering which, while producing the effect of hand-lettering, will be a much cheaper and more expeditious way of accomplishing the desired effect.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing wherein:

Fig. 1 shows three transparencies lettered with the script letter "a" in different forms, which are illustrative of the means employed for carrying out the method of the invention.

Figs. 2 and 3 show, respectively, transparencies lettered, in different forms, with the small script letters "r" and "e".

Fig. 4 shows these transparencies, selected from the transparencies of Figs. 1 to 3, and placed in an overlapped arrangement for producing in script, with the letters joined, the word "are".

Fig. 5 is a diagram illustrating the method of over-lapping the letters or characters in arranging the transparencies; and

Fig. 6 shows a photographic reproduction of the Fig. 4 assembly with the evidences of over-lapping of the transparencies eliminated.

For carrying out the process a font, so to speak, of lettered transparencies is provided which comprises all the letters of the alphabet, naturally, in small and capital letters, in such sizes and with such variations in type character as may be necessary, including if required other symbols or characters, which may be considered as included in the term "letters".

In Figs. 1 to 6 are illustrated script letters, all of the same type character and size, but formed for different positions with respect to the other letters. For example, transparency 10 of Fig. 1 bears a character of proper configuration for an initial letter "a" followed by "r". The transparencies 11 and 12 of Fig. 1 bear "a's" of different form suitable for preceding or following other letters.

In Fig. 2 the transparency 13 bears an "r" of the proper form to follow an initial "a" as carried by transparency 10. Transparencies 14 and 15 of Fig. 2 bear "r's" for other letter combinations.

In Fig. 3 transparency 16 bears an "e" suitable for following the "r" of transparency 13 (Fig. 2) and for a final position in a word. The transparencies 17 and 18 are for displaying the same letters for different combinations with other letters.

It will be understood that only a few examples of the numerous different forms of script letters necessary for reproducing in script for all letter sequences are shown in Figs. 1 to 3. These figures are merely illustrative of the principle upon which the font of transparencies is produced.

Fig. 4 illustrates a combinaion of transparencies 10, 13 and 16 which are over-lapped so as to produce in script with the letters properly joined one to the other, the word "are".

Fig. 5 clearly shows in dotted lines the method of over-lapping the letters so as to produce a continuous running script. Dotted lines 10' indicate the end portion of the character "a" on transparency 10 underlying the first portion of the character appearing on transparency 13 and dotted lines 13' indicate the end portion of the character on transparency 13 underlying the first portion of the character on transparency 16.

In carrying out the method of this invention, the entire matter, which is to take the place of the hand-lettered drawing is made up by an assembly of transparencies, in which the units are arranged in proper sequence, and over-lapped so far as may be necessary, in order to give a continuous running script appearance to the desired arrangement of letters and words.

The use of script shown in Figs. 1 to 4, merely illustrates types of lettering which are difficult, if not impossible, to produce by ordinary type setting and which, consequently, have heretofore required resort to hand-lettering method.

The assembly of transparencies of which Fig. 4 is typical, is then photographed, and the lines caused by the over-lapping of the transparencies are eliminated.

The translucency or lines caused by the over-lapping of the transparencies is preferably elimi-

nated from the negative by over-lapping the film of light sensitive material. By allowing the film to be subjected to the developing material for a longer time than usual, the indications on the film caused by the over-lapping of the transparencies will be washed therefrom so that the negative will show only the script in white and the background in solid black. The appearance of the black script letters will be unaffected by the over-developing. Of course the print made therefrom will then show the desired script in black on a pure white background as shown in Fig. 6.

Another method of eliminating the lines of division is to over-expose the film when taking the picture.

Also by first slightly over-exposing and then slightly over-developing the undesired indications will be very satisfactorily eliminated.

The photograph thus made may be combined with the letter-press, cuts or other matter used for making up the copy. For example, the photograph may be pasted to a drawing, or to letter-press, or to a drawing or drawings and letter-press, and the whole photographed on the plate from which the printing is to be done.

If desired the printing plate may be made directly by any usual photographic method from the assembly of transparencies.

It will be understood that I desire to cover by patent all modifications within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. Method of lettering which comprises selecting from a font comprising a plurality of transparencies having script characters opaquely lettered thereon, each character being represented in different forms of the same size for combination with other characters in different positions, the correct transparencies for forming a desired combination and effect in continuous script, arranging said transparencies in proper sequence with certain transparencies overlapping portions of the characters on other transparencies so far as necessary to bring the chosen characters into correct relative position with the end portions of the characters joining, in appearance, adjacent characters to form the desired combination in continuously running script, substantially all of the overlapped character portions being visible through the overlapping transparencies, and then photographing the said arrangement to produce a print on which will appear the desired script combination on a pure background of contrasting appearance.

2. Method of lettering which comprises selecting from a font of transparencies having script characters opaquely lettered thereon, said font including different forms of the same size script characters for joining to other characters in different relative positions some of said characters being provided with connecting end portions adapted to be joined to and form part of other characters, the transparencies bearing the correct form of characters for forming the desired lettering, arranging the selected transparencies with some of them overlying a portion of the characters on the other transparencies so far as necessary to bring the characters into proper relative position with the connecting end portions joining, in appearance, other characters to form a part thereof, so that the selected characters are joined together to form the desired combination in continuously running script, substantially all of the overlapped characters being visible through the overlapping transparencies, and then photographing said arrangement to produce a print on which will appear the desired script combination on a pure background of contrasting color.

EDWIN W. KRAUTER.

CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION.

Patent No. 2,165,861. July 11, 1939.

EDWIN W. KRAUTER.

It is hereby certified that error appears in the printed specification of the above numbered patent requiring correction as follows: Page 2, first column, line 1, for the word "over-lapping" read over-developing; and that the said Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein that the same may conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed and sealed this 29th day of August, A. D. 1939.

(Seal)

Leslie Frazer,
Acting Commissioner of Patents.