C. K. SEARLE.

KEYBOARD FOR TYPE WRITING MACHINES.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 2, 1916.

1,184,492. **Patented May 23, 1916.**

FIG. 1.

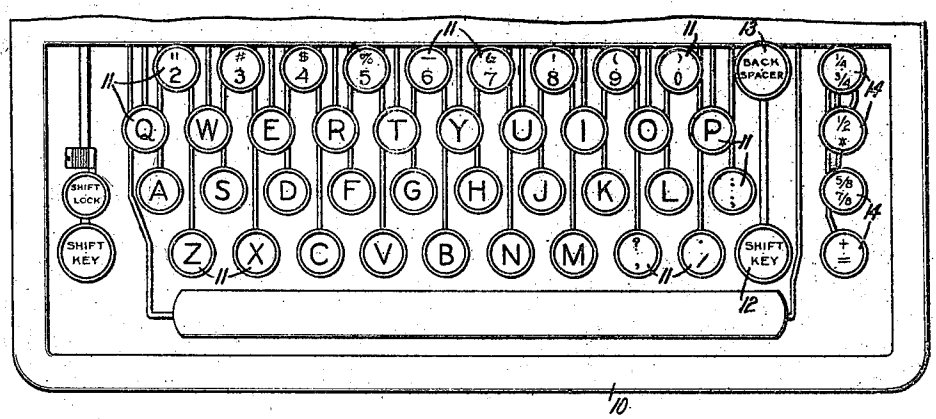
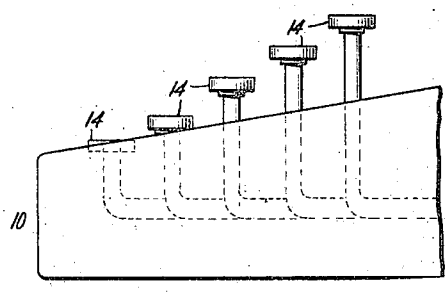


FIG. 2.



WITNESSES

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KEYBOARD FOR TYPE-WRITING MACHINES.

1,184,492. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 23, 1916.

Application filed March 2, 1916. Serial No. 81,633.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES K. SEARLE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Babylon, in the county of Suffolk and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Keyboard for Type-Writing Machines, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved keyboard for typewriting machines arranged to provide a set of auxiliary keys without changing the arrangement, location or size of the keys of the original standard keyboard, at the same time enabling the operator to readily reach the extra keys without danger of striking the wrong key and thus insure more accuracy and speed on the part of the operator both as to the use of the original keys and the set of auxiliary keys.

Another object is to facilitate the learning of the touch system on keyboards provided with the set of auxiliary keys.

In order to accomplish the desired result, use is made of a set of standard keys, a back spacer key, a shifting key, and a set of auxiliary keys at one end of the keyboard and spaced from the said standard keys, the said back spacer key and the said shifting key being interposed between the said standard keys and the said set of auxiliary keys.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both views.

Figure 1 is a plan view of the keyboard of the typewriting machine; and Fig. 2 is an end view of the same.

The original keyboard of a typewriting machine embraces the usual standard keys, a back spacer key, and a shifting key, and it has been found desirable to add a set of auxiliary keys for printing fractions and signs, such as a star, plus and equal marks. This set of auxiliary keys has been added to the right-hand side of the standard keys and has been an endless source of annoyance to the operator owing to the fact that the close location of the auxiliary keys to the standard keys resulted in the operator striking the wrong key and retarding the speed in using the standard keys. In order to overcome this difficulty and to make it possible for the operator to manipulate the auxiliary keys without danger of striking a standard key instead, and to allow the free use of the standard keys without danger of striking an extra key, the following arrangement is made.

The keyboard 10 is provided with the usual set of standard keys 11 at the right-hand end of which are located the shifting key 12 and the back spacer key 13. On the extreme right-hand end of the keyboard 10 is arranged a set of extra or auxiliary keys 14 spaced from the right-hand end of the standard keys 11 with the shifting key 12 and the back spacer key 13 interposed between the said auxiliary keys 14 and the standard keys 11. The auxiliary keys 14 are arranged for printing fractions and signs such as a star, plus and equal marks, as plainly indicated in Fig. 1.

It will be noticed that the buttons of the auxiliary keys 14 are arranged in a transverse row and are completely separated from the right-hand side of the standard keys 11 so that the operator can manipulate the standard keys with the usual speed and accuracy and without danger of accidentally striking an auxiliary key 14. In order to make the separation of the standard keys 11 and the auxiliary keys 14 more pronounced, the shifting key 12 and the back spacer 13 are interposed between the two sets of keys. In the manufacture of typewriting machines, the auxiliary set of keys can be safely added as an operator is not balked by the extra keys because they are in a distinct group by themselves. It will also be noticed that a beginner learning to operate a typewriter according to the touch system, as now generally taught in all schools, is not liable to be confused by the extra set of keys.

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

A keyboard for typewriting machines, comprising a set of standard keys, a back spacer key, a shifting key and a set of

auxiliary keys at one end of the keyboard and spaced from the said standard keys, the said back spacer key and the said shifting key being interposed between the said standard keys and the said set of auxiliary keys.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES K. SEARLE

Witnesses:
THEO. G. HOSTER,
PHILIP D. ROLLHAUS.