

J. VAALER.
 TYPEWRITER DESK.
 APPLICATION FILED AUG. 18, 1916.

1,415,909.

Patented May 16, 1922.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

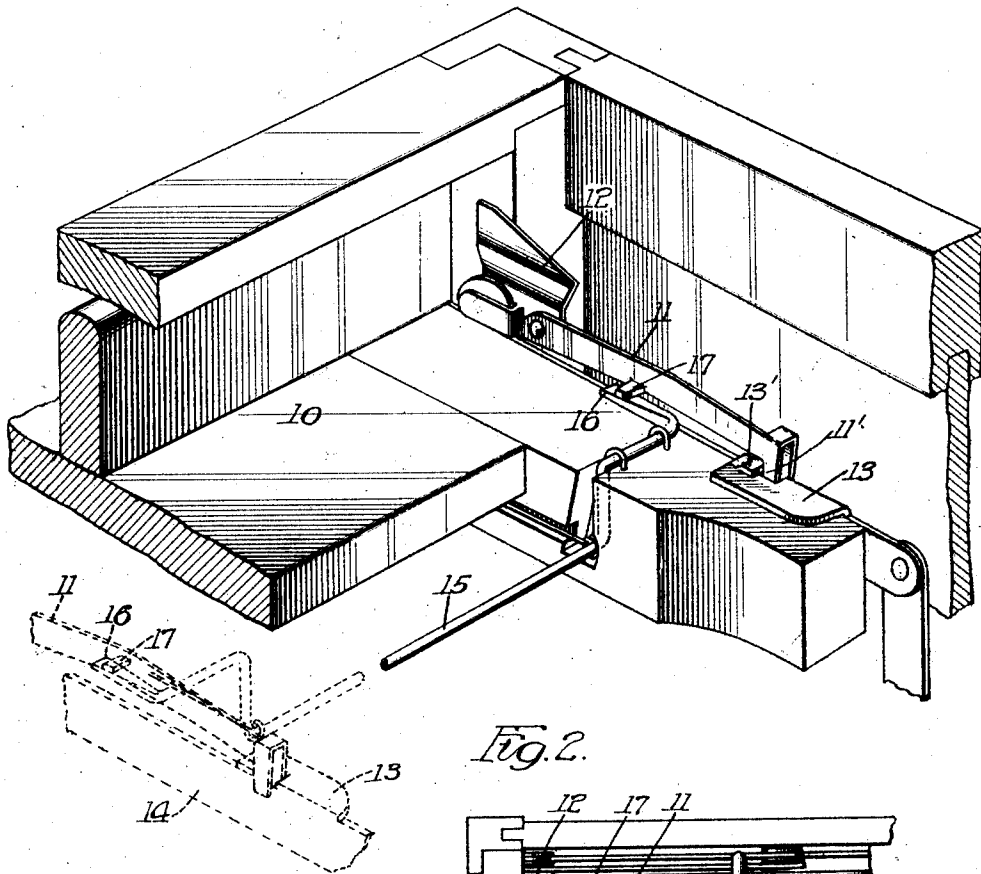
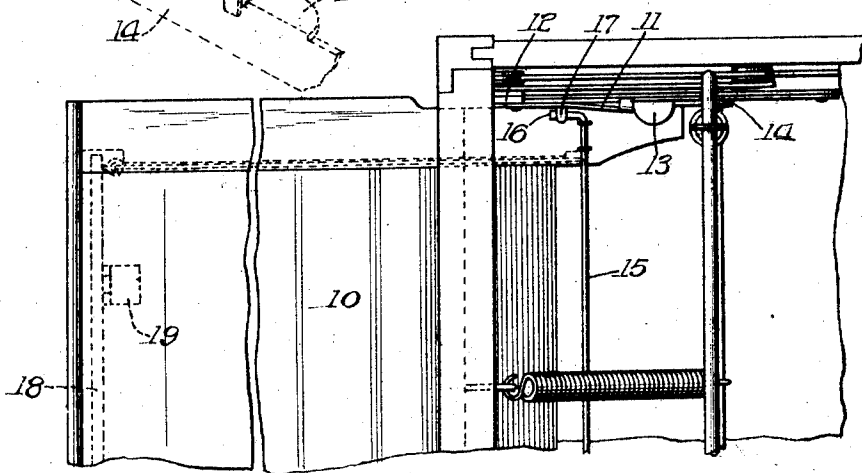


Fig. 2.



witnesses:
 Arthur H. Carlson
 Sebastian Hinton

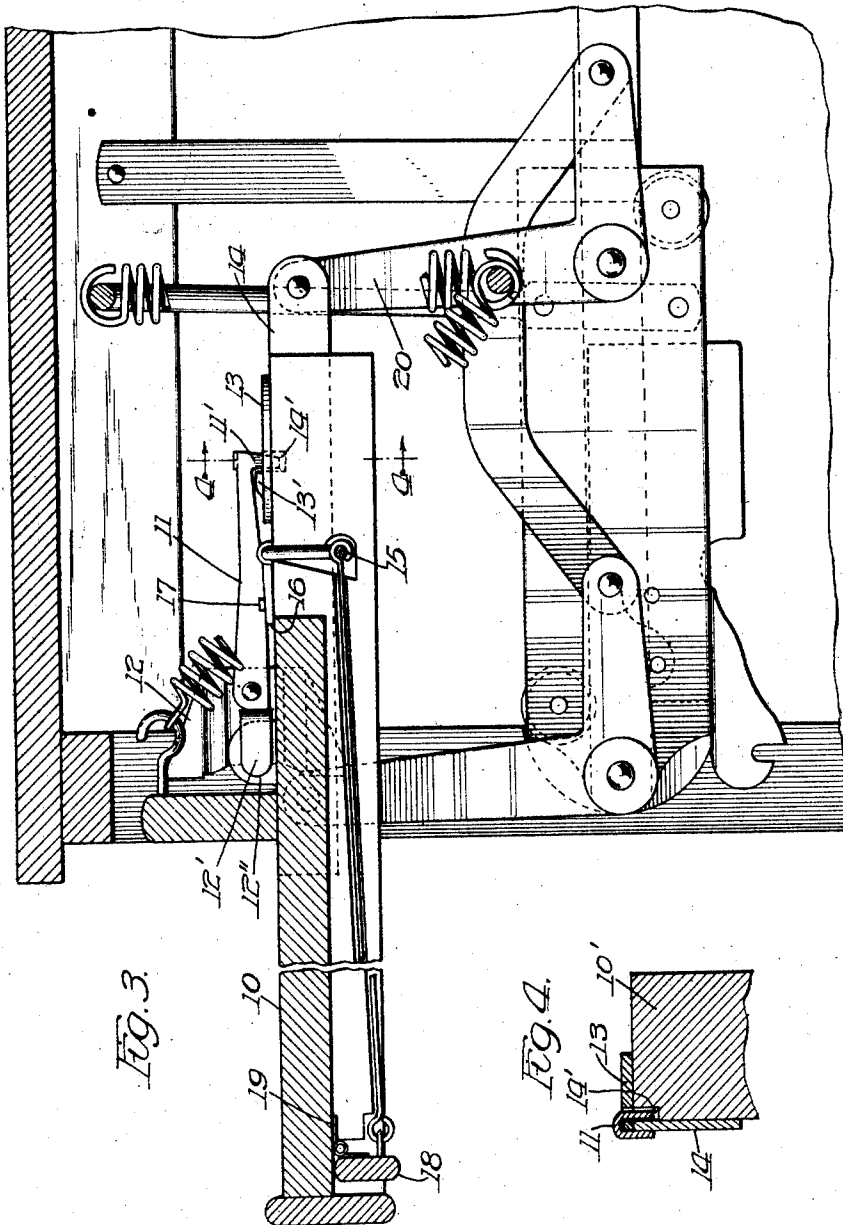
Inventor:
 J. Vaaler
 Wallace R. Lowe
 ATTORNEY

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witnesses:
Arthur H. Carlson
Sebastian Hulten

Inventor:
J. Vaaler
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JENS VAALER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO CLEMETSEN COMPANY, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, A CORPORATION OF ILLINOIS.

TYPEWRITER DESK.

1,415,909.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 16, 1922.

Application filed August 18, 1916. Serial No. 115,724.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JENS VAALER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook in the State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in a Typewriter Desk, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in a class of typewriter desk commonly referred to as an office desk, in which a platform for supporting a typewriting machine and means for operating the platform are housed in the desk in such a manner that the platform can be moved from its housing into position for operating the machine and returned to its housed position without moving the machine with respect to the platform.

One of the objects is to provide improvements in locking means for securing the platform in its advanced position after it has been raised and to prevent any wobbling, lateral motion, or vibration thereof under the operation of the typewriter; another is to provide simple and efficient means for instantly disconnecting the locking mechanism from the platform preparatory to lowering it.

The above and other features of novelty, advantages and capabilities will become apparent from the detailed description of the accompanying drawings, in which I have illustrated a device embodying one form of my invention, but the construction there shown is illustrative only and it is not to be understood as defining the limits of the invention.

Figure 1 is an enlarged detail perspective view of a portion of a desk pedestal, showing a typewriter platform in raised position embodying one form of my invention.

Figure 2 is a plan view of the same.

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view of the same.

Figure 4 is a view taken approximately on the line 4—4 of Figure 3.

The desk is so designed and constructed as to completely hide the typewriter and platform within one of the pedestals when the former is not in use.

The carriage mechanism and raising operation of the platform is fully described in United States Letters Patent 1,035,664, granted August 13, 1912. It will not there-

fore be necessary to give a detailed description here.

To prevent the platform 10, having the customary side rails 10', from being accidentally moved outwardly and lowered, and to absolutely secure the same against vibration, I provide a pair of latches 11 which are pivotally connected at one end with the desk leg or any stationary part, as for instance the lugs 12, their opposite ends being bent in the form of a depending U 11'. Attached to each side of the platform side rails 10' are brace plates 14, which in this instance are used to afford a pivotal connection between the platform and the bell cranks 20. The side rail 10' is cut away at 14' to afford an aperture into which the depending U-shaped ends of the pivotally mounted member 11 may drop, the member 11 when in lowered position embracing the upper edge of the plate 14, as clearly seen in Figure 4. The plate 14 has integrally formed therewith a portion 13 bent over upon the top of the side rail 10 and cut away to correspond to the aperture 14', a portion of the member 13 toward the front of the desk being bent up in a hump 13', as clearly seen in Figures 1 and 3, so as to serve as a stop for the rear edge of the depending U shaped ends 11' of the pivoted members 11. It is to be particularly noted that the rear edges of the depending members 11' are sloped backwardly, as clearly seen in Figure 3, while the forward edges of these depending members are substantially vertical and also that the aperture 14' and the corresponding aperture in the plate 13 are large enough to afford a slight clearance around the depending members 11'.

In operation, as the platform is moved backwardly at about the time the lug 12'' shown in Figure 3 comes into tight engagement with the ear 12', as disclosed in my prior patent, the depending ends of the pivoted member 11 drop part way into the aperture 14', with the beveled rear edge thereof in engagement with the rear face of the aperture in the plate 13, as can be seen from Figure 1. The pivoted member 11 thus in effect constitutes a wedge operating between the plate 12 and the plate 13, any vibration or oscillation, particularly lateral oscillation, of the platform 10 serving to make one

or the other of the latches 11 creep into tighter engagement by reason of the creeping downwardly of the inclined rear face of the depending member 11', so that the more vibration and lateral wobbling motion there is communicated to the platform, the tighter will be the engagement between the parts above described, the operation being that of a wedge, so that the platform becomes the more firmly locked as the vibration continues. After a very short period of actual operation of a typewriter mounted on the platform in a desk equipped with my invention, the platform is so securely locked as to be practically immovable from any ordinary force applied thereto.

In order to supplement and safeguard the action of the locking member 12'-12'', and also to permit the adequate operation of the desk even if these parts are displaced or broken, I provide the elevated portion 13' upon the plate 13, which is equipped with a rearwardly facing shoulder which projects above the level of the plate 13 and will engage with the forward face of latch fork 11'. This construction by itself locks platform 10 against rearward movement, and would do so independently of the locking members 12'-12''.

To release the latches I provide a release mechanism which can be operated from the forward end of the platform and comprises a bell-crank shaft 15 having arms 16 adapted to engage the lugs 17 on the latches 11, which bell-crank shaft is in turn connected by means of forward extending links placed within slots on the inside of the platform members and are connected to a handle 18, which in turn is pivotally connected to the platform 10 on the under-side thereof by means of the hinges 19. The handle 18 is preferably made of wood and extends all the way across the front of the platform; it is thus light to operate, does not collect oil, dirt and grease, as would a metal handle, and particularly it can be instantly operated by grasping the front of the platform at any point and does not have to be found or felt for. It will thus be seen that when the operator desires to lower the platform, that by grasping the handle 18 the platform may be unlocked and the outward and downward movement of it permitted so as to rehouse the typewriter in the pedestal base.

Having now described my invention,
I claim:—

1. The combination, in a desk, of a platform mounted for movement into and withdrawal from the desk body, a latch pivoted to the desk body on the inner side thereof, means secured to the platform to co-operate with the latch for locking the platform against outward movement, and means secured to the under side of said platform and operable from substantially any point across

the front edge of the platform for releasing the latch.

2. In combination, a desk, a movable platform mounted therein for movement into and withdrawal from said desk, means for locking said platform in rearward position, and means for releasing said locking means including an operating member hinged substantially across the front of the platform.

3. In combination, a desk, a movable platform mounted therein, a latch pivoted to said desk on the inner side thereof, a lip on the free end of said latch, a socket in said platform in which said lip enters to lock said platform against outward movement, and means on said platform for withdrawing said lip from said socket independently of the movement of said platform.

4. In combination, a desk, a movable platform mounted therein, a latch pivoted to said desk on the inner side thereof, a lip on the free end of said latch, a socket in said platform in which said lip enters to lock said platform against outward movement, said socket being of greater depth than that to which said lip normally enters, the forward edge of said lip being bevelled, whereby as said platform moves under vibration said lip will enter more deeply into the socket to wedge said platform tighter.

5. In combination, a desk, a movable platform mounted therein adapted to be moved forwardly and rearwardly with respect thereto, automatic means for stopping said platform at the limit of its rearward motion, and automatic means cooperating therewith to continually wedge the platform tighter upon subsequently attempted vibration thereof.

6. In combination, a desk, a movable platform mounted therein, adapted to be moved forwardly and rearwardly with respect thereto, automatic means for stopping said platform at the limit of its rearward motion, and automatic means cooperating therewith to continually wedge the platform tighter upon subsequently attempted vibration thereof, in combination with means for instantly releasing said wedging means.

7. In a device of the class described, a desk, a movable platform mounted therein, a latch connected to said desk on the inner side thereof and adapted to co-operate with said platform for locking it against outward movement, and means operable from the front of said platform for unlocking said latch, said means comprising a bell crank shaft having an arm adapted to co-operate with said latch and links connecting with said bell crank shaft and extending to the forward end of said platform, where they connect with a hinged handle for the purpose set forth.

8. In combination, a desk, a movable platform mounted therein, means for locking

said platform against vibration, comprising releasable latches adapted to engage stops on the platform and designed to creep into tighter engagement therewith as the platform is vibrated or shaken.

9. In combination, a desk, a movable platform mounted therein and adapted to be raised and extended, means to limit the backward movement of the platform when it is raised, releasable means to limit the forward movement of either side of the platform, one of said means being designed to creep into tighter engagement under vibration of the platform, whereby the platform will be locked and bound in stable position.

10. In combination, a desk, a platform therein, latch devices pivoted on one of said members and adapted to lock the platform in position, means on the platform to control said latch devices, including a member extending substantially all the way across the platform on the underside thereof where it is substantially concealed from view and is immediately engageable by the operator.

11. In apparatus of the class described, a

desk, a platform movable therein, a pivoted member mounted on the desk, a pair of shoulders in the platform, a portion of said pivoted member being adapted to be engaged between said shoulders whereby said platform is prevented from forward or rearward movement.

12. In apparatus of the class described, a desk, a movable platform mounted therein, means for locking said platform against lateral vibration, comprising a plurality of releasable latches located, one on either side of said platform and adapted to engage corresponding stops rigidly secured to the platform and to continually creep into tighter engagement with said stops as the platform is laterally vibrated.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name to this specification in the presence of two witnesses.

JENS VAALER.

Witnesses:

SEBASTINE AUSTIN,
A. FOOTE.