

F. R. ALLEN.
STAMP AFFIXING MACHINE.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 12, 1911.

1,127,843.

Patented Feb. 9, 1915.

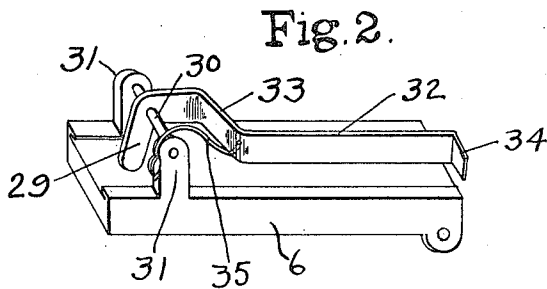
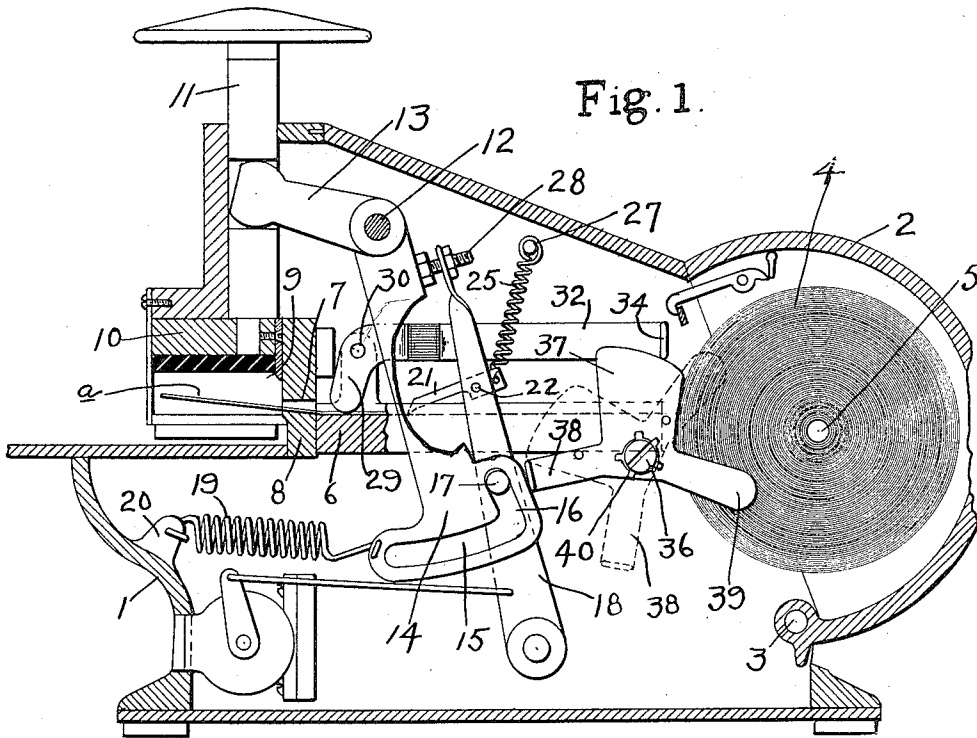


Fig. 4.

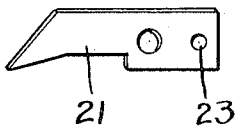


Fig. 3.

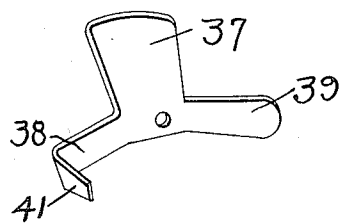
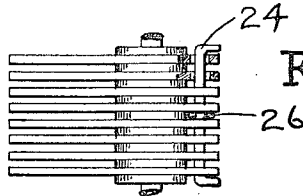


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRED R. ALLEN, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS,
TO NATIONAL ENVELOPE SEALING AND STAMPING MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
A CORPORATION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

STAMP-AFFIXING MACHINE.

1,127,843.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 9, 1915.

Application filed April 12, 1911. Serial No. 620,631.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRED R. ALLEN, a citizen of the United States, and resident of the city of Providence, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stamp-Affixing Machines, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to machines for affixing stamps or labels to envelopes and other matter, and has particular reference to that type of such machines which are operated by a hand driven plunger, the stamps or labels to be supplied being fed in the form of a strip which is intermittently advanced.

One of the objects of the present invention is to provide a machine of the character indicated having means whereby the plunger may be firmly locked against operation, and the strip of stamps at the same time to be so held that it cannot be pulled forward by any unauthorized person seeking to remove stamps for use elsewhere.

It is found in practice absolutely necessary that the forward feeding stroke should carry the stamp absolutely to a given line so that the knife will cut the strip each time at exactly the right place between the stamps.

Therefore a further object of my invention is to provide simple and effective means whereby the extent of the forward or feeding movement may be regulated so that the machine may be adjusted to compensate for variations in different rolls of the same variety of stamps, and also that the same machine may be regulated to feed stamps or labels of other shapes and sizes.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

Referring to the drawings: Figure 1—represents a longitudinal vertical section of a machine embodying my present improvements. Fig. 2— is a perspective view illustrating a stamp table with my stamp strip locking pawl pivotally secured thereto. Fig. 3— illustrates the locking member which locks the pawl and the stamp feeding

mechanism at the same time. Fig. 4— is an enlarged detail of one of the feeding pawls. Fig. 5— is a plan view showing a gang of feeding pawls.

Similar reference characters indicate the same or similar parts in all of the views.

1 designates the casing for a stamp affixing machine, which may be made in any desired shape or size, a substantially semi-cylindrical cap 2 being hinged at 3, the same being adapted to be swung back from the main casing to permit the roll of stamps 4, mounted on the spindle 5, to be placed within the casing. The detail construction of this casing is more particularly described in my co-pending application Serial No. 614,097. The end *a* of the stamp strip is led by suitable guides, not shown, from this roll over the table 6 through the slot 7 in the knife 8 where it is severed by the blade 9 attached to the plunger foot 10, which foot is adapted to be forced down by the hand driven plunger 11 or by power driven mechanism, if desired. Mounted in the side walls of the casing is a rock shaft 12 having an arm 13 operatively connected to the plunger 11 and having a lower arm 14. The rock shaft and its two arms collectively constitute the operating lever which transmits motion from the plunger to the other interior portions of the machine. The arm 14 is formed with a slot, one portion 15 of which is curved concentric with the axis of the rock shaft 12, this curved or arched slot connecting at one end with a slot 16 which is substantially radial to the axis of the rock shaft 12. Normally when the plunger is raised the pin 17 of the lever arm 18 rests in the radial slot portion 16, the parts being yieldingly held in this position by means of a spring 19 connecting the arm 14 with a lug 20 of the base or frame. The construction and operation of these parts is more fully described in my above-mentioned co-pending application Serial Number 614,097.

A gang of small fingers 21 is shown as being mounted on the pivot pin 22 in the lever 18. The rear ends of these fingers are each provided with a corresponding hole 23 through which a wire 24 is adapted to pass

and fit loosely in said holes so as to permit said fingers to yield individually and independent of the others as they engage the strip of stamps. A single spring 25 is connected at one end at the point 26 to this wire 24, the opposite end of said spring being attached at a point 27 above the table so as to exert the proper engaging tension on said fingers.

10 A feature of this invention is that the upper end of the lever arm 18 is provided with a screw 28 passing therethrough so that one end of said screw when the parts are in their normal or forward position may rest
15 against the rear edge of the lever 14 by means of which the extent of the forward movement of the feeding mechanism may be controlled by simply adjusting this screw 28.

It is found in practice that the distances
20 between the lines of perforation in the different rolls of the same variety of stamps are apt to vary slightly, also that different rolls of different varieties of stamps or labels are apt to vary still more, therefore by my
25 means for adjusting the extent of the forward or feeding stroke, the machine may be readily made to accommodate itself to these variations, so that the strips will be accurately fed to the exact line where they are
30 to be severed by the knife.

Another feature of my present invention is the provision of a pawl 29 pivoted at 30 between the ears 31 projecting upward from the table 6, said pawl being disposed to rest
35 upon the stamp strip forward of the vertical axis of its pivoting point, and said pawl is provided with a rearwardly extending arm 32 offset at 33 to carry it outward along the outer edge of the table, the rear end of this
40 arm being turned outward as at 34 for engaging the cam presently described. A spring 35 is hooked under this rearwardly extending arm, see Fig. 2, causing the pawl to press lightly against the strip of stamps *a* as it is
45 fed forward to prevent any possible tendency to a backward movement of said strip.

To prevent unauthorized persons from withdrawing the stamp strip from the machine, and also from operating the machine
50 in any way, I have provided a member pivoted by the screw 36 to the table and frictionally held by the spring washer 40. This member is provided with a cam portion 37, a lever engaging arm 38 having an outwardly
55 turned end 41, and an operating handle 39 all of which are normally held in the position indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1. But when it is desired to lock the machine against being operated it is only necessary to move
60 this member down into the position illustrated in full lines in said Fig. 1, whereby the cam 37 rides under the projecting portion 34 of the pawl arm 32 causing the pawl to firmly press and bite the stamp strip

against the table absolutely preventing the strip from being withdrawn and the arm 38 is moved up directly back of the downwardly projecting lever 14 thereby positively preventing any movement whatever of the operating parts.

I claim:

1. In a stamp affixing machine a table, a plurality of reciprocating fingers for feeding a strip of stamps over said table, a pawl normally pressing said strip lightly to said table to prevent a retrograde movement of said strip when the fingers are drawn back thereover, and means for locking said pawl to prevent a further forward movement of said strip.

2. In a stamp affixing machine, a table, a plurality of reciprocating fingers for feeding a strip of stamps over said table, a pivotally held spring actuated pawl normally pressing said strip lightly to said table to prevent a backward movement of the strip when the fingers are drawn back thereover, an arm connected to said pawl, and means adapted to engage said arms to cause said pawl to bind said strip to the table to prevent a further forward movement of said strip.

3. In a stamp affixing machine, a table, a plurality of reciprocating fingers for feeding a strip of stamps over said table, a pivotally held spring actuated pawl normally pressing said strip lightly to said table to prevent a backward movement of the strip when the fingers are drawn back thereover, an arm connected to said pawl, and a cam adapted to be moved into engagement with said arm to cause said pawl to bind said strip to the table to prevent a further forward movement of said strip.

4. In a stamp affixing machine a table, means for feeding a strip of stamps over said table, a pivotally held spring actuated pawl normally pressing said strip lightly to said table to prevent a backward movement thereof, an arm connected to said pawl, and means adapted to engage said arm to cause said pawl to bind said strip to the table to prevent a further forward movement of said strip, said means also locking said feeding mechanism against further movement.

5. In a stamp affixing machine, a table, a plurality of reciprocating fingers actuated by a swinging arm for feeding a strip of stamps over said table, a pawl for normally pressing said strip lightly to said table to prevent a backward movement of said strip, and means for locking said pawl to prevent a further forward movement of said strip, said means also locking said actuating arm against further movement.

6. In a stamp affixing machine, a table, a plurality of pivotally held reciprocatory

fingers for feeding a strip of stamps over said table, each of said fingers having a hole through it normally in line with each other, a single flexible wire smaller than said holes
5 and passing therethrough, and a single spring attached to said wire for exerting a tension on all of said fingers.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRED R. ALLEN.

Witnesses:

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