July 24, 1934. C. W. KELLOGG 1,967,941

TYPEWRITING MACHINE

Filed April 9, 1932 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

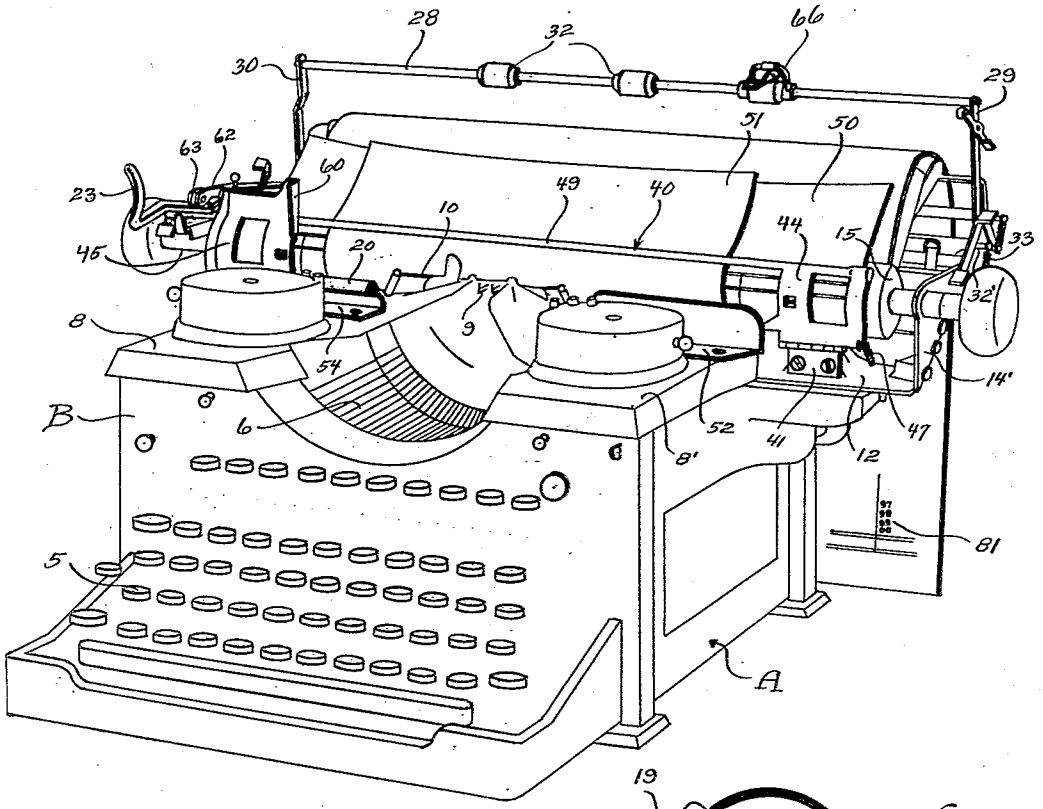
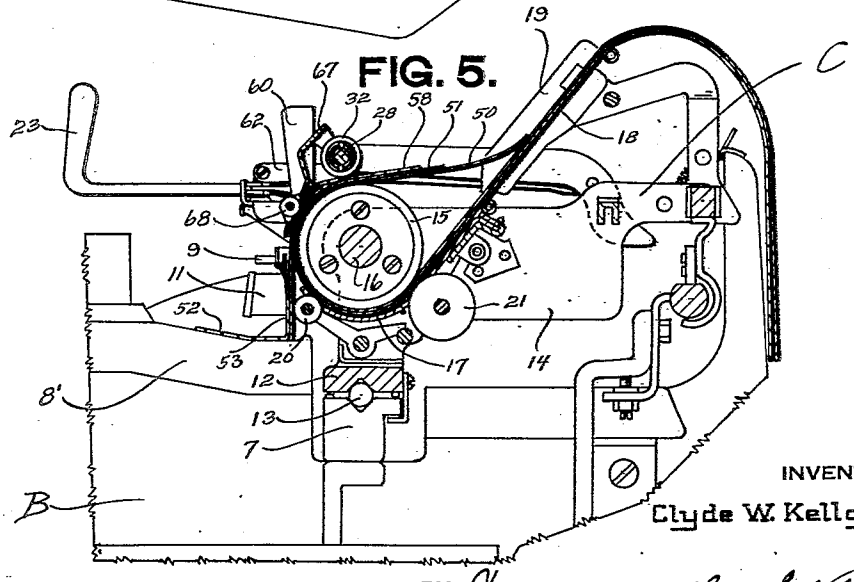


FIG. 5.



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TYPEWRITING MACHINE

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FIG. 2.

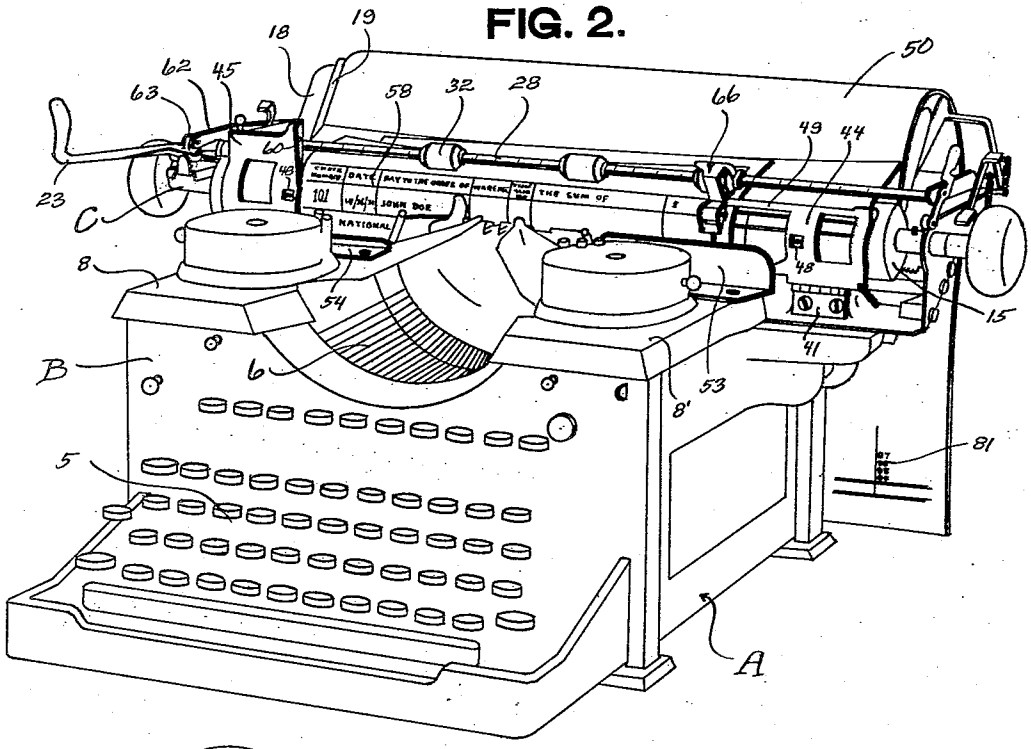


FIG. 6.

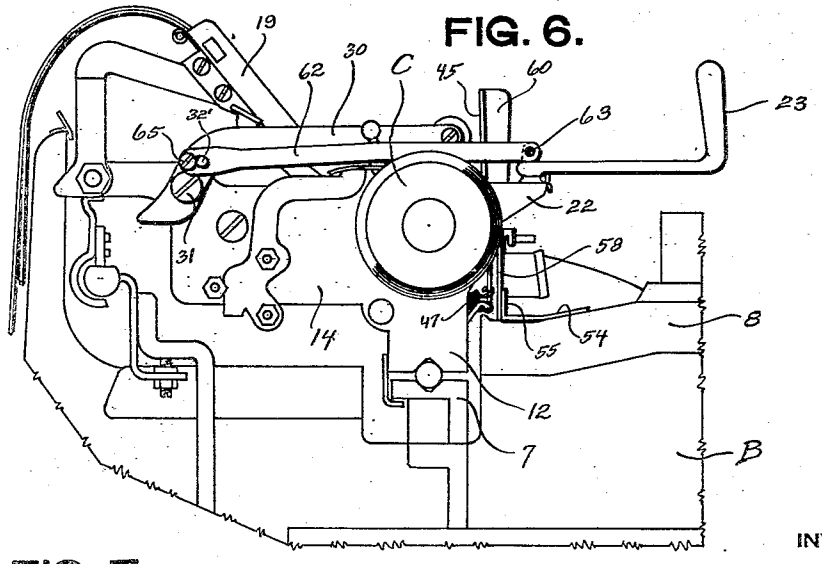
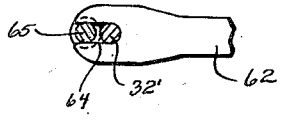


FIG. 7.



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TYPEWRITING MACHINE

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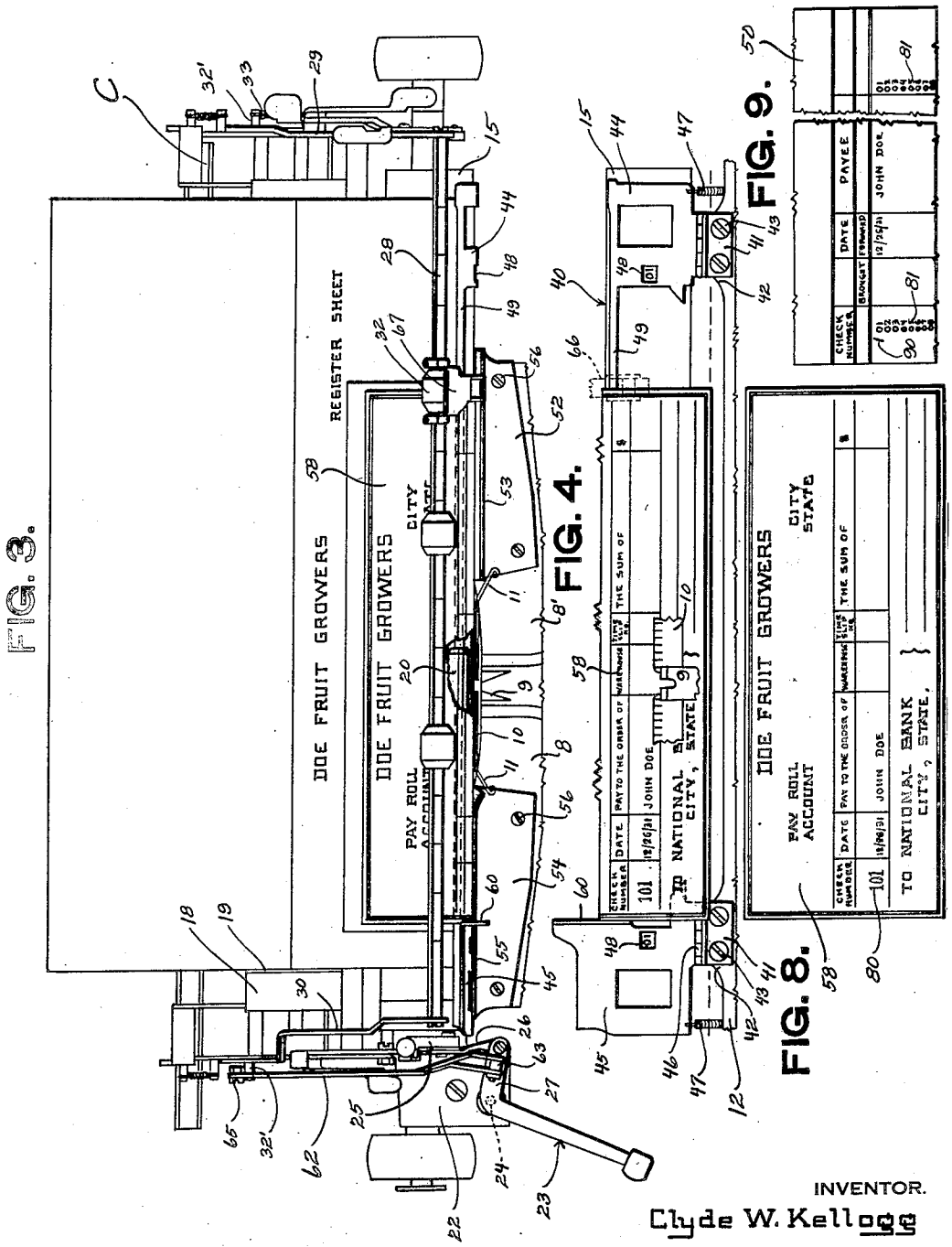


FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.

FIG. 8.

FIG. 9.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,967,941

TYPEWRITING MACHINE

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Application April 9, 1932, Serial No. 604,326

16 Claims. (Cl. 197—128)

The present invention relates generally to improvements in typewriting machines and the primary object of the invention is to provide means whereby a standard typewriter may be converted into a machine of the combination back and front feed type for check writing, invoice making and similar uses.

A further object of the invention is to provide a check writing device for typewriters wherein writing, registering and protecting of the check may be simultaneously accomplished in one typing operation.

A further object of the invention is to provide a typewriting machine of a construction to receive a record or register sheet provided with duplicate columns of identification numbers for display at sight openings arranged adjacent opposite ends of the platen for the purpose of correctly aligning the sheet relative to the printing line and also indicating the numbered position of the sheet; together with means whereby a numbered check or similar sheet, so designed as to have all necessary information typed on a single line, may be inserted at the front of the platen into correct writing position and in direct collation with the register sheet so that in the act of typing upon the check a record is also made upon the register sheet on a line between the identification numbers corresponding to the number of the check.

A further object of the invention is to provide improved means whereby the check may be easily guided into proper position at the front of the platen and effectively held in position by means automatically moved out of holding relation to the check during the line spacing operation.

A further object resides in the improved construction of the paper holder which in addition to holding the paper in proper typing position at the front of the platen serves as an aligning means for the register sheet and as means for disposing the check in proper relation to the sheet.

A further object resides in the arrangement whereby the pivoted paper bail is automatically swung to an inoperative position thru actuation of the line spacing and carriage return lever.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a check writing attachment for typewriting machines which is of simple construction and may be applied to typewriting machines of standard construction without alterations thereto prohibiting ordinary use of the machine.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent during the course of the following detailed description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification and in which drawings:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a standard form of typewriting machine converted into a check writing machine and showing the paper bail raised and the register sheet and carbon inserted.

Figure 2 is a perspective view similar to Figure 1 but showing a check in a writing position and the paper bail lowered into holding relation upon the check.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary top plan view of the machine shown in Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary detail view of the front of the paper holder and showing the check in position with its printing line aligning between the number sight openings in the ends of the paper holder.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary sectional view of the showing in Figure 2 and showing the manner in which the check is held by the paper bail.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary end elevation of the machine and showing the manner in which the line spacing and carriage return lever is connected for operating the paper bail.

Figure 7 is a fragmentary detail view showing the manner in which the rear end of the connecting link for the paper bail is connected to one of the end rails of the paper bail.

Figure 8 is a plan view of one of the preferred forms of check for use with the machine.

Figure 9 is a fragmentary plan view of the upper portion of one of the check register sheets for use with the check writing machine.

Referring to the drawings in detail, and wherein similar reference characters designate corresponding parts thruout the several views, the letter A designates a standard form of typewriting machine such as shown by way of example in mechanical make-up in Patent Numbers 1,105,657; 1,427,464; 1,635,408; and 1,785,445, altho it is to be understood that the check writing attachment may be equally well applied to various other types of typewriting machines for converting the standard form of machine in a combined check writing, protecting, and registering machine. The typewriting machine A includes the usual main frame B having mounted thereon the usual carriage C having sliding movement from side to side of the frame B.

The main frame B has mounted therein the usual bank of keys 5 for operating the type bars 6. The carriage C is mounted for transverse movement at the rear upper portion of the frame B as upon a stationary rail or race way 7. Arranged on the upper part of the frame B immediately forward of the carriage C are the usual top or cover plates 8 and 8' having flat upper surfaces at their rear portions which are in parallel aligning relation to the direction of travel of the carriage C. Arranged between the rear edge portions of the top plates 8 and 8' is the usual type bar guide 9. Arranged centrally of

the top plate and suitably fixed to the main frame with its upper edge at the printing line and disposed symmetrically on both sides of the printing poin is the usual number gauge or scale plate 10 having the end portions thereof turned outwardly or forwardly as at 11. The rear face or surface of this gauge or scale plate 10 is disposed just forwardly of the rear edge of the top plates 8 and 8' so that a sheet inserted behind the scale plate may have its lower edge rest upon the upper surface of the top plate.

The carriage C comprises a frame including a traveling or base rail 12 supported for movement upon the stationery rail 7 by the bearings 13 and carried by the ends of the base rail 12 are the usual end plates 14 and 14' in the forward portions of which is mounted the platen 15 as upon a shaft 16 journaled in the end plates. Extended about the lower portion of the platen 15 is the usual paper pan or apron 17 for guiding the paper inserted at the rear of the platen under and upwardly at the front of the platen just rearwardly of the scale plate 10. Projecting upwardly and rearwardly at an angle from the paper pan 17 is the usual paper table 18. In the example shown the paper table 18 is of that type disclosed in Patent 1,458,269 and provided adjacent its left hand end with a paper gauge 19 against which the left marginal edge of the paper engages.

Normally urged toward the platen 15 at the lower side thereof are the front and rear pressure or feed rolls 20 and 21 respectively.

Formed on the end plate 14 is an extension 22 for pivotal mounting of a carriage return lever 23 in the form of a bell crank lever pivoted at 24. The usual line spacing means 25 is provided at the end of the platen 15 and operatively connected by a link 26 to the lever arm 27 of the carriage return lever 23. The carriage return lever 23 is of the well known spring returned type so connected with the line spacing means 25 as to cause rotation of the platen 15 when the lever 23 is engaged for returning the carriage C to its starting position toward the right hand end of the typewriting machine.

The swinging bail of the type shown in Patent 1,785,445 is provided for holding the paper against the platen and movable away from the platen to permit of placing of paper above the platen. This paper bail includes the usual graduated rod 28 extending parallel with the platen 15 and mounted at its ends in the swinging bail arms 29 and 30 pivotally mounted as by pivots 31 to the end plates 14 and 14' rearwardly of the platen 15. The rod 28 has mounted thereon the usual rolls 32 which when the bail is in a lowered position overlie the platen 15. In the normal construction of the machine, each of the bail arms 29 and 30 is provided adjacent its pivot 31 with a lug 32' to which is attached one end of a coil spring 33 having their opposite ends pivotally connected to the carriage end plate. In the standard construction, the coil springs connected to the swinging bail arms act to yieldably urge the rolls 32 toward the platen 15 and are so connected with respect to the pivot of the arms as to hold the bail in a raised position as in Figure 1 of the drawings. In converting this form of standard typewriting machine into a check writing machine as disclosed in this invention, it is preferred tho not entirely essential that the bail arm spring 33 for the bail arm 30 be dispensed with to permit for ready and easy applying of my attachment.

The construction and operation of the typewriting machine A as thus far described is well known in standard forms of typewriting machines and forms no part of the present invention. The invention as herein disclosed provides means whereby typewriting machines of standard construction may be readily and easily converted into a check writing machine whereby duplicate copies of checks may be recorded in an orderly manner upon the register sheets.

According to this invention there is provided mechanism whereby a typewriting machine of standard construction may be converted into a machine of the combination back and front feed type for the writing and recording of checks in a single typing operation and thereby resulting in a material saving of time over prior methods used. Hingedly carried by the carriage C is a paper guide and holder 40 embodying a pair of attaching plates 41 which are secured to the front face of the lugs 42, provided on the carriage base rail 12 at points adjacent opposite ends thereof, as by suitable fastening screws 43. These lugs 42 as shown in Patent #1,105,657 normally serve as mountings for a gauge and scale adapted to coact with the end portions of the platen. Hinged at its lower edge to one of the attaching plates 41 is a right hand gauge plate 44, while hinged at its lower edge to the other attaching plate is a left hand gauge plate 45. The hinge joints 46 of the gauge plates are in axial alignment and extend parallel with the platen 15 in a relation thereto forwardly of and below the axis of the platen shaft 16.

These gauge plates 45 and 46 have their upper portions extended above the line of print of the platen and are normally urged against the opposite end portions of the platen 15 by suitable coil springs 47 connected between the gauges and the rear portion of the base rail 12. These plates 44 and 45 are formed with forwardly curved portions conforming to the contour of the platen 15 and provided in the curved portion of each plate is a sight opening or window 48 as clearly shown in Figure 4. These sight openings 48 are so disposed as to align with the printing line of the machine beyond the ends or margins of the printing line.

Connecting the gauge plates 44 and 45 above the sight openings 48 is a paper holding rod 49 which extends parallel with the platen and engages the platen at a location slightly forward of the bail rolls 32 as shown in Figure 5. This rod 49 serves to hold the register sheets 50 and carbon sheet 51 in a rearwardly directed position over the platen 15 when the paper bail is in a raised position as shown in Figure 1. It will also be noted that the paper holding rod 49 also serves to connect the gauge plates 44 and 45 for unitary swinging movement toward and away from the platen.

Mounted upon the upper side of the top plate 8' adjacent the rear edge thereof is an angle or L-shaped guide plate 52 having its upturned flange 53 extending parallel with the platen 15 and spaced slightly forward from the rearward edge of the top plate 8' as shown in Figure 5. The upturned guide flange 53 has its upper edge curved forwardly and has its inner end extended for a short distance behind the angular right hand end 11 of the center gauge plate 10. The rear surface of the guide flange 53 is in alignment with the rear surface of the center gauge plate 10. Mounted upon the upper surface of the top plate 8 is an angle or L-shaped guide plate 54 having its upturned flange 55 in direct alignment with the

rear surfaces of the guide flange 53 and center gauge plate 10. These stationary guides 52 and 54 may be secured to their respective top plates in any suitable manner and in the example shown have been secured in position by suitable screws 56 passed thru the horizontal flanges of the guides. It will be noted from Figure 5 that the guide flanges 53 and 55 are spaced slightly forward of the front pressure rolls 20 and a narrow space is provided for insertion of a sheet such as a check 58 into a printing position at the front of the platen 15.

The left hand gauge plate 45 extends for a short distance above the holding rod 49 and has formed at its inner edge above the sight opening 48, a forwardly extending stop flange 60 extending at a right angle to the platen 15. This stop flange 60 serves to limit sliding movement of the check 58 toward the left side of the machine and properly positions the check with respect to the register sheet 50. The upwardly projecting portion of the gauge plate 45 also provides a hand hold whereby the guide and holder 40 may be swung away from the platen for placing of the sheet 50 and carbon 51.

In order to permit placing of the check 58 in a writing position, means is provided whereby upon return of the carriage C by the combined carriage return and line spacing lever 23, the paper bail comprising the rod 28 and guide arms 29 and 30 will be swung to a raised position away from the platen 15. This bail raising means comprises a coupling rod or link 62 connected at its forward end as by a universal coupling joint 63 to the short lever arm 27 of the carriage return lever 23. The rear end of the rod 62 is bifurcated as shown in detail in Figure 7 to provide a terminally opening slot 64 which receives the cylindrical spring attaching lug 32' of the swinging bail arm 30. A small retaining bolt 65 is placed in the slot 64 at the rear of the lug 32' and provides means for attaching the guide arm 30 to the rear end of the rod 62 whereby upon movement of the return lever 23 for returning the carriage C to a starting position, the paper bail will be raised to an inoperative position as shown in Figure 1. The rod 62 may be held against movement axially off of the lug 32' thru its fitting in the usual annular groove provided for receiving one end of a coil spring as at 33 serving to yieldably retain the paper bail in either a raised or lowered position. As before stated, it is preferred that the usual bail swinging spring be removed from the lug 32' of the bail arm 30 to permit attachment of the coupling link or rod 62.

Carried by the graduated rod 28 of the paper bail is a tucking device 66 including a spring frame 67 slidably and non-rotatably mounted upon the rod in straddled relation over the right most of the rolls 32. Mounted in the free end of the frame 67 on an axis parallel with the rod 28 is a small tucking roll 68 which is engageable with the platen 15 below the paper holding rod 49 when the paper bail is in its lowered operative position as clearly shown in Figure 5. This manner of gripping the check at its right hand edge insures movement of the check with the platen during the typing operation. The frame 67 is preferably formed of a spring material to insure contact of both the rolls 32 and the tucking roll 68 with the paper both above and below the rod 49.

The front pressure rolls 20 have their right hand ends beveled as shown in Figures 1 and 3 and this is to prevent catching of the left hand edge of the check upon the rolls when the check is being inserted.

Referring particularly to Figure 8, the checks for use with the machine are preferably designed so that all necessary information is typed in a single line from left to right under suitable headings divided by vertical lines. Figure 8 shows a partially completed check illustrating the single line of typing. In the first column at the left of the check, the usual check number as at 80 appears, the check having been previously numbered as in usual practice.

With reference to Figure 9, showing a fragmentary portion of the preferred form of register sheet 50, the sheet is designed to have the exact left to right spacing and vertical ruling as that of the check for use with the sheet. The register sheets 50 are designed for registering one hundred checks and are provided adjacent each vertical edge with like columns of figures 81. These figures are vertically spaced equal to the line spacing of the typewriting machine and run from 01 to 00 on both the right and left margins of the sheet. These columns of figures 81 are spaced transversely of the sheet equal to the distance between the sight openings 48 of the paper guide and holder 40 whereby the numbers of each column will be readable at both sight openings for correctly aligning the register sheet and indicating the numbered position of the sheet.

In use of the machine, with the paper bail in a raised position, the register sheet 50 and carbon 51 are inserted at the back of the platen 15 and rolled under and up around the front of the platen in the usual manner of placing a letter sheet in an ordinary typewriter. The holder 40 may need to be swung away from the platen to permit ready passage of the inserted edging of the sheet and carbon beneath the rod 49 and this may be accomplished by grasping the upper end of the gauge plate 45. The left edge of the register sheet is moved into engagement with the paper gauge 19 of the paper table 18 in the usual manner of aligning the sheets and when in this position the columns of numbers 81 will align for movement past the sight openings 48. The platen is then rotated for bringing the first numbers 01 of each column to register at the sight openings 48 as shown in Figures 1 and 4. When like numbers appear at each of the sight openings, the register sheet is properly aligned and the numbered position of the sheet is indicated at the sight openings. The carriage C is then moved to a position adjacent its right hand limit of travel and the machine is now in condition for insertion and writing of checks bearing the number 101. The register sheets 50 are all numbered alike, and in the example illustrated, the numeral 1 as shown at 90 in Figure 9 and designating the current serial number of checks is inserted in pen or pencil before 01 of the left hand column of figures to indicate that the register sheet is conditioned for registering check numbers from 101 to 200.

The machine is now in condition for writing check numbers 101 and it will be noted from Figure 4 that the last two numbers on the check may be checked with the numbers occurring at both of the sight openings 48 to determine if the register sheet is in the correct position for writing the numbered check. The check bearing number 101 is then inserted at the front of the platen 15 and behind the guide plate flange 53 with the left or numbered end of the check approximately aligning with the left hand end of

the guide flange. The check is guided downwardly between the flange 53 and front pressure rolls 20 until its lower edge rests upon the upper surface of the top plate 8' of the machine frame and after which the check is fed toward the left of the machine behind the center scale plate 10 and guide plate flange 55 until the left hand edge of the check abuts the stop flange 60 of the gauge plate 45. The top plates 8 and 8' of the machine frame thus form guides for the lower edge of the check whereby the space on the check for filling in aligns with the printing line of the platen. The top of the check is then bent rearwardly over the platen and the paper bail is pulled down into position as shown in Figure 5 whereupon the tucking device 66 engages the right hand edge of the check and firmly holds the check in place. The check is now in the correct writing position and in proper relation to the register sheet whereby data typed in a single line on the check will be recorded on the register sheet in alignment between the check registering numbers 01.

After writing of the check, the operator grasps the forwardly projecting lever arm of the carriage return lever 23 and returns the carriage toward the right for its limit of movement to a starting position. This pull on the carriage return lever 23 turns the platen for one line space by its connection with the line spacing means 25 and moves the register sheet 50 and carbon 51 up one line space into a position for recoring the next check which will be numbered 102. Movement of the lever 23 also imparts rearward movement to the rod 62 which swings the paper bail arms 29 and 30 upwardly and the rod 28 carrying the rolls 32 and tucking device 66 to an elevated inoperative position as in Figure 1 so as to permit ready and easy removal of the check from the front of the platen. The check registering numbers 02 will now be visible at the sight openings 48 and the machine in a position for insertion and writing of check numbered 102. Thus the successively numbered checks may be written and recorded on the register sheets between identification numbers for each check written.

The usual numbers on the type bars 6 are changed to the "pin point type" in order to obtain perforated numbers serving to protect the check against attempts at forgery or alterations.

Thus it will be seen that the invention discloses means whereby the standard typewriting machine may be easily converted into a check writing machine of the combination back and front feed type. A novel arrangement has also been disclosed whereby writing, registering and protecting of checks may be simultaneously accomplished in one typing operation.

Changes in detail may be made in the shape, size and arrangement of parts as herein shown and described, as well as application of the device to other forms of typewriting machines than that shown described, without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. In a typewriting machine including in combination a frame, a transversely movable carriage having a rotatable platen and return means for the carriage, a paper guide and holder hingedly carried by the carriage and normally urged toward the platen into a paper holding relation with the front thereof, guide means on the frame for guiding a sheet into position at the front of the platen, a paper bail for holding the sheet for movement with the platen, and means operable by the carriage return means for elevating said paper bail.

2. In a typewriting machine including in combination, a frame, a transversely movable carriage having a rotatable platen and return means for the carriage, a paper holder and guide hingedly carried by the carriage and including spaced gauge plates normally spring urged towards the front of the platen, guide means provided at the upper side of the frame for gauging a sheet inserted at the front of the platen with respect to the printing line of the platen, a pivoted paper bail to hold the sheet for transverse movement with the platen, and means for releasing the paper bail upon operation of the carriage return means.

3. In a typewriting machine including in combination, a main frame, a transversely movable carriage having a rotatable platen and return means for the carriage; a paper guide and holder comprising a pair of spring urged gauge plates hinged to the carriage in overlying relation at the front and end portions of the platen, front feed guide plates carried by the main frame forwardly of the platen, a paper bail having rolls engageable with the platen, and means operable by the carriage return means for elevating the paper bail upon return of the carriage.

4. In a typewriting machine including in combination, a main frame, a transversely movable carriage having a rotatable platen, and a carriage return lever; a paper guide and holder comprising a pair of spring urged gauge plates hinged to the carriage to overlie opposite end portions of the platen at the front thereof, paper guide means provided on the main frame forwardly of the platen for gauging a sheet at the front of the platen relative to the printing line, a paper bail engageable with the platen, and means operable by the carriage return lever for elevating the paper bail upon return of the carriage.

5. In a typewriting machine including in combination, a main frame, a transversely movable carriage having a rotatable platen, and a return lever for the carriage; a pair of gauge plates carried by the carriage and normally spring urged toward the end portions of the platen at the front thereof, said gauge plates having sight openings aligning with the printing line of the platen, front feed guide plates on the main frame forwardly of the platen, a paper bail having rolls engageable with the platen, and means for raising the paper bail upon operation of the return lever for the carriage.

6. In a typewriting machine including in combination, a main frame, a transversely movable carriage having a rotatable platen, and a bail; a paper guide and holder comprising a pair of spring urged gauge plates hinged at their lower edges to the carriage to overlie opposite end portions of the platen at the front thereof, a rod connecting the gauge plates above the printing line of the platen, front feed guide means provided on the main frame forwardly of the platen, and a tucking device adjustably carried by the bail for releasably engaging the sheet inserted at the front of the platen at points above and below said rod for insuring travel of the sheet with the carriage.

7. In a typewriting machine including in combination, a main frame, a transversely movable carriage having a rotatable platen, a bail, and a carriage return lever; paper guide and holder comprising a pair of spring urged gauge plates

hinged to the carriage to overlie opposite end portions of the platen at the front thereof, a rod connecting the gauge plates above the printing line of the platen, front feed guide means provided on the main frame forwardly of the platen, a paper engaging device carried by the bail and cooperating with the bail and said rod connecting the gauge plates to retain a sheet in position at the front of the platen, and means operable by the carriage return lever for elevating the paper bail upon return of the carriage.

8. In a typewriting machine including in combination, a main frame, a transversely movable carriage having a rotatable platen, and a bail including a rod having rolls engageable with the platen; a paper guide and holder comprising a pair of spring urged gauge plates hinged to the carriage to overlie opposite end portions of the platen at the front thereof, a paper holding rod connecting the gauge plates above the printing line of the platen, means for guiding a sheet into position at the front of the platen in overlying relation to the paper holding rod, said rolls of the bail to engage the platen above the paper holding rod, and a tucking device carried by the bail rod including a tucking roll for engagement with the front inserted sheet below the paper holding rod.

9. In a typewriting machine including in combination, a main frame a transversely movable carriage having a platen, and a paper bail including a bail rod and rolls adjustable along the rod; a paper guide and holder comprising a pair of spring urged gauge plates hinged to the carriage to overlie opposite end portions of the platen, a paper holding rod connecting the guide plates above the printing line of the platen, means for guiding a sheet into position at the front of the platen into overlying relation to the paper holding rod, said rolls of the bail to engage the platen above the paper holding rod, and tucking means for the front inserted sheet including a spring frame non-rotatably carried by the bail rod in straddled relation to one of the rolls thereof and a tucking roll for engagement with the platen below the paper holding rod.

10. The combination in a typewriting machine including a transversely movable carriage having a rotatable platen, line spacing means for the platen, a paper bail including side arms and platen engaging rolls, and a line spacing and carriage return lever; of a link connected between one arm of the line spacing and carriage return lever and a side arm of the paper bail for elevating the bail upon return movement of the carriage by the line spacing and carriage return lever.

11. The combination with a line spacing and carriage return lever and swinging paper bail of a typewriting machine, of means operatively connecting the lever and bail for elevating the bail upon operation of the line spacing and carriage return lever.

12. In a front strike typewriting machine, the combination with a carriage frame and a platen rotatable in the frame, of a paper guide and holder comprising a pair of gauge plates hinged upon the frame and spring urged toward opposite ends of the platen said gauge plates each having a sight opening with the openings in alignment with the printing line of the platen, a paper holding rod connecting the gauge plates above the printing line of the platen, a forwardly extending stop flange on the gauge plate at the left end of the platen, and means for guiding a sheet into position at the front of the platen into engagement with the stop flange and in overlying relation to the paper holding rod.

13. In a front strike typewriting machine, the combination with a carriage frame and a platen rotatable in the frame, of a paper guide and holder comprising a pair of gauge plates hinged upon the frame and spring urged toward opposite ends of the platen, said gauge plates each having a sight opening with the openings in alignment with the printing line of the platen, a paper holding rod connecting the gauge plates above the printing line of the platen, a forwardly extending stop flange on the gauge plate at the left end of the platen, means for guiding a sheet into position at the front of the platen into engagement with the stop flange and in overlying relation to the paper holding rod and means for holding the front inserted sheet for travel with the platen.

14. In a check writing attachment for typewriting machines, the combination with a carriage including a frame and a platen, of a paper guide and holder comprising a pair of right and left gauge plates hinged to the carriage frame and spring urged toward the platen, sight openings in the gauge plates aligning with the printing line of the platen, a forwardly extending stop flange on the left gauge plate, a paper holding rod connecting the gauge plates above the printing line of the platen, and guide means for front insertion of a check into engagement at one end with said stop flange and in overlying relation to the paper holding rod.

15. In a typewriting machine including in combination a main frame having a top plate a transversely movable carriage including a frame and a rotatable platen; a paper guide and holder comprising a pair of right and left spring urged gauge plates hinged to the carriage frame to overlie opposite end portions of the platen at the front thereof, a paper holding rod connecting the upper portions of the gauge plates, said gauge plates each having a sight opening aligning with the printing line of the platen, a forwardly extending stop flange on the left gauge plate, and guide plates carried by said top plate and co-acting therewith for guiding a check into engagement with the stop flange and positioning a printing line on the check in proper relation to the printing line of the platen.

16. In a check writing attachment for typewriting machines including in combination a main frame, a transversely movable carriage including a frame and a rotatable platen, a paper bail, and a carriage return lever; a paper guide and holder comprising a pair of gauge plates hinged to the carriage frame in overlying relation to the end portions of the platen, gauge openings in the gauge plates in alignment with the printing line of the platen, a paper holding rod connecting the upper portions of the gauge plates, guide plates carried by the main frame forwardly of the platen and co-acting therewith for guiding a check into position at the front of the platen and in overlying relation to the paper holding rod, means carried by the paper bail for engaging the plates above and below the paper holding rod, and means operatively connected between the paper bail and carriage return lever for raising the bail upon return of the carriage by the carriage return lever.

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