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W. A. GUNNING ET AL

1,614,064

CASE LETTERING PRESS

Filed Nov. 17, 1922

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

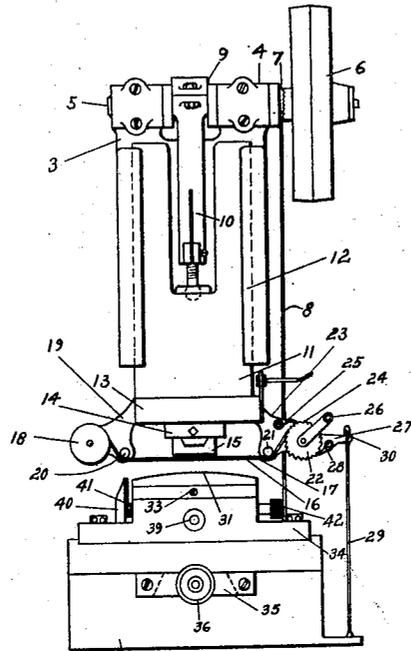


FIG. I

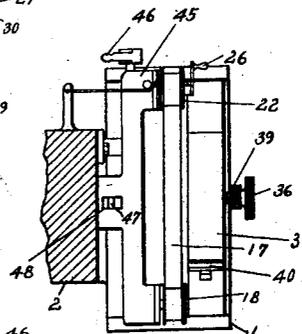


FIG. IV

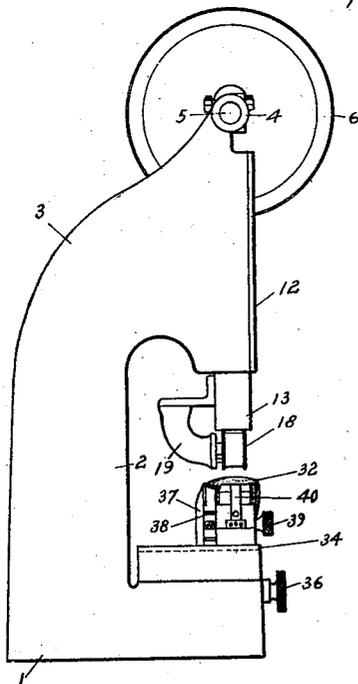


FIG. II

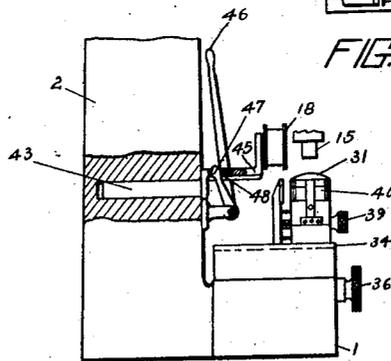


FIG. III

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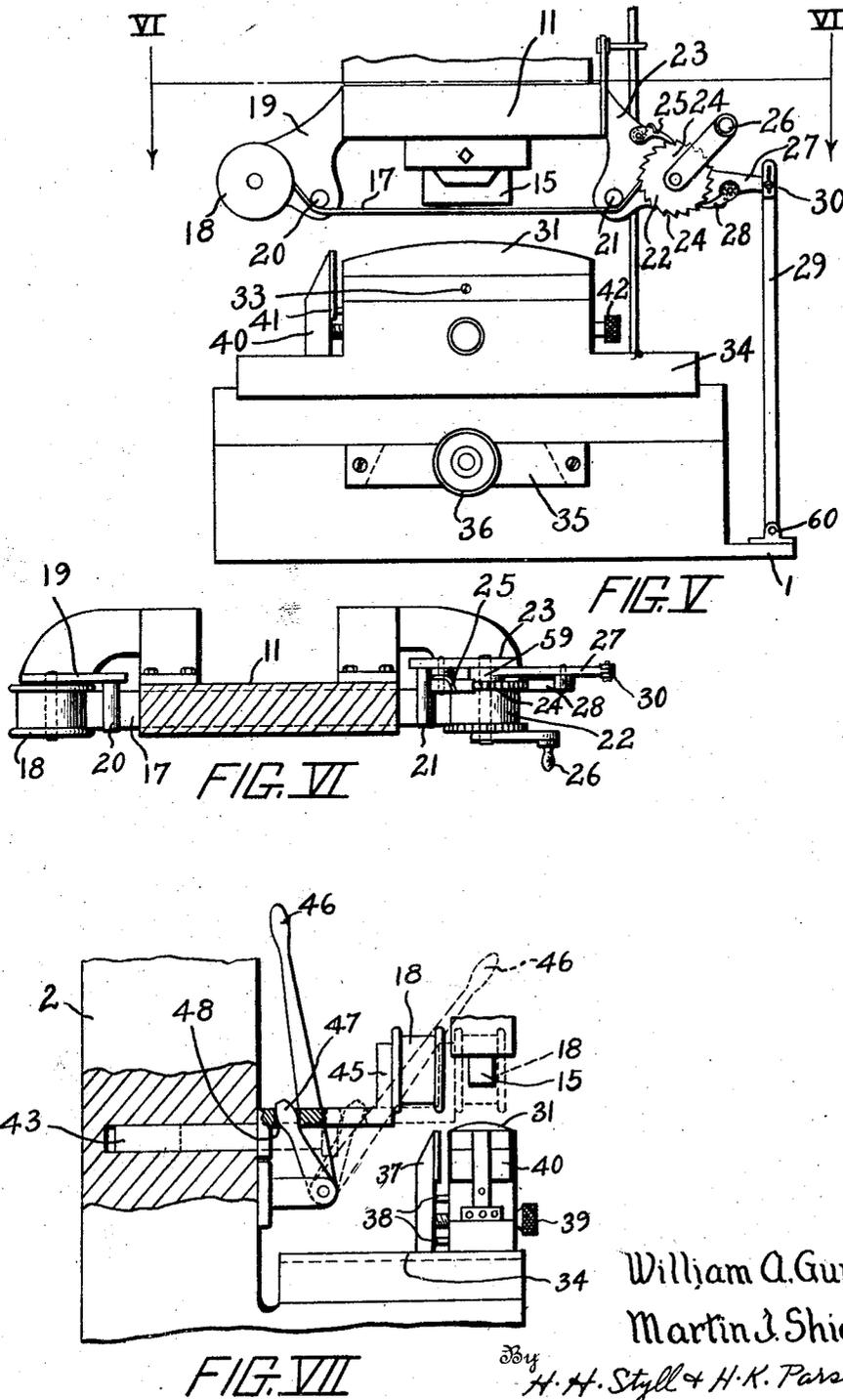
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## CASE-LETTERING PRESS.

Application filed November 17, 1922. Serial No. 601,495.

This invention relates to improvements in lettering machines and has particular reference to a novel and improved form of machine especially adapted for use in lettering or marking cases or containers for ophthalmic mountings.

One of the principal objects of the present invention is the provision of a novel and improved form of machine for lettering spectacle and eyeglass cases or the like in which the lettering material may be readily fed or positioned in front of the lettering die and in which wastage of the leaf or material used in a lettering operation will be reduced to a minimum.

A further object of the present invention is the provision of an improved construction of machine in which the position of the case may be readily adjusted and controlled to cause the lettering die to contact therewith to the best advantage.

Another object of the invention is the provision of an improved construction of machine in which the supply of lettering material may be readily shifted out of the way for insertion or removal of the case or readily brought into operative position as may be desired.

A further object of the present invention is the provision of a device of this character in which the lettering material shall be ordinarily fed so that a new portion thereof will always be presented between the case and lettering die preventing damage to goods due to insufficient supply of the lettering material or leaf or the necessity of more than one lettering operation.

Other objects and advantages of our invention should be readily apparent by reference to the following specification taken in connection with the accompanying drawings. It will be understood that we may make any modification in the specific details of construction shown and described within the scope of appended claim without departing from or exceeding the spirit of the invention.

Figure I represents a front elevation of a power press or lettering machine embodying our improvements.

Figure II represents a side elevation thereof.

Figure III represents a fragmentary view

illustrating the removable lettering material.

Figure IV represents a plan view of the material supply and parts disposed therebeneath.

Figure V is a fragmentary view of a portion of Figure I enlarged;

Figure VI is a section on line VI—VI of Figure V, and

Figure VII is an enlargement of Figure III.

In the drawings the number 1 designates the base of our improved machine having rising therefrom the bracket portion 2 bearing the head 3. This head includes bearings 4 for the shaft 5 intermittently driven as by the pulley 6 and one revolution clutch 7 controlled by the foot lever and associate operating parts 8. This shaft 5 bears a crank or eccentric 9 serving to reciprocate the pitman 10 having its lower end engaging the slide 11 vertically movable in the guides 12, and bearing a heater 13 having a chuck portion 14 to receive the lettering die 15 which is thus raised by the heater to the proper temperature to cause transfer of gold or other leaf or like lettering material, as from the carrier strip 17. This carrier strip in the form of the invention particularly illustrated in Figures I and II, is supplied from the reel 18 at the left of the machine carried as by the arm 19 and feeds across the idler 20 and second idler 21 to the feed reel 22 carried by the second arm 23. This feed reel is preferably provided with the toothed or ratchet rim 24 held against reverse or unwinding rotation as by the spring pressed pawl 25 on the arm 23 and turned either mechanically as by the handle 26 or automatically as by the rock arm 27 pivoted at 28 having the spring pressed pawl 28 for engaging the reel teeth 24 when moved in one direction. This rock arm 27 is preferably connected as by the link 29 pivoted at 30 to the base 1 of the machine so that as the slide 11 moves downward and the die 15 is brought into operative engagement with the feed strip 17 for the lettering material the pawl 28 rides idly up over the teeth 24 while as the slide is returned to its initial position the pawl will engage the teeth and partially rotate the reel causing a new section of the lettering material to

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be brought under the die. An adjustable connection as at 30 permits of variance of the amount of movement imparted to the feed reel according to the width of the particular die being used so that no excess of material will be fed past the die by this automatic movement. This feed is operated by the upward and downward movement of the slide 11.

Opposed to the lettering die 15 is the dome or other shaped support 31 for the case portion 32 to be lettered, this dome member being removably secured as by the set screw 33 on the transverse slide 34 which is supported on the main slide 35 for in and out movement as controlled by the adjusting screw 36. It will thus be seen that the dome itself is adjustable laterally and in and out to exactly position the portion of the case lid or bottom on which the marking is to appear with respect to the die.

It will be understood that while the same dome may be used for different cases that it is essential that each individual size or style of case be correctly positioned beneath the lettering die and to facilitate this result we provide on the supplemental or transverse slide 34 the transversely shiftable contact or stop member 37 having the guide pin 38 and moved in and out as by the adjusting screw 39 while in addition there is provided at one end of the slide 34 the supplemental contact arm 40 having a guide pin 41 riding in a suitable passage or slot in the slide 34 and adjusted in and out as by the adjusting screw 42, the member 40 being adjusted for length and the member 37 for width of the particular case section which is being lettered or marked.

In Figures III and IV we have shown a slight variation of the foregoing in that the reels or carriers for the lettering material in place of being supported by the slide 11 are shown as carried by the upright portion 2 of the main frame and as movable in and out beneath the lettering die, these parts being mounted on a slide 43 having the supporting arms 45 for the reels, the position of the slide being controlled as by the rock lever 46 having the arm 47 engaged in the slot 48 of the slide 43, rocking of the lever bringing the material under the lettering die or shifting it back out of the way. In this form the material is fed by the handle 26, the said

handle moving in and out with the reel 22 carried by the bracket 45, mounted on the slide 43.

From the foregoing description the construction of our machine should be readily understood and it will be seen that when it is desired to mark or letter a spectacle or eyeglass case or the like it is merely necessary to adjust the dome or rest 31 for the case section whether top or bottom which is to be lettered in correct relation to the lettering die 15, the back and end stops 37 and 40 respectively being set to determine the position of the case on the rest and the electric heater energized so as to suitably heat the die. This having been accomplished suitable movement is imparted to the slide 11 as through the eccentric on the shaft 5 when the die will be brought down pressing the feed band 17 against the exposed portion of the case. This feed band bearing on its under side the gold leaf or other material which is to be transferred to the case the die will be brought with sufficient pressure against the feed band and case to indent the material of the case and leave an imprint of the leaf thereon; the heating aiding in the moulding or shaping of the letters in the covering material of the case and causing the leaf to properly adhere, the leaf preferably being treated with an adhesive on its exposed face so that it will most securely engage the case covering material. It is to be understood that it is of course unnecessary to make the various adjustments just referred to if but a single case is to be lettered but these adjustments are particularly desired when the manufacturer or dealer wishes to letter a large number of cases of the same size and style.

We claim:

A machine of the character described, comprising a frame, a work support attached thereto, a die holder reciprocable toward and away from the work support, reel supports slidably mounted in the frame and adapted to normally position lettering material between the die holder and work support, and means for manually sliding the reel supports and lettering material out of the line of travel of the die holder.

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