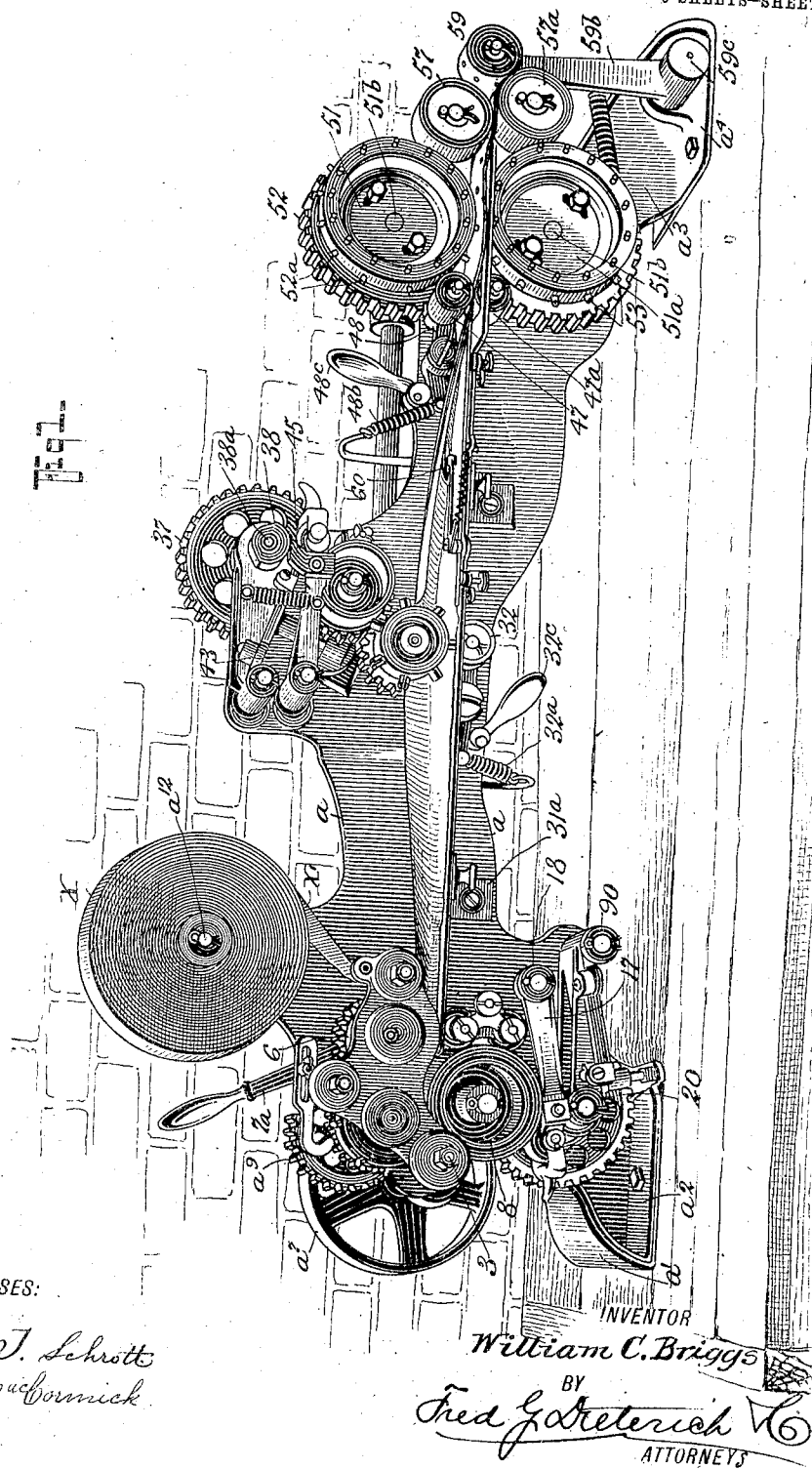


990,833.

W. C. BRIGGS.
ENVELOP MACHINE.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 3, 1908.

Patented May 2, 1911.

6 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES:

John T. Schrott
Eleanor McCormick

INVENTOR
William C. Briggs

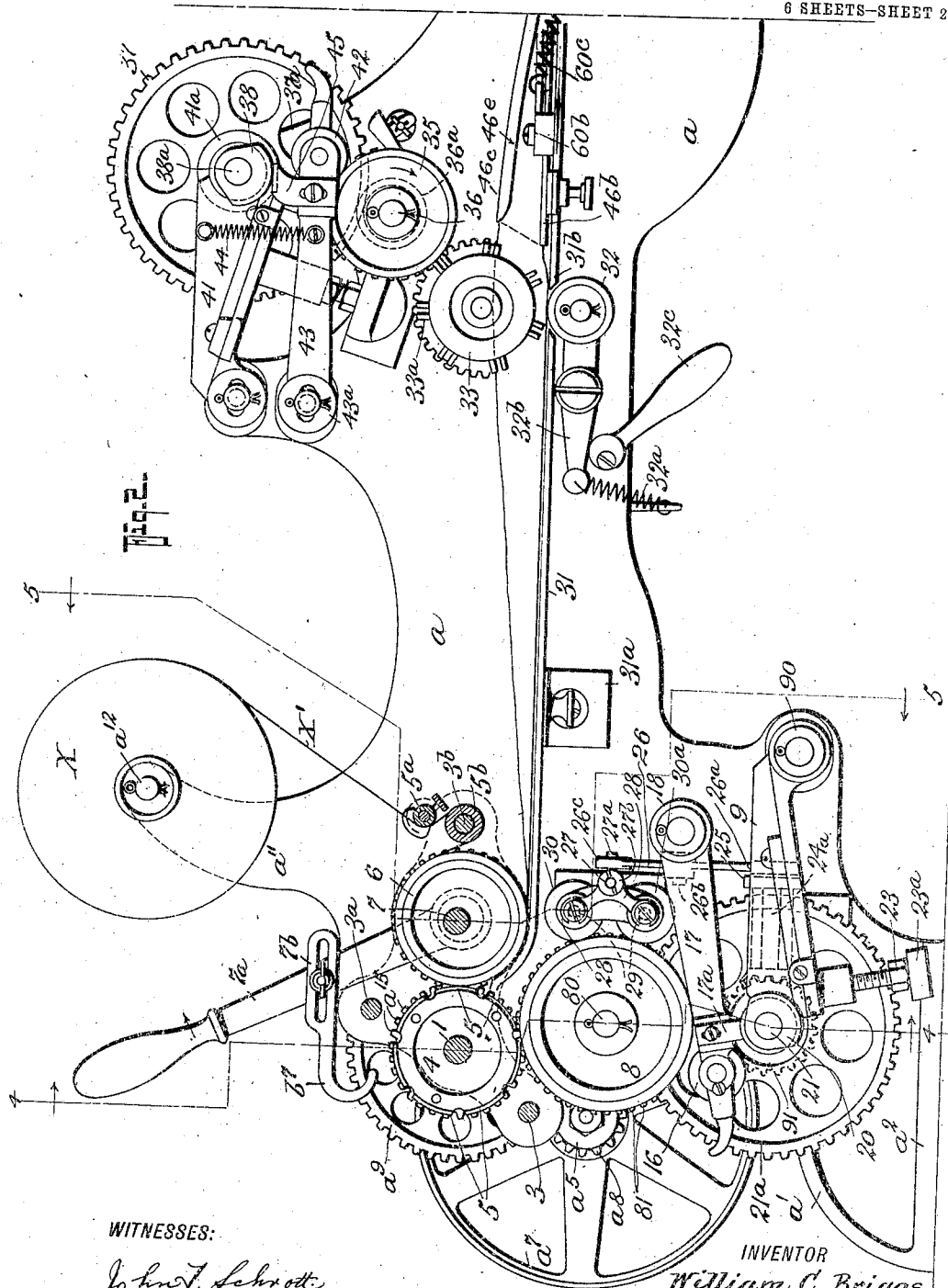
BY
Fred G. Goretterich
ATTORNEYS

990,833.

W. C. BRIGGS.
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6 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



WITNESSES:

John T. Lehnott
Eleanor Macbournick

INVENTOR

William C. Briggs.

BY

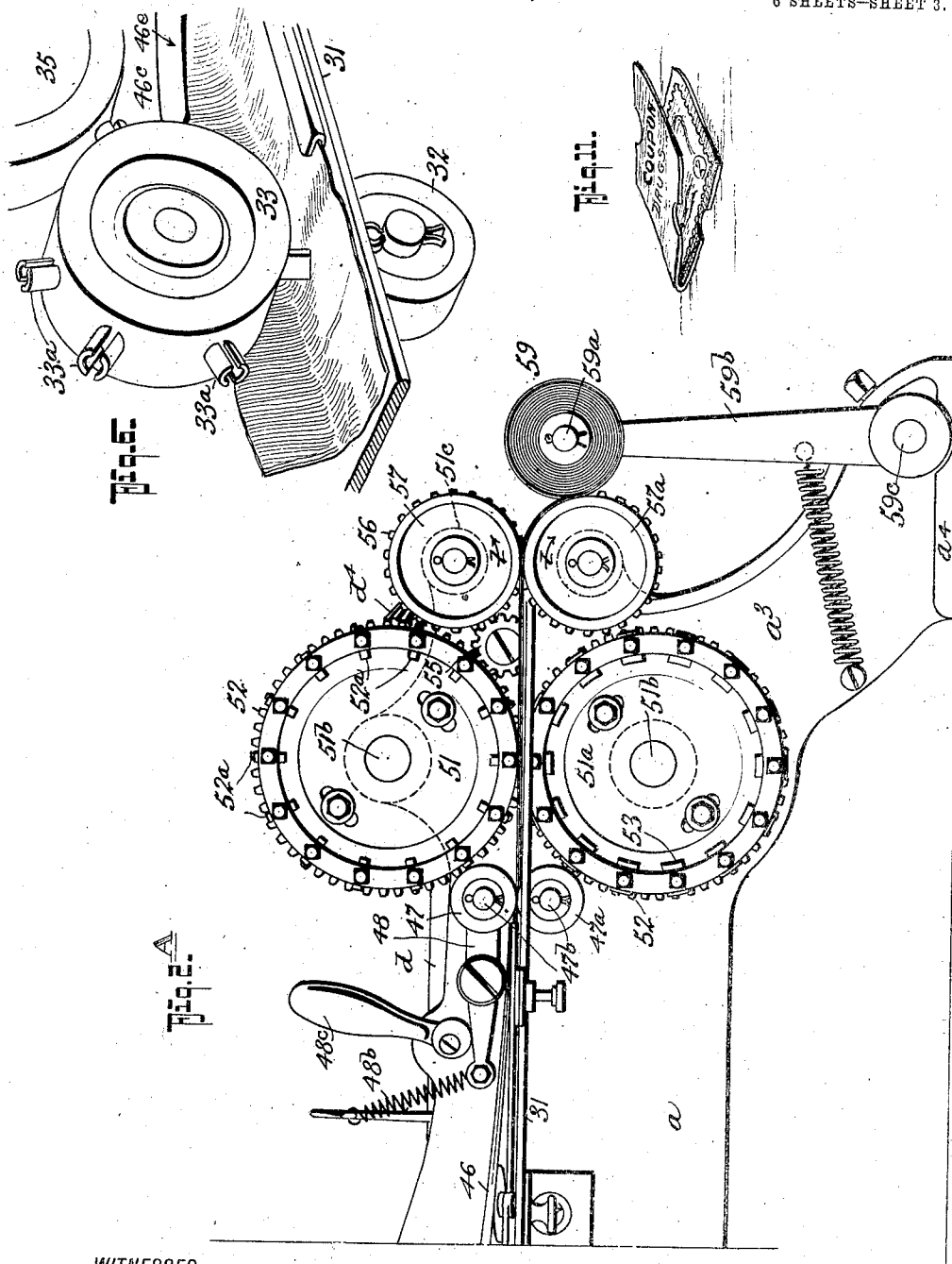
Fred G. Osterich & Co.
ATTORNEYS

W. C. BRIGGS.
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 APPLICATION FILED JUNE 3, 1908.

990,833.

Patented May 2, 1911.

6 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



WITNESSES:

John T. Schmitt.
Eleanor Macfarlane

INVENTOR

William C. Briggs.

BY

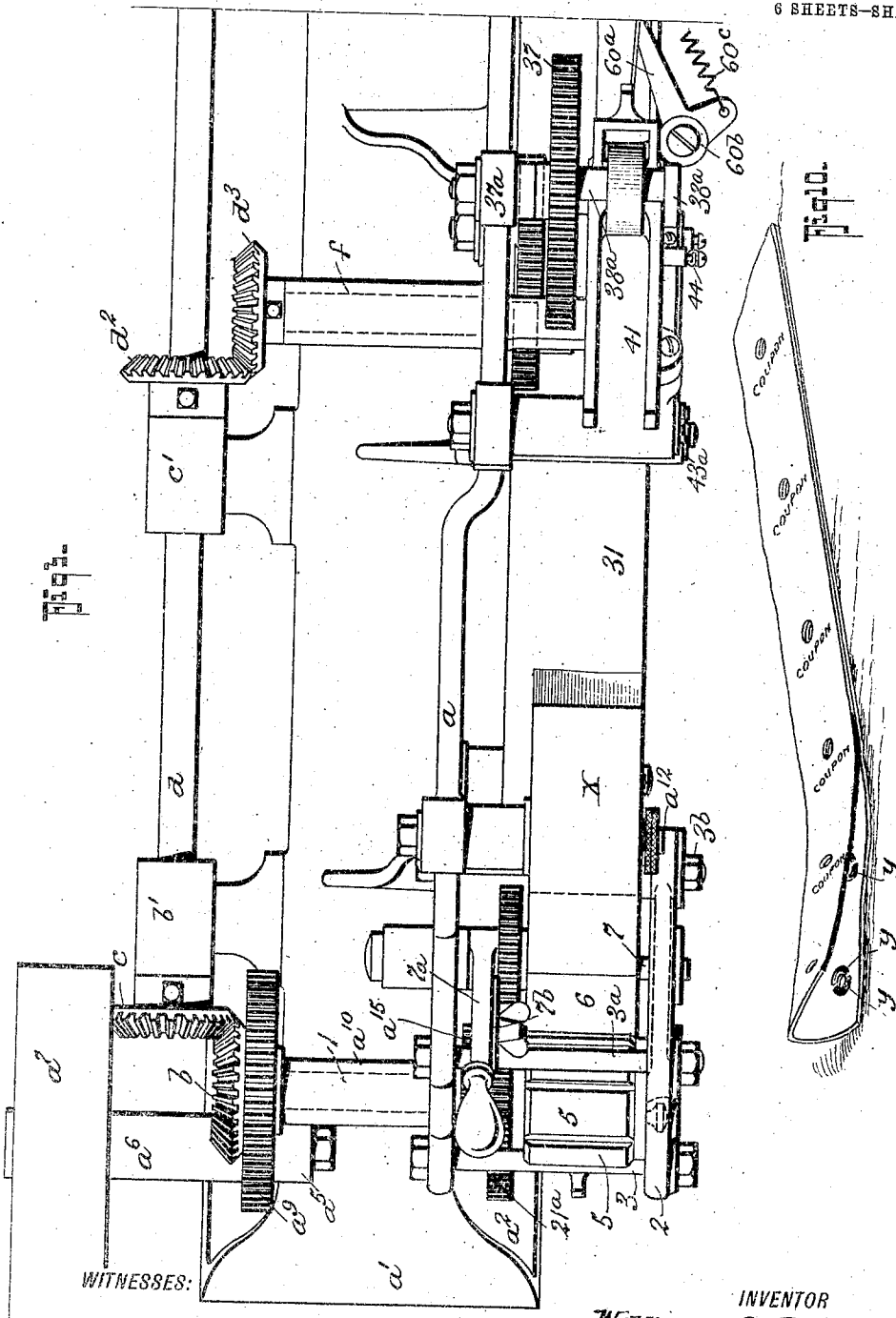
Fred G. Dietrich & Co.
 ATTORNEYS

990,833.

W. C. BRIGGS.
ENVELOP MACHINE.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 3, 1908.

Patented May 2, 1911.

6 SHEETS—SHEET 4.



WITNESSES:

John T. Schrott
Eleanor Macbarnick

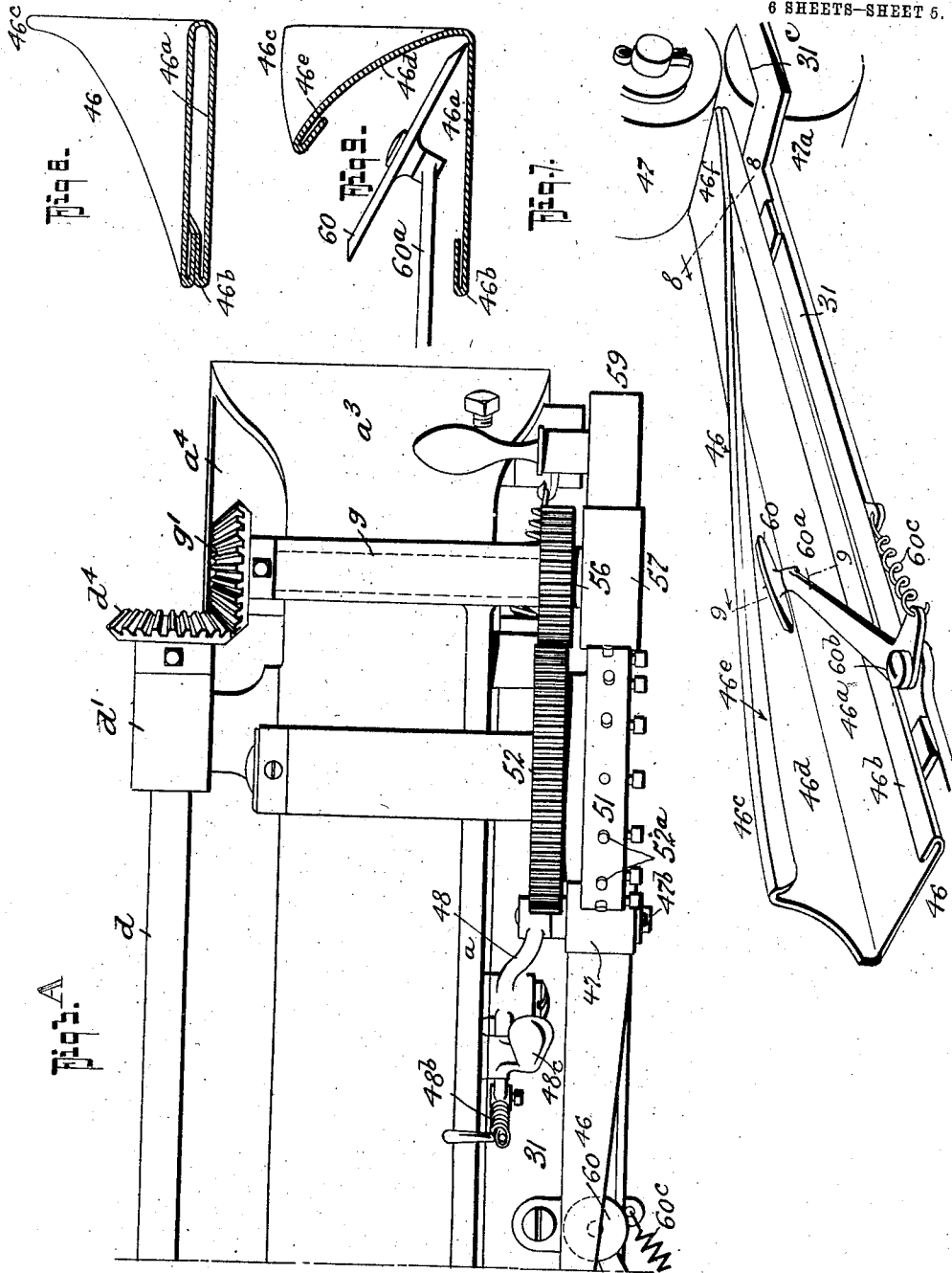
INVENTOR
William C. Briggs
BY
Thos. G. Bletcher
ATTORNEYS.

W. C. BRIGGS.
ENVELOP MACHINE.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 3, 1908.

990,833.

Patented May 2, 1911.

6 SHEETS—SHEET 5.



WITNESSES:

John T. Schotte
Eleanor Macbarnick

INVENTOR

William C. Briggs

BY

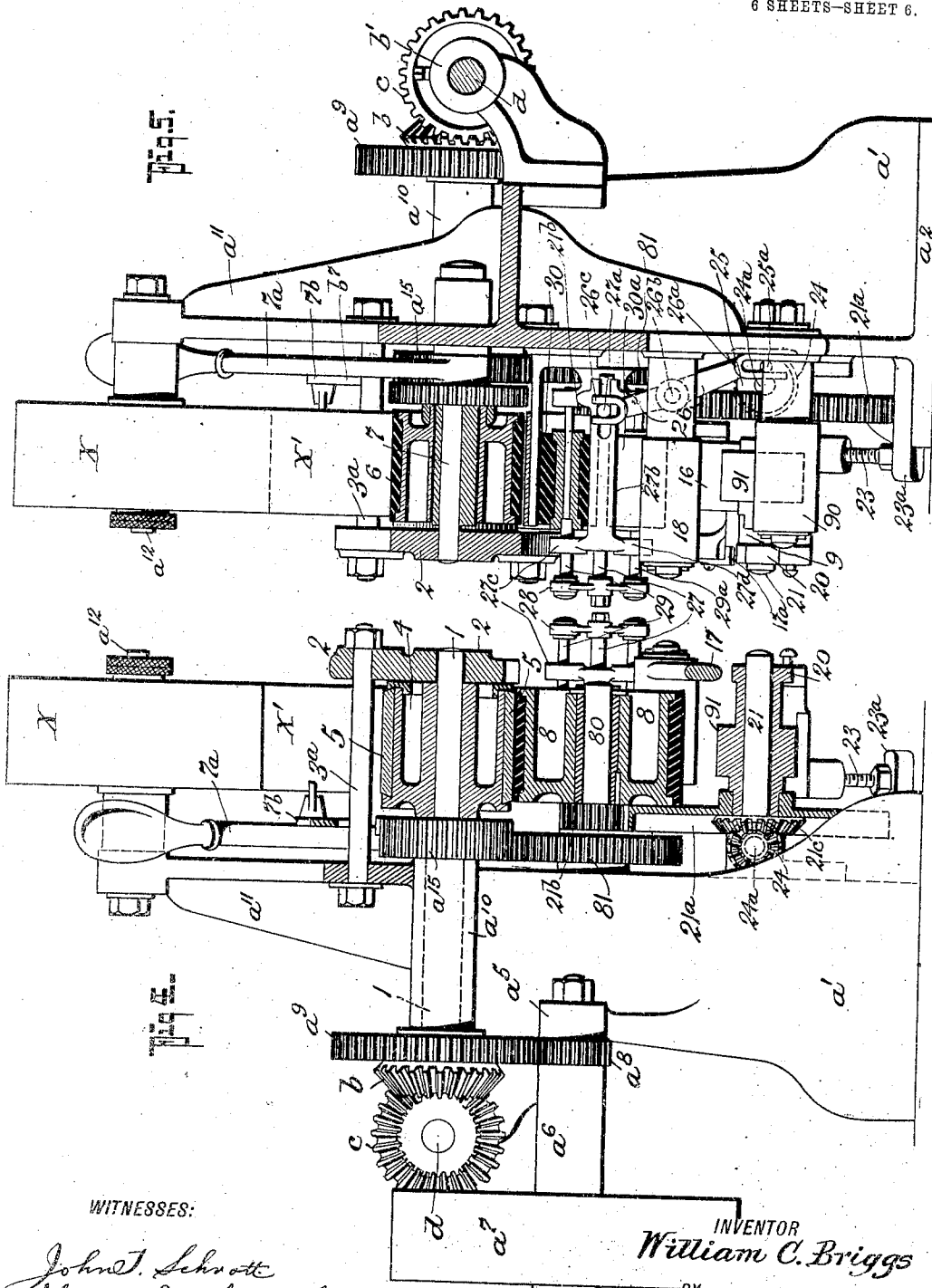
Fred G. Dietrich
ATTORNEYS

990,833.

W. C. BRIGGS.
ENVELOP MACHINE.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 3, 1908

Patented May 2, 1911.

6 SHEETS—SHEET 6.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM C. BRIGGS, OF WINSTON SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO J. W. MURCHISON, OF WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, AND J. R. WILLIAMS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

ENVELOP-MACHINE.

990,833.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 2, 1911.

Application filed June 3, 1908. Serial No. 436,467.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM C. BRIGGS, residing at Winston Salem, in the county of Forsyth and State of North Carolina, have invented a new and Improved Envelop-Machine, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object to provide a machine for making a continuous folded strip or ribbon of paper or analogous material, and is more particularly designed for making that type of envelop or folded continuous strip required in the operation of vending machines, more particularly that type of vending machine disclosed in my co-pending application filed March 14, 1908, Serial No. 421,183, and especially designed for making the sales strip that forms the subject matter of an allowed application for patent filed by James R. Williams, Feb. 12, 1907 No. 357,039 allowed Jan. 14, 1908.

That the operation and the purposes for which my present invention is designed will be the more readily understood, it should be here stated, that the machine disclosed in my co-pending application before mentioned, is more particularly designed for selling postage stamps and for delivering each sale of stamps inclosed within an envelop, the envelop being in the nature of a section of the continuous sales strip, specifically described and illustrated in the allowed "Williams" application before mentioned, and which is also disclosed in the present case.

Briefly stated, in the practical application of a continuous envelop or sales strip produced by my present invention, the sales strip or envelop is composed of a long ribbon of paper folded in the direction of length upon itself, and at equi-spaced distances the lapped folds are gummed or otherwise secured to form a series of pockets, in each of which is held the stamp or stamps that constitute the single sales, and which, when the proper coin is inserted into the machine and the same is operated, are severed, one section at the time, and with the contents, are discharged from the machine.

In using the form of sales strip or envelop made by my present invention, the outer side of each of the continuous sec-

tions of the strip or envelop is printed with a suitable advertisement or with such data to designate it as a coupon, redeemable if desired, by the advertiser. Further, the sales strip used in the vending machine, disclosed in my co-pending application forms one of the elements of the mechanism for feeding and discharging each envelop section when the sale is made, and for such purpose the continuous strip or envelop sheet has a series of equi-spaced apertures, and my present invention also provides for forming the said apertures with such accuracy that when the sheet or strip is made, it is in condition for being inserted in the shape of a reel of sales envelops and to fit with such accuracy in the selling machine that adjustment or special manipulation for a proper coaction thereof with the other feeding means of the machine is not required.

Having thus generally outlined the purposes of the envelop strip or ribbon made by the present invention, the same comprehends, generally, a means for feeding a continuous flat or spread sheet of paper or analogous material from a discharging roll to a taking-up roll, that coöperates with means for folding the said sheet upon itself at points between the discharging and take-up rolls so that in passing into the take-up roll it is wound in its folded condition, other means in the more complete nature of my invention being the combining with the feeding and folding means, of printing devices for printing one face of the sheet before it is folded upon itself, and in its more specific nature it also provides a means for pasting the folded sheets at intervals, whereby to form the folded sheet into a series of sections of uniform size and shape with means for puncturing the folded strips at the pasted or gummed points.

In its still more specific arrangement, my present invention consists in certain details of construction and peculiar combination of parts, all of which will be hereinafter fully described, and specifically pointed out in the appended claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1, is a perspective view of my invention showing the same as set up in position for use. Fig. 2, is a front elevation of one portion of the machine, the left hand

end, and showing the printing and the pasting mechanisms. Fig. 2^A, is a similar view of the right hand end of the machine, showing the puncturing, the feed and the envelop sheet take-up mechanism. Fig. 3, is a top plan view of the parts shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 3^A, is a similar view of the parts shown in Fig. 2^A. Fig. 4, is a vertical section on the line 4—4 on Fig. 2, looking in the direction indicated by the arrow. Fig. 5, is a similar view on the line 5—5 on Fig. 2, and looking in the direction of the arrow. Fig. 6, is a detail perspective view of the paste applying wheel, hereinafter referred to. Fig. 7, is a detail view of the folding device. Figs. 8 and 9, are cross sections of the same, taken substantially on the lines 8—8 and 9—9 on Fig. 7, the paper ribbon being also shown. Fig. 10, is a perspective view of a portion of the continuous envelop or sales strip. Fig. 11, is a view of one of the envelops as it is discharged from the vending machine.

In describing my machine, I shall begin at that end from which the paper strip or ribbon feeds and set out in detail, first, the printing mechanism, then the paste applying means, then the folding devices and finally, the puncturing mechanism which, in acting on the folded ribbon or strip, aids in feeding it properly forwardly toward the drawing rolls, from whence the folded and pasted strip, ribbon or envelop sheet, passes to the take-up roll, hereinafter again referred to.

The supporting frame of the machine comprises a back casting *a*, that extends the full length of the machine, has a pendent leg *a'* at the front end formed with a foot portion *a''* and with a pendent leg *a'''* at the other end, which also has a foot portion *a''''* as shown.

At the rear of the back casting *a*, the frame has a bracket bearing *a⁵* for the drive shaft *a⁶* that carries the drive pulley *a⁷*, and a gear *a⁸* that meshes with a larger gear *a⁹* on the main shaft 1 of the printing mechanism, journaled in a cross bearing *a¹⁰* of the frame, as clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 4, by reference to which it will also be seen the shaft 1 carries a bevel gear *b* that meshes with a similar gear *c* on a counter shaft *d*, journaled in bearings *b'*, *c'*, and *d'*, that extends parallel with the back frame *a* the full length thereof, and has, about midway thereof, a bevel gear *d²* that meshes with a similar gear *d³* on the shaft *f* that imparts motion to the paste applying devices, and at its extreme end it has another pinion *d⁴* that meshes with a pinion *g'* on the shaft *g* that drives the perforating mechanism and the envelop ribbon or strip pulling rolls, with which the take-up rolls hereinafter referred to, contact.

Shaft 1, whose outer end extends into a

cover plate or casting 2, which is secured by the cross bolts 3—3^a and 3^b, see Fig. 2, carries the printing cylinder 4, whose peripheral face is suitably formed for receiving the printing plates 5, the cylinder as shown being provided for receiving seven of such plates, it being understood, it may be arranged for holding more or less of such plates, as desired.

Adjacent the printing mechanism the back frame *a* has a vertical extension *a¹¹* having a stub shaft *a¹²*, on which a roll of the paper ribbon or sheet is mounted, said sheet, which is designated X', in practice, being about two inches wide, the width, however, depending on the size of the stamps, which the vending machines are arranged to sell.

The sheet X' passes from the roll X over guide pulleys 5^a and 5^b and from thence over the impression cylinder or platen 6, which, as is clearly shown in Fig. 2, has an eccentric bearing 7 controlled by a hand lever 7^a, which, when swung over in the direction of the arrow on Fig. 2 brings the platen or cylinder 6 into contact with the printing cylinder 4, and when swung in the opposite direction moves the cylinder 6 and the ribbon X' from the printing face, the former movement being restricted by a stop 7^b adjustably mounted on the lever 7, having a hook *b'* for engaging a stop lug or bolt 3^a.

The printing mechanism includes the main inking cylinder 8, whose shaft 8⁰ has a cog gear 8¹ that mesh with a gear *a¹⁵* on the shaft 1.

Coöperating with the roller 8 is an ink font 9 in the nature of a trough, hinged at 9⁰ on the back casting, see Figs. 1 and 2, in the outer end of which is mounted a discharging roll 9¹ that engages a feed roll 16 journaled in the outer end of an arm 17, fulcrumed at 18 on the back casting *a* and the said arm is so positioned, relatively to the font and the main inking cylinder 8 that the feed roll 16 is normally out of contact with the cylinder 8 and held to rest on the font roll 9¹.

The arm 17 is intermittently oscillated through by a cam 20 on the shaft 21 that carries the feed roll 9¹ and engages an adjustable heel 17^a on the said arm 17 and as it does so, it temporarily raises the feed roll 16 and likewise holds it in contact with the inking cylinder, 8.

For regulating the flow of the ink in the font the same has its front end adjustably supported on the set screw 23, held in the casting bracket 23^a, see Fig. 2.

The ink feed roll carrying shaft 21 has a large cog gear 21^a that meshes with a cog gear 21^b on the ink cylinder shaft 8⁰ and the back face of the said gear 21^a has a bevel gear 21^c, with which meshes a pinion 24 on a short shaft 24^a mounted on the back casting

a, see Fig. 2, that carries a crank disk 25,
 the wrist or crank pin 25^a of which engages
 the forked end 26^a of an oscillating lever,
 see Figs. 2 and 5, fulcrumed on a bracket
 5 piece 26^b, and whose other forked end 26^c
 engages a stud 27^a on a shaft 27, longitudi-
 nally slidable in a hollow bracket 27^b and
 whose front end has a fixed engagement with
 10 a triangular bracket 28, to which a pair of
 shafts 29 and 29^a are fixedly connected, that
 are parallel with shaft 27 and which are
 slidably mounted in the frame brackets
 27^c—27^d and each of which shafts carries an
 ink distributing roller 30—30^a that engages
 15 the inking cylinder, and the several parts
 just described are cooperatively so arranged
 that a longitudinal reciprocatory movement
 is imparted to the rolls 30—30^a over the face
 of the inking cylinder so as to thoroughly
 20 distribute the ink fed thereon from the font
 and feed rolls hereinbefore referred to.

So far as described, it will be readily ap-
 parent that as the paper strip or ribbon is
 fed forwardly from left to right in Figs. 1
 25 and 2, it is engaged by the printing mecha-
 nism and operated upon to receive the ad-
 vertisements on the outer side thereof.

In passing from the printing mechanism,
 the printed ribbon or strip passes over a flat
 30 plate or table 31, secured by brackets 31^a to
 the back plates a, to the paste applying
 means, which forms one essential feature of
 my invention, since the specific manner in
 which the paste is applied to the ribbon
 35 has an interdependent connection with the
 punching or perforating mechanism ex-
 plained later.

At a point approximately midway the table
 31, the same is cut out as at 31^b so the upper
 40 peripheral face of a roller abutment 32 can
 project therethrough sufficiently to form a
 bearing for the passing paper ribbon or
 strip, it being held under tension against the
 said strip by the coiled spring 32^a that is se-
 45 cured at one end to the main frame and at
 the other end to the inner end of an arm 32^b,
 fulcrumed under the table or plate 31, and
 which carries the roller abutment 32, as
 clearly shown in Fig. 2, which also shows a
 50 cam lever 32^c for engaging the spring at-
 tached arm 32^b for regulating the tension
 pull of such spring 32^a.

Coacting with the roller 32 is the paste
 distributor which forms a particular feature
 of my invention. The distributor is in the
 nature of a pulley or wheel 33 having a
 series of equi-spaced radial paste applying
 fingers 33^a. These fingers, it will be ob-
 served from Fig. 6, each consist of two semi-
 cylindrical members slightly spaced apart,
 so that in engaging the sheet they apply the
 paste to the inside of the ribbon before it is
 folded at predetermined distances, so as to
 apply the paste in two opposing semi-cir-
 cular layers designated y—y on Fig. 10, the

said two opposing layers indicating, as it
 were, a circular or ring shaped pasted sur-
 face.

The pasting fingers receive paste on their
 outer edges only, and to provide for this the
 said edges are made to engage a paste dis-
 tributing wheel 35 that is geared with the
 paste applying wheel, the distributing wheel
 35 being mounted on a stub shaft 36 having
 a gear 36^a that meshes with a larger gear
 37 mounted in a vertically extended bracket
 37^a of the back frame a and which gear 37
 in turn has its shaft provided with a cam 38,
 the purpose of which will presently appear.

The paste applying wheel has its shaft
 geared with the counter shaft d, see Fig. 3,
 and it drives the paste devices by the gear
 connections, shown in Fig. 2.

The paste supplying means operates sub-
 stantially the same as does the ink font and
 supplying means for the printing mecha-
 nism. As shown in Fig. 2 the said paste
 supplying means includes a pivotally and ad-
 justably mounted font 41 in the discharging
 end of which is mounted a feed roller 41^a,
 90 mounted on the shaft 38^a, and which roller
 is intermittently engaged by a distributing
 roller 42, mounted in the outer end of an
 arm 43 pivoted at 43^a on the back frame and
 normally drawn upward by a coiled spring
 44. Arm 43 also has an adjustable stop heel
 45 for engaging with the cam 38, it being
 understood that when the cam 38 engages
 the heel 45, as shown in Fig. 2, the distrib-
 100 uting roller 42 engages and transfers the paste
 to the paste wheel that the radial gumming
 or paste transferring fingers engage. The
 paper, as it is fed to the pasting means, is
 also being partially manipulated to provide
 for the fold, but that part of the ribbon en-
 105 gaged by the pasting fingers remains in the
 original flat condition and does so during
 its full passage through the machine. It
 will be apparent that the paper ribbon as it
 passes from the pasting fingers, has the gum
 or paste only on one face, the inside face,
 whereas the printing is on the back face.
 To enable the ink side to become partially dry
 before the ribbon is engaged by the pasting
 devices, the latter are preferably positioned
 115 some distance away from the printing end,
 as shown, but they may, if desired, be close
 up to the printing mechanism. After the
 ribbon has been gummed or pasted on the in-
 side, as stated, the actual operation of fold-
 120 ing the ribbon and gumming the folded
 parts together follows, and that the same
 may be readily understood, attention is more
 particularly directed to Figs. 1 and 7 of
 the drawings, from which it will be noticed
 125 that the paper strip or ribbon just after it
 passes the paste applying wheel, enters the
 folding device that bends and folds one half
 of the ribbon over and down upon the other
 or pasted portion.

The folding device shown in detail in Fig. 7 consists of a thin metal plate 46, in practice, of slightly greater width than that of the ribbon, one portion 46^a of which constitutes a flat base that is secured upon the table plate 31 and that extends from the paste applying wheel to a pair of guide and presser rollers 47—47^a located just in advance of the puncturing mechanism presently described, the front edge of the said base portion 46^a being turned over to form a guide flange 46^b for one edge (the outer) of the paper ribbon to hold it from moving outwardly during the operation of folding the said strip or ribbon. The other portion 46^c of the plate 46 at the paper entrant end, extends vertically at right angles to the part 46^a as at 46^d, and from thence it bends down in a gradual curve over the base portion 46^a (the two members of the folding device being spaced apart) until its other or discharging end 46^e lies flatwise on the other portion 46^a, and the upper edge of the said member 46^c is bent inwardly to form a guide flange 46^f for guiding and turning the other or inner edge of the paper ribbon. The member 46^c, it will be noticed, is in a plane to the rear face of the pasting wheel, so that the desired passing of the ribbon under the said wheel is not interfered with.

By arranging and constructing a folding device in the manner shown and described, it is obvious that after properly slipping the end of the ribbon into the said folding device and through the same, and drawing it through, until it, in its folded shape, is engaged by the pull or drawing rolls herein-after again referred to, the said ribbon, from the point where it leaves the printing mechanism, has its inner portion gradually bent upwardly by the folding device until the said ribbon assumes a substantially L shape, see Fig. 9, and from the point where it enters the said folding device the inner or vertical portion of the ribbon is gradually brought down over the other or horizontal portion until it leaves the said folding device when the said vertical part of the said ribbon is fully bent over and parallel with the other or horizontal part thereof, and in position to be brought down onto that face of the ribbon having the paste surfaces.

By extending the folding device as shown, ample time is given for allowing the paste to set so that when the two parts of the ribbon pass under the guide and pressure rollers 47—47^a, the said two parts will be glued at equi-spaced points.

The rollers 47—47^a are mounted in the vertical plane on stud axles 47^b—47^b, and one of the rollers 47^a extends up through an opening 31^c in the table plate 31 as shown, and to provide for adjusting the pressure of the rollers 47—47^a on the passing folded

paper ribbon the upper roller shaft 47^b is projected from an arm 48 on the back frame *a* and it has its inner end connected to a coiled spring 48^b, also connected with the framing, the tension of which is regulated by a cam lever 48^c mounted on the framing, as best shown in Fig. 2^a.

The ribbon, now folded upon itself and pasted at properly spaced intervals, passes to the puncturing means, located just in advance of the pull or feed rollers, the construction of which is clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2^a, from which it will be seen that said puncturing means consist of a pair of opposing disks 51—51^a mounted on shafts 51^b—51^b projected from the main frame, one above and the other below the table plate 31, which at this point is cut out so the opposing faces of the disks can meet.

The disk shafts 51^b carry gears 52—52 that mesh, and one of the gears 52 meshes with a cog pinion 56 through the medium of an idler gear 55, the shaft of which pinion 56 is mounted in a horizontal frame bearing 51^c and carries the bevel pinion *g'* that meshes with the similar pinion on the center or drive shaft *d*, see Fig. 3^a.

As before stated, owing to the construction of vending machines for which the Williams continuous envelop or sales strip is more especially intended, the said envelop must have apertures spaced equi-predetermined distances apart, it being also required that the ends of each section of the envelop (meaning the spaces between the apertures) must have its opposite ends closed by pasting or gumming, whereby to provide small envelops, see Fig. 11 of a size to conveniently hold one or more postage stamps packed upon each other.

The upper disk 51 carries a series of radially disposed puncturing studs 52^a, adjustably mounted, see Fig. 2^a, so they may be accurately projected with respect to each other and with respect to a corresponding series of socketed anvils 53—53 adjustably carried in the peripheral edge of the lower disk or wheel 51^a, the outer or bearing surfaces of the said anvils being concentric with the peripheral edges of the disk, whereby to oppose the upper disk or wheel face.

The series of punching studs on the upper disk and the socketed anvils on the lower disk are relatively so spaced that as the envelop passes the said upper and lower disks, the punchers will engage the envelops and perforate them through the spaces between the circular gummed or adhering portions, or in other words the apertures in the envelop are so made that they are surrounded by the pasted portions of the two folds of the ribbon or strip. This method of puncturing the envelop sheet provides for the cutting off the sections of the continuous ribbon in such manner that the opposite

edges of the section or envelop remain pasted or glued together to close up the said edges sufficiently to hold the stamp from sliding laterally within the continuous sheet, and thereby lose their proper separation.

The puncturing studs and the hollow anvils that coact therewith are mounted in sections of the disks 51—51^a that are rotatably adjustable on the other sections of the said disks, see Figs. 1 and 2^a, so that the puncturing studs and the opposing socket anvils may be accurately set for their intended purposes.

The disks 51—51^a are geared with each other and the upper disk 51 also gears with an idler gear 55 that receives motion by reason of meshing with the gear 56 on the upper draw roller 57 that also meshes with the lower draw roller 57^a, see Fig. 2^a the upper roller being driven from the counter shaft *d*, as shown, and in such direction that the rollers 57—57^a travel in the direction indicated by the arrow *z*, Fig. 2^a, so as to grip the now printed, pasted and folded, and perforated envelop sheet and pull it in the direction of the take-up roll 59. The roll 59 is mounted in a stub shaft 59^a on the upper end of a bearing arm 59^b, fulcrumed at the lower end on the stud 59^c on the leg portion of the main frame casting and held under tension to keep the constantly filling roll 59 pressed in the direction of the lower roller 57^a of the take-up rolls so as to provide for the constantly increasing diameter of the wound endless envelop or strip as it passes in its complete form the said rolls 51—51^a.

From the foregoing, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the complete construction and the coöperative manner, in which the several parts operate will, it is believed, be readily apparent.

By reason of the connections of the several parts, the printing, the pasting, the puncturing and the take-up devices, all driven simultaneously from a single drive mechanism, so that the movement of the ribbon is not arrested from the starting to the delivery point, a complete operation is being continuously carried on, and this is rendered possible since the several parts operate interdependently and are not designed for acting on the ribbon independently, that is, the said several mechanisms are so designed that the desired operations can only be accurately effected by continuously moving the ribbon, and having the several mechanisms operate on different parts thereof simultaneously.

In order that a more positive and perfect crease may be imparted to the sales strip in passing through the folding mechanism 46, a beveled disk 60 mounted on the arm 60^a which is pivoted at 60^b and held in engagement with the strip and folding mechanism 46, by the tension spring 60^c, is provided, as

will be seen from the drawings, to effect the purposes above enumerated.

What I claim is:

1. In a machine for making continuous envelops, means for continuously moving a strip longitudinally, means for printing on one surface of said strip, means for applying paste on another surface of said strip, means for folding said strip lengthwise upon itself along substantially the central longitudinal line of the strip after it has been pasted, means for perforating said strip with a series of apertures in longitudinal alinement throughout the full length of the strip, and means for actuating all of said printing, pasting, folding and perforating means to simultaneously act on said strip while the strip is moving.

2. In a continuous envelop making machine, means for continuously moving a ribbon or sheet along its longitudinal direction, means for applying paste to one surface of said sheet at intervals, means for folding said sheet longitudinally upon itself along substantially the central longitudinal line of the sheet after said paste has been applied, means for puncturing the folded sheet with a series of equi-spaced apertures in longitudinal alinement throughout the full length of the sheet together with means for simultaneously operating said moving means, said pasting means, said folding means and said puncturing means to cause said pasting, folding and puncturing means to simultaneously act on said ribbon or sheet while the said ribbon or sheet is being moved.

3. Means for continuously moving a sheet or ribbon forwardly, means for pasting one part thereof at intervals, the pasted surface surrounding the unpasted surface, and means for folding the other part over and upon the pasted part, combined with means for puncturing the folded sheet in the space within the pasted surfaces.

4. Means for moving the paper sheet continuously forwardly, and means for pasting same at intervals, the pasted surface extending around an unpasted surface, combined with means that coöperate with the ribbon moving and pasting means for perforating the sheet through the unpasted surfaces surrounded by the pasted surfaces.

5. In a machine of the character described, the combination with means for moving a sheet continuously in one direction, and means for folding the said sheet lengthwise upon itself, combined with means for applying paste to one part of the sheet, said means consisting of a rotatably mounted wheel having radially extended fingers, each finger comprising a pair of separated semi-circular members, a paste applying roll for engaging with the outer edges of the said fingers, the said pasting wheel being mounted

ed in advance of the folding mechanism and perforating means mounted beyond the folding mechanism having puncturing members adapted for engaging the folded sheet at
5 points within the pasted surface of the sheet, as set forth.

6. In a machine for making continuous envelopes, means for continuously moving a strip, mechanism for printing one side of
10 said continuously moving strip, mechanism for applying paste at intervals to the other side of said continuously moving strip, mechanism for folding said strip lengthwise along substantially the central longitudinal

line of said strip over on the pasted surface, and mechanism for simultaneously puncturing the folded part of the strip at longitudinal intervals to form a row of equi-spaced longitudinal apertures throughout the entire
length of the strip, together with means co-
operatively connecting all of said mechanisms to cause all of said mechanisms to act
simultaneously on said strip. 15 20

WILLIAM C. BRIGGS.

Witnesses:

M. H. WILLIS,
W. F. SHAFNER.