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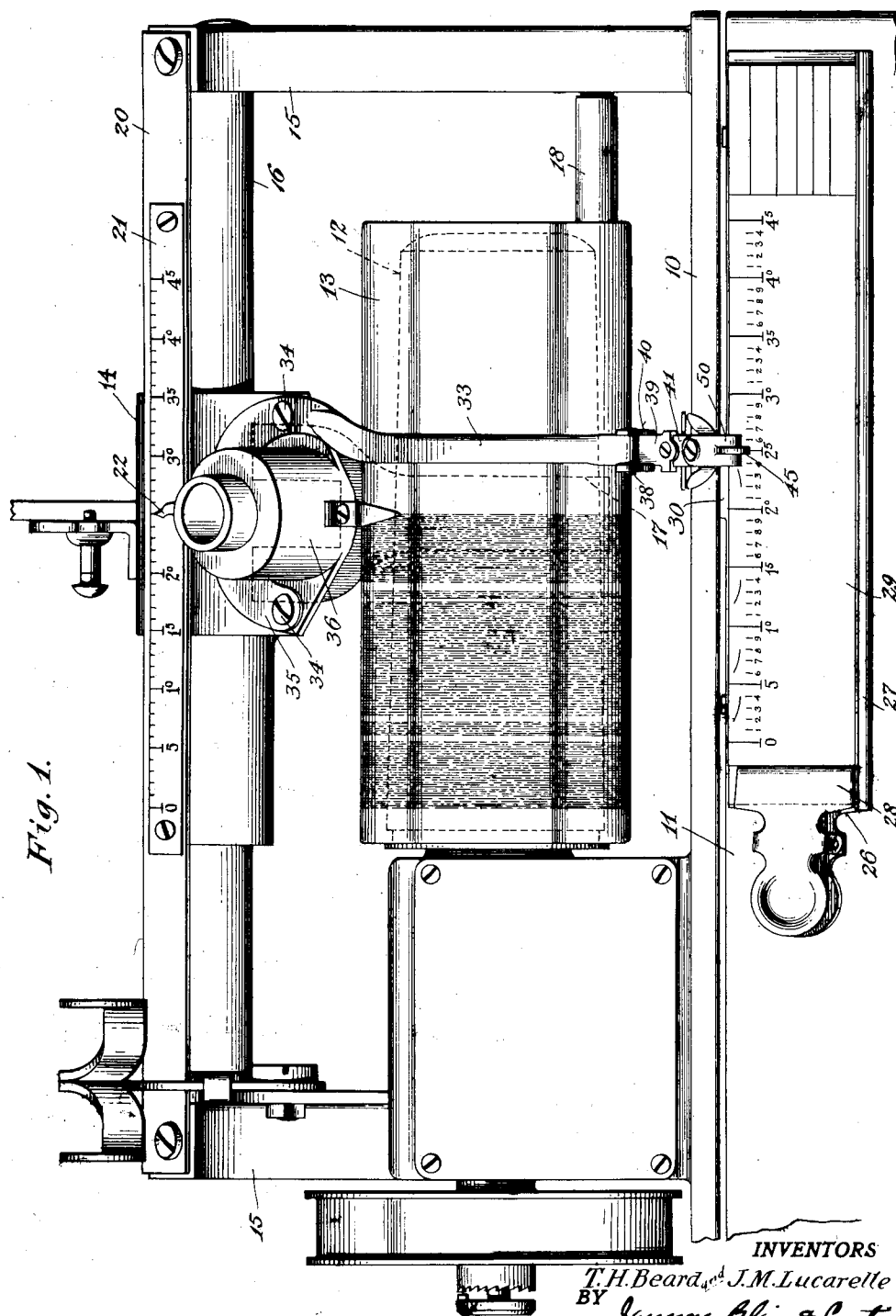
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CORRECTION DEVICE FOR DICTATING MACHINES

Filed May 8, 1930

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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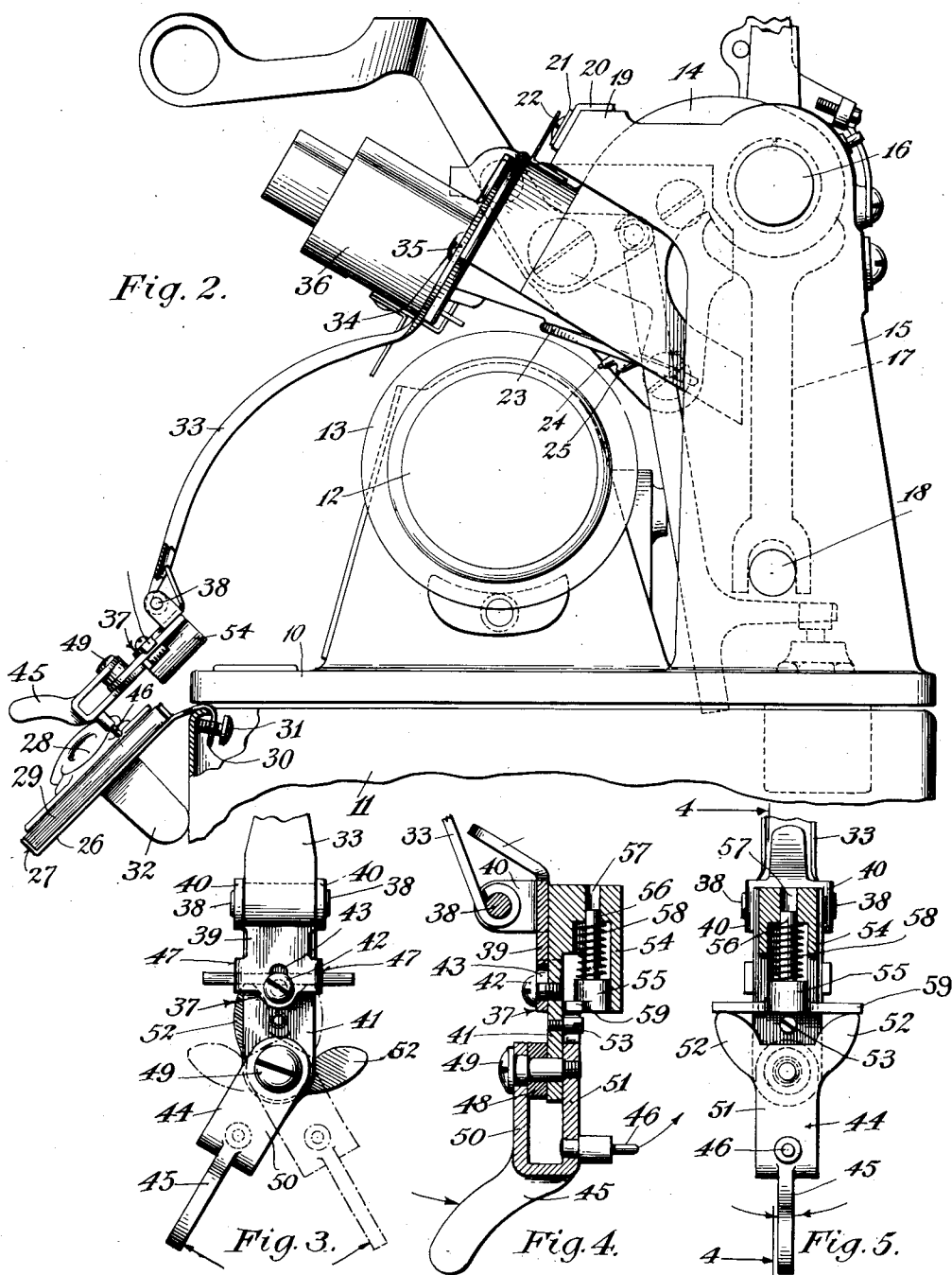
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2,072,064

CORRECTION DEVICE FOR DICTATING MACHINES

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Application May 8, 1930, Serial No. 450,694

2 Claims. (Cl. 234—1)

This invention relates to improvements in correction devices for phonographs; and particularly to that type of phonograph which is adapted for commercial use, in which is employed a recorder for recording dictation and a reproducer for reproducing such dictation. In connection with phonographs of this character it has been usual to employ memorandum sheets, each sheet having printed thereon a scale corresponding to a scale on the phonograph, upon which sheets the dictator may note certain instructions and corrections, this memorandum sheet being turned over to the transcriber as a guide in transcribing the record. A separate memorandum sheet accompanies each record transferred to the transcriber. In the use of dictating machines memoranda of two kinds are customarily made by the dictator on the sheet. The first of these consists of a symbol or mark intended to indicate the place on the record where a letter or other communication begins or ends. The second form of memorandum refers to indications of error in what has been recorded or other information regarding the same which the dictator wishes to bring to the attention of the transcriber. The dictator will record on the record cylinder the substance of the correction to be made, and indicate on the correction sheet by means of an indication mark, differing from the mark denoting the beginning or end of a communication, the fact that the recorded matter at the corresponding point on the record cylinder is of the nature described and is not part of the matter to be transcribed. Unless such indication is made on the record sheet the transcriber is apt to include part of the direction as to correction, etc., in her transcription of the letter or other communication. As a result many sheets of typewriting have to be destroyed and the transcription of the true record repeated in the proper form, causing much delay, expense and annoyance. Devices for this purpose heretofore proposed have consisted of various forms. According to one form a pointer moves near or over a correction sheet so as to indicate to the dictator where on such sheet a mark may be made by hand, and in some instances the pointer has been modified to furnish a straight edge or guide along which a pencil may be moved by the dictator to mark on the correction sheet the desired indication. According to another form, a plurality of recording devices are provided for mechanically indicating different instructions at points predeterminedly spaced in position in a direction transversely of the correction sheet,

so as to indicate transversely of such sheet a plurality of different instructions. Such devices have not proved wholly satisfactory for several reasons, mainly, with respect to pointer or guide devices, that they require in their operation on the part of the dictator considerable concentration and effort in order that the indication mark be correctly positioned; and with respect to the mechanically-operated plural arrangement of marking means, that they are cumbersome, take up more space on the machine than can usually be spared, and necessitate on the part of the operator considerable mental effort to ensure the operation of the proper marker.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a simple and inexpensive correction indicating device, adapted to avoid the defects of the types of devices above discussed. Another object is to provide a device of the nature described which may be readily mounted in operative relation to a well known type of dictating machine. Another object is to provide a marking means subject in use to a minimum of wear, thus ensuring long continual use without special attention on the part of the operator, or frequent replacement of parts. Another object is to provide indication means of the character described adapted to indicate different instructions longitudinally of the memorandum sheet, and within a space or path of limited width as compared with the width of such sheet.

Other objects will be in part obvious and in part pointed out hereinafter.

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combinations of elements, and arrangements of parts as will be exemplified in the structure to be hereinafter described and the scope of the application of which will be indicated in the following claims.

In the accompanying drawings in which is shown one of the various possible embodiments of this invention:—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the upper part of a dictating machine with a marking device made in accordance with the present invention applied thereto.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof with a part of the support for the marking device shown in broken section.

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the indication marking device.

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the marking device, a portion thereof being shown in cross-section on line 4—4 of Fig. 5; and

Fig. 5 is a bottom plan view of the indication marking device, partly in section.

In general, the indication marking device comprises a support for memorandum sheets, an indicator and means whereby the indicator and support have relative movement in proportion to the relative movement of the sound-box and record tablet, said indicator comprising a marking member constructed to rest on the memorandum sheet or sheets and movable to follow the surface of said sheets as successive sheets are removed.

Only so much of the dictating machine is shown as will serve to show the application of the invention thereto.

The base 10 of the machine is supported on a motor-box 11 containing mechanism (not shown) for imparting rotation to the mandrel 12 on which the record tablet 13 is mounted, and for moving the sound-box carriage 14 longitudinally thereover. Rising from the base 10 at either end thereof are a pair of standards 15, extending between which is a hollow carriage guide rod or tube 16 along which the carriage is movable. This tube is adapted to contain a feed screw (not shown) for causing traveling movement of the carriage axially of the record tablet. The carriage is prevented from rotating on said tubular guide rod by means of a depending arm 17 which is forked at its lower end to straddle a guide rod 18 extending between said standards.

Extending forwardly from each standard 15 at the top thereof is an arm 19 for supporting a bar 20, to the face of which is attached a scale member 21. Along the scale 21 a pointer 22 is adapted to move as the carriage travels.

The carriage supports a suitable sound-box 23 provided with styli 24 and 25 adapted to trace or track a sound line on the surface of the record tablet.

As is best shown in the lower portions of Figs. 1 and 2, a support is provided for a pad composed of superimposed memorandum or correction sheets, and preferably this support comprises a tray 26, provided with a longitudinal upstanding flange 27 and clamping means 28, said tray being of a size suitable to receive a pad of correction sheets, as indicated at 29. The pad is placed on the tray with its lower edge against the flange 27 and is held in place by the clamp 28. The tray is provided with a hook 30 adapted to be received between the base of the machine and the motor casing 11, and to extend downwardly below the upper edge of said casing. A screw 31 may be provided to engage the inner side of the motor casing to hold the tray in any desired position longitudinally of the machine. The support of the tray is preferably such that said tray is inclined to the horizontal in order that the correction sheets may be in a plane substantially at right angles to the line of sight. In the form shown, said tray is also provided with a plurality of lugs 32 designed to engage the surface of the cabinet to prevent the tray from tilting downwardly out of its proper position.

An indication marker is provided to have movement over the correction sheet or sheets supported on the tray 26, such movement being in proportion to the traverse of the sound-box over the record tablet. In the form shown said indication marker comprises an arm or support 33 secured to the front of the carriage by means of screws 34, said arm being curved at 35 to embrace

the forward projection 36 of the carriage, and extends downwardly toward the tray 26.

The construction thus far described relates to familiar parts of a dictating machine well known in the art, the arm 33 having been provided in the past with a pointer overlying a portion of the tray 26. In the present construction a mechanical marking device indicated generally by the numeral 37 is pivotally mounted, as by pin 38, to the lower end of the arm 33. This device comprises a plate member 39 provided with upstanding flanges 40 to engage the pivot pin 38; an extension plate 41, adjustably secured to the plate member 39 as by means of the screw 42, which passes through a slot 43 in said plate member 39 and is in threaded engagement with the extension plate 41; and finally an operating member 44 provided with a finger piece 45 and a marking stylus 46.

Plate 39 is provided with a rearwardly and upwardly inclined extension for engaging the under side of the arm 33 to limit the downward movement of the marker about its pivot 38. Plate 39 is also provided with lateral downwardly extending lugs 47, between which the plate member 41 is positioned. These lugs prevent relative swiveling movement of the two plates about the screw 42.

Plate 41 is provided at its lower end with a thickened boss 48 provided with an opening rotatably to receive a pivot stud 49. The operating member 44 comprises a pair of spaced flanges 50 and 51, adapted to embrace between them the thickened end of plate 41. Stud 49 passes freely through an opening in flange 50 and is threaded into flange 51. Thus the operating member is pivotally mounted for rotative movement about the substantially vertically disposed pivot 49.

Extending forwardly and upwardly from the flange 50 is the finger piece 45, and extending rearwardly from the lower flange 51 are a pair of spaced ears 52. A stud 53 projecting from the lower side of plate 41 and positioned on the center line thereof is provided to engage the inner edge of either ear 52 when the operating member is swiveled, to serve as a stop limiting its movement in either direction.

Secured to or formed integrally upon the lower side of plate 41 at its rear end is a small cylinder 54, slidably positioned in which is a plunger 55 having a reduced rear extension 56 slidably engaging a reduced counter-bore 57. Between the head of the plunger and the rear wall of the cylinder is interposed a helical spring 58 which tends normally to hold the plunger in its extreme forward position. Extending transversely of and disposed flush with the forward face of the plunger is a cross bar 59, which bears with even pressure upon the tips of both ears 52, serving normally to hold the operating member in its central position.

From the foregoing the operation will be clear. As the stylus tracks the record, the carriage moving to the right, its position at any time is indicated upon the scale 21, and simultaneously the stylus of the marker occupies the same relative position over the scale of the correction sheet or pad. Should the dictator, at this point, desire to indicate, for example, the beginning or ending of a letter, he may grasp the finger piece 45 of the marking device and pressing down slightly swing the operating member either to the right or to the left, against the tension of the spring 58, thus making a slightly curved check mark upon the scale of the correction sheet, the said

mark having its beginning at its lowest point and sloping upwardly with slight upward convexity away from such lowest point, either to the right or to the left, as the case may be. If a movement to the right is made to produce an indication as to the length of a letter, the mark made by movement to the left may be employed to indicate some instruction or indication of error. It will be noted that in either case the lower point or beginning of the mark will be the same distance downwardly from the top of the correction sheet, and while this point will vary somewhat, as sheets are torn from the pad, the mark will always overlie the scale. Thus are formed with the same operating stylus, marks of a different character, which occupy the same relative positions with respect to the transverse dimensions of the scale.

As soon as the finger piece is released the spring 58 will cause the return of the stylus to its central position, and the dictator may proceed with his dictation, the stylus trailing lightly over the surface of the correction sheet, but always in a position to be readily swung in either desired direction.

Fig. 3 shows in full lines the marker swung to the left as seen from below, and in broken lines, to the right. This view also shows how the stop pin 53 limits the throw of the operating part.

In the past, indications on a correction sheet have usually been made with a lead pencil. Applicants might, of course, use pencil lead for their stylus, but in such case the lead would need frequent replacement with consequent loss of time and annoyance. In their present embodiment, therefore, a stylus composed of a metal alloy such as brass has been used, and in order that in use marks of sufficient clearness may result, a correction sheet is used, the surface of which has been treated in such a manner as to make it slightly abrasive so as to enable it to receive a substantially black mark, resembling a pencil

mark, from the operation of the alloy stylus. The preparation of correction sheets in this manner adds little to their cost and the life of the metallic stylus as compared with a lead pencil is extended almost indefinitely, thus adding greatly to the efficiency and desirability of the present correction device.

Considerable advantage is also found in the use of a device such as the present one, in that only a small portion of the upper half of a correction sheet of the usual size is utilized for scale and indication purposes, thus leaving nearly two-thirds of the correction sheet available for any pencil notes which the dictator may desire to make.

We claim:

1. In a correction device for dictating machines, the combination of a correction sheet having a surface exposed to receive markings, a bracket mounted with its free end movable along a path parallel to said sheet, an arm mounted at said free end of the bracket to swing freely toward and from said sheet, a marker holder mounted on said arm for lateral deflection in a plane parallel to the exposed surface of the sheet, and a marker mounted on said holder in position to engage and mark on said exposed surface of the sheet when said arm is laterally deflected.

2. In apparatus of the character described, in combination, a frame, a carriage movable on said frame, an instruction indication sheet held in fixed relation to said frame, and a marker yieldingly restrained from lateral deflection in a mid-position and movable with said carriage to operative positions in relation to the sheet and manually deflectable laterally through a limited angle in either direction from said mid-position to make divergently directed marks on said sheet.

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