

GREATEST TRIUMPH OF THE INVENTOR.

**Simplex Typesetting Machine Installed in
"The Miner" Office--Does the Work of
Four Men--Business Demands It.**

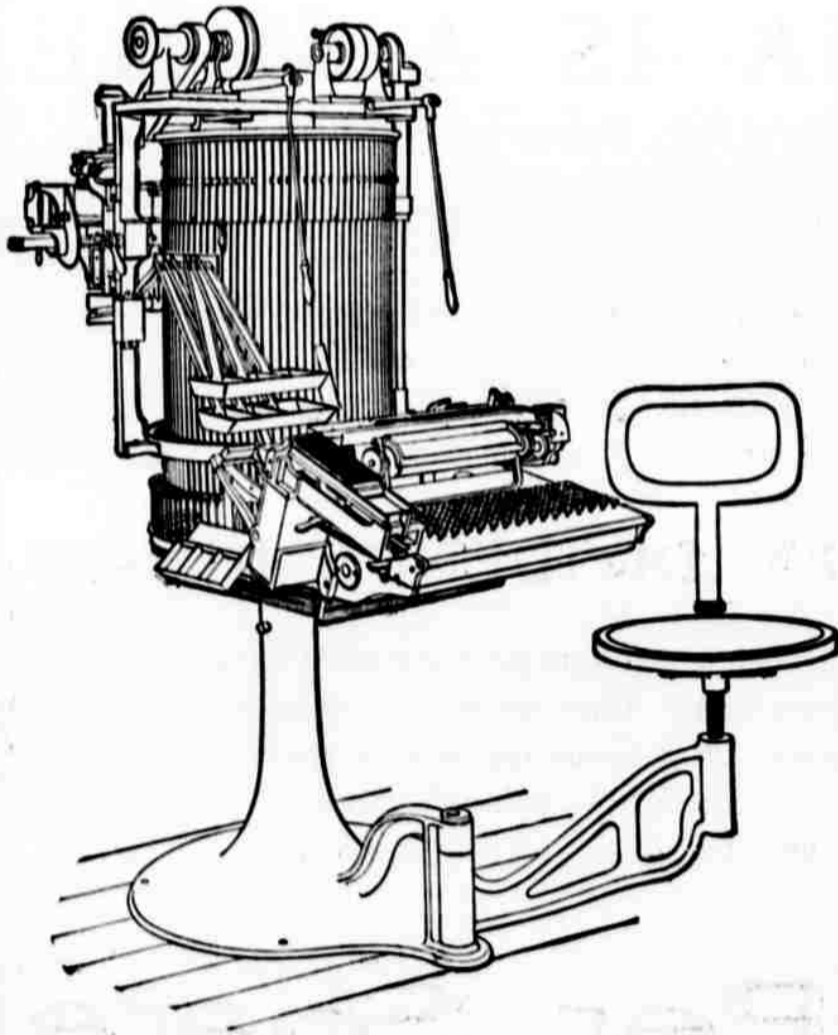
Last week there was installed in THE MINER office a Simplex type setting machine. The addition of this new and expensive machinery is necessary to more fully meet the requirements for publishing a newspaper such as the enterprise and progressiveness of this community demands. The largest possible amount of news matter must be handled and hand composition is becoming too slow in this rushing age. With the aid of the Simplex, it will not only be possible to handle a larger amount of news, but do it easier and better.

Readers of this paper are invited to call at this office any time during the day and witness the operation of the machine. Believing our friends will be interested in knowing something of this fine piece of mechanism,

is made to set.

The Simplex typesetter uses the same kind of type as is set by hand, except that each individual type has a separate combination of "nicks" or notches cut on the edge, and on this fact is based the fundamental principle of the machine.

To distribute the type in the first place, the channels of the upper cylinder are filled with "dead matter" (type that has been used) and is revolved step by step. At each step or movement of the distributor cylinder, the bottom type of each line of dead matter is tested by the wards or channels of the lower cylinder, until it finds one exactly corresponding and drops down into the lower magazine. The lower cylinder is stationary, and at the bottom of each channel it contains a



there is presented herewith a cut of the Simplex, and a description which will enable anyone to understand its working.

The body of the Simplex consists of two cylinders, one above and rotating on the other, having a common axis. In both cylinders, extending vertically their full length, are ninety parallel channels, those in the lower cylinder forming the magazine into which type distributes from the channels of the upper cylinder and is stored for resetting. The channels are slightly wider than the body of the type which the machine

lever which is connected with a keyboard similar to that of a typewriter. When a character on the keyboard is pressed down the lever releases the corresponding character from the channel and deposits it on a rapidly moving disc which carries it around the machine and to a "packer" which packs the letters into a line in their proper order, or, to use a printer's phrase, "standing on their feet." A long line of type rapidly forms in front of the operator, and when he has enough for his purpose he whirls his chair around, and with a small instrument called a "grab,"

separates enough from the long line to make enough from the measure he is setting. This he justifies or "spaces," and then takes another line and so on. When two persons are working at the same time, one operates the keyboard and the other does the spacing. As soon as one line is spaced it is automatically pushed back to make room for another and at the same time the matter is loaded, if so desired.

After the machine is once in operation all that is necessary in the way of distributing is to place a galley of dead type on the side of the upper cylinder prepared for it. It does the work perfectly, and while it is apparently simple, it would be impossible to explain the matter intelligently, so we wont try, but again invite you to come and see for yourself.

The Simplex is small and compact, weighing about 1800 pounds and occupying no more floor space than an ordinary coal stove.

It is probable that on no labor saving machine has more time and money been expended than on a device to set and distribute type. For over a century inventors have struggled with the question, and while their efforts were partially successful, it has been only in the past ten years that a practical machine has been put on the market. It seems like an impossibility that any combination of machinery other than that encompassed in the human body could separate nearly a hundred characters, pick them up again, form them into words, combine the words into sentences, and place them in readiness for that older but none the less marvelous result of brains—the modern printing press. The Simplex does it though, and does it four or five times as fast as the most rapid compositor.

Aided by this machine THE MINER is now prepared to turn out job printing, in which there is any considerable amount of typesetting, such as circulars, folders, prospectuses and the like, at a very much less cost than this class of work has ever before been done in eastern Oregon. It can also be done more rapid-

ly, and the work delivered sooner than is possible where hand composition is employed. Nor should the work done by the Simplex be confused with the unfinished appearance, almost defective printing turned out by machines that cast its own type. Simplex typesetting is as perfect as that done by the most artistic compositor.

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