

[54] **THREAD WINDING APPARATUS**
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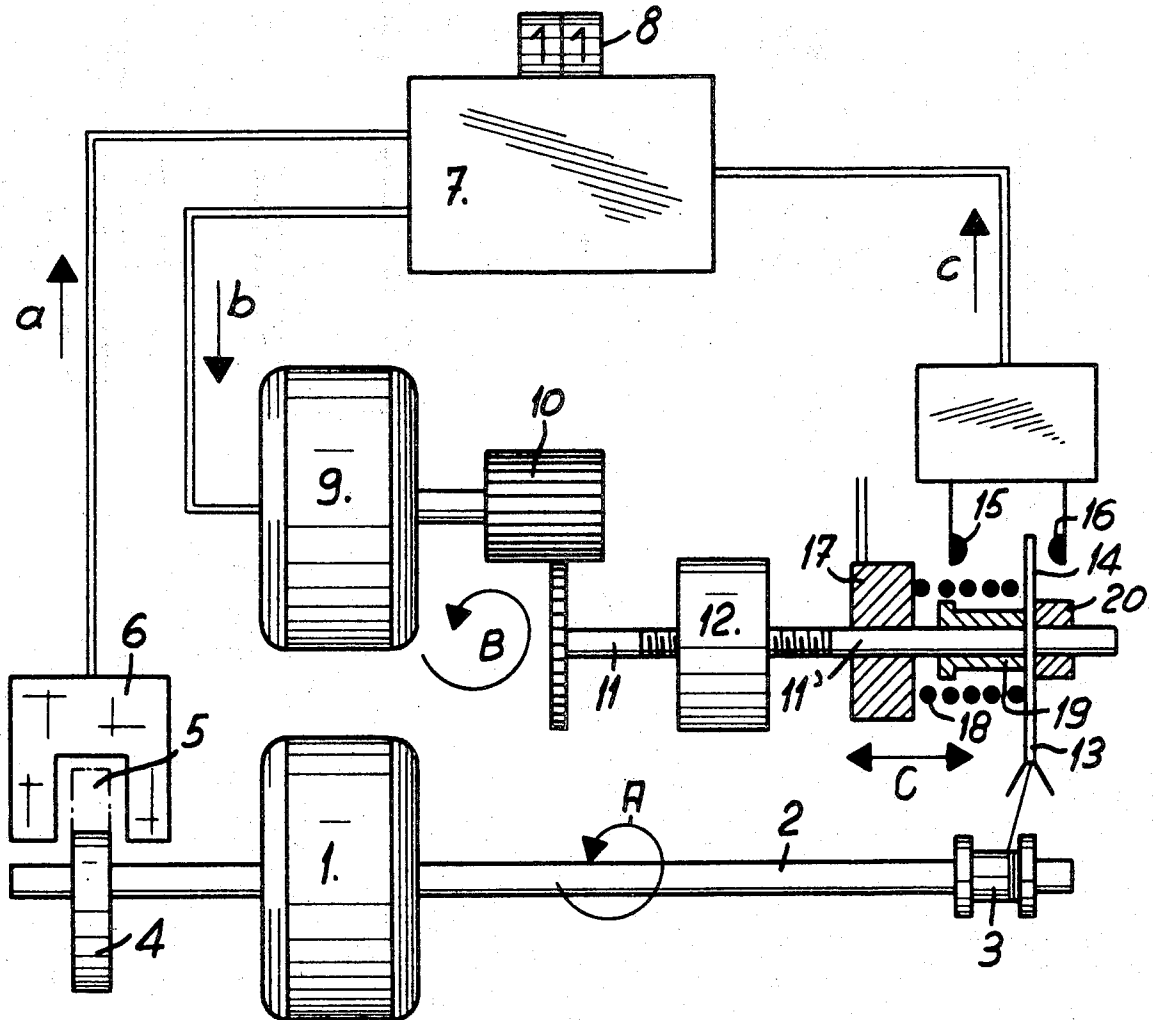
[57] **ABSTRACT**

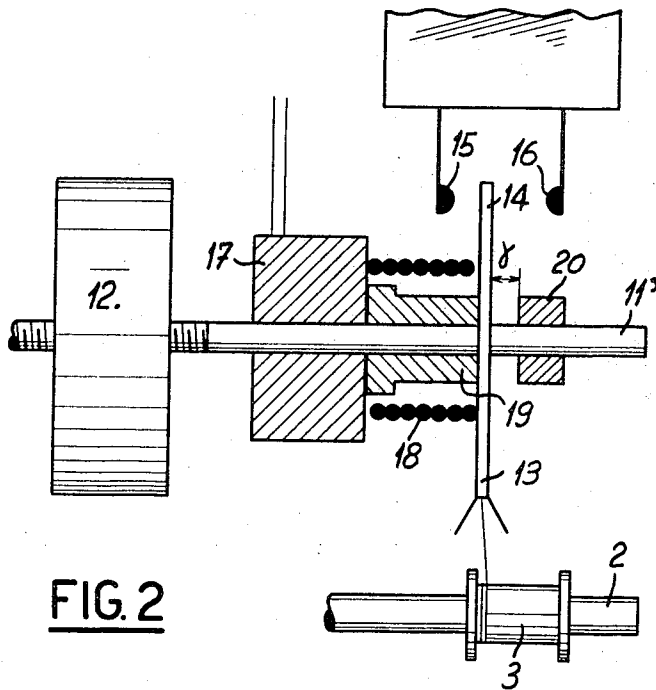
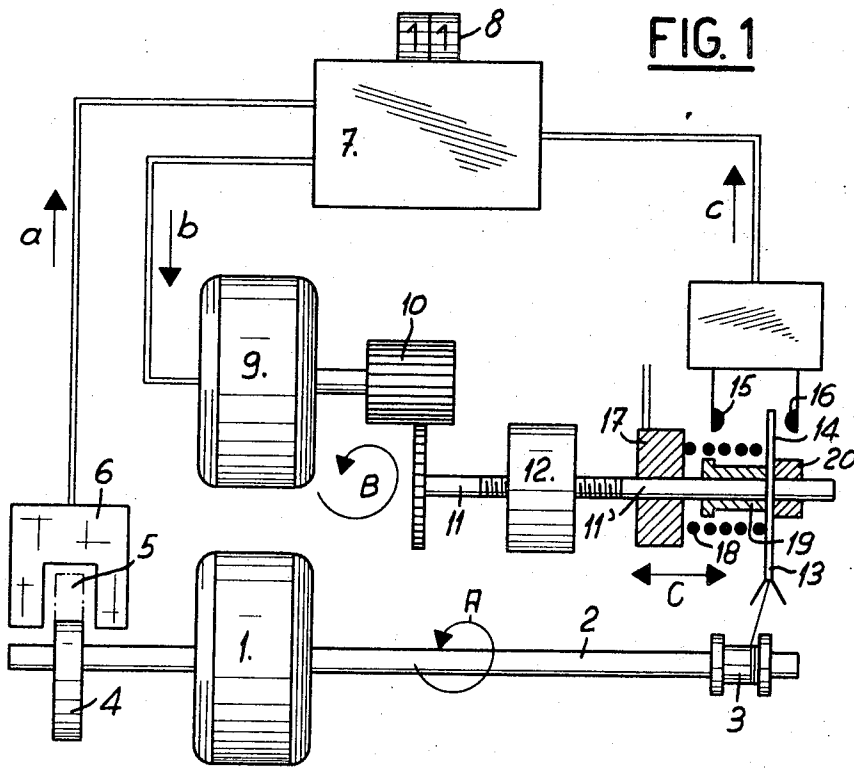
The invention relates to an apparatus for obtaining a linear displacement of a first element as a function of a rotary movement and can be advantageously used on thread-winding machines. The apparatus comprises means for shifting the lineary displacable element at the end of the reciprocatory stroke.

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1 Claim, 2 Drawing Figures





THREAD WINDING APPARATUS

The apparatus for obtaining a linear displacement as a function of a rotary displacement can be used in particular on thread-winding machines.

The known winding machines comprise mechanical adjusting means which do not enable great precision to be achieved in the of the movement of the thread guide, since these adjusting means do not permit the correction made to be determined with great accuracy. This renders the winding of very thin thread practically impossible, since the displacement of the thread guide cannot be adjusted with sufficient precision.

The present invention is aimed at eliminating this disadvantage and comprises a machine for winding very fine threads (in the order of 1 micron) to be provided, which machine can nevertheless be used for threads of greater diameters (of the order of 0.1 mm). The apparatus of the invention comprises two elements, one of which is a rotary element and the other executes a longitudinal reciprocatory movement parallel with the axis of the first, as well as means for regulating the speed of rotation.

The attached drawing illustrates diagrammatically and by way of example one form of construction of the thread-winding machine fitted with the apparatus of the invention.

FIG. 1 shows diagrammatically one form of construction of the winding machine.

FIG. 2 is a view of part of the winding machine, the thread guide being shown in the opposite position to that illustrated in FIG. 1.

The winding machine illustrated in the drawing comprises a motor 1 which drives a shaft 2 at a regulable speed in the direction of the arrow A; removably mounted on this shaft is the bobbin 3 which is to be loaded with thread and which is located and fixed on the shaft by any known means.

The shaft 2 also imparts rotation to a disc 4 containing at least one radial opening 5, which when passing between the poles of the pick-up 6, generates counting impulses *a* in the electronic part 7, these impulses thus being proportional to the number of radial openings 5 contained in the disc 4, and therefore to the number of revolutions of the shaft 2 and consequently to the speed of rotation of the bobbin 3.

The electronic portion 7 comprises means 8 which is a counter device which, after receiving a set number of impulses *a* from pick-up 6, permits driving impulses *b* emitted from electronic part 7 to be applied to a step-by-step motor 9 which, through a gear 10, imparts a discontinuous rotary movement in one or other direction to a shaft 11, as indicated by the arrow B.

The shaft 11 seen in FIG. 1 has a screw-threaded portion cooperating with a fixed part 12 in such manner that the portion 11' of the shaft undergoes a longitudinal reciprocatory movement in the directions indicated by the arrow C. The speed of this movement is controlled in a conventional manner according to the impulses *a* and *b*. It will be readily appreciated that the illustration provided in the drawing is greatly simplified and that in practice use would be made of a means 12 for converting the rotary movement in the direction of the arrow B into a longitudinal reciprocatory movement in the directions of the arrow C, without the shaft 11' rotating about its own axis.

The shaft 11' slidably carries the thread guide 13 and a stop 14 adapted to move into contact with two limit elements 15 and 16, constituted for example by micro contacts which, when the thread guide 13 reaches the end of the bobbin, enable reversing impulses *c* to be sent to the electronic part 7. These reversing impulses *c* are for the purpose of reversing the direction of rotation of the step-by-step motor 9 so that the thread guide moves towards the other end of the bobbin.

It is of course possible to locate at least one of the limit elements 15 or 16 in such a position that reversal takes place at the end of the bobbin whatever its length.

To promote winding of the thread in neat turns, the actuating system also comprises a means for shifting the linearly displaced element. In fact it is necessary, when reversal takes place, for the thread guide 13 to be shifted axially in relation to the shaft 11' to bring the thread into a favourable position. This means for shifting the thread guide comprises an electromagnet 17 solid with the shaft 11' and located on one side of the thread guide, and a fixed stop 20 likewise solidly connected to the shaft 11', and fitted at the other side of the thread guide. A spiral spring 18 bears by one of its ends against electromagnet 17 and by the other against the thread guide 13 or its support and urges it against the stop 20. A sleeve 19 is fitted around the shaft 11' and inside the spring 18, and is secured to thread guide 13, and is of a length such that when the thread guide is applied to the free end-face of this sleeve, a gap γ is maintained between the other face of the thread guide and the stop 20.

In FIG. 1, the shift means is illustrated in the position it occupies when the thread guide is first moved to the left. The position of this means, illustrated in FIG. 2, corresponds to that occupied when the thread guide is first moved to the right.

In FIG. 1, the thread guide 13 is applied to the fixed stop 20 with the aid of the spring 18, and is moved to the left by the effect of the rotation of the shaft 11'. When the stop 14 moves into contact with the micro contact 15, the latter not only causes the direction of rotation of the shaft 11' to be reversed and thus the direction of linear displacement of the thread guide 13 to be reversed, but also results in the electromagnet 17 pulling the sleeve 19 and the thread guide 13, thereby overcoming the force of the spring 18. Thus, despite reversal of the direction of movement of the thread guide, the latter is shifted to the left over a distance corresponding to the gap γ , and this ensures correct winding at the left-hand end of the bobbin 3. By this additional shift at the end of the traverse of the thread guide, it is thereby assured that the thread is tightened by drawing it against the last turn which has been wound, which is desirable in the case of fine filaments such as threads.

When the stop 14 moves on to the micro contact 16, it causes the direction of movement of the thread guide to be changed, and also causes the electromagnet to be de-energized. The spring 18 shifts the thread guide up to the stop 20. Thus the winding of the thread on the right-hand end of the bobbin 3 is also properly carried out.

In other variant, the bobbin could also be adapted to be moved longitudinally whilst keeping the thread guide stationary, without thereby departing from the framework of the present invention.

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What I claim is:

1. A thread winding apparatus comprising means for rotating a bobbin to receive thread to be wound thereon, a thread guide for guiding thread to be wound on the bobbin, a shaft on which the thread guide is mounted, means for lengthwise reciprocating the shaft parallel to the axis of the bobbin to cause the thread guide to traverse thereby to distribute turns of thread on the bobbin, a pair of stops on the shaft between which the thread guide is reciprocable lengthwise of the shaft relative to the shaft, and means for imparting to the thread guide a linear shift lengthwise of the shaft relative to the shaft at the end of each traverse of the thread guide and in the same direction that the thread guide has just traversed and at a linear velocity length-

wise of the shaft higher than the traversing velocity of the thread guide, said imparting means comprising a sleeve secured to one side of said thread guide and encompassing said shaft and slidable relative to the shaft and engageable with one of said stops, spring means urging said thread guide toward the other of said stops, said one of said stops comprising an electromagnet, means to actuate and deactuate said electromagnet thereby alternately to attract and release said thread guide to effect said linear shifts, and means to reverse the direction of reciprocation of said shaft simultaneously with the actuation and deactuation of said electromagnet.

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