

THE INSTITUTE FOR SEMANTOGRAPHY

A Non-Profit Institution for the Promotion of Semantics and Semantography

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PATENT SPECIFICATION FOR A TYPEWRITER FOR IDEOGRAPHIC WRITING

In 1949 I approached the foremost American and British Typewriter Companies. The letters and ensuing correspondence will be published at a later date. In order to have some exclusive rights to offer I had copyrighted the symbols, and the typewriter keyboards (see Semantography Series Nos. 2 and 3) and had filed a Provisional Specification with the Patent Office in Canberra. This reads -

TYPEWRITER FOR IDEOGRAPHIC WRITING

The typewriter, according to the invention, is to be used for the composition of ideographic symbols. Consequently the key hammers contain (besides the alphabet) short or long geometrical lines (horizontal, vertical, oblique, straight, curved, triangles, squares, circles, etc.)

In order to put a certain line, etc. in different positions with regard to the normal position on the writing line (higher or lower, to the left or right) a special lever arrangement provides the shifting of the cylinder (up or down, up right, etc.) shortly before the key, bearing the certain line, is pressed. After the pressing of this key, and consequent typing of the certain line in the wanted position, the cylinder may fall back into its normal position.

With ordinary typewriters, the cylinder jumps automatically one space ahead, after the pressing of one key. This may be inconvenient for the typing of compound symbols, and an arrester may be arranged, which makes the cylinder stay put. With the arrester in action, the cylinder will jump forward only if the usual long bar is pressed.

Similar arrangements may be provided on typewriters working on a different principle, as the usual ones, which have separate key hammers. This invention extends therefore also to typewriters working for instance with a curved font, or a cylinder, which moves in various positions either by the guidance of a style, moved by hand, or by keys pressed, or otherwise.

This application was lodged on the 2nd July, 1949 and I hoped that the Typewriter Companies will be interested in filing a corresponding patent application in America and England. However, no interest was forthcoming and I let this application lapse.