



1873

*The first practical Typewriter
and the first woman Typist*

OUTLINE OF TYPEWRITER HISTORY

Today

*The latest model of
Noiseless Typewriter*



Typewriter in Education . .

Ballard School of New York was first to offer Typewriting Courses for Women

THE TYPEWRITER, introduced in 1873, has remoulded both business and education throughout the world. To remove the Typewriter from the business office today would be to render the countless other improvements and devices almost useless because the preparation of written records and correspondence would revert to the time-wasting, laborious process of the days before the telephone and the electric light.

The Typewriter completely revised educational standards, because through typing courses, schools and colleges opened the way for the great vocational training systems of today.

In the first decade of Typewriter history, the greatest problem confronting the manufacturer was the fact that there were no operators . . . neither men nor girls who knew anything about typing. For this reason, Remington organized its own schools and in many cases furnished the operator when the machine was sold.

Pioneering in the instruction of typing . . . and the first to offer courses for women . . . was the

Young Women's Christian Association in New York City. The Business School which graduated a class of eight women typists in 1881, exists in New York today as the Ballard School of the Central Branch Y. W. C. A.

When the Y.W.C.A. announced that typing courses were to be opened to women, public opinion was immediately aroused. The plan was referred to as "an obvious error in judgment," and the managers of the school were called "well-meaning, but misguided ladies." It was feared by many that the female mind and constitution would break down completely under a six months' course in typing. Eight "strong women" were found, however. They were graduated and placed in offices. Then the demand for more "female typewriters" was immediate.

Since this early beginning of the Ballard School, millions have followed this class of eight girls in the excellent courses of typing and operation of business machines in the hundreds of fine Business Colleges and commercial departments of high schools and universities which now exist in every City and State.

Important Dates In Typewriter History

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1866—C. Latham Sholes and Carlos Glidden started work on their writing machine at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. | 1896—Remington introduced first automatic ribbon reverse. |
| 1868—United States patent issued for Sholes & Glidden Type-Writer, on July 14. | 1898—Remington introduced the first decimal tabulator. |
| 1871—Sholes consulted with Thomas A. Edison on the Type-Writer at Edison's workshop in Newark, N. J. | 1907—Remington Adding and Subtracting Typewriter introduced, the progenitor of the Remington Accounting Machine. |
| 1873—Typewriter patent was bought by E. Remington & Sons, Ilion, N. Y. and commercial manufacture begun. | 1909—The Noiseless Typewriter first produced commercially. |
| 1876—Remington Typewriter, writing only capital letters, exhibited to thousands at Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia. | 1920—Remington introduced the first Portable Typewriter with Standard keyboard. |
| 1878—Remington Model 2 introduced, writing both capital and small letters for the first time. | 1924—The Noiseless Typewriter Company was consolidated with the Remington Typewriter Company. |
| 1882—Organization of historic firm of Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict, which expanded Remington into a worldwide organization. | 1927—The Remington Typewriter Company became a division of Remington Rand Inc., world's largest manufacturers of office equipment. |
| 1894—Work started by Wellington P. Kidder in development of the principle of the Noiseless Typewriter. | 1931—First practical Noiseless Portable Typewriter produced by Remington Rand, followed by broad development in a wide range of lighter machines utilizing the Noiseless principle. |

The Typewriter.... *Inventors of the Typewriter*

PERFECTION of the world's first practical typewriter, announced in 1868, was news—but not exciting news! Its birth was not accompanied by such acclaim as greeted Robert Fulton and his steamboat; no crowds gathered to cheer as they did when Hussey first exhibited his reaper.

In fact, the public took little interest in this epochal invention for several years. Few envisioned any future for it and in this doubting spirit they received some encouragement from one of the inventors. He expressed the fear that his typewriter would prove to be only a passing novelty, and later viewed as perhaps the big market for machines as being among pastors, for use in writing sermons.

Today, almost the reverse of this historical picture is true. Acceptance and use of the typewriter is so universal and its growth through the years has been so gradual that its real significance continues somewhat in the obscurity which marked its beginning. Measured in terms of its service to the world today, however, the typewriter becomes one of the most important inventions of the 19th Century.

It was the introduction of the typewriter which permitted women to enter business . . . first as typists, then to rise to positions of responsibility and trust that they occupy today. Previously women had been restricted largely to nursing and teaching. The typewriter paved the way for a new system of education. It brought development of the vast system of Business Colleges; through the teaching of typing, public schools continued the development of training for useful purposes of life by developing manual training and our great vocational training schools. Within a few years after the introduction of the typewriter there was scarcely a university which had not thrown off its exclusive academic mould and the high schools became the seat of practical education for the millions.

In addition to being a giant industry itself, the typewriter has resulted in the establishment and growth of many other industries. Development of adding and accounting machines has followed the typewriter. Business of the government and private business enterprises could not operate on its present scale nor with efficiency without the typewriter. Growth of the type-



C. LATHAM SHOLES
1819-1890

CARLOS GLIDDEN
1834-1877

writer ribbon and carbon paper industries is directly linked with the typewriter, and there are dozens of other lines of business which owe their success and prosperity to the invention and perfection of the typewriter.

THE ART of writing was an ancient achievement, yet in going back to the transition from hieroglyphics to the alphabet, writing experienced no material improvement in a period of more than 2,000 years, until the first practical typewriter was developed by Christopher Latham Sholes and Carlos Glidden and manufactured commercially for the first time in 1873.

Like many other useful inventions, the idea of substituting a machine for the work of the pen had suggested itself to many minds long before a practical solution was devised.

The first known typewriter patent was granted by Queen Anne of England on January 7, 1714. It was issued to Henry Mill, an English engineer. No record or description of his invention has survived.

The first writing machine constructed in the United States was the invention of William Austin Burt of Detroit. He developed his machine in 1828 and his patent of July 23, 1829 is signed by President Andrew Jackson. His device was crude in operation and had something of the appearance of a butcher shop meat block. The only model was destroyed in the Patent Office fire of 1836.



Photo by Paul Thompson

No Girls or Women Here

This is Nassau street at New York's city hall in the 80's—and not a woman to be seen in this important business district. Women had not yet gained a wide place in the business world.

Compare this picture in New York's business section with the one on the following page. The Typewriter has given women a place in business.

Subsequent to 1714 and prior to July 14, 1868, when a patent was granted to C. Latham Sholes and Carlos Glidden, more than 50 men in this and foreign countries, had devised writing machines. These machines employed various principles and ranged in size from a grand piano to machines small enough to slip into a coat pocket. Though a few of these early machines were manufactured by hand and some were actually sold, none was manufactured commercially nor proved practical in actual use.

IT WAS DURING the winter of 1866-7 that two old acquaintances were engaged at Milwaukee in developing a machine designed for use in numbering serially the pages of blank or printed books. These men were C. Latham Sholes, printer and editor, and Carlos Glidden, attorney, then working on a mechanical spader which he hoped would replace the plow. The two men associated with them Samuel W. Soule, whose ability as a machinist served a most practical purpose.

As work on the numbering machine progressed their plans were broadened to include letters on the machine as well as numerals. In

September, 1867, the invention had progressed so far that with a group circled about him, including a Milwaukee newspaper reporter, Sholes was able to sit down at the machine and write this line: "C. Latham Sholes, September 1867."

Funds were needed by the inventors and the first mission of the typewriter was to prepare its own "sales letter" in quest of financial support for its own existence. The letter went to James Densmore, successful oil man at Meadville, Pa. In exchange for a quarter interest in the invention, Densmore forwarded \$600. He did not see the machine until March, 1868. Then after looking it over, he pronounced it good for nothing except to prove the feasibility of an idea. Densmore took the helm, however, determined to make the invention one of practical use. He furnished both monetary and moral support for the inventors while a series of more than 30 models were produced, each better than the last. By slow degrees the machine reached the point where it was regarded as ready for manufacture.

The Sholes & Glidden Type-Writer was exhibited in New York City in 1871 and 1872 where it attracted little attention. A few were made in a small shop at Milwaukee.

DENSMORE decided to offer the machine to E. Remington & Sons of Ilion, N. Y. and visited the plant of this great company in February, 1873. Sholes was too modest and uncertain of himself to plead his own cause and did not go to Ilion. Instead, the fluent George Washington Newton Yost was delegated to accompany Densmore and to do the job of selling.

Densmore had preceded his visit to Ilion with a letter to Philo Remington, president of the company, in which he described the merits of the invention. Besides the manufacture of firearms, E. Remington & Sons then made the Remington Sewing Machine and another division made agricultural implements.

Densmore's letter was studied by Henry Harper Benedict, then treasurer of the Sewing Machine Division, who pronounced the typewriter "a wonderful invention if it is anything," and advised Mr. Remington that "we should not neglect the opportunity offered us to examine it."

Densmore and Yost set up the machine and demonstrated it at a little hotel in Ilion.

"What do you think of it?" Remington asked Mr. Benedict.

"The machine is very crude," he replied, "but there is an idea there which will revolutionize business. We must on no account let it get away."

REMINGTON became the first manufacturer of typewriters with the contract for this patent signed March 1, 1873. As soon as the manufacture of the typewriter was undertaken, the ample resources and skilled workmen at the great factory were brought into

service for further improvement of the machine. To William K. Jenne was assigned the task of converting the Sholes & Glidden machine into a finished, commercial typewriter. His success marked him as the first in the long line of capable men and women who have contributed to the advancement of the typewriter from 1873 until today.

The Remington Model 1, ornamented with gay and flowery designs, was first fitted to a sewing machine stand, with a treadle operating the carriage return. Earliest advertisements were directed to court reporters, lawyers, editors, authors and clergymen. Importance of the machine in the business world was not emphasized. Mark Twain, American humorist, was among the first purchasers of a Remington and he was the first author to submit a typewritten manuscript to a publisher.

The typewriter was exhibited at the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia in 1876 where it was viewed by thousands for the first time. Samples of typewritten work were broadcast throughout the world by visitors who paid 25 cents to have a brief note typed to mail back to friends or relatives at home. But sales continued slow and results were disappointing.

Densmore and Yost became the first selling agents of the typewriter but they were unsuccessful. The public was reluctant to pay more than \$100 for a machine to do the work of a pen which cost only a penny. Other sales representatives had little more success.

The typewriter was greatly improved in utility and construction in 1878 when the Remington Model 2 introduced the key shift and capital and lower case letters for the first time. Fairbanks & Company, scale makers, became selling

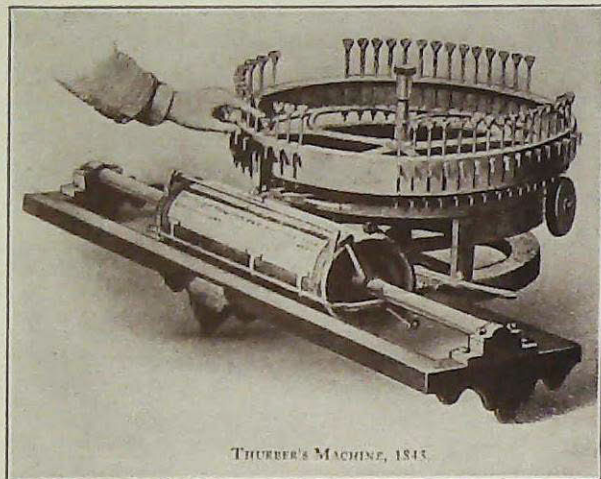
Pictures Tell Story of Women In Business

Half a century ago women did not even visit the mercantile sections of our cities.

This recent view in downtown New York shows how heavily the women now out-number the men. The Typewriter has brought about the real emancipation of women.



Photo by Ewing Galloway



This early crude effort at mechanical writing was developed by Charles Thurber in 1843. Here is the principle of a type wheel used on present toy models. This machine was never manufactured nor sold.

agents with Clarence W. Seamans, then only 24, as sales manager.

THE YEAR 1882 proved to be the turning point in the history of the typewriter, with the organization of the firm of Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict as the sales company. Seamans was joined by Mr. Benedict who had been associated with the typewriter from its start, and William O. Wyckoff of Ithaca, N. Y., successful court reporter and shorthand teacher who had been sales agent for the typewriter in central New York.

The Remington market was made world-wide. The German market was entered in 1883; an office opened in Paris in 1884 and in 1885 the Remington was introduced in Russia with a machine writing Russian characters. Machines had been sold in England as early as 1874, but an office was opened in London in 1886 and by 1890 the typewriter occupied a prominent place in the British commercial world. The Belgian market was opened in 1888; Italy in 1889, Holland in 1890, Denmark, 1893, and Greece, 1896. In establishing Remington in every part of the civilized world, special schools for training typists were opened in many foreign cities. The typewriter conquest was extended rapidly to South America, Africa, the Far East and even to Iceland.

Succeeding years which have brought ever widening use of the typewriter were marked also by continuous improvement of the machine itself. Many of the refinements and improve-

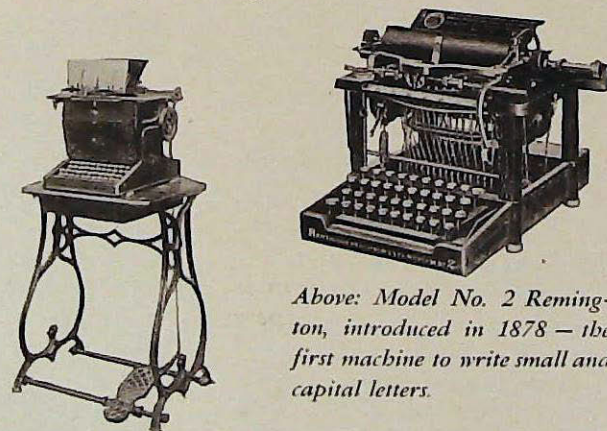
ments which make machines so efficient today were pioneered by Remington. These include the automatic ribbon reverse mechanism, first introduced in 1896, and the decimal tabulator, developed by Frederick Gorin and introduced in 1898. In 1907, Remington introduced its Adding and Subtracting typewriter, the forerunner of the present electrified Remington Accounting and Bookkeeping Machine.

Important contribution in the field of Portable Typewriters was made in 1920 with introduction by Remington of the first machine of this type having a standard keyboard. In 1924 the Company was further strengthened by the consolidation of the Noiseless Typewriter Company and in the following year, Remington produced the first Noiseless with a standard keyboard . . . the same keyboard with only minor changes as that devised by Latham Sholes on his first model of 1868.

REMINGTON, in 1927, became one of the important divisions of Remington Rand Inc. the world's largest manufacturers of office equipment and business systems.

Since 1927, improvements and refinements in Standard, Noiseless and Portable Typewriters have witnessed their greatest progress. Mechanical perfection and the wide use of machines has been unequalled in the industry.

Growing recognition of the importance of the typewriter for home use and in the education of even elementary school students has placed new emphasis upon the Portable Typewriter. This has led to broadest development of the lighter machines over a wide price scale and to the introduction of the first practical Noiseless Portable by Remington in 1931.



First machines of Remington Model No. 1 were mounted on sewing machine stands. The foot treadle operated the carriage return.

Noiseless Typewriter...

HISTORY OF the Noiseless Typewriter is the story of romance and a determined, unrelentless struggle through the years for an ideal.

The men who developed this machine were not professionals. It is probable that the Noiseless would never have been conceived nor perfected by typewriter men. They would have discarded the idea as impractical. At its start, the Noiseless had exactly what was needed—amateurs with ideas.

Even before 1894 when costly noise was not the problem that it is today, various attempts had been made to reduce the noise created by typewriters. Wellington P. Kidder, maker of printing presses, was an "inspired amateur" in the field of typewriters. He saw the picture of Noiseless typing and the means to work it out. Beginning his work in 1894 in association with the Hon. C. C. Colby who financed the program, Kidder achieved the principle of pressure printing for his typewriter. His toggle and cam action achieved noiseless typing, but the action was heavy and slow. After machines were manufactured it was found necessary to abandon this type of action. No machines were placed on the market until 1909 and these were soon withdrawn and the search began for an improved type of action.

The answer came in an unexpected way. While sitting in a hotel lobby on Valentine's Day in 1913, Nils H. Anderson, engineer with the company, hit upon the idea of substituting a double toggle action for the toggle and cam. He put his idea on paper and worked out the momentum accumulator which is the principle now used on the Remington Noiseless. Pressure of the key moves the type bar to within a fraction of an inch of the printing surface, and the small weight of the momentum accumulator presses the type gently against the paper.

Reorganization followed and these new machines were introduced in 1915. Steady improvement was made in models and growth of this branch of the typewriter industry has since been continuous.

Forty years of experience in the field of Noiseless Typewriting had their culmination with introduction in 1934 of the Remington Noiseless Model 10, the newest and finest typewriter ever built.



Dr. Samuel W. Francis in 1857 patented this writing machine which resembled a piano. He arranged the type bars in a circle to strike at a common center, but no practical use was ever made of this effort.

Carbon Paper Typewriter Ribbons...

A PIECE OF Carbon Paper is too ordinary a thing in business today to receive particular attention, yet few articles of commerce have achieved such world-wide acceptance. It is in such general use that it has a part in the daily routine of practically every enterprise in the world.

Both the Carbon Paper and Typewriter Ribbon industries have been developed with the Typewriter. Just as Remington pioneered the Typewriter, so is Remington Rand Inc. a pioneer manufacturer of these associated products.

Invention of Carbon Paper is credited to Ralph Wedgewood in London, in 1803. The discovery, however, was put to no practical use. In 1823, a Carbon Paper was produced in Concord, Mass. by Cyrus P. Dakin, apparently representing original work by Mr. Dakin, because he claimed an original invention and had never heard of Wedgewood's paper. Dakin proceeded to New York City in the following year. His name appears in the New York directory of 1826 as a saddler. In the directory of 1832, the entry after his name is "manifold writer." He continued the manufacture of Carbon Paper, although the principal market was among book-makers for use in gambling records.

By 1868, the Associated Press, predecessor of the present news-gathering association, had adopted Carbon Paper for making pen and pencil copies of dispatches and was buying the entire output from Dakin's small plant.

IN THIS YEAR of 1868, Lebbeus H. Rogers on reaching his 21st birthday was made a member of a wholesale grocery firm in Cincinnati where he had been employed and celebrated the occasion by making a balloon ascension. He visited the Associated Press office where he saw Carbon Paper for the first time. He obtained several sheets, cut them to sizes of bills of lading, adapted it for making copies of correspondence . . . became the first man in the world to apply this 65-year-old product to business where it rightly belonged.

By 1870 Rogers was convinced of the big field for Carbon Paper in business where it was still unknown. He resigned his position in Cincinnati and left for New York. Enroute he stopped at Washington, demonstrated his manifold books and closed a \$1,500 order from the War Department . . . the first time that Carbon Paper was ever used in a government office. He organized the firm of L. H. Rogers & Co., in New York and set out upon the discouraging task of converting business to his product which was entirely unknown.

In those days Carbon Paper was made entirely by hand. A mixture of lampblack and lard was simply smeared on tissue paper, usually by means of a stick which had a piece of carpet tacked along one end.

Meanwhile, it was Rogers, also, who first saw the possibilities in writing carbon copies on the Typewriter. When the Sholes & Glidden Machine was being shown in New York City in 1872 by James Densmore, Rogers produced two sheets of Carbon Paper, arranged them in duplicate and triplicate and wrote three copies at once.

Rogers followed through with equal thoroughness in the field of Typewriter Ribbons, producing the first Ribbons for Remington. The ribbons used on early models of the typewriter

had been made by hand. A piece of ribbon was purchased at a drygoods store, saturated in a bowl of ink, allowed to dry and was then wound onto the spool of the machine. Rogers searched the world for cloth of suitable texture for these ribbons and was unsuccessful until he reached Carl Hinneberg & Son of Elberfeld, Germany. Rogers was the first to market Typewriter Ribbons wound on spools and packed in individual boxes.

THE REMINGTON Rand plant at Bridgeport, Conn., the largest in the world devoted exclusively to the manufacture of Typewriter Ribbons and Carbon Papers, had its beginning in 1887 . . . the year in which machine manufacture of Carbon Paper was started and wax and oil bases were substituted for the mixture of lampblack and lard.

It was in 1887 that Louis Nathan Chapin, book publisher in New York, launched a Typewriter Ribbon industry at the suggestion of Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict, owners of the Remington Typewriter. He became manufacturer exclusively for Remington and continued until 1899 when the business was transferred to the name of the Remington organization. The plant was continued in New York until 1900 when it was moved to Bridgeport.

At Bridgeport, the manufacture of Carbon Paper was consolidated with the Typewriter Ribbon industry in 1900.

Two additions have since been constructed at this plant as Remington has taken an increasingly large place in worldwide sale and distribution of Typewriter Supplies. Carbon Papers and Typewriter Ribbons under the trade name of Remtico are shipped from Bridgeport to every State in the Nation and to every country in the world.

Latest and most efficient machinery is utilized and based upon an experience beginning in 1887, constant improvement has been made in the selection of the rare waxes and oils which go to make up the base for Carbon Papers . . . the inks used for coloring both Ribbons and Papers and the tissue papers and ribbon fabrics used.

REMINGTON RAND INC.

BUFFALO, N. Y.

Manufacturers of Remington Noiseless, Standard and Portable Typewriters . . . Remington, Powers & Dalton Accounting Machines, Kardex, Library Bureau, Baker Vawter-Kalamazoo Systems Equipment . . . The Safe-Cabinet