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DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Calendar Timepiece

We, KABUSHIKI KAISHA SUWA SEIKOSHA, a Japanese company, of 5-19, 4-chome, Ginza-Nishi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to calendar timepieces of the type having date and day indicating means.

According to the present invention, there is provided a calendar timepiece having date and day indicating means, a correcting mechanism for correcting the indication of said date and day indicating means, a setting device being settable to a plurality of positions one of which is a date and day indication correcting position and in which said setting device is operatively connected to said mechanism, the arrangement being such that when said setting device is in said position, rotation thereof in one direction causes correction of the date indication only, while rotation of said device in the opposite direction causes correction of the day indication only.

Said setting device may be a crown and an associated stem.

Preferably, said date and day indicating means includes a date ring and a day wheel; said mechanism includes a date correcting wheel engageable with said date ring and a day correcting wheel engageable with said day wheel, and said setting device, when in said position, engages a setting wheel which has a lever pivoted on its axis, said lever being adapted to move an idler wheel between a position in which the idler wheel engages at least one of said correcting wheels and another position in which the idler wheel engages a minute wheel of the timepiece whereby to enable setting the time-indicating hands thereof.

In one preferred embodiment, there are provided clutch means associated with said correcting wheels and arranged such that rota-

tion of said setting device in a given direction causes engagement of only one of said correcting wheels with its associated day wheel or date ring via said clutch means.

Said correcting wheels may be in mesh with each other and each may be provided with its own clutch wheel constituting said clutch mechanism, each clutch wheel being arranged to engage and rotate with its respective correcting wheel in one direction of rotation only.

In another preferred embodiment, both the date ring and the day wheel mesh with each of said correcting wheels, the rotation of the date ring and of the day wheel being respectively governed by a date jumper and a day jumper which are pivotable and biased into engagement with their respective wheels, the arrangement being such that rotation of the date correcting wheel in its operative direction to correct the position of the date ring causes rotation of the day correction wheel also which latter rotation is, however, insufficient to effect correction of the position of the day wheel, and vice versa.

Preferably, the arc length defined by the interception of the pitch circle of the date correcting wheel by the pitch circle of the date ring is smaller than the arc length defined by the interception of the date jumper rotational path by the pitch circle of the date wheel; while the arc length defined by the interception of the pitch circle of the day correcting wheel by the pitch circle of the day wheel is smaller than the arc length defined by the interception of the day jumper rotational path by the pitch circle of the day wheel.

The date correcting wheel may be mounted so that its axis of rotation is displaceable, relative to said lever and said day correcting wheel, between two positions in one which it engages the date ring and is disengaged from the day correcting wheel, while in the other position it engages the day correcting wheel and is disengaged from the date ring, said two

positions respectively corresponding to opposite directions of rotation of the setting device.

In a further preferred embodiment, said date correcting wheel is mounted on a common shaft with a drive receiving wheel, the shaft being slidable in a slot formed in a lever adapted to co-operate with the date ring.

Said stem may be a winding stem of a manually wound watch for winding up the mainspring of the timepiece in another position of said setting device.

The invention will be illustrated, merely by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a plan view of parts of a calendar timepiece in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention, shown in the date and day correcting position;

Figure 2 is a view similar to Figure 1 but shown in a hand setting position;

Figure 3 is a cross-section of the timepiece shown in Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a plan view similar to Figure 1 but showing another embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 5 is a plan view of the calendar timepiece of Figure 4 in the hands setting position, with certain parts omitted for clarity;

Figure 6 is a plan view of a calendar timepiece in accordance with a further embodiment of the present invention, shown in the date correcting position;

Figure 7 is a plan view of the timepiece of Figure 6 shown in a day correcting position, and

Figure 8 is a plan view of the timepiece shown in Figures 6 and 7 shown in a hand setting position.

Referring first to the embodiment shown in Figures 1 to 3, there is shown a calendar timepiece 100 having a setting device including a crown 101 connected to a stem 1 on which is mounted a yoke 2. One end of the yoke 2 is adapted to abut one end of a setting lever 3 the other end of which is pivotally mounted on the stem 1.

The lever 3 has two shoulders 4 and 5 one or other of which is respectively adapted to abut one end 9 of a pivoted lever 8. A clutch wheel 6 is mounted on the stem 1 and is engageable with a setting wheel 7 on the axis of rotation of which the lever 8 is pivoted.

The setting wheel 7 meshes with an idler wheel 10 the shaft of which is pivotally connected to the other end of the lever 8. A spring 11 is provided to urge the lever 8 into engagement with the setting lever 3. In the Figure 1 position the idler wheel 10 meshes not only with the setting wheel 7 but also with a date correcting clutch wheel 15. The date correcting clutch wheel 15 is coaxially mounted on a common shaft with a date correcting wheel 16 which is star-shaped and is adapted to engage a date ring 12 shown in broken lines.

The date correcting clutch wheel 15 is arranged to mesh with a day correcting clutch wheel 17 which is coaxial with, and mounted on a common shaft with, a day correcting wheel 18. As will be seen from Figure 3, the date and day correcting wheels 16, 18 are not co-planar.

The day correcting wheel 18 is in turn arranged to mesh with a day star wheel 14 which is fixed to the day dial (not shown) of the timepiece, i.e. to the dial on which the days are printed. At 13 there is shown a minute wheel which represents part of the minute gear train (not shown) of the timepiece.

The crown 101 and the stem 1 are arranged to be settable to three different positions only two of which are shown. In one of these positions (not shown) corresponding to a position of deepest penetration of the stem 1 into the mechanism of the timepiece, the clutch wheel 6 engages with a winding pinion (not shown) of the timepiece to wind the mainspring and in this position the clutch wheel 6 does not engage with the setting wheel 7. In the position shown in Figure 2 in which the crown 101 and the stem 1 are fully pulled out, the end 9 of the lever 8 engages the shoulder 4 of the setting lever 3 and this causes pivoting of the lever 8 about the shaft of the wheel 7 and displacement of the idler wheel 10. As shown in Figure 2, the idler wheel 10 is disengaged from the date correcting clutch wheel 15 and is engaged with the minute wheel 13. Thus this corresponds to a hands setting position since rotation of the crown 101 will result in the setting of the hands of the timepiece.

The third position of the crown 101 is intermediate to the two positions described above and it corresponds to a date and day indication correcting position in which the setting device comprising the crown 101 and the stem 1 is operatively connected to the above-described date and day indication correcting mechanism. More specifically, the arrangement of the clutch wheels 15 and 17 is such that when the date correcting clutch wheel 15 is rotated clockwise as viewed in Figure 1, the date correcting wheel 16 will rotate therewith but will not rotate at all when the date correcting clutch wheel 15 rotates in the counter-clockwise direction. Similarly, when the day correcting clutch wheel 17 is rotated clockwise, the day correcting wheel 18 will rotate therewith but when the day correcting clutch wheel 17 is rotated counter-clockwise, the day correcting wheel 18 will remain stationary. From this it will be clear that when the crown 101 and stem 1 are in the date and day correcting position, rotation of the stem 1 counter-clockwise, as viewed, causes rotation of the date correcting clutch wheel 15 clockwise and thus the date correcting wheel 16 will also rotate clockwise to rotate the date ring 12 in order to effect a correction of the date. During this

time, the day correcting clutch wheel 17 rotates counter-clockwise but the day correcting wheel 18 does not rotate and thus the day dial will not be subject to any change.

On the other hand, rotating the stem 1 clockwise will cause rotation of the date correcting clutch wheel 15 in a counter-clockwise direction and in turn the day correcting clutch wheel 17 and the day correcting wheel 18 will rotate clockwise, and the day star wheel 14 will rotate counterclockwise to effect correction of the day setting; meanwhile the date correcting wheel 16 will not rotate and thus no change will be made at the date dial.

Thus it will be observed that in said position of the stem 1 its rotation in one direction effects instantaneous correction of the date indication independently of the day indication and of the time indication while its rotation in the other direction causes instantaneous correction of the day indication independently of the date indication and of the time indication.

Referring now to the embodiment shown in Figures 4 and 5, there is shown a calendar timepiece with a somewhat different layout for a date and a day correcting mechanism. The crown and its associated stem is designated by the reference numeral 19 on which is pivotally mounted a setting lever 20 having a first pin 21 and a second pin 21a which is adapted to engage with notches in a yoke spring 22 provided for positioning the setting lever 20. A clutch wheel 23 is mounted on the stem 19, and a yoke 24 rotatable about a pin 25 and engaging at one end with a projection on the lever 20 is arranged to set the position of the clutch wheel 23.

The clutch wheel 23 meshes with the setting wheel 26 on the shaft of which is pivotally mounted a correcting lever 27 adapted to engage with the setting lever 20. The other end of the lever 27 remote from the lever 20 is engaged by a spring 30 and this same spring 30 also bears against the yoke 24 adjacent that end thereof which is mounted on the pin 25.

The correcting lever 27 is also pivoted on the shaft of an idler wheel 29 which is movable between the position shown in Figure 4 and that shown in Figure 5, and will be described in more detail below. In the position shown in Figure 4, the idler wheel 29 not only meshes with the setting wheel 26 but it also meshes with a transmission wheel 31. The transmission wheel 31 is coaxial with, and mounted rigidly on a common axis with, a date correcting wheel 32 adapted to engage with a date ring 33 having teeth as shown. Motion of the date wheel 33 is governed by a date jumper device 34 which is constituted by a resiliently biased pawl pivotable about a screw 35 and urged into engagement with the teeth of the date ring 33 by a spring 36. Figure 4 also illustrates a day star wheel 37 on which is fixed a day wheel 38, a portion only of

which is shown in Figure 4. Rotation of the day star wheel 37 is governed by a day jumper device 39 constituted by a resiliently biased pawl pivoted by a screw at 40 and urged into engagement with the day star wheel 37 by a spring 41. A minute wheel 42 is also provided.

In the Figure 4 position the idler wheel 29 meshes with the transmission wheel 31 and is out of engagement with the minute wheel 42. However, as shown in Figure 5, if the stem 19 is pulled outwards, the lever 20 will pivot owing to the fact that its pin 21a will engage in a different notch of the yoke spring 22 and its pivoting motion will push the correcting lever 27 thereby displacing the idler wheel 29 and causing said idler wheel to mesh with the minute wheel 42. Thus in the Figure 5 embodiment, rotation of the stem 19 will cause rotation of the hands of the timepiece.

Returning to the position of the stem 19 shown in Figure 4, parts of the pitch circle of the date correcting wheel 32 and of the day star wheel 37 have been illustrated, and similarly the paths of motion of the tooth-engaging projections of the jumpers 34 and 39 have been illustrated. The arc length of the pitch circle of the date correcting wheel 32 which is intercepted by a tooth of the date ring 33 has been denoted by the letter "a," while the arc length intercepted between the pitch circle of the date wheel 33 and the line of motion of the jumper 34 has been denoted by the letter "b" the length of arc defined by the intercepting pitch circles of the day star wheel 37 and the date correcting wheel 32 has been denoted by the letter "c" while the arc length defined by the interception of the pitch circle of the day star wheel 37 and the line of motion of the jumper 39 has been denoted by the letter "d."

The relation between the distances "a," "b," "c" and "d" is arranged to be such that "a" is smaller than "b" and "c" is smaller than "d."

It will therefore be observed that in the Figure 4 position rotation of the stem in the counter-clockwise direction causes clockwise rotation of the date correcting wheel 32 via the idler wheel 29 and the transmission wheel 31. Thus the day star wheel 37 engaging with the date correcting wheel 32 will rotate counterclockwise and will act to effect a correction on the day wheel 38. During this time the date wheel 33 will also rotate in the clockwise direction but since the distance "a" is less than the distance "b," rotation of the date ring 33 will not exceed the amount necessary to effect a correction of the date by one unit.

Similarly, the clockwise rotation of the stem 19 will cause counter-clockwise rotation of the date correcting wheel 32 and will cause the clockwise rotation of the day star wheel 37. However, rotation of the day star wheel 37 is not sufficient to effect a day setting in view of the fact that the distance "c" is less than

the distance "d" and therefore only a correction of the date ring 33 engaged with the date correcting wheel 32 is effected.

Referring now to the embodiment shown in Figures 6 to 8, there is shown a calendar timepiece having a crown 61 and a stem 62 associated therewith. The stem 62 is pivotally engaged with a setting lever 43 which in turn is arranged to abut a yoke 45. The yoke 45 is engaged in a groove provided on a clutch wheel 44 which is mounted on the stem 62, and the lever 43 is also arranged to abut one end 60 of a bell-crank lever 47 mounted pivotally on the axis of a first setting wheel 46.

The clutch wheel 44 meshes with the first setting wheel 46 which in turn meshes with a first idler wheel 48 pivotally mounted on the bell-crank lever 47. The first idler wheel 48 meshes in the Figure 6 position with a second idler wheel 53. The second idler wheel 53 has a shaft or pin 52 on which is mounted rigidly a date correcting wheel 51 adapted to engage a date ring 59.

The date ring 59 has a fulcrum 55 on which is mounted a bell-crank shaped data correcting lever 54 one end of which abuts the lever 43 and adjacent the other end of which there is provided an elliptical or oval shaped slot in which the pin 52 is arranged to slide. A spring 56 is provided to bias the date correcting lever 54 in a counter-clockwise direction. There is further provided a second setting wheel 49 adapted to mesh with a minute wheel 50 which in turn co-operates with a day star wheel 58, the latter deriving its drive from a day correcting wheel 57. In the Figure 6 position, of course, this wheel 57 is not driven.

Figure 6 illustrates the position for correcting the date. By turning the crown 61 in a counter-clockwise direction, the clutch wheel 44 will rotate counter-clockwise and the other wheels will all rotate in the direction shown by arrows. Thus the second idler wheel 53 will rotate clockwise and in this position the pin 52 will engage with the upper end of the slot (as seen on Figure 6) and thus the date correcting wheel 51 will be supported in an engaged position with the date ring 59 to cause the latter to rotate in a clockwise direction. In this way, date correction alone is obtained since no engagement with the day correcting mechanism is made at all.

Turning now to the arrangement shown in Figure 7 which corresponds to an arrangement for effecting a day indication correction, the position of the crown 61 and the stem 62 is the same as in Figure 6. However, in the Figure 7 position the crown 61 and the stem 62 are turned clockwise. Thus the clutch wheel 44 will also rotate clockwise and the various wheels 46, 48, 52 and 53 will rotate in the directions shown by respective arrows.

In particular, the second idler wheel 53 and the date correcting wheel 51 will rotate counter-clockwise which causes the pin 52 to

slide to the bottom of its slot, as shown. The displacement of the axis of the second idler wheel 53 means that the date correcting wheel 51 will no longer engage the date ring 59 but will instead engage the day correcting wheel 57, causing the latter to turn clockwise. By virtue of the engagement of the day correcting wheel 57 with the day star wheel 58, a correction of the day setting is made independently of the date setting.

Turning now to the arrangement shown in Figure 8, it will be observed that the crown 61 and the stem 62 have been pulled out further than has been shown in Figures 6 and 7. This displacement causes a corresponding displacement of the setting lever 43 owing to the pivotal connection with the stem 62 and this in turn will cause rotation of the bell-crank lever 47 which rotates about the axis of the first setting wheel 46. Owing to displacement of the bell-crank lever 47, the first idler wheel 48 will no longer mesh with the second idler wheel 53 but will, instead, mesh with the second setting wheel 49 which in turn meshes with the minute wheel 50 forming part of a minute wheel train (not shown). Thus it will be appreciated that in the Figure 8 position the hands of the timepiece can be set by appropriate rotation of the crown 61.

It will be understood from the description above relating to the Figures 6 to 8 embodiment that if the crown 61 and stem 62 are pushed in even further to a position not shown, the setting lever 43 and the yoke 45 will co-operate with each other and with the lever 47 to cause disengagement of the first idler wheel 48 and the second idler wheel 53. Moreover, the first setting wheel 46 will be disengaged from the clutch wheel 44 and in this position the date correcting wheel 51 will come inside of the pitch circle of the date wheel 59 and will not interfere with date changing. In other words, since the hands setting mechanism and date and day correcting mechanism are independent of each other, rotation of the stem 62 will only cause rotation of the clutch wheel 44. Thus if that clutch wheel 44 is connected to a motor spring mechanism, known in itself, which is adapted to wind up the mainspring *via* a winding pinion and crown wheel (not shown), the date and day correcting mechanism of the present invention could be used in a manually wound timepiece, e.g. a watch, as well as in an automatically wound watch.

A number of modifications are possible within the scope of this invention. Thus, in the Figures 4 and 5 embodiment it would be possible to arrange for the date correcting wheel 32 to engage the date ring 33 and the day star wheel 37 through an intermediate wheel. Also, in the embodiment shown in Figures 6 to 8 a single setting wheel may replace the two setting wheels 46 and 49. Also, the date correcting wheel 51 may be driven directly

by the first idler wheel 48. The shape of the slot in which the pin 52 slides may also be modified, if required.

5 It will be appreciated that in the described
embodiments of the present invention it is possible to ensure date and day correction easily and instantaneously by simply turning the stem of the timepiece clockwise or counter-clockwise. Moreover, in these embodiments, the correction mechanism consists of only a few parts and there is no need to provide additional crowns or buttons, nor a very complicated structure, to effect instantaneous date and day correction. Also, the time required to effect such a correction is much reduced over previous devices where the date and day setting was effected by turning the hands of the watch which in some cases, e.g. where the watch was left unwound for several days, was a quite tedious operation.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A calendar timepiece having date and day indicating means, a correcting mechanism for correcting the indication of said date and day indicating means, a setting device being settable to a plurality of positions one of which is a date and day indication correcting position and in which said setting device is operatively connected to said mechanism, the arrangement being such that when said setting device is in said position, rotation thereof in one direction causes correction of the date indication only, while rotation of said device in the opposite direction causes correction of the day indication only.

2. A timepiece as claimed in claim 1 wherein said setting device is a crown and an associated stem.

3. A timepiece as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein said date and day indicating means includes a date ring and a day wheel; said mechanism includes a date correcting wheel engageable with said date wheel and a day correcting wheel engageable with said day wheel, and said setting device, when in said position, engages a setting wheel which has a lever pivoted on its axis, said lever being adapted to move an idler wheel between a position in which the idler wheel engages at least one of said correcting wheels and another position in which the idler wheel engages a minute wheel of the timepiece whereby to enable setting the time-indicating hands thereof.

4. A timepiece as claimed in claim 3 wherein there are provided clutch means associated with said correcting wheels and arranged such that rotation of said setting device in a given direction causes engagement of only one of said correcting wheels with its associated day wheel or date ring via said clutch means.

5. A timepiece as claimed in claim 3 or claim

4 wherein said correcting wheels are in mesh with each other and each is provided with its own clutch wheel constituting said clutch mechanism, each clutch wheel being arranged to engage and rotate with its respective correcting wheel in one direction of rotation only.

6. A timepiece as claimed in claim 3 wherein both the date ring and the day wheel mesh with each of said correcting wheels, the rotation of the date wheel and of the day wheel being respectively governed by a date jumper and a day jumper which are pivotable and biased into engagement with their respective wheels, the arrangement being such that rotation of the date correcting wheel in its operative direction to correct the position of the date ring causes rotation of the day correction wheel also which latter rotation is, however, insufficient to effect correction of the position of the day wheel, and *vice versa*.

7. A timepiece as claimed in claim 6 wherein the arc length defined by the interception of the pitch circle of the date correcting wheel by the pitch circle of the date wheel is smaller than the arc length defined by the interception of the date jumper rotational path by the pitch circle of the date wheel; while the arc length defined by the interception of the pitch circle of the day correcting wheel by the pitch circle of the day wheel is smaller than the arc length defined by the interception of the day jumper rotational path by the pitch circle of the day wheel.

8. A timepiece as claimed in claim 3 wherein the date correcting wheel is mounted so that its axis of rotation is displaceable, relative to said lever and said day correcting wheel, between two positions in one which it engages the date ring and is disengaged from the day correcting wheel, while in the other position it engages the day correcting wheel and is disengaged from the date ring, said two positions respectively corresponding to opposite directions of rotation of the setting device.

9. A timepiece as claimed in claim 8 wherein said date correcting wheel is mounted on a common shaft with a drive receiving wheel, the shaft being slidable in a slot formed in a lever adapted to co-operate with the date ring.

10. A timepiece as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 9 wherein said stem is a winding stem of a manually wound watch for winding up the mainspring of the timepiece in another position of said setting device.

11. A timepiece substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as shown in Figures 1 to 3, Figures 4 and 5, or Figures 6 to 8 of the accompanying drawings.

by the first idler wheel 48. The shape of the slot in which the pin 52 slides may also be modified, if required.

It will be appreciated that in the described embodiments of the present invention it is possible to ensure date and day correction easily and instantaneously by simply turning the stem of the timepiece clockwise or counter-clockwise. Moreover, in these embodiments, the correction mechanism consists of only a few parts and there is no need to provide additional crowns or buttons, nor a very complicated structure, to effect instantaneous date and day correction. Also, the time required to effect such a correction is much reduced over previous devices where the date and day setting was effected by turning the hands of the watch which in some cases, e.g. where the watch was left unwound for several days, was a quite tedious operation.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A calendar timepiece having date and day indicating means, a correcting mechanism for correcting the indication of said date and day indicating means, a setting device being settable to a plurality of positions one of which is a date and day indication correcting position and in which said setting device is operatively connected to said mechanism, the arrangement being such that when said setting device is in said position, rotation thereof in one direction causes correction of the date indication only, while rotation of said device in the opposite direction causes correction of the day indication only.

2. A timepiece as claimed in claim 1 wherein said setting device is a crown and an associated stem.

3. A timepiece as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein said date and day indicating means includes a date ring and a day wheel; said mechanism includes a date correcting wheel engageable with said date wheel and a day correcting wheel engageable with said day wheel, and said setting device, when in said position, engages a setting wheel which has a lever pivoted on its axis, said lever being adapted to move an idler wheel between a position in which the idler wheel engages at least one of said correcting wheels and another position in which the idler wheel engages a minute wheel of the timepiece whereby to enable setting the time-indicating hands thereof.

4. A timepiece as claimed in claim 3 wherein there are provided clutch means associated with said correcting wheels and arranged such that rotation of said setting device in a given direction causes engagement of only one of said correcting wheels with its associated day wheel or date ring via said clutch means.

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7. A timepiece as claimed in claim 6 wherein the arc length defined by the interception of the pitch circle of the date correcting wheel by the pitch circle of the date wheel is smaller than the arc length defined by the interception of the date jumper rotational path by the pitch circle of the date wheel; while the arc length defined by the interception of the pitch circle of the day correcting wheel by the pitch circle of the day wheel is smaller than the arc length defined by the interception of the day jumper rotational path by the pitch circle of the day wheel.

8. A timepiece as claimed in claim 3 wherein the date correcting wheel is mounted so that its axis of rotation is displaceable, relative to said lever and said day correcting wheel, between two positions in one which it engages the date ring and is disengaged from the day correcting wheel, while in the other position it engages the day correcting wheel and is disengaged from the date ring, said two positions respectively corresponding to opposite directions of rotation of the setting device.

9. A timepiece as claimed in claim 8 wherein said date correcting wheel is mounted on a common shaft with a drive receiving wheel, the shaft being slidable in a slot formed in a lever adapted to co-operate with the date ring.

10. A timepiece as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 9 wherein said stem is a winding stem of a manually wound watch for winding up the mainspring of the timepiece in another position of said setting device.

11. A timepiece substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as shown in Figures 1 to 3, Figures 4 and 5, or Figures 6 to 8 of the accompanying drawings.



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