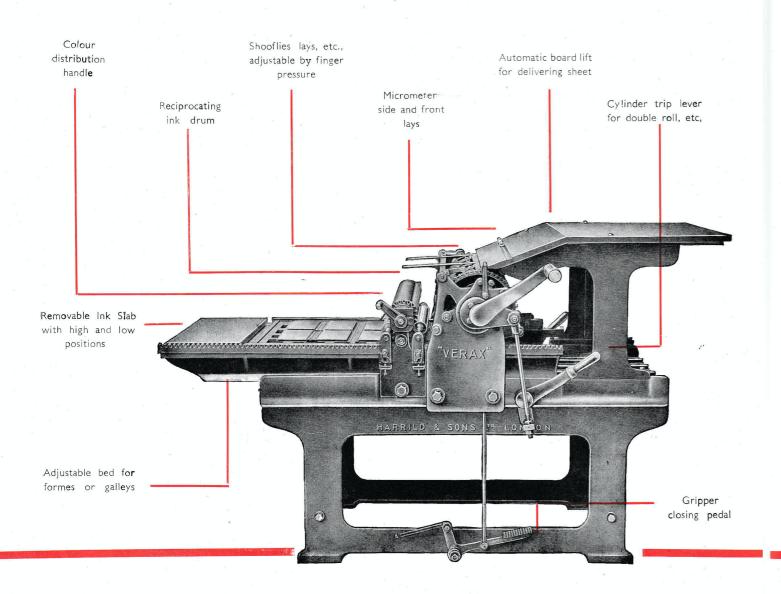
# The VERAX dead rejister self-inking proof press

#### "Verax" means truthful

The Verax Press is built like a flat-bed machine, the bed travelling backwards and forwards while the cylinder rotates in a stationary position. Proofs are therefore taken under almost exactly the same conditions as those in which the job will finally be printed thus faithfully reproducing the printing characteristics of the forme. Its obviously robust strength, its unfailing pin-point register, its excellent inking system and its general handiness in operation make it a press sought after for a variety of purposes connected with letter-press printing. It is, for example, employed in research laboratories for testing the printing qualities of paper. It is used in photogravure houses for the production of negatives and positives from letterpress formes; by process engravers; by users of chalk-overlays and also by printers handling short runs.



## **Operation**

The pressman operating the Verax does not need to move his position; he has merely to revolve the handle first in one direction and then in the other. The Table thus has an inward stroke, during which printing takes place, and an outward or return stroke. Immediately the printing stroke is completed the cylinder lifts automatically so that there is no impression during the return of the table. It should be particularly noted that the cylinder lift is entirely automatic, and occurs without any action on the part of the operator. As the inking apparatus functions during both strokes every job receives a double roll. The cylinder is geared directly to the bed so that register cannot vary.

## Adjustable Bed

The bed itself is adjustable in height by means of a slow-motion handle, and matter in either forme or galley can be proofed to the same standard of excellence. An index at the end of the bed shows its exact setting.

# Rigid Impression

Supporting the bed are three bowl rails with a series of anti-friction bowls or runners. The impression is therefore rigid, and the press is light and easy to operate; in fact it can be operated continuously with the minimum of fatigue.

# Inking and ink slab

The Verax Press is made with two large composition inking rollers  $(3\frac{1}{8})$  surmounted by a steel reciprocating drum. A lever is provided to enable the composition rollers to be lifted and also to be relieved from contact

with the drum. This feature has two objects: it prevents damage to the composition rollers while the press is standing and also renders it possible to proof in a second colour by handrolling, thus avoiding the labour of unnecessary washing up. The Ink Slab is removable, and has two alternative positions. In the normal position it is placed at type height and takes its part in the distribution of ink in the ordinary way. It is recognised however that the very satisfactory functioning of the inking apparatus renders the distribution slab an unnecessary refinement for many classes of work. In the second position therefore the ink slab is placed below type height, and the composition rollers pass above it without making contact. It then becomes an auxiliary slab for use with a hand roller when two-colour work is being proofed.

## Feeding and feedboard

The sheet is fed to micrometer front lays at the top of the cylinder, thus eliminating gripper snatch and other disadvantages associated with under-cylinder feeding. By laying to the top of the cylinder, the side of the sheet to be printed is uppermost, thus avoiding any possibility of damage to a first colour by scraping over the edge of the board. The sheet also rests perfectly flat in the lays, and is not disturbed when the grippers come over to secure it. The micrometer front lays are mounted on their own shaft and are separate from the gripper mechanism. The grippers are closed by means of a pedal, leaving both hands free for careful laying.

The feedboard is placed at the ideal angle for accurate feeding, and its edge is brought as close to the lays as is practicable in order to prevent sag in the sheet. Lays and feedboard are in the same plane, so that the sheet is perfectly flat when secured by the grippers. The front portion of the board is hinged to give ready access to the cylinder mouth.

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An exclusive feature of the Verax Press in the gripper opening device. This comes automatically into operation at the correct position for feeding the sheets. It also opens the grippers to release the sheet after printing. When the release of the sheet occurs however, it does not take place at the feeding position; the sheet being carried well past the feeding point before the grippers open. This brings the sheet to a position where it can be conveniently taken off by the pressman, and it also prevents the possibility of small sheets falling back before they can be secured.

#### Rapid setting

All grippers, lays, contact bowls, etc., are so arranged that they can be instantly moved into correct position by finger pressure and, without the use of spanners.

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#### Blanket bars

Two sets of blanket or packing bars are mounted inside the cylinder. Each has its separate ratchet device for tightening the packing, so that the top sheet can be quickly replaced without disturbing the main cylinder covering beneath.

#### DIMENSIONS

	DEMY	ROYAL
Distance between bearers	21 "	231"
Maximum printing surface	21" × 23½"	$23\frac{1}{2}'' \times 25\frac{1}{2}''$
Maximum Chase Room ( with forme bar removed )	$21" \times 33\frac{5}{8}"$	$23\frac{1}{2}'' \times 35\frac{1}{2}''$
Largest sheet which can be passed through machine	$21" \times 29\frac{1}{2}"$	$23\frac{1}{4}'' \times 31\frac{1}{2}''$
Overall length including stroke of table	8′ 0″	8' 2½"
Overall width including handle	4' 0"	4' 2½"
Overall height	3′ 9″	3′ 9″
Approximate Net weight	12 cwt,	15 cwt.
Approximate Gross weight	15 cwt.	18 cwt.

Equipment includes two sets roller stocks, spanners, oil feeder and cylinder covering

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THE VERAX PROOFING PRESS



A Harrild cylinder proofing press

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