

# **SERVICE MANUAL**

for the

**INSTALLATION**

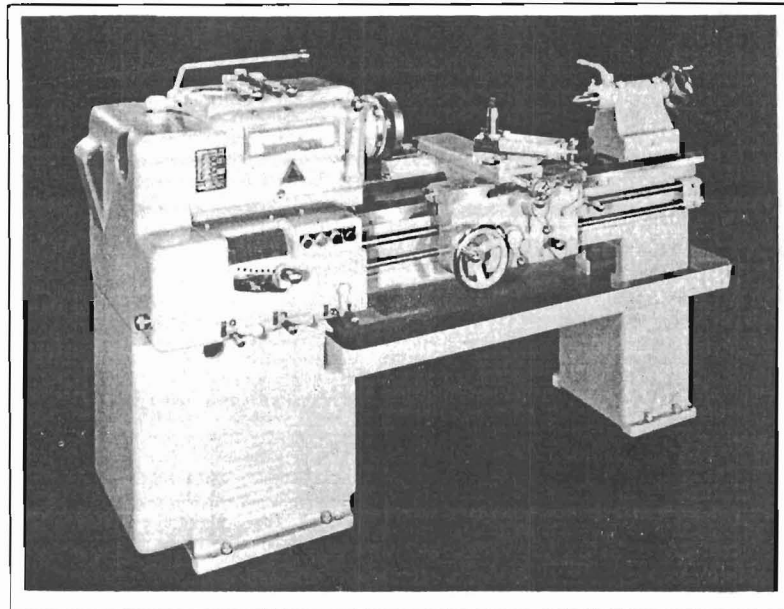
**OPERATION**

and

**MAINTENANCE**

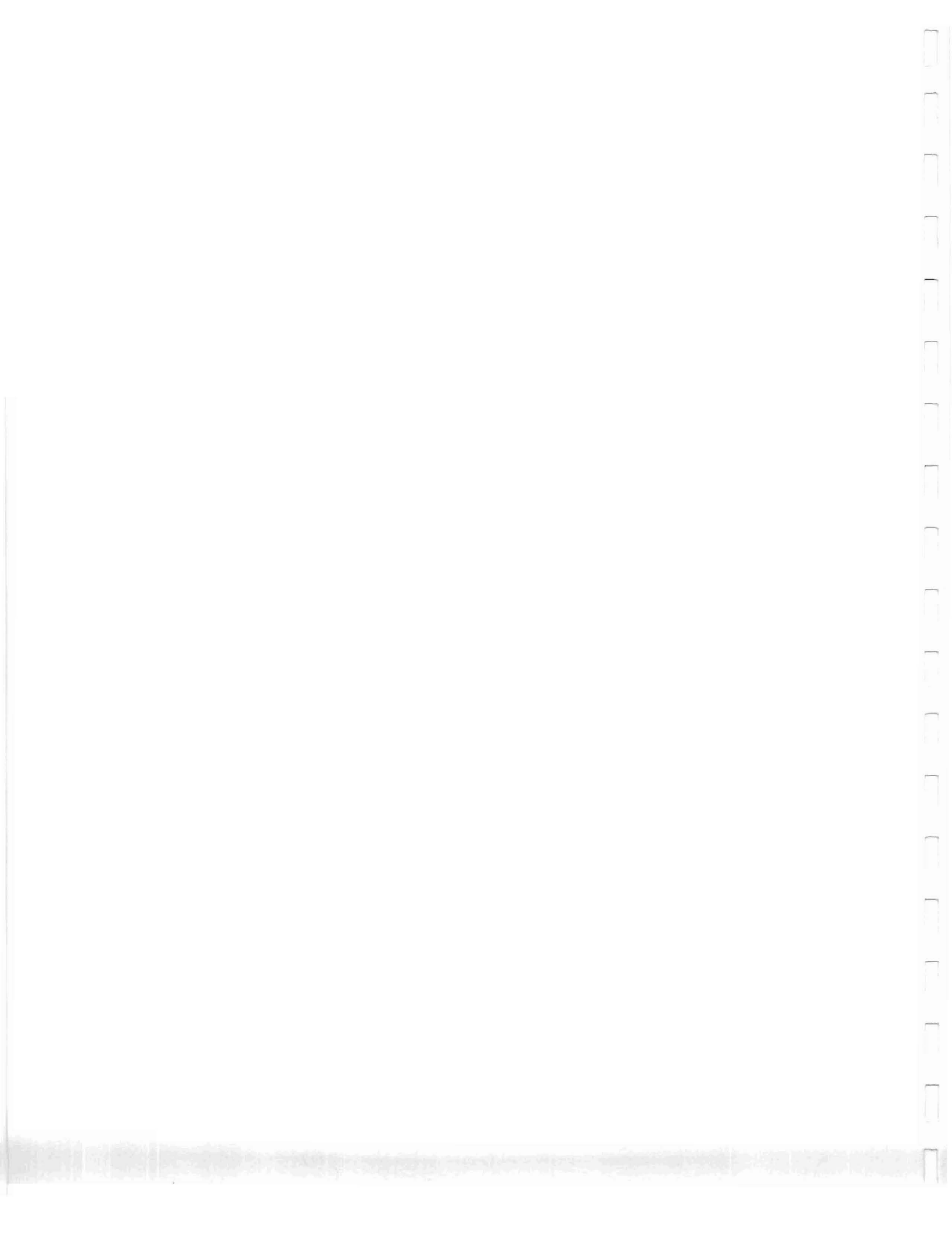
of the

# **ROCKFORD** *ECONOMY*



# **LATHE**

**ROCKFORD MACHINE TOOL COMPANY**



## **FOREWORD**

This manual is intended to explain to the operator the method of handling the controls, the functions of the various parts, and the maintenance of the Rockford Economy Lathe.

It is assumed that the operator is experienced in the use of lathes and, therefore, no attempt has been made in this manual to cover the rudimentary principles of lathe operation such as might be required for the instruction of apprentices.

The principles of tool grinding, thread cutting, the difference in machinability of various materials, the use of chucks and collets, mounting work between centers, the purposes and uses of the steady rest, follow rest and taper attachment, the offset of tail stock spindle are all well known to lathe operators and, therefore, this manual is confined to an explanation of the operating controls of the Rockford Economy Lathe to accomplish the results desired.

The manual also gives instructions for the proper installation and maintenance of the lathe.

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**ROCKFORD MACHINE TOOL COMPANY**

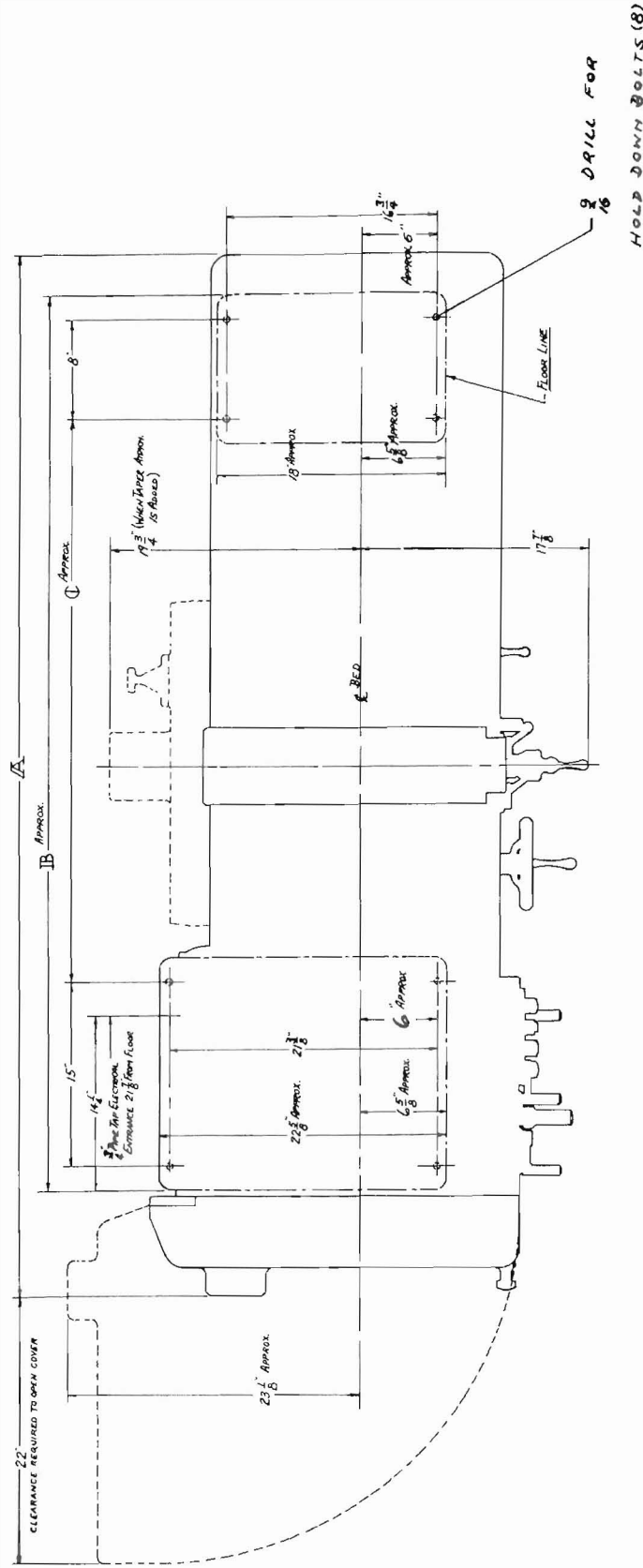
2500 Kishwaukee Street

**ROCKFORD**

**ILLINOIS**

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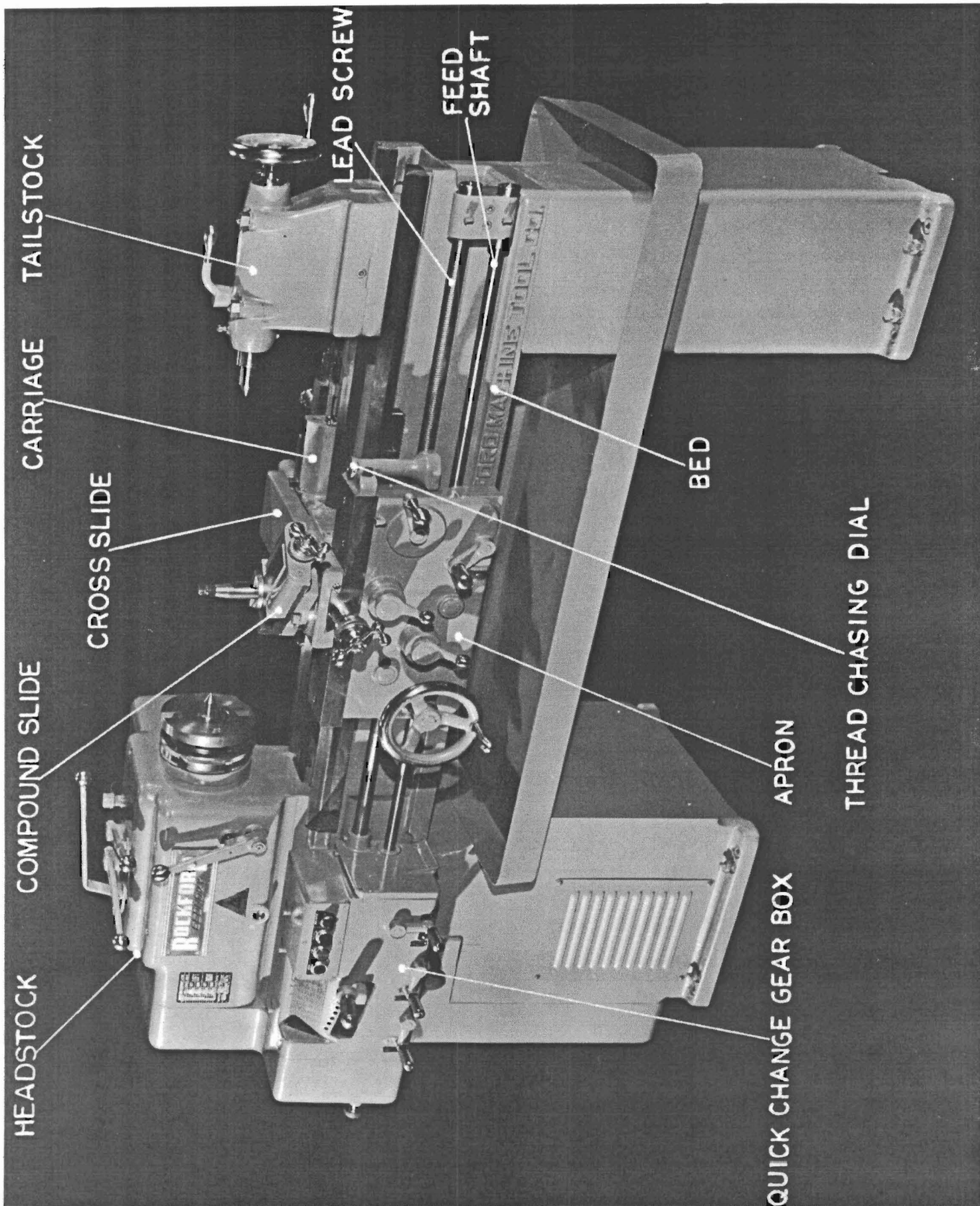
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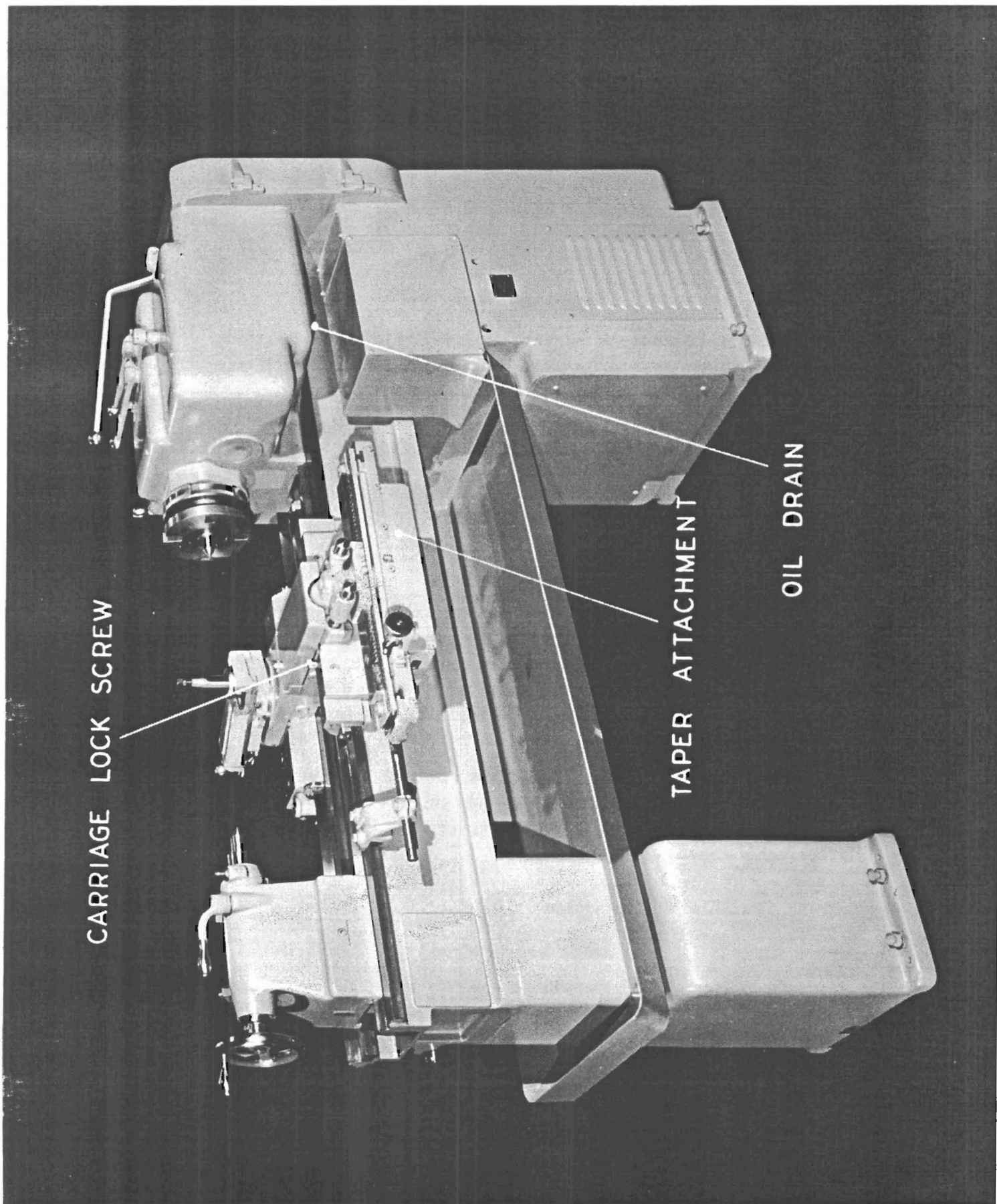


9 DRILL FOR  
16  
HOLD DOWN BOLTS (8)

Part No.	A	B	C
A-14-20-1	64 1/4	72 3/8	45 1/8
A-14-20-2	108 1/4	74 3/8	67 3/8
A-14-20-3	122 1/4	126 1/8	123 1/8

FLOOR PLAN





CARRIAGE LOCK SCREW

TAPER ATTACHMENT

OIL DRAIN

## **RECEIVING**

Before accepting the machine from the transportation company, a preliminary examination should be made for any possible damage in transit. If there is evidence of such damage a notation to that effect should be made on the receipt and the machine received subject to thorough inspection. When the extent of the damage has been determined, your claim should be filed with the transportation company.

## **HANDLING**

The lathe comes to you mounted on skids and may be towed along the floor on these skids to the place of installation, or a lift truck may be used to carry the machine.

If the lathe is to be lifted by a crane be sure that the machine is well balanced in the slings and that there is no danger of the slings slipping out of place.

## **CLEANING**

Before shipment all unpainted surfaces were coated with a rust preventive compound. This may be removed by wiping with rags saturated with kerosene. Gasoline or naphtha will work equally well but the hazard of fire is greatly increased. Clean only by wiping and brushing. Do not use compressed air as this tends only to force dirt and grit into the working parts.

After slushing compound has been removed wipe all finished surfaces with a cloth moistened with lubricating oil. Do not move any of the adjustments or moving parts until the machine has been thoroughly cleaned and lubricated.

## **INSTALLATION**

To assure that a lathe will do accurate work and maintain its alignment it is important that the floor or foundation upon which it is mounted be sufficiently rigid to prevent vibration and warpage.



If the feet of the lathe pedestals are bolted to an uneven surface it is easily possible to twist or bow the lathe bed to an extent that will produce inaccurate and unsatisfactory work. It is therefore of primary importance that the lathe be accurately leveled and securely bolted to the floor.

Do not expect satisfactory results from a carpenter's or mason's level, nor from an ordinary machinist's level. They are not sufficiently sensitive and accurate for precision work. We use a level graduated to show .0005" per foot and the use of a similar one is recommended for installing machines.

The machine should be leveled both lengthwise and crosswise, using the flat ways of the bed as leveling points. For lengthwise leveling the level may rest directly on the flat ways, but for crosswise leveling it is necessary to use a pair of parallels of sufficient width to raise the level above the V ways of the bed. Level at both the headstock and tailstock ends of the bed, using steel wedges under the feet of the pedestals. We recommend that the pedestals be grouted in after leveling.

After tightening the nuts on the hold down bolts, make a final check with the level and use thin shims under the pedestals to make any correction necessary.

## **ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS AND WIRING**

The Electrical connections and wiring of the Rockford Lathe are quite simple as only one motor is used and that is controlled by a reversing starter and suitable push button station.

Copies of the wiring diagram are enclosed in the control cabinet.

When connecting your line wires to the starter set the selector switch of the push button station to the FORWARD position and, with the start and stop buttons, jog the motor slightly to see that the driven sheave runs in the direction shown by the arrow on its side.

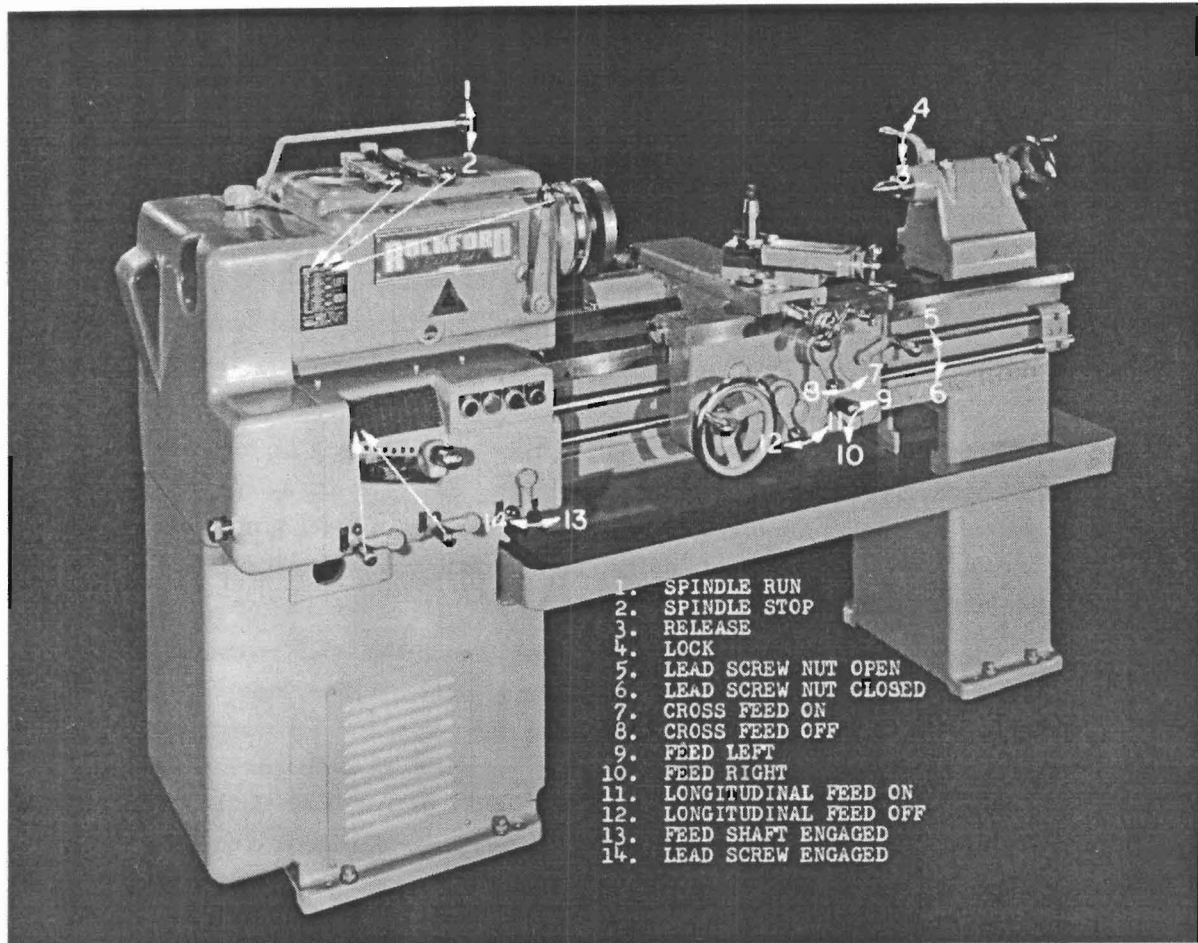


Illustration 1730-CA

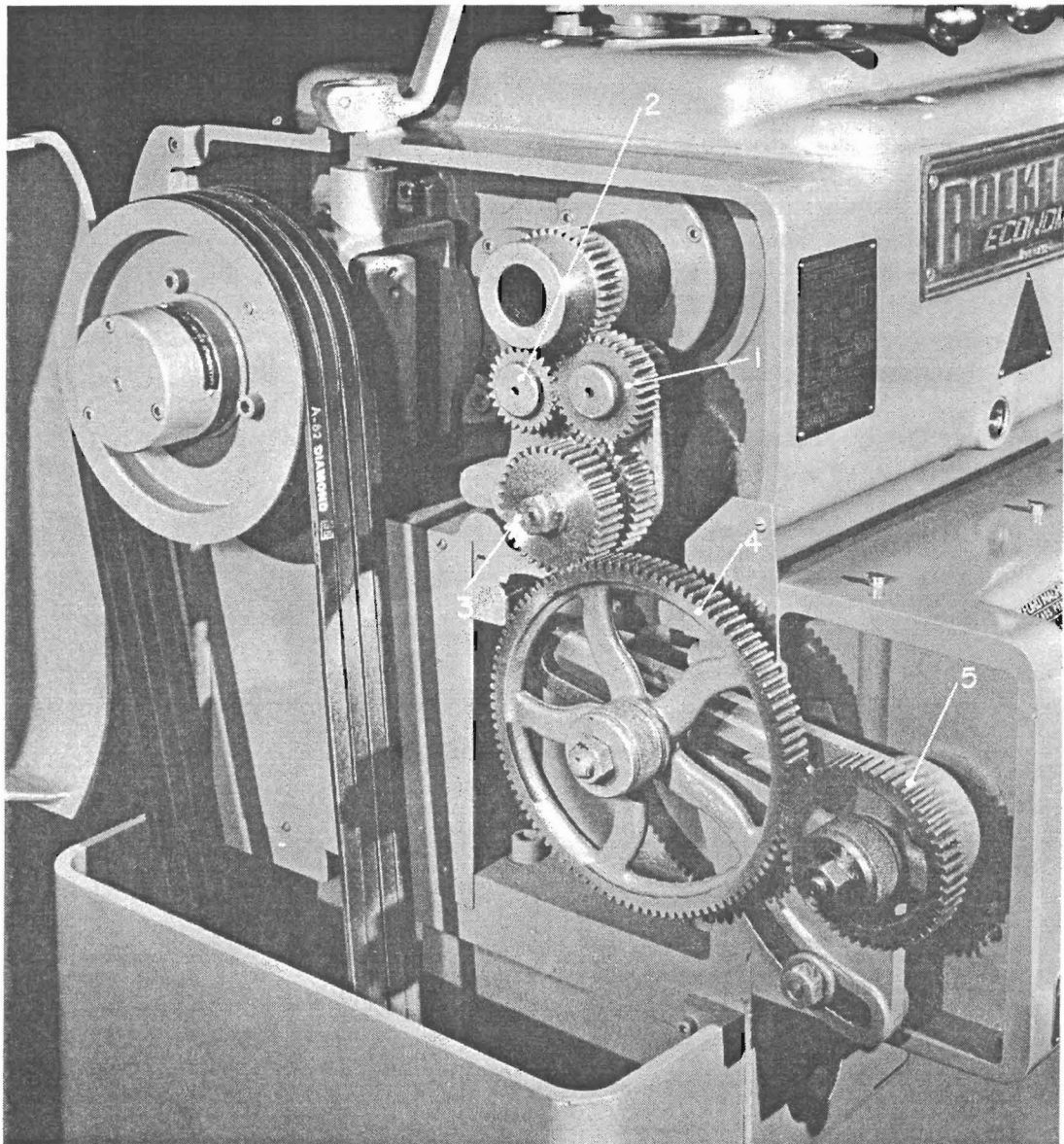
## OPERATING THE MACHINE

Before starting to operate a new lathe it must be lubricated according to the instructions given in the Chapter on LUBRICATION.

Illustration above shows the operating controls and explains their functions and methods of operation.

The levers on the apron engaging the lead screw and the feed rod are interlocked so that it is impossible to engage both at the same time. The lead screw lever can not be shifted to position 6 unless the feed rod lever is half way between positions 9 and 10. Neither can the feed rod lever be shifted to position 9 or 10 unless the lead screw lever is in position 5.

Uses of the spindle speed selecting levers on the headstock are explained on the plate attached to the front of the headstock. Operation of the feed and thread selecting levers is explained on the plate attached to the quick change gear box.



The above illustration shows the gear train as used in a 16 inch lathe. Gears 1 and 2 determine the direction of rotation of the lead screw. Gear 1 is for all turning operations and for cutting right hand threads and is to be in mesh with the spindle and stud gears at all times, except when cutting left hand threads. Gear 2 is to be engaged only for cutting left hand threads. This gear reverses the direction of the whole feeding mechanism and therefore should never be in mesh except when cutting left hand threads.

In an 18 inch lathe there are two idler gears in the train between Gears 3 and 5 as shown in the above illustration. The addition of the second idler gear reverses the direction of the feeding mechanism from that used in the 16 inch lathe. This means that Gear 2 should be in mesh with the spindle and stud gears for all turning operations and for cutting right hand threads. Gear 1 is to be engaged only for cutting left hand threads in an 18 inch lathe.

If it is necessary to cut threads other than those obtainable by means of the quick change gear box, special gears may be substituted for those shown at 3, 4 and 5.

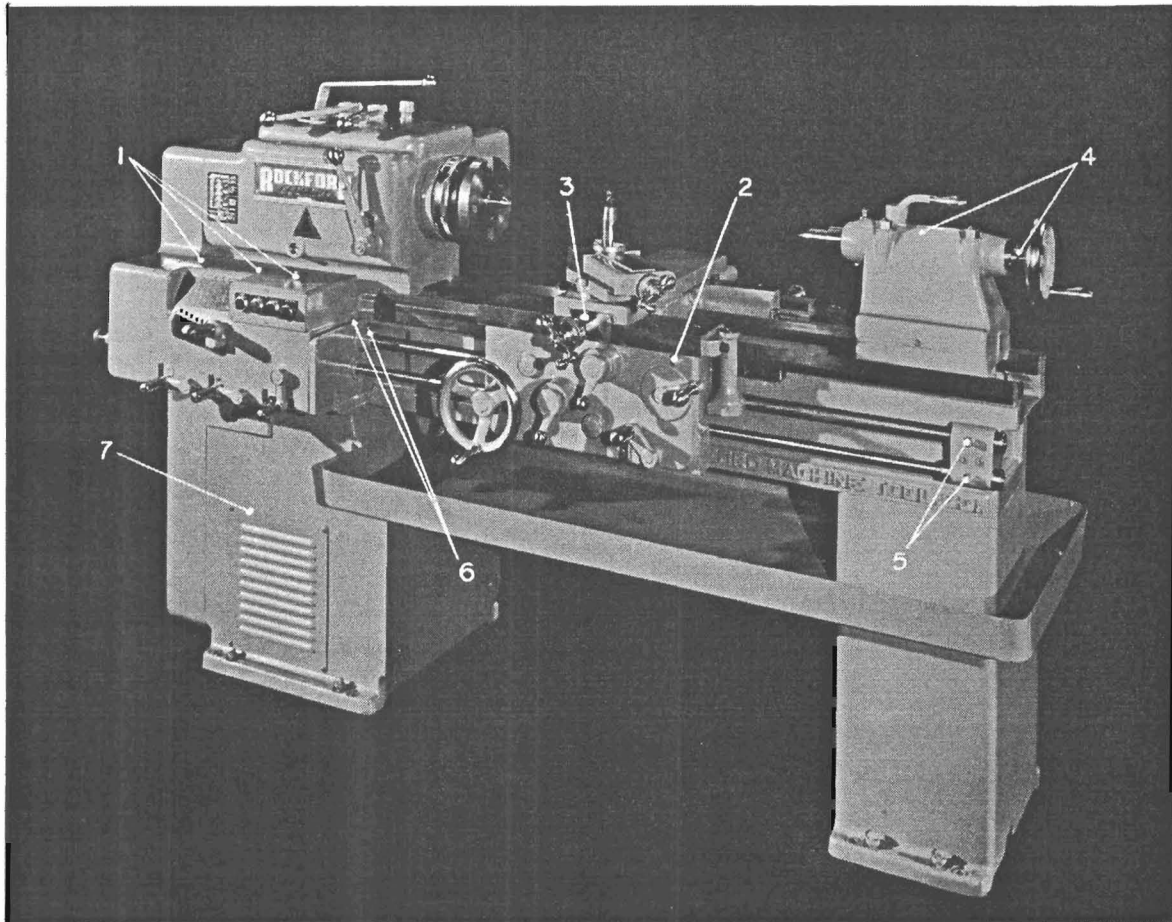
## LUBRICATION

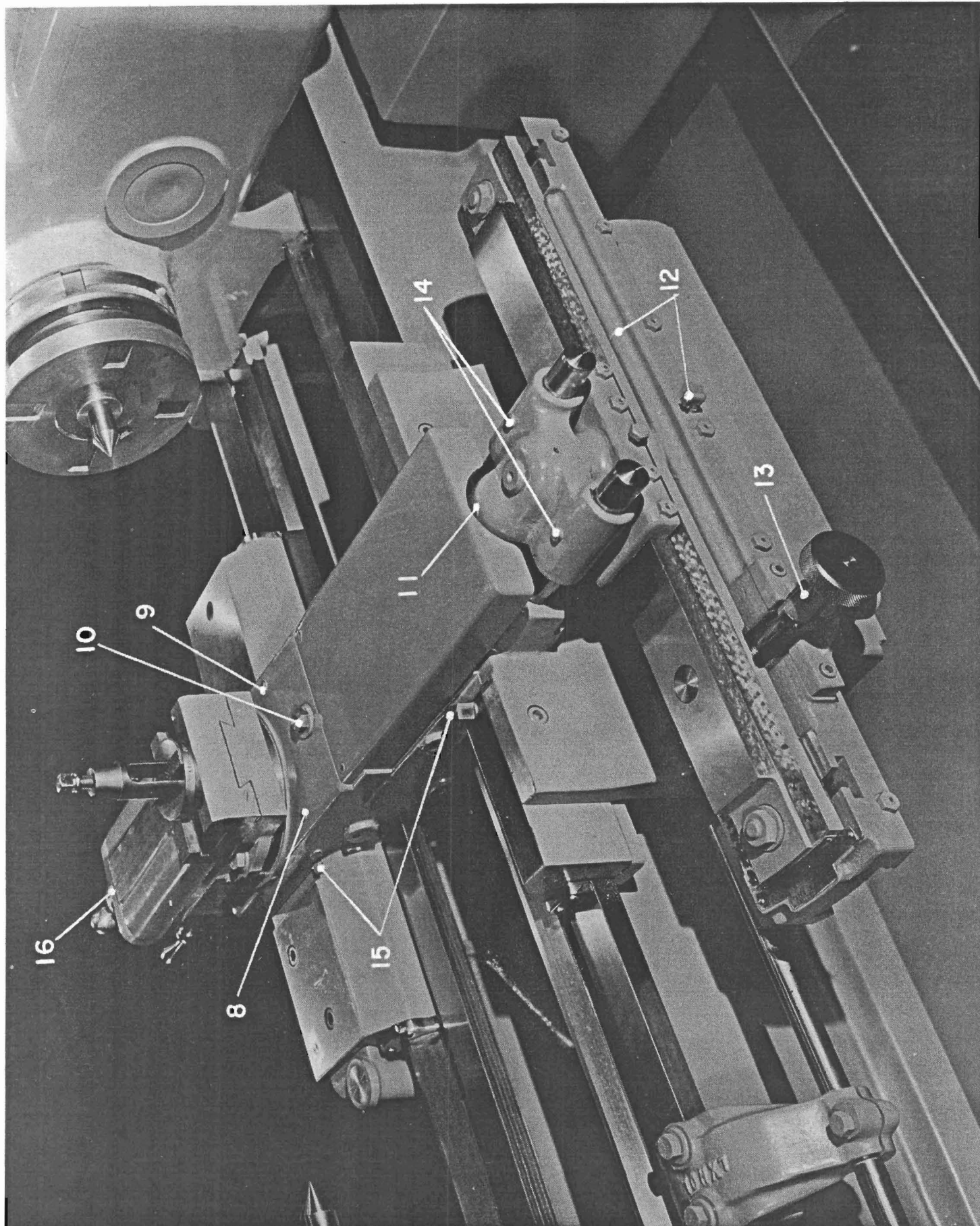
The lubrication of the gears and bearings in the headstock is automatic in operation if the correct amount of oil is maintained in the headstock. Use any good lubricating oil of 300 SSU at 100°, which is equivalent to SAE 20, and pour a sufficient quantity through the filler cap on the top of the headstock to bring the oil up to the line on the glass gage on the side. About seven quarts are required.

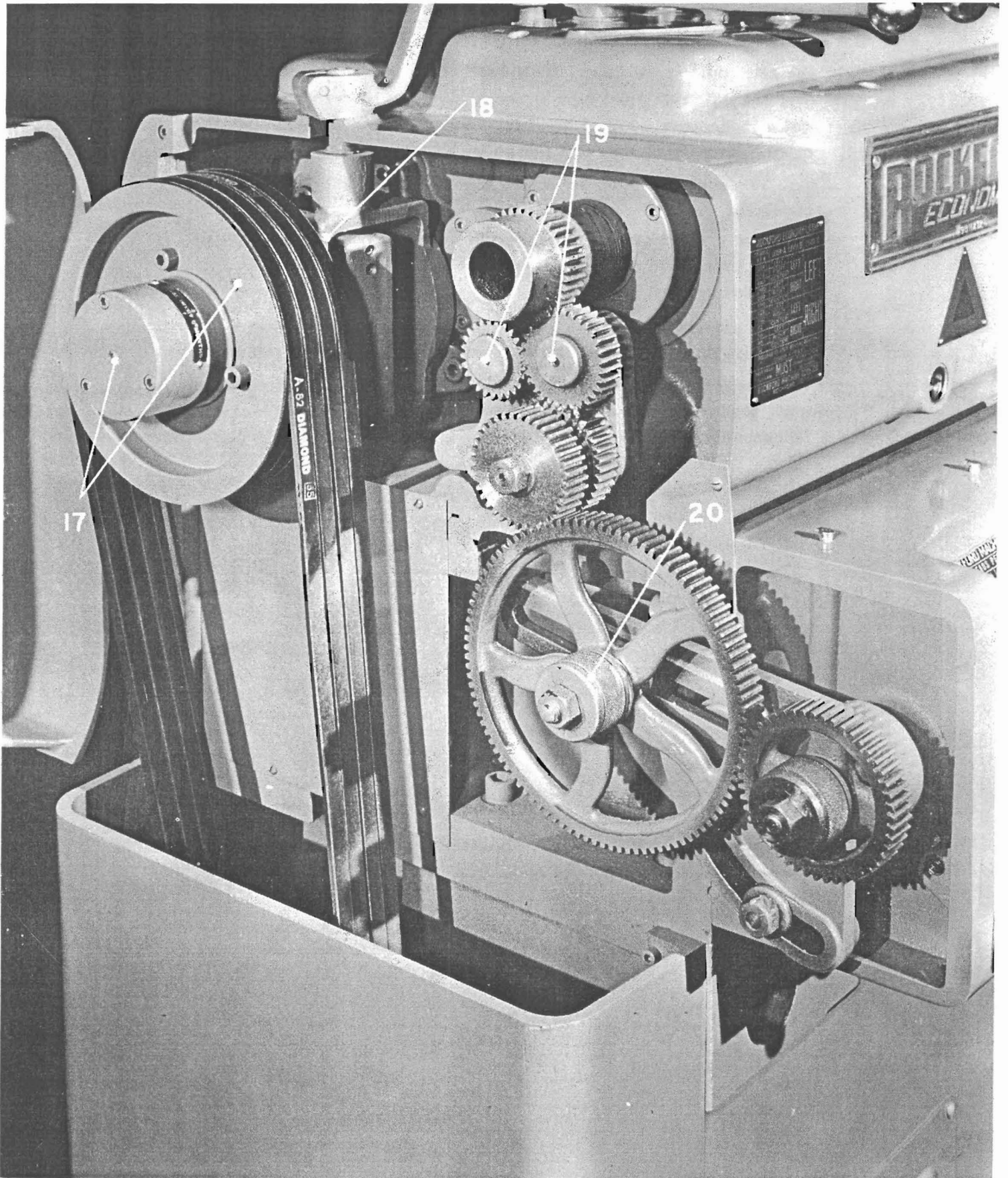
Other points to be lubricated are indicated and numbered on pages 12, 13 and 14.

1. Quick Change Gear Box  
Oil daily.
2. Apron Shaft Bearings  
Fill cup daily.
3. Crossfeed Screw Bearing  
Remove set screw and oil daily.
4. Tailstock Spindle and Screw  
Oil daily.
5. Feed Shaft and Lead Screw Bearings  
Oil daily.
6. Lead Screw Bearing  
Oil daily.
7. Motor  
Grease every six months.
- 8-9. Cross Slide Ways  
Oil daily.
10. Cross Feed Nut  
Remove set screw and oil daily.
11. Cross Feed Screw Bearing  
Oil daily.
12. Taper Attachment Ways  
Oil before using.

13. Taper Adjustment Screw Bearing  
Oil as needed.
14. Taper Attachment Slide Rods  
Oil before using.
15. Carriage Ways  
Fill cups daily.
16. Compound Rest Screw Bearing  
Oil daily.
17. Clutch Bearings  
Grease every 6 months.
18. Clutch Shifter Shoe  
Grease weekly.
19. Rocker Gear Bearings  
Oil daily.
20. Idler Gear Shaft  
Oil daily.







## **TAPER ATTACHMENT**

The Taper Attachment, available as an optional accessory, is of the telescopic screw type. This type offers considerable advantage over the old style yoke type in that it does not render the cross slide screw inoperative while in use. In this way, it greatly facilitates the cutting of taper threads and the boring of taper holes.

The operator, however, must keep in mind that in cutting an increasing taper, the cross slide screw pushes back against the cross slide nut. Therefore, backlash should be taken out of the screw by turning cross slide dial past the desired setting and returning to it in a counterclockwise rotation.

If it is desired to move the tool into the work while feeding longitudinally, this can best be accomplished with the compound rest screw.

The operator will find that if these simple rules are followed, the work produced will be of the highest accuracy and no trouble should be encountered on any type of taper work.



## INSTRUCTIONS ON OPERATION OF THREAD DIAL

The chasing dial on the front of the apron may be used in the following manner:

On any even thread, such as 20, 22, or 24 threads per inch, the dial may be engaged at any line, short or long.

On any full odd thread, such as 11 or 13 threads per inch, the dial may be engaged at any long line.

For half threads, such as  $11\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  or  $6\frac{1}{2}$  threads per inch, every other long mark may be used, as for instance 1, 3 and 5 or 2, 4 and 6.

For any other threads, such as  $5\frac{3}{4}$  threads per inch, engage at one long mark only.

## MAINTENANCE

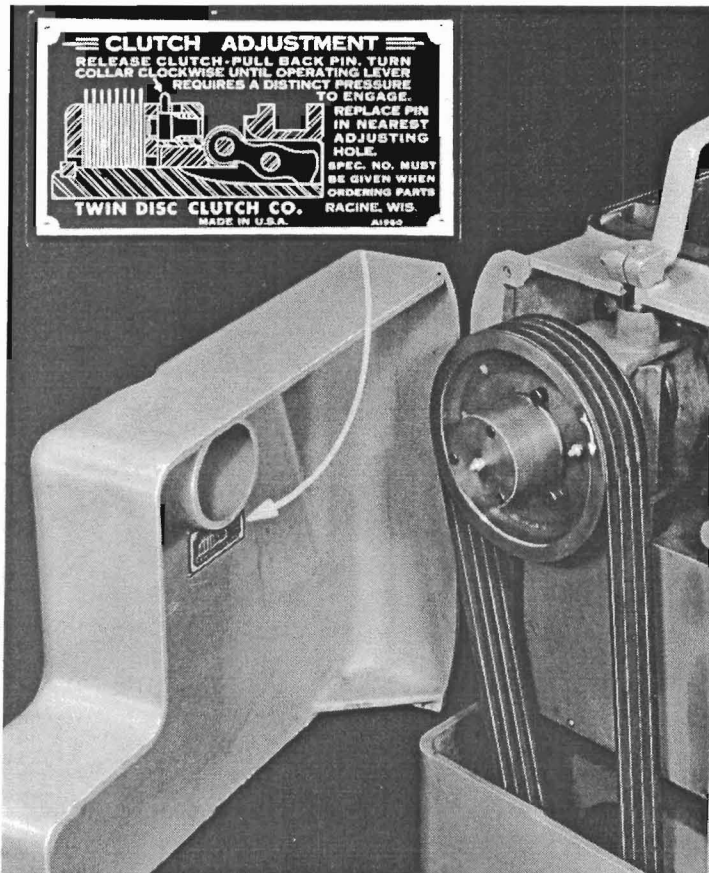
Before shipment each machine is given a serial number and is individually checked and tested by an inspector. A record of the construction and data on the tests are kept in our files. Whenever reference is made to the machine the serial number should be stated. This number is stamped on the top front bed way near the tailstock end.

Except for regular lubrication and checking the level of the oil in the headstock, the lathe requires little maintenance. However, a little time spent regularly in keeping it clean and free from dirt and chips will be well repaid by the service it will give. Clean the machine by wiping and brushing. Do not use compressed air as it only tends to force dirt and grit into the working parts.

Each piece used in the construction is carefully made and passes a rigid inspection before being built into the machine. After assembly each machine is tested on actual turning work. It therefore merits care and consideration if it is to maintain the accuracy and long life which are built into it.

The oil in the headstock should be drained and new oil put in after each 1200 hours of service.

## TWIN DISC CLUTCH ADJUSTMENT



Adjustment is indicated when Lathe appears to lack power, or when clutch obviously slips. Remove pin, as shown in the inset. Adjust clutch clockwise until tension is apparent on the lever. Usually adjustment of one or two holes is sufficient.

## SPECIFICATIONS

### 6' Bed

	16"	18"
Swing over bed.....	17"	18½"
Swing over carriage.....	9¼"	10⅞"
Distance between centers.....	30"	
Hole through spindle (Diam.).....	1⅞"	
Taper for center in headstock spindle.....	No. 5 Morse	
Spindle Nose.....	No. 1 Tapered Key Drive	
Tailstock spindle (Diam.).....	2"	
Taper for center in tailstock spindle.....	No. 4 Morse	
Tailstock spindle travel.....	5¾"	
Number of spindle speeds.....	12	
Spindle speeds (standard) R.P.M.....	32 to 804	
Threads per inch (32 changes).....	4 to 56	
Feeds per revolution of spindle.....	.004" to .060"	
Lead screw diameter and thread.....	1⅛" 6 thd.	
Steady rest capacity (standard).....	4"	
Collet capacity (Maximum).....	1⅜"	
Size of tool shank.....	⅝" x 1½"	
Motor recommended (Maximum).....	5 H.P.	
Motor speed (standard).....	1200 or 1800 R.P.M.	
Weight, 6 ft. bed.....	3000 lbs.	

## **MECHANICAL CONSTRUCTION and PARTS LIST**

The following drawings are presented for the purpose of acquainting the operator with the construction of the machine, to assist in making adjustments and repairs, and to facilitate the ordering of repair parts whenever that occasion arises.

In ordering repairs remember, please, that the only information we have of your needs is what you put on paper and send to us. We urge, therefore, that in your first communication you give as full a description as possible of the parts wanted.

In many cases it will save much correspondence and down time on your machine if full information is given in your first request. Free hand sketches with the principal dimensions are very helpful.

Always refer to the machine by its Serial Number and give the Series Number of this book.

## PARTS LIST

1	End Cover-Hinged	49	Key
2	Knurled Knob	50	Intermediate Shaft Gear
3	Vee Belt Drive Cover	51	Ball Bearing
4	Motor Leg	52	Bearing Thrust Collar
5	Chip Pan	53	Bearing Retainer
6	Tailstock Leg	54	Drive Shaft Sleeve
7	Tailstock Leg Spacer	55	Bearing Spacer
8	Bed	56	Retaining Ring
9	Small Face Plate	57	Locknut
10	Center Collet	58	Lockwasher
11	Center	59	Drive Shaft Cap
12	Carriage Lock Screw	60	Ball Bearing
13	Thread Indicator Lock Screw	61	Ball Bearing
14	Center	62	Pulley Hub
15	Lead Screw Bracket	63	Vee Belt Drive Pulley
16	Feed Screw End Cover	64	Tapered Roller Bearing
17	Collar	65	Clutch Drive Ring
18	Feed Shaft	66	Clutch Collar
19	Lead Screw	67	Clutch
20	Retaining Ring	68	Clutch Housing
21	Shifter Shoe	69	Drive Ring
22	Clutch Shift Lever	70	Fiber Clutch Plates
23	Gear Shift Lever	71	Brake Housing
24	Shift Lever Shaft	72	Oil Seal
25	Shifter Crank	73	Tapered Roller Bearing
26	Shifter Crank	74	Drive Shaft Sliding Gear
27	Crank Stud	75	Clutch Shaft Sliding Gear
28	Shifter Shoe	76	Spacer
29	Clutch Shifter Crank	77	Main Drive Shaft
30	Headstock	78	Intermediate Shaft Gear
31	Headstock Cover	79	Intermediate Shaft Gear
32	Shifter Lever Stud	80	Thrust Washer
33	Clutch Shift Lever	81	Back Gear
34	Headstock Cover Gasket	82	Needle Bearing
35	Shifter Lever	83	Back Gear Pinion and Sleeve
36	Shifter Shoe	84	Oilite Thrust Washer
37	Gear Shift Stud	85	Bearing Spacer
38	Gear Shift Crank	86	Ball Bearing
39	Gear Shift Shaft	87	Intermediate Shaft
40	Rocker Gear—Front	88	Spindle Gear
41	Rocker Gear—Rear	89	Spindle Gear Clutch
42	Rocker Gear Stud	90	Front Bearing Retainer
43	Washer	91	Headstock Spindle
44	Stud	92	Spindle Nose Key
45	Shifter Crank Pin	93	Spindle Nose Collar
46	Small Spindle Gear	94	Tapered Roller Bearing
47	Oil Seal	95	Front Spindle Bearing Cap
48	Seal Retainer Cap	96	Front Bearing Gasket

## PARTS LIST (Continued)

97	Spindle Bearing Nut	145	Intermediate Gear Yoke
98	Triple Sliding Gear	146	Stud
99	Triple Sliding Gear	147	Washer
100	Triple Sliding Gear	148	Gear Box
101	Triple Gear Sleeve	149	Tee Slot Bolt
102	Rear Spindle Bearing Retainer	150	Washer
103	Duplex Ball Bearing	151	Washer
104	Lockwasher	152	Adjusting Screw
105	Locknut	153	Change Gear Distance Collar
106	Rocker Arm	154	Change Gear
107	Oilite Bushing	155	Spacing Washer
108	Washer	156	Yoke Pivot Bushing
109	Change Gear	157	Needle Bearing
110	Head Stud Gear	158	Thrust Washer
111	Rocker Stem	159	Tumbler Gear Stud
112	Oilite Bushing	160	Tumbler Gear Driven
113	Thrust Washer	161	Bronze Bushing
114	Head Stud	162	Tumbler Lever Gear
115	Oil Level Gage	163	Tumbler Lever
116	Spindle Sleeve	164	Spacer
117	Clutch Gear	165	Clutch Gear
118	Thrust Washer	166	Needle Bearing
119	Tailstock Body	167	Retaining Ring
120	Tailstock Base	168	Spacing Collar
121	Anchor Bolt	169	Retaining Ring
122	Anchor	170	Tumbler Shaft
123	Tailstock Butt	171	Sliding Clutch Gear
124	Tailstock Handwheel	172	Cone Shaft
125	Machine Handle	173	Lead-Feed Clutch Gear
126	Washer	174	Lead-Feed Clutch Ring
127	Tailstock Spindle Clamp Lever	175	Lead-Feed Clutch
128	Oil Well Cap	176	Lead Screw Clutch
129	Oil Well	177	Gear Box Cover
130	Oil Well Point	178	Needle Bearing
131	Allen Nut	179	Needle Bearing
132	Spindle Clamp	180	Needle Bearing
133	Spindle Clamp	181	Feed Shaft Sleeve
134	Spindle Clamp Stud	182	Feed Shaft Gear
135	Spindle Key Screw	183	Cone Shaft Bushing
136	Tailstock Spindle	184	Intermediate Shaft
137	Tailstock Spindle Screw	185	Spacing Washer
138	Spindle Nut	186	Intermediate Shaft Gear
139	Spacing Washer	187	Intermediate Shaft Gear
140	Thrust Bearing	188	Spacing Collar
141	Washer	189	Oilite Bushing
142	Yoke Gear	190	Retaining Ring
143	Yoke Gear	191	Clutch Gear
144	Yoke Gear	192	Sliding Clutch

## PARTS LIST (Continued)

193	Oilite Bushing	241	Washer
194	Clutch Gear	242	Collar
195	Thrust Washer	243	Compound Slide Cap
196	Yoke Gear Sleeve	244	Micrometer Collar
197	Spacer	245	Distance Collar
198	Cone Gear — 56T	246	Distance Collar Spring
199	Cone Gear — 52T	247	Ball Crank
200	Cone Gear — 48T	248	Distance Collar
201	Cone Gear — 46T	249	Micrometer Collar
202	Cone Gear — 44T	250	Pinion Bearing
203	Cone Gear — 40T	251	Pinion and Sleeve
204	Cone Gear — 36T	252	Ball Handle Shaft
205	Cone Gear — 32T	253	Cross Feed Screw
206	Cone Bushing Gear	254	Pinion Spline
207	Shifter Shoe	255	Carriage
208	Shifter Shoe Pin	256	Front Gib
209	Shifter Crank	257	Rear Gib
210	Bronze Bushing	258	Bearing Bracket
211	Shifter Lever	259	Oil Seal
212	Intermediate Shifter Shaft	260	Bearing Bracket Cover
213	Spring	261	Bearing Spacer
214	Tumbler Handle Core	262	Lock Washer
215	Tumbler Handle Plunger	263	Oil Wiper
216	Tumbler Handle	264	Clamp Bolt
217	Retaining Collar	265	Washer
218	Oilite Bushing	266	Ball Crank
219	Feed Shifter Shaft	267	Compound Rest Gib
220	Shifter Handle	268	Gib Adjusting Screw
221	Shifter Crank	269	Thread Indicator Bracket
222	Yoke Gear Bushing	270	Thread Indicator Spindle
223	Needle Bearing	271	Thread Indicator Gear
224	Locknut	272	Cross Slide Gib
225	Tapered Roller Bearing	273	Compound Rest Screw
226	Thrust Bushing	274	Reverse Lever Plunger
227	Chip Guard	275	Plunger Spring
228	Crossfeed Nut	276	Feed Reverse Handle
229	Crossfeed Nut Bracket	277	Apron
230	Washer	278	Feed Reverse Lever
231	Crossfeed Nut Screw	279	Reverse Lever Shaft
232	Cross Slide	280	Lead Screw Nut
233	Compound Swivel	281	Bevel Plug
234	Tool Post Screw	282	Spring
235	Tool Post	283	Lead Screw Nut Gib
236	Tool Post Wedge	284	Machine Handle
237	Tool Post Washer	285	Lead Screw Lever
238	Tool Post Ring	286	Lead Screw Cam Shaft
239	Compound Rest Slide	287	Lead Screw Nut Cam
240	Compound Rest Nut	288	Lead Screw Nut Gib

## PARTS LIST (Continued)

289	Feed Reverse Shoe	336	Jaw Adjusting Screw
290	Feed Reverse Lever	337	Adjusting Screw Retainer
291	Oilite Bushing	338	Adjusting Screw Knob
292	Handwheel Shaft	339	Adjusting Screw Retainer
293	Handwheel Shaft Gear	340	Jaw Adjusting Screw
294	Apron Back Plate	341	Plunger Nut
295	Rack Pinion and Shaft	342	Follow Rest Body
296	Rack Pinion Shaft Collar	343	Friction Pad
297	Oilite Bushing	344	Washer
298	Rack Wheel Gear	345	Shoulder Screw
299	Oilite Bushing	346	Connecting Bar
300	Quick Acting Machine Handle	347	Clamp Bolt
301	Handwheel	348	Guide Rod
302	Long. Feed Friction Shaft	349	Clamp Bracket
303	Oilite Bushing	350	Bed Bracket Clamp
304	Cross Feed Friction Gear	351	Adjusting Screw Nut
305	Cross Feed Friction Gear	352	Adjusting Screw
306	Cross Feed Friction Shaft	353	Adjusting Screw Collar
307	Oilite Bushing	354	Adjusting Screw Swivel
308	Friction Control Washer	355	Adjusting Screw Knob
309	Friction Lever Nut	356	Adjusting Screw Bracket
310	Lockwasher	357	Adjusting Screw Swivel Collar
311	Locknut	358	Washer
312	Feed Friction Lever	359	Graduated Plate
313	Thrust Bearing	360	Graduated Plate
314	Long. Feed Friction Gear	361	Washer
315	Long. Feed Friction	362	Lower Slide Gib
316	Bevel Pinion	363	Special Dowel
317	Tit Key	364	Lower Slide
318	Backplate Cap	365	Taper Bar
319	Oilite Bushing	366	Upper Slide
320	Bevel Pinion Sleeve	367	Upper Slide Gib
321	Grooved Bevel Pinion	368	Bearing Housing Stud Swivel
322	Bevel Gear	369	Bearing Housing
323	Bevel Gear Shaft and Pinion	370	Bearing Bracket Cover
324	Oilite Bushing	371	Carriage Bracket
325	Anchor	372	Dovetail Insert
326	Washer	373	Swivel Stud
327	Anchor Bolt	374	Collar
328	Adjusting Screw Knob	375	Screw Return
329	Base	376	Screw
330	Spacer	377	Spindle
331	Rod End Bolt	378	Spindle Tip
332	Hinge	379	Bracket Gib
333	Washer	380	Micrometer Bracket
334	Jaw Friction Pad	381	Lock Screw
335	Plunger Nut		



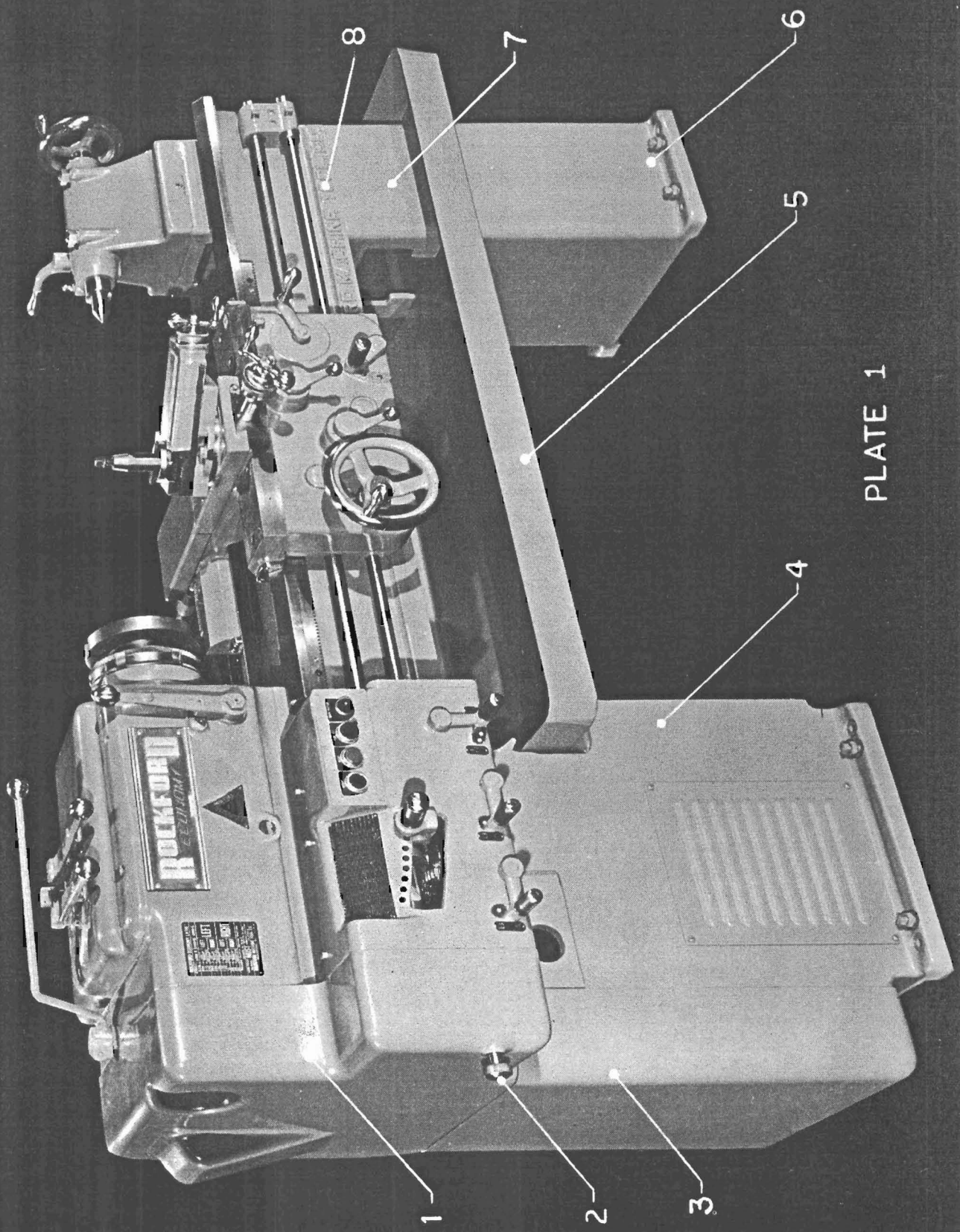
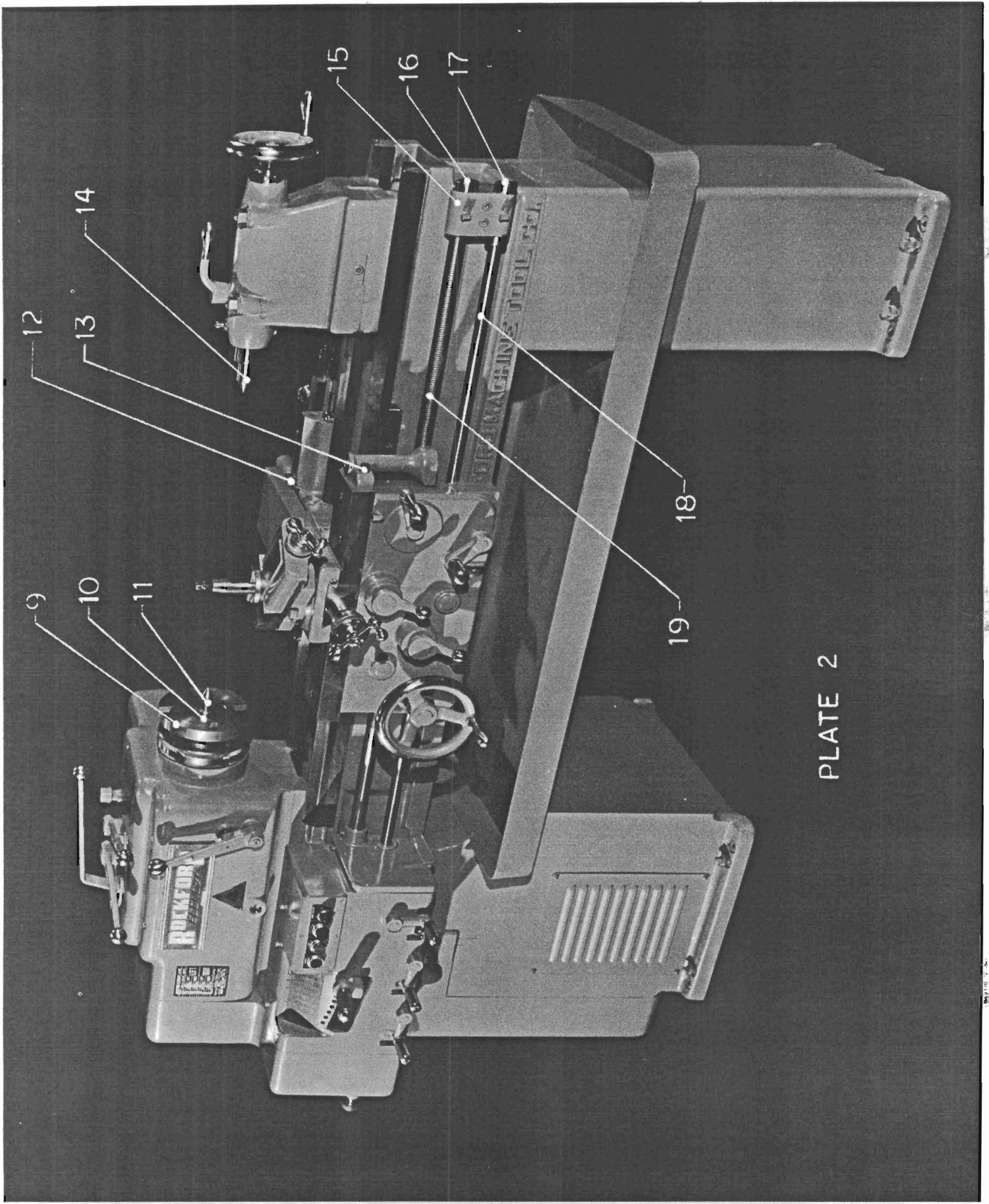


PLATE 1



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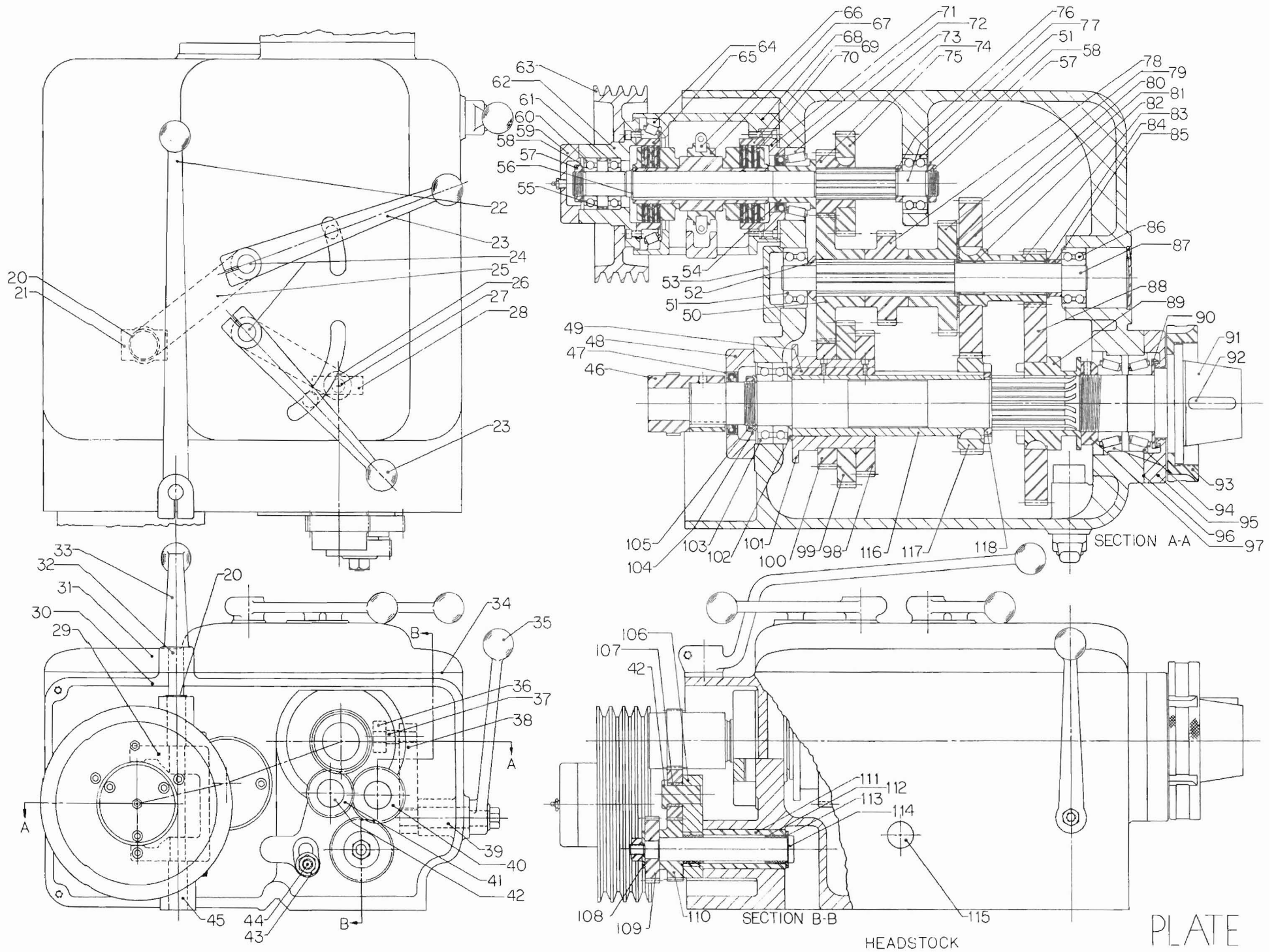
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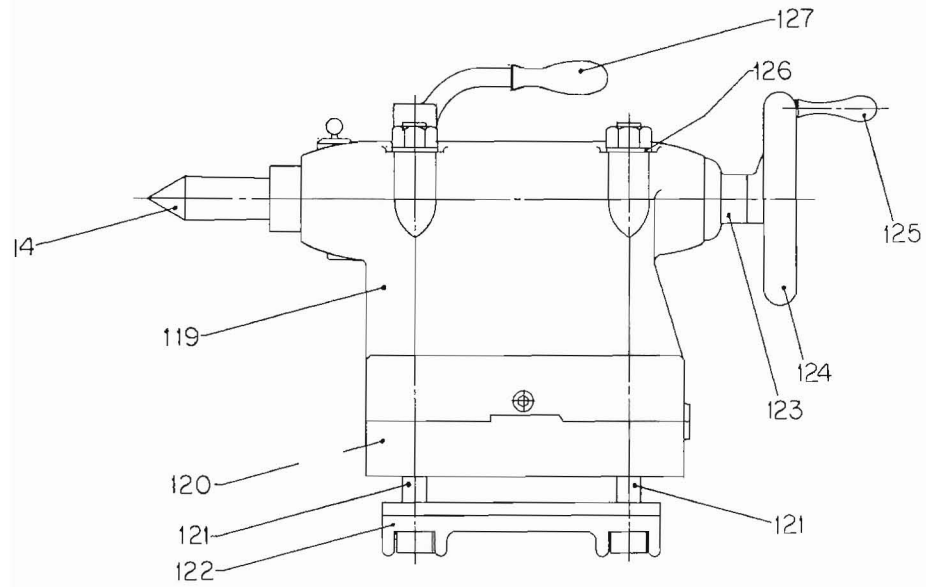
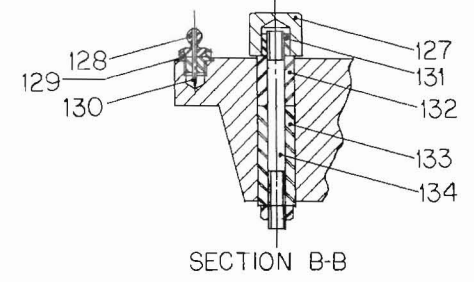
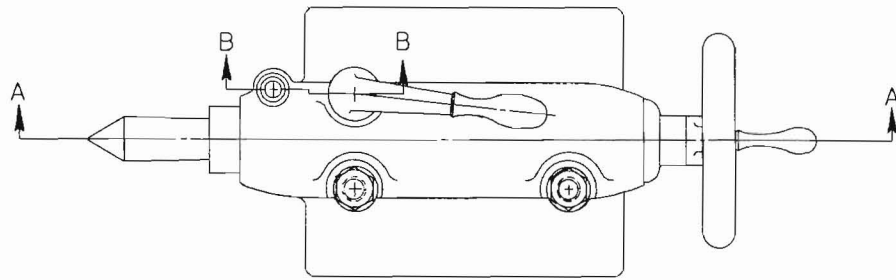
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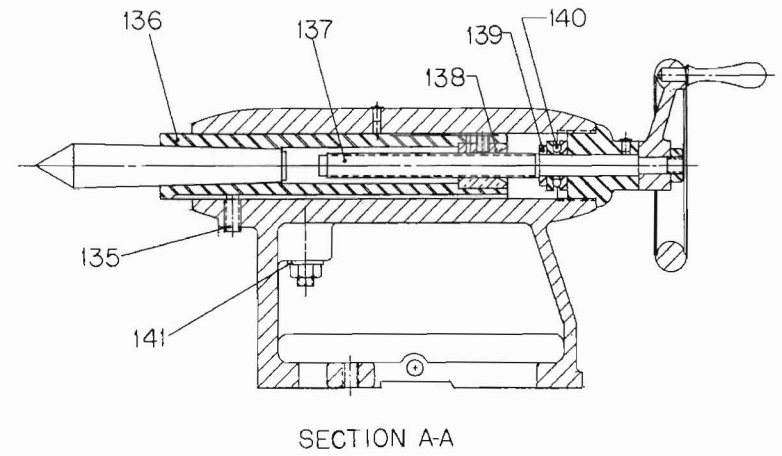
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PLATE 2

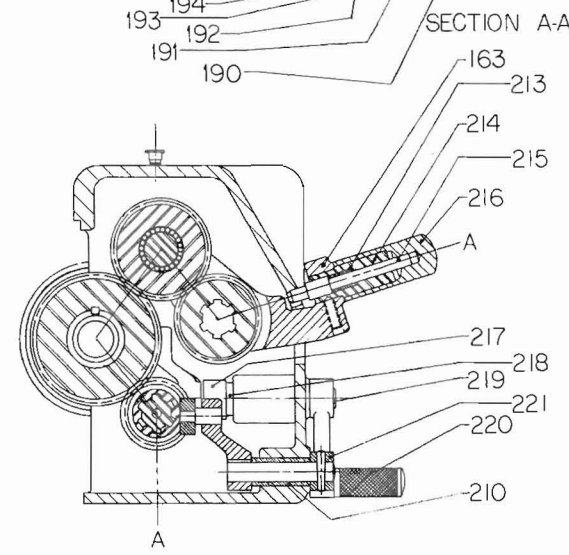
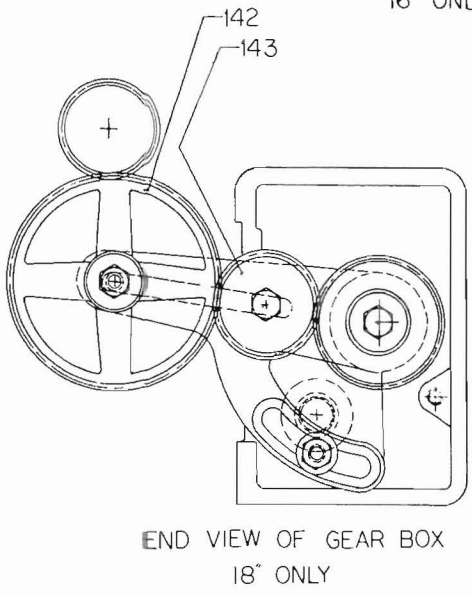
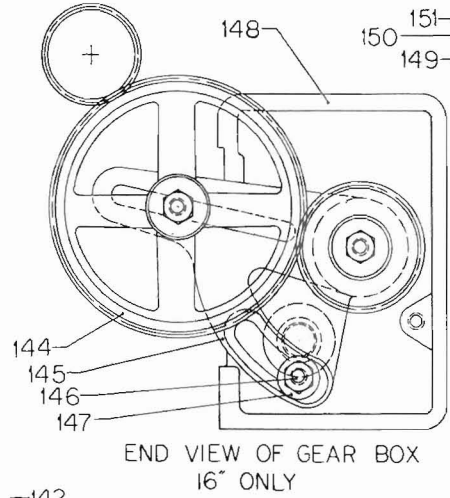
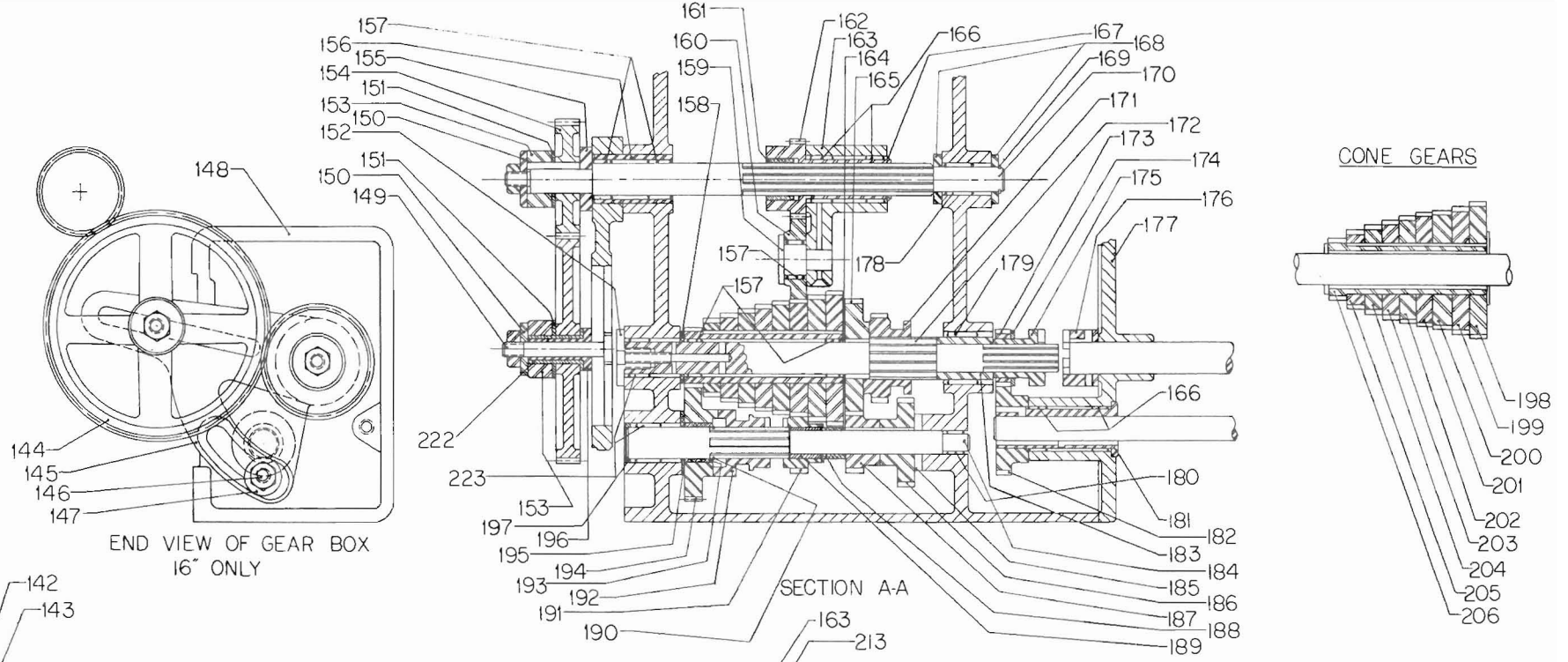




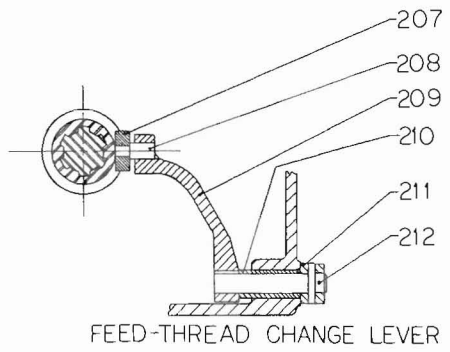
TAILSTOCK

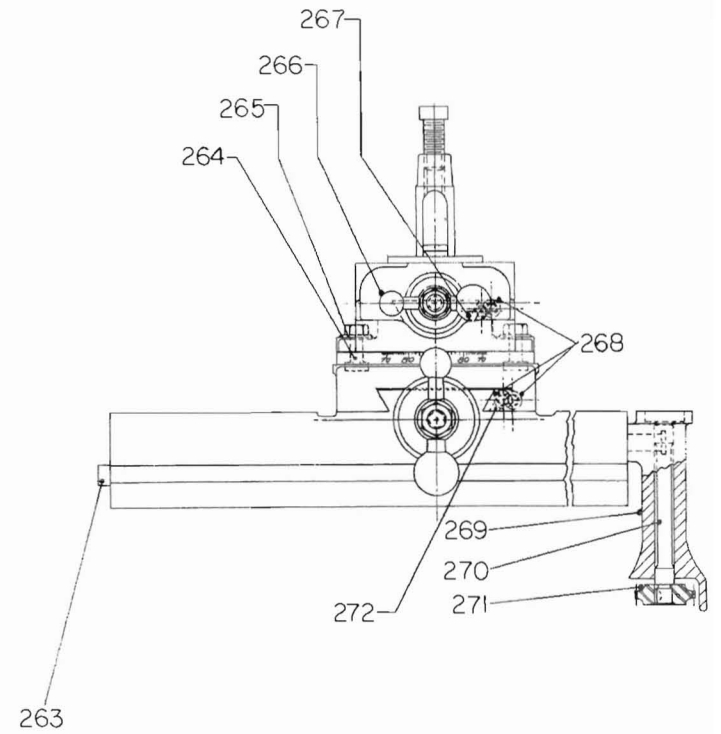
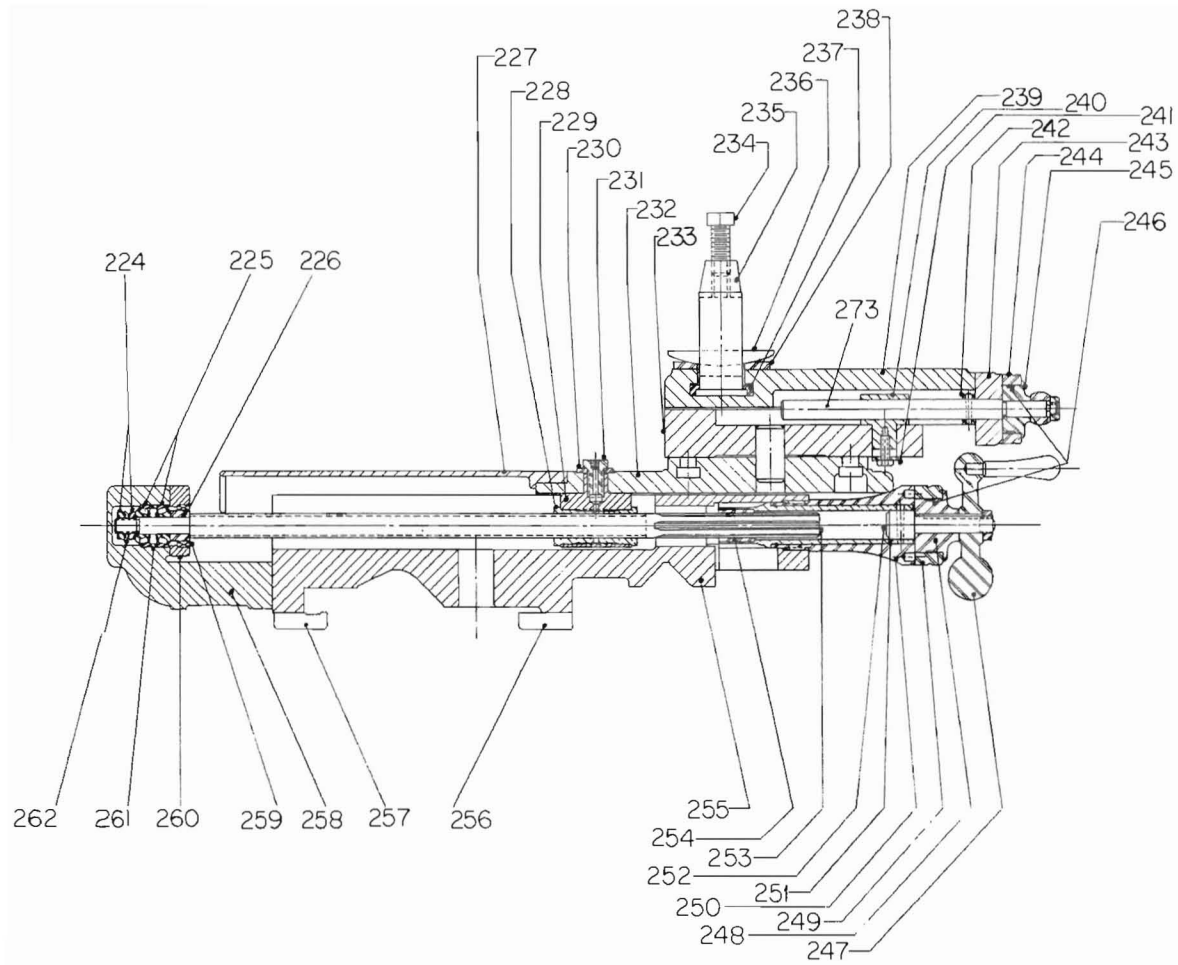


SECTION A-A



QUICK CHANGE GEAR BOX





CARRIAGE AND CROSS SLIDE

PLATE 6

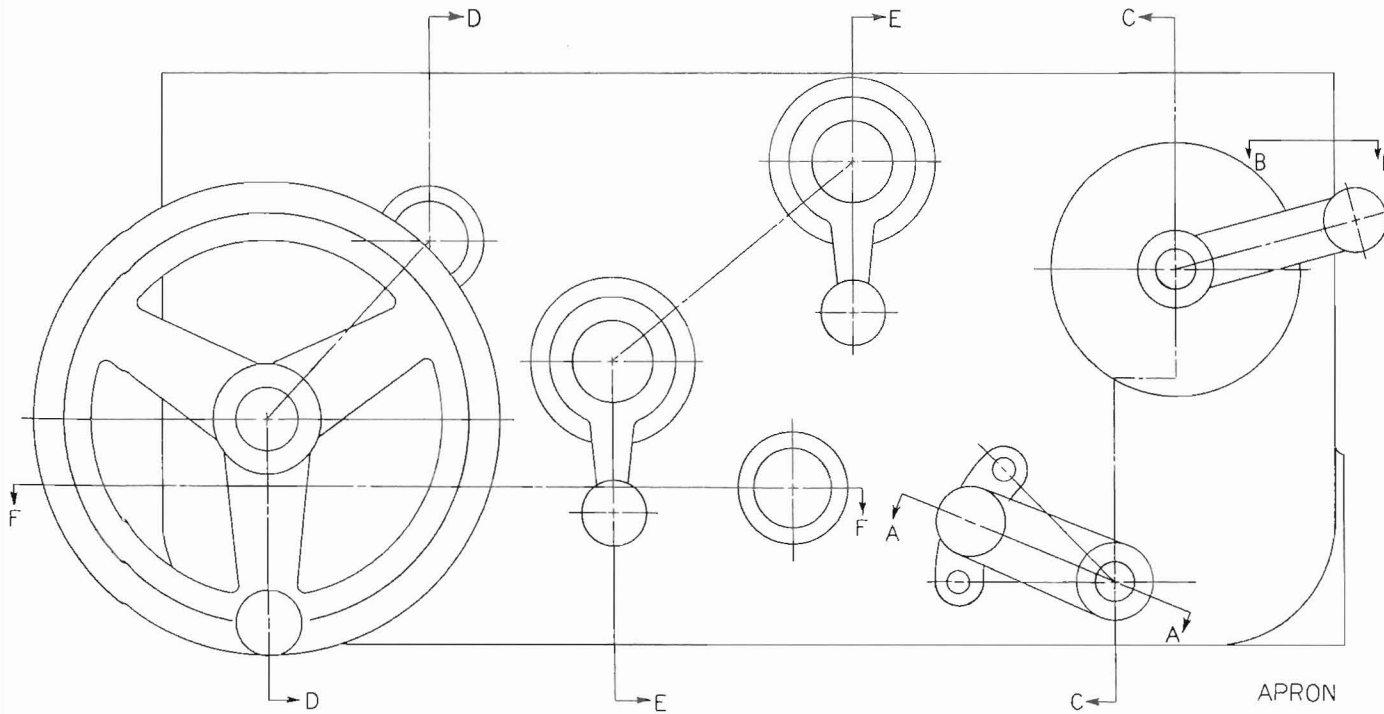
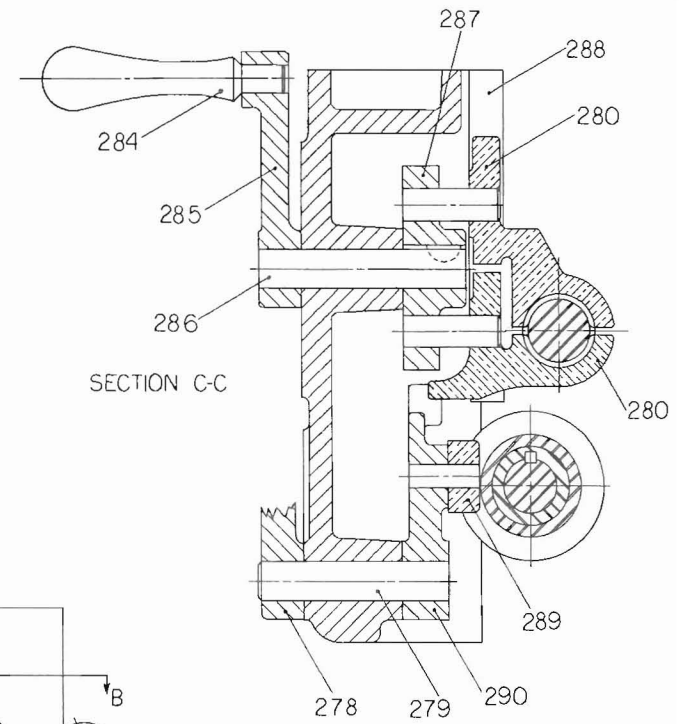
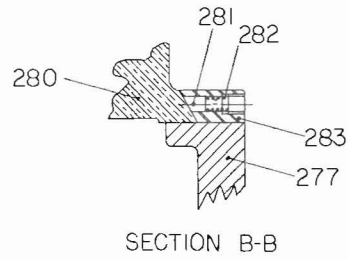
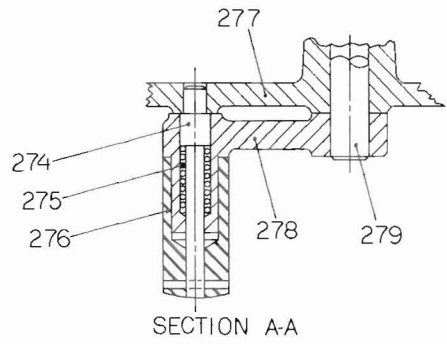


PLATE 7

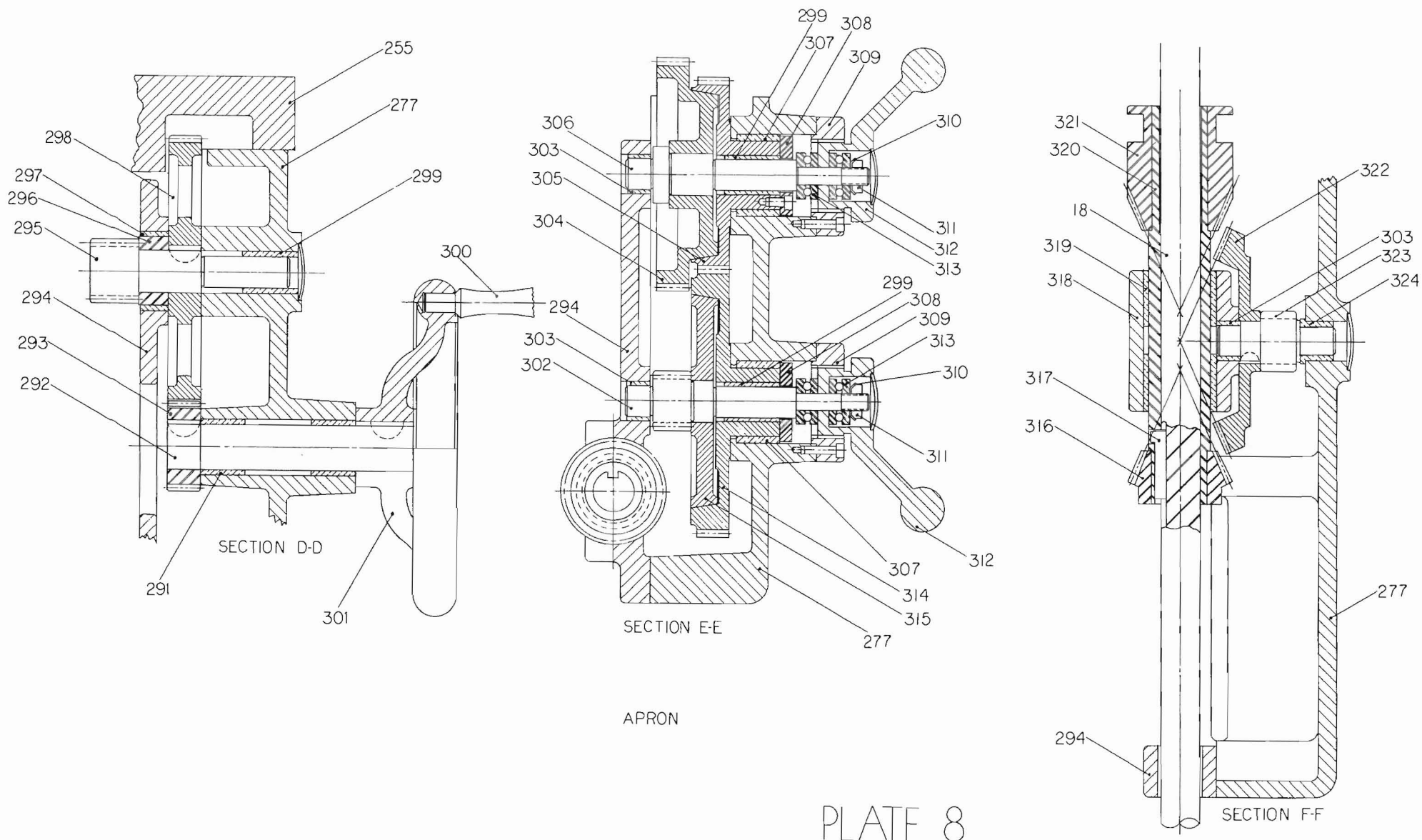
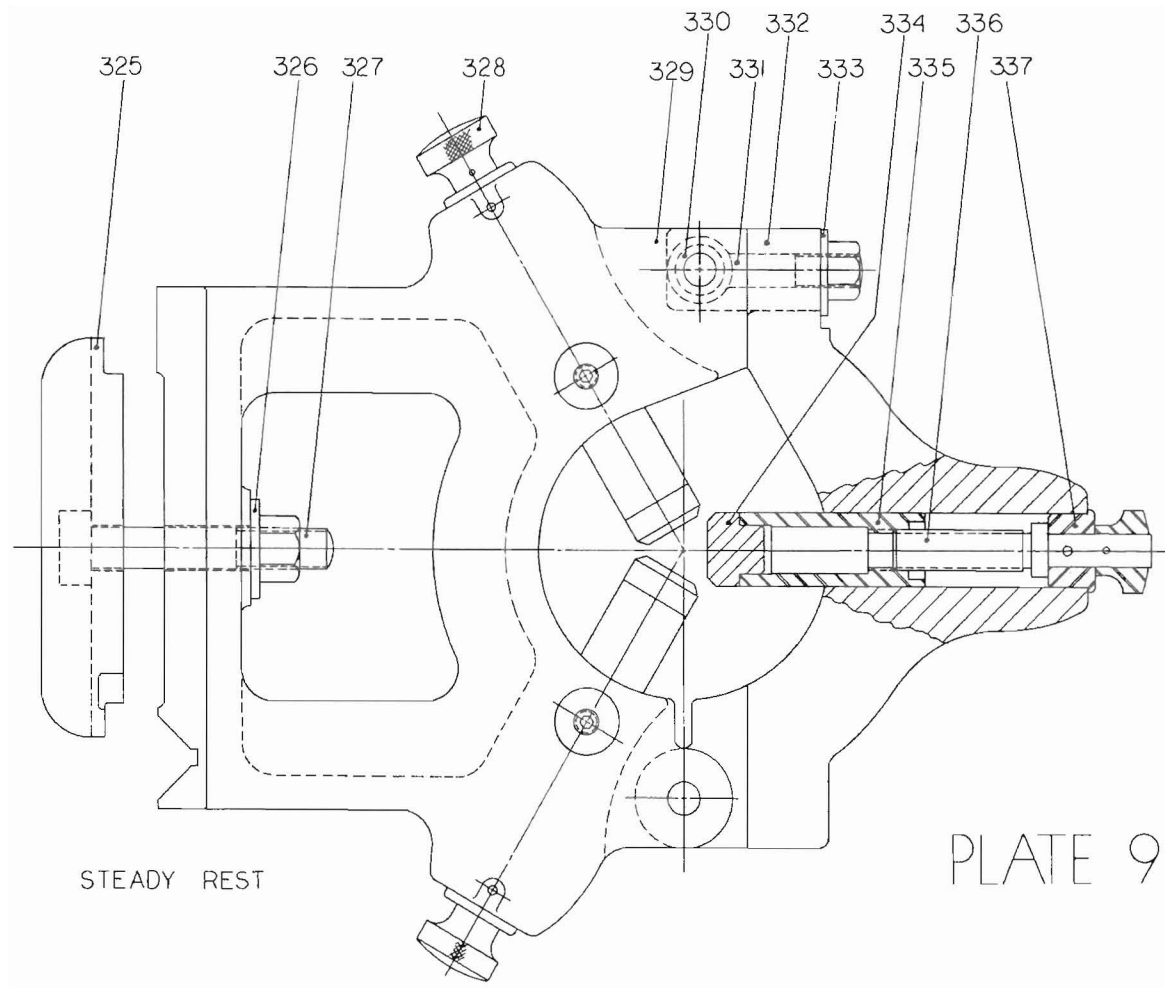


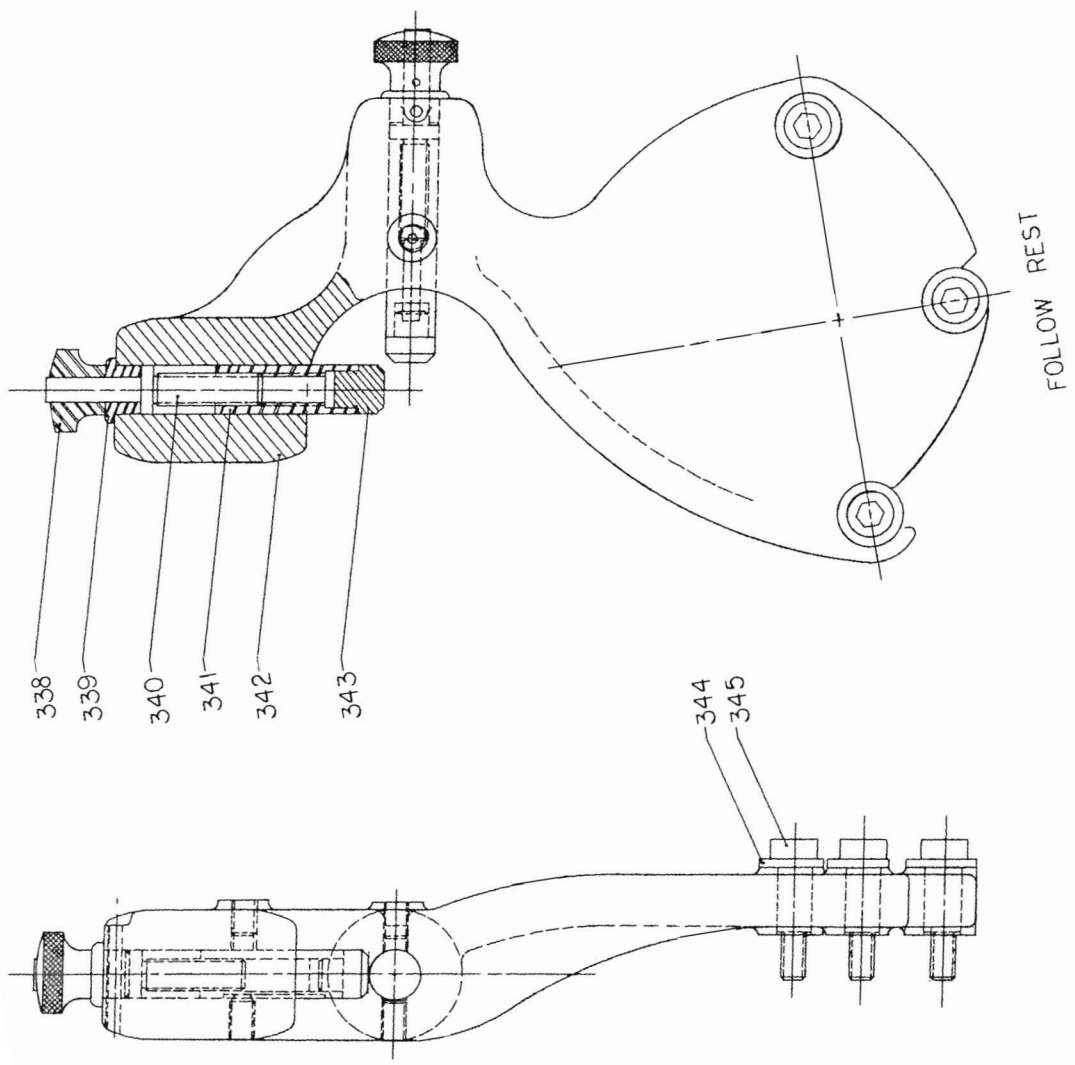
PLATE 8

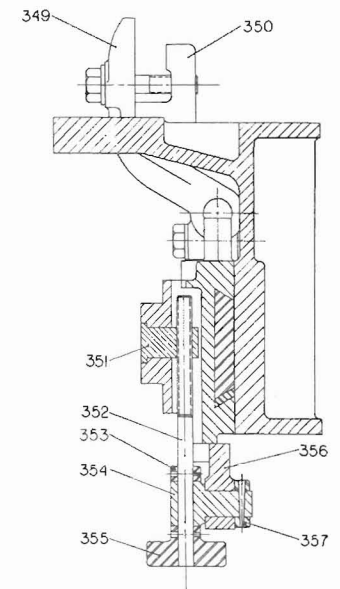
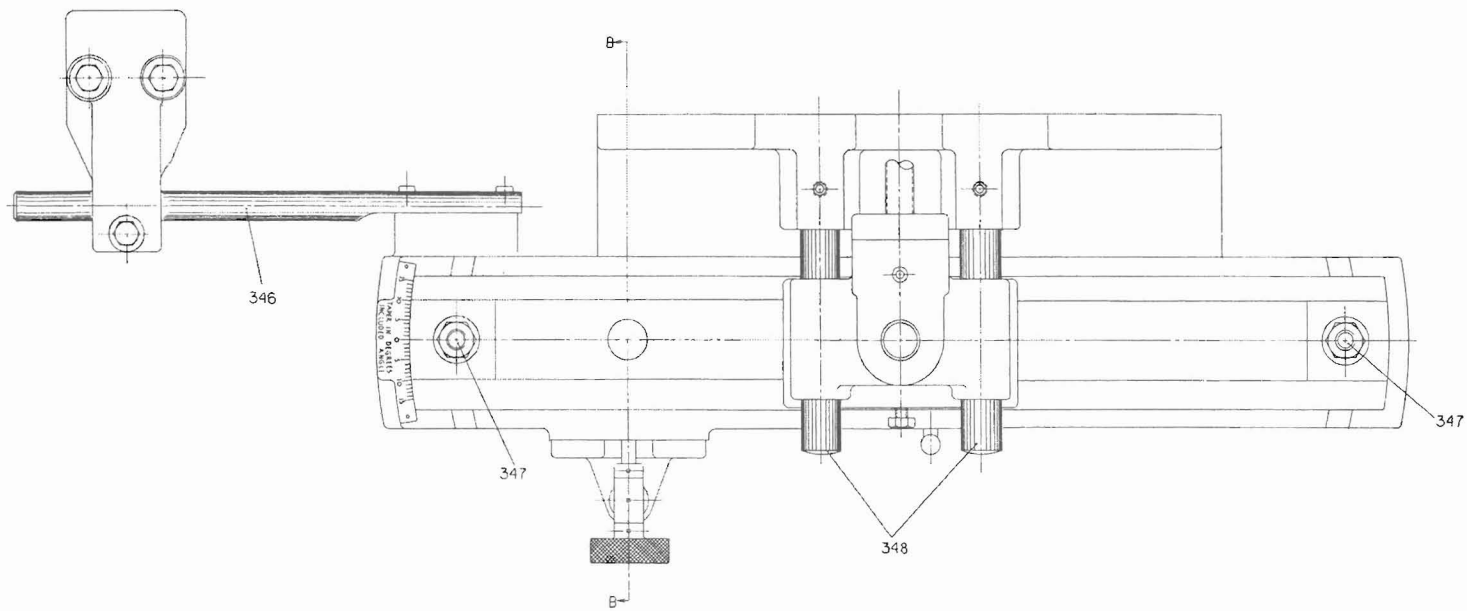




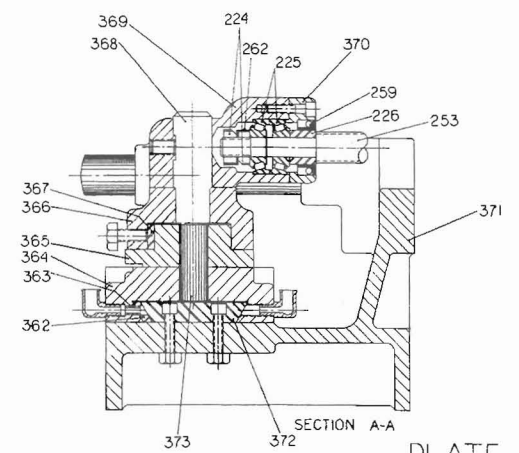
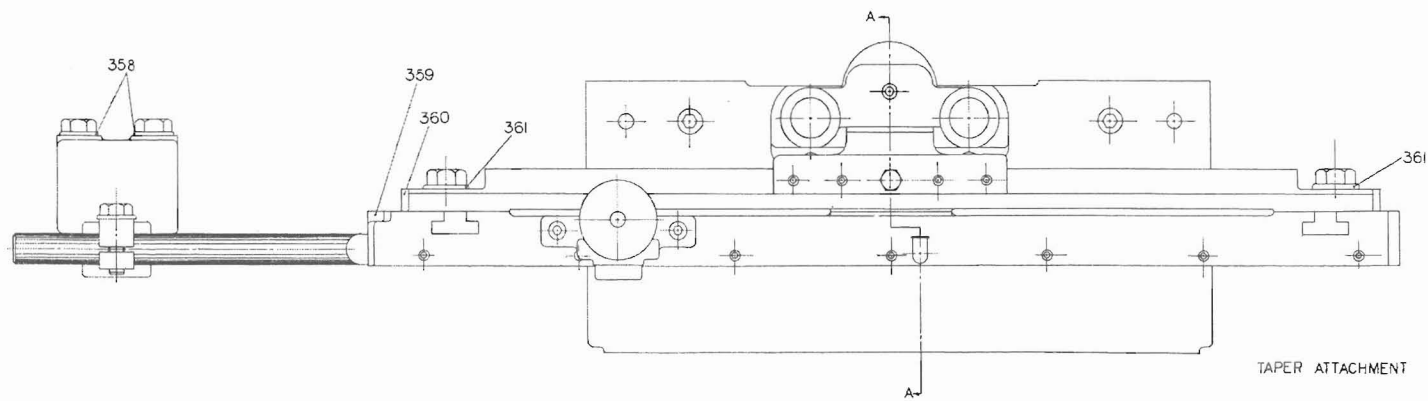
STEADY REST

PLATE 10





SECTION B-B



SECTION A-A

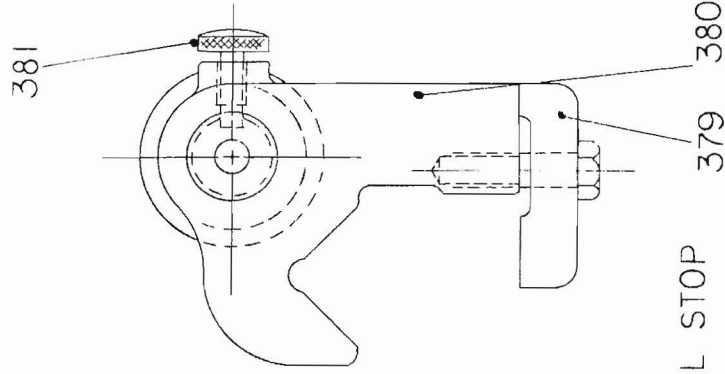
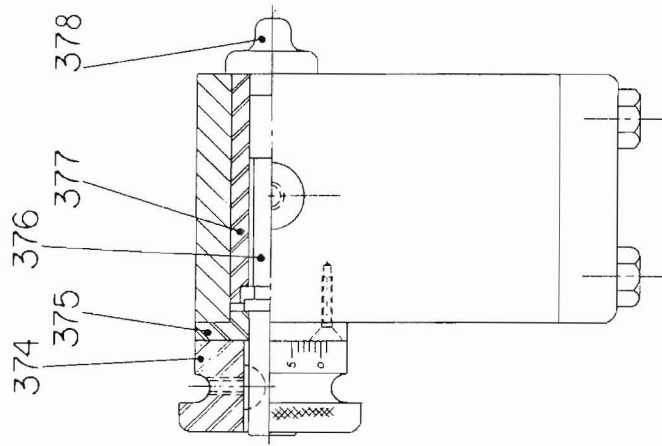


PLATE 12

MICROMETER LONGITUDINAL STOP