

The 'Fly Aweigh®' (see cover) undoubtedly is the most beautiful letter scale design of the recent years. It is a design made by the American John McMillan. This magnificent pelican is protected with an American patent with the number US 5,895,893. A simplified patent figure is shown in Fig. 27. Besides this pelican this letter scale is also for sale in the form of the bald eagle and also in the shape of the great blue heron. This letter scale is made from thin stainless steel plate and is suspended by thin stainless steel wires. The contours of the bird are accentuated by dotted lines of minimally etched dimples. At rest the white lacquered pelican hangs as a mobile with a weight of two ounces in the letter clip. A little pull at this clip starts a graceful movement of the wings. The weighing range is 3 ounces. When weighing a letter the weight is first removed from the clip. Above all it is a good-looking design.

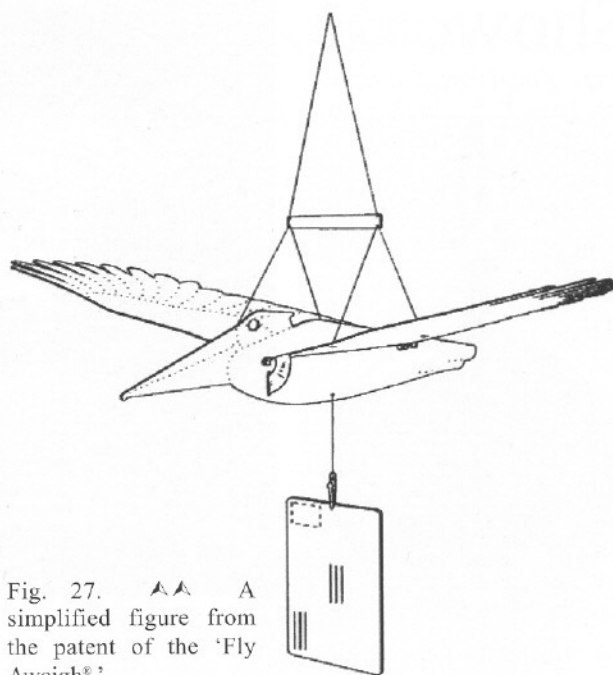


Fig. 27. ▲▲ A simplified figure from the patent of the 'Fly Aweigh®.'

Conclusion:

My above-mentioned enumeration is presumably not complete. I invite the readers to send in their additions to this letter scale – zoo, preferably together with good photographs to illustrate their supplements.

Note:

This article is still to be published in the Journal of the Dutch Society of collectors of Weights & Measures. In Dutch: Meten & Wegen. It was translated and slightly edited by the author.

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