

'Monotype' Super Caster Manual

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Foreword

This revised manual of the 'Monotype' Super caster is intended primarily for the newcomer to the machine – the beginner in every way; and it is assumed throughout that he as such, knows little or nothing of type or printing and is possessed of a very limited knowledge of the simple basic engineering principles such as he will be required to assimilate while learning to operate the machine.

In replacing its predecessor, every effort has been made to bring this new book as up-to-date as possible, and its loose-leaf format will permit this to be maintained. An effort has likewise been made to present what must initially appear as an unusual and complex machine, in an easily digestible form. To this end, as much of the detailed instruction as possible is amplified in the illustrations, whilst sufficient instructional information and background theory will be found in the text to clearly explain both what you are called upon to do and why you have to do it.

Furthermore, a chapter has been included as a general introduction to the machine, whilst other innovations include 'Basic unit and set' and 'Measuring the cast with the micrometer gauge', both of which, whilst being vital to the beginner, will doubtless prove of some interest to others of limited experience seeking further knowledge.

Since our main concern however, is with 'you' the beginner, it should here be emphasised that this manual, if properly used, will give you, as near as possible, everything you need except practical experience, and that, at the outset, you cannot expect to learn it all at once by reading the book from cover to cover. You are in fact, strongly advised against attempting to do so. To assist you in this respect, a programmed instructional syllabus is suggested in Chapter 3 which comprises a progressive study sequence which it is recommended you should follow. This will aid you in the early stages to get the underlying principles firmly fixed in your mind, after which, all else that follows will be more easily absorbed and understood.

The Tables reproduced in the Appendices at the end of the book are all available in card form for use on the machine. You will find that you will use all these in due course as your general guide, thus obviating the need for constant reference to the manual.

The actual and very necessary experience which this manual cannot give you, will consist in some part in the making of mistakes and in learning from so doing. The manual will however, endeavour to help you anticipate such errors, and where this is not possible, assist you to locate the cause of the trouble and aid you in avoiding any possible recurrence.

It is stressed that you should always seek the advice of a technical representative of The Monotype Corporation in the event that you should at any time experience difficulties calling for repairs or adjustments which it is obvious you are not qualified to undertake yourself.

The Manual and how to use it

This manual, though written primarily for the beginner, should serve as a work of reference to those more qualified, and as an aid to such as are required to impart the fruits of their knowledge and experience to others.

The book has been sub-divided into parts (each separated by a distinctive coloured divider) in order to give some degree of form to what would otherwise emerge as a loose collection of instructional matter.

The chapters are numbered in sequence throughout the book, regardless of the part in which they are contained, thus making direct reference to any chapter a simple matter, while the coloured dividers will in due course of time automatically serve as an indication as to where they are located.

Chapters are sub-divided into sections, the section number being carried in the margin, preceded by the chapter. Thus 'Chapter 14, Section 8' is indicated as 14.8. Cross-references contained in the text quote both chapter and section as in the above example, plus sub-section indications (a), (b), (c) etc. as necessary, without any reference to the part in which they are contained, since such would result in a more complicated reference system throughout, which would serve no useful purpose. References contained in the Index however (in the Appendices at the end of the book) include the relevant part, since when searching the Index, its inclusion in respect of any item which carries several references throughout the book, will frequently serve as a guide to the context in which it is given, and consequently lead you more directly to the information you seek.

Throughout the manual, frequent reference is made to the 'Product Information Table', which provides a very necessary adjunct to the book when you reach the stage where you are setting up the machine in preparation for casting. Emphasis however, is laid on the fact that in many respects it can only be accepted as a general guide, to be interpreted in due course in the light of experience.

A set of illustrated product change-over procedure cards is also available. These cards, which give you step-by-step details of the most expedient method for changing the machine over from one type of product to another (covering twelve change procedures) serve as a valuable aid which should in time render constant reference to the manual unnecessary for every single detail involved.

The manual, at times tends perhaps to err on the side of giving you more information than you probably need, at least at the outset: it also lays repeated emphasis on many points to impress their importance on your mind. As a beginner, you should therefore carefully select the parts of the book most suited to your needs during the period of your initial instruction, and aim at getting the basic principles firmly established before attempting to absorb too much detail. Many will doubtless be advised by others in such matters, but in any event you would do well to work on the lines proposed in the 'Suggested Instructional Syllabus' in Chapter 3, which should at least set you off on the right road.

General contents

- PART 1 General introduction – and the application of basic typographical theory**
- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 General information | 5 Type alignment |
| 2 Introduction to the working of a 'Monotype' Super caster | 6 Basic unit and set |
| 3 Suggested instructional syllabus | 7 Measuring the cast with the micrometer gauge |
| 4 Typographical features and dimensions of type | |
- PART 2 The main sections of the machine**
- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 8 Introduction | 13 The counter bracket and counter mechanism |
| 9 The mould blade sizing mechanism | 14 The strip cutting and stacking mechanism |
| 10 The matrix heads base | 15 The pump mechanism |
| 11 The composition matrix head | |
| 12 The display matrix head | |
- PART 3 Sources of motion and the Varigear speed drive unit**
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 16 The Varigear unit and gear box | 17 The cams |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
- PART 4 Matrices, matrix holders, mould oilers and mould blade forks – cooling the mould, and an outline description of the moulds**
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 18 Matrices | 21 Cooling the mould |
| 19 Matrix holders | 22 Introduction to the moulds |
| 20 Mould oilers and mould blade forks | 23 Moulds available for use on the Super caster |
- PART 5 The type moulds**
- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 24 Small type composition moulds | 32 Casting quotations from 42–72 pt display type mould |
| 25 The quad and space mould | 33 Palace script mould |
| 26 Large type composition moulds | 34 Italic mould |
| 27 Display type machine moulds | 35 Duplex mould |
| 28 The short lead and rule mould | 36 Duplex low quad mould |
| 29 Display type moulds, 14–36pt | 37 Triplex mould, 26pt |
| 30 Display type moulds, 42–72pt | |
| 31 Casting low quads and spaces | |
- PART 6 The strip moulds**
- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 38 Lead and rule mould, 1–3pt | 40 Furniture mould |
| 39 Lead and rule mould, 4–18pt | |
- PART 7 The production of good type and type metal**
- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| 41 The production of good type | 42 Type metal |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
- Appendices**
- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Fault finding chart | Glossary |
| Tables | Further reading |
| Index | |

Contents

CHAPTER 1

General information

- 1.1 Product range
- 1.2 Specification
- 1.3 Installing the machine
- 1.4 Tools supplied with the machine
- 1.5 Attachments
- 1.6 Accessories

CHAPTER 2

Introduction to the working of a 'Monotype' Super caster

- 2.1 Fundamentals
- 2.2 The moulds

CHAPTER 3

Suggested instructional syllabus

- 3.1 Progressive study sequence

CHAPTER 4

Typographical features and dimensions of type

- 4.1 Type features
- 4.2 Type height
- 4.3 Quad and quotation height

CHAPTER 5

Type alignment

CHAPTER 6

Basic unit and set

- 6.1 Theory
- 6.2 How it works in practice

CHAPTER 7

Measuring the cast with the micrometer gauge

- 7.1 How to use the micrometer
- 7.2 Care and maintenance of the micrometer

CHAPTER 8

Introduction to the main sections of the machine

CHAPTER 9

Mould blade sizing mechanism

- 9.1 Construction and function of the wedge screw
- 9.2 Lead mould blade stop
- 9.3 Adjustments when preparing to cast type
- 9.4 Adjustments for casting strip material
- 9.5 Adjustments for casting dashes and clumps
- 9.6 Adjustments for casting continuous borders
- 9.7 Adjustments for casting product in predetermined lengths from the furniture mould
- 9.8 Dismantling the wedge screw mechanism
- 9.9 Assembling the wedge screw mechanism
- 9.10 Mould blade slide drive lever
- 9.11 Position of the plunger spring adjusting nut and the fulcrum pin eccentric
- 9.12 Dismantling the mould blade slide drive lever
- 9.13 Removing the plunger spring
- 9.14 Replacing the plunger spring
- 9.15 Preparing the mould blade slide drive lever for casting from the furniture mould
- 9.16 Adjusting the mould blade slide drive lever connecting tube

CHAPTER 10

The matrix heads base

- 10.1 Locating key distance piece
- 10.2 Type carrier
- 10.3 Removing the type carrier
- 10.4 Type carrier cam lever plunger
- 10.5 Adjusting stroke of type carrier
- 10.6 The pausing position
- 10.7 Adjusting machine stopping mechanism
- 10.8 Type support spring
- 10.9 Type support spring cam

- 10.10 Type channel blocks
- 10.11 Type pusher
- 10.12 Removing the type pusher
- 10.13 Removing the type pusher lever
- 10.14 Adjusting the type pusher

CHAPTER 11

Composition matrix head

- 11.1 Adjusting the composition matrix head
- 11.2 Preparing the composition matrix head for 0.4 in matrices

CHAPTER 12

Display matrix head

- 12.1 Adjusting the display matrix head
- 12.2 The display matrix bridge
- 12.3 Dismantling the display matrix bridge
- 12.4 Assembling the display matrix bridge

CHAPTER 13

Counter bracket and counter mechanism

- 13.1 Function of the counter mechanism when casting leads, strip rules and continuous borders
- 13.2 Function of the counter mechanism when casting furniture
- 13.3 Strip cutting and furniture mould tables
- 13.4 Casting leads and strip rules with the aid of the strip cutting table
- 13.5 Casting from the furniture mould with the aid of the furniture mould table
- 13.6 Checking the strip measure
- 13.7 Settings for casting continuous borders
- 13.8 Casting dashes

CHAPTER 14

Strip cutting and stacking mechanism

- 14.1 The cutter mechanism
- 14.2 Lead stacker
- 14.3 Casting strip material
- 14.4 Casting dashes
- 14.5 Casting from the furniture mould in predetermined lengths
- 14.6 Dismantling the strip cutting and stacking mechanism
- 14.7 Removing the cutter setting lever and stop

- 14.8 Removing cutter actuating block
- 14.9 Removing cutter actuating lever
- 14.10 Removing the lead stacker
- 14.11 Assembling the strip cutting and stacking mechanism
- 14.12 Adjusting the position of the cutter setting block and the cutter actuating block link
- 14.13 Adjusting the lead stacker

CHAPTER 15

The pump mechanism

- 15.1 Function of the pump mechanism during casting
- 15.2 Maintenance of the pump mechanism (and the casting of good type)
- 15.3 Pump nozzle
- 15.4 Piston
- 15.5 Pump body
- 15.6 Pump mechanism adjustments
- 15.7 Centralising the nozzle
- 15.8 Squaring the nozzle
- 15.9 Crosshead (piston)
- 15.10 Pump body operating rod and lever
- 15.11 Additional adjustments
- 15.12 Pump body hat valve ($\frac{7}{8}$ in pump only)
- 15.13 Pump release
- 15.14 Pump driving rod
- 15.15 Piston operating rod cross-head stud
- 15.16 Latch, upper and lower 'leaves' and piston spring rod
- 15.17 Nozzle seating timing mechanism
- 15.18 Product information table
- 15.19 Matrices
- 15.20 Mould
- 15.21 Mould crossblock
- 15.22 Notes on working conditions
- 15.23 Caster room
- 15.24 Spare pump body
- 15.25 Cooling the mould
- 15.26 Casting temperature
- 15.27 Melting pot
- 15.28 Metals required for casting
- 15.29 Injurious metals
- 15.30 Nozzle
- 15.31 General cleanliness
- 15.32 Machine running speeds
- 15.33 Re-melting of type metal
- 15.34 Analysis of type metal

CHAPTER 16

Varigear unit and gear box

- 16.1 Speed changing mechanisms
- 16.2 Starting procedure
- 16.3 Care and maintenance
- 16.4 Recommended lubricating oils and greases

CHAPTER 17

The cams

- 17.1 Removing the cam levers
- 17.2 Removing the camshaft stand and camshafts
- 17.3 Removing the galley bracket
- 17.4 Removing the pump bracket
- 17.5 Removing the main stand and speed bracket assembly
- 17.6 Assembling the speed bracket and the main stand
- 17.7 Assembling camshaft stand, camshafts and cam levers
- 17.8 Assembling the pump bracket
- 17.9 Assembling the galley bracket
- 17.10 Lubrication of the cams and gears
- 17.11 Oiling the cams and cam lever rollers
- 17.12 Oiling the camshaft gears and speed regulating gears
- 17.13 Recommended lubricating oils

CHAPTER 18

Matrices

- 18.1 Composition type matrices
- 18.2 Depth of drive
- 18.3 Side-wall measurements
- 18.4 Matrix markings
- 18.5 Line
- 18.6 Display type matrices
- 18.7 Depth of drive
- 18.8 Side-wall measurement
- 18.9 American display type matrices
- 18.10 Rule matrices
- 18.11 Continuous border matrices
- 18.12 Quotation core blocks
- 18.13 Care of the matrices

CHAPTER 19

Matrix holders

- 19.1 The 0.2 in \times 0.2 in matrix holder (Xa3SL)
- 19.2 Dismantling the 0.2 in \times 0.2 in matrix holder

- 19.3 Assembling the 0.2 in \times 0.2 in matrix holder
- 19.4 The 0.2 in extended matrix holder (Xa4SL)
- 19.5 Dismantling the 0.2 in extended matrix holder
- 19.6 Assembling the 0.2 in extended matrix holder
- 19.7 The 0.4 in \times 0.4 in matrix holder (Xa5SL)
- 19.8 Dismantling the 0.4 in \times 0.4 in matrix holder
- 19.9 Assembling the 0.4 in \times 0.4 in matrix holder
- 19.10 The 1 in \times 1 in matrix holder (Xa6SL)
- 19.11 Dismantling the 1 in \times 1 in matrix holder
- 19.12 Assembling the 1 in \times 1 in matrix holder
- 19.13 The 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ in \times 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ in matrix holder (Xa7SL)
- 19.14 Low space and quotation matrix holder (8SLL)
- 19.15 Continuous border matrix holder (Xa9SL)
- 19.16 Dash matrix holder (10SL1)

CHAPTER 20

Mould oilers and mould blade forks

- 20.1 Mould oilers
- 20.2 Adjustable drip feed mould oiler
- 20.3 How the oiler works
- 20.4 How to adjust the oiler
- 20.5 How to adjust the supply
- 20.6 Mould blade forks

CHAPTER 21

Cooling the mould

CHAPTER 22

Introduction to the moulds

- 22.1 Matrices
- 22.2 Mould blade
- 22.3 Crossblock (and the type carrier)
- 22.4 Type pusher
- 22.5 Jet block (strip moulds only)
- 22.6 Type moulds (or moulds fitted with crossblocks)
- 22.7 Strip moulds
- 22.8 Mould construction, care and maintenance

CHAPTER 23

Moulds available for use on the Super caster

- 23.1 Small type composition moulds 5–14 pt
- 23.2 Quad and space mould 6–12 pt
- 23.3 Large type composition moulds 14–24 pt
- 23.4 Display type machine moulds 14–36 pt
- 23.5 Short lead and rule moulds 1½ pt, 2 pt and 3 pt
- 23.6 Super caster display type moulds 14–36 pt
- 23.7 Super caster display type moulds 42–72 pt
- 23.8 Super caster low space and quotation insets 48 pt, 60 pt and 72 pt
- 23.9 Palace script mould
- 23.10 Italic mould
- 23.11 Duplex mould
- 23.12 Duplex low quad mould
- 23.13 Triplex mould
- 23.14 Dual type mould
- 23.15 Split-fraction mould
- 23.16 Super caster lead and rule mould 1–3 pt
- 23.17 Super caster lead and rule mould 4–18 pt
- 23.18 Furniture mould

CHAPTER 24

Small type composition moulds 5–14 pt

- 24.1 Preparing the machine to receive the mould
- 24.2 Disconnecting the mould blade slide drive lever connecting tube
- 24.3 Attaching the matrix heads base to the main stand of the machine
- 24.4 Attaching the matrix head to the matrix heads base
- 24.5 Connecting matrix heads base and matrix head to the cam levers
- 24.6 Connecting the mould blade slide to the mould blade fork
- 24.7 Assembling the mould on the adaptor base
- 24.8 Connecting the mould to the type carrier
- 24.9 Fitting the mould and adaptor base to the main stand of the machine

- 24.10 Connecting the mould blade to the mould blade fork
- 24.11 Checking set-wise adjustment of driving block abutment
- 24.12 Attaching the mould water supply piping
- 24.13 Attaching the mould and cross-block oilers
- 24.14 Attaching the type channel blocks
- 24.15 Type support spring cam bracket
- 24.16 Reconnecting the mould blade slide drive lever connecting tube
- 24.17 Zeroing the mould blade sizing mechanism
- 24.18 Adjusting the position of the matrix holder for set and alignment
- 24.19 Final adjustment and checks before casting
- 24.20 Care and maintenance of the mould
- 24.21 Removing the mould from the machine
- 24.22 Taking the mould apart for cleaning
- 24.23 Re-assembling the mould
- 24.24 Adjusting the mould gib plate
- 24.25 Dismantling the crossblock for cleaning
- 24.26 Re-assembling the crossblock

CHAPTER 25

Quad and space mould 5–14 pt

- 25.1 Preparing the machine and attaching the mould
- 25.2 Final adjustments and checks before casting
- 25.3 Taking the mould apart – and changing body size
- 25.4 Re-assembling the mould

CHAPTER 26

Large type composition moulds 14–24 pt

- 26.1 Preparing the machine and attaching the mould
- 26.2 Removing the mould from the machine
- 26.3 Changing insets
- 26.4 Dismantling and assembling insets
- 26.5 Dismantling the crossblock for cleaning

CHAPTER 27

Display type machine moulds 14–36 pt

- 27.1 Preparing the machine and attaching the mould
- 27.2 Removing the mould
- 27.3 Changing insets
- 27.4 Dismantling and assembling insets
- 27.5 Dismantling the crossblock

CHAPTER 28

Short lead and rule mould 1½ pt, 2 pt and 3 pt

- 28.1 Preparing the machine and attaching the mould
- 28.2 Changing blades and matrices
- 28.3 Changing insets
- 28.4 Cleaning the mould
- 28.5 Dismantling the crossblock

CHAPTER 29

Super caster display type moulds 14–36 pt

- 29.1 Preparing the machine and attaching the mould
- 29.2 Removing the mould
- 29.3 Changing insets
- 29.4 Dismantling and assembling insets
- 29.5 Dismantling the crossblock

CHAPTER 30

Super caster display type moulds 42–72 pt

- 30.1 Preparing the machine and attaching the mould
- 30.2 Removing the mould from the machine
- 30.3 Changing insets
- 30.4 Dismantling and assembling insets
- 30.5 Dismantling the crossblock

CHAPTER 31

Casting low quads and spaces

- 31.1 Small type composition moulds 5–14 pt
- 31.2 Super caster display type moulds 14–36 pt
- 31.3 Super caster display type moulds, 42–72 pt

CHAPTER 32

Casting quotations from display type moulds 42–72 pt

- 32.1 Wooden-cored quotations

CHAPTER 33

The Palace script mould 14–42 pt

- 33.1 Equipment required
- 33.2 Preparations and adjustments
- 33.3 Stripping the mould for cleaning
- 33.4 Re-assembling the mould
- 33.5 Dismantling the crossblock
- 33.6 Re-assembling the crossblock

CHAPTER 34

Italic mould 14–42 pt

CHAPTER 35

Duplex mould 14, 16 and 18 pt

CHAPTER 36

Duplex low quad mould 14, 16 and 18 pt

CHAPTER 37

Triplex mould 26 pt

CHAPTER 38

Super caster lead and rule mould 1–3 pt

Description of the main parts of the mould

- 38.1 Mould base
- 38.2 Jet block
- 38.3 Side block (fixed)
- 38.4 Side block (adjustable)
- 38.5 Straightening device
- 38.6 Dotted rule supporting pad
- 38.7 Spring block
- 38.8 Mould blades
- 38.9 Distance pieces
- 38.10 Side block insets
- 38.11 Lead clamp lever
- 38.12 Blade caps and matrices
- 38.13 Matrix locator
- 38.14 Matrix setting plate
- 38.15 Matrix clamp pad
- 38.16 Matrix clamp
- 38.17 Adjustments
- 38.18 Adjusting the lead clamp
- 38.19 Adjusting the jet position
- 38.20 Preparing the machine to receive the mould

- 38.21 Attaching the counter bracket to the main stand
- 38.22 Connecting the counter bracket to the cam levers
- 38.23 Preparing the mould for casting
- 38.24 Dismantling the mould
- 38.25 Instructions for changing insets
- 38.26 Removing right-hand inset from the adjustable side block
- 38.27 Replacing the right-hand inset in the adjustable side block
- 38.28 Removing left-hand inset from the fixed side block
- 38.29 Replacing the left-hand inset in the fixed side block
- 38.30 Replacing the fixed side block after removal for cleaning
- 38.31 Preparing the mould for casting full-faced rules
- 38.32 Assembling the mould
- 38.33 Setting up the mould on the machine
- 38.34 Connecting the mould to the counter bracket lead clamp lever
- 38.35 Other attachments and connections
- 38.36 Final adjustments and checks before casting
- 38.37 Casting low leads
- 38.38 Casting high leads
- 38.39 Casting rules
- 38.40 Full-faced rules
- 38.41 Suggestions for casting satisfactory product
- 38.42 Removing the mould
- 38.43 Cleaning the jet block

CHAPTER 39
Super caster lead and rule mould 4–18 pt

- 39.1 Mould base
- 39.2 Jet block
- 39.3 Side block (fixed)
- 39.4 Side block (adjustable)
- 39.5 Straightening device
- 39.6 Dotted rule supporting pad
- 39.7 Friction plunger
- 39.8 Mould blades
- 39.9 Distance pieces
- 39.10 Side block insets
- 39.11 Lead clamp
- 39.12 Blade caps and matrices
- 39.13 Matrix locator (side)
- 39.14 Matrix locator (end)
- 39.15 Matrix locator packing piece
- 39.16 Matrix sealing slide
- 39.17 Matrix clamp pad
- 39.18 Matrix clamp
- 39.19 Matrix guide
- 39.20 Matrix guide cover
- 39.21 Matrix guide cover clamp screw
- 39.22 Adjusting the lead clamp
- 39.23 Adjusting the jet position
- 39.24 Preparing the machine to receive the mould
- 39.25 Attaching the counter bracket
- 39.26 Connecting the counter bracket to the cam levers
- 39.27 Preparing the mould for casting
- 39.28 Dismantling the mould
- 39.29 Instructions for changing insets
- 39.30 Removing right-hand inset from the adjustable side block
- 39.31 Replacing the right-hand inset in the adjustable side block
- 39.32 Removing left-hand inset from the fixed side block
- 39.33 Replacing the left-hand inset in the fixed side block
- 39.34 Replacing the fixed side block after removal for cleaning
- 39.35 Auxiliary parts for casting 12 pt tie-up slugs
- 39.36 Preparing the mould for casting 12 pt tie-up slugs
- 39.37 Auxiliary parts required for casting full-faced rules
- 39.38 Preparing the mould for casting full-faced rules
- 39.39 Assembling the mould
- 39.40 Setting up the mould on the machine
- 39.41 Connecting the mould to the counter bracket lead clamp lever
- 39.42 Other attachments and connections
- 39.43 Final adjustments and checks before casting
- 39.44 Casting low leads
- 39.45 Casting high leads
- 39.46 Casting dashes and clumps
- 39.47 Casting rules
- 39.48 Casting continuous borders
- 39.49 Suggestions for casting satisfactory product
- 39.50 Removing the mould from the machine

CHAPTER 40

Super caster furniture mould

- 40.1 Blade ejection stops
- 40.2 Mould base
- 40.3 Jet block
- 40.4 Side block (large)
- 40.5 Side block (small)
- 40.6 Mould blade and adjustable rear wall
- 40.7 Distance pieces
- 40.8 Packing plates
- 40.9 Core pieces
- 40.10 The caps
- 40.11 Facing strips
- 40.12 Clamping block
- 40.13 Dismantling the mould
- 40.14 Assembling the mould
- 40.15 Preparing the machine
- 40.16 Attaching the counter bracket
- 40.17 Preparing the mould for casting
- 40.18 Setting up the mould on the machine
- 40.19 Other attachments and connections
- 40.20 Final checks and adjustments before casting
- 40.21 Furniture trimming attachment
- 40.22 Removing the mould from the machine

CHAPTER 41

Production of good type

- 41.1 The objective
- 41.2 Imperfections and their causes
- 41.3 Care and control of the metal

CHAPTER 42

Type metal

- 42.1 Requirements of a type metal
- 42.2 Constituents of type metals
- 42.3 Melting properties
- 42.4 Effect of antimony
- 42.5 Effect of tin
- 42.6 Choice of metal composition
- 42.7 Compositions and properties of alloys
- 42.8 Handling molten printing metals
- 42.9 Feeding the pot
- 42.10 Speed of melting
- 42.11 Effect of separation on the casting operation
- 42.12 Melting loss and depreciation
- 42.13 Reducing the melting loss
- 42.14 Making good the losses
- 42.15 Reviving or rejuvenating the metal
- 42.16 Analysis of metal
- 42.17 Impurities in type metal
- 42.18 Metal heating equipment (the electric melting pot attachment)
- 42.19 Maintenance