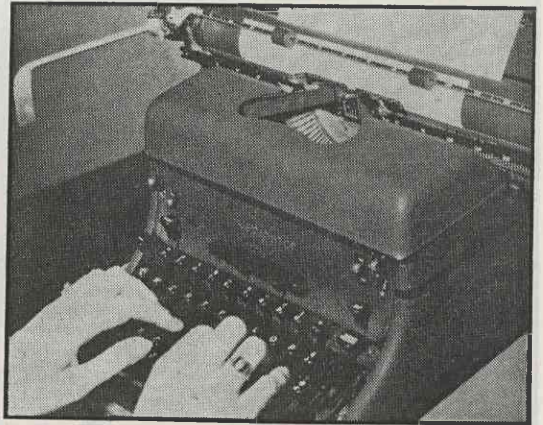


THE TYPEWRITER



The typewriter is another invention that has changed our working and living standards. Not only the typewriter, but also the office machines that grew out of it have greatly simplified the work of secretaries, bookkeepers, stenographers, business men, accountants, authors and reporters. If we had to revert to the old quill pens it would take five times as long to write a book, ten times as long to do office work, twenty times as long to publish a newspaper.

Christopher Sholes, the "Grandfather of Office Machinery", was apprenticed to a printer when he was quite young. When he was not busy he watched the office force sitting on their high stools and laboring with their quill pens. He noticed that the ink often faded, that copies were

seldom made, and records were almost impossible to keep. To him handwriting was unnecessary drudgery and he made up his mind to end it.

After many trials he invented the typewriter. It was crude and bulky, the keyboard was made of wood with letters and numbers painted white, and the type spaced unequally and often stuck. But crude as it was, it had all of the basic features of the typewriter of today.

The first machines cost \$250 each. Sholes and one of his backers began working on some means of producing the machine more cheaply. Not being machinists they took the typewriter to a gunsmith, who told them that it must be built with the same accuracy and precision as fire-

(Continued on page 32)

The invention of the typewriter, and the machinery that grew out of it, revolutionized our office procedure. Charlie Smith, of the Mill Office, is shown at work with her typewriter. What if she had to write all of the letters and keep all of the records with a quill pen?

