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Making the Columbian Operational

The following lists summarize the materials required and process of preparing a hand press for operation

Preparing the Press

- 1) Insure press is properly assembled
- 2) Verify that bed and platen are flat
- 3) Level the rails
- 4) True the platen and bed
- 5) Adjust the platen travel
- 6) Oil the bearing surfaces
- 7) Recover the tympan and frisket
- 8) Affix chase to bed with wedges
- 9) Establish packing required and pack press
- 10) Set form and make ready

Materials Required to Operate Press

- 1) Chase
- 2) Chase wedges
- 3) Platen bearers
- 4) Roller bearers
- 5) Furniture
- 6) Reglets
- 7) Quoins and key
- 8) Planer
- 9) Ink stand
- 10) Ink
- 11) Ink brayer
- 12) Packing materials both paper and mylar (2, 5 and 10 mils thick)
- 13) Stamp pad
- 14) Make ready paper (1, 2, 5 and 10 mils thick)
- 15) Printing paper
- 16) Tympan paper
- 17) Tape (strapping, heavy-duty packaging, Scotch low tack, medium tack, high tack)
- 18) Paper cutter
- 19) Solvent and rags
- 20) Oil and oil can
- 21) In-feed and out-feed tables at least as large as the paper being printed

Text to Be Printed

- 1) Text
- 2) Design
- 3) Composition
- 4) Image

Preparing the Paper for Printing Damp

- 1) Cosmos blotter paper
- 2) Protected pressing boards
- 3) Garbage bag
- 4) Weights
- 5) Dahlia sprayer

Miscellaneous hand tools