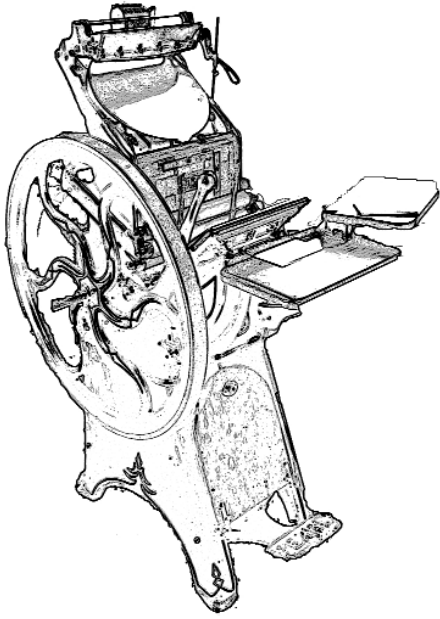


# THE PRINTING PRESS



***1901 Golding Pearl  
Printing Press***

Printing as we know it today began about 500 years ago. Before that time, everything people read had to be copied by hand or printed from wood blocks carved by hand. Then one of the greatest events in history took place. About 1440, Johannes Gutenberg of Germany invented printing with movable type. Gutenberg made separate pieces of metal type for each letter to be printed.

Printing soon became the first means of mass communications. It put more knowledge in the hands of more people faster and cheaper than ever before. As a result, reading and writing spread widely and rapidly. Printing became man's most powerful weapon against his worst enemy-ignorance.

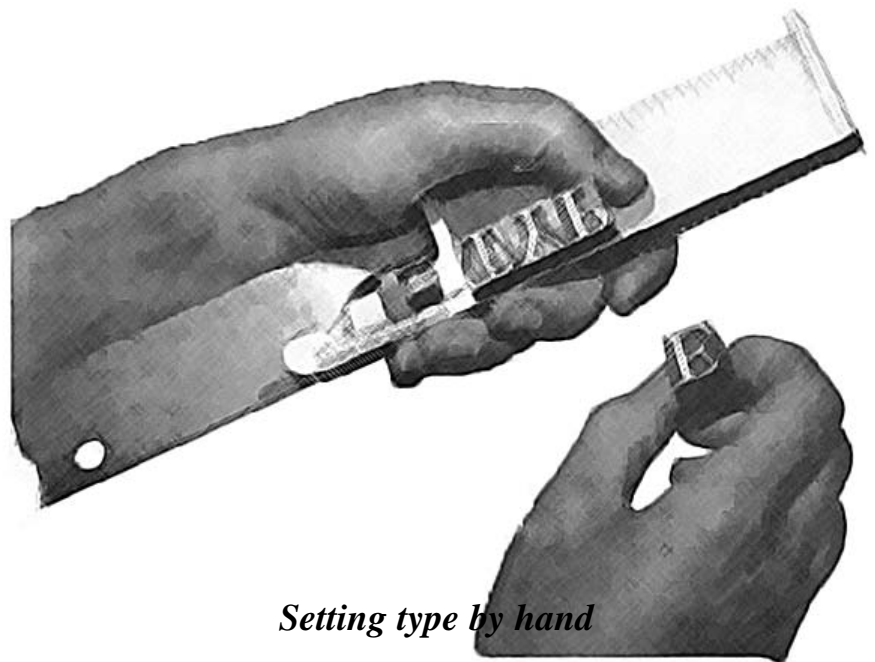
*From World Book Encyclopedia*

Almost all printing is done by one of three methods:

- (1) Letterpress
- (2) Offset Lithography
- (3) Gravure.

Both of the printing presses at the Marietta Museum of History print by letterpress. This means that the printer uses small blocks with raised letters on them to create a template. Then, when ink is spread on the letters, they are pressed against a piece of paper to make a print. The letters are upside down and backwards so that when they are pressed on the paper, the letters will face the right direction.

The Pearl Press was designed in the 1870s by William Golding in Boston. It is driven by a foot-treadel with a top speed of about 1,500 sheets an hour. The Pearl Press in the Marietta Museum of History was made in 1901, and still works today.



***Setting type by hand***

The Brandtjen and Kluge brothers developed the first successful automatic feeder for a printing press, and in November, 1919, Brandtjen and Kluge was formed in St. Paul, Minnesota, to manufacture and sell the feeder. The Kluge Press in the Marietta Museum of History was built sometime around 1945. It is a 10x15, which means that it could print a sheet of paper up to 10 inches by 15 inches. This model printer was first introduced in 1931 and at full speed, it can print 4,000 sheets an hour.



*c. 1945 Kluge Press*

## Let's Review

1. Who invented printing with moveable type? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What printing method do the presses at the Marietta Museum of History use? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. The following phrases have been put together just like letters for a printing press. Read these phrases and write them correctly in the blanks provided.

a. **AUTOMATIC FEEDER**

\_\_\_\_\_

b. **THE 1001 BEAST PRESS**

\_\_\_\_\_

c. **SELLING TYPE BY HAND**

\_\_\_\_\_