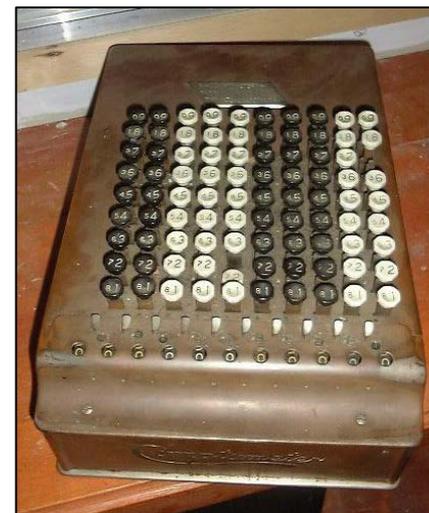


Today in Math History...

-11 October 1887

Patent #371,496 issued for the “*comptometer*”... the first adding machine “*absolutely accurate at all times.*” It was invented by Dorr Eugene Felt of Chicago; a model was constructed in 1884.



Comptometer is a trade name of the Felt and Tarrant Manufacturing Company of Chicago (later the Comptometer Corporation), but was widely used as a generic name for the class of device. The original design was patented in 1887 by Dorr Eugene Felt.

*Although primarily designed for **adding, division, multiplication, and subtraction** could also be performed. Special comptometers with varying key arrays (with from 30 to well over 100 keys) were produced for a variety of purposes, including calculating currencies, time and Imperial measures of weight.*