Subject: Possible Caliber 60 (21J sister to Cal 35) - Madretsch - 17’” Open Face
Posted by Case on Sun, 09 Aug 2020 04:05:09 GMT
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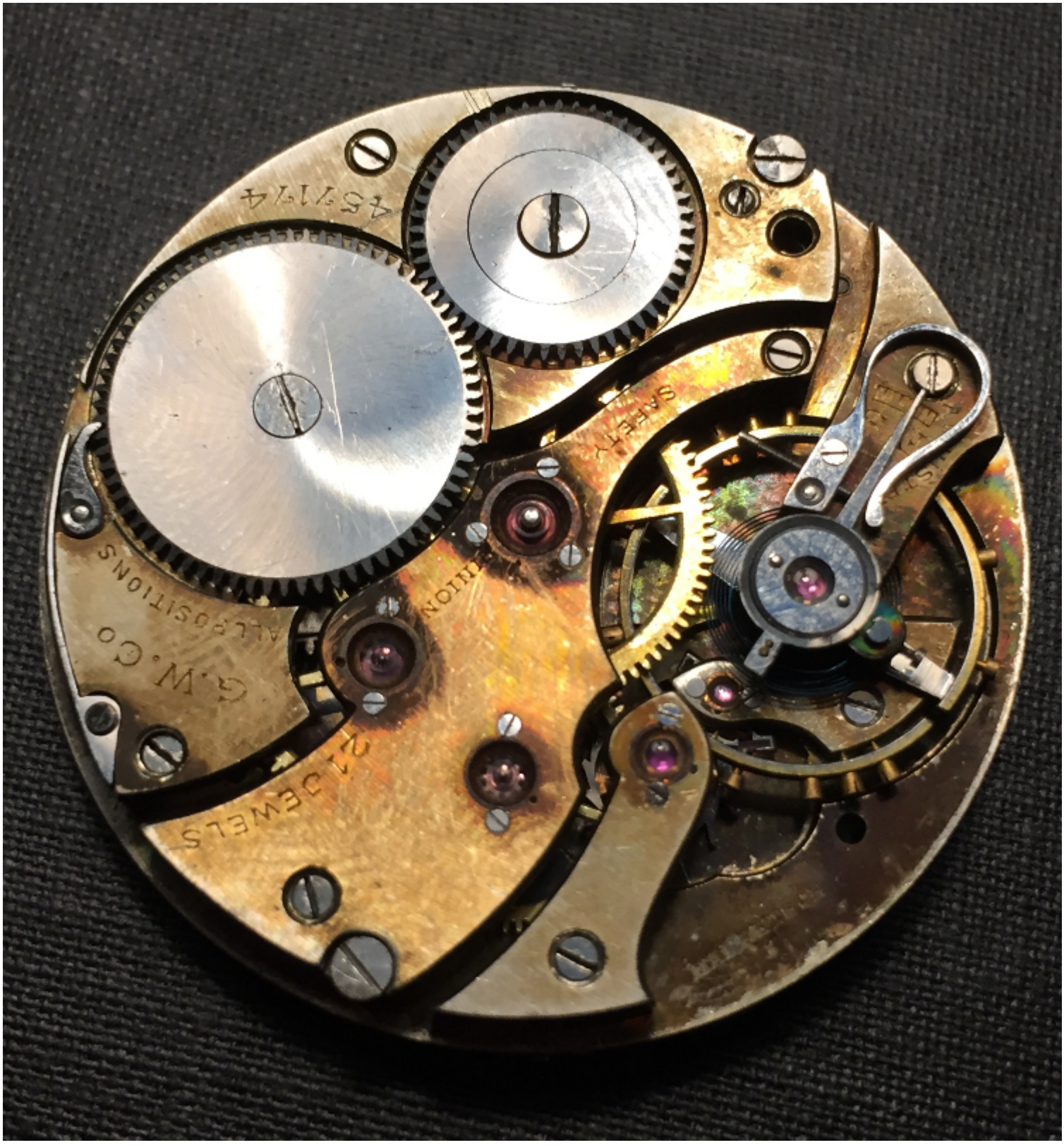
Asking for help on this one. I can find no match in my sources.

Caliber: ??
Type: Pocket
Layout: open face
Setting: negative/American
Size: measures just over 38mm (17 ligne / 10 Size)
Signature: G. W. Co.
Maker: unknown

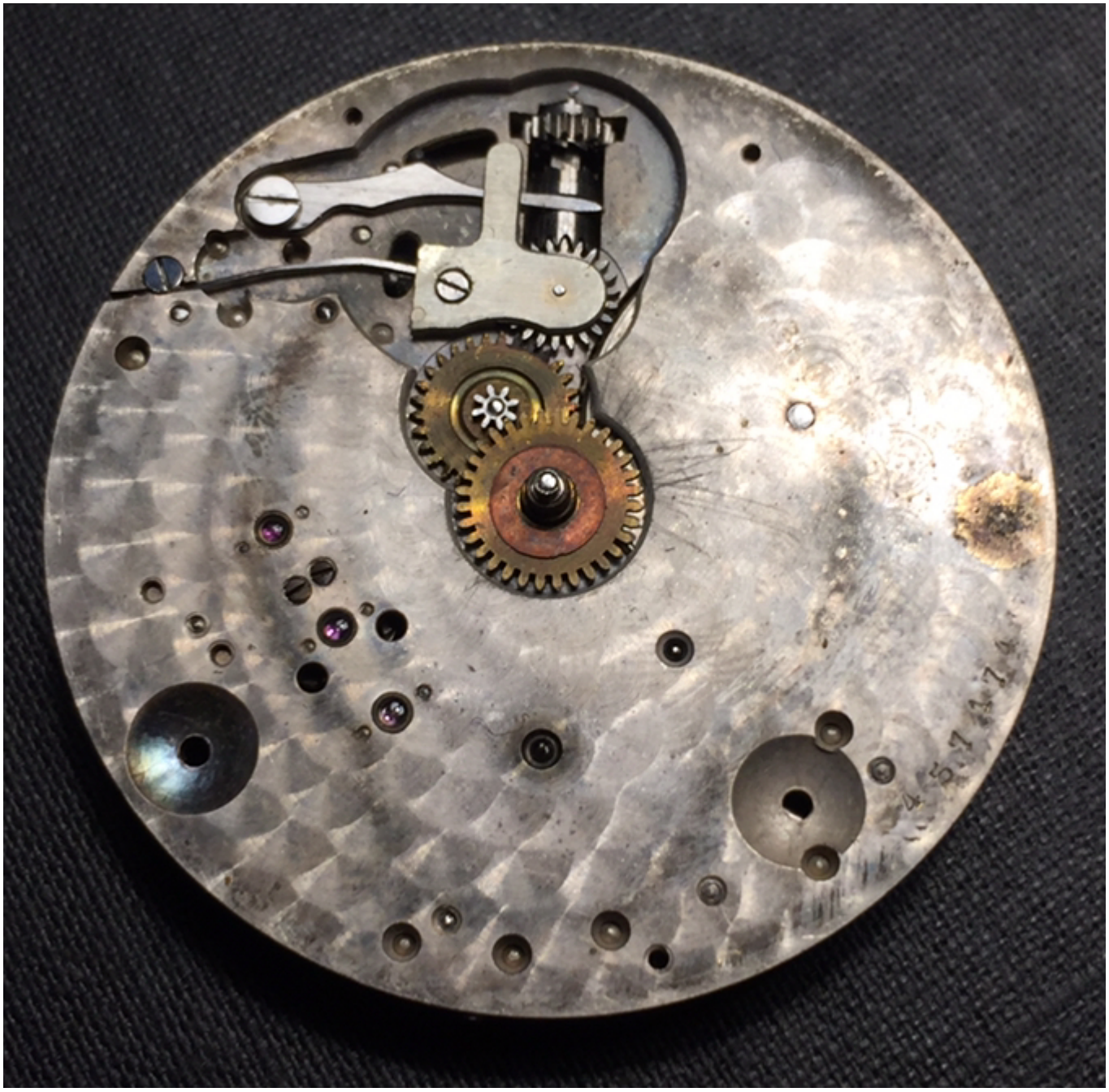
Jewels: 21 (#s only)
Adj: “All Positions”
Movement number: 457174 (on bridge; matching dial side sn)
Example date: late 1913-beginning 1914 production
Dial: 2-piece Ceramic, signed “Gruen”
Dial maker: unmarked
Other marks: “Safety Pinion” (center jewel), “Adjusted” (balance cock)
“Madretsch” (main plate by escape)
*not marked Precision*

## File Attachments

1) B62E4C2A-25C2-4780-9714-6B9EF5A8E154.jpeg, downloaded 3259 times




2) 9D0A15AA-AEA4-4626-AEC9-1C5DC4EAC257.jpeg, downloaded 3296 times



Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by Case on Sun, 09 Aug 2020 04:29:01 GMT
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Btw, Barney, I think this is one match for your #2.

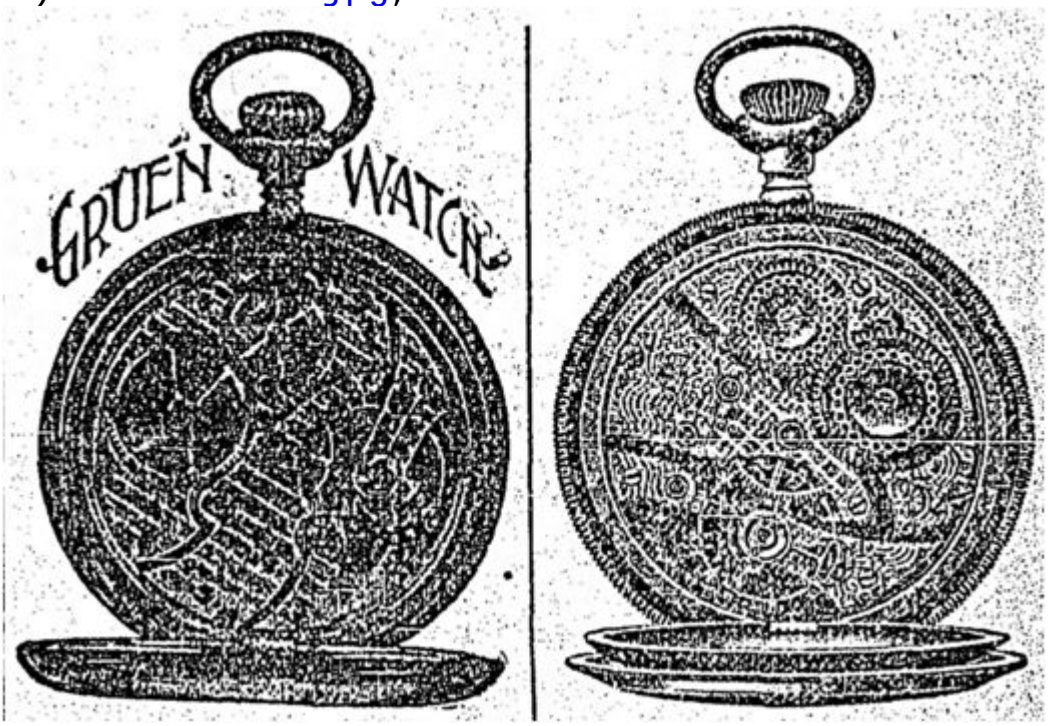
Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by Barney Green on Sun, 09 Aug 2020 10:42:02 GMT
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Cool find! This movement appears already in an 1905 ad:

To my knowledge this is caliber 35.

## File Attachments

1) Movement 2.jpg, downloaded 3015 times




Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by Jenneke on Sun, 09 Aug 2020 12:14:09 GMT
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Nothing similar in 1936 La Classification Horlogere.

Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by Case on Sun, 09 Aug 2020 19:05:01 GMT
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I'd looked at cal 35. It does look most similar, but I'm showing it was a 12 size / 17.75L, 17J, & hunter?

Interesting to see this one in a 1905 ad.

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Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by thesnark17 on Mon, 10 Aug 2020 00:40:39 GMT
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Caliber 35 can also be a 21 jewel OF. I have one. This is another, but it has several unusual characteristics:

- 457k. First non-V-series watch in that range, and first caliber 35 outside of the normal range. I wonder if these watches (atypical production in the early 45xk range) were an attempt to use up unfinished material. The rest of the oddities are probably related to when it was built.
- Marked G. W. Co. and nothing else. First time I've seen it.
- 21 jewels and marked. Surprising that it has 21 jewels in this time frame (the other atypicals are all 15/17 jewels). Other 21j cal 35s are not marked (but are earlier).
- Rare cap jewel style. Caliber 35 uses cap jewels in steel settings except on this movement. Probably was a 17j ebauche. But why convert to 21j?
- No chronometer balance or poised pallet fork. This is not surprising as neither one was used on the other atypical production movements.
- All Positions text, and location. Other atypical movements were 3 positions, or Adjusted only. Usually positions text is next to balance. This is a 21j movement; I guess it's adjusted better.
- Standard swan regulator. Caliber 35 normally uses a different regulator. Unsurprising for such late production.

Hi, everyone. I'm back. It was a nice vacation.

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Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by Case on Mon, 10 Aug 2020 01:19:31 GMT
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Welcome back, Alex. I was hoping to get your eyes on this one.

My interest in these styles piqued when I saw them still in the 1926 parts book, all now in regular Adjusted sn line, but all with much earlier sn than the rest. Speaks to remnants. Got this in a lucky accident—had no clue until I opened it.

I’m pretty confidant this is a reference for late/end of 1913 production, due to stamps. The model 35 in the 26 book still has words + numbers for jewels/adj. Thats at 456,9xx sn. Here’s 457,1xx with only #s. 1913 tariff, enacted September 30. Helpful, since Gruen soft converted their V4s several years later (in the 470s) Whoever was making these clearly didn’t wait.

I’m still not convinced this is a 35. Different size, different jewel count, AND different orientation? Not buying it.

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Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by thesnark17 on Mon, 10 Aug 2020 01:43:34 GMT
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Different size? This isn't 12 size?

Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by Barney Green on Mon, 10 Aug 2020 10:08:39 GMT
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You might be doing right not buying the caliber 35 ID: This was just based on the pictures I have access to and it had been the closest match. But there once has been a caliber 60 movement which is listed as sharing parts with caliber 35 (17 ligne). So this could well be the up to now more or less undocumented caliber 60?

Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by Case on Mon, 10 Aug 2020 13:46:41 GMT
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It is a 10 size. I measured twice, to be sure. Very feasible that it at least shares parts with the 35. 60 is a new number for me—would seem to fit the time.

Edit: And now that you mention it, I see 60 in the interchangeability tables as a 17L (10 size) movement. No jewel count listed. May have a match!

Having all seen the recently-sold 7J version of this family (Primo branded, link shared by Liz), it’s clear there are some unknowns/undocumented ones floating out there.

Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by thesnark17 on Mon, 10 Aug 2020 15:00:59 GMT
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There is a 16 size mystery movement with this layout as well.

Caliber 35 is certainly 12 size, and I know that OF and hunter variants exist (mostly OF).

I have never seen or heard of a 10 size movement in this family. I had no idea any such thing existed. You've got something rare and special there!

Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by Case on Mon, 10 Aug 2020 16:47:45 GMT

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Good to find a unicorn  :lol:  at least it's running!

60 may be a good hypothesis for now, although I note Mike lists 35 as 17L too in his interchange chart (should be 17 3/4)

I have a lead on possible supplier. We'll see if it pans out!

Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by thesnark17 on Mon, 10 Aug 2020 18:49:41 GMT
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I still couldn't believe this, so I dug around in my parts and turned up a parts caliber 35. Interestingly, it is *both* 17 ligne and 17.75 ligne!

The base movement is 17 ligne... and there's a removable spacer ring around it to bring it up to exactly 12 size (17 3/4 ligne). When I measured my cased caliber 35 to confirm the size (earlier message), that is what I had measured (It fits as a bezel around the outside of the dial). But actually the movement is not so large!

Yours has no spacer ring, but it's just a friction fit, so easily removed/discarded. I think that's enough evidence to say this is indeed a caliber 35, and that it is 17''' for interchange purposes.

So convoluted...

I will take some photos for proof.

Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by Case on Mon, 10 Aug 2020 19:22:11 GMT
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I think it's conclusive—that the 35 is 17L. Pics would be appreciated, and I'll put in a shameless plug for a new database entry for it.

The jury is still out on this one. There's a same-size caliber 60 with unknown specs, and the 35 is known to have differences.  The same caliber # for 4 configurations (17 & 21 jewel and hunter & open face) is unlike the Gruen I know.

But I'll update this thread title to be possible 60 or 21j 35 sister variant.

Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by Case on Tue, 11 Aug 2020 01:24:17 GMT
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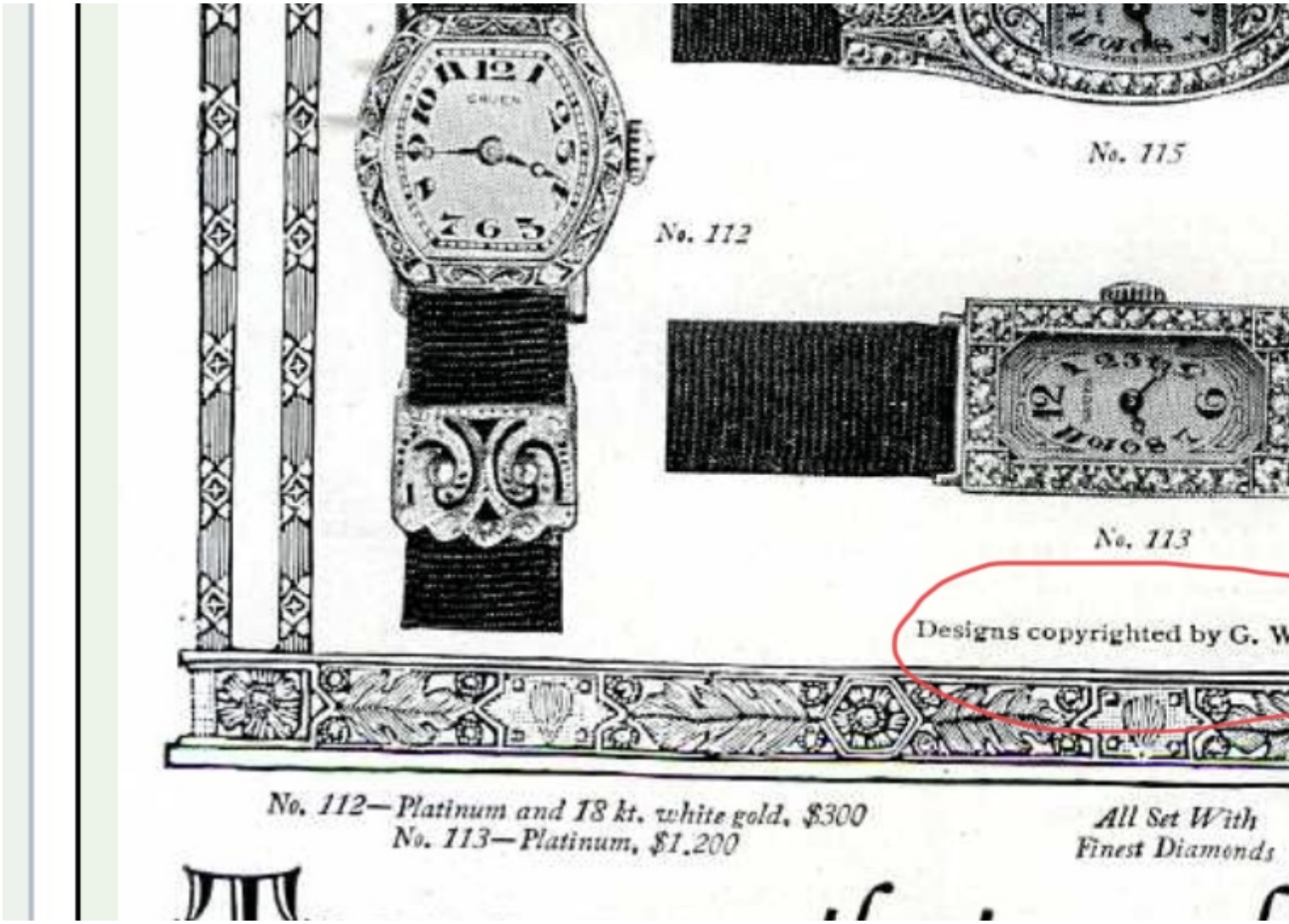
And I’m officially jealous of your parts drawer, too!  :p

Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by Jenneke on Tue, 11 Aug 2020 20:38:59 GMT
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Just noticed this in a 1920s ad from Gary:

## File Attachments

1) 7D2778DC-4D74-47F1-ADEF-0ACB5F4BB779.jpeg, downloaded 2892 times




Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by Ephemerald on Tue, 11 Aug 2020 20:47:07 GMT

I think Alex was saying it was his first time seeing it on movement bc it has been in tons of ads, G. W. Co.

Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by thesnark17 on Wed, 12 Aug 2020 20:36:50 GMT


That is correct. But an additional caveat is in order because I'm fairly sure I have seen it on other movements at some point. I was referring only to movements in this movement family. Beyond that, I've also never seen it on any of the movements that I'm tracking. (SN ranges 120k-150k, 327k-347k, 450k-740k, "Main Sequence" or whatever you want to call it, focusing on Precision Factory output.)

Subject: Re: Unknown Madretsch OF Caliber — 10 Size/17L — 21J
Posted by Case on Thu, 13 Aug 2020 03:03:04 GMT


It’s certainly possible. I don’t have nearly the data or research from this early to help solve it. But new info for this timeframe has surfaced even in the past year, so at least this is here as a visual reference. Always hopeful!

And thank you for the info you’ve already shared on this whole family.  I’d no idea it was so large.