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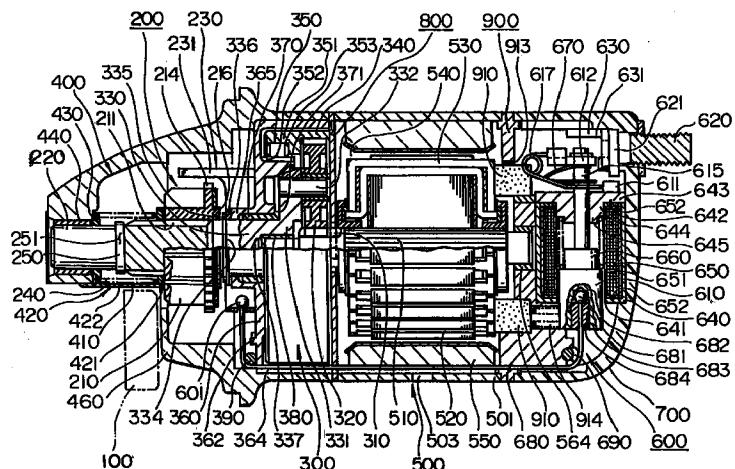
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(57) Disclosed is a starter which is simplified in the structure of its pinion rotation regulating mechanism and is down-sized in its entire structure. A pinion regulating member (230) abuts with a pinion (200) and moves the pinion (200) towards a ring gear (100) by the rotation of an output shaft (220), while preventing rotation of the pinion (200). When the pinion (200) abuts

with the ring gear (100), the pinion regulating member (230) bends and gradually rotates the pinion (200) to mesh with the ring gear (100). By this arrangement and operation, generation of abrasion powder is reduced with reduced number of component parts.

FIG. I





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 96 10 5895

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim
A	US-A-2 332 986 (BUXTON) * page 1, right-hand column, line 4 - page 2, left-hand column, line 8; figures 1,2 * -----	1,3
		F02N15/06
		TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
		F02N
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims		
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE	2 August 1996	Bijn, E
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		