April 22, 1947. O. HOPPMAN 2,419,215

AUTOMATIC RETRIEVER APPLIANCE FOR OPERATING UTENSILS SUCH AS ERASERS, PENS, PENCILS, AND THE LIKE

Filed Aug. 14, 1943

Fig. 1

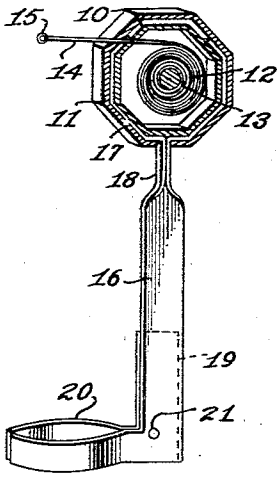


Fig. 2

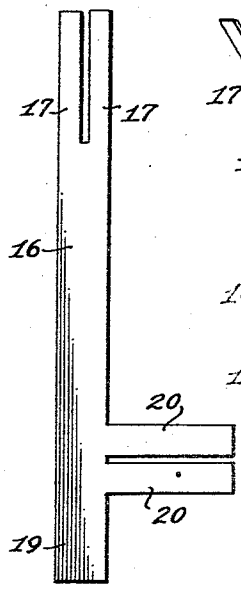


Fig. 3

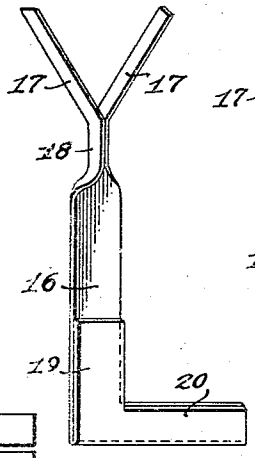


Fig. 4

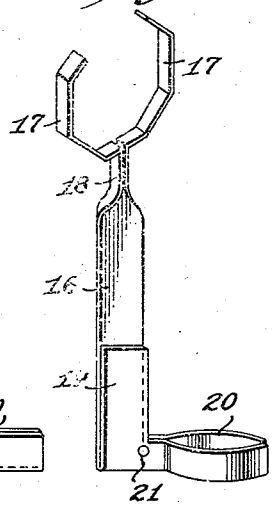


Fig. 5

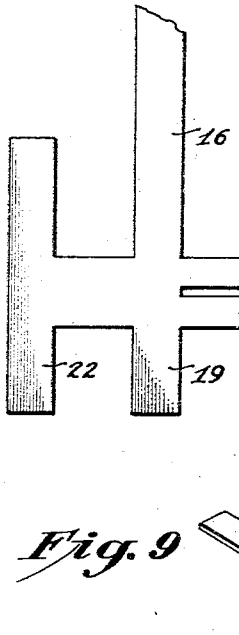


Fig. 6

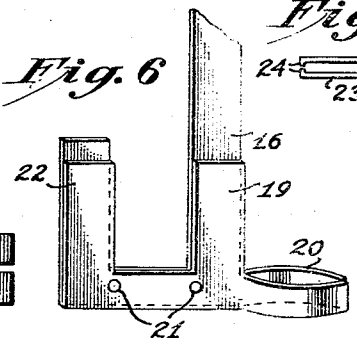


Fig. 7

Fig. 8

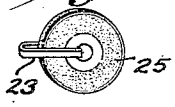


Fig. 9

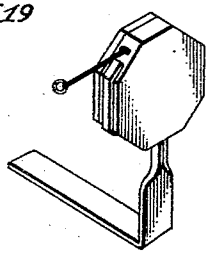
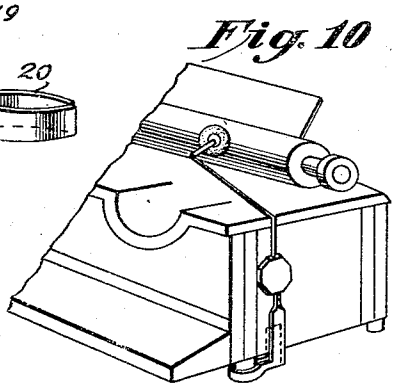


Fig. 10



Inventor
OTTO HOPPMAN
By Joshua R. H. Potts
Attorney

Patented Apr. 22, 1947

2,419,215

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,419,215

AUTOMATIC RETRIEVER APPLIANCE FOR OPERATING UTENSILS SUCH AS ERASERS, PENS, PENCILS, AND THE LIKE

Otto Hoppman, Oak Park, Ill.

Application August 14, 1943, Serial No. 498,710

7 Claims. (Cl. 120—36)

1

This invention relates to a removable attachable automatic retriever appliance consisting of a single unit adapted to perform the functions of a plurality of utensils, and has for an object to provide a convenient article of manufacture capable of performing the functions of an eraser, pen, pencil, and the like for office and other mechanical equipment, such as typewriters and the like including other miscellaneous articles of manufacture and which may be held in easy reach and readily available for use.

It is a well known fact that typists, stenographers, and others who operate typewriters and other office mechanical equipment and the like, have every day need of an eraser for correcting errors, etc., and in making search for said erasers and pencils which may be here, there and everywhere, but as a rule not in a convenient place. It naturally follows that much valuable time and labor is lost in non-productive work. Therefore, the object of this practical invention is just the means for eliminating the difficulties plus delays frequently occasioned when searching for an eraser and the like, and thus preventing a great deal of inconvenience, etc.

I am aware that prior to my invention, retrieving combination articles—erasers, pencils, pens, and such like have been made, but due to a number of impractical features their use has evidently failed to prove successful, owing to apparent difficulties in construction and assembly, such as for instance the inability to readily detach and renew an individual unit, which on account of service is worn and mutilated, without replacing an entire new retriever appliance.

The principal aim of my invention is to provide an inexpensive and compact article of manufacture in the form of an easily removable attachable automatic retriever appliance, without the use of tools, very simple in construction and assembly, and very practical and mechanically efficient in the functioning of utensils such as erasers, pens, pencils, and the like, and thus overcome the above mentioned and other operating difficulties.

Another feature of the invention is to provide an octagonal bracket support so constructed that it can readily and easily be refilled with a new casing containing the retrieving mechanism without in any way interrupting or interfering with the functioning of any other units or parts embodied in the invention.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a combination eraser, and eraser carrier. The said eraser carrier is so simple and pactical in construction and assembly that it may, without employing tools, be very easily attached to and very readily detached from the said eraser.

Having the above and other objects in view, the invention has a number of other practical

2

advantages consisting of certain construction combinations and arrangements of parts, the features of which, with the foregoing will be explained at length in the following description, where I shall specify in full the form of the invention which I have chosen for illustration in the drawings accompanying and forming a part of the following specification.

It is to be understood however that I do not limit myself to such form because the invention as expressed in the claims may be embodied in a plurality of forms, owing to the fact that some makes of typewriters and other office mechanical equipment and articles of manufacture differ somewhat in construction, the form of the retriever appliance must of necessity be changed to fit the various models.

Referring to said drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front sectional view of my automatic retriever appliance invention.

Fig. 2 is a rear view of the upright shank.

Fig. 3 is a rear perspective view of the upright shank and a base anchor flange.

Fig. 4 is a rear perspective view of a pair of twin supporting brackets at the upper end of the upright shank, an anchor foot clamp, and anchor flange.

Fig. 5 is a plan view for an additional auxiliary base anchor flange. The broken upright shank portion is also shown.

Fig. 6 is a view of the completed additional auxiliary base anchor flange.

Fig. 7 represents a removable attachable contrivance designed to carry an eraser.

Fig. 8 illustrates an eraser and eraser carrier device attached thereto.

Fig. 9 is a modification.

Fig. 10 is an outline view of a portion of a typewriter illustrating a practical application of my invention.

I will now describe my invention in detail by reference numerals.

#10 is a casing the front side of which is eliminated thus giving a full view of the casing flange 11, the drum 12 actuated by the spring 13 and a cord 14 secured to such drum. At the upper end of the upright shank 16 are the twin supporting brackets 17. The said cord 14 may be a flat tape or fine chain and drawn away from said casing 10 against the adjusted tension of the retracting spring through an appropriate guide opening, and may be provided at the outer end with a ring 15 such as a snap ring or spring ring to which may be applied a removable attachable utensil such as an eraser, a pen or pencil, and the like, and when a utensil has been used and set free, the said spring tension automatically relaxes and carries the utensil back to its resting place close to the retriever appliance out of the way and readily accessible when needed.

The tension of said spring 13 may be adjusted to provide the necessary power to meet the resistance of the different retrieving utensils. Should the spring tension become insufficient through usage to retrieve a utensil, and if the retriever cord becomes worn and useless, they may be very easily replaced by another casing containing an entire new operating mechanism for a very trifling expense. The said cord 14, being under constant tension when in use will readily aid the utensil to function in a free and easy manner, otherwise if such cord were let loose and dangling when in use, as would be the case when operating a pawl, a ratchet, or other like mechanisms such cord 14 would be apt to cause some difficulties should it become entangled with surrounding objects and miscellaneous articles, and thus its usefulness would be impaired and rendered impractical.

The twin supporting brackets 17 are shaped octagonal for the purpose of clamping between the flanges 11 of casing 10 and prevent such casing from creeping. 18 shows a small portion of the said upright shank 16 bent double and pressed flat and acts as a reinforcement for the said brackets 17. A substantial anchorage section is formed at the lower end of the said upright shank 16 consisting of an anchor flange 19, an anchor foot clamp 20, and an auxiliary anchor flange extension 22. A rivet 21 countersunk or flattened both sides may be employed to reinforce the anchorage members as shown.

The purpose of the said auxiliary base anchor flange 22 is to function as an additional support for the automatic retriever appliance. Therefore should the feet of any office or other mechanical equipment lack sufficient purchase area, I then employ a smaller type anchor foot clamp in conjunction with the said auxiliary base anchor flange 22 to meet the need, and thus provide ample horizontal base anchorage stability for the efficient operation of the said automatic retriever appliance.

The anchor flange 19, and the auxiliary anchor flange 22, either or both of which may be attached by pressing upward against the inner wall of a typewriter and other office mechanical equipment including telephones and the like. A removable attachable eraser carrier 23 having a pair of parallel legs, preferably of resilient material, in engagement with each other and terminating even at their opposite ends, each such end is provided with a projecting lug 24, the length of said lugs are so adjusted that on being inserted into the center opening of an eraser they contact each other and prevent the said legs 23 from binding to the said eraser 25, and assure such eraser ample free rotating efficiency. Either one of the said lugs 24 telescopes into the opposite lug and hold the said lugs and the said parallel legs in proper alignment. The combination eraser and carrier may be very easily attached to and readily detached from the ring 15 at the outer end of the retriever cord 14 and such carrier may also be very promptly refilled with a new eraser. 25 illustrates an eraser with the said eraser carrier device 23 attached thereto. Instead of the construction before described, that shown in Fig. 9 is exceptionally valuable for utilization on switchboards, clipboards, memo pads, files, and the like, in banks, stores, offices, and shops, including radio stations, telegraph offices, and other centers of communication where speedy action is of

vital importance and no time to waste searching for erasers, pens, pencils, and the like.

Having thus illustrated and described the preferred form of my invention, I do not claim as new the mechanism cord, drum and spring, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In reel holding means, a reel holder, said reel holder being polygonally shaped, and a polygonally-shaped supporting bracket for said holder, the sides of the bracket registering with the sides of the holder, to keep the same from creeping.

2. In reel holding means, a polygonally-shaped supporting bracket, a reel holder mounted in said bracket, the holder being also polygonally shaped, the sides of the bracket registering with the sides of the holder, to keep the same from creeping.

3. In reel holding means, a polygonally shaped supporting bracket, a polygonally-shaped reel holder positioned in the supporting bracket, said bracket having an upper section thereof split so as to provide a pair of supporting elements, adapted to form the polygonally-shaped supporting bracket.

4. In a device of the kind described, a utility holder, means for supporting said utility holder, on a typewriter, and yielding registering flat sides providing anchoring means preventing creeping of the holder.

5. A reel holding bracket comprising, in combination, a cup-shaped casing having a plurality of flat sides, a reel holder having corresponding flat sides adapted for positioning in said casing, and yielding means permitting unwinding and rewinding of the reel, said flat sides preventing creeping of the reel holder.

6. An attachment for typewriters and the like comprising a bracket having an indented portion with flat sides, means mounting the bracket on the typewriter, a reel having a strand thereon to which an eraser may be attached, and a reel holder also having flat sides adapted to be positioned in the bracket with the flat sides thereof registering with the flat sides of the bracket to prevent creeping.

7. An attachment for typewriters and the like comprising a bracket having an indented portion with flat sides, means mounting the bracket on the typewriter, a reel having a strand thereon to which an eraser may be attached, a reel holder also having flat sides adapted to be positioned in the bracket with the flat sides thereof registering with the flat sides of the bracket to prevent creeping, and a yoke also having flat surfaces registering with the flat surfaces of the bracket and reel holder interposed between the said bracket and holder.

OTTO HOPPMAN.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
1,711,197	Frost	Apr. 30, 1929
989,230	Carter et al.	Apr. 11, 1911
1,874,813	Saunders	Aug. 30, 1932
1,299,921	DuBois	Apr. 8, 1919
1,509,952	Hunting	Sept. 30, 1924