

W. H. ELDRIDGE.
CHILD'S FEEDING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 9, 1917.

1,242,785.

Patented Oct. 9, 1917.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1-

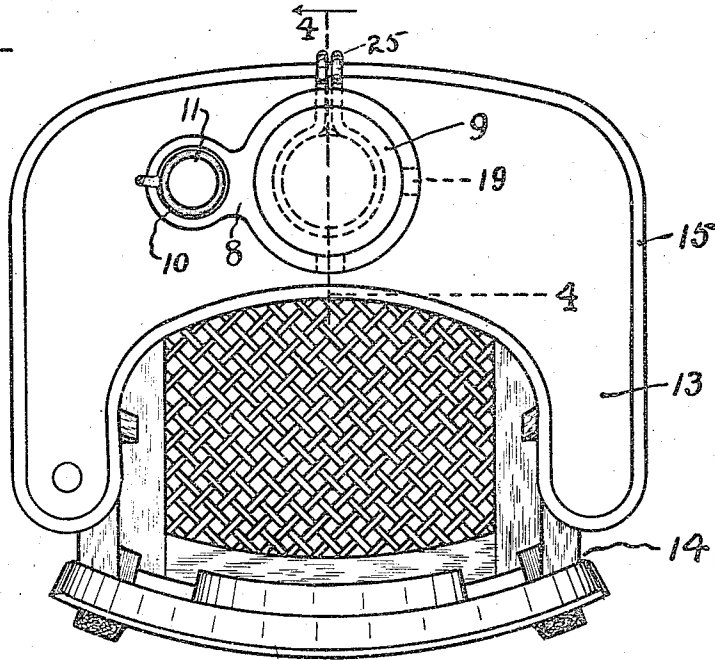


Fig. 2-

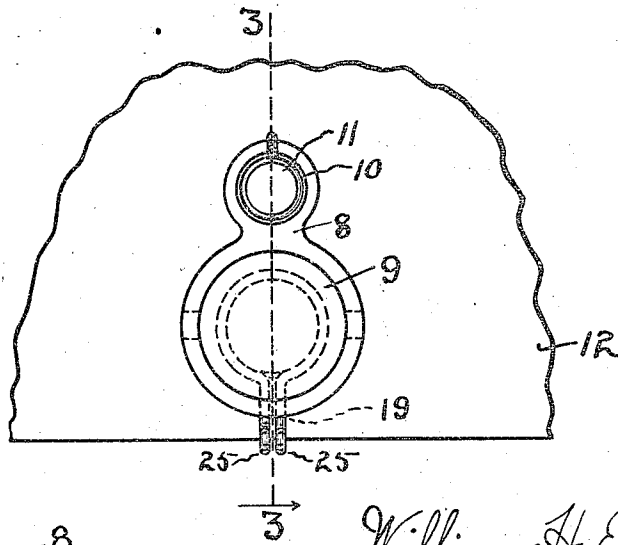
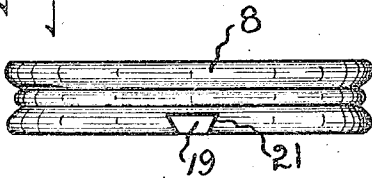


Fig. 7-

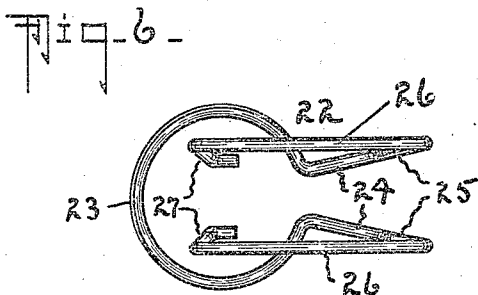
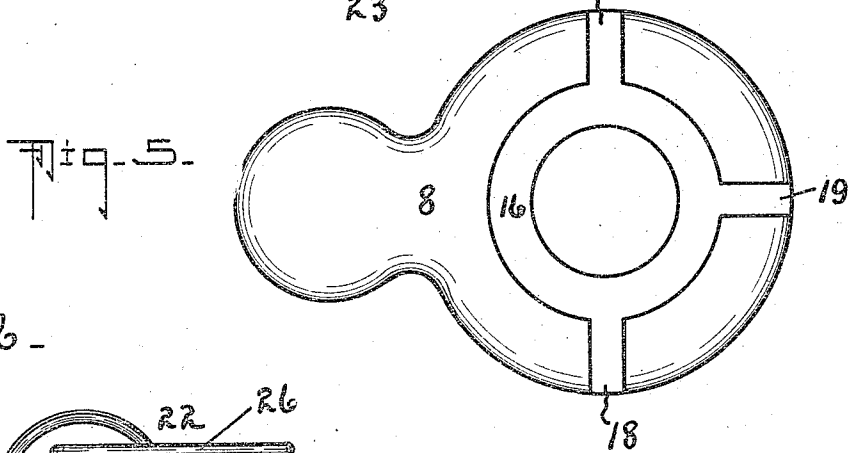
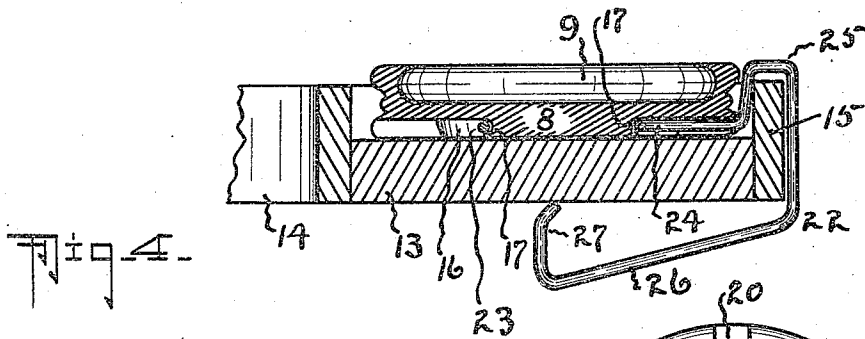
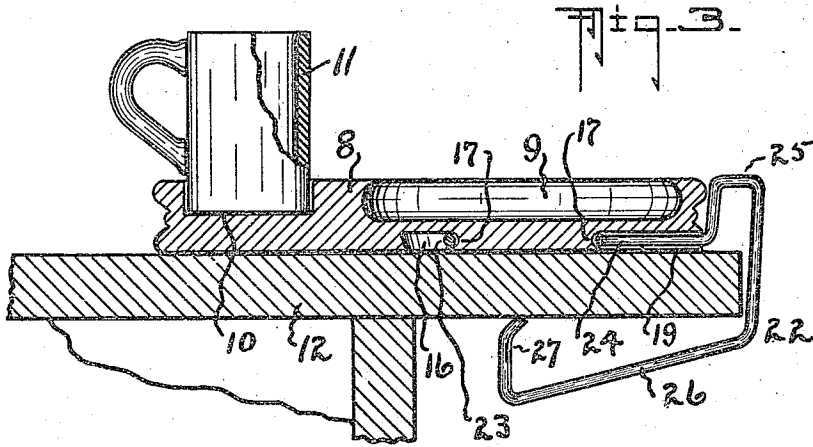


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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. ELDRIDGE, OF OMAHA, NEBRASKA.

CHILD'S FEEDING DEVICE.

1,242,785.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 9, 1917.

Application filed April 9, 1917. Serial No. 160,615.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. ELDRIDGE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Omaha, in the county of Douglas and State of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Children's Feeding Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a child's feeding device for use in connection with a chair, table or other support, for very young children, and has for its object to provide a flat casting of suitable form to provide a shallow, circular receptacle or plate for containing food and a circular recess or holder for a drinking-cup, the casting to be provided with grooves in its bottom so arranged that a clamping device may be conveniently attached for securing it to the support.

The invention consists of the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts as described herein and claimed, and as illustrated in the drawing, wherein,—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a child's dining chair, with the device applied, the loop of the clamping device engaging the conventional rail of the swing-shelf. Fig. 2 is a plan view showing a part of a flat table-top or leaf with the device applied thereto. Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view through the plate and cup-holder, taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional view on line 4—4 of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a bottom plan view of the device. Fig. 6 is a bottom plan view of the clamp. Fig. 7 is an edge-wise view of the device.

Referring now to the drawing for a more particular description, I provide a casting 8 of porcelain or other suitable material having a flat bottom and a top parallel with the bottom, said casting being provided with a circular recess 9 opening on its top and a lesser circular recess 10 adjacent thereto, both opening on the top of the casting, the main recess 9 operating as a container for food and having an undercut concaved wall as clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 4, and the lesser recess 10 operating as a holder for a drinking cup 11.

The device may be secured on a table having a flat top 12 or upon the shelf 13 of a child's chair 14 having a railing 15, and may be held in such manner that it will not be detached by action of a child, but may be readily removed by a person in charge, and for this purpose that part of the casting

below the main recess 9 has an adequate thickness so that a circular recess 16 may be formed therein to open upon its bottom, its inner wall 17 being undercut as best shown in Figs. 3 and 4. Numerals 18, 19 and 20 indicate radially disposed channels or slots having undercut walls 21 (Fig. 7), said channels opening upon the annular recess 16, the bottom, and outer, circular wall of the casting, and preferably disposed 90 degrees apart.

It will be understood that the circular recess and channels are for use in securing the device to a support when used in connection with a suitable clamp. The clamp 22 consists of a piece of spring wire or other similar metallic strand bent midway between its ends to provide a circular loop 23 and a pair of adjacent, outwardly projecting arms 24; said arms, outwardly of the loop, being bent to provide a pair of upwardly projecting loops 25 each of said last named loops being provided with an inwardly projecting arm 26 with an angularly disposed terminal 27.

The arms 24 of the clamp are normally disposed outwardly divergent, and in aperture, the clamp may be disposed with its loop 23 engaging the undercut wall 17 of the annular groove 16, its arms 24 engaging the undercut walls 19 of any one of the channels of the casting, the pair of loops 25 engaging the railing 15 of a shelf 13, the arms 26 projecting beneath the chair-shelf for engaging its terminal 27 with the bottom of the shelf.

According to the construction described it will be seen that the flat bottom of the casting may engage the flat top of a table, shelf or leaf, since the recess and channels mentioned provide a mounting for the wire in the plane of the casting.

If the device is used upon a table having no railing the pair of loops 25 do not discharge any function except operating as springs, but on account of the provision of said loops 25 the device may be readily secured to either chairs or tables.

When mounting the device upon a chair or table, the clamp is first disposed in the circular recess 16 and one of the channels, the arms 24 being moved toward each other against the force of the spring-loop 23 so that they may enter the channel. By action of the spring the undercut walls 17 and 21 will be engaged respectively by the circular

loop 23 and arms 24. By applying a limited degree of pressure, the arms 26 may be swung downwardly a sufficient distance to permit the device to be disposed as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3 or 4, their terminal, angular parts 27 normally being pressed against the bottom of the support on account of the resilient action of the wire or strand.

It will be seen that by use of the device, the cup may be disposed at the right or left side or as shown in Fig. 2, the cup may be disposed at the front of a child when sitting at a table.

While I have explained detailed construction I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself in this respect, nor to size, form, proportion or material to be employed, the scope of the invention being determined by the appended claims.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is,—

1. A child's feeding device consisting of a flat casting having a main circular recess and a lesser circular recess each opening on its top to provide respectively a receptacle for containing food and a holder for a cup, and having a groove and channels with undercut walls opening on its bottom to provide bearings for a wire clamp for securing it to a support.

2. A child's feeding device consisting of a flat casting provided with a recess of greater area and adjacent thereto with a recess of lesser area, each recess being circular in plan and the recess of greater area having an undercut wall, said casting being provided to open on its bottom and sides with channels to provide bearings for a clamping member for use in securing the device to a support.

3. A child's feeding device comprising a casting having a flat bottom with a circular groove opening thereon with an undercut inner wall and provided with radially disposed channels having undercut walls opening on the groove and projecting radially

therefrom to open on the bottom and sides of the casting to provide bearings, in combination with said groove, for the arms and loop of a clamping device, the top of said casting being provided to open thereon with a circular recess having an undercut wall for use as a food receptacle, and having a second circular recess opening thereon to provide a holder for a cup or similar article.

4. A child's feeding device consisting of a casting having a pair of shallow circular recesses adjacent to each other and of different areas opening on its top, said casting being provided with a circular groove opening on its bottom and having channels opening on said groove and its side walls, the walls of said channels and the inner wall of said groove being undercut for engagement, respectively, with the arms and the loop of a clamping device for securing said feeding device on a table or other support.

5. A child's feeding device comprising a casting having a flat bottom with a circular groove opening thereon with an undercut inner wall and provided with radially disposed channels having undercut walls opening on the groove and projecting radially therefrom to open on the bottom and sides of the casting to provide bearings, in combination with said groove, for the arms and loop of a clamping device, the top of said casting being provided to open thereon with a circular recess having an undercut wall for use as a food receptacle, and having a second circular recess opening thereon adjacent to the first named recess to provide a holder for a cup or similar article, said radially disposed channels being disposed substantially 90 degrees apart.

In testimony whereof, I have affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM H. ELDRIDGE.

Witnesses:

ARTHUR H. STURGES,
HIRAM A. STURGES.