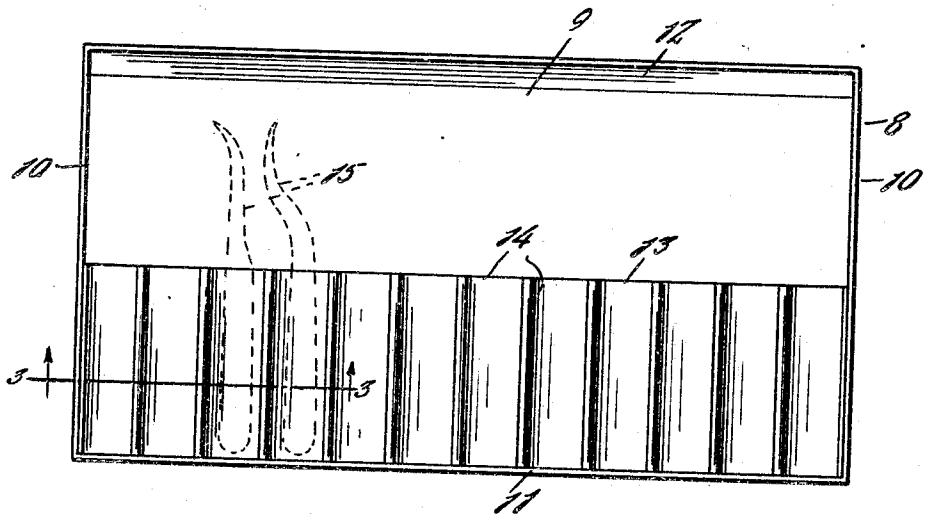
Sept. 8, 1931. R. H. HILL 1,822,487

INSTRUMENT TRAY

Filed Nov. 1, 1929 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.



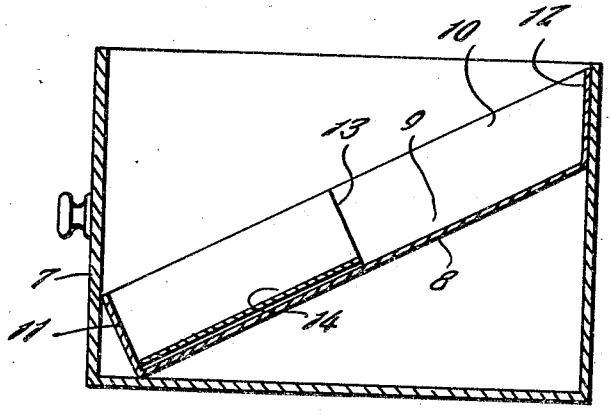
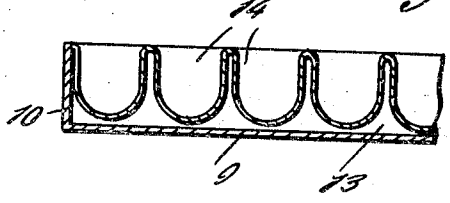


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



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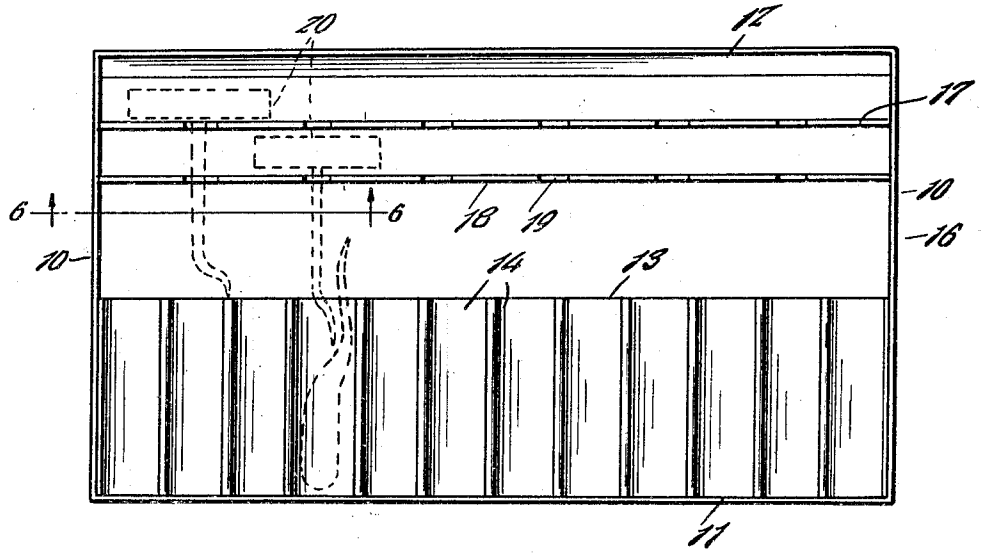
Attorney

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INSTRUMENT TRAY

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Fig. 4.



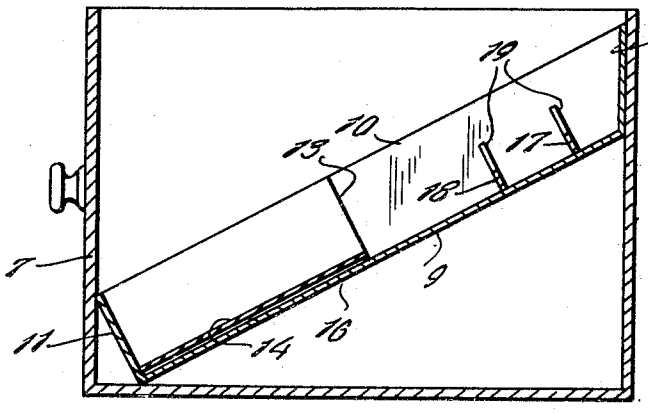


Fig. 5.

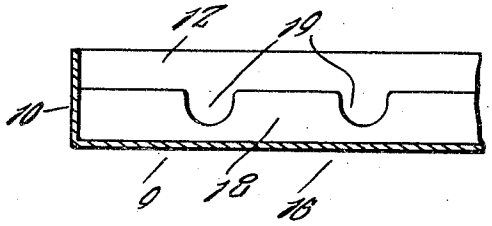


Fig. 6.

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1,822,487

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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INSTRUMENT TRAY

Application filed November 1, 1929. Serial No. 404,038.

This invention relates to a structure which is characterized especially by an improved tool tray principally designed to accommodate dental instruments, implements and the like.

In carrying the invention into effect, I have evolved and produced a novel combination consisting of a cabinet door and a removable tray therein, said tray being especially constructed to occupy an inclined position in the drawer so as to hold the instruments in a readily visible and easily accessible position for accurate selecting replacement and the like.

The particular structural details for accomplishing the foregoing and other results will become more readily apparent from the following description and drawings:

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of one type of tray.

Figure 2 is a cross sectional view through a drawer and through the tray arranged in the drawer, showing the relative relationship of parts.

Figure 3 is a longitudinal fragmentary section on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a top plan view of a slightly different species of tray.

Figure 5 is a view like Figure 2 showing the last named tray in the cabinet drawer.

Figure 6 is a sectional view of the line 6—6 of Figure 4.

In Figure 2, the reference character 7 designates an ordinary cabinet drawer and 8 represents one of the forms of trays. This tray is arranged removably within the drawer in a diagonal inclined position. The tray is of the construction seen in Figure 1, being of general rectangular configuration and including a suitably shaped bottom 9, a pair of end walls 10, front wall 11, and a back-wall 12.

The front wall as well as the end walls are at right angles to the body. The back wall 12 is at a substantially obtuse angle with respect thereto in order that it may engage the adjacent side wall of the drawer as seen in Figure 2. In this way, the entire tray is held in an inclined position, so that by pulling the drawer out the dentist can readily see the various instruments arranged therein.

In order to enable the instruments to be placed in an orderly fashion in the drawer, I provide a retainer which is generally designated by the reference character 13. This is in the nature of a false bottom and in fact consists of a strip of metal which is bent upon itself into corrugated formation to provide a multiplicity of transversely disposed open ended pockets 14 for reception of the various tools 15.

This separates the tools and facilitates selection as well as expeditious and systemmatic replacement. Thus, the holder constitutes somewhat of a false bottom and is constructed with a multiplicity of pockets. It is approximately one-half of the width of the complete tray.

The tray 16 represented in Figure 4 is practically identical with the exception that it includes additional parts; namely, a pair of upstanding longitudinally spaced flanges 17 and 18 whose upper edges are formed with longitudinally spaced notches 19 providing a keeper seat for the instruments 20 which may be conveniently suspended therein.

I wish to call attention to the following advantages derived by using trays in combination with cabinet drawers of the type shown. For instance, my forceps, exolever, and elevator trays have a structure different from any surgical trays known to me. They are so constructed as to snugly fit within the drawer of a dental cabinet in a slanting position as shown in the drawings.

The two trays are provided to fill a specific need and a specific purpose; namely, they are individual receptacles for two particular types of instruments, for example, dental forceps, exolevers, and elevators. These particular forms of instruments are too large and cumbersome to be placed in small instrument trays as are generally provided in the trade.

It is understood that these trays are intended for dental office cabinets and hospitals, and not for surgical bags.

It is understood that the trays remain in the drawers of the cabinet while the instru-

ments are being used during a dental operation. The approximate forty-five degree slanting angle disposes the trays and the instruments therein in an easily visible and accessible position, making it easy to select the proper instruments with great precision and efficiency.

The arrangement of the pocket as well as the notched flanges is such as to hold the instruments against misplacement and undue slippage, especially when the complete tray is arranged in the drawer. The notched flanges keep the elevators in such a position that the cutting and working parts are elevated above the bottom and maintained away from each other to prevent dulling. Then too, a structure of this type is regarded as characteristic and individual in nature as well as susceptible of promoting sanitary conditions.

It is thought that by carefully considering the description in connection with the drawings a clear understanding of the invention will be had. Therefore, a more lengthy description is regarded as unnecessary. Minor changes in shape, size, materials and rearrangement of elements coming within the field of invention claimed may be resorted to in actual practice if desired.

I claim:

1. In a structure of the class described, in combination, a drawer, a relatively shallow tray arranged in said drawer, and comprising a bottom, end walls, a front wall, and a rear wall, said rear wall being disposed at an approximate obtuse angle with respect to the bottom and being intended to bear against the inner surface of the back wall of the drawer in order to hold the tray in a forwardly and downwardly inclined position, and means in said tray for retaining said instruments separated and readily accessible and removable.

2. As a new product of manufacture, a dental tray, a false bottom therein, said false bottom being in the nature of a sheet of metal bent into corrugations forming a multiplicity of individual open ended instrument receiving pockets, and a pair of spaced parallel longitudinally upstanding flanges in the tray provided along their upper edges with longitudinally spaced notches constituting keepers for removable reception of individual instruments.

3. As a new product of manufacture, a dental tray, a false bottom therein, said false bottom being a sheet of metal bent at longitudinally spaced points into corrugations forming a multiplicity of individual instrument receiving pockets, and a pair of spaced parallel longitudinally upstanding flanges in the tray provided along their upper edges with longitudinally spaced notches constituting keepers for removable reception of individual instruments, said notches being of a height less than the walls of the tray and the notches being spaced above the bottom of the tray to hold the pointed end of certain of the instruments in spaced relation from the bottom to prevent contact and dulling.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

REMMEL H. HILL.