

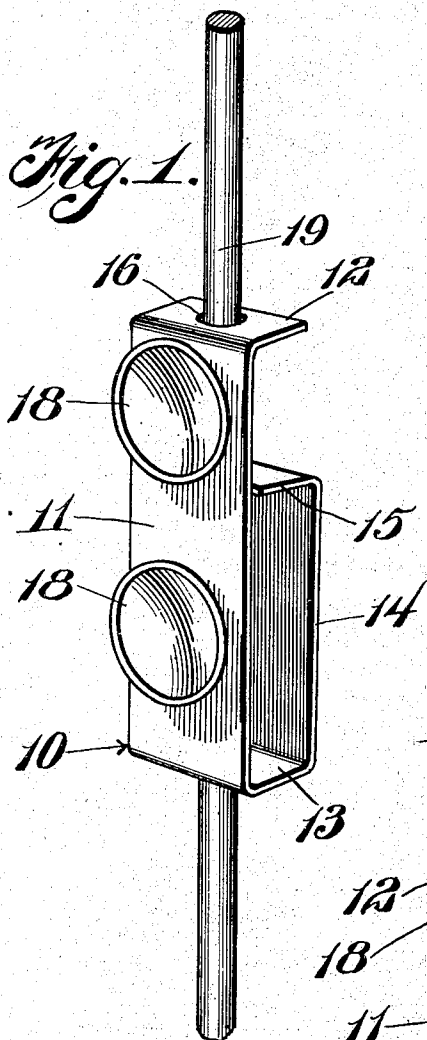
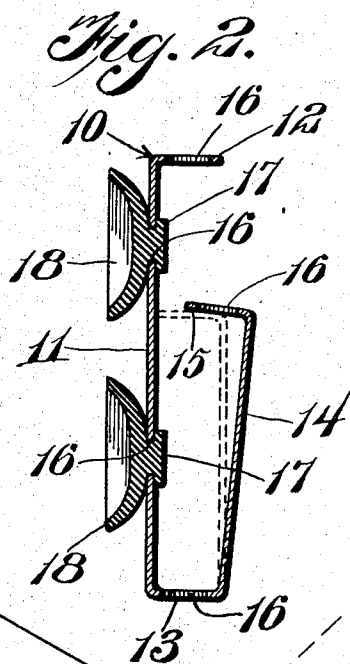
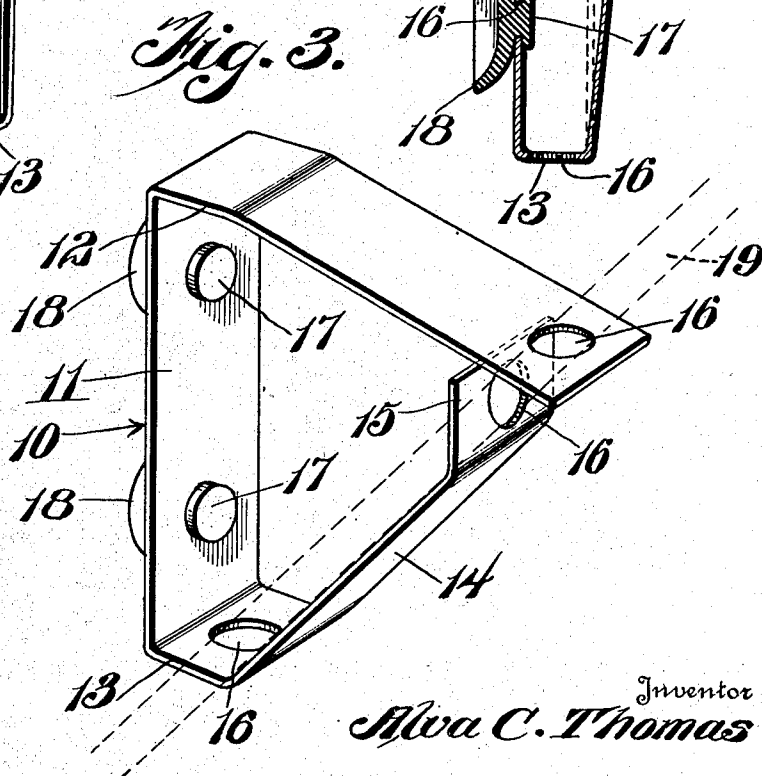
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A. C. THOMAS

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SUPPORT

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALVA C. THOMAS, OF WILLIAMSTON, MICHIGAN.

SUPPORT.

Application filed June 21, 1924. Serial No. 721,552.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALVA C. THOMAS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Williamston, in the county of Ingham and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Supports, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention relates to supports and more particularly to a support for securing a small flag pennant or the like in position upon smooth surfaces.

An important object of the invention is 15 to provide a device of this character which may be readily and cheaply constructed and which is readily applied to and removed from the surface upon which it is used.

A further object of the invention is to 20 provide a device of this character in which the staff of the device is very firmly held.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a device of this character, the body structure of which is formed from a 25 single strip of flat spring material punched at spaced intervals and then formed into shape, so that this body may be very cheaply and readily produced.

These and other objects I attain by the 30 construction shown in the accompanying drawings, wherein for the purpose of illustration is shown a preferred embodiment of my invention and wherein:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of one 35 form of flag staff holder constructed in accordance with my invention;

Figure 2 is a vertical sectional view there-through;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of a second 40 form of the device.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, the numeral 10 generally designates the body of the device which is formed from a single sheet of spring metal bent to 45 provide a central attaching portion 11, an upper end portion 12 at right angles to the body portion, a lower end portion 13 likewise at right angles to the body portion, and upon the end of this body portion an upwardly and outwardly extending flange 14 having a terminal portion 15 directed 50 toward the attaching portion 11. Prior to bending of the strip, this strip has formed therein, preferably by punching, a plurality of openings 16 which may be of the same or 55 different sizes as desired. Two of these

openings are formed adjacent opposite ends of the attaching portion 11. One opening each is formed in the upper and lower end portions 12 and 13 and a further opening is 60 formed in the terminal portion 15 as shown. The positioning of the terminal portion 15, as determined by the flange 14, is such that the opening 16 thereof is normally out of alignment with the opening 16 of the end 65 portions 12 and 13.

In the assembly of the device, through the opening 16 are inserted the heads 17 of rubber suction cups 18, the heads being of 70 greater size than the openings so that they must be forced through these openings and after being forced through the openings the cups are held very firmly in position. These cups are arranged at the opposite side of the body portion from the angular end portions 12 and 13 and serve as a support for 75 the body 10 when the same is forced against any smooth surface in a well known manner. After the support is arranged in position or prior to its application into position, the 80 staff 19 of the flag to be supported is inserted through the opening of the angular end portion 12, the opening of the terminal portion 15 and the opening of the lower angular portion 13. It will be obvious that in 85 order to accomplish this the flange 14 must be flexed inwardly and when this flange is released it will tend to move outwardly and will hold the staff very firmly in position.

In Figure 1 I have illustrated a form of 90 my invention suitable for use where the staff is to be supported in parallelism to the surface to which the device is to be applied, in this instance the openings of the angular portions 12 and 13 being equidistantly 95 spaced from the plane of the attaching portion 11. In Figure 3 a form of the invention is disclosed which is suitable for supporting the staff at an angle to the plane of the surface to which it is applied, the open- 100 ings 16 of the end portions 12 and 13 being differently spaced from the plane of the attaching portion 11, the opening of the angular portion 12 having the greater spacing. It will be obvious that a device of this char- 105 acter may be very cheaply produced and is readily attached to or removed from a surface on which the flag or pennant is to be supported.

It will furthermore be obvious that the 110 construction hereinbefore set forth is capable of a certain range of change and modi-

fication without in any manner departing from the spirit of my invention and I accordingly do not limit myself to such specific structure except as hereinafter claimed.

5 I claim:—

1. A support of the character described comprising a body portion having applied thereto suction cups for engagement with a smooth surface to support the body portion,
10 the ends of the body portion having at the opposite side thereof from the suction cups angularly projecting portions having openings formed therein, one of said angular portions having a flange, the terminal portion of which is directed toward the body
15 portion and has an opening formed therein alignable with the openings of the end portions when the flange is flexed.

2. A support of the character described
20 comprising a body portion having applied thereto suction cups for engagement with a smooth surface to support the body portion, the ends of the body portion having at the opposite side thereof from the suction
25 cups angularly projecting portions having openings formed therein, one of said angular portions having a flange, the terminal portion of which is directed toward the body portion and has an opening formed

therein alignable with the openings of the
end portions when the flange is flexed, the
openings of said angular portions being differently spaced from the plane of the attaching portion, the opening of that angular
portion without the flange being spaced
35 the greater distance from such plane.

3. A support of the character described comprising a body portion having applied thereto suction cups for engagement with a smooth surface to support the body portion,
40 the ends of the body portion having at the opposite side thereof from the suction cups angularly projecting portions having openings formed therein, one of said angular portions having a flange, the terminal portion of which is directed toward the body
45 portion and has an opening formed therein alignable with the openings of the end portions when the flange is flexed, said body portion having openings formed therein, the
50 suction cups having heads of greater size than said openings connected thereto by necks of less size than the openings, the heads being forcibly inserted through the
55 openings.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

ALVA C. THOMAS