

Sept. 13, 1927.

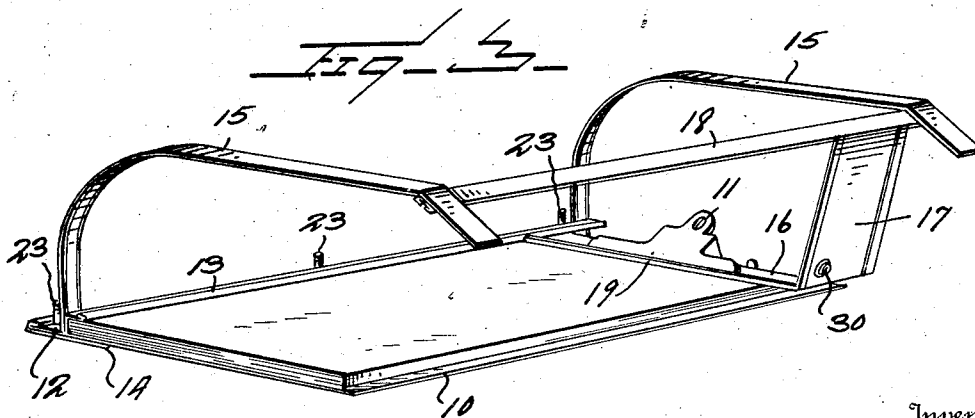
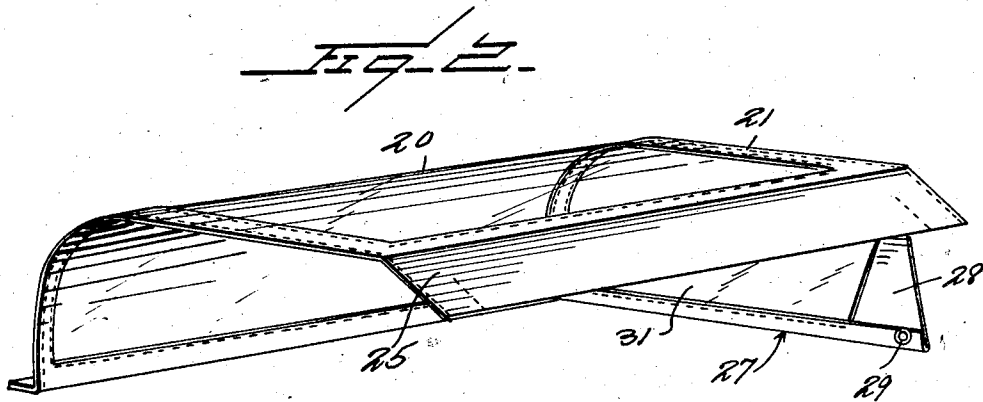
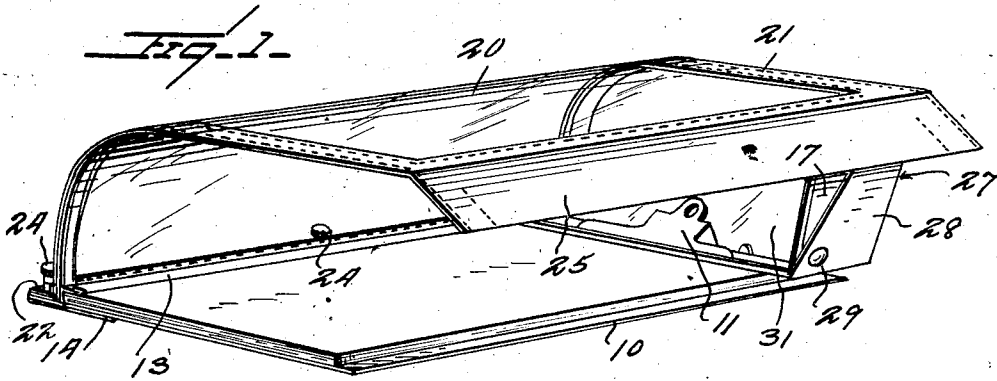
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W. A. PRYOR

RAINY DAY TABLET SHIELD

Filed Aug. 26, 1926

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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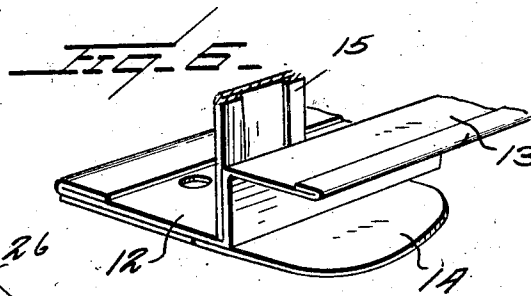
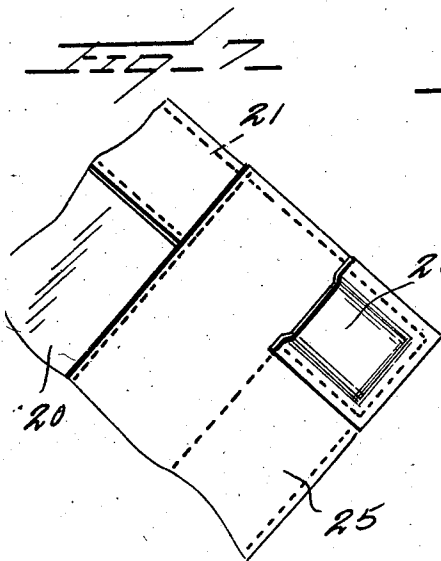
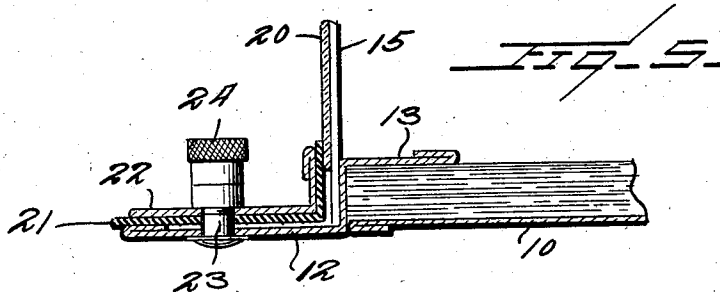
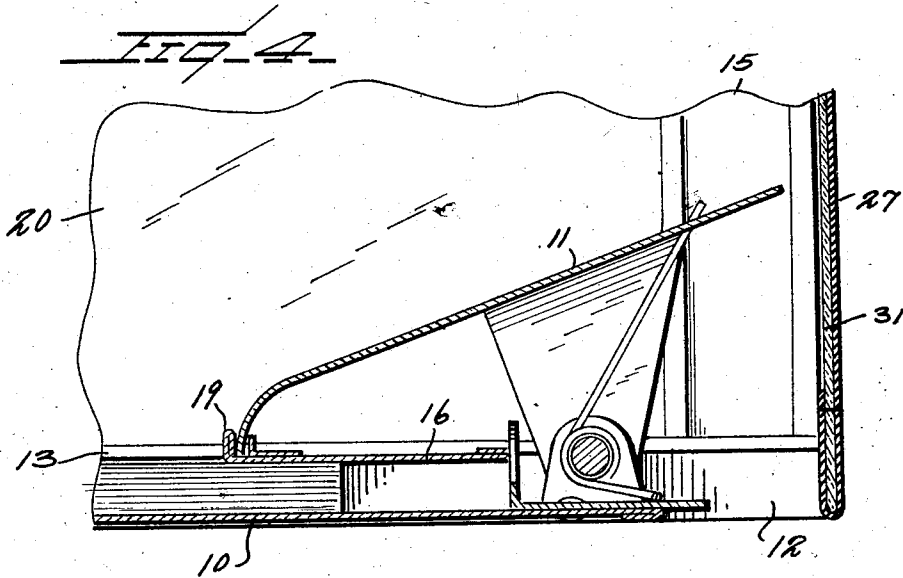
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RAINY DAY TABLET SHIELD

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. PRYOR, OF SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.

RAINY-DAY-TABLET SHIELD.

Application filed August 26, 1926. Serial No. 131,747.

This invention relates to devices for supporting and shielding writing boards, or pads of that character illustrated in my pending application for patent Serial No. 93,993, filed on March 11, 1926.

In this application I have illustrated a shield adapted to be disposed over a writing pad, this shield being formed of a metallic framework arching laterally over the writing pad and provided with transparent panes of celluloid, the shield on one side being spaced from the writing pad so that the hand may be inserted through one side of the device when it is desired to write upon the pad, the invention being particularly adapted for use by railway employees in checking car numbers or for like work.

The general object of the present invention is to improve upon the construction illustrated in this prior application by simplifying to some extent the construction itself, providing better means for supporting the pad and better means for protecting the pad from rain.

One of the specific objects of the present invention is to provide the arching cover of the shield with a downward and outward extension which acts to more fully protect the paper and more fully protect the hand of the writer.

A further object is to eliminate or reduce the relatively heavy weight present in my prior construction upon one end of the pad and secure a much better circulation of air within the shield.

A still further object is to provide a cover which is held in place upon the supporting base by three clamps instead of having snap fasteners at a plurality of points.

Other objects will appear in the course of the following description.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a rainy day tablet shield constructed in accordance with my invention;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the removable cover of the shield;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the supporting frame for the cover;

Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view through the clip end of the supporting frame and cover;

Fig. 5 is an enlarged fragmentary transverse sectional view through the tablet and

a portion of the frame, showing the attaching means for the cover;

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary perspective view partly in section of the structure shown in Figure 5;

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary face view of a portion of the margin of the cover, showing the pocket with which the frame is engaged.

Referring to these drawings it will be seen that the base of the device consists of a sheet of thin metal designated 10 to which a clip 11 is attached by rivets or other suitable means, this clip being the ordinary clip such as is used for holding paper pads upon a board. The frame of the cover or shield is formed of metal and consists of a longitudinally extending strip 12 which is angularly bent so as to form an inwardly projecting flange 13. Attached to this strip 12 is an inwardly projecting lug 14 of sheet metal, this lug being disposed at one end of the strip 12. Attached to the strip 12 and extending upward and laterally are the arch supporting strips 15 which are made of thin sheet metal and which may be corrugated to stiffen these strips. There are two of these strips 15 disposed one at each end of the strip 12.

Extending from one end of the strip 12 remote from the lug 14 is a transverse strip 16 of thin sheet metal which, at its ends, extends upward and outward, as at 17, and is there attached to a longitudinally extending strip 18 which is corrugated or folded over upon its edges to render it relatively rigid. This strip in turn is attached by soldering or other means to the strips 15. It will be seen that the supporting brace 17 is wider than the transverse strip 16 and that the strip 16 is set inward from the extremity of the longitudinally extending strip 12. Preferably the inner margin of the strip 16 is flanged at 19 and when the tablet supporting plate 10 is disposed within the shield cover, the spring clamp 11 is engaged over the transverse strip 16 with this edge within the flange 19, while one end of the plate 10 is engaged between the lug 14 and the flange 13. Thus, the pad or tablet is firmly supported in place and the entire margin of the tablet on one side is disposed below the flange 13 while one end of the tablet is disposed below the cross bar or strip 19. Thus, the leaves of the tablet are held very firmly against any tendency to flutter in the wind or to roll up.

Adapted to be disposed over the frame which has been described is a cover which is preferably of leather and celluloid. This cover is so formed as to support a celluloid pane or sheet 20 entirely surrounded by the leather binding 21. At one margin the leather binding is adapted to be disposed against the strip 12 and held in place by means of the metallic angle strip 22 and three or more bolts 23 having thumb nuts 24. The opposite margin of the cover beyond the celluloid 20 is formed of a relatively wide sheet of leather 25. The strips 15, it will be seen, extend beyond the longitudinal strip 18 and the inner face of the portion 25 of the cover is formed with pockets 26 into which the projecting ends of the strips 15 extend. The projecting ends of the strips 15 are angularly bent downward and outward and thus this marginal portion 25 is held in a downwardly and outwardly inclined position. One end of the cover is formed with a hood 27 which extends down to the level of the plate 10 and extends beyond the brace 17, this extension being formed by a substantially triangular flap 28 having the head 29 of a snap fastener element mounted thereon, the brace 17 being formed with the post 30 of such a snap fastener element. Thus, when this flap 28 is engaged with the post, the hood 27 is held firmly in place, preventing any rain from driving in onto the pad while, at the same time, permitting air to pass upward between this hood 27 and the plate 10. Preferably the inner face of this hood is lined with celluloid designated 31. If it be desired to remove the cover for any reason, this is easily done by releasing the three thumb nuts or heads 24 and removing the angle iron 22. The margin of the cover may then be detached and the entire cover drawn off of the frame after the snap fastener members 29 and 30 have been disengaged.

In the use of this device, as for instance, if it be desired to take down upon the paper tablet car numbers, etc., which work must be done in the open and under all sorts of weather conditions, the tablet is disposed upon the sheet 10 and clamped as desired. The left arm may then support the tablet and the shield while the right arm is passed through the lateral opening in the shield for writing. The transparent or translucent cover gives ample light but at the same time rain or snow is kept off of the tablet. The device may be readily held in one hand when no writing is being done, thus leaving the other hand free to use a lantern at night. The advantages over my original rainy day shield as illustrated in my pending application are that the present shield has a slot or channel into which the clip board 10 may be placed and which also engages the margin of the pad or tablet and complete sup-

port is given to the tablet. Constructed as described, only two supporting rods or strips 15 are necessary in place of three or more as are required with my original construction. My present construction has the downwardly depending protective portion 25 which is not present in my original construction and this protective portion is formed with pockets for the reception of the extremities of the strips or supports 15 instead of having the cover attached thereto by snap fasteners.

In my original construction, the hood was made of metal which rendered this end of the tablet shield relatively heavy. This is done away with by forming the hood of leather. With this construction, the operator is protected from the rain when putting up the sheets and if the hand is wet, the drops will not fall on the paper under the cover. Furthermore, there is a particularly good circulation of air, thereby preventing the hood or shield from becoming misty.

I claim:—

1. A tablet shield comprising a frame including a longitudinally extending base strip, upwardly and laterally extending cover supports carried by the base strip, a transversely extending bar carried by the base strip on one end, an upwardly extending brace engaged with the end of said bar remote from the base strip, and a longitudinally extending frame strip connecting the ends of the cover support and engaged with the upper end of the brace, and a cover composed partly of translucent material detachably engaged along one margin with the base strip extending over and supported by the supporting strips and detachably engaged with the extremities thereof, said cover being formed with a hood at one end.

2. A tablet shield comprising a frame including a longitudinally extending base strip, upwardly and laterally extending cover supports carried by the base strip, a transversely extending bar carried by the base strip on one end, an upwardly extending brace engaged with the end of said bar remote from the base strip, and a longitudinally extending frame strip connecting the ends of the cover support and engaged with the upper end of the brace, and a cover composed partly of translucent material detachably engaged along one margin with the base strip extending over and supported by the supporting strips and detachably engaged with the extremities thereof, the free margin of the cover extending downward and outward, and one end of the cover being provided with a hood.

3. A tablet shield comprising a frame including a longitudinally extending base strip, upwardly and laterally extending cover supports carried by the base strip, a transversely extending bar carried by the

base strip adjacent one end, a brace extending upward and outward from said bar, and a longitudinally extending frame strip connecting the cover supports inward of the free ends thereof and engaged with the upper end of the brace, the ends of the cover supports beyond the longitudinally extending frame strip being downwardly bent, and a cover composed partly of transparent material detachably engaged along one margin with the base strip and extending over and supported by the supporting strips, the free margin of the cover being formed with pockets to receive the downwardly bent ends of the supporting strips, one end of the cover being formed with a hood.

4. A tablet shield comprising a frame including a longitudinally extending base strip formed to provide an inwardly extending flange above the general level of the base strip, and a lug below said flange, upwardly and laterally extending cover supporting strips carried on opposite ends of the base strip, the extremities being downwardly turned, a strip connecting the ends of the supporting strips, a bar extending transversely from a point adjacent one end of the base strip, and a brace extending upward from the bar to one end of the connecting strip, a cover partly composed of transparent material detachably engaged along one margin with the base strip and extending over the supporting strips, and having a downwardly and outwardly extending marginal portion detachably engaged with the cover supporting strips, said cover being formed at one end with a hood, and a tablet support adapted to be disposed with one margin beneath said flange above the lug, and with one end beneath the cross bar and having a clamp engaging it with the cross bar.

5. A tablet shield comprising a frame including a longitudinally extending base strip formed to provide an inwardly extending flange above the general level of the base strip, and a lug below said flange, upwardly and laterally extending cover supporting strips carried on opposite ends of the base strip, the extremities being downwardly turned, a strip connecting the ends of the supporting strips, a bar extending transversely from a point adjacent one end of the

base strip, and a brace extending upward from the bar to one end of the connecting strip, a cover partly composed of transparent material detachably engaged along one margin with the base strip and extending over the supporting strips, and having a downwardly and outwardly extending marginal portion detachably engaged with the cover supporting strips, said cover being formed at one end with a flap detachably engaged at one corner with said brace, and a tablet support adapted to be disposed with one margin beneath said flange and cross bar above the lug and having a clamp engaging said cross bar.

6. A tablet shield comprising a frame including a longitudinally extending base strip angular in cross section to provide an inwardly extending flange on a level above the plane of the base strip, upwardly and laterally extending cover supporting strips permanently attached to the base strip, and a cover supported by said cover supporting strips and detachably engaged with the extremities thereof, said cover at one margin having a flexible portion disposed flat against the base strip, an angular strip disposed upon this margin of the cover and clamped in place, and fastening devices passing through the base strip, through the margin of the cover and through said angular strip whereby to detachably engage the margin of the cover with the base strip.

7. A tablet shield comprising a supporting frame having upwardly and laterally extending cover strips attached thereto, the frame including a cross bar extending parallel to the supporting strips but below the same and having its inner margin upwardly and inwardly flanged, a tablet supporting plate having at one end a spring clamp and disposed with one margin beneath the frame and one end beneath the cross bar with the clamp engaged over the upper face of the bar and against the flange thereof, and a cover engaged with the frame, and engaged with the cover supporting strips.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

WILLIAM A. PRYOR.