Nov. 8, 1927. 1,648,338

N. GAINES

AUTOMOBILE FLAG HOLDER

Filed Jan. 26, 1925

Fig. 1.

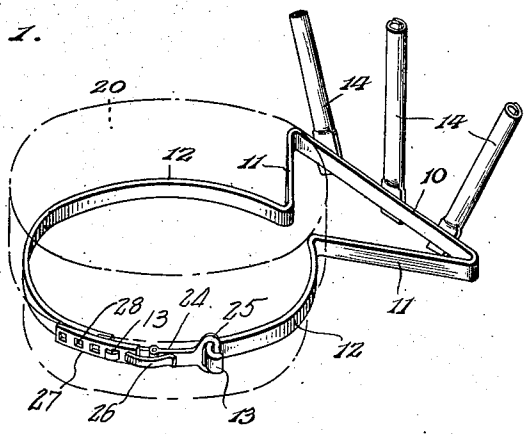


Fig. 7.

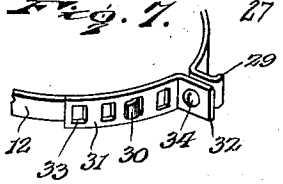


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

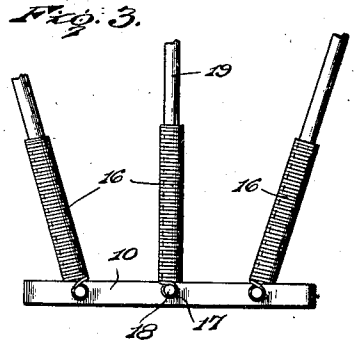


Fig. 5.

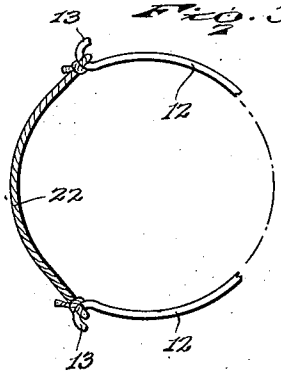


Fig. 6.

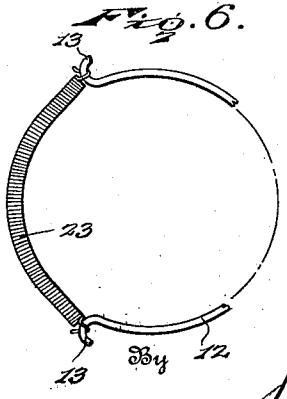
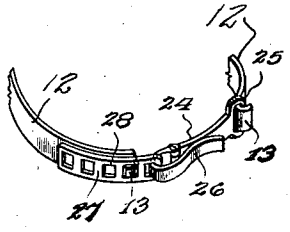


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NOEL GAINES, OF FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY.

AUTOMOBILE FLAG HOLDER.

Application filed January 26, 1925. Serial No. 4,841.

This invention relates to an improved flag holder for motor vehicles and seeks, among other objects, to provide a device of this character which may be readily attached to a radiator cap for supporting a number of small flags at the front of the vehicle.

The invention seeks, as a further object, to provide a device which will firmly grip the radiator cap, so that accidental loss of the device will be avoided, while, however, the cap will not be injured, nor will the device interfere with the manipulation of the cap in filling the radiator.

And the invention seeks, as a still further object, to provide a device which will be neat and attractive, and which may be manufactured at small cost.

Other and incidental objects will appear hereinafter.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved flag holder, a radiator cap being shown in dotted lines.

Figure 2 is a sectional view showing the device applied to a conventional radiator cap.

Figure 3 is a front elevation showing a slight modification of the invention.

Figure 4 is a perspective view showing the joined ends of arms forming part of the flag holder.

Figures 5, 6 and 7 are fragmentary detail views showing the use of different securing devices for connecting the free ends of the jaws of the attaching clamp of the device with each other.

In carrying the invention into effect, I employ an attaching clamp which is preferably formed from a flat strip of suitable spring metal bent to produce a substantially triangular-shaped head embodying a straight connecting portion 10 at the ends of which are rearwardly converging spring arms 11, while at the rear ends of said arms, the end portions of the metal strip are again bent to define a pair of arcuate spring jaws 12 terminating at their free ends in outturned loops or hooks 13. Thus, as will be seen, the clamp may be readily formed and, as will be appreciated, the arms 11 will yieldably support the jaws 12 for relative movement. Preferably, the jaws lie in the same plane with the head.

Fixed to the portion 10 of the head of the clamp is a plurality of upstanding sockets 14 each of a diameter to snugly receive the lower end of a flag stick, as conventionally shown in Figure 2, at 15. I have illustrated the use of three of said sockets, and preferably the middle socket is disposed vertically while the sockets at the sides are disposed in upwardly divergent relation. This arrangement is preferably followed in any instance where a greater number of sockets are employed so that the upper ends of the several flag sticks will be spread accordingly. The sockets 14 are each preferably formed of a short length of metal tubing flattened at its lower end and welded or otherwise fixed to the portion 10 of the head of the clamp. In the present instance, I have illustrated said tubes as being each formed from a blank of sheet metal rolled so that its longitudinal margins overlap when said margins are appropriately secured together and the lower end of the tube flattened. However, drawn tubing may be employed if so desired.

In Figure 3 of the drawings, I have illustrated a slight modification of the invention, wherein the flag stick sockets are each formed of a coiled spring, the lower end of which is continued to form an eye 17 accommodating a rivet or other suitable fastening device 18 connecting the socket with the portion 10 of the head of the attaching clamp. The sockets 16 are each of an internal diameter to snugly receive a flag stick as conventionally illustrated at 19, and, as will be seen, said sockets will serve to efficiently support the flags. Furthermore, the convolutions of the sockets will tend to grip the flag sticks and thus prevent accidental displacement thereof.

In Figure 1 of the drawings, I have shown a conventional radiator cap in dotted lines, at 20, while, in Figure 2, the cap is shown in full lines. As will be observed, the cap disclosed is provided with the usual overhanging rim 21 and in applying the present device, the jaws 12 of the attaching clamp are preferably engaged about the cap immediately beneath the rim so that the rim will limit the clamp against upward displacement as well as abut the upper edges of the jaws for steadying the device. As will be perceived, the jaws may be readily slipped about the cap, when said jaws will have snug fitting engagement therewith and the several flags carried by the device will be supported to upstand at the front of the vehicle radiator. The loops 13 will, of

course, provide rounded surfaces which, when the free ends of the jaws are first engaged with the radiator cap, will coact with the curved wall of the cap for riding the ends of the jaws apart to engage about the cap. I accordingly provide a particularly simple and efficient device for the purpose set forth and, as will now be appreciated, a device which may be manufactured at little cost.

In order to very securely hold the arms in gripping engagement with the neck, I have provided a fastener which includes a strap 24 provided at one end with an eye 25 and pivoted upon the opposite end of said strap is a hook 26 with which is associated a link plate 27 having a plurality of spaced openings 28 therein. After the jaws 12 of the attaching clamp have been engaged about the radiator cap, the eye 25 of the strap 24 is engaged with one of the loops 13 of said jaws while the loop 13 of the other of said jaws is engaged through one of the openings 28 of the plate 27, when the hook 26 is inserted through another of the openings of the link plate and swung back to the position shown for binding the jaws 12 in firm engagement with the cap. The jaws will thus be firmly clamped about the radiator cap and, as will be appreciated, the link plate 27 provides a range of adjustment for accommodating radiator caps of different diameters.

In Figures 5, 6 and 7 of the drawings, I have illustrated different means for accomplishing this object. In Figure 5, I have shown the use of a cord 22 which, after the clamp is engaged with a radiator cap, is arranged to extend between the loops 13 of the jaws 12 and tied for tightly securing the jaws in engagement with the cap. In Figure 6, I have shown the use of a coil spring 23 which is hooked at its ends over the loops 13 of the jaws for securing the jaws about the radiator cap. The contractive force of the spring will, of course, tend to bind the jaws at all times in firm engagement with the cap. In Figure 7, I have shown one of the jaws 13 as provided with a terminal lug 29 while the other of said jaws is provided with a terminal loop 30. A link plate 31 is also shown and is provided with a terminal lug 32 to mate with the lug 29 as well as with spaced openings 33 to selectively receive the loop 30. Engaged through the lug 29 is a screw 34 which may be adjusted for tightly binding the jaws about a radiator cap and, of course, by adjusting the position of the link plate, radiator caps of different diameters may be accommodated.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is:

A flag holder comprising a strip of material bent to form a cross bar and arms extending from its ends, said arms converging from the cross bar and being then bent to provide portions adapted to engage opposite side portions of a support and at their extreme ends bent to form hooks, a strip extending longitudinally of one arm in overlapping relation thereto and projecting from its free end towards the other arm, said strip being formed with longitudinally spaced openings and the hook of the first arm being engaged in a selected opening to retain the strip in a set position longitudinally of the arm, a fastener including a shank formed with an eye at one end releasably engaged with the hook of the second arm and a bill pivoted to the other end of the shank and engaged in an opening in the projecting end portion of said strip to hold the arms in tight binding engagement with the support, and a staff-receiving socket carried by said cross bar.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

NOEL GAINES. [L. S.].