June 25, 1929. C. O. SWENSON 1,718,316

HOLDER FOR FLASH LIGHTS OR SIMILAR ARTICLES

Filed Jan. 14, 1928

Fig. 1.

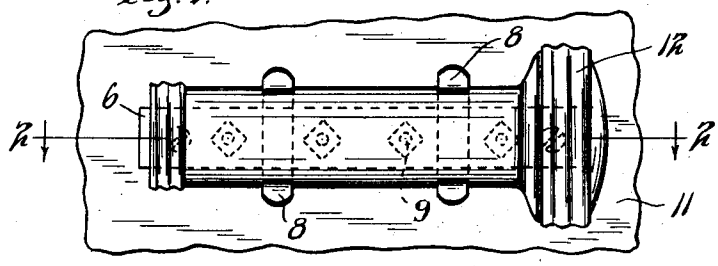


Fig. 2.

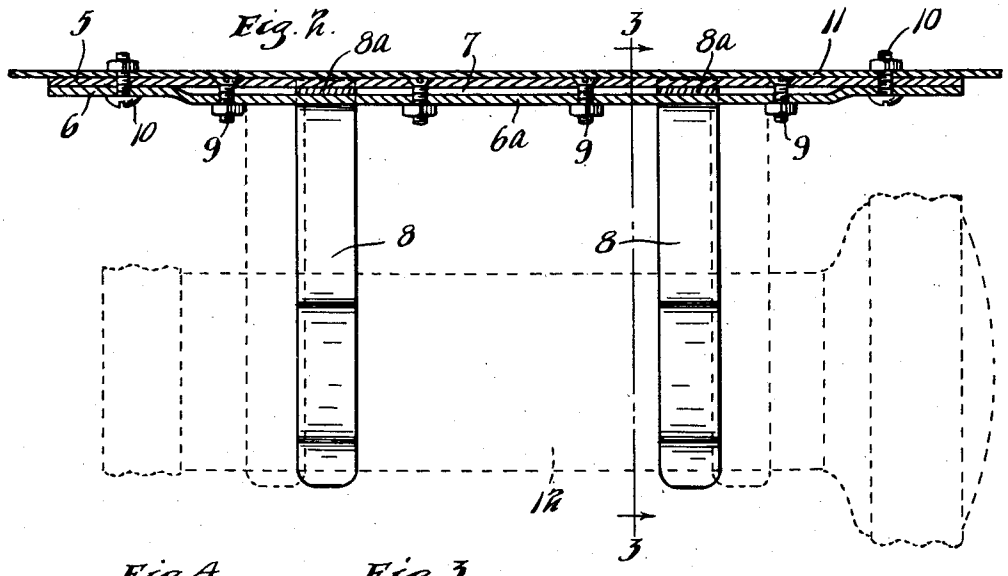


Fig. 4.

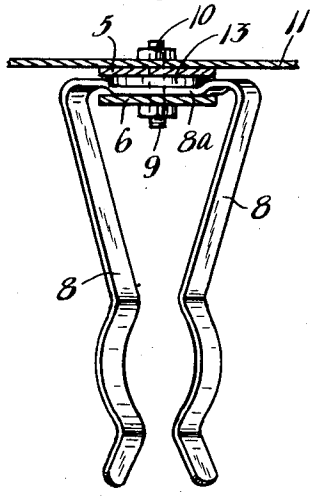
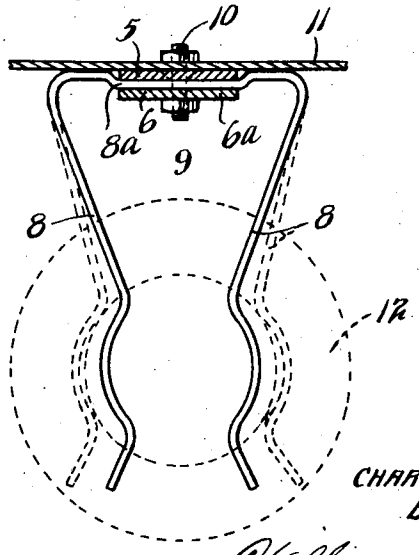


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HOLDER FOR FLASH LIGHTS OR SIMILAR ARTICLES.

Application filed January 14, 1928. Serial No. 246,706.

It is the object of this invention to provide novel and improved spring clip holders for flashlights, tools and similar articles. To this end, the invention consists in the novel parts and novel combinations of parts hereinafter defined in the claims and described in the following specification made in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein like reference characters refer to the same or similar parts throughout the various views, and, in which

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the device attached to a support and carrying a flashlight;

Fig. 2 is a vertical section taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, as is indicated by the arrows, a flashlight being indicated in dotted lines and the spring clips being illustrated in one position in full lines and in another position in dotted lines.

Fig. 3 is a section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2, as is indicated by the arrows, a flashlight being shown in dotted lines, and the arms of a spring clip being shown in one position in full lines and in another position in dotted lines, and

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 but illustrating the device with an additional part which may, or may not be used as desired.

Referring to the drawings, a long straight bar 5 is shown having placed above the same a second long co-operating bar 6. The bar 6 is provided with an upwardly offset portion 6^a shaped in the form of a bow to form a long slot 7 between the central portions of the two bars. A pair of spring clips 8 are provided which, as shown, are of substantially **U**-shape, the arms of the clips projecting upwardly from the base of the **U** and being first bent slightly toward each other, then being slightly rounded and bent first away from each other then toward each other and having outer ends bent away from each other. The base of the **U** of each clip 8 is provided with an upwardly offset portion 8^a adjacent its center which offset portion is of bow shape. Co-operating bolt holes are provided through the bar 5 and the bow portion 6^a of the bar 6 at spaced intervals throughout the length of the two bars. Preferably four sets of bolt holes will be provided and a bolt 9 will be inserted through each set of co-operating bolt holes and will have a co-operating nut thereon. The bolt holes in the bar 5 will be preferably countersunk for reception of the heads of the bolts 9, while the nuts fitting on the bolts will be disposed above the bar 6. Co-operating bolt holes will be provided at each end of the two bars through which screws 10 may be inserted for securing the bars to a support, such as the support 11.

In assembling the device, the bolts 9 and 10 will be removed, whereupon the spring clips 8 may be inserted within the slots 7 between respective adjacent pairs of bolt holes within which the bolts 9 may be received. The bow shaped portions 8^a of the spring clips are of a length to equal the width of the bars 5 and 6, so that when the spring clips are placed with the bow portions 8^a directly over the bar 5 and transversely thereof, the ends of the bow portions will strike the sides of the bar 5 to prevent the spring clips from being turned from a position transverse to the bars 5 and 6. After the bar 6 has been placed over the bow portions of the spring clips, the bolts 9 with their co-operating nuts will be put in place untightened. The two spring clips may then be moved for some little distance laterally within the slots 7 until the clips are spaced apart a desired distance, whereupon the bolts 9 will be tightened in their nuts to cause the bars 5 and 6 to securely clamp the spring clips in position. Due to the fact that the spacing between adjacent bolts 9 will be considerably greater than the width of the spring clips 8, a spring clamping action will be obtained on the central portions of the spring clips which will securely hold the clips from sliding movement relative to the bars 5 and 6. As before stated, turning movement of the clips relative to the bars 5 and 6 will be prevented due to the construction of the bow shaped offset portions of the clips. When the device is thus assembled, the base formed from the two bars 5 and 6 may be secured as by screws or bolts 10 to a suitable support. An article such as the flashlight 12 may now be inserted within the spring clips by pressing the same into the clips. The outer ends of the clips will form guides for the article as it is inserted, while the rounded surfaces will form clamping arms for reception of the article. It will be seen that when the article is in place within the spring clips, it will be securely held under spring tension from movement.

In Fig. 4, a washer 13 is provided which may be interposed against the lower side of the bow portion 8^a of a spring clip to act as a spacing member for filling up the space

between the lower side of the bow portion 8ª and the base of the U forming a clip. When the spacing washer 13 is used, it will be seen that the clips may be rotated relative to the bars 5 and 6 before the bolts 9 are tightened. Thus, the clips may be disposed at any desired angle relative to the bars, for reception of tools of irregular shape, such as automobile cranks, braces and bits etc. The device may be used with or without the spacing washers 13 as desired.

Although the device is capable of being situated and used as desired, it is especially suited for use in automobiles for holding flashlights, tools etc., for the reason that the spring clips will securely hold the desired article without permitting any rattle between the parts.

It will be understood that the device is capable of changes and modifications of the various parts without departing from the scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A holder for flashlights or similar articles comprising, a straight bar adapted to be secured to a support, a co-operating bar placed against said first bar and having an upwardly projecting offset portion therein to afford a slot between said bars, a pair of U-shaped spring clips having central bottom portions adapted to be interposed within said slot in spaced relation and means for clamping said two bars together to tightly secure said spring clips in position.

2. A holder for flashlights or similar articles comprising a straight bar adapted to be secured to a support, a co-operating bar adapted to be placed over said first bar and having an offset portion therein to afford a slot between said first and second mentioned bars, bolts extending through said first bar and the offset portion of said second bar at spaced intervals and a pair of U-shaped spring clips having central portions adapted to be disposed within the slot between said bars and between pairs of adjacent bolts extending through said bars, said spring clips being of considerably narrower width than the spacing between adjacent bolts, whereby the relative spacing between the said clips may be varied.

3. The structure defined in claim 2, the middle portions of said spring clips being upwardly pressed from the bottoms thereof to form offset portions of a length equal to the width of said bars, whereby the shoulders of the said offset portions will prevent turning movement of said clips respective to said bars.

4. A holder for flashlights or similar articles comprising, a straight bar adapted to be secured to a support, a co-operating bar adapted to be placed over said first bar and having a bow portion therein to afford a slot between said first and second mentioned bars, bolts extending through said first bar and the offset portion of said second bar at spaced intervals, a pair of U-shaped spring clips having slightly offset bowed central portions adapted to be disposed within the slots formed between said bars and adjacent bolts extending through said bars and spacing members interposed within the bowed portions of said U-shaped clips, said spring clips and spacing members being of considerably narrower width than the spacing between adjacent bolts, whereby the relative spacing between said clips may be varied and the angle of disposition of said clips relative to said bars may be varied.

5. A spring clip adapted to receive and hold an article, said clip being of general U-shape, the base of the U having its central portion upwardly pressed to form shoulders with the remainder of the base, whereby said upwardly pressed portion of the base can be inserted between clamping members, to cause said shoulders to prevent turning movement of said clip.

6. A holder for flashlights or similar articles comprising a straight bar adapted to be secured to a support, a partially resilient co-operating bar placed against said first bar and having an upwardly projecting offset portion therein to afford a comparatively long slot between said bars, a U-shaped spring clip having a central bottom portion of narrower width than said slot and adapted to be interposed between said two bars within said slot, and means for clamping said two bars together to cause the same to tightly and resiliently bear against said spring clip, to hold the same in position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

CHARLES O. SWENSON.