May 26, 1959 J. A. TEAS, JR 2,888,146

DEVICE FOR SUPPORTING ITEMS INSIDE A MEDICINE CABINET

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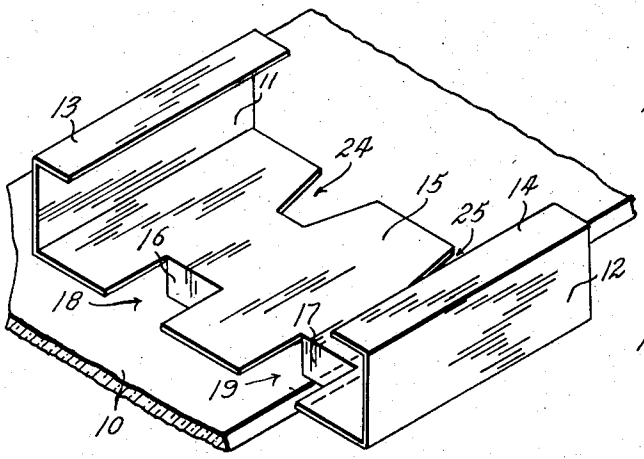


Fig. 1.

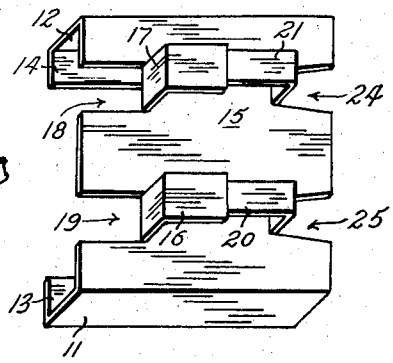


Fig. 2.

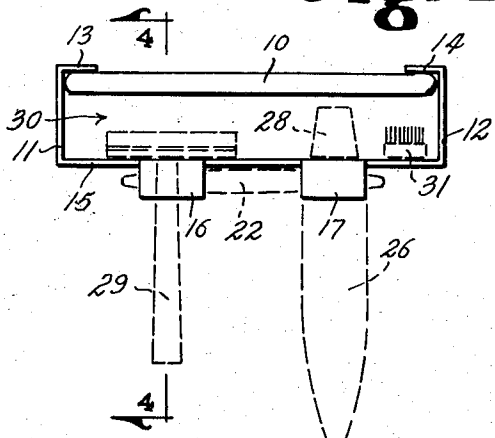


Fig. 3.

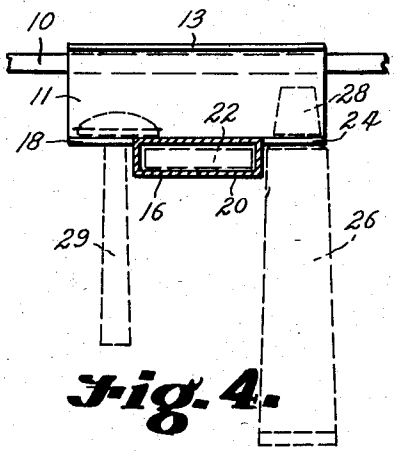


Fig. 4.

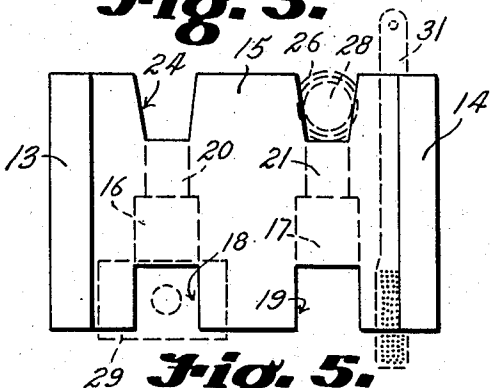


Fig. 5.

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DEVICE FOR SUPPORTING ITEMS INSIDE A MEDICINE CABINET

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3 Claims. (Cl. 211—86)

This invention relates to supporting brackets, and more particularly to a device for use in a medicine cabinet for detachably holding tube products, razor blades, razors, toothbrushes, and like.

Perhaps no compartment is more crowded than that of a bathroom medicine cabinet. Such cabinets have horizontal shelves which are usually stacked with tubes and various toilet articles. The result is that it is difficult to retrieve or even find the item desired. Furthermore, items often accidentally fall from the shelves when the cabinet door is opened.

Therefore, one of the principal objects of my invention is to provide a bracket for the shelf of a bathroom cabinet that is capable of supporting tubes of material, such as toothpaste or shaving cream, and manually operated instruments, such as safety razors, toothbrushes, or like.

A further object of my invention is to provide a tube and instrument holder for shelves that may be easily and quickly secured to the shelf or removed therefrom.

A still further object of this invention is to provide an item holder for medicine cabinets that is fabricated from a single sheet of metal, plastic, or like.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a tube and instrument support for bathroom cabinet shelves that will not only conserve space within the cabinet but will hold the items in such a position that they are easily seen and capable of being quickly removed or replaced.

Still further objects of this invention are to provide a supporting bracket for the shelves of medicine cabinets that is economical in manufacture, durable in use, and refined in appearance.

These and other objects will be apparent to those skilled in the art.

My invention consists in the construction, arrangements, and combination, of the various parts of the device, whereby the objects contemplated are attained as hereinafter more fully set forth, specifically pointed out in my claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of my device showing its position on a shelf,

Fig. 2 is a reduced perspective bottom view of my holder and more fully illustrates its construction,

Fig. 3 is a side view of the device illustrating its position on a shelf and illustrating its support of a safety razor, a tube of material, a package of razor blades, and a toothbrush,

Fig. 4 is a cross sectional view of my device taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 3, and

Fig. 5 is a top plan view of my bracket means and illustrates its support of a tube, a razor, and a toothbrush.

In these drawings I use the numeral **10** to designate an elongated detachable shelf of an ordinary bathroom medicine cabinet. It is to such a shelf that I install my device and which I will describe in detail.

In the manufacture of my device, I take an elongated rectangular strip of metal and bend the two end portions

of this strip of metal upwardly to provide the vertical end walls **11** and **12**. I next bend the upper end portions of each of these walls **11** and **12** inwardly, horizontally and toward each other, to provide flange portions **13** and **14**, as shown in Fig. 1. The bottom horizontal portion extending between the end walls **11** and **12** is designated by the numeral **15**. In one side area of the portion **15** I cut two pairs of slits to produce the two tongue portions **16** and **17**. Each of these tongues **16** and **17** are bent to extend first vertically downwardly, and then horizontally inwardly toward the center longitudinal plane of the device, as shown in Fig. 2. By so bending the tongue portions **16** and **17**, two open rectangular notches **18** and **19** are provided as shown in Fig. 5. On the other side portion of the portion **15**, I also cut two pairs of slits to produce the two tongues **20** and **21**. These two tongues **20** and **21** are also bent first directly vertically downwardly and then laterally horizontally inwardly relative to the longitudinal axis of the device. By this construction the free end of the tongue **16** meets the free end of the tongue **20**, and the free end of the tongue **17** meets the free end of the tongue **21**. These tongues therefore provide with each other two rectangular open end trough portions forming a trough for receiving and holding razor blades, or a package of razor blades **22**, directly below the center portion **15**, as shown in Fig. 3.

When the device is installed, the open ends of these razor blade supports face the user, thereby making the razor blades, or package, easily removed or replaced. This is further facilitated by the two pairs of adjacent tongues being spaced apart and thereby providing a space between them, as shown in Fig. 2. By bending the two tongues **20** and **21** downwardly and inwardly, two notches **24** and **25** are formed in the right side portion of the portion **15**, as shown in Fig. 5. However, in cutting the two pairs of slits to make the two tongues **20** and **21**, each pair of slits extends inwardly and toward each other so that the notch openings **24** and **25** will be of V-outline. By this structure, the notch openings **24** and **25** will be reduced in width as they extend inwardly, and therefore are particularly adapted for receiving and holding capped tubes **26** of toothpaste, shaving cream, or like.

To place a tube into one of the notches **24** or **25**, it is merely necessary to partially loosen its cap **28** and place the tube in the notch with its body portion below the portion **15** and its cap above the portion **15**, as shown in Fig. 4. The diameter of the threaded neck of the tube will determine its distance into the entrance way of one of the notches **24** or **25**. With the cap of the tube of greater diameter than that of the receiving notch, the tube will be suspended below my bracket, as shown in Fig. 3. Also, by the notches **24** and **25** being tapered, they will successfully receive and hold different sizes of tubes. The notches **18** and **19** are particularly adapted for receiving and holding safety razors or like **29**, as shown in Fig. 4.

To install my device, it is merely necessary to remove the shelf **10** and slide it laterally through my device, as shown in Fig. 1. After the shelf has been replaced, the flanges **13** and **14** will bear on the upper surface of the shelf and thereby support my bracket means below the shelf, as shown in Fig. 3. Due to the height of the end portions **11** and **12**, the center portion **15** will be spaced a substantial distance below the bottom of the shelf **10**, thereby creating the compartment **30**. This compartment **30** accommodates the head of the razor and the caps of the tubes. This compartment **30** may also be used for other purposes such as the receiving and holding of a toothbrush **31**.

From the above, it will be appreciated that my entire device is of one piece and may be completely formed from one elongated rectangular sheet of metal. It, how-

ever, may be cast or fabricated from any suitable material such as plastic, metal, pottery or wood.

With my device residing below the shelf 10, the top of the shelf is free and available for other medicine cabinet items. All items being supported by my bracket means of course are easily observable and easy to remove or replace.

Some changes may be made in the construction and arrangement of my device for supporting items inside a medicine cabinet without departing from the real spirit and purpose of my invention, and it is my intention to cover by my claims, any modified forms of structure or use of mechanical equivalents which may be reasonably included within their scope:

I claim:

1. In combination, a shelf and an article support means, comprising, a flat horizontal center section, a vertical wall at one end of said center section, an inwardly extending horizontal flange on the upper end of said wall extending over the top of said shelf, a second vertical wall at the other end of said center section, an inwardly extending horizontal flange on the upper end of said second wall extending over the top of said shelf; said center section being spaced apart from and below said shelf, and a tongue cut and bent from each side area of said center section creating an article receiving notch in each side area of said center section; said two tongues bent first downwardly and then horizontally inwardly toward each other to form with said center section an article receiving trough open at both ends.

2. In combination, a shelf and an article support means, comprising, a flat horizontal center section, a vertical wall at one end of said center section, an inwardly extending horizontal flange on the upper end of said wall extending over the top of said shelf, a second vertical wall at the other end of said center section, an inwardly extending

horizontal flange on the upper end of said second wall extending over the top of said shelf; said center section being spaced apart from and below said shelf, and a tongue cut and bent from each side area of said center section creating an article receiving notch in each side area of said center section; said two tongues bent first downwardly and then horizontally inwardly toward each other to form with said center section an article receiving trough open at both ends; one of the notches in one side of said center section being V-shaped and the other said notch in the other side of said center section being of rectangular shape.

3. In combination, a shelf and an article support means, comprising, a flat horizontal center section, a vertical wall at one end of said center section, an inwardly extending horizontal flange on the upper end of said wall extending over the top of said shelf, a second vertical wall at the other end of said center section, an inwardly extending horizontal flange on the upper end of said second wall extending over the top of said shelf; said center section being spaced apart from and below said shelf, and a tongue cut and bent from each side area of said center section creating an article receiving notch in each side area of said center section; said two tongues bent downwardly and inwardly to provide the sides and bottom of an open end trough.

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