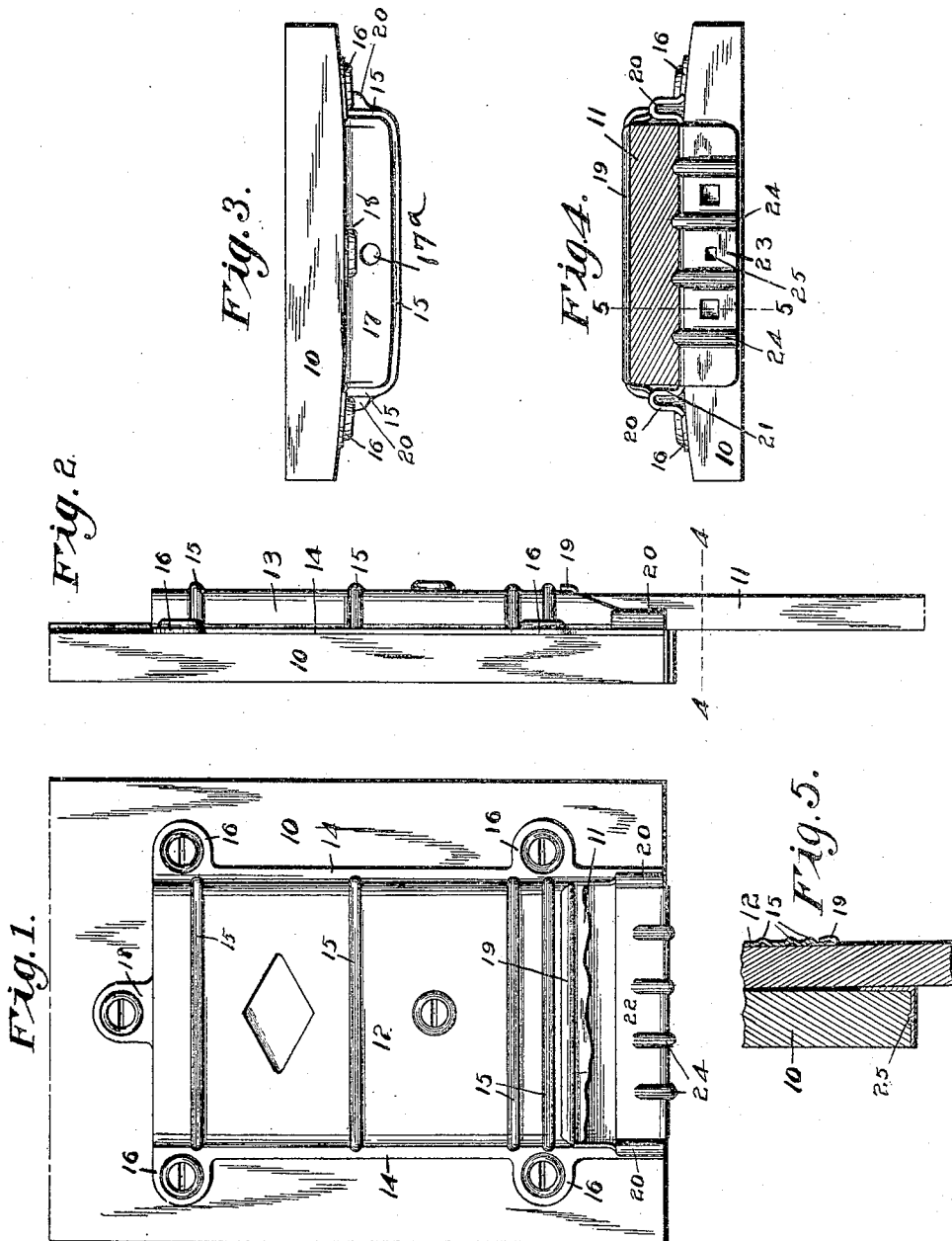


E. L. WATROUS.
SHEET METAL SOCKET.
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Patented Oct. 26, 1909.



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SHEET-METAL SOCKET.

938,403.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 26, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD L. WATROUS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Des Moines, in the county of Polk and State of Iowa, have invented a certain new and useful Sheet-Metal Socket, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a socket which may be formed complete of a single piece of sheet metal without hand-work, and which is especially designed for use in connecting supporting legs to devices such, for instance, as the bodies of washing machines.

A further object is to provide a device of this kind in which the leg that is inserted in the socket will engage the sheet metal on all sides and will, therefore, be firmly held in position.

A further object is to provide ribs on the part of the socket that engages the inner surface of the leg, which ribs are so arranged that they will form grooves in the wooden leg to prevent lateral movement of the leg relative to the socket, and also to cause the wooden leg to bind and firmly fit within the socket.

A further object is to provide a socket of this kind having an inwardly projecting flange at its lower end designed to engage the lower edge of the body to which it is attached to thereby enable the operator to quickly and accurately fit the socket to the body in such a manner that all of the sockets fitted to one body will be spaced apart from the bottom edge the same distance, also for supporting the weight of the tub and more firmly attaching the socket to the tub, and also to obviate any separation of the socket from the tub.

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

Figure 1 shows a front view of a device embodying my invention applied to a support. Fig. 2 shows an edge view of same with a leg inserted in the socket. Fig. 3 shows a top or plan view of same. Fig. 4 shows a sectional view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2, and Fig. 5 shows a detail sectional view of the lower portion of the socket taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, I have used the reference numeral 10 to indicate the portion of the body shown, and 11, the wooden supporting leg.

The socket is formed complete of a single piece of sheet metal and it comprises a flat central portion 12 with sides 13 and marginal flanges 14, the latter being designed to rest against the body to which the socket is attached. The front portion 12 and the sides 13 are strengthened and reinforced by means of the raised ribs 15, and at the upper and lower portions of the margins 13 are the rounded extensions 16 having screw openings therein for attaching the socket to a body. The top of the socket is formed by extending the front 12 inwardly, thus forming the end 17. At the top of this part 17 is a rounded extension 18 having a screw opening therein, and in the central portion is a hole 17^a. The supporting leg 11 may be driven out by means of a punch or rod through the hole 17^a.

At the lower end of the front 12, the edge is strengthened and reinforced by having a part of the metal folded upwardly to form a double thickness at this point and to form a rounded edge at the lower end of the front 12. This upwardly folded margin is indicated by the numeral 19. The sides are extended downwardly below the front 12. At a point a short distance below the lower end of the front, the sides of the socket are extended from the marginal edges 14, first forwardly away from the body 10 at the point indicated by the numeral 20, and then they are doubled back toward the body at the point marked 21, and the sheet metal between the sides at the points marked 21 is shaped to lie flat against the body, said part being indicated by the numeral 22. The lower edge of the part 22 is extended backwardly at 23 to project under the body to which the socket is attached. The parts 22 and 23 are provided with raised ribs 24. These ribs on the part 22 serve the function of forming longitudinal grooves in the rear face of the wooden leg as it is driven into the socket to thereby cause said wooden leg to be firmly clamped between the part 22 and the front 12, and said ribs 24 also serve to prevent lateral movements of the wooden leg. In the part 23, I have formed a number of openings and the marginal edges of these openings are inclined upwardly as indicated by the numeral 25 in Fig. 5, said upwardly

inclined parts being designed to enter the wood of the support 10 to thereby aid in securing the socket to the part 10.

It is obvious that the entire socket may be formed complete of a single piece of sheet metal by means of suitable dies and formers and without any hand-work. In attaching the socket to a support, the operator places the part 23 against the under edge of the support and drives the points projecting from the under side of the part 23 into the wood part 10, further securing the same with short nails or drive screws, if desired. In this way the part 23 serves as a guide so that the operator can attach a number of sockets quickly and easily to a body to be supported and all of the sockets will be at the same elevation. Then the operator places a wooden leg in the socket and as the leg is being driven in position, grooves will be formed on its rear face by means of the raised ribs 24. These ribs will also serve the function of holding the front of the wooden leg firmly against the front of the socket. After the wooden leg is in position with its upper end engaging the top 17 of the socket, then a screw 26 may be passed through the front 12 and through the leg into the support 10 to thereby firmly hold the leg in the socket. It is obvious that the parts 22 and 23 by engaging the rear face of the leg and by being attached to the under surface of the support 10 will prevent outward strains upon the lower end of the leg from prying the lower end of the socket loose from the support 10.

I claim as my invention.

1. A device of the class described, formed complete of a single piece of sheet metal and comprising a front portion and sides, said sides being provided with outwardly extended flanges and with screw openings in the flanges, a top member extended from the front inwardly and provided with an upwardly extended flange having a screw opening therein.

2. A device of the class described, formed complete of a single piece of sheet metal and comprising a front and sides, and flanges at the rear edges of the sides, said front and sides being provided with transverse raised ribs.

3. A device of the class described, formed complete of a single piece of sheet metal and comprising a front and sides, and means for attaching the same to a support, said sides being extended below the front, and a transverse plate connected with the sides below the front and arranged in a plane substantially parallel with the flanges of the sides, said plate having raised ribs therein extended longitudinally of the socket.

4. A device of the class described, formed complete of a single piece of sheet metal and comprising a front, sides, flanges extended outwardly from the rear edges of the sides, said sides being extended below the front, said sides at a point below the front being extended first forwardly from the flanges, and then rearwardly toward the flanges, the sheet metal between said sides below the front being extended across the socket substantially in line with the said flanges, to form a rear plate and a rearwardly projecting flange at the lower edge of said rear plate to extend under a support to which the socket is attached.

5. A device of the class described, formed complete of a single piece of sheet metal and comprising a front and sides, and means for attaching the same to a support, said sides being extended below the front, and a transverse plate connected with the sides below the front and arranged in a plane substantially parallel with the flanges of the sides, said plate being provided with a rearwardly projecting flange at its lower end to extend under a support to which the socket is attached, said plate and said flange that is connected with the plate being provided with raised ribs extended longitudinally of the socket.

6. A device of the class described, formed complete of a single piece of sheet metal and comprising a front and sides, and means for attaching the same to a support, said sides being extended below the front, and a transverse plate connected with the sides below the front and arranged in a plane substantially parallel with the flanges of the sides, said plate being provided with a rearwardly projecting flange at its lower end to extend under a support to which the socket is attached, said flange that projects under the support to which the socket is attached being provided with openings, and the material around said openings being extended upwardly for the purposes stated.

7. A device of the class described, formed complete of a single piece of sheet metal and comprising a front, sides, flanges extended outwardly from the rear edges of the sides, said sides being extended below the front, said sides at a point below the front being extended first forwardly from the flanges, and then rearwardly toward the flanges, the sheet metal between said sides below the front being extended across the socket substantially in line with the said flanges.

Des Moines, Iowa, Dec. 16, 1908.

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Witnesses:

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