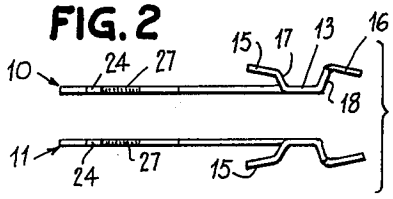
April 7, 1964 B. STEIN 3,128,075

ADJUSTABLE SUPPORT FOR CURTAIN RODS AND THE LIKE

Filed Sept. 11, 1961

FIG. 2



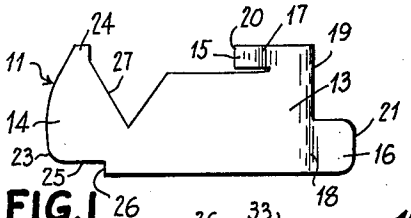
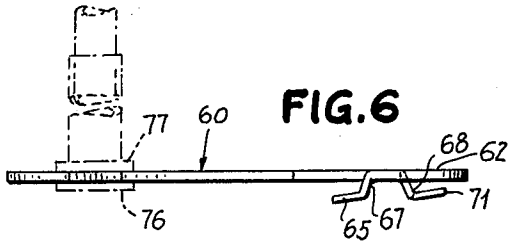


FIG. 1

FIG. 6



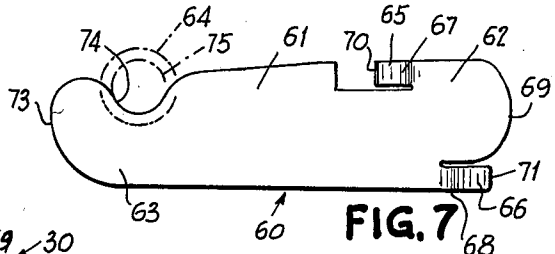


FIG. 7

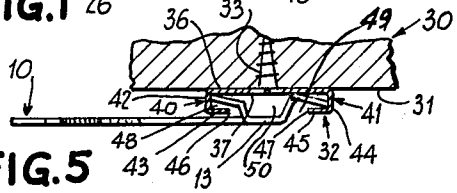


FIG. 5

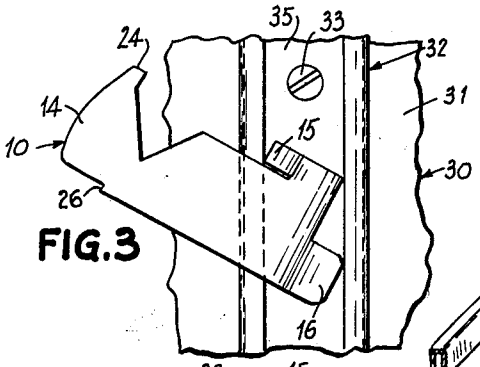


FIG. 3

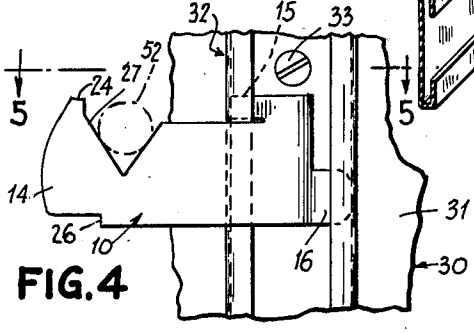


FIG. 4

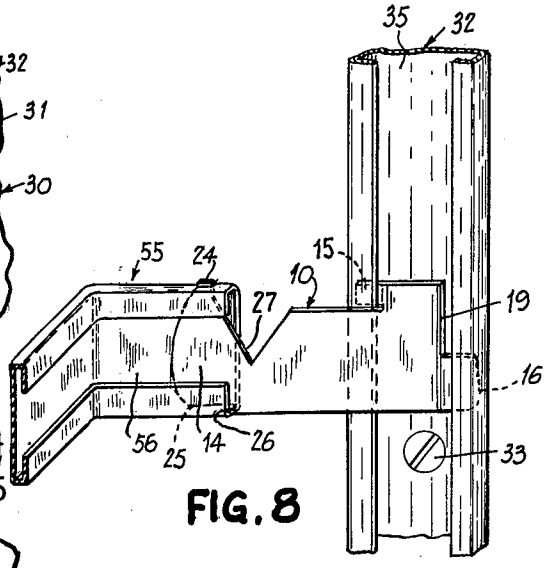


FIG. 8

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ADJUSTABLE SUPPORT FOR CURTAIN RODS AND THE LIKE

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4 Claims. (Cl. 248—265)

This invention relates generally to a support structure, and is especially concerned with an adjustably mounted bracket for use in supporting a curtain rod, or the like.

It is one object of the present invention to provide a support structure of the type described which is more simply employed in the hanging of curtains, and the like, and wherein the curtains may be selectively hung at any desired height without remounting of the fixture.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a curtain-rod support having the advantageous characteristics mentioned in the preceding paragraph, which is extremely simple in construction, preferably consisting of an integral, one-piece bracket infinitely adjustable vertically along a mounting strip, and which structure is completely trouble-free and extremely durable throughout a long useful life, and capable of economical manufacture for sale at a reasonable price.

Other objects of the present invention will become apparent upon reading the following specification and referring to the accompanying drawings, which form a material part of this disclosure.

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combinations of elements, and arrangements of parts, which will be exemplified in the construction hereinafter described, and of which the scope will be indicated by the appended claims.

In the drawing:

FIG. 1 is a side elevational view showing a bracket constructed in accordance with the teachings of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a top plan view showing a pair of brackets of the present invention in facing relation with each other.

FIG. 3 is an elevational view showing a bracket of FIGS. 1 and 2 in an intermediate stage of assembly or disassembly with a mounting fixture.

FIG. 4 is an elevational view similar to FIG. 3 showing the bracket in its operative assembled relation with the mounting fixture.

FIG. 5 is a horizontal sectional view taken substantially along the line 5—5 of FIG. 4.

FIG. 6 is a top plan view showing a slightly modified form of bracket constructed in accordance with the teachings of the present invention, and illustrating in dot-and-dash outline one form of curtain rod associated with the bracket.

FIG. 7 is a side elevational view of the bracket of FIG. 6.

FIG. 8 is a perspective view showing the bracket construction of FIGS. 1–5 in operative association with a mounting fixture and a curtain rod of the hollow type.

Referring now more specifically to the drawings, and particularly to FIGS. 1–5 thereof, there is shown a bracket in FIG. 1 generally designated **10**. A complementary pair of such brackets are shown in FIG. 2 at **10** and **11**, the latter being substantially identical to the former, but of inverse configuration or opposite hand.

The bracket **10** is advantageously fabricated of a single integral metal sheet or plate, as by forming and stamping, but may, of course, be fabricated of any desired material, such as by being molded of plastic, or the like.

The bracket **10** may be substantially flat, normally lying in a substantially vertical plane and of a lateral or horizontal elongation. The bracket member **10** includes one end portion **13**, and extends therefrom to the opposite

or other end portion **14**. The end portion **13** is formed with a pair of tongues or fingers **15** and **16**, preferably integral with the bracket portion **13** and offset from the plane thereof, as by offsetting portions **17** and **18**.

The tongues or fingers **15** and **16** project laterally, oppositely away from each other; and as best seen in FIG. 1, the tongues are spaced apart vertically, the tongue **15** being at an elevation above that of the tongue **16**. Viewed otherwise, the upper tongue **15** is located inward from the outer end **19** of end portion **13**, being offset from the plane of the latter end portion by the offsetting portion **17**, and projects inward toward the opposite end portion **14**, terminating short thereof, as at the end edge **20**. The lower tongue **16** may extend outward from the end portion **13**, beyond the end edge **19**, being offset from the plane of the latter end portion by the offsetting portion **18**, and terminated at an end edge **21**. The end edge **21** of tongue **16** is preferably rounded, for purposes appearing presently.

As best seen in FIGS. 2 and 5, the tongues **15** and **16** are offset from the plane of the bracket **10** on the same side thereof, and are illustrated as extending oblique to the plane of the bracket. While the tongues **15** and **16** may operate satisfactorily in other than the illustrated oblique relation, such relation is shown for purposes of illustration and without limiting intent. Specifically, as illustrated, the tongue **15** extends obliquely away from the plane of bracket member **10**, while the tongue **16** extends obliquely toward the extended plane of the bracket member.

The other end portion **14** of the bracket member **10** may have its end edge generally arcuate or rounded, as at **23**, while having its upper edge provided with an upstanding tab or lug **24**, and its lower edge cut away at **25** to form an outwardly facing shoulder **26**. Further, the upper edge of the outer end portion **14**, just inward of the tab **24** may be formed with a notch or cutout **27**, illustrated as being of generally V-shaped configuration.

In FIGS. 3–5 there is shown a window jamb **30** having a surface **31**. Secured fast to the jamb surface **31** is a mounting fixture, generally designated **32**. The fixture **32** may be securely anchored to the jamb **30** by any suitable means, such as screws **33**.

The mounting fixture **32** includes a generally vertically disposed or upright, substantially flat strip **35** secured in facing engagement with the jamb surface **31** by the fasteners **33**. That is, one face **36** of the strip **35** is retained in engagement with the jamb surface **31**, while the opposite strip face **37** is exposed and faces away from the jamb **30**.

Along both side edges of the strip **35**, preferably integral therewith, are formed longitudinal walls **40** and **41** outstanding from the jamb **30** and bent laterally inward toward each other spacedly overlying the adjacent portions of strip face **37**. In the illustrated embodiment, the longitudinal walls **40** and **41** are of generally rectangular configuration, the former including an outstanding wall portion **42** generally normal to the strip **35**, and an overlying wall portion or flange **43** generally parallel to the strip, while the wall **41** includes an outstanding portion **44** generally normal to the strip, and an overlying wall portion or flange **45** generally parallel to the strip. It is appreciated that the longitudinal walls **40** and **41** need not be of the illustrated rectangular formation, but may be rounded, or generally flat and oblique to the strip **35**. In any event, the longitudinal walls **40** and **41** extend laterally inward toward each other, to overlie adjacent edge portions of the strip face **37**, with the longitudinal walls terminating at longitudinal edges **46** and **47** spaced from each other. Thus, the longitudinal wall **40** may be considered as combining with the strip **35** to define a longitudinally extending, laterally inwardly facing groove **48**, and similarly the longitudinal wall **41** combines with its adjacent portion of

strip 35 to define a longitudinally extending, laterally inwardly facing groove 49, the grooves 48 and 49 facing toward and being spaced from each other. Further, the spacing between the edges 46 and 47 of longitudinal walls 40 and 41 may be considered as defining a slot 50 opening between the longitudinal walls into the grooves 48 and 49.

In the operative association of bracket 10 and fixture 32 in FIGS. 4 and 5, it is seen that the bracket end portion 13 is disposed in a plane generally parallel to that of the strip 35, spaced from and facing toward the strip surface 37 through the slot 50. The bracket 10 extends laterally from the end portion 13 beyond the longitudinal wall 40 to the end portion 14 which is spaced laterally from the mounting fixture 32. Further, the tongues 15 and 16, by their offsetting portions 17 and 18, extend through the slot 50 toward the strip 35 and thence respectively into the grooves 48 and 49 of walls 40 and 41. The end edges 20 and 21 of the tongues 15 and 16 are preferably in abutting engagement within the grooves 48 and 49, respectively, so that the downward force or weight of a curtain rod 52, see FIG. 4, is effectively resisted and counteracted by a couple exerted between the walls 40 and 41, and the tongues 15 and 16, respectively. The oblique inclination of the tongues 15 and 16 may engage the tongue edges 20 and 21 in wedging relation in the grooves 48 and 49 to prevent looseness or wobbling of the bracket relative to the mounting fixture.

While the illustrated embodiment shows the tongues 15 and 16 of a thickness less than the width of grooves 48 and 49, which may be preferred, it is appreciated that the tongues may be of such thickness admitting of sliding engagement in the grooves, if desired. Also, while the bracket 10 is shown as having its end portion 13 overlying and slightly spaced from the flange 43 of wall 40, the proportions may be such that the bracket abuts against the longitudinal wall for further rigidification and reinforcement.

In order to remove the bracket 10 from the mounting fixture 32, or to adjust the bracket vertically along the mounting fixture to any desired elevation, it is only necessary to swing the bracket end portion 14 upward, as shown in FIG. 3. In the condition shown in FIG. 3, it is seen that the slot 50 of the mounting fixture 32 is of sufficient width to pass the tongues 15 and 16 for convenient removal of the bracket 10 from the mounting fixture. In effecting vertical adjustment of the bracket 10, it is not necessary to swing the bracket to the extent illustrated in FIG. 3, but only sufficiently to disengage the tongue ends 20 and 21 from their respective longitudinal walls 40 and 41, whereupon the bracket may be moved vertically to the desired elevation, and then returned to its generally horizontal disposition for re-engagement of the tongues 15 and 16 in their respective groups 48 and 49. Upward swinging of the bracket end portion 14 is facilitated by rolling action of curved edge 21 with wall 41.

In FIG. 8, the bracket 10 is shown in operative association with a mounting fixture 32, as in FIGS. 4 and 5, and is further associated with a conventional curtain rod 55 of the hollow type having right angularly bent end portions, as at 56. The end portion 14 of the bracket 10 is engageable in the bent end portion 56 of the curtain rod 55, with the tab 24 projecting upward through the curtain rod, and the shoulder 26 in abutting engagement with the lower edge portion of the curtain rod. Of course, the bracket 10 is capable of the same advantageous ease and simplicity in adjustment and removal with the curtain rod 55, as with the curtain rod 52.

In the embodiment of FIGS. 6 and 7 is shown a slightly modified form of bracket, generally designated 60, adapted for use in conjunction with a mounting fixture 32 and having advantageous characteristics similar to those of the bracket 10. The bracket 60 may consist of a generally flat elongate plate 61 normally disposed in a generally vertical plane having one end portion 62 adapted to be located proximate to a mounting fixture, and having its other end portion 63 laterally remote from the mounting fixture for carrying a curtain rod 64.

The bracket end portion 62 includes a pair of vertically spaced fingers or tongues 65 and 66 projecting laterally oppositely away from each other and offset from the plane of the bracket plate 61 by offsetting portions 67 and 68, respectively. The fingers or tongues 65 and 66 terminate at their respective distal ends at edges 70 and 71, which are horizontally spaced apart a distance approximately equal to the width of a mounting strip 35 for engagement of the tongues in respective grooves 48 and 49, as in the first-described embodiment. However, the end portion 62 extends outward beyond the end edge 71 of lower tongue 66, terminating in a rounded end edge 69, so that the bracket end portion 62 will obviously overlie both the longitudinal walls 40 and 41 when in operative connection with the mounting fixture 32.

In the modified form of FIG. 6 and FIG. 7, the laterally projecting bracket end portion 63 may have its end edge rounded, as at 73, and may be formed in its upper edge with an arcuate, concave cutout or notch 74 for receiving the curtain rod 64. In the illustrated embodiment, it is noted that the curtain rod 64 is provided with a reduced portion or neck 75, as defined between a pair of spaced enlargements 76 and 77; and, the thickness of the bracket plate 61 is such as to engage between the enlargements for receiving the neck 75 in the cutout 74.

As noted hereinbefore, the end portion 62 of bracket 60 is configured to overlie both the longitudinal walls 40 and 41 of a mounting fixture 32; and, the bracket end portion may engage the outer surfaces of the longitudinal walls for increased rigidity of connection, if desired.

From the foregoing, it is seen that the present invention provides a support construction for curtain rods and the like, which fully accomplishes its intended objects and is well adapted to meet practical conditions of manufacture and use.

Although the present invention has been described in some detail by way of illustration and example for purposes of clarity of understanding, it is understood that certain changes and modifications may be made within the spirit of the invention and scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. A support for curtain rods and the like, said support comprising a generally upright mounting strip, a pair of longitudinal walls along opposite edges of said strip, said longitudinal walls extending generally inwardly spaced from one face of said strip and terminating short of each other, an elongate bracket member having one end proximate to said one strip face and having its other end extending laterally in a direction parallel to said one face and beyond one of said longitudinal walls for supporting engagement with a curtain rod or the like resting adjacent said other end, and a pair of fingers laterally offset and projecting oppositely from said bracket member and respectively removably engaged beneath said longitudinal walls, said fingers being spaced vertically with the upper finger engaged beneath said one longitudinal wall and the lower finger engaged beneath the other longitudinal wall, said fingers thereby providing a reactive couple maintaining said bracket member in a selected position relative to said mounting strip under the weight of a curtain rod or the like, and said fingers being disengageable from said walls upon upward swinging of said other bracket-member end for vertical movement of said bracket member along and removal of said bracket member from said mounting strip.

2. A support according to claim 1, at least one of said fingers having a generally rounded configuration for smooth rolling action with the engaged wall upon upward swinging of said other bracket-member end.

3. A support according to claim 1, said bracket member being substantially flat and in substantial parallelism with the plane of the face of said strip, said one end of

said bracket member overlying one of said longitudinal walls and engageable therewith to maintain said parallelism.

4. A support comprising a generally upright mounting strip, a pair of longitudinal walls on opposite edges of said strip projecting laterally inward on one side of said strip and spaced from each other to define with said strip a pair of facing grooves, a bracket member disposed on said one side of said strip and having one portion projecting laterally beyond one edge of said strip, and a pair of vertically spaced laterally oppositely projecting tongues carried by said bracket member and offset therefrom for holding engagement in respective grooves, said bracket member and tongues being integrally fabricated of a single sheet having a thickness less than the width of said grooves, for free entry of said tongues into said grooves, said tongues extending obliquely to the plane of said bracket member

for firm wedging engagement in said grooves, said longitudinal walls being spaced from each other sufficiently to pass said pair of tongues upon swinging movement of said bracket member to remove said tongues from said grooves.

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