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HOLDER FOR WATCH MOVEMENTS

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**2,675,722**

FIG. 1.

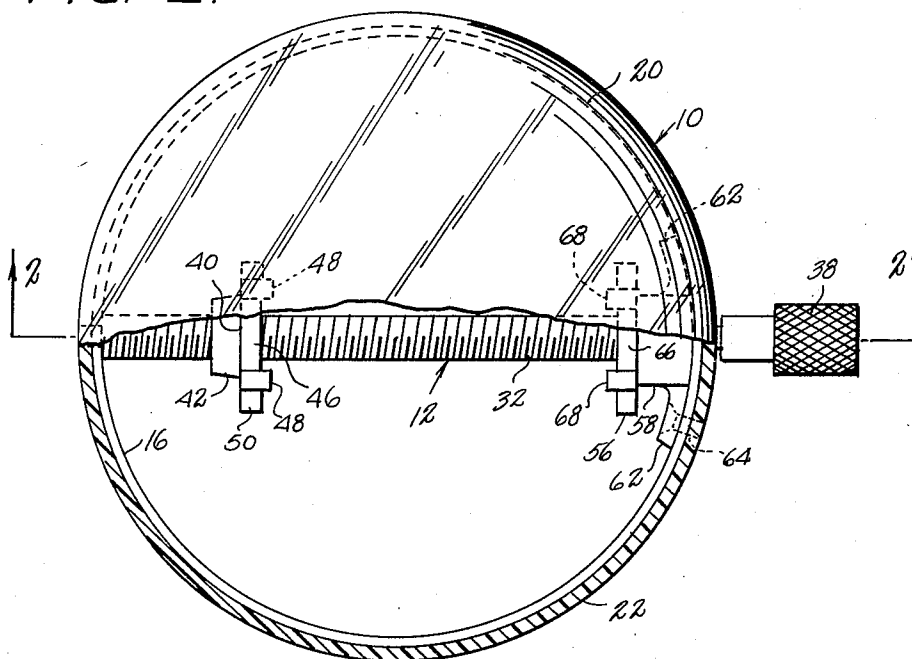


FIG. 2.

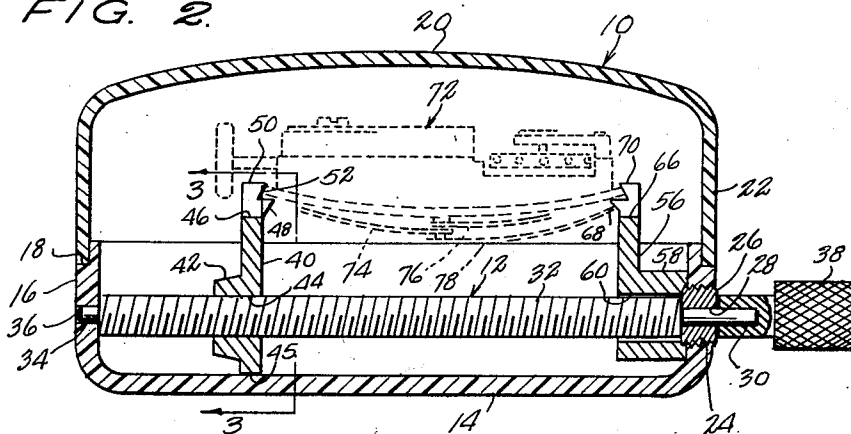
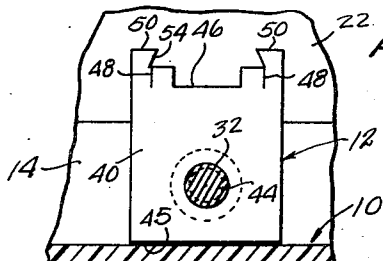


FIG. 3.



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## HOLDER FOR WATCH MOVEMENTS

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2 Claims. (Cl. 81—6)

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This invention relates to a device adapted to hold a watch movement while the watch movement is being repaired and adjusted.

While a watch is entrusted to a watch repairman, it is extremely important that the movement of the watch be protected from dust and lint. In this connection, it is customary to place the watch movements on a watch timing machine, for substantial periods of time. While the movement is being held by the timing machine, it is enclosed within its own case, to protect the movement against the entry of dust or lint.

Periodically, it is necessary to take the watch from its position on the watch timing machine, and remove it from its case, so as to make necessary repairs or adjustments for time found necessary by observation of the watch timing machine. Thereafter, the watch is returned to its case and again placed in the holder of the watch timing machine.

It will be apparent that the continual removal of the movement from its case, and return of the movement to the case, during this period, is time consuming and inconvenient to the watch maker or watch repairman. Additionally, even at times when a watch movement is not supported by the watch timing machine, and is being repaired on the bench, it is quite general for the watch maker to be interrupted many times during his work. Obviously, when the absences of the watch maker from his bench are of long duration, dust and lint can enter the watch movement being worked upon.

The main object of the present invention is to provide a novelly designed holder for a watch movement, which will be adapted to protectively enclose the watch movement against the entry of dust and lint while the movement is supported by a watch timing machine, the holder being so formed as to be swiftly opened or closed as the case may be, when it is desired to make adjustments of the watch and then return the watch to the timing machine. It is also an important object of the present invention to provide a holder of the type stated which is adapted to support the watch movement while it is being worked upon at a bench, so that the watch movement can be easily covered protectively whenever it is necessary for the worker to absent himself from the bench.

Another object of importance is to provide a holder of the character referred to which will include a hollow, closed body having a removable cover, which cover can be applied to or removed from the body with maximum speed and ease, in

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far less time than is necessary to remove the watch from its own case or recase the watch.

Still another object of importance is to provide a protective holder for watch movements having means therein to support any one of a large number of watch movements varying in size or shape from one another.

Yet another object is to provide a holder of the character stated which will have its watch support means so arranged therein as to conveniently dispose the watch for the making of necessary repairs or adjustments.

A still further object of importance is to provide a holder as stated wherein adjustable jaws will be included in the watch support means, with said jaws being novelly designed in a manner to clampingly engage therebetween the supported watch movement, regardless of the particular configuration, thickness, or length of said movement.

Other objects will appear from the following description, the claims appended thereto, and from the annexed drawing, in which like reference characters designate like parts throughout the several views, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a holder formed in accordance with the present invention, a portion of said holder being shown in section;

Figure 2 is a section taken diametrically through the holder on line 2—2 of Figure 1, a supported watch movement being illustrated in dotted lines; and

Figure 3 is a detail sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Figure 2, showing the construction of one of the jaws.

The illustrated holder comprises two main components or assemblies, these being a housing or hollow body designated generally by the reference numeral 10, and a watch movement support assembly designated generally by the reference numeral 12 and having its major portion supported within the body.

The housing 10 is, in turn, formed in two parts, namely, a cup-like receptacle, and a cover for said receptacle.

The receptacle is integrally formed from a single piece of molded plastic or other material, and includes a generally circular bottom 14 integrally formed throughout its periphery with an upstanding flange 16, the upper edge of said flange having a circumferential recess 18.

The cover includes a concavo convex, circular top wall 20 integral with a depending peripheral flange 22 adapted to be seated removably in the recess 18 of the flange 16.

By reason of this arrangement, it is seen that

the housing will, in the applied position of the cover, be a hollow, completely closed body adapted to protectively enclose a watch movement supported therein.

Formed in the upstanding flange 16 of the receptacle is a threaded opening 24, in which is threadedly engaged an externally threaded plug 26, said plug having a through bore 28 in which is rotatably mounted a reduced axial extension 30 formed on one end of an elongated screw 32 extending diametrically of and within the receptacle, and having a short, reduced axial extension 34 at its other end rotatably mounted in an opening 36 formed in the flange 16 at a location diametrically opposite the bore 28.

The extension of the screw 32 projects outwardly beyond the flange 16 of the receptacle, and is fixedly engaged in a complementary socket formed in the inner end of the shank of a knurled hand knob 38 used for rotating the screw 32.

Threadedly engaged with the screw 32, within the receptacle, is a movable jaw 40 constituting a follower, said movable jaw being of plate-like formation, and having a boss 42 integrally formed thereon, said boss being formed with a threaded opening 44 engaging the threads of the screw 32.

As will be noted from Figure 3, the plate-like movable jaw 40 has a straight bottom edge 45 slidable on the flat bottom wall 14 of the receptacle, this arrangement being adapted to prevent rotation of the movable jaw with the screw 32.

The top edge of the jaw 40 has, intermediate the opposite side edges of the jaw, a recess 46, and formed upon the jaw at opposite ends of said recess are laterally projected lips 48, said lips being disposed adjacent and inwardly of upstanding projections 50, that are located at the side edges of the jaw. As will be noted from Figure 2, the upstanding projections 50 have inclined inner surfaces 52, and as will be noted from Figure 3, said projections 50 have inclined side surfaces 54.

It has been found that a jaw having its upper end portion formed with the recess, lips, and projections described above is particularly adapted to engage securely one end of a watch movement, regardless of the particular width, length, thickness, or shape of said movement.

A stationary jaw 56 is also of plate-like formation, said stationary jaw having, at its lower end, a boss 58 formed with a smooth walled opening 60 receiving the screw 32. Integral with the boss 58 are diametrically opposed arcuate ears 62 (Figure 1), that extend along the inner surface of the flange 16 and are fixedly secured to said flange by screws 64 or equivalent fastening elements in a manner to hold the fixed jaw 56 in place and prevent its rotation with the screw 32, while reinforcing the area of the flange 16 around the bushing 26.

At its upper end, the stationary jaw 56 is formed identically but opposite to the movable jaw 40, and has a recess 56 flanked at opposite ends thereof by laterally projected lips 68 extending toward the movable jaw 40. The lips 68 are disposed adjacent and inwardly of upstanding projections 70 analogous to the projections 50 of the movable jaw.

The formation and relative arrangement of the jaws are such as to permit the jaws to clampingly engage therebetween a watch movement designated generally by the reference numeral 72. In this connection, it is to be noted that the

jaws are so proportioned as to support said watch movement centrally within the hollow housing, in spaced relation to the top and bottom walls of the housing, and in spaced relation, also, to the side wall of the housing. Thus, the minute hand 74, hour hand 76, and sweep second hand 78 are spaced a substantial distance above the screw 32, so that there will be no possibility of damage to the watch movement while the same is engaged by and between the fixed and movable jaws.

It is also to be noted that by rotation of the hand knob 38, the movable jaw can be adjusted toward and away from the fixed jaw, thus to accommodate the jaws to watch movements of different lengths.

The construction which I have devised is such as to permit the watch movement to be readily supported within the holder constituting the present invention, after which the entire holder and watch movement can be positioned upon a watch timing machine, with the jaws of said machine engaging the housing at the top and bottom thereof. Thus, the watch movement is supported upon the timing machine, not shown, and while being so supported will be protected against the entry of lint or dust. At any time when a repair or adjustment is to be made, it is merely necessary that the holder and the supported movement be removed from the watch timing machine, after which the user removes the cover 20 and makes the necessary repairs or adjustments while the movement is still clampingly engaged between the jaws of the holder. The cover is then returned to its receptacle closing position, and the holder and the supported movement are returned to the timing machine.

Additionally, the device is adapted to support a watch movement while it is being repaired on a desk or bench. In this instance, the watch maker makes the necessary repairs while the watch movement is clamped between the jaws. Should an interruption occur, he need only position the cover upon the receptacle until such time as the repair work is taken up once again.

The advantages of the invention may now be readily noted, it being apparent that a device formed as illustrated and described eliminates the necessity of removing a watch movement from its associated case, or recasing the movement, except when the repairs are begun and ended. Throughout the time that the movement is in the shop, there is no necessity of recasing the same.

It is also believed to be of importance that the device makes it unnecessary to have a separate cover on a desk or bench, since the worker need only replace the removable cover 20 on the receptacle when work is being temporarily halted.

It is believed clear that the invention is not necessarily confined to the specific use or uses thereof described above, since it may be utilized for any purpose to which it may be suited. Nor is the invention to be necessarily limited to the specific construction illustrated and described, since such construction is only intended to be illustrative of the principles of operation and the means presently devised to carry out said principles, it being considered that the invention comprehends any minor change in construction that may be permitted within the scope of the appended claims.

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What is being claimed is:

1. In a watch movement holder, a support having a bottom wall, fixed first and second flange portions on and upstanding from said bottom wall and spaced from each other across said bottom wall, said flange portions being provided with axially aligned openings, a bushing having a bore fixed in an opening formed in said first flange portion, a screw extending between said first and second flange portions, said screw having reduced axial extensions on its opposite ends defining shoulders, the axial extension on one end of the screw being journalled in an opening formed in said second flange portion with the related shoulder engaged with said second flange portion, the other end of the screw extending through the bore of said bushing, a jaw attached to said first mentioned flange portion, a movable jaw threaded on said screw, said movable jaw having a portion bearing non-rotatably against said bottom wall, and rotating means on one of said axial extensions for rotating the screw in opposite directions.

2. In a watch movement holder, a support having a bottom wall, fixed first and second flange portions on and upstanding from said bottom wall and spaced from each other across said bottom wall, said flange portions being provided with axially aligned openings, a bushing having a bore fixed in an opening formed in said first flange portion, a screw extending between

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said first and second flange portions, said screw having reduced axial extensions on its opposite ends defining shoulders, the axial extension on one end of the screw being journalled in an opening formed in said second flange portion with the related shoulder engaged with said second flange portion, the other end of the screw extending through the bore of said bushing, a jaw attached to said first mentioned flange portion, a movable jaw threaded on said screw, said movable jaw having a portion bearing non-rotatably against said bottom wall, and rotating means on one of said axial extensions for rotating the screw in opposite directions, said last mentioned axial extension extending beyond said bushing, and said rotating means comprising a knob secured on said last mentioned axial extension.

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