Dec. 28, 1948. L. L. RIFKEN 2,457,274

TOWEL OR CLOTH HOLDER

Filed April 24, 1947

Fig. 1

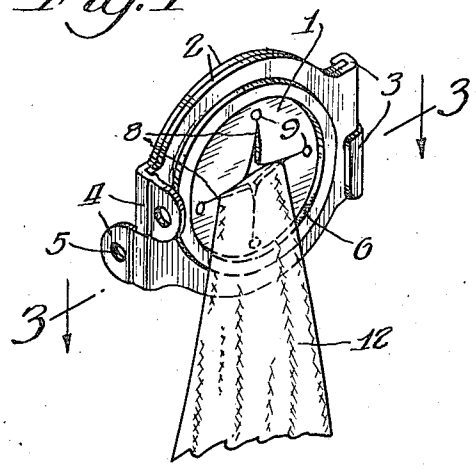


Fig. 2

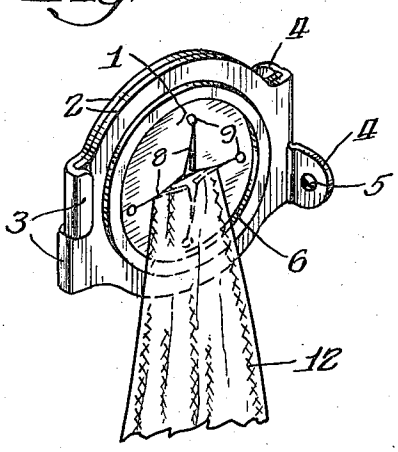


Fig. 3

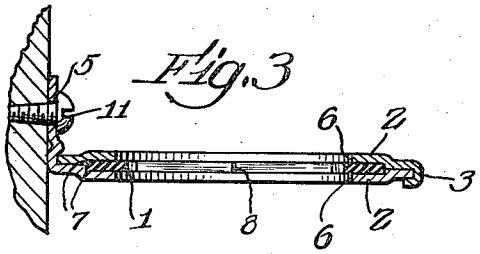


Fig. 4

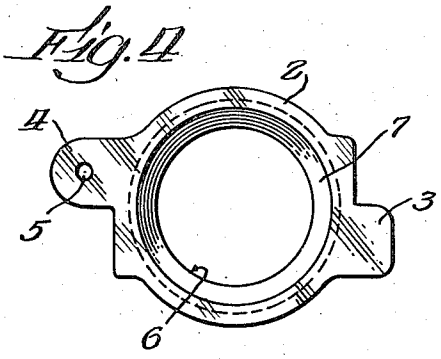
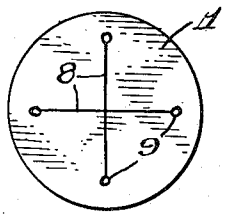


Fig. 5



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TOWEL OR CLOTH HOLDER

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5 Claims. (Cl. 248—314)

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This invention relates, in general, to holding devices, and has particular relation to an improved towel or cloth holder.

Devices of this sort have been previously proposed in which there is a slitted resilent member which yields to receive a towel or the like and thereby to grip it. Such devices, however, have presented difficulties in securing the resilient member in place and have not permitted convenient removal and replacement of the resilient member, for example, for renewal thereof. Moreover, in certain of such prior proposals designed to overcome other difficulties the towel has been insertable only from one side of the resilient member, the other side being enclosed and presented to the wall or other support to which the holder is attached.

One of the main objects of the present invention is to provide an improved form of device of the class described which shall be capable of permitting the towel or the like to be inserted from either side of the resilient member when the device is in place on the wall or other support.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device in which no difficulty arises in mounting the slitted resilient member and in which this member may be conveniently removed and replaced, for example, for renewal thereof.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device in which the two base holders between which the slitted resilient member is positioned are detachably joined and the slitted resilient member held therebetween without screws or like attachment means; also a device adapted for convenient attachment to the wall or other support and in which the two base holders are freed for separation and removal and replacement of the slitted resilient member by the simple expedient of detaching the device from the support.

Another and more specific object of the invention is to provide a device in which the slitted resilient member is accurately located by a recess in one or more of the base holders, and in which the base holders have interengaging lugs holding them together with the slitted resilient member therebetween when the device is attached to the wall or other support and permitting separation of the base holders for convenient removal and replacement of the slitted resilient member when the device is not attached to the support.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved form of device having various features of novelty and advantages, and which is particularly characterized by its simplicity in construction, its economy in manufacture, and its effectiveness in use.

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Further objects and advantages of the invention will appear from the following detailed description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing which illustrates the manner of constructing and using an illustrative embodiment of the invention.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of one side of a device embodying the present invention, showing the same attached to a support and with a towel or the like held thereby;

Figure 2 is a perspective view showing how the device may be used from the other side;

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is an elevational view of the inner side of one of the base holders in blank form and before bending the attachment and mounting lugs for use; and

Figure 5 is a side view of the slitted resilient member.

Referring now to the drawing, the device selected for illustration comprises just three parts, i. e., the slitted disc 1 of rubber or other suitable resilient material and the two base holders 2 between which the slitted resilient disc 1 is secured.

The base holders 2, which are identical but reversed in assembling the device, may be in the form of sheet metal stampings, such as aluminum or the like, although the device may be formed of any other suitable or preferred material, such as a suitable plastic material or the like. When completely formed, as will presently appear, the base holders 1—or at least the outer surfaces thereof—may be enameled or finished otherwise as desired.

Each member 2 has a pair of integral lugs 3 and 4, the lugs 4 being apertured as shown at 5. Each base holder 2 also has an opening 6, shown of circular form, although this may vary as may the configuration of the base holders 2. The inner surface of each base holder 2 has an annular recess 7 surrounding the opening 6, although this feature may vary, for example, by forming the recess 7 in only one of the base holders 2. In Figure 4, one of the base holders 2 is shown from the inner side and in blank form before bending the attachment and mounting lugs 3 and 4.

The resilient member 1 is formed of rubber or other suitable resilient material. In the illustrated embodiment of the invention, the member 1 is of circular or disc form, but this may vary,

The size and shape of the resilient member or insert 1 are preferably such that this member will fit peripherally in the recesses 7, preferably with sufficient clearance to permit clamping the resilient insert 1 between the base holders 2 without bowing the resilient insert 1 in either direction at the openings 6 which are aligned when the device is assembled as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3. Where the member 1 is formed of rubber having the desired resilient properties, it may, for example, be of a thickness from about 1/16 to about 1/8 inch.

As shown in Figure 5, the disc or insert 1 has one or more slits 8, four of such slits being shown, although this may vary. The slits 8 radiate outwardly from the center of the disc 1 and may terminate at their outer ends in holes 9. In use, the edges of the sector shaped portions freed by the slits 8 flex to receive the towel or the like and to grip and hold the same.

The attachment lugs 3 are bent to hook-like form as shown in Figure 3, and the mounting lugs 4 are bent inwardly to position at substantially right angles to the base holders 2. The device is assembled by the simple expedient of placing the rubber, rubber-like or resilient disc 1 in one of the recesses 7, interengaging the lugs 3 with the adjacent peripheral portions of the opposite base holders and pressing the same together to substantially the positions shown in Figures 1, 2, and 3. The device is adapted to be mounted on a wall or other support 10 (Figure 1) by placing the lugs 4 against the support and, for example, inserting screws 11 through apertures 5 and screwing them into the support.

When it is desired to suspend a towel 12 or the like from the device, one end, or a portion of the towel, is thrust through the disc or insert 1, which deforms due to its slitted portion, and grips the inserted end or portion of the towel as shown in Figures 1 and 2. The towel is easily and quickly removed by merely pulling it from the device. As shown in Figures 1 and 2, each of the opposite sides of the resilient disc 1 is exposed for use when the device is mounted on its support. As a result, the device permits the towel or the like to be inserted from either side with the device in place on its support.

The rubber disc or insert 1 can be replaced by the simple expedient of unscrewing the two screws 11 attaching it to the support and snapping the two base holders 2 apart.

The embodiment of the invention shown in the drawing is for illustrative purposes only, and it is to be expressly understood that said drawing and the accompanying specification are not to be construed as a definition of the limits or scope of the invention, reference being had to the appended claims for that purpose.

I claim:

1. In a towel or cloth holder of the class described, in combination, a pair of similar base holders having aligned openings; also attachment lugs adapted to be interengaged with the opposite holders and mounting lugs, and a resilient slitted member held between said base holders and adapted to receive a towel inserted through the opening at either side of the device and to grip the same.

2. A device according to claim 1 wherein the mounting lugs are disposed substantially diametrically opposite the interengaging attachment lugs and are turned laterally for attachment to a support.

3. In a towel or cloth holder of the class described, in combination, a pair of similar base holders having aligned openings; also attachment lugs adapted to be interengaged with the opposite holders and mounting lugs, and a resilient slitted insert held between said base holders and adapted to receive a towel inserted through the opening at either side of the device and to grip the same, each of said base holders having a recess surrounding the opening therein for receiving and positioning said resilient insert and said mounting lugs being disposed substantially diametrically opposite the interengaging attachment lugs and turned inwardly across the adjacent portions of the opposite holders for attachment to a support.

4. In a holding device of the class described, in combination, a frame having an opening therein, a resilient slitted member covering said opening and secured in said frame with its slitted portion disposed within said opening, and means on said frame at the edge thereof for mounting the frame edgewise on a support with the frame extending edgewise from the support and disposed substantially normal thereto whereby both sides of the resilient slitted member are exposed to receive through the opening in the frame and into the slitted portion of the resilient slitted member from either side of said resilient slitted member the article which is to be supported by said device.

5. In a holding device of the class described, in combination, a frame having an opening therein with opposite side portions in spaced relation and extending around the periphery of said opening, a resilient slitted member covering said opening and secured in said frame marginally between the spaced sides thereof, with its slitted portion disposed within said opening, and means on said frame at the edge thereof for mounting the frame edgewise on a support with the frame extending edgewise from the support and disposed substantially normal thereto whereby both sides of the resilient slitted member are exposed to receive through the opening in the frame and into the slitted portion of the resilient slitted member from either side of said resilient slitted member the article which is to be supported by said device.

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