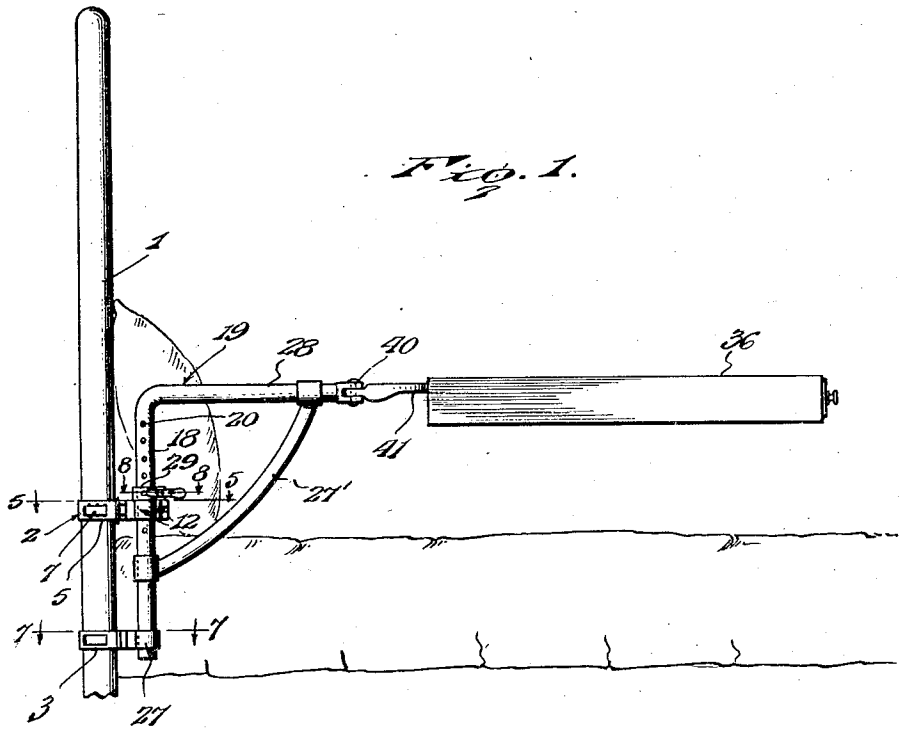
Sept. 11, 1928. 1,683,944

J. L. BALCH

TRAY

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Fig. 1.



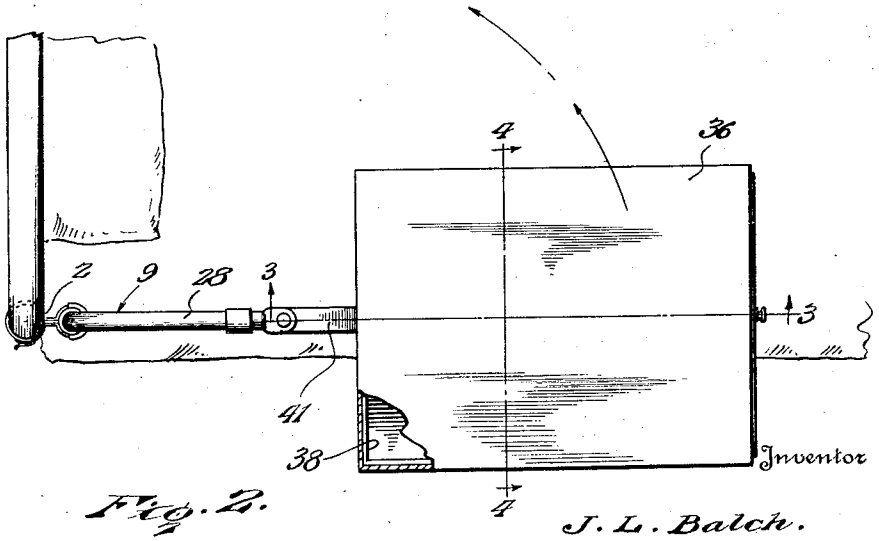


Fig. 2.

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Fig. 3.

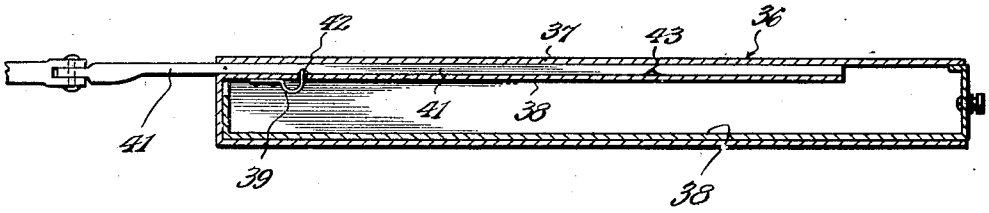


Fig. 4.

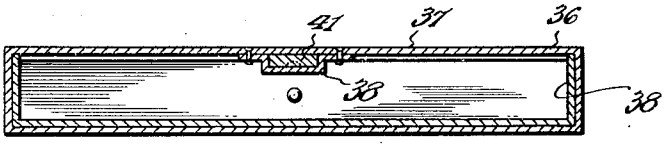


Fig. 5.

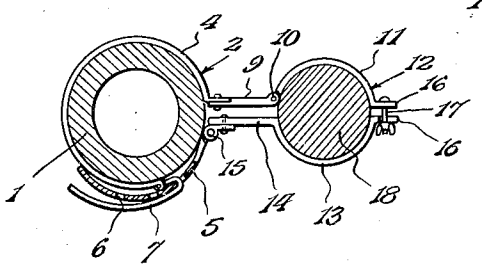


Fig. 6.

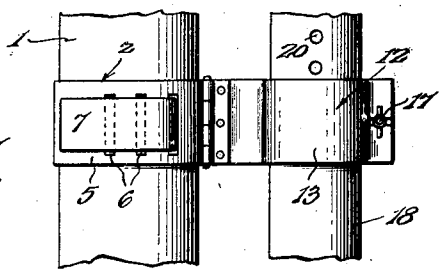


Fig. 7.

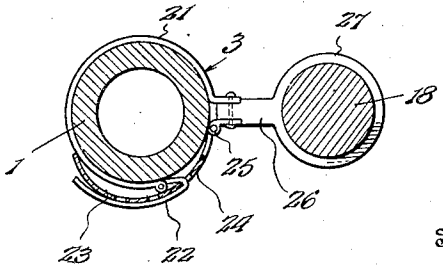
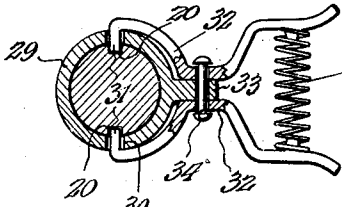


Fig. 8.



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Patented Sept. 11, 1928. 1,683,944

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN L. BALCH, OF POTLATCH, IDAHO.

TRAY.

Application filed March 23, 1927. Serial No. 177,737.

The present invention is directed to improvements in trays.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a device of this character so constructed that it can be quickly attached to a bed and is capable of being adjusted to various positions in order that it will be conveniently located for use by the occupant of the bed.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this kind having combined therewith a drawer in which articles, such as books, writing materials, or tobacco may be conveniently placed.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the device, showing it in place upon a bed.

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the same.

Figure 3 is a sectional view on line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a sectional view on line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Figure 5 is a sectional view on line 5—5 of Figure 1.

Figure 6 is a side elevation, enlarged, of the upper clamping member.

Figure 7 is a sectional view on line 7—7 of Figure 1.

Figure 8 is a sectional view on line 8—8 of Figure 1.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates the post of a bed and upon which my improved tray is supported.

A pair of vertically spaced clamps 2 and 3 are provided for engagement with the post, the former comprising a spring steel jaw and a rigid jaw 5, the jaw 5 having a plurality of slots 6 formed therein for selective engagement with the locking lever 7 pivotally carried by the jaw 4, in order that the clamp may be used upon posts of various diameters. The jaw 4 is fixed to a plate 9 which is hingedly connected, as at 10, to the section 11 of the bearing 12, the companion section 13 thereof having an arm 14 to which the jaw 5 is hingedly connected, as at 15. The fixed sections 11 and 12 are formed with apertured ears 16 and a clamping bolt 17 for holding them in proper relation in order to embrace the vertical arm 18 of the bracket 19, said arm having a plurality of vertically spaced recesses 20 formed therein and upon opposite sides thereof, the purpose of which will be later explained.

The lower clamp 3 also comprises a spring steel jaw 21 to which is pivotally connected a lever 22 for selectively engaging the slots 23 formed in the jaw 24 which is hingedly connected, as at 25, to the lug 26. The jaw 21 is also fixed to the lug 26 which forms an integral part of the collar 27. A brace bar 27' is provided and has its upper end fixed to the horizontal arm 28 of the bracket and its lower end fixed to the arm 18 thereof, as clearly shown in Figure 1 of the drawings.

In order to hold the arm 18 in vertically adjusted position a sleeve 29 is employed and slidably engages said arm, said sleeve being placed upon the arm before the brace bar 27' is applied. The sleeve is formed with diametrically opposed perforations 30 and selectively engaged in said perforations are the extensions 31 of the handles 32 which are pivotally connected to the web 33 of the sleeve 29 by a pin 34. A coil spring 35 is engaged between the outer ends of the handles 32 and serves to yieldably hold the extensions 31 in engagement with selected recesses 20 of the arm 18. This sleeve rests upon the bearing 12 and when interlocked with the arm 18 will hold the same in adjusted positions. The arm 18 is permitted to freely rotate in the bearing 12 but is held against downward movement by the sleeve 29, as will be obvious.

The tray 36 is of box-like formation, and the top 37 thereof provides a rest for various articles, while slidable in the tray is a drawer 38. Fixed to the under side of the top 37 is a channel member 38 having a spring stop 39 carried thereby and located adjacent the rear end thereof.

To the arm 28 is pivotally connected, as at 40, the inner end of a bar 41, said bar being slidably engaged in the channel member 38. Spaced sockets 42 and 43 are formed in the lower surface of the bar 41, and as shown in Figure 3 of the drawings, the stop 39 is engaged with the sockets 42, thus preventing accidental sliding of the tray when it is slid outwardly upon the bar 41. It will be obvious that when the tray is moved outwardly upon the bar 41 that the stop 39 will engage the socket 43, thus arresting and limiting the sliding movement of said tray. The bar 41, being comparatively wide, will prevent tilting of the tray.

To attach the device to the post 1 of the bed, the clamps 2 and 3 are engaged therewith and the lower end of the arm 18 is placed in the collar 27, whereupon the bearing 12 is engaged with said arm. The sleeve 29, being in place, will hold the arm in the desired ad-

justed position in order that the tray 36 will be positioned at the desired elevation. Since the bracket 19 is rotatably mounted and the bar 41 pivotally connected thereto, the tray can be conveniently moved to various positions of adjustment to suit the comfort of the occupant of the bed.

While the device is primarily designed for attachment to a bed post it is not necessarily limited to such use since it can be secured to any other support when desired.

Having thus described the invention, I claim:

1. A device of the class described, comprising a pair of clamps for attachment to a post, and provided, respectively, with a bearing and collar, a tray supporting bracket including a vertical arm having recesses therein, said arm being rotatably engaged in the bearing and collar, a sleeve slidably adjustable on the arm, and having a web carried thereby, handles pivotally carried by the web and having projections adapted to extend through the sleeve for engaging selective recesses, said sleeve being adapted to rest upon said bearing, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A device of the class described comprising a pair of vertically spaced clamps adapted to be connected to the post of a bed, a bearing carried by one of the clamps, a collar carried by the other clamp, a bracket including a vertical arm and a horizontal arm, the vertical arm having a plurality of recesses formed therein, a sleeve slidable upon the vertical arm and having diametrically opposed perforations formed therein, a web carried by the sleeve, handles pivotally connected with the web and having projections carried thereby and engaged in the perforations for selectively engaging said recesses to interlock the sleeve with the vertical arm, said sleeve being rotatable upon the bearing, a bar pivotally connected with the horizontal arm of said bracket, and a tray slidably mounted on said bar.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JOHN L. BALCH. [L. S.]