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STORAGE ASSEMBLY FOR DRAFTSMAN'S ARTICLES

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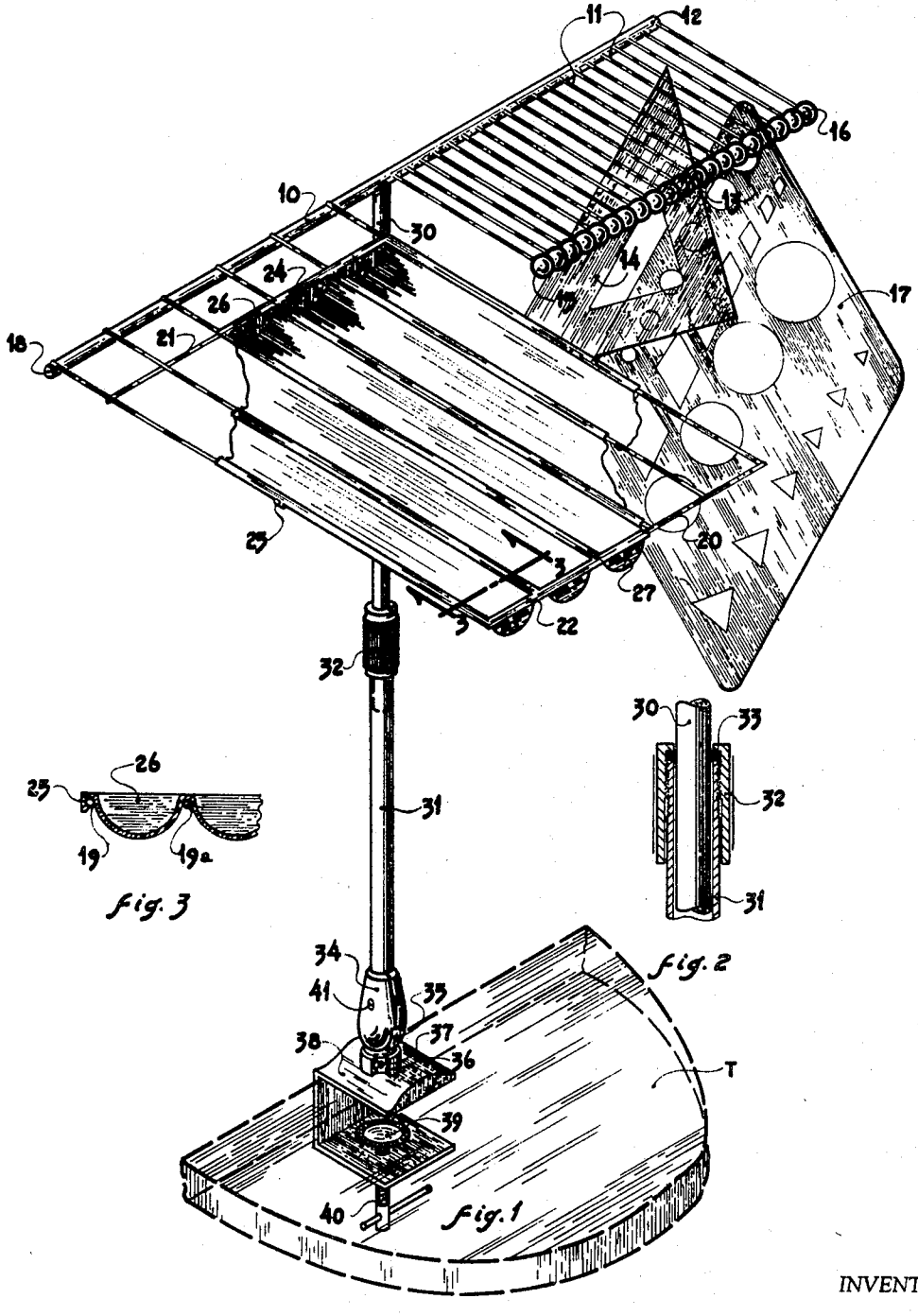


Fig. 1

Fig. 3

Fig. 2

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STORAGE ASSEMBLY FOR DRAFTSMAN'S ARTICLES

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A framework for mounting on a draftsman's table and for storing in readily accessible locations the conventional articles, such as pencils, triangles or the like employed in the work of draftsmen. The framework is adjustable with respect to the drafting table on which it is mounted.

Background of the invention

Field of the invention.—In carrying out his work at the conventional drafting board or table, the draftsman employs a wide variety of articles such as pens, pencils, compasses, triangles, curves, templates and the like. The storage of such articles when not in use often presents an annoying problem, especially when they have to be placed in a drawer and become intermingled therein. The present invention relates to a conveniently mounted storage assembly having a rack portion for storing of apertured planar articles and preferably an additional receptacle portion for storing of non-planar articles, all of the articles being readily accessible to the user and readily distinguishable from each other.

Description of the prior art.—Racks or trays for use by draftsmen, typists and other users in storing articles employed by them in their work and mounted adjacent the drafting table, typewriter, or the like, are known. However, so far as I am aware, such prior art structures embody limitations which have prevented their general adoption and use and which limitations it is a purpose of my invention to overcome. For example, the usual drafting table provides in combination an adjustable lighting means and an adjustable pantagraph-like scribing means, or T-square. Accordingly, the means for storing articles must be mounted and arranged so that it will not interfere with the lighting means, T-square, or the like and yet will provide ready accessibility to the draftsman's hand. Moreover, the variety of sizes and shapes of planar articles normally used by a draftsman requires a capacious storage ability for the assembly and which should be arranged so that the draftsman can distinguish one such article from another merely by glancing at the same. Conventional racks in which the stored article may be partially hidden from view thus have the disadvantage of preventing ready access to the desired article.

Summary of the invention

The invention comprises a storage assembly structure adapted to be adjustably mounted on the edge of a draftsman's table or the like, and having a portion including closely spaced finger rods between which flat apertured articles may be suspended by the engagement of enlarged tips of the rods pressing into the apertures of the flat articles. A supplementary open top receptacle may be employed to store miscellaneous articles such as pens, compasses and the like. Among the objects of the invention are to provide an adjustable storage assembly having a large storage capacity for a wide variety of articles used by draftsmen; an assembly which display articles in readily distinguishable form; and an assembly wherein

flat apertured articles may be readily stored, or removed from storage, by a simple manipulation of the flat article.

Brief description of the drawings

The objects of the invention will become more apparent as the description proceeds and when considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the storage assembly with parts broken away, and with a supporting drafting table shown in dotted lines.

FIG. 2 is a sectional view of a rod clamping means taken on the vertical axis of the rod and cylinder, and

FIG. 3 is a sectional view of the open-top receptacle taken on line 3—3 of FIG. 1.

Description of the preferred embodiment

Referring first to FIG. 1, an elongated rigid member **10**, shown here as a rod, supports a plurality of laterally projecting parallel finger rods **11** which, for example, may be about three inches in length and formed of plated spring steel. These finger rods are spaced inboard of the end **12** of member **10** from adjacent that end **12** and at their distal ends are provided with plastic ball tips **13** the diameters of which are substantially greater than the diameters of the corresponding finger rods. Preferably the shanks of intermediate finger rods are spaced from each other a short distance, for example 1/64 inch, and with the corresponding finger rods spaced sufficiently far apart to accommodate the thickness of a planar article such as a triangle **14** which normally is about 1/8 inch. The tips **15, 16** of the extreme finger rods, however, preferably touch their adjacent tips and provide for the storing of thin planar articles such as a template **17** having a thickness less than the triangle. All tips are of non-abrasive material thus to prevent scarring of articles inserted therebetween.

Mounted adjacent the end **18** of member **10** and laterally projecting therefrom in generally the same direction as the finger rods, is a wire framework disposed inboard of that end **18** of the member and adapted to provide a support for an open-top receptacle. This framework may include a plurality of wires or rods **19** anchored at one end upon member **10** and with their distal ends joined by a transverse rod **20**. Other transverse rods such as **21** may be employed to give rigidity to the framework. Upon this wire framework an open top receptacle formed of plastic or other lightweight material and having a peripheral shoulder **22, 23, 24, 25** with a groove on the underside thereof, is mounted. This groove is adapted to provide a snap locking of the shoulder upon the extreme rods **19** and upon the transverse rods **20, 21**, as best seen in FIG. 3.

The receptacle is sufficiently long to accommodate the storing of pencils and the like and includes a plurality of parallel semi-cylindrical pockets closed at their ends by semi-circular walls as indicated at **26, 27**, and which walls prevent the longitudinal slipping of articles from the compartment when the assembly is tilted. For additional rigidity the bridging sections between the pockets may rest upon intermediate wires **19A** as shown in FIG. 3.

Attached to member **10** at a central location and projecting generally normal thereto is an elevating rod **30**, the lower end of which is housed in a tube **31** for telescopic movement therein. As seen in FIG. 2, a compression type fitting **32** threadedly engages the upper end of the tube and is adapted to force a packing **33** into a friction fit with the rod **30** in order to hold the rod at a desired elevation. At its lower end the tube is attached to a split clamp **34** bearing against a flat disc **35** upstanding from a rotatable bushing **36**. This bushing is journalled for movement about a stationary pin **37** which is rigidly attached to the upper face of a U-shaped clamp **38**

adapted to be engaged upon the edge of a conventional drafting table T and secured in position by the head **39** of a clamping screw **40**. An adjustable screw **41** joining the two sections of the split clamp **34** serves to hold tube **31** and the superstructure supported thereby at the selected inclination in a vertical plane. Other swivel mounting means may, of course, be employed without departing from my invention.

As will now be apparent, the storage assembly may be mounted at any convenient location at the edge of table T where it will not interfere with a T-square, a lighting means, or the like, and where it will be in ready reach of the draftsman. The rod **30** is raised to a selected position and clamped by fitting **32**; the tube **31** is inclined to a desired angle and clamped with screw **41**; and the bushing **36** is rotated to a position at which the receptacle and finger rods extend generally toward the draftsman. As will be noted, the weight of the assembly and its stored articles exert a binding action between the bushing **36** and the pin **37** which prevents undesired rotation of the assembly, but which permits a conscious rotation of the same when the user so desires. Upon completing the adjustment of the assembly to its most convenient setting the draftsman places pencils, erasers, compasses and the like in the receptacle pockets and stores the planar apertured article between the finger rod. These articles thus are displayed in a manner whereby they are readily distinguishable.

Having thus described a preferred form of coordinated apparatus by means of which the invention is practiced, it will be understood that the invention may be embodied in other forms without departing from the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A storage assembly for draftsman's articles or the like comprising an elongated member, a plurality of generally parallel finger rods attached to said member and projecting laterally therefrom, said finger rods having enlarged rounded tips adapted to spring toward and from each other and past which tips apertured flat articles may be pushed for subsequent retention upon said assembly by the tips of corresponding finger rods springing into the apertures of said flat articles, an elevating rod extending generally normal to said member and attached thereto at a central location on said member, a tube into which said elevating rod extends for telescoping movement therein, means for clamping said elevating rod in selected position with respect to said tube, means for mounting said assembly upon a draftsman's table, and swivel means connecting said mounting means and said tube and providing rotational adjustment of said tube with respect to said mounting means.

2. An assembly as defined in claim **1** wherein the tips of at least two adjacent finger rods are normally in contact with each other.

3. A storage assembly for draftsman's articles or the like comprising an elongated member, a plurality of generally parallel finger rods attached to said member adjacent one end thereof and projecting laterally therefrom, said finger rods having enlarged rounded tips adapted to spring toward and from each other and past which tips apertured flat articles may be pushed for subsequent retention upon said assembly by the tips of corresponding finger rods springing into the apertures of said flat articles, an open-top receptacle for pencils or other small nonplanar articles mounted upon said member adjacent the other end thereof and projecting laterally therefrom, an elevating rod extending generally normal to said member and attached thereto intermediate said finger rods and said receptacle, a tube into which said elevating rod extends for telescoping movement therein, means for clamping said elevating rod in selected position with respect to said tube, means for mounting said assembly upon a draftsman's table, and swivel means connecting said mounting means and said tube and providing rotational adjustment of said tube with respect to said mounting means.

4. An assembly as defined in claim **3** wherein said receptacle comprises a plurality of side-by-side semicylindrical pockets having end walls at each end of said pockets.

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