Jan. 7, 1964 C. E. SPRINGER 3,116,527

TOILET SEAT COVER CLAMP

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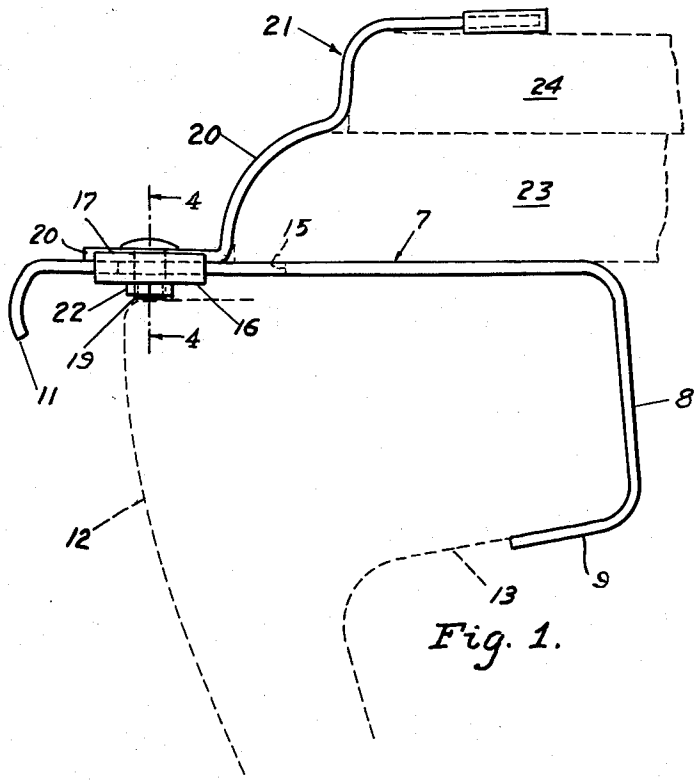


Fig. 1.

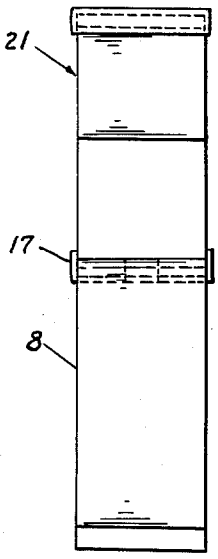


Fig. 2.

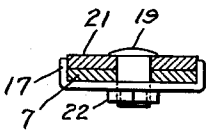


Fig. 4.

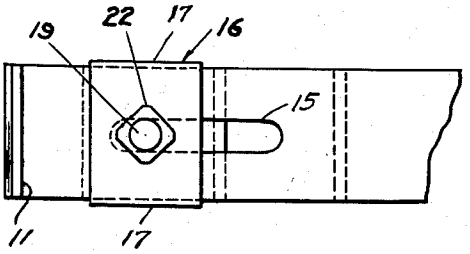


Fig. 3.

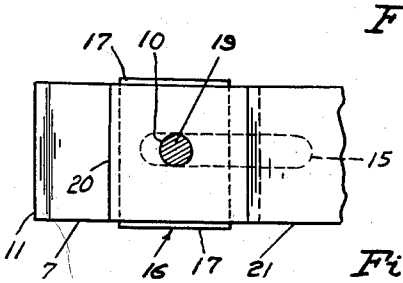


Fig. 5.

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TOILET SEAT COVER CLAMP

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This invention relates to a toilet seat cover clamp for preventing unauthorized persons from using toilet seats.

The invention comprises, as a new article of manufacture, a device for clamping, in their down-swung position, a toilet seat and its cover, it being possible to manufacture said device at a low cost mostly from stock materials.

The device comprises two main parts, a body portion applicable to the front part of the rim portion of a conventional toilet bowl, and an auxiliary clamping member adjustably attached to said body portion so that it can exert a clamping action upon a down-swung toilet seat and its cover.

It is an object of the invention to improve upon articles of its class by simplifying structure and reducing cost of manufacture.

Other objects, advantages and features of invention will hereinafter appear.

Referring to the accompanying drawing, illustrative of a preferred reduced to practice embodiment of the invention,

FIG. 1 is a side elevation of the complete device in its operative position applied to a conventional toilet bowl with its seat and cover in down-swung position, dotted lines outlining portions of said bowl, seat and cover.

FIG. 2 is an end elevation of the device looking from right to left in relation to FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is a bottom plan view of the left hand portion of the device as viewed in FIG. 1.

FIG. 4 is a vertical cross-section on line 4—4 of FIG. 1.

FIG. 5 is a plan view of the structure shown in FIG. 4.

Referring in detail to the drawing, the body portion of the device consists of a rectangularly hook shaped metal strap having a straight, horizontal (when in use) top run **7**, downwardly directed rear run **8**, and a relatively short downwardly and forwardly directed lower rear run **9**. The run **8** is preferably and as shown, connected with the runs above and below it by means of short arcuate bends.

At its front end the strap run **7** has a relatively short, downwardly directed terminal part **11** which is slightly arched away from the toilet bowl and forms a convenient handle usable to draw the device forwardly to its operative position.

In FIG. 1 broken lines delineate the upper front portion of a conventional toilet bowl **12** having an internal rim flange **13**. In this view the device is shown with its rear hooked portion engaging the back side of said bowl flange **13**, rearwardly of which it was placed before the device was pulled forwardly to the operative position of its body portion.

The front part of the strap run **7** is provided along its mid-width with a longitudinal slot **15**, and this portion of the strap has slidably fitted to it a clip or partial sleeve **16** having side flanges **17** which upstand and are somewhat wider than the thickness of the strap run **7**. Said clip **16** has a central bolt hole which receives a bolt **19** that passes through a bolt hole in the foot portion **20** of a strap iron clamping member **21**, a nut **22** carried by said

bolt clamping the parts together in their operative positions. Said foot portion **20** fits closely between the flanges **17** thus, stabilizing, holding the clamping member in its operative position.

The clamping strap **21**, like the remaining strap portions of the device, is bent in a flatwise manner to the desired shape, and it is so contoured as to fit snugly over the front edge portions of the down swung seat **23** and cover **24** when the device is in the operative position.

The bolt **19** is preferably a screw bolt with a kerf in its head to which a screwdriver may be applied.

The user may proceed in different ways to place the device in its operative position. One way of doing this is, first, with the device disconnected from the toilet bowl, adjust its parts in the relation to each other shown in FIG. 1, except with the clip **16** positioned in an abutting relation to the handle **11**. Then, before swinging down the cover and its seat, place the clamping member **21** in its operative relation to them. Then the seat, cover and abutting device can be swung down to the level shown in FIG. 1. Then it remains to pull the body portion of the device out to the position shown in that view, with the clip loosened and the clamping member **21** kept into contact with the seat and its cover; and finally, by the use of a wrench and screwdriver tightening the nut. It will be seen that, when the device is in its operative position, the slotted portion of the strap run **7** extends a substantial distance beyond the front edge **12** of the associated toilet bowl to ensure that the clamping strap may be slid along said slotted portion a sufficient distance to release the seat and its cover from the clamped condition.

While what is deemed to be a preferred embodiment of the invention has been illustrated and described, yet it is to be understood that various changes may be made within the purview of the appended claims without exceeding the scope of the invention.

I claim:

1. A device of the kind described comprising a body portion consisting of a rigid strap having an upper portion which extends horizontally and a substantial distance beyond the front edge portion of an associated toilet bowl when the device is in its operative position and having a hook portion which at such time fits behind the front portion of the internal flange of the upper part of a conventional toilet bowl, a clamping strap contoured to fit the front portions of a lowered toilet seat and lowered seat cover, and means adjustably securing said clamping strap in an overlying slidable relation to the horizontally extending portion of the first mentioned strap to maintain said seat and cover in lowered position, said securing means comprising a clip slidably adjustable along said horizontal strap portion and means carried by said clip both to clamp it against sliding and to secure said clamping strap to it.

2. The subject matter of claim 1, and said clamping strap being apertured, said horizontal strap portion having through it a longitudinal slot, and said clip being apertured, and a nut-carrying bolt extending through said slot and both the apertures and clamping in adjusted operative position both the clip and the clamping strap.

3. An article of manufacture comprising a substantially rigid strap having an end portion bent in a flatwise manner thus forming a hook portion to fit behind the front portion of the rim flange of a conventional toilet

bowl, said strap having through it adjacent to its opposite end portion a longitudinal slot, a clip slidably mounted upon the slotted portion of said strap and provided with means securing it thereto in a longitudinally adjustable manner, and a clamping strap securable to said clip, said clamping strap being contoured to engage and hold closed a lowered toilet seat and its cover, the securing means for said clip extending through said slot, the slotted portion of said strap being of a sufficient length to extend, when the device is in its operative position, beyond the front edge of an associated bowl to ensure that the clamping strap may be slid therealong far enough to release the seat and cover clamped thereby.

4. The subject matter of claim 3, and said clip forming a partial sleeve around said strap and having through it a bolt hole alining with said slot, there also being a bolt hole through said clamping strap, and a nut-carrying clamping bolt extending through said slot and bolt holes.

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