Apr. 24, 1923 1,452,707

A. D. ROBINSON

HOLDER FOR MEMORANDUM PADS AND THE LIKE

Filed Sept. 19, 1921

Fig. 1.

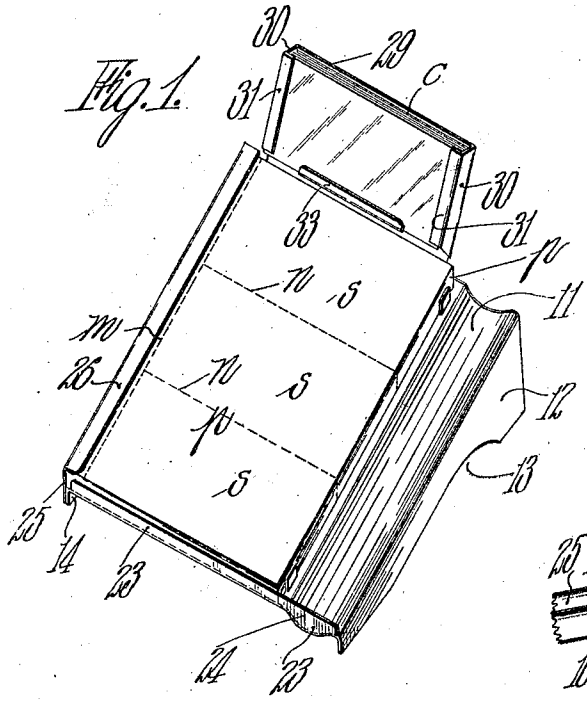


Fig. 3.

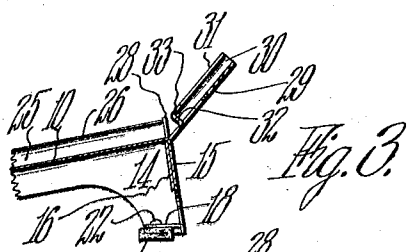


Fig. 4.

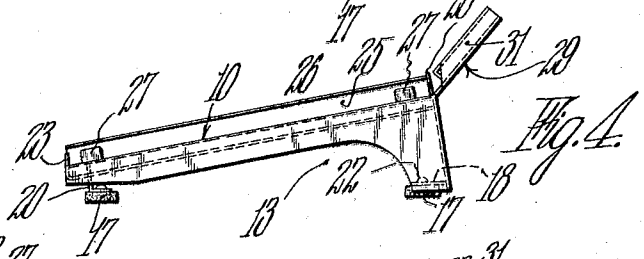


Fig. 2.

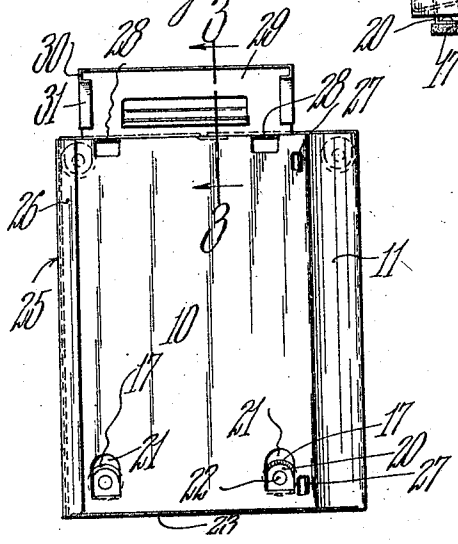
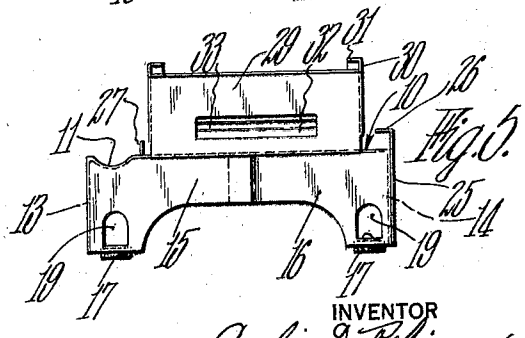


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARCHIE D. ROBINSON, OF WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.

HOLDER FOR MEMORANDUM PADS AND THE LIKE.

Application filed September 19, 1921. Serial No. 501,718.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARCHIE D. ROBINSON, citizen of the United States, residing at Westfield, in the county of Hampden and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Holders for Memorandum Pads and the like, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in holders for memorandum pads and the like, and particularly to devices of this class which are adapted for desk use and adapted to support the pad in a somewhat inclined position so that it may be readily written upon.

The invention has for an object to provide a holder of the type described having a base plate to support the pad, a spring clamping device along one side edge of such plate to frictionally hold the pad, and a tray along the opposite edge of the plate to receive a pencil, pen or the like.

In addition, the invention has for an object to provide stops on the base plate, which in cooperation with the clamping device prevent any substantial movement of the pad on its base plate.

Another object of the invention is to provide, in a holder of the type described, a member upstanding from the back edge of the base plate and arranged to receive a calendar or advertising matter which will thus be displayed at the head of the pad.

A further object of the invention is to provide a holder of the type described which may be struck up from sheet metal.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the following description and in the illustrative embodiment of the invention in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a memorandum pad holder embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a plan view thereof;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary sectional elevational view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a side elevational view of the holder looking from the right hand side of the holder as viewed in Fig. 2; and

Fig. 5 is a rear elevational view of the holder.

Referring to these drawings; the holder, except for the spring clamping device, may be made up from a single piece of sheet metal properly stamped out and bent up into the form shown. The holder includes a flat portion 10 which is substantially coextensive in area with the memorandum pad p to be used and which forms a base plate to support the pad. Along one side of this base plate, the sheet of metal is bent to form a tray or trough 11 of curved cross-section; as shown in Figs. 1 and 5, and beyond this tray, the metal is bent downwardly at right angles to plate 10 to afford a side plate 12. The lower edge of the latter is inclined at an acute angle to its line of intersection with tray 11 and preferably is recessed intermediate its ends as shown at 13. The sheet of metal at the opposite side edge of base plate 10 is similarly bent and similarly cut to afford a corresponding side plate 14 (Fig. 3). Rearward extensions 15 and 16 provided on the side plates 13 and 14 are bent in opposite directions and at right angles to their side plates and together form a back plate for the holder, these two plates being long enough to overlap, as indicated in Fig. 5, and being preferably secured together, as by soldering, brazing or the like. The connected plates 15 and 16 are also preferably recessed intermediate their ends to improve the appearance of the holder, leaving end portions of equal length and of the same length as the adjacent corner portions of the side plates 13 and 14.

The side plates 13 and 14 and the end portions of plates 15 and 16 might of themselves serve to support the base plate 10 in the desired inclined position but preferably, to avoid scratching of the desk or other article on which the holder is placed, feet, such as rubber buttons 17 are provided. These also serve to increase the frictional engagement of the holder with the desk and prevent it from being as readily displaced as it would be otherwise. The buttons at the rear of the holder are fastened to lugs 18 struck out from the metal of the back plate and bent forwardly underneath the base plate 10, leaving the openings 19 shown in Fig. 5. The buttons 17 at the front of the holder are secured to lugs 20 struck up from the base plate 10 and bent downwardly therefrom leaving openings 21 and then rearwardly into substantially right angular form, as best shown in Fig. 4. The buttons 17 may be secured to their respective lugs in any suitable manner, but as shown, each has a small central cylindrical projection 22 on its upper face which projection is forced through an opening in its supporting lug 18 or 20. In

addition, cement is preferably applied to the upper face of each button, whereby each may be caused to adhere to its supporting lug. It is to be particularly noted that the buttons 17 and their supporting lugs are concealed in the space beneath the plate 10 and between the plates 13, 14, 15 and 16.

A small strip 23 of metal is left on the sheet from which the holder is formed which strip projects forwardly from the lower edge of the base plate 10. Such portion is bent upwardly at right angles to the base plate forming a stop to limit the downward movement of pad *p* on base plate 10 and also closing the lower end of tray 11 so as to hold pencils or like articles therein. The strip 23 is originally notched out adjacent the tray forming portion 11 so as to permit it to be bent up from the curved line of intersection with such portion without crinkling the metal, the separated portions being brought into abutment along the line 24.

The clamping device is preferably made up separately from spring metal and consists of a plate 25 the lower portion of which is similar in shape to side plate 14 and is secured in contiguous relation thereto, as by soldering, brazing or the like. The plate, however, extends upwardly above base plate 10 by a distance substantially equal to the thickness of pad *p* and is then bent inwardly at right angles into a position wherein it partially overlies the base plate, thus providing a jaw 26 between which and plate 10, the pad *p* may be received. The plate 25 serves as a stop to prevent substantial side displacement of pad *p* in one direction.

Such displacement of the pad in the opposite direction is prevented by two stops 27 which are struck up from base plate 10 and lie at right angles thereto and closely adjacent tray 11. These stops 27 are spaced from plate 25 by a distance substantially equal to the width of pad *p*. To prevent upward displacement of the latter two stops 28 are struck up from plate 10 in a similar manner adjacent the upper edge thereof and are spaced from stop 23 by a distance substantially equal to the length of pad *p*.

In addition a display member is provided at the head of pad *p* by upturning from the back edge of base plate 10 an integral portion 29 of the sheet metal blank, which is preferably bent to lie at an obtuse angle to the base plate, the better to display material carried on its front face. In many instances, instead of advertising matter mounted on member 29, it is desirable to provide a calendar or the like and for this purpose, end portions 30 on member 29 are bent forwardly at right angles thereto and the ends 31 of such portions bent inwardly toward one another into parallel relation with member 29. Thus, a series of cards *c*, such as those of a perpetual calendar, may be slipped between the jaws 31 and member 29. To support such cards, a ledge 32 is provided by striking up a piece of metal from member 29, which piece is bent forwardly therefrom and into right angular relation therewith. The forward edge of this ledge 32 may be upturned at right angles to form a retaining lip 33 for cards *c*.

While the holder described may be used with any sort of memorandum pad or other article which is adaptable for the purpose, the holder is particularly suitable for those pads which have not only separable sheets but separable sections *s* on each sheet. Thus, pad *p* as shown, consists of a series of sheets, suitably bound together along that edge which is inserted under jaw 26 and each sheet has a line of perforations *m*, or is otherwise weakened along a line adjacent and parallel to the bound edge. Each sheet is also provided with a plurality of transverse lines of perforations *n*, or is otherwise weakened along such lines, dividing it into sections *s* any one of which may be readily torn off when desired.

The pad and holder are especially adapted for desk use and are particularly useful during telephone conversations for jotting down memoranda. For such use only one hand is available and it is desirable that the holder should have sufficient weight or sufficient frictional contact with the desk to prevent it from being readily displaced. The rubber buttons 17 contribute considerably to the attainment of this object. The stops 23, 25, 27 and 28 are likewise important in that they prevent the pad *p* from shifting on the holder and particularly at such times as one of these sections *s* is torn from the pad. In tearing off one of these sections, the user may pull either up or down, as seems most convenient, to sever the section along the line *m* and to sever the section *s* along the line *n*, he may pull either to the right or left. Thus, during the severing operation, forces may be applied in four directions which have a tendency to displace the pad, which tendency is effectually resisted by the stops described. The spring clamping device 26 might of itself be sufficient for this purpose although it is preferred to provide the stops described and allow the clamping device to perform merely its usual function of holding the pad from being lifted from the base plate 10.

The tray 11 provides convenient means for receiving the pen or pencil which is located so as to be conveniently accessible for instant use, when required. The calendar provided in conjunction with the memorandum pad holder is handy to refer to in fixing appointments and so forth and the article as a whole is a very desirable one for the use described.

The invention has been disclosed herein, in an embodiment at present preferred, for

illustrative purposes but the scope of the invention is defined by the appended claims rather than by the foregoing description.

Claims:

1. A holder for memorandum pads and the like, comprising a base member to support the pad, a portion of said member extending beyond one edge of the pad and bent transversely to form a tray for the reception of pencils, pens and the like, means for supporting said base and tray in inclined position, a jaw provided along one edge of said base between which and the latter, one edge of the memorandum pad may be inserted and frictionally held to the base member with all the upper surface of the pad except that immediately adjacent said edge completely exposed, and a lip bent upwardly from the lower edge of the base member to engage the lower edge of said pad and to close the lower end of said tray.

2. A holder for memorandum pads and the like, comprising a base member formed from sheet metal for supporting the pad, integral portions turned downwardly from the side edges of the base member, said portions being wider at their rear than at their forward extremities, means carried by said portions and by said base member for supporting the latter in an inclined position, a plate substantially equal in length to one of said portions secured to the latter, said plate projecting above the base member, and a jaw bent inwardly from said plate and extending throughout the length of the latter, said jaw and the adjacent portion of the base member forming opposite sides of a channel into which one edge of the pad may be inserted and within which the pad may be frictionally held.

3. A holder for memorandum pads and the like, comprising, a base member to support the pad, and formed from sheet metal, portions turned downwardly from the base member to form supporting legs adjacent the back thereof, lugs struck out from said legs and bent inwardly beneath said member, other lugs struck out of the base member near its front edge and bent downwardly therefrom, buttons of rubber or the like secured to said lugs, a plate provided along one side edge of the base member, and a jaw bent inwardly from said plate to partially overlie the base member, the latter and said jaw adapted to receive between them the memorandum pad.

4. A holder for memorandum pads and the like, comprising a base member to support the pad and formed from sheet metal, portions turned downwardly from the base member to form supporting legs adjacent the back thereof, lugs struck out from said legs and bent inwardly beneath said member, other lugs struck out of the base member near its front edge and bent downwardly therefrom, buttons of rubber or the like secured to said lugs, a plate provided along one side edge of the base member, a jaw bent inwardly from said plate to partially overlie the base member, the latter and said jaw adapted to receive between them the memorandum pad, projections struck up from the base member to engage the free edges of the pad to restrain the pad from displacement, and a member formed integrally with the base member and upstanding from the back edge thereof for display purposes.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

ARCHIE D. ROBINSON.