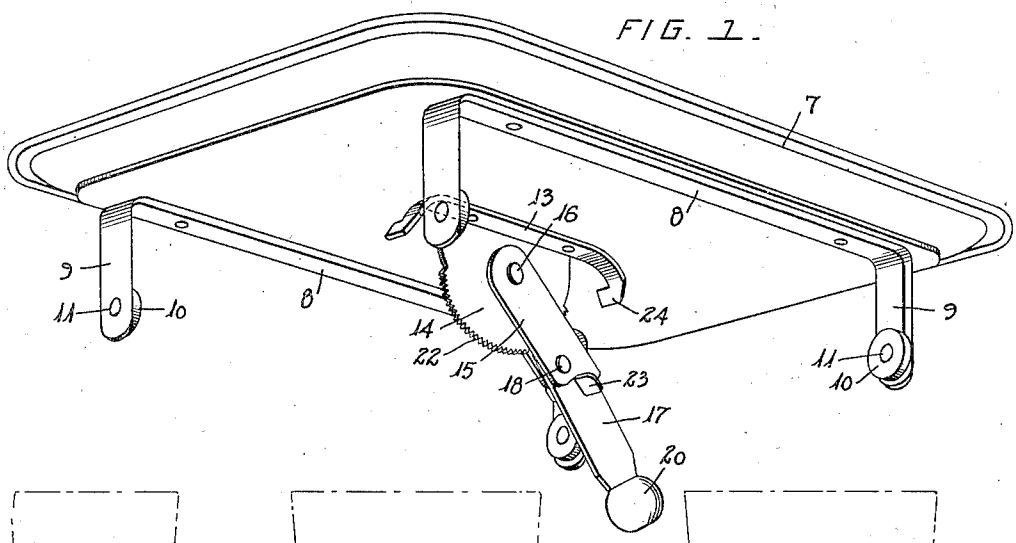
Dec. 3, 1929. M. A. WITTLINGER 1,738,415

CURB SERVICE TRAY

Filed Nov. 21, 1927

FIG. 1.



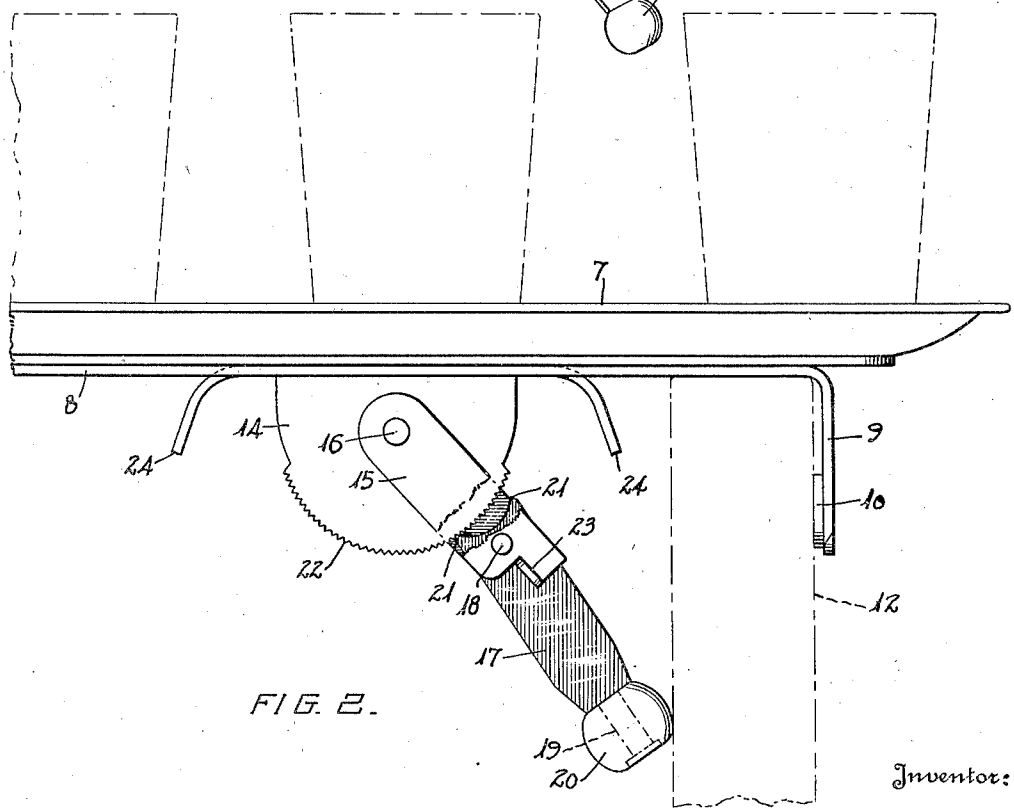


FIG. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CURB-SERVICE TRAY

Application filed November 21, 1927. Serial No. 234,785.

The present invention relates to serving trays, and aims to provide a tray or shelf provided with novel means for supporting it from the door or side wall of an automobile body, or similar support, the tray being intended particularly for "curb service" in order that the occupants of automobiles may be served with lunch and refreshments conveniently without the liability of the tray tilting or overturning.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, which will be apparent as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the construction and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes can be made within the scope of what is claimed, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved curb service tray.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof, portions broken away.

Any suitable tray or shelf 7 may be employed, and bars 8 are riveted or otherwise secured to the lower surface of the tray and have depending terminals 9 to which are secured rubber disks or cushions 10, by means of rivets 11. There are a pair of depending terminals 9 at each end of the tray, in order that the tray may be supported in reversed positions, and either pair of terminal portions 9 may extend downwardly at one side of the door or side wall 12 of an automobile body or other similar support, as seen in Fig. 2. The cushions 10 prevent injury to the finish of the support, and the bars 8 which extend across the support also stiffen the tray.

A flange 13 of a depending plate 14 is riveted or otherwise secured to the lower surface of the tray 7 between the bars 8, and a pair of arms 15 is pivoted, as at 16, to the plate 14, with the arms at opposite sides of said plate. An arm 17 is pivoted, as at 18, between the free terminals of the arms 15, and constitutes with said arms 15 a brace for bracing the tray or shelf from the support. The arm 17 has a reduced free terminal 19 on which a ball or knob 20 of rubber or other equivalent material is secured, to contact with the surface of the support 12 opposite to the portions 9, as seen in Fig. 2. The brace may be swung on the pivot 16 toward opposite ends of the tray, and the inner end of the arm 17 has dogs 21 to alternately engage an arcuate series of teeth or notches 22 with which the plate 14 is provided. The arms 15 are provided with outstanding finger pieces 23 for conveniently swinging the brace in either direction.

When the brace is straightened out, the dogs 21 are free from the teeth 22, thereby permitting the brace to swing freely in either direction. When the tray is placed on the support, as seen in Fig. 2, with one pair of hook portions or members 9 bearing against one side of the support, the brace may be swung against the support by pushing on the finger pieces 23. When the knob 20 contacts with the support further pressure on the finger pieces 23 will break the brace, to bring the corresponding dog 21 into engagement with one of the teeth or notches 22, as seen in Fig. 2, thereby preventing the brace from swinging away from the support, and the brace will therefore support the tray firmly in place. Lunch and refreshments may thus be served to patrons while they are seated within an automobile, known as "curb service".

The brace supports the weight of the tray and objects thereon, and to remove the tray it is only necessary to raise the end thereof opposite to the support, thereby permitting the tray to be lifted from the support. The brace may then be straightened out to disengage it from the teeth 22.

The brace is mounted midway between the opposite ends of the tray, so that the tray may be used in reversed positions. The flange 13 has its terminals extended into stops 24 in the path of the arm 17, so that when the brace is swung toward either end of the tray, the arm 17 contacting with the corresponding stop 24 will break the brace and cause the corresponding dog 21 to engage the plate 14 to hold the brace in idle or folded position.

The parts 8, 14, 15 and 17 may be of sheet metal, and the several parts are readily manu-

factured and applied to different trays or shelves.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:—

1. A tray having means to bear against one side of a support, a plate depending from the tray and having teeth, and a brace pivoted to said plate and constituting pivotally connected arms, one of which is adapted to contact with the opposite side of said support, said arm having a dog to engage said teeth when said arms are swung relatively to one another, so as to prevent the brace swinging away from the support.

2. A tray having opposite means engaging, in reversed positions of the tray, against one side of a support, a plate depending from the tray between said means and having an arcuate series of teeth, and a brace pivoted to said plate and comprising pivotally connected arms, one of which is adapted to contact with the opposite side of the support, said arm having dogs to engage said teeth when said arm in swung in opposite directions from a straight line position with the other arm.

3. A tray, bars secured to the lower surface thereof and having opposite depending terminal portions to bear against one side of a support, and a brace pivotally connected with the tray at a point between said terminal portions and adapted to swing in opposite directions for cooperation with either pair of said terminal portions and to contact with the opposite side of the support.

4. A tray having means to bear against one side of a support a brace pivotally connected with the tray and having a portion to contact with the opposite side of the support, and an arcuate toothed portion carried by the tray, said brace having a dog to engage said toothed portion.

5 A tray having means to bear against one side of a support, a brace comprising pivotally connected arms, one of which is pivotally connected with the tray, the other arm having a portion to contact with the opposite side of said support, and an arcuate toothed portion carried by the tray, the lastnamed arm having a dog to engage said toothed portion when said arms are swung relatively to one another.

6. A tray having opposite depending portions either of which is adapted to bear against one side of a support, and reversible bracing means carried by the tray between said portions for contacting with the opposite side of the support, and cooperating with either of said depending portions to mount said tray on said support.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

MAX A. WITTLINGER.