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2,643,046

MULTIPLE UTILITY CLAMP AND BRACKET

Filed Jan. 13, 1949

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

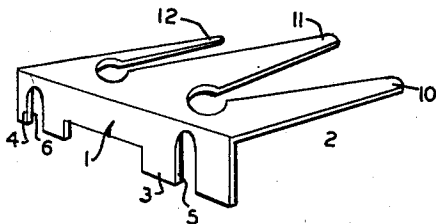


FIG. 1

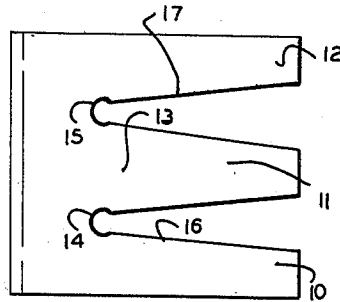


FIG. 2



FIG. 3

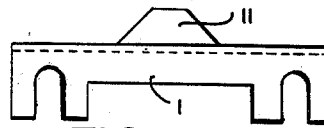


FIG. 4

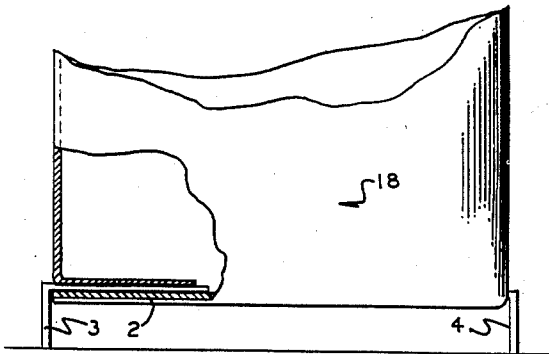


FIG. 5

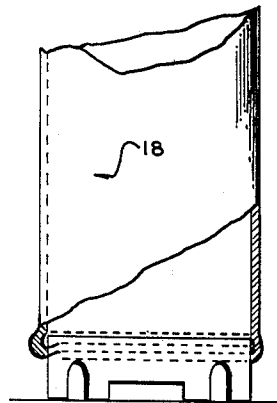


FIG. 6

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

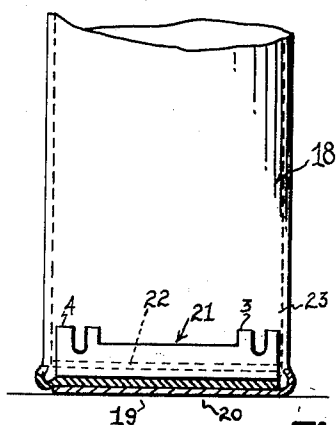


FIG. 7

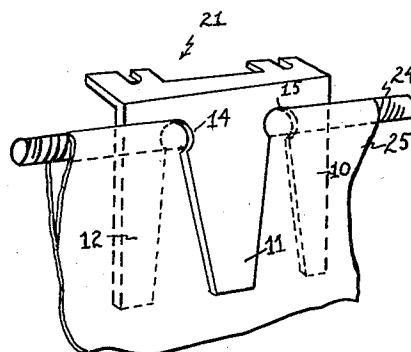


FIG. 8

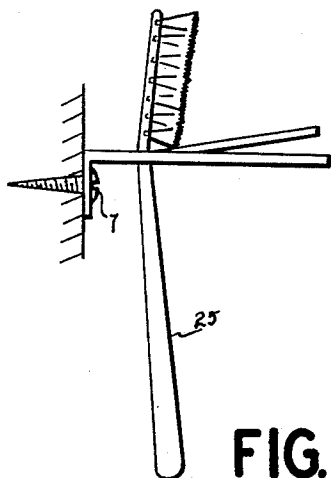


FIG. 9

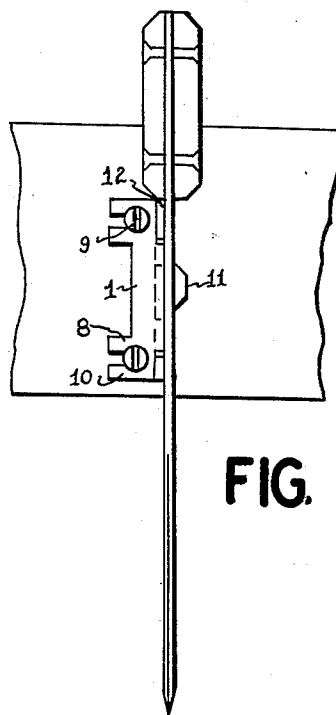


FIG. 10

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MULTIPLE UTILITY CLAMP AND BRACKET

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2 Claims. (CL 229—6)

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The present invention relates to an article of manufacture which has various utilities of different associations which makes it difficult to assign a more accurate name than perhaps a multiple utility holder, clamp and bracket. The device according to the present invention may be used to raise containers off a surface such as a shelf or the like, so that the bottom of the container will not come in contact with the supporting surface. This is particularly useful for such containers holding soap powders or like water soluble substances which normally are kept on stands or where the containers may come in contact with wet surfaces. In such cases, the article of the present invention is used to stand the carton or container away from the surface such that when the surface becomes wet, the bottom of the container may still remain dry. Uses for other types of similar packaged material is also contemplated under the present invention.

Besides this, the article of manufacture may be used as a small bracket for a holder of such things as knives, toothbrushes, or the like. In this case, the bracket is provided with slots by means of which it may be fastened to a wall through the use of proper screws.

The present invention, in addition to the above uses, may be used as a clothespin on a line. It is further to be understood that other possible uses of the article of manufacture herein described are contemplated and that therefore the enumeration of the above uses should not be construed as a limitation for the use of the article of manufacture according to the present invention. For want of more definite means of definition in the spirit of the foregoing description, and for the purpose of classification, the device may generally be considered as coming under the classification of supporting brackets, angle brackets or holders for supporting various articles.

Without further describing the merits and advantages of the present invention, the invention will be described in connection with the drawings annexed hereto in which Figure 1 shows the article of the present invention in a perspective view. Figure 2 shows a plan elevation of the article shown in Figure 1 as viewed from the top. Figure 3 shows a side elevation of the same article. Figure 4 shows an end elevation as viewed from the left side of Figure 2. Figure 5 shows the article of Figure 1 as applied to a container, the container being partly shown in section. Figure 6 shows an end view of the combination of Figure 5 in fragmentary section. Figure

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7 shows an end view in fragmentary section with the stand or bracket inserted in the container prior to its use in the normal way. Figure 8 shows the bracket in perspective view as used on a clothesline. Figure 9 shows a side elevation of the bracket as used for a toothbrush holder, and Figure 10 shows a view of the bracket as used as a knife holder.

In the device as shown in the figures above, the article indicated in Figures 1 to 4 shows in general an angle bracket having a vertical section 1 and a substantially horizontal section 2, as referred to the position of Figure 1 in the drawings. It is to be understood that the bracket may be used in a horizontal, vertical, or an inclined position. The side has at its ends two extending legs 3 and 4 in each of which there may be provided slots 5 and 6 by means of which the bracket may be attached to a wall or surface with screws as indicated by 7, 8, and 9 (Figures 9 and 10) passing through the slots within an enlarged head on the inside. The horizontal portion 2 of the bracket is preferably formed with three fingers 10, 11, and 12 with the central member 11 inclined at a different angle from the outside elements 10 and 12. This angle is not definitely fixed, but should be of the order of 10 to possibly 30 degrees. The three prongs or fingers 10, 11, and 12, as indicated in Figure 2, form somewhat the shape of the letter W. The central member 11 is preferably tapered from the end outward to a base region 13 and terminates in similar curves 14 and 15 curving around to meet the inner edges 16 and 17 of side fingers or prongs. The curves 14 and 15 may be substantially circular sectors and the distance across at the entrance of these curves may be less than their diameter, so that a line linking into the circle will retain its position and act as a clamp as will be explained later.

The article described may be made of various kinds of material as for instance metal, wood, paper, plastic, or a combination of elements, plastic, metal, and wood being preferred over paper for general uses where strength is required. The article must also have some spring resilience and it must be possible for the ordinary individual to bend the middle tongue 11 in alignment with the outer prongs so that the top portion 2 as a whole may be slid between the closing cover and the edge walls or inner cover of a container. An illustration of the use of the supporting bracket in this way is shown in Figures 5, 6, and 7. The bracket may be dis-

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pensed with the container, and in this case would hold in the container as indicated in Figure 7. The container here is shown as 18 with closed bottom flaps 19 and 20. The bracket or support 21 is attached to the container by sliding the section corresponding to the section 2 in Figure 1 between the edge 22 of the container and the closing flap 19, with the legs 3 and 4 directed upwards against the side wall 23 of the container.

When the housewife purchases the article which may be soap powder or some detergent or the like, it is purchased with the bracket in position, as indicated in Figure 7. When she gets ready to use the package, she pulls out the bracket 21 and inserts it in the same side again with the legs 3 and 4 however directed downward as indicated in Figures 5 and 6. One bracket would be placed on each side of the container so that the package would stand in a position as shown with the bottom off the floor.

In Figure 8, the article is shown as used as a clothespin on a line. When the contents of the package has been used up, it may be thrown away and the bracket saved and used for various purposes, one convenient use being that mentioned just above. Used as a clothespin, the pin would envelop the line 24 over which a fabric 25, as shown in Figure 8, may be draped or supported. The pin 21 will in this case be forced down over the line and the cloth until the central tongue 11 is on one side of the article of clothing or cloth, and the other pins 10 and 12 on the other side. The line itself will thread through one circular recess 14 in one direction, and the other 15 in the other direction, and in this way will clamp the article 25 tightly to the line or rope.

When used as a toothbrush holder, as indicated in Figure 9, the toothbrush 25 will be supported in the circular openings 14 and 15. The toothbrush may be inserted sideways and then turned in a forward direction to lock it securely in the holder.

For use as a holder for a knife, the bracket may

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be arranged with the wall section 1 vertical. In this case, the knife will be passed down between the central tongue 11 on one side and the other tongues 10 and 12 on the other side. The bracket may also be used for a tool holder or for holding other kitchen utensils or other articles.

Having now described my invention, I claim:

1. In combination with a container having a closure on one side providing a cover flap, a supporting stand for raising said container from a supporting surface comprising a pair of bracket members each having a set of long prongs extending substantially in the same direction and short thin leg elements in a plane at right angles to said prongs, said brackets being initially attached to said container with the leg elements inserted between the container and cover flap, and the long prongs extending along the sides of the container flush thereto, said bracket being adapted to be removed from the container and serve as a support therefor with long prongs inserted between the container and cover flap at the side edges of the container and the legs projecting outwards and downwards from said side edges at each side of the container whereby said container is raised from the supporting surface.

2. An arrangement as set forth in claim 1, in which said supporting bracket has three long spring prongs, one set slightly out of the plane of the other two and a short plate at right angles to the prongs with slots extending in from the edge of the plate towards the vertex of the right angle.

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