Jan. 18, 1927. 1,614,740

J. L. LEE

SHIPPING AND DISPLAY DEVICE FOR SILVERWARE, ETC

Filed June 9, 1922

Fig. 1,

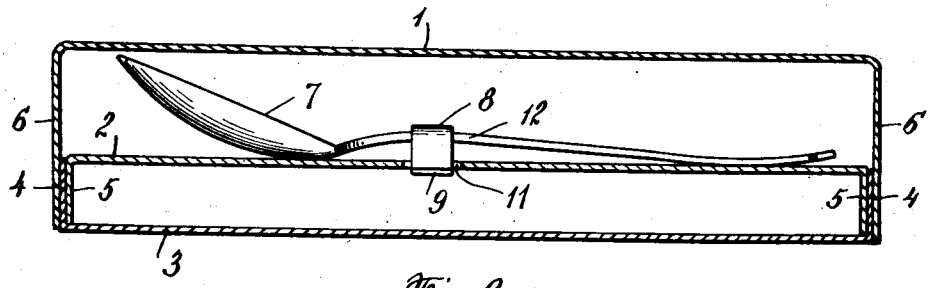


Fig. 2,

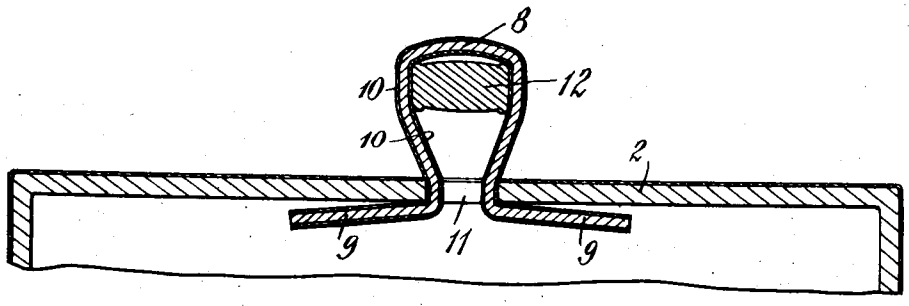


Fig. 3,

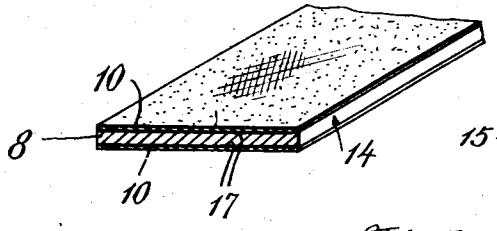


Fig. 4,

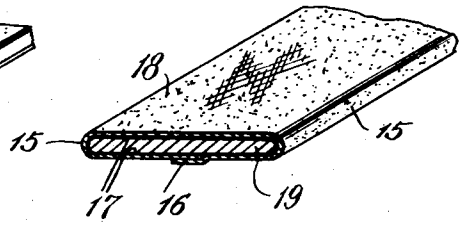
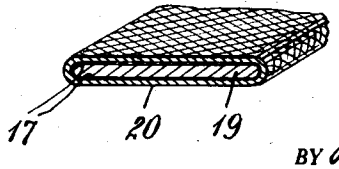


Fig. 5,



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Patented Jan. 18, 1927. 1,614,740

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SHIPPING AND DISPLAY DEVICE FOR SILVERWARE, ETC.

Application filed June 9, 1922. Serial No. 567,094.

This invention relates especially to shipping and display devices for spoons, forks and other silverware or other articles and may comprise a support of cardboard or other paper board, etc. in which one or more slots are formed so as to accommodate the securing clips which may be bent around the handle or other portion of the silverware or other article and then after inserting the clip ends through the slot in the support they may be spread apart on the other side to form retaining ends securely holding the article in position during shipment and sale, for example. The clip is preferably formed with a flexible metallic body such as sheet tin, brass, German silver, etc. to which is preferably secured on one or both sides a colored fabric or other facing which may be of the same color and even texture, if desired, as the usual fabric lining on the support so as to give the clip the appearance of a ribbon, for example. This facing fabric is preferably adhesively secured to both sides of the sheet metal clip so that on the inner side thereof where the facing is forced against the one or more superimposed articles held by the clip, it has a cushioning action preventing or minimizing undesirable rubbing such as might injure the polish or finish of the articles. The support may of course be provided with a top or other cooperating members so as to form a box for the articles, if desired, and any suitable number of articles may of course be secured to the support by such clips either in superimposed or separated position.

In the accompanying drawing showing in a somewhat diagrammatic way illustrative embodiments of this invention:

Fig. 1 is a longitudinal sectional view through an illustrative form of display device.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged transverse section through the support and adjacent parts and Figs. 3, 4 and 5 are enlarged diagrammatic sectional views showing different forms of clips.

The support 2 on which the articles may be secured may, as indicated in Figs. 1 and 2, be provided with a facing fabric of satin or other cloth, colored paper or other suitable material which may be adhesively or otherwise secured to the support and extend around the connected side portions 5 thereof. One or more slots such as 11 may be formed in this support so spaced as to properly cooperate with the articles such as the handle 12 of the spoon 7 indicated in Fig. 1. The support may if desired be arranged within a bottom member 3 having the integral or other sizes 4 of paste board etc. and a top 1 stamped up out of similar material may have its side piece so arranged as to fit the other parts of the device and be thereby retained in position during shipment.

As is shown more in detail in Fig. 2 the securing clips may be bent up out of a single piece of flexible sheet metal so that the bend 8 encloses the cooperating portion of the article 12 before the ends of the clip after extending through the slot 11 in the support are bent apart so as to form the spread retaining ends 9. Of course when the clip is put in place it is preferably forced down toward the adjacent portion of the support 2 which is thus bent up and retained in this bent position by the clip ends so as to yieldingly and resiliently hold the lower portions of the article in contact with the support. This action is of course of considerable importance in preventing undesirable working or movement of the articles in connection with the comparatively firm, tight grip on the one or more articles which is secured by the cooperating sides or portions of the clip.

These securing clips preferably comprise a metallic clip body such as 8 shown in Fig. 3 to which may be adhesively secured one or more layers of non-staining colored facing material or fabric which may be secured thereto as by the interposed layers 17 of any suitable adhesive, preferably of a non-staining or sulphur free character so as not to undesirably stain the portions of the silverware articles which they engage. This clip material may be made up by forming such faced sheets of sheet tin, German silver or other suitable reasonably flexible material and then slitting or cutting the material into strips having the desired width and length, the exposed edges 14 usually being so narrow as not to be greatly objectionable because of their uncovered condition where the color of the facing fabric is not too strongly contrasting. If desired, however, a round edge metallic strip 19 may be used to form these clips and may, as indicated in Fig. 4, have the colored or other facing fabric 18 folded around the strip and more or less adhesively secured

thereto, especially at and adjacent the overlapping edges 16 of the facing, although of course, the adhesive 17 may extend throughout these surfaces, if desired. In this way the clip material has desirable rounded edges 15, covered by this same facing fabric or material and the doubled overlapping inner edges of the fabric at 16 are desirable because they furnish an increased thickness of yielding cushioning material on the inside of the bent securing clip where it engages the silverware or other articles. It is not, however, necessary in all cases to have a cloth or paper fabric facing on the metallic clip body since in some cases the clip may be stained or coated with suitable flexible enamel paint or other coloring material, preferably of such shade as to substantially match the color of the support with which the clips are to be used and in such cases a narrow tape or cord may sometimes be adhesively secured to the inner surface of the bent clip at about the point 16 where special cushioning action seems desirable. Of course when the articles have been sold to the ultimate purchaser these clips may be readily disengaged and withdrawn from the slots in the support so as to release the articles therefrom and in many cases by merely pulling the articles upward forcibly away from the support, which bends the clip ends or tears them out of the supporting paper board so as to instantly release the articles. In the Fig. 5 form of clip a similar round edge clip body 19 may be used and may be covered by braided fabric 20 of any suitable material such as silk, cotton, etc., of the desired color. This fabric may be applied to the clip body in a suitable braiding machine which forms and closely applies the braided covering which may also if desired be adhesively secured to the metallic strip or clip body 19 as by any suitable adhesive 17 applied to the strip body before the covering is braided thereon. If desired the adhesive may be allowed to dry or harden before braiding the covering on the strip and then by heating or steam processes the adhesive may be sufficiently softened to become active and thereupon strongly secure the fabric covering in position. Lengths of this braided covered clip material may be formed in this way and may then be cut up into the desired lengths for use in passing around the articles and through or around any desired portions of the article support in any suitable way. Where for instance the braided clip is applied in the general way shown in Fig. 2 the braided ends of the fabric covering do not usually unravel or loosen to an undesirable extent during the application and of course these ends are out of sight so that only the undisturbed fabric covering near the middle of the clip is visible.

This invention has been described in connection with a number of illustrative embodiments, forms, proportions, parts and methods of construction and use, to the details of which disclosure the invention is not of course to be limited since

What is claimed as new and what is desired to be secured by Letters Patent is set forth in the appended claim.

A support for an article of flat tableware in combination with a transparent sealing envelope enclosing the support and article, and a flexible clip carried by the article and detachably connecting the article to the carrier, the surface of the clip next the article being such as to avoid discoloration or tarnishing of the latter by contact therewith.

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