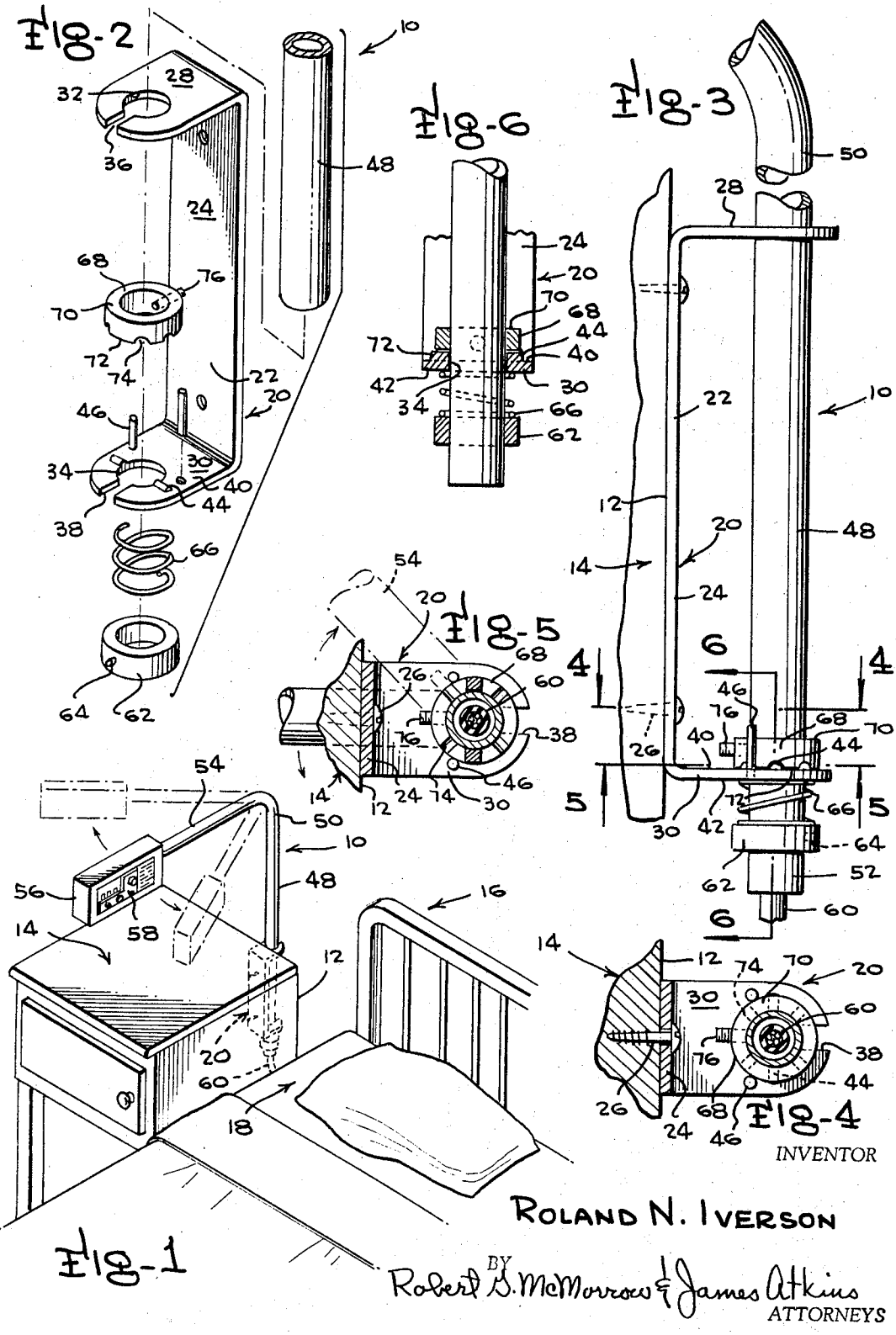
Jan. 21, 1969 R. N. IVERSON 3,423,057

BRACKETS FOR MOUNTING ON A BEDSIDE TABLE OR THE LIKE

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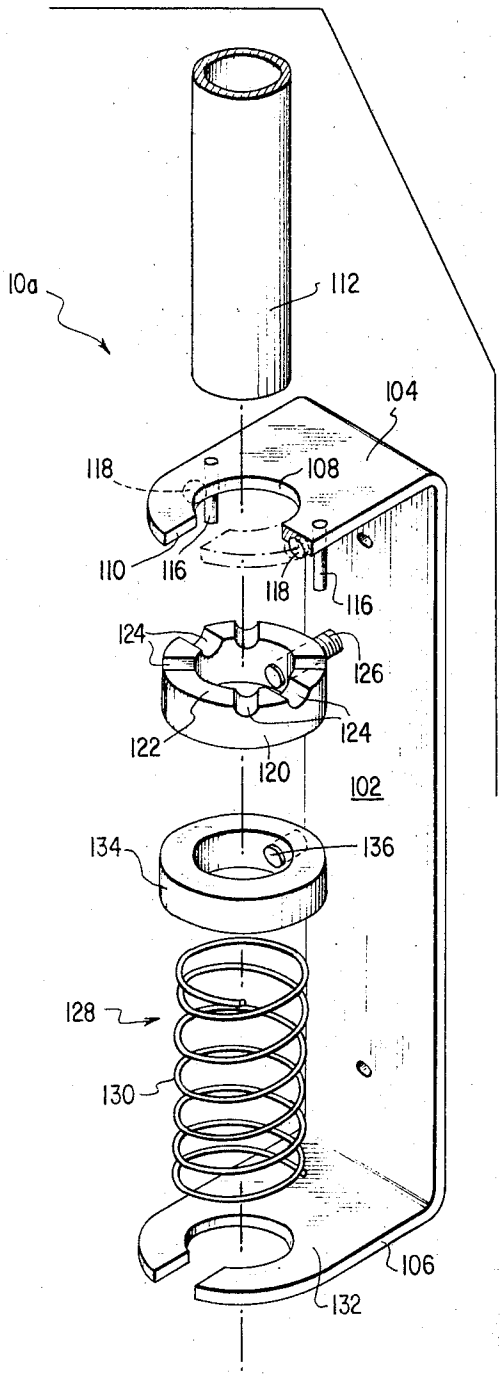


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BRACKETS FOR MOUNTING ON A BEDSIDE TABLE OR THE LIKE

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FIG. 7



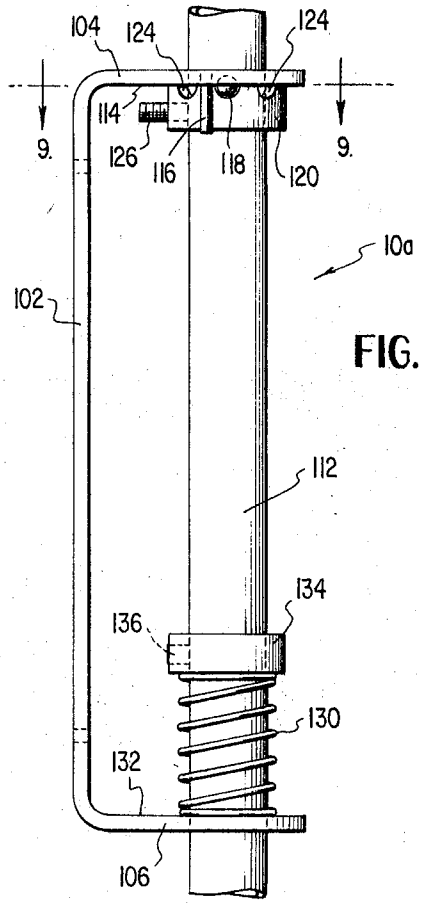


FIG. 8

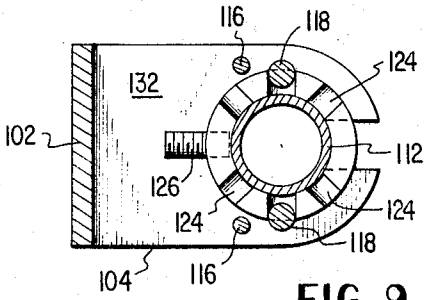


FIG. 9

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3,423,057

Patented Jan. 21, 1969

3,423,057

BRACKETS FOR MOUNTING ON A BEDSIDE TABLE OR THE LIKE

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Continuation-in-part of application Ser. No. 458,200, May 24, 1965. This application Jan. 27, 1967, Ser. No. 629,041

U.S. Cl. 248—296 2 Claims

Int. Cl. A47f 5/13

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Brackets for mounting of communications equipment or the like including a rod-type support, the bracket and rod being pivotally related to one another and the bracket having spring-biased detent means for holding the rod in selected relation to the bracket.

Cross reference to related application

This application is a continuation-in-part of prior United States application Ser. No. 458,200, filed May 24, 1965, and now abandoned.

Background of the invention

Field of the invention.—This invention pertains to a bracket, and more specifically to a new and novel communication unit in the nature of a "nurse call," embodying a bracket assembly in combination with a vertical support and an electrical communication unit.

Description of the prior art.—It has been previous practice in hospitals, nursing homes, and similar establishments, to provide communication units in patient's quarters in proximity to beds, the units usually being imbedded in a wall adjacent the bed in fixed location. Wall mounted units require that the bed be positioned with its head portion adjacent thereto, and access for servicing, repair, or replacement is difficult.

Summary of the invention

It is an objective of the present invention to provide a call unit and brackets of a construction such that the unit is adapted for convenient positioning adjacent the head portion of the bed, but is readily removed from that position when desired. Another object is to supply units as aforesaid adapted for attachment to a bedside table or the like, whereby the unit may be positioned at any convenient location within a room.

Another objective of importance herein resides in the provision of laterally swingable supports, including a bracket with changeable stop means, the bracket including spring means to maintain the support in selected position. A related advantage is the provision of stop means of the type described which is yieldable on impact to prevent damage thereto.

A still further object is to provide a laterally swingable support, and means to prevent full rotation of the support. By this expedient, twisting and/or breakage of electrical lines associated with the support is avoided.

Additional objects include the provision of a bracket of the type described supra which is noncomplex in construction and assembly, inexpensive to manufacture, and durable in use.

Other and further objects and advantages of the present invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art upon consideration of the following specification when read in conjunction with the annexed drawings.

Brief description of the drawings

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of a bracket and call unit constructed and assembled in accordance with the teachings of this invention;

FIGURE 2 is an enlarged, disassembled perspective view of the bracket hereof;

FIGURE 3 is an enlarged side elevational view of the apparatus, foreshortened;

FIGURE 4 is a detail sectional view, taken substantially on the section 4—4 of FIGURE 3, looking in the direction of the arrows;

FIGURE 5 is another detail view, in cross section on line 5—5 of FIGURE 3, looking in the direction of the arrows;

FIGURE 6 is a sectional view showing details on line 6—6 of FIGURE 3, looking in the direction of the arrows;

FIGURE 7 is a disassembled perspective view of a modified form of the invention wherein the elements are oriented in a manner somewhat varied from FIGURES 1 through 6;

FIGURE 8 is an elevational view of the arrangement of elements of FIGURE 7 in assembled condition; and

FIGURE 9 is a sectional view on the line 9—9 of FIGURE 8, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Description of the preferred embodiments

With more specific reference to FIGURES 1 through 6 of the drawing, the overall unit hereof is generally characterized by reference numeral **10** therein. The unit **10** is, as set forth above, adapted specifically for application to an upright support **12**, such as the side of a bedside table **14**. The table **14** is located adjacent a bed **16** and preferably at a convenient position near the head **18** thereof.

The unit **10** comprises a mounting bracket assembly **20** including a substantially U-shaped main body portion **22** having an elongated, substantially rectangular back plate **24** attached in vertically extending attitude to the side **12** of the table by screws **26**, or the like. Upper and lower arms **28**, **30**, respectively, extend from the ends of the plate, and the arms have coaxial openings **32**, **34** formed therein, each having an entry slot **36** and **38**.

The lower arm **30** has opposite top and bottom faces **40**, **42**, and substantially semicylindrical ridge members **44** project upwardly from the face **40** at lateral, diametrically opposite locations on each side of the opening **34**. A pair of substantially cylindrical, upright posts **46** project upwardly from the face **40** at locations between the ridge members **44** and the body portion **22**, for a purpose described below.

The unit further comprises an elongated, tubular, substantially cylindrical, hollow rod **48** having an upper end portion **50** and lower end portion **52**. A lateral arm **54** also of hollow form, is fixed either integrally or otherwise to the upper end portion **50** and has a rectangular housing **56** at its outer end containing electrically powered communications equipment **58**. An electrical cord **60** extends from the equipment **58** through the arm **54** and rod **48** for connection in a communications system or network (not shown). As indicated in FIGURES 1 and 5, the arm and rod are swingable in the bracket to selected locations, the swinging movement being limited as hereinafter set forth.

An annular base collar **62** is connected about the end **52** of the rod **48** and maintained thereat by a transverse set screw **64**, and a coil spring **66** is retained between the base collar and the roller face **42** of the arm **30**. An annular stop collar **68** is mounted on the rod **48** between the arms **28** and **30** and has upper and lower sides **70** and **72** respectively. The collar side **72** has a plurality

of spaced apart, radially arranged grooves **74** therein, positioned in diametric pairs, selectively engageable on the ridge members **44** of the arm face **40**.

The spring **66** urges the rod **48** downwardly, thus resulting in seating of the grooves of the stop collar on the ridges of the arm. A lateral pressure on the arm **54** of sufficient force will, however, cause the groove to be cammed upwardly against the ridges and permit partial rotation of the rod **48**. Full 360° rotation is prevented by a laterally extending screw **76** projecting from the stop collar and adapted to abut the posts **46**. Thus, twisting and breaking of the cord **60** is avoided.

Referring to FIGURES 7 through 9, the basic components of the invention are therein disclosed in a modified arrangement having similar operating characteristics and advantages. In this form of the invention the unit **10***a* comprises a bracket **100** having a back plate **102** and upper and lower arms **104**, **106**, respectively. These arms have coaxial openings **108** therein with entry slots **110** and the rod **112** of the unit extends therethrough.

The upper arm **104** has a bottom face **114** with a pair of post elements **116** depending therefrom and also has semispherical detent engagement members **118** arranged on diametrically opposed sides of its opening **108** forwardly of the posts **116**. A stop collar **120** of annular form is secured on the rod **112** between the arms and has an upper side **122** with a plurality of spaced apart radial grooves **124** therein positioned in diametric pairs. The detent engagement elements **118** of the arm lower face **114** are selectively engageable within the grooves **124**, the stop collar being fixed in selected position by a set screw **126** or similar means. The set screw further serves to limit rotation of the rod with respect to the bracket by its contact with the posts **116**.

Constant engagement of the upper arm and stop collar is assured by a spring contact assembly **128** comprising a coil spring **130** engaged about the rod and bearing against the upper side **132** of the lower arm **106** and against a base collar **134** of annular form. The collar **134** is also engaged on the rod **112** and held in place by screw means **136**, or the like.

Operation of this form of the invention is essentially the same as that described above. In this instance, all detachable components of the assembly are mounted within the confines of the arms of the bracket and are therefore protected from loss during installation or repair of the unit.

Having described and illustrated an embodiment of this invention in some detail, it will be understood that this description and illustration are offered only by way of example, and that the invention is to be limited in scope only by the appended claims.

I claim:

1. An assembly for mounting on an upright support comprising:

a bracket, including a substantially U-shaped main body portion having a back plate affixed to the upright support, and outward upper and lower arms;

said upper and lower arms having coaxial openings formed therein, and slots extended to the openings;

the lower arm having top and bottom faces, and having lateral, diametrically opposite ridge members projecting from its top face;

at least one post projecting outwardly from the top face to a height greater than that of the ridge members;

an elongated, substantially cylindrical rod extending through the openings;

a lateral arm secured to the rod and having sound transmission and reception equipment mounted thereon, the rod and arm being laterally swingable in the openings with respect to the support;

a base collar releaseably secured about the rod below the lower arm;

a spring about the rod between the base collar and the bottom face of the lower arm, spring urging the collar and rod downwardly;

a stop collar releaseably secured about the rod above the lower arm adjacent its top face, the stop collar having plural, radially arranged grooves formed in one side thereof selectively engageable with the ridge members of the top face; and

an outward set screw arranged to abut the post to limit rotation of the rod with respect to the bracket.

2. An assembly for mounting on an upright support comprising:

a bracket, including a substantially U-shaped main body portion having a back plate affixed to the upright support, and outward upper and lower arms;

the upper and lower arms having coaxial openings formed therein, and slots extended to the openings;

the lower arm having top and bottom faces;

the upper arm having top and bottom faces;

at least one post projecting downwardly from the bottom face of the upper arm to a given depth;

an elongated, substantially cylindrical rod extending vertically through the opening;

a lateral arm on the rod and having sound transmission and reception equipment mounted thereon, the rod and arm being laterally swingable in the openings with respect to the support;

a stop collar releaseably secured about the rod and secured thereto between the upper and lower arms, the stop collar having a plurality of radially arranged grooves formed therein on one side thereof;

the bottom face of the upper arm having a plurality of detent engagement elements thereon engageable with the grooves of said collar, selectively, and the collar having an outwardly extending element engageably against said post;

a base collar releaseably secured about the rod between the lower arm and the stop collar; and

a spring about the rod between the base collar and the lower arm, the spring urging the collar and rod upwardly whereby the engagement elements of the lower face of the upper arm are engaged with the grooves in the stop collar.

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U.S. Cl. X.R.

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