June 19, 1951 T. McRAE 2,557,674

APPLIANCE FOR SICKROOMS AND OTHER PURPOSES

Filed Sept. 20, 1949

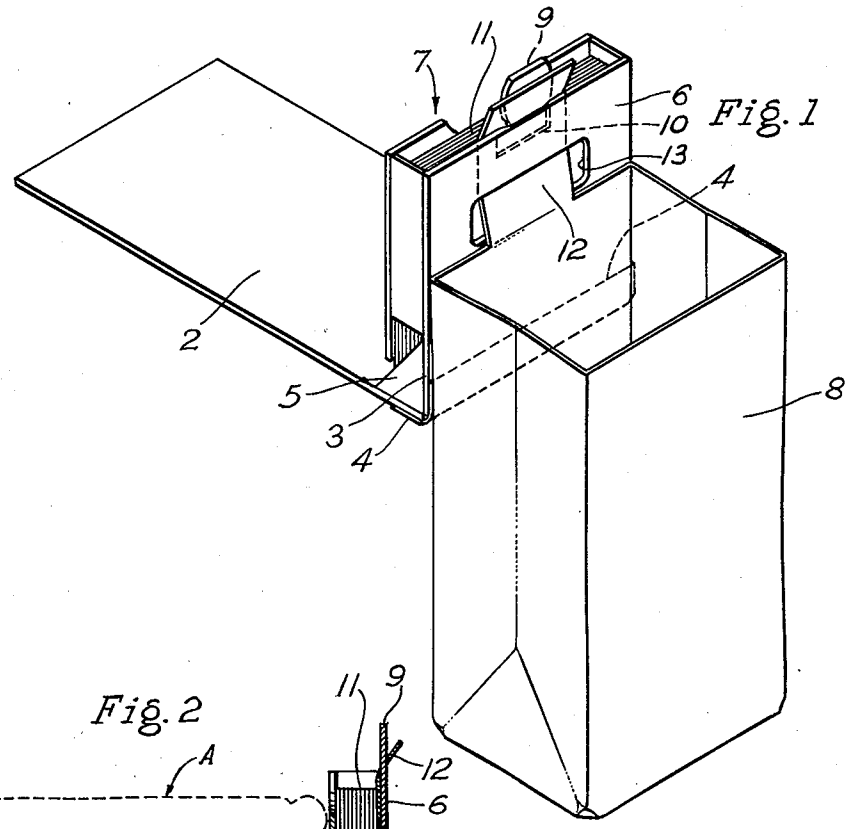
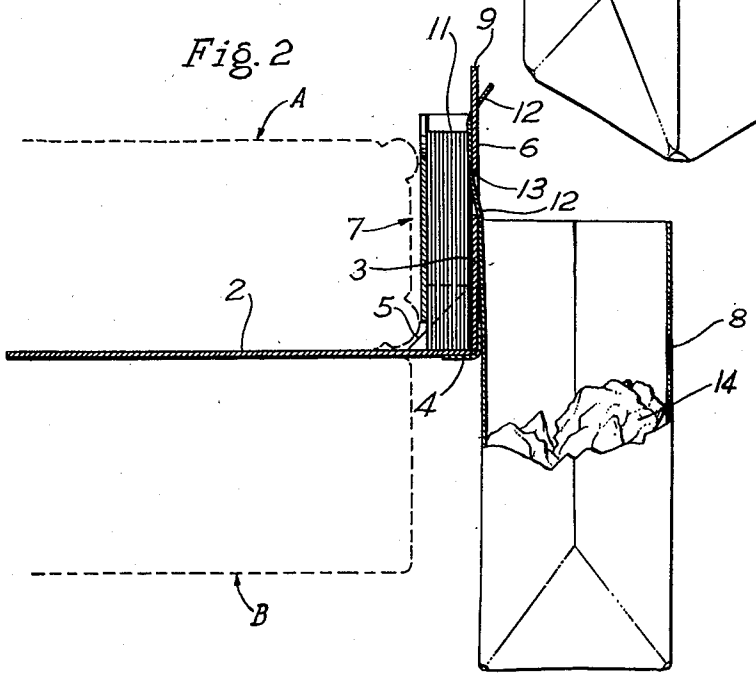


Fig. 1

Fig. 2



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Patented June 19, 1951 2,557,674

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,557,674

APPLIANCE FOR SICKROOMS AND OTHER PURPOSES

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Application September 20, 1949, Serial No. 116,650

3 Claims. (Cl. 248—136)

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My invention relates to appliances for sickrooms and other purposes and particularly to devices for the reception and disposal of dressings, tissues and other articles used in the bedside care of patients.

It is customary in the treatment of bed patients to attach paper bags (for unused dressings or tissues or for the disposal of such articles after use) by safety pins or clips to bedclothes or mattresses. Such means of attachment are unsatisfactory at best and frequently result in tearing or soiling the bedding.

My improved device comprises a support adapted to be attached at the side of a bed or other structure, for instance a base portion being inserted in a horizontal position between the spring and the mattress of a bed with an upwardly extending vertical portion for supporting a receptacle or receptacles for dressings, tissues or other articles before or after use. The horizontal portion and the vertical portion are preferably flat and are hinged together and capable of being folded flat one upon the other when not in use for convenience in shipping and storage. The two portions may be hinged or attached at their intersection by tape, fabric or other flexible material and by tape or like material at their side edges near their intersection to prevent their being opened out to more than a ninety-degree angle. Thus when applied to a bed or other supporting structure by inserting the horizontal portion under the mattress or other object the tape at their side edges will prevent the attached portion from outward movement beyond the vertical while on the inner side the vertical side of the mattress or other object will hold the attached portion in a vertical position.

In the accompanying drawings Fig. 1 is a perspective of my improved device and Fig. 2 is an elevation partly in section showing its application to the side of a bed.

Referring to the drawings, the horizontal portion 2 and the vertical portion 3 of my improved support are preferably made of cardboard or other suitable relatively stiff and inexpensive material. The horizontal portion 2 is shown in Fig. 2 in applied position between a mattress A and a spring B, a box spring being shown. The outer end of the horizontal portion 2 is attached to the vertical portion 3 by means of flexible material 4 such as mastic tape, or the like, which acts as a hinge between the two portions. To prevent the vertical portion 3 from rotating outwardly beyond vertical position it is attached

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preferably at its side edges to the adjacent side edges of the horizontal portion 2 by flexible strips or tape 5. Thus when applied as described in bedside position the strips 5 and the mattress A hold the portion 3 in vertical position.

The upper or outer end 6 of the portion 3 may be provided with means for supporting a receptacle 7 for unused dressings 14 or tissues, or other articles, which as here shown consists in a pocket on the inner face of the portion 3 open at the top.

The portion 3 is also provided on its outer face with means for supporting on such face a receptacle 8, such as a paper bag, for used dressings, tissues or the like. Such means preferably consist in a projection 9 and slot 10 connection as shown, by which the receptacle 8 for the used instrumentalities 11 or other articles may be removably secured to the supporting vertical member 3, thus enabling the receptacle 8 to be readily removed, replaced or emptied and returned. If desired, an extension 12 on the receptacle 8 provided with a slot 10 may be inserted through an opening 13 in the portion 3 and the slot 10 in such extension hooked over the projection 9 of the portion 3.

As my improved device may be made of cardboard or other cheap, relatively stiff material it can readily be replaced at low cost if soiled or otherwise damaged, and the receptacles for unused or used materials may likewise be expendable and readily replaced by new and sterile receptacles.

The terms and expressions which I have employed are used as terms of description and not of limitation, and I have no intention, in the use of such terms and expressions, of excluding any equivalents of the features shown and described, or portions thereof, but recognize that various modifications are possible within the scope of the invention claimed.

I claim:

1. A structure comprising two relatively stiff members, one of which is flat, flexibly connected together, the flat member comprising the support for the other member and insertable between horizontal supporting members, flexible means for limiting the movement of the first two mentioned members relative to each other, the other member being adapted to support a removable receptacle, the structure being adapted to be folded flat when not in use for convenience in shipping and storage.

2. A sickroom appliance comprising a structure having two relatively stiff members, one

of which is flat and insertable between a mattress and its support, a hinge between adjacent ends of said members, and flexible material attached to said members adjacent the hinge comprising means for limiting the movement of the two members relative to each other, the other member being adapted to be held in vertical position by the mattress and the limiting means to support a removable receptacle for holding articles used in the bedroom care of patients.

3. A sickroom appliance comprising a structure having two relatively stiff members, one of which is flat and insertable between a mattress and its support, a hinge between adjacent ends of said members, and flexible material attached to said members adjacent the hinge comprising means for limiting the movement of the two

members relative to each other, the other member being adapted to be held in vertical position by the mattress and the limiting means, and means for attaching a removable receptacle to the other member.

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