Dec. 22, 1964 J. B. SWETT 3,161,929

HOLDER FOR SHEET MATERIAL AND THE LIKE

Filed Jan. 18, 1962

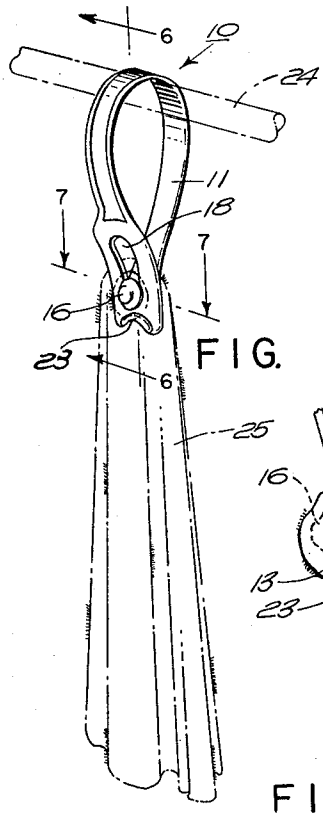


FIG. 1

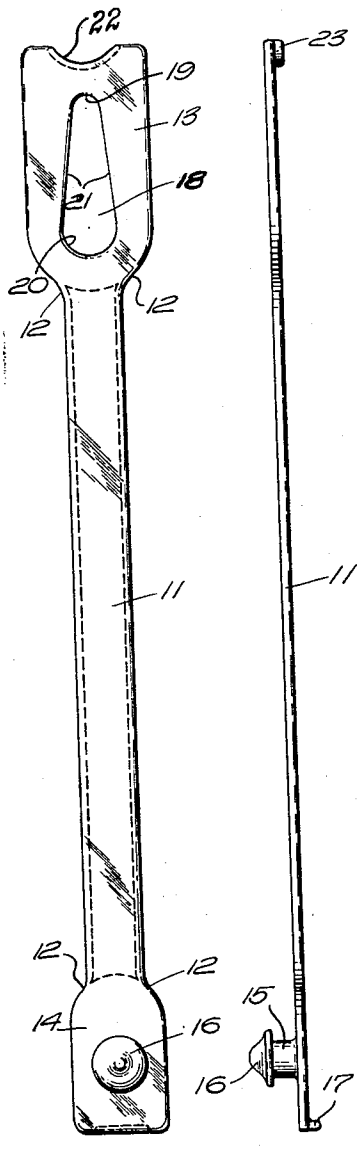


FIG. 2 FIG. 3

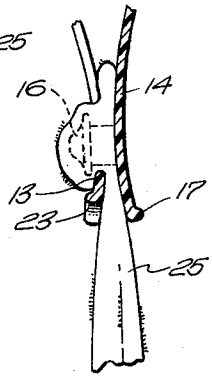


FIG. 6

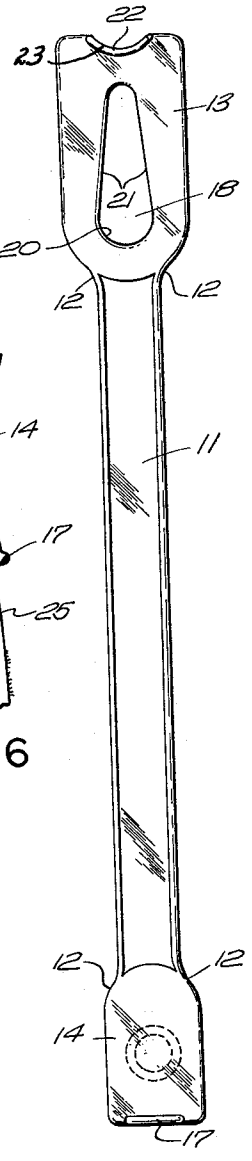


FIG. 4

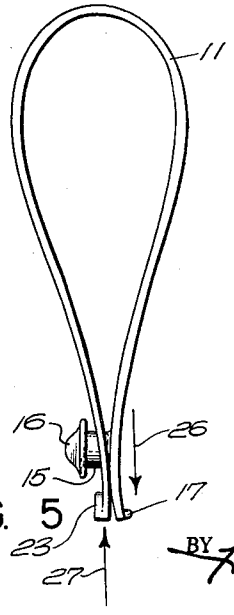


FIG. 5

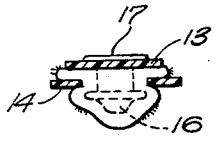


FIG. 7

INVENTOR.
JAMES B. SWETT
BY Harold R. Beck
ATTORNEY

United States Patent Office 3,161,929 Patented Dec. 22, 1964

3,161,929

HOLDER FOR SHEET MATERIAL AND THE LIKE

James B. Swett, Barrington, R.I., assignor to Rexall Drug and Chemical Company, Los Angeles, Calif., a corporation of Delaware

Filed Jan. 18, 1962, Ser. No. 167,041
1 Claim. (Cl. 24—73)

The present invention is directed to a holder which is quickly, easily and releasibly attached to sheet material such as natural and synthetic fabric, plastic sheet or film or the like. The sheet and film material can be flexible or semi-rigid but my preferred embodiment involves the use of cotton, wool or synthetic fabrics of the well known woven type.

My holder is attachable to woven fabrics without damaging the fabrics even though the fabrics are unperforated for receiving the holder. In some applications it is necessary to perforate the material to which the holder is attached. Perforation normally is required only when the material being attached to the holder is sufficiently rigid to prevent proper attachment in the manner described hereinafter.

My holder is basically a flexible plastic strap having an integral button at one end and an opening at the opposite end. The strap is folded over a supporting member such as a conventional towel rack, a portion of a towel or cloth is positioned over the button, the covered button is inserted through the opening in the strap, and the covered button is locked in the opening thereby releasibly affixing the towel or cloth to the holder which in turn is connected to the towel rack.

My holder is also useful for persons engaged in sports such as golf. The strap is folded over the handle on the golf bag or the golfer's belt and a towel attached to the holder in the manner described above.

My holder is also useful in industrial applications for holding sheet material on a conveyor or the like for processing the sheet.

In the drawing I have described a present preferred embodiment of my invention in which:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective of my holder in one of its preferred uses;

FIGURE 2 is a view of one face of my holder in flat position;

FIGURE 3 is a side elevation view of my holder; in flat position;

FIGURE 4 is a view similar to FIGURE 2, but showing the opposite face of the holder;

FIGURE 5 is a side elevation view of my holder in bent position;

FIGURE 6 is a cross-section taken on line 6—6 of FIGURE 1; and,

FIGURE 7 is a cross-section taken on line 7—7 of FIGURE 1.

Briefly the present invention relates to a holder, preferably fabricated from plastic such as regular, linear or blended polyethylene or polypropylene, but which can be fabricated from thin flexible spring steel or the like, which includes a flat elongated strip having two end portions, one of which contains a button affixed near the extremity of the end; and the other end having an elongated slot, preferably tapered toward the end, and a finger grip on each end. In use, the holder is looped, folded or bent over a support, sheet material to be supported is placed over and around the button, and the button is inserted into the slot and tightly wedged in the narrow end of the slot.

Referring specifically to the drawing, the holder, generally indicated as **10** includes a flat elongated strip **11** having a narrow central portion necked in at **12** at each

end from expanded flat portions **13** and **14** at the ends of the strip.

A button having a shank **15** and an expanded head **16** is integral with end **14** of the holder and extends transversely of the flat plane of the strip.

A small finger grip **17** is integral with the side of the strip opposite to that on which the button is affixed and extends normal to the plane of the strip.

The end **13** of the strip contains a slot **18** positioned near the extremity of and extending longitudinally of the strip and entirely within the flat portion **13** of the strip. The slot includes a narrow end **19** and a wide end **20** which are connected by tapering edges **21** to form the tapered slot **18**. The end **20** of the slot is sufficiently large to admit the head **16** of the button while the lower end **19** of the slot is not sufficiently large to permit passage of the head **16**; however most of the slot is sufficiently large to admit the shank **15** of the button.

The end **13** of the strip contains an arcuate cut-out portion **22** and an arcuate transversely extending finger ridge **23** integral with the same side of the strip as the finger grip **17**.

In use, the strip **11** is looped over a support **24** with the button facing inward. Fabric material such as a towel **25** is placed over the head of the button **16**. The button is then inserted through the slot at the large end **20** and the user places one finger below and against ridge **23** and the other finger above the finger grip **17**. By pulling down on the grip **17** and simultaneously pushing up on the ridge **23**, the fabric material is securely locked between the shank **15** of the button and the sides of the slot **18** as shown in FIGURES 6 and 7. In locking the holder, the finger grip **17** is moved in a downward direction as indicated by arrow **26** in FIGURE 5 and the finger grip **23** is moved upward as indicated by arrow **27** in FIGURE 5.

Flexible plastic and fibrous sheet material can also be attached to the holder in the manner described above.

Rigid and semi-rigid articles, such as plastic film and sheet normally must be perforated to receive the button for affixing the holder to the articles.

While I have described the present preferred embodiment of my invention, it may be otherwise embodied within the scope of the following claim:

I claim:

A one-piece plastic holder for fabric materials and the like for attaching the materials to a supporting structure, comprising a flat elongated, flexible, plastic strip having first and second ends, a button affixed near the extremity of said first end, the button having a shank affixed to and extending substantially normal to said flat strip, and a head portion on said shank spaced from the strip, said head portion having parts extending beyond the sides of the shank, a finger grip integral with said first end, and a finger pushing ledge integral with said second end, said grip and ledge extending transversely outwardly from said strip when said first and second ends are releasibly held together, an elongated, non-expandable slot near the extremity of said second end, said slot extending longitudinally of said strip and having a narrow portion near said second end and a wide portion remote from the narrow portion, said slot tapering evenly between and including said narrow and wide portions, said head portion on the button being constructed to freely pass through said wide portion of the slot and being impassable through the narrow portion of the slot, said shank being receivable in said wide and narrow portions, said strip being looped in a U-shape around the supporting structure when in use so that the button is encompassed by the fabric and enters the wide portion of the slot and the button and fabric are slid to the narrow portion of the slot to re-

leasibly connect said first and second ends of the holder together, with the fabric snugly held by the button within the slot, and said fabric being released from the holder by sliding the button and encompassing fabric from the narrow portion to the wide portion of the slot and removing the button transversely from the slot.

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