Jan. 21, 1930. E. OTTMANN 1,744,669

TABLE UTENSIL CLAMP

Filed Dec. 7, 1928

Fig. 1

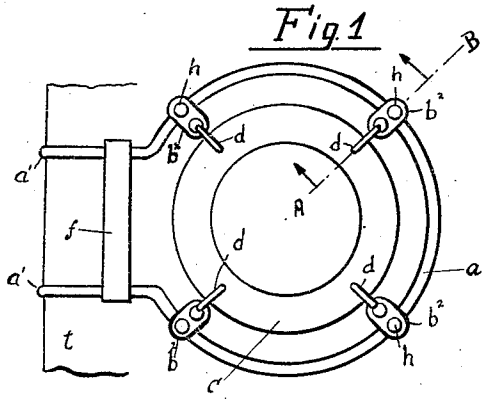


Fig. 2

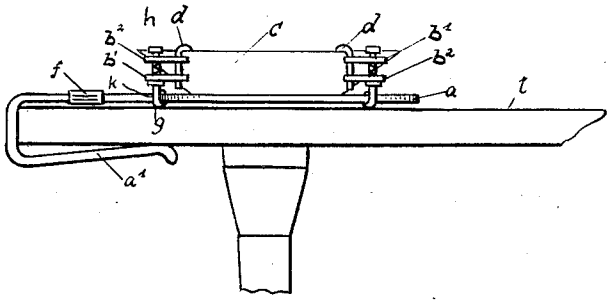
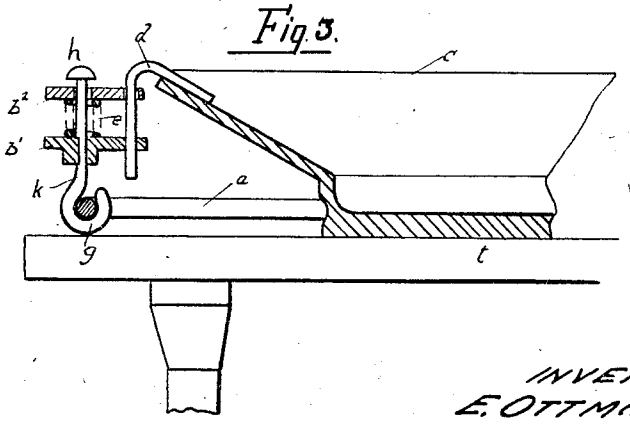


Fig. 3.



INVENTOR
E. OTTMANN
BY
ATTY.

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ERICH OTTMANN, OF WEILBURG-ON-THE-LAHN, GERMANY

TABLE-UTENSIL CLAMP

Application filed December 7, 1928. Serial No. 324,570.

This invention relates to an improvement in clamps designed more particularly for use in connection with tableware and serving the purpose of removably clamping an individual article of such ware to the support on which it rests in order to avoid casual displacement.

The invention consists of a ring-like member adapted to be removably clamped to a support, such as a table or tray, and carrying a plurality of article-engaging hook-like members designed to be engaged with the edge of the article to be clamped and retain it in position on the support against casual displacement, the article-engaging members being relatively adjustable on the ring and independently adjustable to accommodate articles of different heights.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a plan view showing the attachment in use for securing a plate against casual displacement.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the same.

Figure 3 is an enlarged detail, partly in section, illustrating more particularly the construction and operation of the article-engaging members.

The improved clamp includes a ring-like member a of appropriate diameter having lateral terminals formed to provide spring clips a^1 and so positioned as to engage the edge of a support, here shown as a table t, so as to removably clamp the ring a in position to be above the surface of such table. If desired and as preferred, a brace f may connect the spring clips at their upper portions to maintain them in relatively rigid relation.

The ring is provided at appropriate intervals with article-engaging members including a rod k having an eye g to more or less snugly embrace the ring a, the rod having an upper headed terminal h. Secured on the rod is a plate b^2 below which there is slidably arranged on the rod a similar plate b^1, a spring e being arranged between the plates b^1 and b^2 and tensioned to normally urge the plate b^1 from plate b^2. A hook-like member d has its shank fixed in the plate b^1 and slidably mounted in an opening in the plate b^2.

In use, the article, such as a saucer or plate c, is positioned within the ring a after the latter has been clamped to the table, tray or other support. The article-holding means adjusted to any relative positions on the ring a are then operated by raising the hook d and correspondingly raising the plate b^1 against the tension of the spring e, until the bill of the hook can be engaged over the edge of the article c. On release of the hook, the spring e moves the plate and thereby the hook downwardly to cause the bill of the hook to clamp on the edge of the article c.

The various article-engaging members may be so adjusted on the ring as to prevent any casual displacement of the article without, however, interfering with a spoon or other utensil in connection with the article.

The device as a whole readily lends itself to clamping any utensil on the support and is particularly adapted for holding plates, saucers, and the like to be used by small children in order to prevent the article from being shifted during use, with the liability of falling from the support.

What is claimed to be new is:

1. A holding clamp for tableware and the like, including a ring, spring clips carried by the ring to engage the edge of a support and position the ring above the support, and article-engaging members carried by the ring to engage the edges of an article positioned within the ring, said article-engaging members including a bar movably engaging the ring, a plate fixed on the bar, a superimposed plate movable on the bar, a spring arranged between the plates, and a hook carried by one plate and slidably engaging the other plate.

2. A holding clamp for tableware and the like, including a ring, means for securing

said ring to a support and to position said ring above said support, article engaging members carried by the ring, said members including a bar terminating in a hook at one end and being headed at the other, said hook engaging the ring, a plate fixed to said bar just below said headed end, a second plate movable on said bar and positioned below said first mentioned plate, a spring carried between said plates to normally force them apart, and a hook secured to said movable plate and slidably engaging said fixed plate.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ERICH OTTMANN.