Dec. 13, 1927.

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PAPER SUPPORTING DEVICE

Filed Jan. 31, 1927

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

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The present invention is concerned with the provision of a device which may have a wide and varied range of utility, but which is peculiarly adapted for conveniently supporting a sheet of paper for display purposes, especially where the sheet is to be mounted on a bulletin board or other generally similar backing device.

One object of the invention is to provide a paper holding device of this nature which will serve to hold any sheet of paper, such, for instance, as a map, chart, bulletin, etc., in fully opened condition and in such a manner that the folding of the sheet along lines which might preclude a full view of the sheet surface is eliminated.

A further object is to provide a paper holding device which may serve the dual function of a paper clip or thumb tack, or which may serve in both capacities to engage the paper sheet to be attached to a support by a direct push.

Another object of the invention is to provide a paper sheet holder of this character provided with clip means for engaging the sheet, with means for optionally hanging the clip means from a nail or engaging them with a backing by the use of associated penetrating points.

Other objects of the invention are to provide a paper holder of simple, practical construction which will be rugged, durable and efficient in use which may be expeditiously manipulated for engagement with or disengagement from an associated sheet, and a device which may be manufactured with comparative economy.

With the above noted and other objects in view the invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations and arrangements of parts as will be more fully hereinafter described and set forth in the claims.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a bulletin board showing several devices of the present invention in operative position to hold papers on the board.

Figure 2 is a greatly enlarged vertical sectional detail on the lines 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of one of the paper holding devices.

Figures 4, 5 and 6 are similar views illustrating modified forms of the invention.

In Figure 1 I have shown a bulletin board 10 covered with burlap or other material 11 and several of my improved fastening devices in applied position, to hold sheets of paper 12 to be displayed. In the form of the invention shown in Figures 2 and 3 each paper supporting device includes a single length of wire, the intermediate portion of which defines an elongated relatively stiff rod 13. At each end of the rod the wire is bent to provide a clip portion designated generally by the reference numeral 14. The clips include outer U portions 15 and inner U portions 16, the inner U's lying in the same plane as the outer U's and being wholly confined between the arms of the outer U's.

The legs of the portions 16 lie closely adjacent the legs of the portions 15 so that by springing the inner pair of legs slightly out of position the edge of a piece of paper may be inserted under the inner legs and cooperatively clamped by the two U-shaped sections 15 and 16. The particular shape of this clip portion is well known in the art. The shorter leg of the inner U portion 16 is extended outwardly as at 17 and terminates in a downwardly turned penetrating prong 18. The intermediate portion of the rod 13 may be provided with a nail engaging offset or notch 19.

In using the paper holder of Figures 2 and 3 the clips 14 are engaged in the customary manner and at spaced points with the upper edge of a sheet of paper. Prongs 18 may then be used to hold clips in position on a burlap cover board such as that illustrated, may be forced into a wooden board or the device may be hung from a nail upon the offset portion 19.

The use of a fastener of this type effectively prevents bending of the paper along lines transverse to the rod 13, since such bending would necessarily involve relative approach of the two clips 14—14, and such relative approach is effectively prevented by the rigid rod 13. The preferred manner of using this type of clip is shown in Figure 2 where, if it will be noted, the prongs 18 have penetrated the fabric 11 and lie between this fabric and the board 10.

The clip of Figure 4 is exactly the same as that described above, except that the prongs 21 project directly rearwardly and the clip with the paper in place may be applied by pushing it directly against the wooden supporting surface. The prongs 21 permit the clip portions of the device to
serve the dual function of clips and thumb tacks. As a matter of fact, I wish to protect the type of clip shown in Figure 4 and its prong attachment independently of the bar which connects them, since such a device obviously has a wide range of usefulness. Where the papers are to be hastily secured the penetrating points may be inserted directly through the paper and the clip portions will serve as heads clamping the paper against the supporting surface.

The device of Figure 5 is similar to the device of Figure 3 except that the rod, instead of comprising a single length of wire is formed of three sections. Two sections 22 of the rod are integral with the clips while the third section is in the nature of a sleeve 23 into which the sections 22 are inserted and relatively to which the sections 22 are telescopically adjustable. The sleeve may be formed with a V-bent or offset 24 to permit the clip to be hung upon a nail. In Figure 6 I have shown a modification in which the ends of the bar portion 25 are bent to define a plurality of overlying coils 26 at each end, these coils constituting spring clip portions for holding the paper. The penetrating prongs 27 form means for securing the device to a supporting surface such as burlap.

What I claim is:

1. A device of the class described including a length of wire bent to provide an intermediate bar portion and integrally connected paper clip portions at the ends of the bar, the ends of the wire defining pointed penetrating hooks, the bills of which lie substantially parallel to the bodies of the clips and are adapted to be engaged with a flexible backing sheet to secure the connected clips and a sheet held thereby to a support.

2. A paper clip including a wire bent to define a paper gripping body portion, one end of the wire being pointed and bent into substantially hooked shape with the bill of the hook lying parallel to the body whereby the clip may be hooked into engagement with a cloth support.

3. As a new article of manufacture a paper holding device including a pair of paper clips and straight bar portions extending laterally from and being integral with the clips, a removable straight tubular member in the ends of which the bars are adapted to telescope, the intermediate portion of the tube being offset to provide a nail engaging portion and to limit the insertion of the bars into the tube.

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