UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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SECTIONAL MATTRESS HOLDER

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2 Claims. (Cl. 5—354)

1 This invention relates to improvements in mattress holders, and is more particularly directed to a sectional mattress holder, especially designed for use in the connecting of mattresses consisting of two or more sections. The term "sectional," where used hereinafter, shall be deemed to refer to two or more sections.

An object of this invention is to provide a sectional mattress holder of novel construction adapted to conveniently hold mattress sections in a manner which will permit of convenient removal and interchange of the mattress section units from time to time, and for the securing of the holder to a spring unit, or article of furniture, or the like.

A further object of the invention is to provide a sectional mattress holder of unique construction which will permit of the ready interchange of the sectional mattress units to compensate for unequal wear in use.

A further object of the invention is to provide a sectional mattress holder having means secured to the medial section thereof to provide for the expansion of said section to compensate for the greater wear thereof in use.

These and other advantageous objects, which will appear from the drawings, and from the description hereinafter, are accomplished by the structure of my invention, of which an embodiment is illustrated in the drawings. It will be apparent, from a consideration of said drawings, and the following description, that the invention may be embodied in other forms suggested thereby, and such other forms as come within the scope of the appended claims are to be considered within the scope and purview of the instant invention.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a plurality of mattress sections adapted to be used in connection with the holder of my invention.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a sectional mattress holder of my invention, the end compartment casings thereof being shown in elevated position, the mattress holder being shown applied to a coil spring unit.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of an object of furniture to which the sectional mattress holder of Fig. 2 may be secured.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the sectional mattress holder, shown secured to said object.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a sectional mattress holder embodying my invention, provided with a medial section expansion chamber.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of an expansion device adapted to be positioned in said medial section expansion chamber, and Fig. 7 is a vertical sectional view, taken on line 1—1 of Fig. 5.

Fig. 8 is a vertical sectional view of a modified form of the invention.

As shown in the drawings, the sectional mattress holder of my invention comprises an elongated rectangular flexible top wall sheet 11 of a length 11—11 equal to the length of a sectional mattress. A plurality of compartment casings 12, 13, 14 are pendant from the top wall sheet 11. Said top wall sheet constitutes the top of each of said compartment casings, the latter being adapted to receive the mattress sections 15, 16 and 17. The mattress sections 15, 16 and 17 are adapted to be interchanged in the compartment casings for the purpose of neutralizing the wear on the respective mattress sections according to their disposition within the holder. Each of the compartment casings 12, 13 and 14 has end, side and bottom walls, the sheet 11, as above noted, constituting the top wall of the compartments. The sheet 11 is longitudinally divided by transverse hinge lines 11a, 11b, which facilitate bending said sheet along said lines, disposed in line with the side walls 19, 19', of the center casing 13. The hinge lines 11a, 11b may be formed by sewing or similar reinforcing expedients, which will give greater body to the sheet 11 along said lines, to facilitate bending same as above noted.

The end, side and bottom walls of the compartment casings 12, 13 and 14 are preferably formed of flexible material and are so proportioned relative to the mattress sections 15 to be received therein that the latter will be very snugly received in the casings and will, in fact, cause the casings to bulge slightly. As the top wall sheet 11 is unitary with said casings, the casings 12, 13 and 14, when filled, will have light abutment with each other, and thus preclude accidental displacement of the parts. The mattress sections 15, 16 and 17 may be made of any desired or convenient yieldable material; they may have springs incorporated therein; they may be filled with soft rubber or other cushioning material, if desired.

The compartment casing 12 is of generally rectangular outline and is provided with end walls 16, 16', side walls 19, 19', and bottom wall 20. The compartment casings are provided with openings 21, 22 and 23. A base sheet 24, of a length and width equal to the length and width of the top wall sheet 11, is secured to and pendant from the bottom wall of the casing 13 and is provided with a marginal depending flange 25 whereby the sectional mattress holder 10 may be secured to a support such as a coil or flat spring.
section 32 (Fig. 2), or to an article of furniture 26 (Fig. 3). The depending flange 25 may be secured to the support 28 or 32 by zippers, tacks or other securing means.

The base sheet 24 is longitudinally divided by hinge lines 24a, 24b which facilitate bending the said sheet along said lines. Said lines may be formed by sewing or similar expedients, which will give greater body to said sheet along said lines, to facilitate bending said sheet. The hinge lines 24a, 24b are disposed in line with the side walls 14, 15' of the center casing 13. Thus, the device is admirably adapted for special uses, such as in connection with a "Gatch" type of hospital bed, having a mattress support and mechanism 15 for varying the relative horizontal disposition of portions of the mattress, for the comfort of the patient.

The medial portion of a mattress is subjected to the greatest weight and wear in use. Sooner or later, the mattress sags in the center. For the purpose of overcoming the sagging effect noted, in the form of my invention illustrated in Figs. 5-7, I provide the center casing 13 with an internal lower chamber 27 adapted to receive an expansion device, the latter being adapted to be expanded upwardly to the desired degree from the base sheet 24, to remove the sagged outer of the mattress to its original upper line. Any expansion device may be used for the purpose.

The device may be used in connection with the "Gatch" type of hospital beds wherein the compartment casings 12, 13 and 14 may be angularly adjusted by means of a crank. In many cases, it is desirable to have the compartment casing 12 end of the mattress elevated, with the compartment casing 14 end of the mattress depressed. For that purpose, a special form of the device may be used, namely, that shown in Fig. 6, in which case, the top wall sheet 11 may form the top wall of the casings 12 and 13 and the bottom wall of the casing 14, with transversely reinforced hinge line 11c.

The device of the invention may be made without the sheet 24 or the expansion device 28, if desired.

The invention may be applied to upholstered furniture, such as sofas, divans, studio couches, sofa beds, Hollywood beds, or other upholstered objects used for sleeping, resting or seating purposes. It will be apparent that by lifting the base sheet 24 off support 32, immediate access to the underlying spring or other support 32 may be had. By tilting the sections 12 and 14, as shown in Fig. 2, to describe a generally triangular outline, the mattress may be readily aired and cleaned. The device of the invention will maintain its position on the spring or frame 26 against accidental displacement by virtue of the engagement of depending flange 25 of cover 24 with the spring or other support.

The drawings illustrate an expansion device 28 for the purpose of overcoming any tendency of the mattress to sag at the center, comprising, essentially, a sheet of flexible material provided with marginal plates 29 and with manually operable means 30 engaging said plates to draw them together and to arch the sheet 28 to the desired degree.

The chamber 27 may have an opening 31 at one end, which may be closed by zipper, or other suitable closure means.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A sectional mattress holder comprising an elongated rectangular flexible top wall member of a length equal to the length of the sectional mattress, compartment casings secured to said top wall member, each casing having end and side walls secured to the top wall member and a bottom wall secured to said end and side walls, and a base sheet secured to one of said compartment casings and having a marginal depending flange.

2. A sectional mattress holder comprising an elongated rectangular flexible top wall member, compartment casings secured to said top wall member, each of said casings having end and side walls secured to said top wall member and a bottom wall secured to said end and side walls, and a base sheet secured to one of said casings, said sheet being of a length equal to that of said elongated top wall member and having a marginal depending flange.

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REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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