May 20 , 1924. 1,494,899

G. W. GATES

ATTACHMENT FOR STEERING WHEEL POSTS

Filed March 14 . 1921

Fig. 1

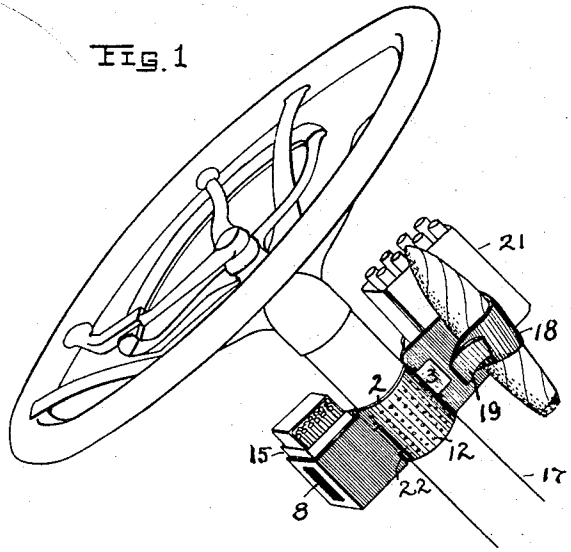


Fig. 2

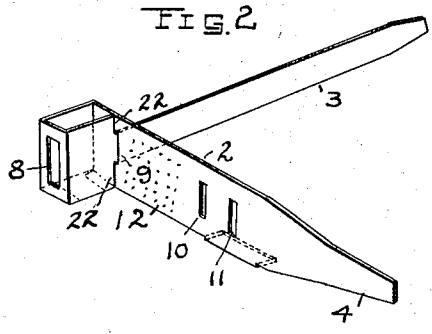


Fig. 3

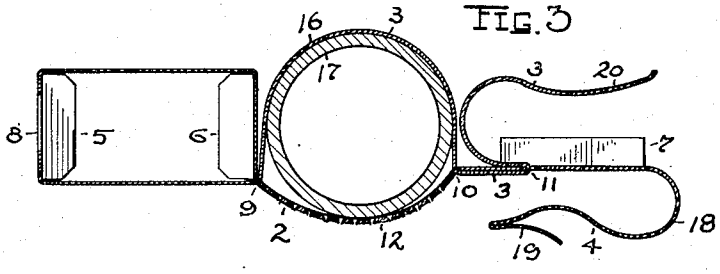
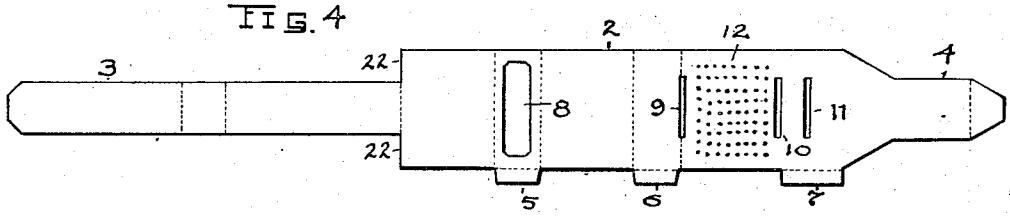


Fig. 4



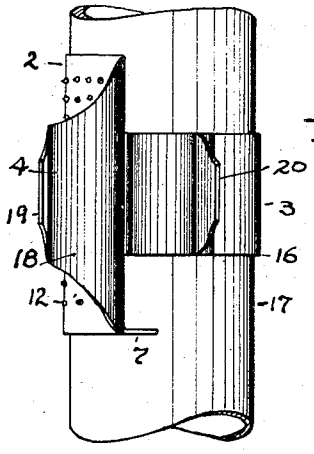


Fig. 5

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE WHITNEY GATES, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

ATTACHMENT FOR STEERING-WHEEL POSTS.

Application filed March 14, 1921. Serial No. 451,942.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. GATES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in an Attachment for Steering-Wheel Posts, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is primarily designed for the convenience of automobile drivers who desire a handy holder for matches, cigars, cigarettes and other articles while at the steering wheel of the vehicle, and as exemplified herein the invention consists of a flexible metal strap which is adapted to be folded and bent on predetermined lines to permit it to be attached to the steering post of the vehicle, and to produce a plural number of holding devices within a limited space.

In the annexed drawing, Fig. 1 is a perspective view of my improved device attached to a steering wheel post or column. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the device partly folded. Fig. 3 is a cross section of the post and a sectional view of the device clamped upon the post. Fig. 4 is an elevation of the strap or blank. Fig. 5 is an end elevation of the device strapped upon the post.

The device consists of a flexible strap made of sheet metal having a main body portion 2 with a relatively long narrow extension 3 at one end and a shorter tongue 4 at its opposite end. Three lips or flanges 5, 6 and 7 project at spaced intervals from the bottom edge of body portion 2, and a rectangular opening 8 is formed transversely of body portion 2 opposite the first lip 5. Three parallel slots 9, 10 and 11 are also formed at the right of body 2 opposite lips 6 and 7 and the section 12 between slots 9 and 10 is serrated or roughened to provide a scratching surface for matches.

The strap or band as described is scored or marked transversely at predetermined places to facilitate bending and folding thereof first, to provide a rectangular receptacle adapted to hold a box 15 of matches, second, to form a loop 16 adapted to clamp the article upon a round column or post 17, third, to produce a wide spring clip 18 adapted to clasp a cigar, fourth, to make a smaller spring clip 19 at the extremity of the large clip to retain a memorandum card or letter, and fifth, to fashion a spring holder 20 for a small box or package 21 of cigarettes. The lips 5 and 6 are bent at right angles to the face of the strap to provide rests for the box of matches 15, and lip 7 provides a seat for the box or package 21, while opening 8 serves to expose one side of the match box where a safety match may be struck and ignited.

Preliminary to mounting the device on the steering post, the longer extension 3 is drawn through slot 9 until the shoulders 22 abut against the face of the strap as shown in Fig. 2; then the roughened section 12 is shaped to the round column and the end of extension 3 projected through slot 10 and pulled forwardly until a tight clamping fit on the post is obtained. A sharp turn is then given to extension 3 to lock the parts together and then the end of the extension is threaded through the third slot 11 and drawn tightly toward the rear and immediately doubled or bent toward the post to permanently lock the parts together. The end portion of extension 3 which forms spring holder 20 is then folded or bent on angular or curved lines substantially parallel with the rear side of body 2 at the base of tongue 4 which is turned or doubled on curved lines toward the post to produce the spring clip 18. The smaller clip 19 is folded sharply back upon the stock to stiffen the end of the larger spring clip 18 and provide frictional engaging surfaces for a card or other thin body. The device may be marketed either in the flat form as shown in Fig. 4, or it may be sold partly pre-formed as shown in Fig. 2.

What I claim is:

1. An attachment for a steering wheel post, comprising a flexible strap having a main body portion provided with parallel slots at intervals and embodying a relatively long extension at one end adapted to be drawn through said slots and having lips at intervals at one edge, whereby a plurality of article holders may be formed and a clamping loop produced to mount upon and engage the post.

2. An attachment for a steering wheel post, comprising a flexible strap of metal having a series of lips at one edge and relatively long and short narrowed extensions at its opposite ends and slots intermediate said extensions and adapted to be folded to provide a clamping loop, a rectangular receptacle and a plurality of spring clips.

3. An attachment for a steering wheel post, comprising a single strap of metal slot-

ted at intervals and formed with a relatively long extension at one end and a short extension at its opposite end and folded intermediate its length into a rectangular receptacle and a clamping loop and at its ends into a pair of reversely related spring clips and the edge of said strap having angularly-bent lips at the bottom of said rectangular receptacle and one of said spring clips.

4. An attachment for a steering wheel post, comprising a slotted metal strap bent on angular lines to provide an open rectangular receptacle, said strap having narrow end portions adapted to pass through said slots to provide a loop portion adapted to surround the post, said end portions being bent to provide a spring clip extending from said loop and a terminal clip at the front side of said spring clip and a holder at the rear side of said spring clip.

Signed at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, this 4th day of March, 1921.

GEORGE WHITNEY GATES.