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W. B. WOOD

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IDENTIFICATION PLATE HOLDER

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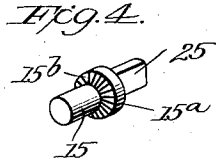
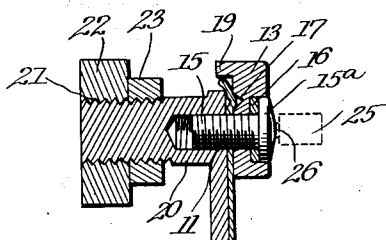
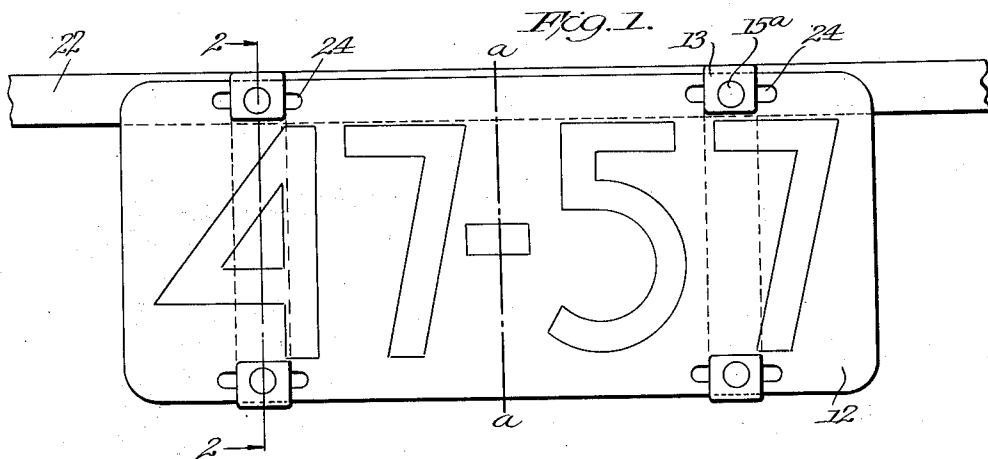


Fig. 2.

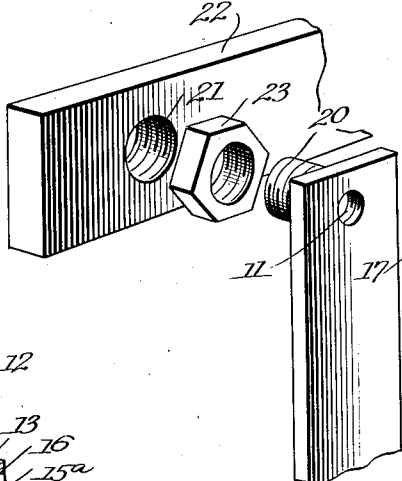
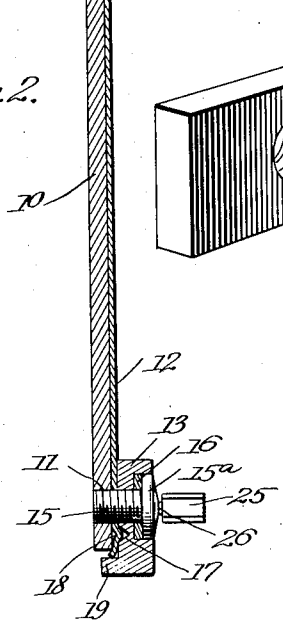
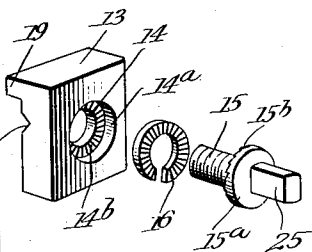


Fig. 3.



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IDENTIFICATION PLATE HOLDER

Application filed November 26, 1930. Serial No. 498,477.

The present invention is a tag holder and is designed particularly to support automobile license plates or tags in a manner which prevents thefts or illegal use thereof without easy detection.

The object of the present invention is the provision of a very simple device of the above character which can be easily and readily manufactured at a very low cost and which can be applied to automobiles, and in turn, have a tag secured to it by unskilled persons, but which cannot be removed from the automobile, or permit the tag to be removed from it, by sawing, drilling, cutting or other convenient tools, either by authorized or unauthorized persons, without destroying the tag, or so mutilating it that further use would be detected.

With these and other objects in view, which latter will be apparent from the following description, the invention resides in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts and the sundry details thereof, which will be more fully described and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings which show the preferred embodiment of the invention as at present devised:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a tag supported by the device of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a vertical section view taken substantially on line 2—2 of Figure 1 and showing the detailed construction of the tag holding devices;

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of the parts of one of the holding devices, and showing the parts in disassembled relation; and

Figure 4 is a perspective of the locking bolt.

Referring in detail to the drawings, the invention broadly resides in, at least, two backing members or brackets extending between opposite edges of, and lying flat against an identifying tag or plate, the ends of said members having non-releasable and non-detachable means associated therewith for clamping or fastening said edges of the tag to said backing members so that said

tag can not be removed from the backing members without mutilating the tag; and, further, in securing each of said backing members to a supporting member in such a way they cannot be removed therefrom without severing the tag, say, along line *a—**a*, of Figure 1, so that each backing member may be moved independently relatively to each other, it being, of course, understood that all of the parts are of case-hardened metal or of such other character that they can not be readily sawed, broken, chiselled or drilled.

One form of the invention is herewith illustrated and comprises, as backing members or brackets, two metal strips 10 of such width and thickness, as will give strength and rigidity to itself and permit threaded openings 11 to be made therein. The strips 10 are of such length as will extend across the tag or plate 12 between opposite edges thereof according to the manner the tag is supported. It is customary to support automobile license tags from either their upper or lower horizontal edges and, therefore, the strips 10 are here shown extending between these edges of the tag and arranged on opposite sides of the identifying portion thereof.

Each end of the strips 10 has a clamp member 13 associated therewith and which consists of a body of metal of substantial width and thickness and having a central opening 14 therein countersunk, as at 14*a*, on the outer face of said clamp for receiving the head of a locking bolt 15 which passes through said opening. The bottom face of the countersink 14*a* is provided with a serration of teeth 14*b* which may be of ratchet formation and the inner face of the bolt head 15*a* is provided with a complementary series of teeth 15*b* which cooperate with a canted split lock washer 16.

The inner face of each clamp 13 is preferably formed with a groove or depression 17 for receiving the bead or rib 18 usually provided on the marginal edges of the tag or plate 12 and is, further, provided with a laterally extending flange or lip 19 to extend over or around the edge of the tag and the end of the strip 10 to prevent the shank 20

from being rotated out of opening 21 when the object or plate 12 is clamped thereto. This is particularly true when only one clamping means is employed on each bracket. However, in practice this lip or flange may be either on the clamp member 13 or the bracket 10.

Each strip 10 is provided on its rear face, preferably at one end thereof, with a laterally and outwardly extending threaded shank 20, formed integral therewith, welded or otherwise non-removably secured thereto. These shanks 20 are threadedly received in openings 21 formed in a support bar or other part, which is secured to the automobile or which, preferably, forms part of the automobile structure. A jam nut 23 binds the shank in the opening 21. There may be two or more openings 21 so positioned as to permit the backing strips 10 to be arranged at different distances apart to meet the needs or conditions presented and so that they may be aligned with the openings 24 usually provided in the tag for attachment purposes.

The locking bolt 15 has a projection 25 extending from the head 15a thereof for the purpose of enabling it to be turned up into locking position by a wrench, pliers or the like. However, the projection 25 is connected to the head 15a by a reduced, breakable neck 26, which will be twisted off when bolt 15 has been fully tightened, or which may be readily knocked off with a blow of a hammer.

Now, to attach a license tag or other identification plate in position with the present invention it is only necessary to thread the shanks 20 of two backing members 10 into suitable spaced openings 21 in a supporting bar or other part 22 and arrange the members 10 so as to extend across the tag or plate 12; and then tighten the jam nut 23 and apply the tag 12 against the backing members 10 as shown in Figure 1. The clamps 13 are then arranged in place and securely fastened and held in clamping position by inserting bolts 15 through the openings 14 thereof and screwing them up tightly into the openings 11 of said members 10. After heads 15a of the bolts have been brought flush with the clamps 13, the tool engaging projection 25 thereof is broken off.

Since all of the parts are of case-hardened metal or tool steel, including the supporting bar 22, it is obvious that it is impossible to remove the tag or plate 12 without mutilating the identification portion thereof to such an extent that it could not be re-used with impunity.

In order to replace the tag it may be severed, preferably, along the line *a-a* in Figure 1, and then each backing member 10 may be rotated and threaded out of the opening 21 of the supporting bar 22 and discarded.

Two or more of the backing members 10 may be used, as desired.

In the embodiment shown, the shanks 20 of the brackets 10 are held against detachable rotatable movement from the support 22, when the plate 12 is clamped thereto, by reason of being secured thereto at two spaced points by the clamping means described, as well as by the flange or lip 19, or the groove and rib 17. But, of course, it will be understood that, it is within the scope of the invention not to have the backing members or brackets 10 extend fully across the plate 12, or object clamped, from edge to edge thereof, and to employ only one clamping means with each bracket.

While the invention has been described in connection with tags or plates it is to be understood that it is within the purview of the invention to use the means and instrumentalities herein described and shown in connection with other devices and objects within the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. A holder for identification plates comprising two or more backing members arranged side by side to have an identification plate lie thereagainst, means on each of said members for attaching it to and detaching it from a supporting member by rotatable movement of said members, said members being capable of extending across the area of the plate bearing the identification marks, and non-detachable means for fastening said plate to each end portion of said backing members.

2. A holder for identification plates comprising a pair of spaced backing members adapted to have the plate lie flat thereagainst and to extend across the plate between opposite edges thereof, a threaded element non-removable on each of said members and receivable in threaded openings in a support, and non-detachable means for clamping said edges of the plate to the backing members.

3. A holder for identification plates comprising a pair of spaced backing members adapted to have the plate lie flat thereagainst and to extend across the plate between opposite edges thereof, threaded lateral shanks on said backing members receivable in threaded openings in a support, non-detachable means for clamping said edges of the plate to the backing members, said clamping means including a plurality of clamping members each having a countersunk opening therein, a headed bolt for each clamping member and extending through the opening therein and threaded in said backing members to clamp the plate between the latter and the clamp members respectively, and a fragile tool engaging projection on each bolt and breakable when the heads of the bolts are in their respective countersinks.

4. A holder for identification plates comprising, in combination, a supporting member having a plurality of spaced threaded openings therein, a pair of metal strips having threaded projections thereon receivable in said opening of the supporting member, said strips being of a length to extend across a surface of an identification plate between opposite edges thereof and having threaded openings in the end portions thereof, clamping members adapted to engage the other face of the plate and one for each end portion of said strips, said clamping members having countersunk openings therein, a bolt extending through the opening of each clamping member and threadedly engaging in the opening in said strips, said bolt having a breakable tool-engaging portion to be broken when the heads of the bolts are flush in said countersinks, whereby the identification plate is clamped firmly in position at opposite edges thereof, all of said parts being of hardened metal.
5. An identification tag holder and clamp of the kind described in claim 4, further characterized by the inner surface of the clamping member having a groove or depression for receiving a rib or other projection on said plate.
6. An anchorage of the character described comprising two or more brackets arranged to lie on one side of an object to be anchored thereto, means on each of said brackets for attaching it to and detaching it from a support by a rotatable movement of said bracket, and clamping means arranged to lie on the other side of said object to clamp said object between said clamping means and said brackets, said clamping means including non-detachable fastener elements extending therefrom and non-detachably securing the clamping means to said brackets, said brackets being non-rotatable with respect to the object clamped when the parts are in assembled object clamping position.
7. An anchorage of the character described comprising two or more brackets arranged to lie on one side of an object to be anchored thereto and having each a threaded opening therein, means on each of said brackets for attaching it to and detaching it from a support by a rotatable movement of said bracket, a plurality of clamping members each having a countersunk opening therein, a headed bolt for each clamping member and extending through the opening therein and threaded in said opening in one of said brackets to clamp the object to be anchored between the brackets and said clamp members, respectively, a destructible tool engaging portion on each bolt to be destroyed when the heads of the bolts are in their respective countersinks, the construction of said parts being such as to hold the respective brackets against detachable rotative movement from a support, when the parts are in assembled clamping position and an object is clamped to said brackets.
- In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.
- WILLIAM B. WOOD.

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