This invention relates to holders and clip devices, and is particularly concerned with holding and storing rolls of drawings or vellums, especially those of large size which draftsmen use on their drawing boards and for convenient holding or clipping of one or more sheets of paper such as data sheets, small detail drawings, etc., for convenient use.

One of the problems which a draftsman has when working at his board is that it is virtually impossible to hold or store a large roll of drawing or vellum, particularly if using only one part of the roll on his drawing board. Usually, the roll being quite heavy, will have to be taped to the edge of the drafting board or allowed to roll down the side of the board; or, more often than not, the roll will fall or unroll inasmuch as it is usually placed near the edge of the drawing board. Sometimes, too, when using only part of a roll, he finds that the roll has a tendency to roll back up or roll itself so that he cannot conveniently handle it, and usually solves the problem by using tape or tacks or a paper weight or the like on the roll.

Another problem is that quite often while working on one drawing, the draftsman wishes to refer to others and has no convenient means of storing the additional drawings near his drawing board. Also, he has no way of holding one or more data sheets or small sheets of drawing for convenient reference.

The present invention resolves the above problems by providing a combined drawing holder and clip device which comprises, in the embodiment disclosed, a base member having a vertical wall and a cover member having a top and front wall, which cover member is hingedly attached to the vertical wall to provide therebetween a large open-ended trough which will hold one or more rolls of drawings and which may be raised for the insertion or removal of the drawing. Where desirable, the cover member may be lifted open to store a still larger number of drawings, and, if desired, the holder may be provided with magnetic material or made of a material attractive to a magnet so that pencils, erasers and the like may be removable attached as a matter of convenience.

The features and advantages of the invention may be understood from the following detailed description and the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of the combined drawing holder and clip constructed in accordance with the teachings of this invention and showing a relatively large drawing held thereby on the drafting board;

FIGURE 2 is a side elevational view of the combined holder and clip shown in FIGURE 1 with the cover member closed and with the cover member partially open, the latter position being shown in dotted lines;

FIGURE 3 is a side elevational view of the combined holder and clip illustrating the manner in which several rolls of drawings may be stored therein;

FIGURE 4 is a perspective view of the combined holder and clip having magnets for holding pencils, erasers and the like;

FIGURE 5 is a perspective view of the combined holder and clip shown in FIGURE 1, but showing the invention used as a clip for positioning drawings, small sheets of paper and the like;

FIGURE 6 is a side elevational view of the combined holder and clip, but disposed so that the top and base plates become vertical walls to enable the combined holder and clip to store several rolls of drawings;

FIGURE 7 is a side elevational view of another embodiment of the combined holder and clip where the cover member is provided with a vertical back wall co-planar with the vertical back wall of the base so that the back walls provide a stop for the cover member at a horizontal position so that the latter may become a storage trough; and

FIGURE 8 illustrates the invention when used in a different manner.

Turning now to FIGURE 1, the combined drawing holder and clip 10 is shown with one large roll 11 of drawing paper or vellum inserted therein, the width of the sheet being such that the roll extends outwardly beyond the holder and clip on both ends.

Holder and clip 10 comprises a base 12 having a horizontal wall or base plate 13, an upright or integral vertical back wall or plate 14, a cover or lid member 15 having a top wall or plate 16 and an integral front vertical wall or plate 17. In the embodiment shown in FIGURES 1–6, inclusive, the top plate 16, when closed, is parallel to the horizontal base 13 and the back plate 14, when closed, is substantially parallel to the front plate 17 so as to define a trough open at each end to accommodate the wide drawings which form long rolls, as referred to hereinbefore. The cover member 15 is hinged at 18 to the upper extremity of the back plate 14 for opening and closing of the holder and clip, as more clearly shown in FIGURE 2; and, for convenience, a handle 19 is shown disposed on the front face of the plate 17 to open and close the cover. In the embodiment disclosed, this handle is formed out of the plate 17 itself, but any other handle will suffice.

It is to be noted that the horizontal base plate 13, though of the same width as the other plates, is longer than the top plate 16 so that the former extends beyond the front plate 17 and is suitably apertured as at 20 for the reception of screws for mounting the combined holder and clip on a drafting board 21 (FIGURE 2) or the like. It is to be noted that when used, the combined holder and clip preferably extends outwardly beyond the edge of the drafting board a suitable distance to allow the draftsman to have full use of his drafting board. Too, this extension of the base plate which permits this extension aforesaid, gives the combined holder and clip stability inasmuch as it provides greater coextensive surface area on the drafting board.

As can be seen in FIGURES 2 and 3, when the draftsman wishes to use a drawing such as 11, he opens the lid, unrolls that part of the drawing he wishes to use, leaving the remainder in the trough. As is obvious, the draftsman does not have to concern himself with the handling of the main part of the roll or that it will drop to the floor or unroll while in the combined holder and clip.

FIGURE 3 shows, on the other hand, where any number of drawings may be stored for ready reference and convenient use.

As hereinafore mentioned, the combined holder and clip may be magnetized as by magnetic bars 22 as shown in FIGURE 4 or may be made of a material attractive to a magnet so that pencils, erasers and the like may be conveniently attached for ready use.

Referring now to FIGURE 5, as hereinafore mentioned, the combined holder and clip 10 may be used as a clip simply by inserting small sheets of paper such as 23 under the cover 15, allowing the front plate 17 to rest thereon. In this figure, the holder 16 is shown fastened to a relatively small board 24 instead of to the drafting board 21 as shown in FIGURE 2 so that the holder may be portable, yet function to hold a roll of drawings such as 11, as previously explained.
An additional use of the combined holder and clip is shown in FIGURE 6 where the combined holder and clip in same is placed on its side so that the base and top plates become vertical walls and a large number of drawings may be stored for ready use on the drafting board.

In the embodiment shown in FIGURE 7, the cover member 15a is provided with a back vertical wall 25 which complements the shortened back vertical wall 14a of the base 12a so that the holder thus formed may be attached to the drawing board or clip board the same as shown in FIGURES 1–5, inclusive, except that when completely opened about hinge 18a, as shown in FIGURE 7, the two back walls 14a and 25 form a stop means of preventing further opening of the combined holder and clip beyond the point where the top wall 16a is coextensive with the base plate 13a, in which case the draftsman is provided with a trough for drawings somewhat removed from the edge of his drafting board, thus giving him more room on which to work.

Still another additional use of the holder is illustrated in FIGURE 8 where the cover member and base member are separated and their respective walls are used to form an opening for holding articles such as books, drawing instruments, viz., scales, French curves and the like, and while only one arrangement of the separated members is shown, other arrangements may be made such as the back and front walls of the respective members being placed back to back or face to face. In the former use shown in FIGURE 8, the handle 19 should be removed; however, in the other latter uses, the handle need not be removed.

In connection with the separation of the cover member and base member, it should be noted that the pin 26 forming part of the hinges 18 and 18a may be magnetized to hold the same in place and yet permit easy removal when desired.

The above description refers to drawings andvellums and drafting boards. Obviously, the invention is adaptable for other uses such as for conveniently holding or storing charts and maps on any surface or in connection with any type of board which might be used as a clip board, and while the invention is shown formed of flat plates of sheet material, any suitable material may be used which will perform the function required of it in the invention. It is also clear from the above description of selected embodiments will suggest various changes, substitutions and other departures from the disclosure; for example, while a trough in a shape other than a square may be used, the square type trough is preferred because it gives a maximum amount of storage space available for comparative width and height of the device, all within the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A combined drawing holder and clip device, comprising, a base member having a flat horizontal base plate
2. and a flat vertical back plate substantially perpendicular to the base plate, a cover member having a flat top plate
3. and a flat vertical front plate substantially perpendicular to the top plate, the cover member being hinged to the vertical back plate, the plates being spaced apart a suitable distance to permit one or more rolls of drawings to be confined therein and so constructed and arranged to define a covered open-ended trough when the cover member is in closed position, the top plate extending beyond the front plate of the cover member in the direction opposite from the back plate for preventing creasing or marring of papers held in the device and defining an open trough when the back plate and the top plate are placed flat on a surface of a drawing board or the like for attachment to the base member, the cover member and the base member defining a trough therebetween of sufficient size to hold one or more rolled drawings orvellums, and
4. magnetic means positioned below the top wall for holding objects having magnetically attractive materials thereon such as pencils and erasers.

5. A combined drawing holder and clip device, comprising, a base for attaching the device to a surface including an upstanding wall portion, a cover member complementing the base and upstanding wall portion and pivotally connected to the latter, the cover member forming with the base an open-ended trough for holding rolls of drawings therein, the base extending beyond the cover member and having means for attachment to said surface, and magnetic means on said cover member for holding objects having magnetically attractive material thereon.

6. A combined drawing holder and clip device, comprising, a base for attaching the device to a surface including a horizontal wall portion and an upstanding wall portion, and a cover member complementing the horizontal wall portion and upstanding wall portions and including a front wall portion and a top wall portion pivotally connected to the latter, the cover member forming with the base an open-ended trough for holding rolls of drawings therein, the wall portion of said base extending horizontally beyond the cover member and having means for attachment to a horizontal surface, and magnetic means positioned below the horizontal wall of the cover member for attracting and holding magnetically attractive devices thereon.

7. A combined drawing holder and clip device, comprising, means defining a flat base member having a base plate, and means defining a cover member having a front plate pivotally attached to the base member, the cover member and the base member defining a covered open-ended trough therebetween of sufficient size to hold one or more rolled drawings orvellums when said cover member is in closed position with the front plate adjacent the base plate and defining an open trough when the cover member is fully open, and stop means for positively positioning said cover member and base member when the cover member is fully open in upside down position.

8. A combined drawing holder and clip device, comprising, means defining a base member having a flat surface, means defining a cover member pivotally attached to the base member, the cover member and the base member defining an open-ended trough therebetween of sufficient size to hold one or more rolled draw-
ings or vellums, and magnetic means on said device for holding objects having material attractive to magnets such as pencils and erasers.

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