

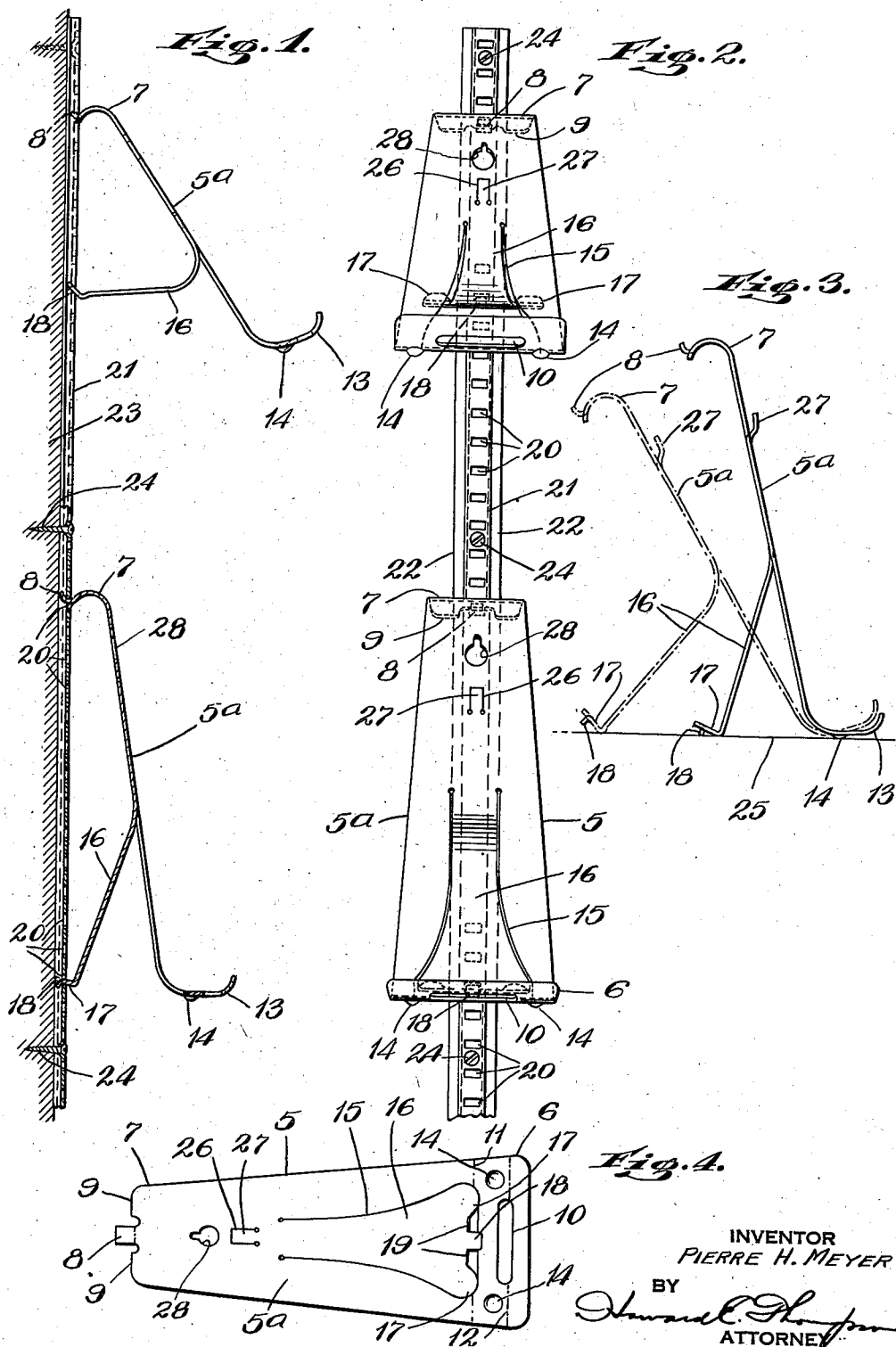
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VARIABLE INCLINATION SUPPORTING BRACKET

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VARIABLE INCLINATION SUPPORTING
BRACKET

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1 Claim. (Cl. 248—300)

This invention relates to brackets for use in connection with perforated supporting strips or the like or on a table, counter or other supporting surface; and the object of the invention is to provide a device of the character described with means for varying the inclination of the bracket to space the article supported thereon in the desired inclined plane with respect to a vertical or horizontal surface; a further object being to provide a bracket of the character described which is fashioned from a single sheet of material and shaped to form a yieldable bracing element movable into different positions with respect to one surface of the support, with means on said element and one end portion of the bracket for coupling the same with an apertured supporting strip, and the other end portion of the bracket having a retaining flange or trough for supporting an article on said bracket; and with these and other objects in view the invention consists in a device of the class and for the purpose specified which is simple in construction, efficient in use and which is constructed as hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention is fully disclosed in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawing forms a part, in which the separate parts of my improvement are designated by suitable reference characters in each of the views, and in which:

Fig. 1 is a longitudinal sectional view through one form of supporting strip which I may employ showing two of my improved brackets arranged thereon in different positions, one of said brackets being shown in section.

Fig. 2 is a face view of the construction shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a side view of one of the brackets shown in Fig. 1, detached and indicating uses thereof on a horizontal supporting surface; and Fig. 4 is a plan view of a blank from which one of my improved devices is formed.

In constructing my improved variable inclination bracket, the same is preferably formed from sheet metal of a type and kind capable of free and continuous flexure, especially with respect to the supporting or bracing element or part thereof. However, the device may be made from any suitable sheet material, such for example, as celluloid or fibre-board or the like.

In forming this device, I employ a blank substantially similar to the blank 5 shown in Fig. 4 of the drawing, it being understood at this time, however, that the peripheral contour of the blank may be modified to suit various types and kinds

of displays. The form shown will adapt itself to many uses. The blank consists of a wide end portion 6 and a narrower end portion 7, the latter being cut to form a projecting hook-shaped tongue 8 and two supporting flanges 9 at opposite sides thereof. The wide end portion is preferably apertured as seen at 10. However, this aperture need not necessarily be employed. This end portion is bent or folded substantially on the lines 11 and 12 to form a hook-shaped or trough-shaped retaining flange 13, the opposite end portions of which are provided with depressions 14 which form on the lower surfaces thereof knobs or beads to engage a table or other supporting surface in the manner indicated in Fig. 3 of the drawing.

The blank 5, intermediate its ends, is die cut or stamped along the substantially U-shaped lines 15 to form a bracing or supporting element or part 16, the wide end portion of which is folded to form angularly extending flanges or supporting feet 17 and a projecting tongue or hook 18, the latter being formed by the cut-outs 19, as clearly seen in Fig. 4 of the drawing. The hook or tongue is in alignment with the hook or tongue 8, and these parts are adapted to engage spaced apertures 20 formed in and arranged longitudinally of a supporting strip 21. The strip 21 is provided with rearwardly offset side flanges 22 so as to dispose the central apertured portion of the strip outwardly with respect to a supporting surface 23 to which the strip 21 is attached by screws or nails 24, as indicated in Fig. 1 of the drawing.

The freely flexing part or element 16 is adapted to be normally contained within the boundaries of the central body portion 5a of the bracket, and when in use, to be extended to the rear surface of said body portion the desired degree to extend the surface 5a at a predetermined inclination with respect to the strip 21 or the surface 25, as may be seen in Figs. 1 and 3. The upper or narrow end portion 7 of the bracket is preferably rounded, and in coupling the bracket to the strip 21, the hook or tongue 8 is inserted through one of the apertures 20 and the hook or tongue 18 is passed through another of said apertures in spaced relation to the first named apertures and with the desired inclination of the body portion 5a with respect to said strip. In Fig. 1 of the drawing, I have shown two different inclinations of the bracket upon the supporting strip, whereas, in Fig. 3 of the drawing, I have shown in full and dotted lines two different inclinations of the bracket upon the supporting surface 25.

In both cases, the element 16 serves to reinforce and brace the body portion 5a so as to support an article thereon in the inclination desired. The element 16, while being forcibly movable into its different flexed positions, will maintain such positions under normal loads, and in the use of the bracket on the strip 21, the flanges 9 as well as the flanges 17 will rest upon the outer surfaces of the flanges 22 of said strip to support the bracket against lateral movement. However, in mounting the bracket upon wide, flat, apertured surfaces, the flanges 9 and 17 may be eliminated or will be cut back sufficiently to engage said flat surfaces.

A bracket device of the class described will satisfy a much needed want in the support and display of merchandise upon counters, tables, shelves and the like, as well as upon other vertical supports, including various types and kinds of window displays. It will be understood in this connection that the supporting strip 21 may be simply a rod extending vertically from a supporting surface, or a tube or plate, and this rod, tube or plate may be of any desired length to accommodate any desired number of the brackets thereon. Also, the bracket may form a means for supporting a panel plate or other display upon which a number of articles are arranged, and two or more of the supports may be arranged side by side, with brackets in common alinement, to form dual supports for a board, strip or other display elements.

From the foregoing, it will appear that a bracket of the kind described will have many uses and may be made in different styles and contours and of different dimensions to suit the uses thereof in the support of small as well as large articles.

In this connection, I also preferably form a small U-shaped die cut 26 in the blank adjacent the narrow end portion 7 so that a supporting hook 27 may be extended at the front surface of the body portion 5a, as indicated in Fig. 3 of the drawing, to provide means for hanging an

article of merchandise for display on the outer surface of the bracket. However, the member 27 may be freely flexed inwardly and outwardly so as not to obstruct the surface when the hanging of articles is not desired.

I also provide the blank of body portion 5 with a key-hole type aperture 28, which, in the accompanying drawing, is arranged above the hook 27. This aperture is provided to facilitate the mounting of the device upon a headed screw or nail attached to a wall or other supporting surface in order to hang the same therefrom. With this use of the device, the bracing or supporting element will be moved to support the article in different inclinations to said surface.

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

A device for supporting articles in an inclined position, said device comprising an elongated plate member, the lower end portion of which is provided with an outwardly extending curved article supporting flange and a pliable brace part normally disposed in alinement with said plate member and freely flexible into different angular positions with respect to the rear surface of said plate member and retained in the flexed position by the pliable characteristics of said member in controlling the angularity of support of said plate member with respect to a predetermined surface, said plate member having at the upper end thereof a rearwardly curved portion having a central upwardly curved tongue for engaging with an apertured support and downwardly curved tongues on either side thereof for engaging with the surface of said support, said device further having at the extremity of said brace part a central and downwardly curved tongue for engaging any one of several other apertures in said support, and upwardly curved tongues on either side of said last named tongue for engaging the surface of said support.

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