May 19, 1925. 1,538,571

C. W. MEINECKE ET AL

THERMOMETER HOLDER

Filed March 27, 1923

Fig. 1.

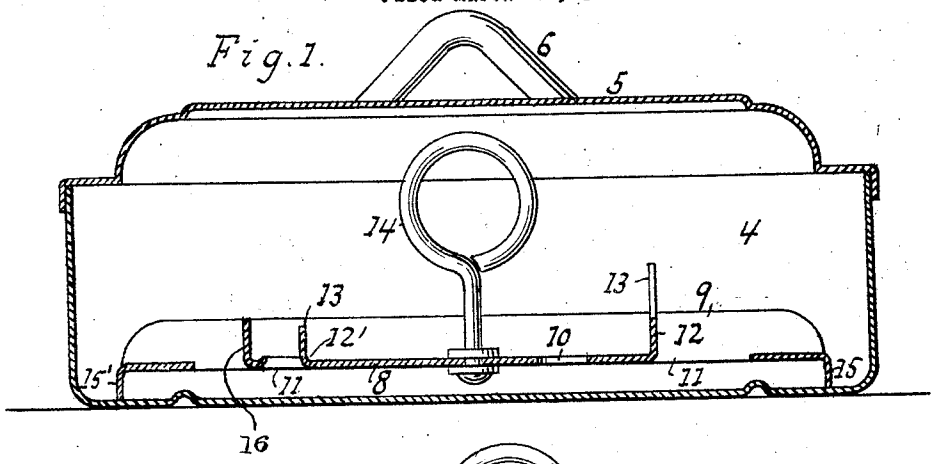


Fig. 2.

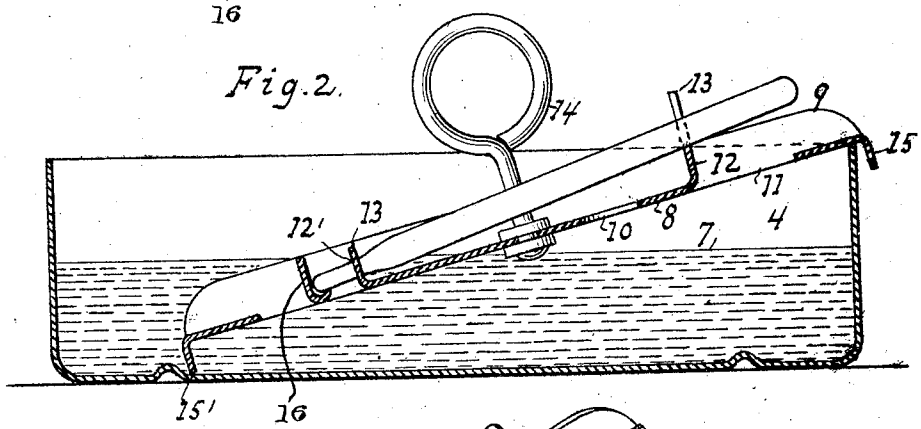
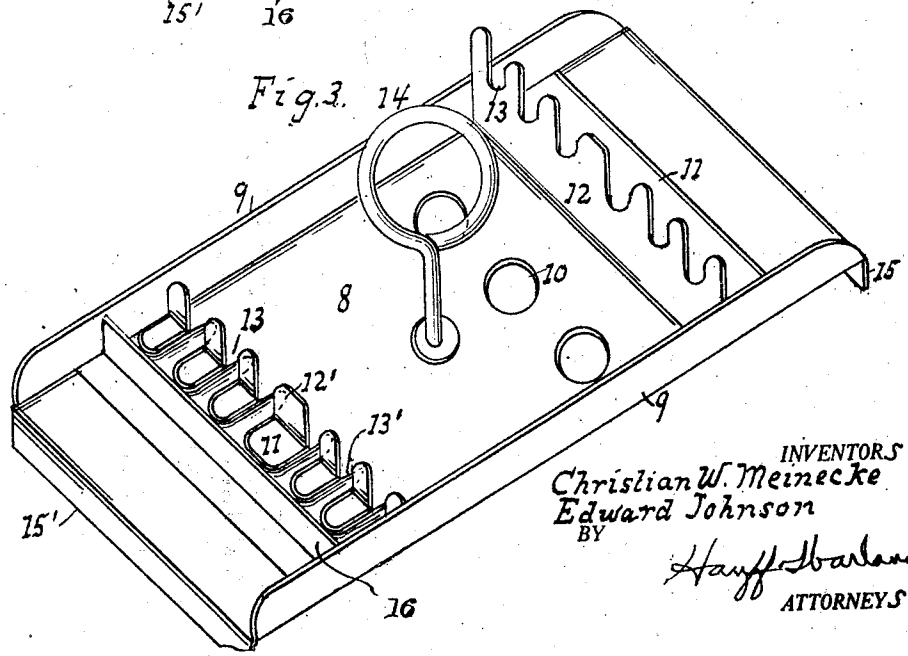


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHRISTIAN W. MEINECKE AND EDWARD JOHNSON, OF EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNORS TO MEINECKE & COMPANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY.

THERMOMETER HOLDER.

Application filed March 27, 1923. Serial No. 628,023.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHRISTIAN W. MEINECKE and EDWARD JOHNSON, citizens of the United States, residing at East Orange, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented new and useful Improvements in Thermometer Holders, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to a new and improved form of thermometer holder or container for keeping clinical thermometers submerged in an antiseptic solution, and is more particularly adapted for use in connection with thermometers used in hospitals.

As is well known, when a patient has used a clinical thermometer, it is necessary to have the same sterilized or immersed in some antiseptic solution.

Devices have heretofore been made in an effort to accomplish this purpose, but all these devices are so constructed that only a part of the thermometer is immersed.

Recently the State nursing boards of several States have issued a rule or order to the effect that the entire thermometer should be immersed in the antiseptic solution before a second use.

It is the object of the present invention to provide a holder carrying a number of clinical thermometers, which can be immersed and kept submerged in an antiseptic solution, and can be removed therefrom without the nurse or physician having to insert his or her fingers in the solution.

Another object of the invention is to permit a number of clinical thermometers to be completely submerged without danger of breakage.

In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 shows a sectional view of a device embodying our invention.

Fig. 2 is another view of a device showing the holder partly removed from the antiseptic liquid.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the holding device.

As will be seen from the accompanying drawings the device consists of a rectangular box or vessel 4 made preferably of enameled ware or other suitable metal having a cover 5 with a handle 6. The antiseptic solution 7 is placed in this receptacle. The thermometer holder shown in figure 3 is a rectangular article 8 stamped preferably from brass or similar material and nickle plated, and it can be stamped from one piece of metal. It has upturned sides 9. Apertures 10 are formed to allow the liquid to run through. Near each end of the holder a cut is made leaving openings 11 as a further means for the liquid to run through. The cutout portion is bent up to form upright members, 12 and 12′ at either end, one upright, 12′, being preferably higher than the other, and in these upright portions are openings 13, in which the thermometers are placed, the mercury bulbs of the thermometer sliding into and resting in the grooves or recesses 13′, and the entire holder containing the thermometers is submerged in the antiseptic solution. A handle 14 is secured to the holder and extends above the level of the solution in the receptacle, so that the user can by means of the handle lift the tray or holder out of the solution without putting his fingers in the solution.

It will be noticed that the ends 15 and 15′ of the holder are bent over, and rest on the bottom of the container, and the end 15 is also intended to be used as a hook which can be placed over one end of the receptacle as shown in Fig. 2. When the thermometers are placed on the holder they are placed with their upper or plain end on the high member 12 so that when the tray or holder is lifted from the solution the upper end of the thermometer comes out first. It will be thus seen that the solution runs off the upper end first (see Fig. 2) and the thermometer is practically dry when it is desired to use it and yet has been completely sterilized.

As indicated in the drawing the lower portion 16 of the holder is bent upwardly to form a stop and when the thermometer holder is in place on the vessel the bottom of the bulb strikes on the stop to hold it in place and prevent it from sliding downward. When the thermometer is arranged on the holder it is inclined, the upper part being the highest the liquid will drain downward and it can be readily grasped when removing it from the holder.

We claim:—

1. In a device of the kind described the combination of a receptacle for holding an antiseptic solution, a clinical thermometer holder for insertion in said receptacle, said holder comprising means for carrying a

number of thermometers, means of withdrawing the holder, apertures in the holder for draining off the solution, and means for hooking one end of the holder on the edge of the receptacle.

2. A thermometer holder having upright members to hold a series of thermometers, a stop coacting with the lower end of the thermometers and apertures in the floor of the holder for allowing the passage of a solution.

3. A thermometer holder comprising a substantially rectangular frame, uprights near the ends of said frame, one of which uprights is higher than the other, openings in said uprights for holding a thermometer, sides on said holder, and means on said holder for holding it on the edge of a liquid containing receptacle.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHRISTIAN W. MEINECKE.
EDWARD JOHNSON.

Witnesses:
MARGUERITE ALTOATER,
WILLIAM MILLER.