

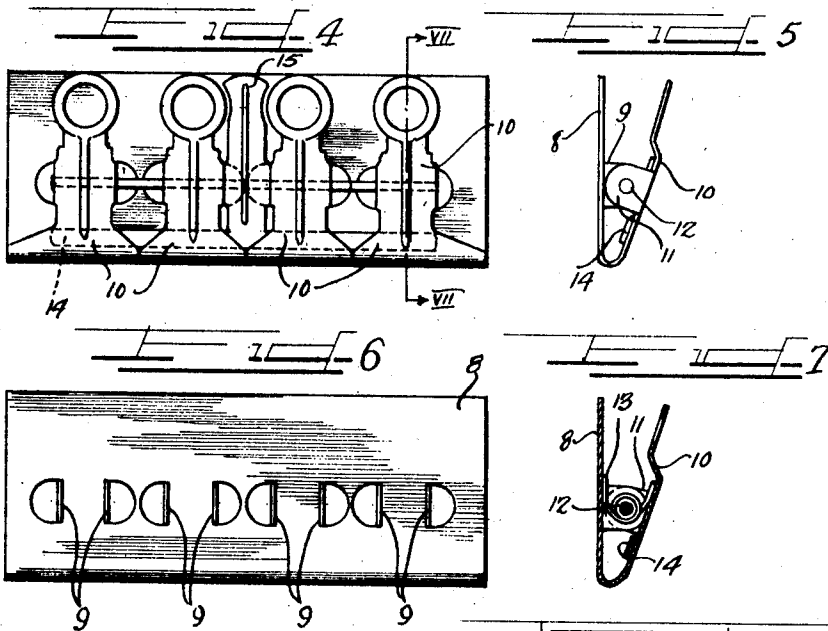
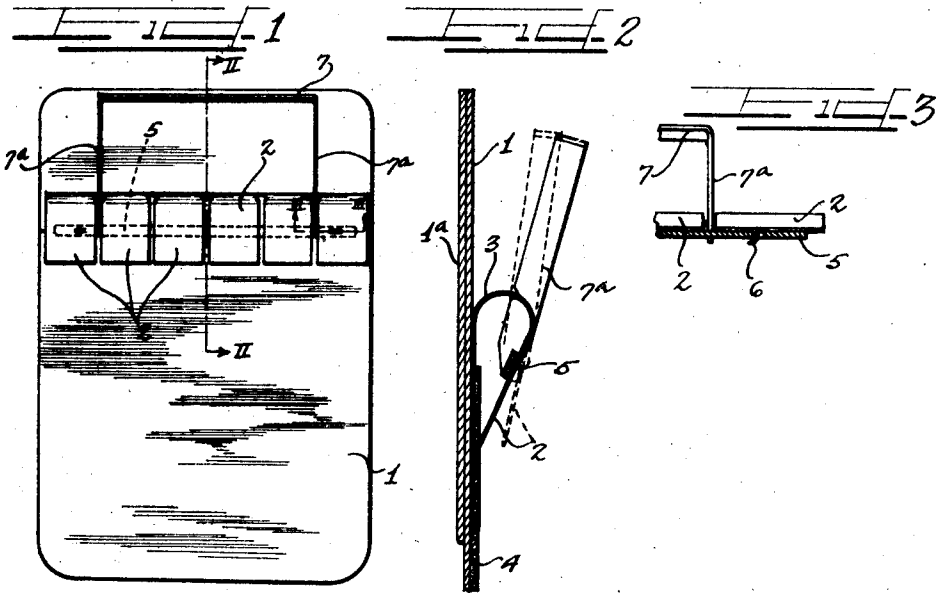
May 29, 1928.

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CLAMP

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CLAMP.

Application filed March 29, 1926. Serial No. 98,152.

This invention relates to a material clamp for retaining papers, pads, samples and the like, and concerns itself primarily with a structure comprising a plurality of independent clips or holding fingers which will independently yield to compensate for irregular thicknesses in the clamped material, and operating means adapted for simultaneously operating all of the clips if desired.

The invention comprises the novel structure and combination of parts hereinafter described and more particularly pointed out and defined in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings which illustrate certain preferred embodiments of this invention, and in which similar reference numerals refer to similar features in the different views,

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a clamp involving this invention.

Figure 2 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view upon the line II—II of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken upon the line III—III of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is top plan view of a modified form of clamp.

Figure 5 is an end elevational view of the modified structure.

Figure 6 is a top plan view of the base plate of the modified structure.

Figure 7 is a sectional view upon the line VII—VII of Figure 4.

In referring to the drawings, especially to Figures 1 and 3, it will be observed that my improved clamp comprises a base or support 1, the top end of which may be thickened by a head plate 1^a. A plurality of independently yieldable clips or fingers 2 are mounted upon the base 1. In the present instances, the clips 2 are formed as integral fingers of a plate 3 which is secured to the base 1. This plate 3 is bent over upon an arc and the top end is inclined downwardly into contact with the base 1; the clips or fingers 2 being formed by slitting the upper portion of the plate at predetermined intervals. Preferably a leather mat 4, or the like, is applied to the upper face of the plate where the clamped matter is located. The clips 2 are sufficiently resilient for clamping purposes, and they may be independently released by forcing the nail of a finger thereunder, or they may be simultaneously actu-

ated to releasing positions by a bar 5 extending lengthwise beneath said clips. The bar 5 may be secured to the end clips by a tongue and socket connection 6, as shown in Figure 3. A rigid bail or handle 7 is connected to the bar 5 for actuating the same, the arms 7^a of the bail extending through a pair of the slots between the clips. The arms 7^a of the bail are adapted to fulcrum upon the rear end of the slots. Consequently, by actuating the bail downwardly, the clips or fingers 2 are simultaneously elevated for releasing the clamping action thereof.

In Figures 4 to 7, the base 8 is provided with pairs of spaced upstanding hinge ears or lugs 9. To each pair of lugs, there is pivoted a clip 10. These clips have depending lugs 11 intermediate their ends, and a pivot rod 12 extends through the ears 9 and lugs 11. Springs 13 are coiled around the rod 12 under each clip. One end of each spring bears against the base, while the other end bears against the power arm of the clip. It will be noted that the front or clamping ends of the clips 10 cooperate with the forward edge of the base 8 which is slightly turned up, and the rear ends form finger pieces which may be manually and independently depressed for elevating the clamping ends.

The clips 10 may, however, be simultaneously released from clamping action by a bar 14 which extends under the clamping arms of the clips and is provided with a handle 15 pivoted or fulcrumed intermediate its ends upon the pivot rod 12. Consequently, as the handle 15 is depressed, the bar 14 will be elevated for simultaneously releasing the clamping action of all of the clips 10.

It will be evident that in use, in cases where several clips engage the same material, the independently yieldable feature of the clips will allow the same to adjust themselves to the thickness of the material where the latter is not uniform. Further, where several articles are retained by the clamp, certain of the articles may be released without disturbing the others.

I am aware that many changes may be made, and numerous details of construction may be varied through a wide range without departing from the principles of this

invention, and I therefore do not purpose limiting the patent granted hereon, otherwise than necessitated by the prior art.

I claim as my invention:

- 5 1. In a clamp, a support, a plurality of independently operable alined clips upon said support, a bar extending beneath said clips for simultaneously actuating the same, and means for actuating said bar.
- 10 2. In a clamp, a support, a plurality of independently operable clips upon said support, a bar extending lengthwise beneath said clips, and means for actuating said bar.
3. In a clamp, a base, a plurality of in-

dependently operable clips upon said base, 15
a bar extending beneath the forward parts of said clips and an operating lever attached to said bar for simultaneously actuating said clips.

4. In a clamp, a base, a plurality of in- 20
dependently operable clips upon said base, each clip having an operating handle, a bar extending lengthwise beneath said clips and an operating lever connected to said bar.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto sub- 25
scribed my name.

HARRY S. JONES.