

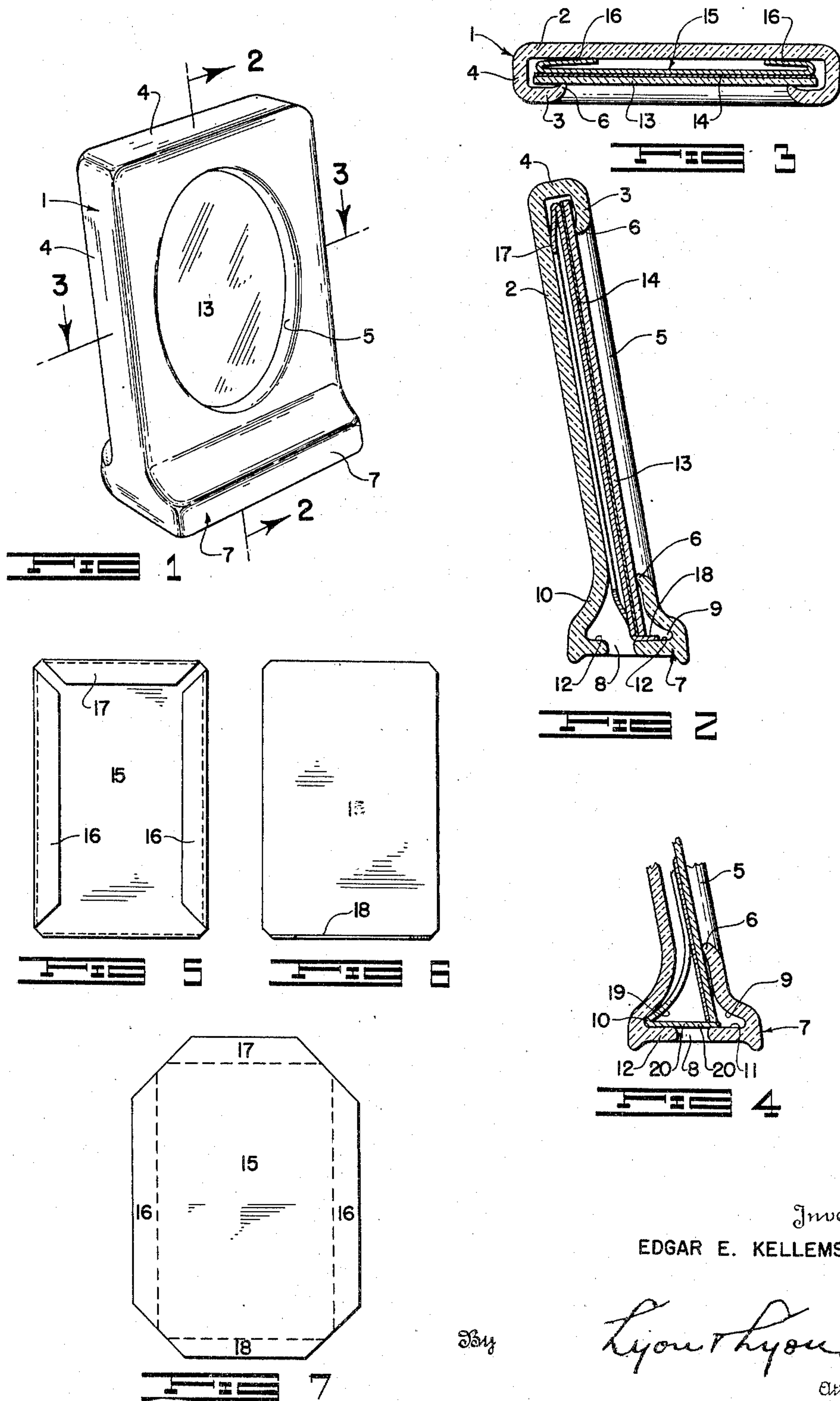
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CERAMIC PICTURE HOLDER

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CERAMIC PICTURE HOLDER

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My invention relates to picture holders, and among the objects of my invention are:

First.—To provide a picture holder which is particularly adapted to be molded of ceramic material.

Second.—To provide a picture holder which encloses the picture, except for an appropriate window opening in the front thereof and an access opening in its base, a margin of the access opening defining a shoulder adapted to cooperate with a novel retainer member or backing member for securing the picture and window glass within the holder.

Third.—To provide a picture holder which is simple and economical of manufacture, as well as both attractive and serviceable.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, reference is directed to the accompanying drawings, in which

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of my picture holder.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal, sectional view thereof.

Fig. 3 is a transverse, sectional view thereof.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary, longitudinal, sectional view similar to Fig. 2 but showing a modified form of retainer.

Fig. 5 is a back view of the retainer folded for use.

Fig. 6 is a front view thereof.

Fig. 7 is a developed view thereof.

My picture holder includes a housing 1 which is particularly designed, so that it may be molded of ceramic material. Molding may be accomplished by the process wherein clay slip is poured into an appropriately-shaped cavity and a portion of the water mixture allowed to percolate out through the walls of the mold leaving a wall of clay. The slip which remains in a fluid condition is then poured from the mold after which the mold is opened and the hollow molded article removed for firing and other further treatment.

The housing 1 so formed comprises a back side 2 and a front side 3, joined on three sides by edge portions 4, so as to form a flat cavity. The front side is provided with a window opening 5 occupying the major portion thereof. The opening may be rectangular, round, oval or any other suitable shape and is preferably cut therein after the housing has been molded. It is preferred that the margins of the window opening be slightly inturned, as indicated by 6, so that the window glass inserted therein will bear against the margins of the opening instead of other portions of the front side 3.

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The housing 1 is enlarged at its lower end to form a base 7 which is preferably so arranged that when the housing is seated on its base 7 the housing inclines backwardly. An access slot 8 is formed in the base and is preferably somewhat wider than the cavity formed in the housing and offset slightly. Within the base portion of the housing, immediately above the forward and rearward sides of the access slot, there are formed grooves 9 and 10, the lower sides of which form shoulders 11 and 12 respectively. The forward shoulder 11 preferably projects rearwardly a slight distance beyond the plane of the front side 3 by reason of the offset location of the access opening.

The housing is adapted to receive through its access slot 8 a transparent plate 13, a picture 14 and a backing member 15 arranged in the order named from the front side of the housing. The backing member 15 is preferably formed of cardboard or the like and is scored along its side and end margins to form side flaps 16, a top flap 17 and a bottom flap 18. The side and top flaps are doubled against the rear side of the backing member, so that they bear against the back wall 2 of the housing and form a yieldable means for maintaining the transparent plate in contact with the margins of the transparent plate 13. The bottom flap 18 is folded forwardly and is adapted to enter the forward groove 9 and rest on the shoulder 11. This flap underlies the picture 14 and window glass 13, so that by reason of its engagement with the shoulder 11, the picture and glass, as well as the backing member itself, are held within the housing 1.

While the backing member prevents accidental loss of the window glass or picture from the housing, it may nevertheless be readily pried away from the shoulder 11, so that the contents of the housing may be removed.

Reference is directed to the modified form shown in Fig. 4. Here the structure is essentially the same as hereinbefore described, except that the bottom margin of the backing member 15 is first folded rearwardly to form an open loop 19, which fits into the rear groove 10. The lower extremity of the backing member extends upwardly from the loop 19 to form a tongue 20 which fits into the forward groove 9 in the manner of the bottom flap 18. By this means the access opening may be virtually entirely closed by the backing member, and the lower end, as well as the sides and top thereof, may func-

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tion to urge the picture and window glass forwardly.

Many other embodiments of the invention may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What I claim is:

1. A picture holder, comprising: a single piece, flat, hollow housing defining a cavity open at the lower end of said housing and having parallel front and rear walls, the front wall being apertured, the lower end of said housing being enlarged forwardly and rearwardly to form a supporting base, said cavity being correspondingly enlarged to form internal shoulders bordering its open lower end; a picture mounting assembly including a rigid transparent plate and a picture backing member adapted to be inserted into said cavity, said backing member including yieldable means urging said transparent plate against the margins of the aperture in the front wall of said cavity, and a foldable lip adapted to be positioned to overlie at least one of said shoulders to retain in said housing said backing member, transparent plate and a picture disposed therebetween.

2. A picture holder, comprising: a flat, hollow housing having a viewing opening in one side and an access opening in its base in registry with the hollow interior of said housing, said housing defining a shoulder within said base, and a backing member fitting within said housing and including laterally directed means at its lower end overlying said shoulder to retain said backing member therein, said means also forming a support to retain a picture in said housing, and means for urging said backing member toward the viewing opening side of said housing.

3. A picture holder, comprising: a flat, single piece hollow housing molded of ceramic material and including a viewing opening in its front wall, an access slit in its lower end insert, and a transverse channel within its lower end above said

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access opening at its forward side forming a stop shoulder; a rigid transparent element, and a retainer adapted to be inserted through said access opening; said retainer including a foldable lateral projection adapted to overlie said shoulder and underlie said transparent element to form a support therefor, and means for yieldably urging said picture and transparent element against the viewing opening side of said housing.

4. A picture holder, comprising: a flat single piece molded of ceramic material and defining a flat cavity, a viewing opening at the forward side of, and an access opening at the base end of said cavity in registry therewith, one margin of said cavity opening being offset rearwardly relatively to, the forward wall of said cavity to form a shoulder at the forward base side of said cavity; rigid transparent sheet adapted to fit said cavity; a picture backing member including side and end flaps bearing against the back of said cavity to hold said transparent sheet against the margins of said viewing opening, and over said shoulder and a bottom support flap underlying said transparent sheet and overlapping said shoulder to retain said backing member and transparent sheet in said cavity.

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