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1,763,034

ADJUSTABLE SUPPORT FOR CLOTHES HANGERS OR SHADE FIXTURES

Filed Oct. 3, 1927

FIG. 1.

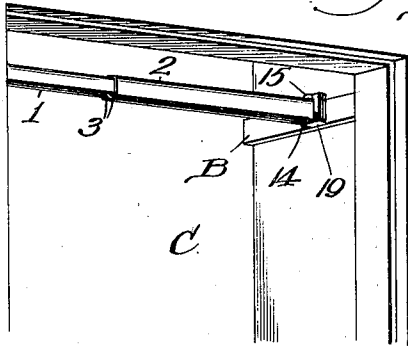


FIG. 3.

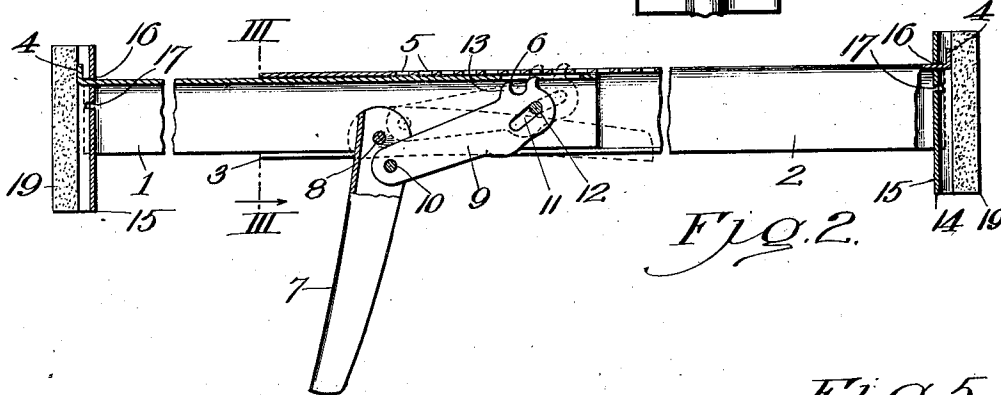
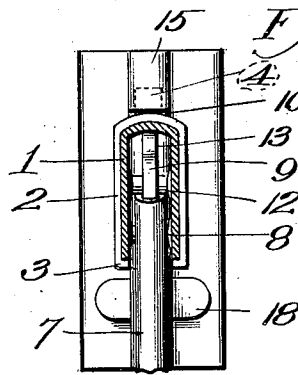


FIG. 2.

FIG. 4.

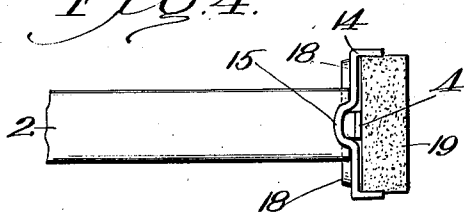


FIG. 5.

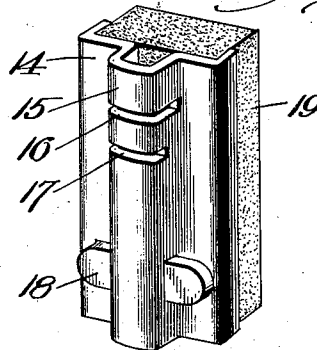
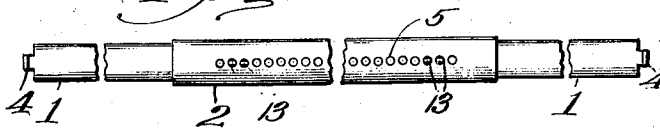


FIG. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ADJUSTABLE SUPPORT FOR CLOTHES HANGERS OR SHADE FIXTURES

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This invention relates to appliances for the support of clothes-draping hangers within a closet or window shade fixtures or the like, and more especially pertains to that class of such appliances supported without the use of nails, screws or the like, and hence applicable for use in conjunction with wood or metal or other hard parts of a building to fasten or retain the appliances in position.

My primary object is to provide a telescopic support composed of a plurality of bars and a combined adjusting and locking means for the support, providing leverage for effecting an increase in the length of the support by combined rotary and sliding movements, and a guard against reverse or shortening movement of the support.

A further object is to provide the member with detachable grip devices of a character making provision by adjustment on the member, for slightly increasing the length thereof.

I am aware of the existence of an appliance composed of two overlapping bars equipped at their remote ends with pivoted gripping devices, and pivoted together at their overlapped ends, and adapted to be applied in position and lengthened for clamping action by an expanding toggle movement and withdrawn from clamping position by reverse or contracting toggle action, but such an appliance does not afford dependable support for clothes hangers, as upward pressure on the composite member, at an intermediate point, in the removal of a hanger or accidentally by pressure of one's arm, is apt to unclamp the member and permit it to fall and the clothes to drop upon or contact with the floor. I have also become aware of devices composed of a plurality of bars slidably related, and provided with means for adjusting said bars to and fastening them in a different relative position of adjustment, but none of the devices with which I am familiar, provide for sufficient adjustment as desirable for an extensible support or function to accomplish adjustment of the bars by a mode of operation involving both pivotal and slidable movement. My appliance, when once properly secured, retains its position against such

annoying eventuality, regardless of the direction in which pressure is applied upon it, and yet may be removed readily without causing the suspended hangers to slide toward its ends as occurs to a greater or lesser extent when a hanger of the other type mentioned is broken upwardly in unclamping it from operative position. For unusually wide closets or windows, the member may be composed of three sections and two combined length increasing and locking means, the two ends bars being of identical construction.

With the object in view mentioned, the invention consists in certain novel and useful features of construction and combinations of parts as hereinafter described and claimed; and in order that it may be fully understood, reference is to be had to the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the appliance in operative position within a closet.

Figure 2 is an enlarged view chiefly in central vertical section and broken away at two points.

Figure 3 is a vertical section taken on the line III—III of Figure 2, but on a larger scale than said figure.

Figure 4 is a top plan view of the right hand end of the appliance as illustrated by Figure 2.

Figure 5 is an enlarged detail perspective view of one of the end gripping devices of the appliance.

Figure 6 is a top plan view of the device as composed of three bars adapted particularly for use in wide closets or windows.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, 1 and 2 indicate inverted U-shaped channel members fitting telescopically together, the lower ends of the arms of member 2 being provided with inwardly projecting flanges 3 engaging the lower edges of the arms of member 1 to hold the members in alinement at all times. Both members in the construction shown by Figures 1 to 4 inclusive, are provided at their outer ends with outwardly and upwardly projecting angle lugs 4, and member 2 is provided centrally of its bridge portion with a longitudinal series of holes 5.

Member 1 is provided in the bridge portion of its overlapped end with a longitudinal slot 6 which registers with two or more holes of member 2 when the member is extended preliminary to and after it is locked in operative position.

The locking means for the bars composing the member comprises a lever 7 pivoted to and within bar 1 at 8, and a catch 9 pivoted at 10 to the lever and provided with a slot 11 having pivotal and sliding movement on a cross pin 12 of said bar 1, said catch having one or more upwardly-projecting teeth 13 to be forced by proper movement of the lever up through slot 6 and into one or a pair of the holes 5 of bar 2, the operation of the lever as said tooth or teeth engage said hole or holes imparting sliding movement to bar 2 for increasing the length of the member as a whole, the movement of the lever continuing until pivot 10 attains a position above center with respect to the plane of the pivot 8 and cross pin 12, so that the lever cannot swing back to unlock the bars until positive downward pressure is applied on its free or handle end, and to guard against chance of such action occurring accidentally the free end of the lever when in locked position lies within the channel of the member, as shown clearly by dotted lines in Figure 2. It is preferred that the parts shall be so proportioned that a tool, such as a button-hook, screw driver or the like, shall be needed to give a proper hold on the free end of the lever to effect its opening movement, as by making such provision chance of accidental unlocking movement of the lever is avoided.

Each end of the member is provided with a clamping or gripping device which for convenience of packing for shipment and also for making provision for still further increasing the length of the member as a whole, is adapted for detachable connection with the member. Each of said devices comprises a channel plate 14 provided with a central vertical bowed portion or hollow rib 15 provided with a pair of transverse slots 16 and 17, and the member is also provided at opposite sides of the rib with lugs 18. The channel side of the plate receives and holds firmly in place a rubber or other compressible block 19 which is adapted when forming a part of a clothes hanger supporting appliance to engage the side walls of a clothes closet C or the bars B customarily found secured to the side walls of such closets, one of such bars being illustrated in Figure 1.

The gripping or clamping devices are engaged through their slots 16 and 17 with the angle flanges 4, and in application are first tilted to a suitable angle to facilitate engagement of their slots with said angle flanges and then permitted to swing down until they abut the ends of the respective bars 1 and 2. When the angle flanges

are engaged with the slot 16, the ends of the respective bars 1 and 2 bear against the plates 14 at opposite sides of the ribs 15. Should it be found it is desirable to slightly increase the length of the appliance as a whole, one of the gripping devices is disengaged from the corresponding angle flange and then reengaged therewith through the slot 17, and when this is done the adjacent end of the engaged bar bears against the rib of the plate of said gripping device and also against the lugs 18 thereof. The length of the device is thus increased by the depth of the lugs, and if slightly greater increase in length is found desirable, the other gripping device can be likewise arranged with respect to its engaging bar.

The appliance for use as a clothes hanger support will ordinarily consist of bars 1 and 2 of a greater width and depth than will be necessary where such bars form a part of a window shade support or fixture. In both cases, however, they will be applied in the same manner, that is to say, after the appliance as a whole has been assembled as shown in full lines, Figure 2, to correspond substantially in length to the distance between the bars B of the closet or the inner faces of a window casing as the case may be, the appliance is placed in the position it is to occupy with the compressible blocks of the gripping devices adjacent the parts to be engaged thereby, and while holding it in such position the lever is operated in the direction indicated by the arrow, Figure 2, to increase the length of the device and clamp the gripping devices firmly against the parts B or the like, the movement of the lever, as hereinbefore stated, first engaging the tooth or teeth 13 with one or two of the holes of bar 2, and then imparting extending movement to the member as a whole so as to clamp the compressible blocks firmly against said bars B or the like, the movement of the lever continuing until the pivotal point 10 has passed center as hereinbefore explained so that the member as extended shall be locked firmly in position, and to remove the device, all that is necessary is to reverse the operation of the lever as will be readily understood.

It will be apparent that by securing the appliance in position as explained, it will retain its position against any reasonable force applied upon it in any direction, and that when it is unclamped and removed it has no tendency to collapse and permit clothes suspending hangers hooked upon it to slide in any direction, provided of course the device is held in a substantially horizontal position, and it will also be apparent that the appliance can be placed in or removed from position regardless of whether or not hangers are suspended upon it, as any hanger which may be in the path of the lever can be pushed

aside enough to permit the lever to be operated.

From the above description it will be apparent that I have produced a support for clothes hangers or window shade fixtures embodying the features of advantage set forth as desirable in the statement of the object of the invention, and which is of simple, strong, durable, and inexpensive construction and needs no nails or screws or other extraneous appliances for its proper securement regardless of whether or not it is clamped against wood or metal surfaces or other hard surfaces.

I claim:

1. A member comprising telescopically related bars, gripping devices mounted on the remote ends of said bars, and means carried by one of the bars and movable pivotally and longitudinally slidable thereon for engaging the other bar and effecting relative sliding movement of the bars to increase the length of the member as a whole.

2. A member comprising telescopically related bars provided with angle flanges at their remote ends, plates detachably engaging said angle flanges, compressible blocks carried by and projecting outward from said plates, and means carried by one of the bars and movable pivotally and longitudinally slidable thereon for engaging the other bar and effecting relative sliding movement of the bars to increase the length of the member as a whole.

3. A member comprising channel bars fitting telescopically together, the inner member having a slot and the outer member a longitudinal series of holes, gripping devices mounted on the remote ends of said bars, and a movable device carried by the inner bar and adapted for longitudinally slidable and pivotal movement relative thereto and provided with a tooth for projecting up through said slot and into one of said holes and applying endwise pressure on the outer bar for effecting an increase in the length of the member as a whole.

4. A member comprising channel bars fitting telescopically together, the inner member having a slot and the outer member a longitudinal series of holes, gripping devices mounted on the remote ends of said bars, a movable device carried by the inner bar and adapted for longitudinal and pivotal movement relative thereto and provided with a tooth for projecting up through said slot and into one of said holes and applying endwise pressure on the outer bar for effecting an increase in the length of the member as a whole, and a lever carried by the inner bar and pivoted to the movable device for effecting the movement thereof mentioned; said lever being adapted in effecting such movement, to swing upwardly into the inner

bar and lock the movable bar against accidental reverse movement.

5. A member composed of channel bars fitting telescopically together, the inner one having a slot and the outer one a longitudinal series of holes, a pin bridging the channel of the inner member opposite said slot, a device having a slot engaging said pin and one or more teeth adjacent the slot of the inner bar, a lever pivoted in the inner bar and pivotally connected eccentrically of its pivot to said slotted device and adapted when swung upwardly into the channel of the inner bar to impart longitudinal and upward movement to the slotted device to cause the tooth or teeth of the same to pass up through said slot and engage a hole or holes of the other bar and effect extension of the member as a whole; the movement of the lever also disposing its pivotal point of connection with the slotted device at a point past center with respect to the plane of the pivotal point of the lever and said cross pin.

6. In an appliance of the character described, a channel bar provided at an end with an up-turned angle flange, a channel plate bearing against the end of said bar and provided with a vertical hollow rib having a transverse slot engaging the angle flange, and a compressible block fitting in the channel plate and bridging the hollow side of said rib.

7. In an appliance of the character described, a pair of bars fitting telescopically together and provided at their remote ends with up-turned angle flanges, a channel plate at each of said remote ends, having a hollow vertical rib facing the adjacent bar end and provided in different horizontal planes with a pair of horizontal slots, the plates also having a pair of lugs at opposite sides of each rib in a plane below that of the topmost slots a distance greater than the vertical width of the telescopic bar but less than such width below the plane of the other slots, and means for causing the remote ends of the bars to clamp against the adjacent channel plates.

8. In an appliance of the character described, a channel plate having a hollow vertical rib projecting from the body of the plate in a plane intermediate and in the opposite direction to the ribs, the rib having an upper transverse slot and a lower but shallower transverse slot; the body of the plate also having lugs projecting in the same direction as and at opposite sides of the rib in a horizontal plane substantially lower than that occupied by the lower slot.

9. In an appliance of the character described, a pair of inverted-U bars fitted telescopically together, the outer one having in-turned flanges engaging the lower edges of the arms of the other bar, and having a series of holes in its bridge portion, and the inner one a slot in its bridge portion, a device fit-

ting within and having a pin and slot connection with the inner bar, and provided with a toothed end adapted to project through said slot and engage a hole or holes of the outer bar, and a lever pivoted to and within the inner bar and pivotally connected to the said device for imparting rotatable and endwise slidable movement to the latter.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

CHARLES A. BUNKER.

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