Oct. 2, 1951 T. H. LINDGREN 2,569,937

FOLDING CRIB

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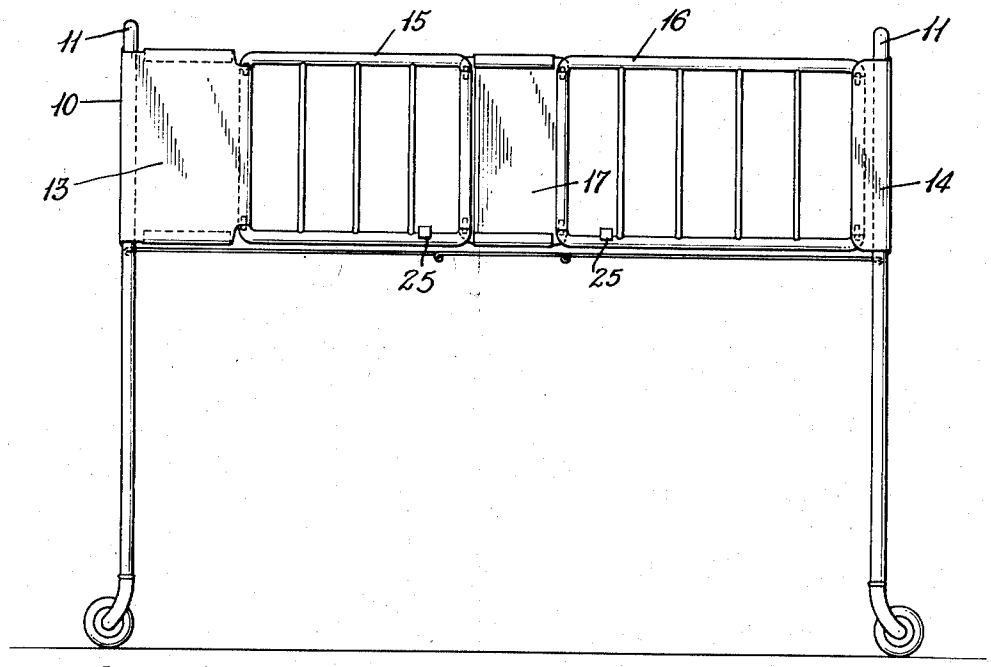


Fig. 1.

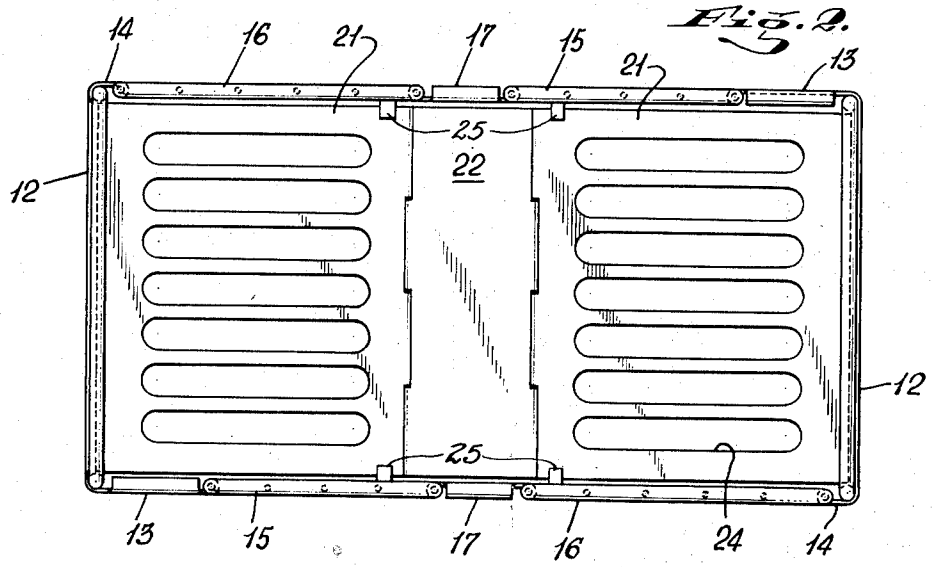


Fig. 2.

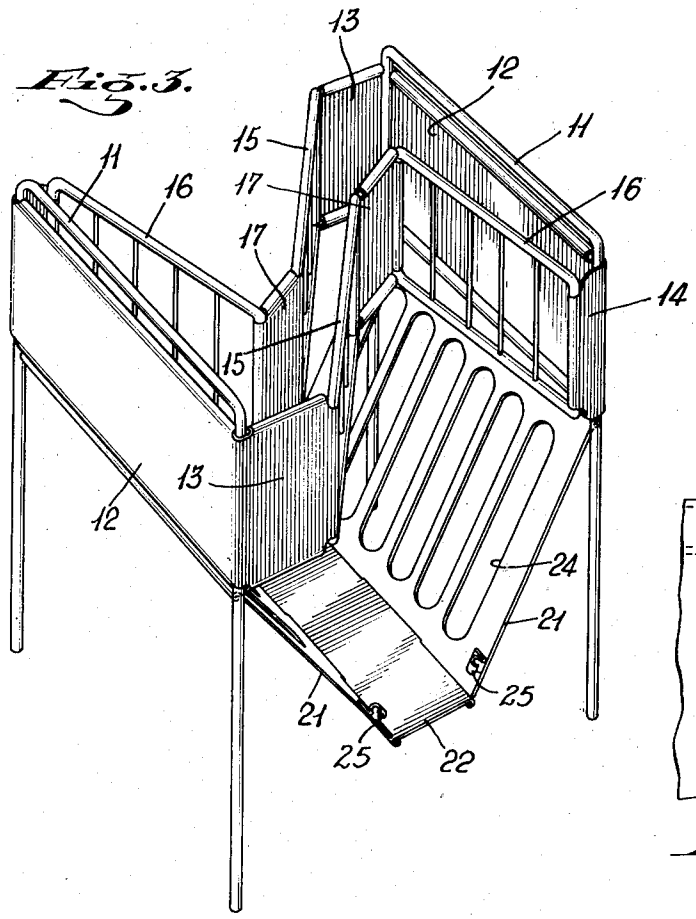
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Fig. 3.



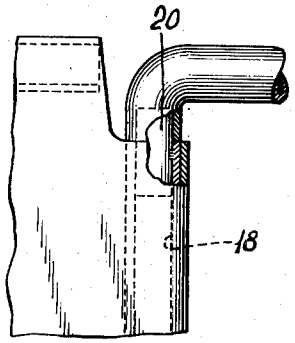


Fig. 5.

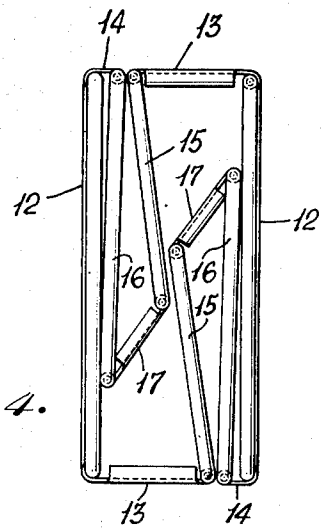


Fig. 4.

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FOLDING CRIB

Theodore Hjalmar Lindgren, Closter, N. J.

Application November 21, 1947, Serial No. 787,301

4 Claims. (Cl. 5—99)

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This invention relates to cribs, and more particularly to folding cribs.

Cribs for infants have been made to fold in the past, but so far as applicant is aware, all prior commercial structures fold primarily for shipping and storage, rather than for transportation as luggage. Those cribs which fold into a package which could be conveniently stowed in a modern automobile or carried on a train in the coaches thereof all suffer from the disadvantage that the mattress and bedding must be removed for folding, which makes for two packages to be handle and disposed of. There are cribs which fold without necessitating the removal of the mattress, but they result in extremely awkward packages, as long as the unfolded crib, and inconveniently thick and high. This is satisfactory for storage in the home, but such cribs are impossible to insert in the luggage compartment of any automobile.

With the above deficiencies of the prior art in mind, it is a primary object of the present invention to provide a crib which can be folded into a package which can be conveniently transported as luggage.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a crib which can be folded with the mattress and bedding in place, and still obtain a package of reasonable dimensions.

Referring now to the drawings:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a crib embodying one form of the present invention, the crib being in an unfolded or set-up position;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the crib shown in Fig. 1;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the crib of the previous figures, in partly folded condition;

Figure 4 is a plan of the crib in folded condition; and

Figure 5 is a fragmentary view, on an enlarged scale, of a typical hinge or pivot for the sides of the crib.

In connection with the drawings, attention is invited to the fact that the parts are drawn to scale, as it would require considerable trial and error experimentation to produce a structure in which the parts clear each other on folding, although there can also be departure from the proportions shown without interference between the moving parts.

The crib consists of two end members 10, which can be identical. In the form shown, a U-shaped tubular member 11 is provided with a sheet metal panel 12, which extends between the legs of the U-shaped tube 11, and along the sides

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of the crib. For the purpose of strengthening the structure, and to eliminate edges which might catch on clothing, the upper and lower margins of the sheet metal are rolled.

It will be noted that the panel 12 has side extensions 13 and 14 of unequal lengths, but as both end structures are identical, the long extension 13 of one end lies along the same side of the crib as the short extension 14 of the other end.

Each of the extensions has pivoted to it a rectangular structure consisting of an upper and lower rail, and vertical bars between the rails. The extensions 13 have shorter frames 15 attached to them, while the extensions 14 have longer frames 16 attached to them.

The frames 15 and 16 are pivoted to panels 17, all thus forming, with the end extensions 13 and 14, the sides of the crib. These panels are formed with rolled top and bottom edges as are the ends, and for the same reasons. The vertical edges of the panels are preferably rolled around tubes 18, and secured thereto by welding or other means, and form part of the hinge structure. Similar tubes are rolled into the edges of the side extensions of the crib ends, for a like purpose.

The horizontal rails of the rectangular frames 15 and 16 are bent to the vertical, and butt against the tubes 18. A short rod or shaft 20 is inserted within the tubes and the interior of the vertical portion of the rail at each point of abutment, and is secured in any suitable fashion. Spot welding is satisfactory and, once accomplished, holds the complete frame together.

The crib bottom is made in three sections hinged together, and pivoted at its ends to the bed ends. A metal sheet is suitable for such purpose, and can be readily furnished with hinges by bending the edges around a mandrel to form loops to receive pintles. Thus, the bottom end sections 21 and the bottom center section 22 have hinges formed on their abutting edges. The sections 21 have a rolled edge adjacent to the crib ends, which receives a pin passing through the legs of the crib.

The crib bottom is shown as having slots 24 cut in the bottom. These slots are optional, and are for ventilation of the mattress and also to lend a certain amount of resiliency to the bottom.

The bottom is supported in horizontal position by a series of hooks 25, four being shown, and sufficient for the purpose. They are simply secured to the bottom sections 21, and hook over the bottom rails of sections 15 and 16. By rais-

ing the bottom slightly, the catches will be free, and slight spreading of the sides will permit them to pass the rails, after which the bottom can be lowered to fold the crib.

In use, the crib may be set up and the mattress and bedding installed. To fold the crib, it is merely necessary to release the catch and push the ends toward each other. The mattress then folds down between the legs of the crib, and the side rails fold together as shown in Figures 3 and 4. The crib can then be enclosed in a case for carrying, if desired.

It is to be understood that the above description is intended to cover a particular embodiment of the invention, and that many modifications can be made without departing from the spirit of the invention as set forth in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A crib adapted for folding with the mattress in place including a pair of end members, a pair of side members, and a bottom member, said bottom member including a plurality of sections hinged together, said bottom member being hinged to the end members for downward folding movement upon approach of the end members toward each other, each side member being hinged to said end members, said side member including three sections hinged together along vertical lines for inward movement upon approach of the end members toward each other.

2. A crib adapted to be folded with the mattress in place including a pair of end members, a pair of side members, and a bottom member, said bottom member being hinged to said end members and including a plurality of sections hinged together for downward folding movement upon approach of the end members to each other, each side member including three sections hinged to each other along vertical axes, the end sections being hinged to the end members, said three members being of unequal lengths whereby upon approach of the end members to each other they fold to approximate a triangular configuration.

3. A crib adapted to be folded with the mattress in place including a pair of end members, a pair of side members, and a bottom member, said bottom member being hinged to said end members and including a plurality of sections hinged together for downward folding movement upon approach of the end members to each other, said end members each having a pair of flanges extending in the plane of the side members when the crib is in unfolded condition, the flanges on each end member being of unequal length in the direction of the length of the crib, the shorter flange of one end member being opposite the longer flange of the other, said side members each including three sections hinged to each other and to the flanges for inward folding movement on approach of the end members to each other.

4. A crib adapted to be folded with the mattress in place including a pair of end members, a pair of side members, and a bottom member, said bottom member being hinged to said end members and including a plurality of sections hinged together for downward folding movement upon approach of the end members to each other, said end members each having a pair of flanges extending in the plane of the side members when the crib is in unfolded condition, the flanges on each end member being of unequal length in the direction of the length of the crib, the shorter flange on one end member being opposite the longer flange of the other, said side members each including three sections hinged together and to the flanges for inward folding movement on approach of the end members to each other, said sections being of unequal length, with the shortest thereof intermediate to the end sections, the longer of the end sections being secured to the shorter flanges.

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