April 1, 1952 F. D. CLARK 2,590,936

IRON CORD SUPPORT AND RETRIEVER

Filed May 31, 1946

Fig.3.

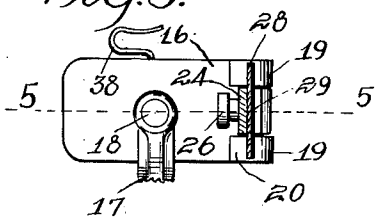
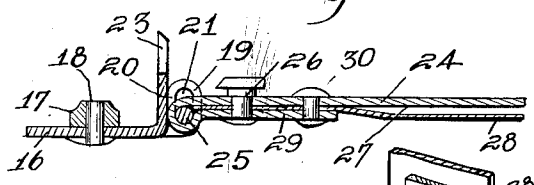


Fig.5.



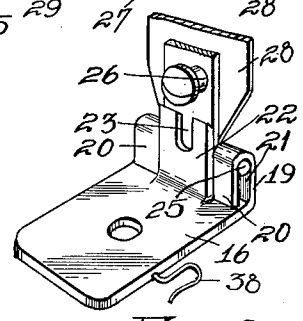
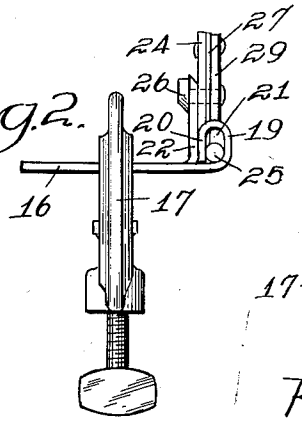


Fig.6.

Fig.2.



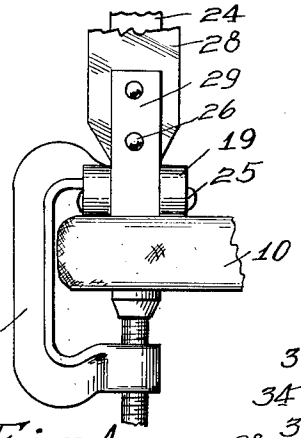


Fig.4.

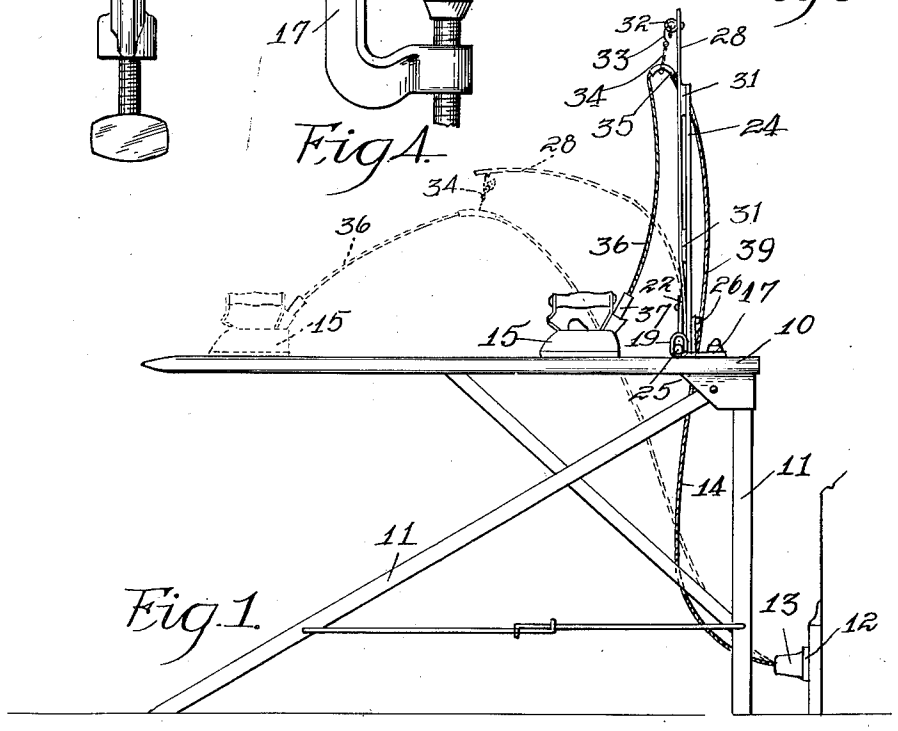


Fig.1.

INVENTOR

FRANK D. CLARK.

Alfred G. Teague Atty

Patented Apr. 1, 1952 2,590,936

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,590,936

IRON CORD SUPPORT AND RETRIEVER

Frank D. Clark, Des Moines, Iowa

Application May 31, 1946, Serial No. 673,572

3 Claims. (Cl. 248—51)

1

This invention pertains to a device adapted to be detachably mounted on an ironing board for supporting the electric cord attached to an iron in such a manner that the cord will be at all times supported in a convenient position, and in such a manner that it will not interfere with the ironing operation, and at the same time hold the cord so that it will not be excessively flexed or bent near the point of attachment with the iron as the ironing operation takes place.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple, durable and inexpensive cord support and retriever, which may be easily and quickly attached to or removed from the ironing board and when so attached, provide means whereby the cord will be held at a convenient elevation so that it will not drag on the floor during the ironing operation.

A further object of my invention is to provide a cord support adapted to hold the cord at such position as to permit free movement of the iron to which it is attached and at the same time maintain substantially a uniform tension on the cord, with the cord held at such an angle that excessive bending of the cord at its point of attachment with the iron is eliminated.

A further object of my invention is to provide in a support for iron cords employing an upright flexible reed for supporting and retrieving the cord, an improved bumper bar, and means for pivotally supporting the bumper bar and reed to permit the reed and bar to be folded to a horizontal position adjacent to the ironing board.

My invention consists in the construction, arrangement and combination of the various parts of the device, whereby the objects contemplated are attained, as hereinafter more fully set forth, pointed out in my claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of an ironing board showing my improved cord support attached to one end of the board with an iron adjacent thereto, showing the manner in which an iron cord is attached to said support in solid lines, and in dotted lines, the position of the cord and the flexed reed when the iron is at the opposite end of the board;

Figure 2 is an enlarged elevation of the lower end of the back side of the support;

Figure 3 is a top view of Figure 2 with a portion of the clamp broken away;

Figure 4 is an end elevation of Figure 2, the lower end of the clamp being broken away;

Figure 5 is a sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 3 with the bumper bar and the reed shown in a folded position;

2

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the base and the lower end of the bumper.

I have used the reference numeral 10 to indicate an ironing board of ordinary construction supported by legs 11. 12 indicates a wall outlet for receiving a plug 13 mounted on the lower end of the iron cord 14 having its other end connected to an electric iron 15.

My improved cord support comprises a base 16 adapted to be secured to the ironing board by means of a clamp 17, the base being preferably secured to the back edge of the right end of the board as illustrated in Figure 1. The clamp 17 is secured to the base by a rivet 18. Each side of one end of the base 16 is formed with upturned portions 19 having their upper ends bent over to form downwardly extending portions 20 to form pivot ways 21. The central portion of said end of the base is bent upwardly to form a latch bar 22 having a notch 23 in its upper end. Said upper edge is bevelled downwardly and outwardly as clearly illustrated.

Pivotally supported between the member 19 I have provided what I shall term a bumper bar 24 having one end mounted to the base by a pivot 25 slidably supported in the ways 21 to permit vertical movement of the bars 24 when in a vertical position. The bumper bar 24 is provided with a latch pin 26 adapted to enter the notch 23 for locking the bumper bar in an upright position.

Mounted adjacent to the forward face 27 of the bar 24 I have provided what I shall term a reed 28 which is in the form of a flat spring substantially of uniform flexibility through its entire length. The reed is of a height of about one-half of the maximum length of the desired stroke of the iron 15 and is fixed in position by folding the lower end of the bar 24 around the pivot 25 to form an upwardly extending portion 29. The lower end of the reed 28 is clamped between the portion 29 and the lower end of the bar 24 by a rivet 30 and the latch 26. The bar 24 is also provided with bumper pads 31 formed of felt or some similar material and provides means for absorbing the shock of the reed if it returns rapidly to an upright position.

The upper end of the reed terminates some distance above the upper end of the bar 24 and is provided with an eyelet 32 for receiving a hook 33 secured to the upper end of a flexible connector 34 having its lower end secured to a sleeve 35 mounted on the central portion of the cord 14. The hook 33 provides means whereby the cord 14 can be easily attached to or removed from the reed.

In the practical operation of my improved cord and support I first clamp the base **16** to the back edge of the right end of the board presumptively with the bar **24** at its horizontal inoperative position adjacent to the board **10**; the bar **24** and the reed **28** are moved to their operative position by first grasping the pivoted end of the bar and elevating the pivot **25** in the ways **21**, and then swinging the free end of the bar to an upright position against the member **22**. The bar **24** is then moved downwardly permitting the latch **26** to enter the notch **23** to the position shown in Figures 1 and 2. The cord **14** may then be attached by the hook **33**. The sleeve **35** should be so positioned on the cord that the end **36** is of a length substantially equal to the distance from the iron **15** to the cord **34** so that the lower end of the portion **36** maintains a position in alignment with the plug **37**, the portion **36** always maintaining alignment at all times during the ironing operation.

The cord portion **39** is preferably placed in the hook **38** so that it will tend to hang downwardly and toward the right from its point of attachment with the reed **28** so as to hold the upper end of the reed toward the bumper bar **24** to positively hold the reed against the bumper pads at such times as when the iron is positioned near the base **16** and thereby maintain the cord portion **36** in its proper aligned position with the plug **37**.

The resiliency of the reed **28** should be such that the weight of the cord will be supported with a slight tension on the cord portion **36** regardless of the operative position of the iron and yet so light that an operator will hardly notice pull on the cord during the ironing operation. When the proper height of the reed and the length of the cord portion **36** are maintained, together with the proper proportioning the weight of the cord and the tension of the reed, the free end of the reed will never be bent to such position that it will assume an arc much greater than ninety degrees so that the cord portion **36** will always be supported in an upwardly and rearwardly inclined position as illustrated in Figure 1 of the drawings. By forming the reed of flat, thin and resilient material, the free end of the reed will always swing in a plane parallel with the longitudinal axis of the ironing board, assuming of course that the side faces of the reed are mounted transversely of said longitudinal axis.

It will therefore be seen that I have provided a support and retriever for ironing boards of simple, durable and inexpensive construction which may be easily and quickly attached to or removed from an ironing board, and when so attached provide means for maintaining the cord at proper height and with a light tension during the ironing operation and at such an angle that excessive bending between the cord and the point of attachment of the iron is eliminated.

I claim:

1. A support and retriever for ironing cords, comprising, a base having an upright support, a bumper bar having one end pivoted to said base and adapted to swing from an upright operative position to a substantially horizontal inoperative position, means for locking the bumper bar to said upright support, a flexible and resilient reed adjacent to and parallel with said bar having one end fixed to the forward face of the pivoted end of said bar, the forward face of said bar having bumper pads fixed thereto to receive the impact of the rear face of the reed as it swings from a forwardly inclined position to an upright position, and means for attaching the intermediate portion of said cord to the free end of said reed.

2. A support and retriever for ironing cords, comprising, a base having vertical pivot guides and an upright support having a notch in its upper end, a bumper bar having a pivot at one end and mounted in said guides, the free end of said bar being adapted to swing from a horizontal inoperative position to an upright operative position adjacent to said upright, a headed stud mounted in said bar adapted to enter said notch after the bar has been raised to its upper upright position and then lowered, a flexible and resilient reed having one end fixed to the pivoted end of said bar and means for attaching the intermediate portion of said cord to the free end of said reed.

3. A support and retriever for ironing cords comprising, a base having an upright support, an upright and stiff bumper bar having one end pivoted to said base and adapted to swing from an upright operative position to a substantially horizontal inoperative position, means for locking the bumper bar to said upright support, a reed resilient and flexible throughout its entire length having its lower end fixed to the pivoted end of said bumper bar, with the free end of said bumper bar normally engaging the reed near its upper end to absorb the free oscillations of said reed, and means for attaching an ironing cord to the free end of said reed.

FRANK D. CLARK.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
1,532,536	Kress	Apr. 7, 1925
2,047,060	Craig	July 7, 1936
2,125,188	Lieberman	July 26, 1938
2,247,551	Halsey	July 1, 1941
2,356,979	Delp	Aug. 29, 1944
2,462,464	Brier et al.	Feb. 22, 1949