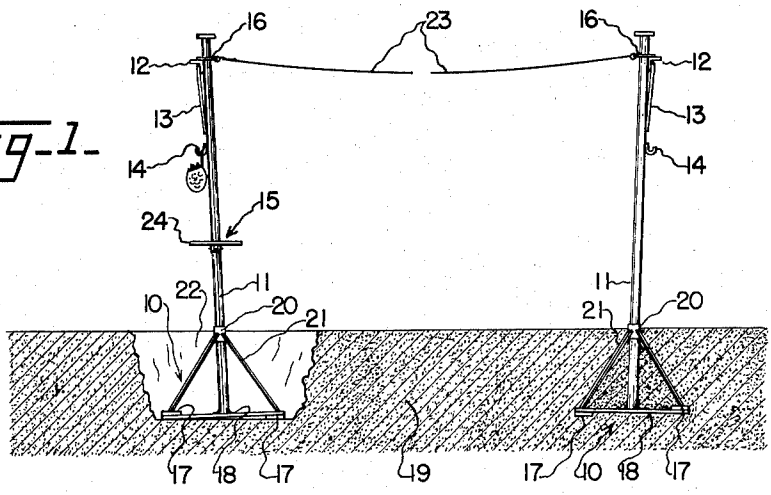
May 12, 1953 N. TARDIE ET AL 2,638,231

CLOTHESLINE POLE

Filed Dec. 7, 1948

Fig. 1.



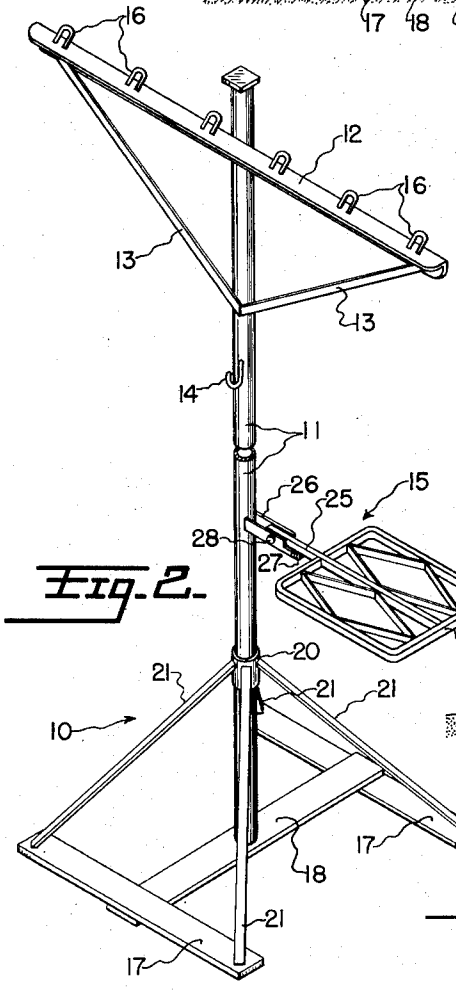


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

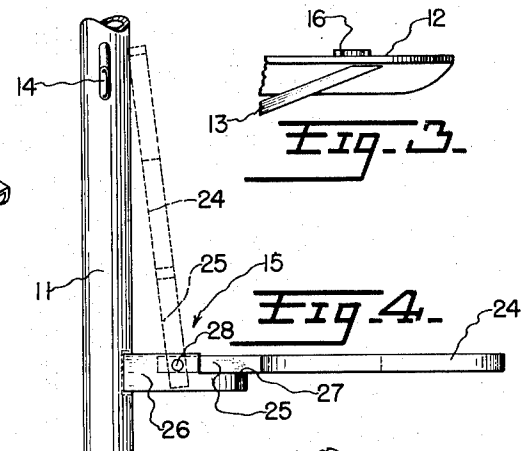


Fig. 4.

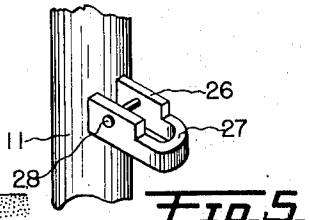


Fig. 5.

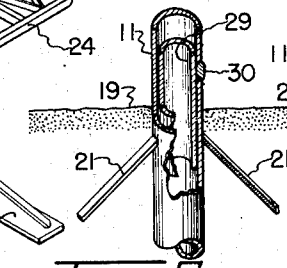


Fig. 6.

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Patented May 12, 1953 2,638,231

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,638,231

CLOTHESLINE POLE

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Application December 7, 1948, Serial No. 63,888

3 Claims. (Cl. 211—119.01)

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This invention relates to clothesline hangers or supports.

The invention has particular reference to clothesline hangers or supports which are equipped for supporting a plurality of clotheslines in elevated position and parallel to each other.

More particularly the invention is directed to clothesline hangers of the type embodying an upright having the lower end thereof anchored in the ground and the upper end thereof provided with a cross arm equipped for engaging a clothesline therewith.

Among the objects of the invention are, to provide for the clothesline hanger a supporting base which gives a maximum of lateral stability plus the support necessary to overcome the inward drag to which the pole of the support is normally subjected; to provide such a combination and arrangement of base, pole, and cross arm as will permit anchoring the hanger in position without the necessity of resorting to cement as an anchoring medium; to provide a clothesline hanger with a clothespin bag hook and a clothes rack so arranged as to be readily accessible to the user without interfering with the freedom of movement in hanging the clothes, or in removing the clothes from the line; and to improve generally over clothesline hangers as are now generally known and used.

The invention, together with its objects and advantages, will be best understood when the following detailed description is read with reference to the accompanying drawing wherein is illustrated what is presently considered a preferred embodiment of the invention, and in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a clothesline hanger embodying the features of the present invention and illustrating the manner in which the hangers are secured and imbedded in the ground;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of a hanger with the clothes rack in horizontal position for use;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary side elevational view of one end portion of the cross arm and showing the manner in which a brace and a clothesline hook are associated therewith, as contemplated by this invention;

Figure 4 is a fragmentary side elevational view showing a portion of the upright and with the clothes rack shown in full lines in one position and in broken lines in a folded or out of the way position,

Figure 5 is a fragmentary perspective view

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showing a portion of the upright and the mounting bracket for the clothes rack in position thereon, and

Figure 6 is a fragmentary detail view, part in section and part in elevation, illustrating an alternate construction and assembly, hereinafter more fully described.

Referring more in detail to the drawing, it will be seen that, in general, the clothesline hanger or support comprises a base indicated generally by the reference numeral 10, a pole or upright 11 rising from the base, a cross arm 12 mounted on the pole or upright 11 adjacent the upper end of the latter and braced with respect thereto through the medium of brace bars 13—13, a suspension hook 14 mounted on the pole 11 below the cross arm 12 and a clothes rack indicated generally by the reference numeral 15 pivotally mounted on the upright 11 below the hook 14 and extending therefrom at substantially right angles to the hook; clothesline hooks 16 mounted on the cross arm 12 completing the general assembly.

As shown to advantage in Figure 2, the base 10 comprises a pair of spaced parallel coextensive members 17—17 that are secured together by a cross or stretch bar 18. The members 17 and 18 are preferably formed from strap metal and the ends of the stretch bar 18 are welded to the members 17. In this connection it is to be noted that one end of the stretch bar 18 is located at the underside of one of the members 17 and the opposite end of the stretch bar 18 rests on the top of the other member 17. As shown in Figure 1, the base 10 is adapted to be imbedded in the ground 19. To that end a hole 22 is dug and the base 10 placed within the hole after which the hole is filled with dirt to secure the base in position. The base 10 is thus supported at an incline so that when, as shown in Figure 1, two clothesline hangers, for example, are employed as is required, the poles or uprights thereof tilt slightly away from one another. As a result the uprights 11 are so supported that a maximum of lateral stability is given thereto, while at the same time there is provided for the uprights that support necessary to overcome the inward drag, that is, the pull to which the posts are subjected by the weight of the clothes on the line tending to cause the poles to incline inwardly toward one another. As is well known, when the uprights of clothesline hangers are initially supported in a true vertical or perpendicular position, the uprights or poles ultimately, in response to the pull of the clothes-

lines thereon and the weight of the clothes, sag inwardly towards one another with consequent manifest disadvantages not necessary to here enumerate. Completing the base structure 10 is a collar 20 that is supported in elevated position at the center of the base through the medium of inclined struts 21. At the lower ends thereof the struts 21 are welded to the base members 17 and at their upper ends are welded to the collar 20, thus providing a rigid structure.

The upright or pole 11 has the lower portion thereof fitting snugly in the collar 20 with the lowermost end of the post resting on the base member 18. Preferably the lower end of the post or upright is welded to the base member 18, further adding to the strength and rigidity of the structure. As shown in Figure 1, when the base 10 is in final position within the ground 19, the collar 20 is at approximately the ground surface.

It is contemplated that the lower end of the pole or upright 11 and the mentioned elements of the base 10 will be painted with an asphalt paint to protect the mentioned parts against rust. By so painting the base and lower portion of the upright, recourse to cement as an anchoring member is further obviated since cement is often used where metal is employed not only as an anchoring medium but also as a means of protecting the metal against rust.

Also in accordance with this invention, the cross arm 12 is in the form of a steel angle bar and is welded to the upright 11. The braces 13 are also of metal and at one end are welded to the upright 11 and at the opposite ends are welded to the cross arm 12 adjacent the ends of the latter. In this connection it is also to be noted that the vertical flange of the cross arm 12 at its ends is rounded as shown to advantage in Figure 3. This is a safety factor since it eliminates sharp corners and thus reduces to a minimum the possibility of a severe injury in the event the operator's head should accidentally come in contact with either end of the cross arm, as sometimes happens.

Another salient feature of the present invention is the clothesline hooks 16. In accordance with this invention each hook 16 is formed of a metal rod bent into a substantial U, the legs of which, at the open end of the U, are welded to the top or horizontal flange of the cross arm as shown. In the present instance the cross arm is shown equipped with six such hooks so as to accommodate six clotheslines 23 as shown.

The aforementioned hook 14, provided for suspending from the pole or upright 11 a clothespin bag, is also welded to the pole and is positioned thereon at a height which will be convenient to the operator.

Referring now to the rack 15, the same is designed for holding the clothes preparatory to being hung on the lines 23 or as the clothes are removed therefrom, and the construction is such that the clothes may be placed on the rack or a basket or other receptacle in which the clothes are placed may be conveniently supported on the rack. To that end the rack 15 comprises a tray 24 that is preferably formed of metal, and it is desirable that the same be of openwork design. Extending from one edge of the tray and formed integral therewith is a hinge shank 25 that complements a mounting bracket 26. This latter is preferably formed from a length of strap metal bent in a substantial U with the legs thereof at the open end of the U welded to the post or upright 11. At the bite or cross end of the U the bracket 26 is provided with a notch 27. The hinge shank 25 is accommodated between the legs of the U and is pivoted to the bracket 26 through the medium of a pivot pin 28. It will thus be seen that tray 24 is supported to swing to either of the positions shown in Figure 4. When swung downwardly to the horizontal or operable position, shank 25 abuts the bracket 26 at the notch 27 so that the tray 24 is held in a horizontal position to receive the clothes or the clothes basket or other receptacle, as the case may be. When not in use, the tray 24 may be readily swung upwardly against the post 11 to the out-of-the-way or dotted line position of Figure 4.

As shown in Figure 6, the collar 20 may be dispensed with and in that event the struts 21 are welded directly to the post 11. This alternate construction will be resorted to where a smaller diameter of post 11 is desired or required. For reinforcing purposes this alternate construction and assembly also includes a short length of pipe 29 which is inserted in the post 11 to extend above and below the point where the struts 21 are joined with the post 11 to thereby strengthen the structure at this point. This reinforcing length of pipe 29, which latter may be either solid or hollow, is secured in position by what is known as a plug weld 30. Thus it will be seen that with this alternate construction and assembly a post 11 of smaller diameter than that employed in the assembly of Figure 2 may be resorted to without detracting from the overall rigidity and strength of the clothesline hanger.

It is of course understood that at least two clothesline hangers or supports embodying the features above described are employed for supporting the clotheslines 23 therebetween as clearly suggested by Figure 1.

It will be appreciated from the foregoing that the hanger contemplated by this invention may be economically constructed; that while the same is primarily designed to be permanently positioned, it can be readily relocated as found desirable or as conditions of use may dictate; and that the hanger may be used regardless of the type of soil that may be encountered.

While the invention has been described in detail in its presently preferred embodiment, it will, of course, be understood that such has been done for purposes of illustration only and not by way of limitation and, therefore, only such limitations are to be imposed thereon as may reasonably come within the scope of the appended claims.

What we claim is:

1. A clothesline hanger including spaced poles each equipped near its upper end with clothesline supports, a line secured to the supports, and a base for each pole, said base comprising a pair of base members spaced to lie at opposite sides of the pole together with a stretcher bar secured to the lower end of each pole and the opposite ends of which bar are secured to intermediate parts of said base members, one end of the stretcher bar being engaged with the top of one of said base members and the opposite end of the stretcher bar being engaged with the bottom of said other base member, brace members secured to the outer ends of the base members and to the pole at a point above the lower end, whereby to support the pole at a slight angle from the vertical and with the tops of the poles tilting away from each other to minimize inward

drag on the poles when clothes are hung on the clothesline.

2. A clothesline hanger comprising a pole, a cross arm fixed thereto adjacent the upper end of the pole, means on the cross arm for securing a clothesline thereto, and a supporting base for the pole embodying a pair of parallelly extending base members, a cross member having the lower end of said pole secured to the intermediate section thereof, the extremities of the cross member being secured to and at right angles with the base members, and struts extending from the base members to the pole above the lower end thereof and secured thereto, to provide a rigid structure.

3. A clothesline hanger comprising a pole, a cross arm fixed thereto adjacent the upper end of the pole, means on the cross arm for securing a clothesline thereto, and a supporting base for the pole embodying a pair of parallelly extending base members, a cross member, the intermediate part of which is secured to the lower end of said pole, said cross member being secured at one end thereof perpendicular to one of the first-mentioned base members at the underside of the latter and at the opposite end thereof secured to the other of the first-mentioned base members at

the top side of the latter, and struts extending from the base members to the pole above the lower end thereof and secured to the pole, to provide a rigid structure.

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