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IRON HOLDER AND CLOTHES RACK ASSEMBLY FOR IRONING BOARD

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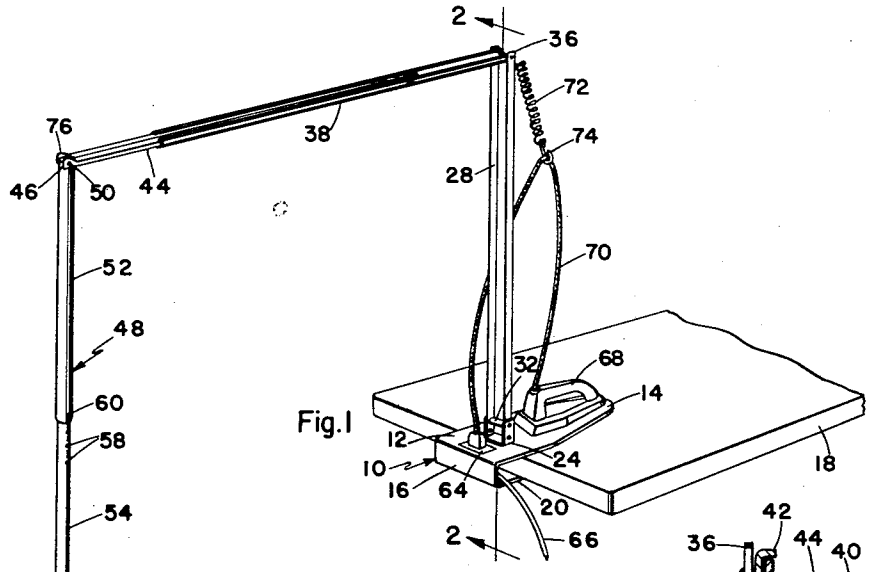


Fig. 1

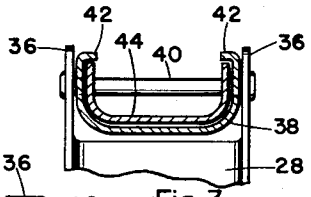


Fig. 3

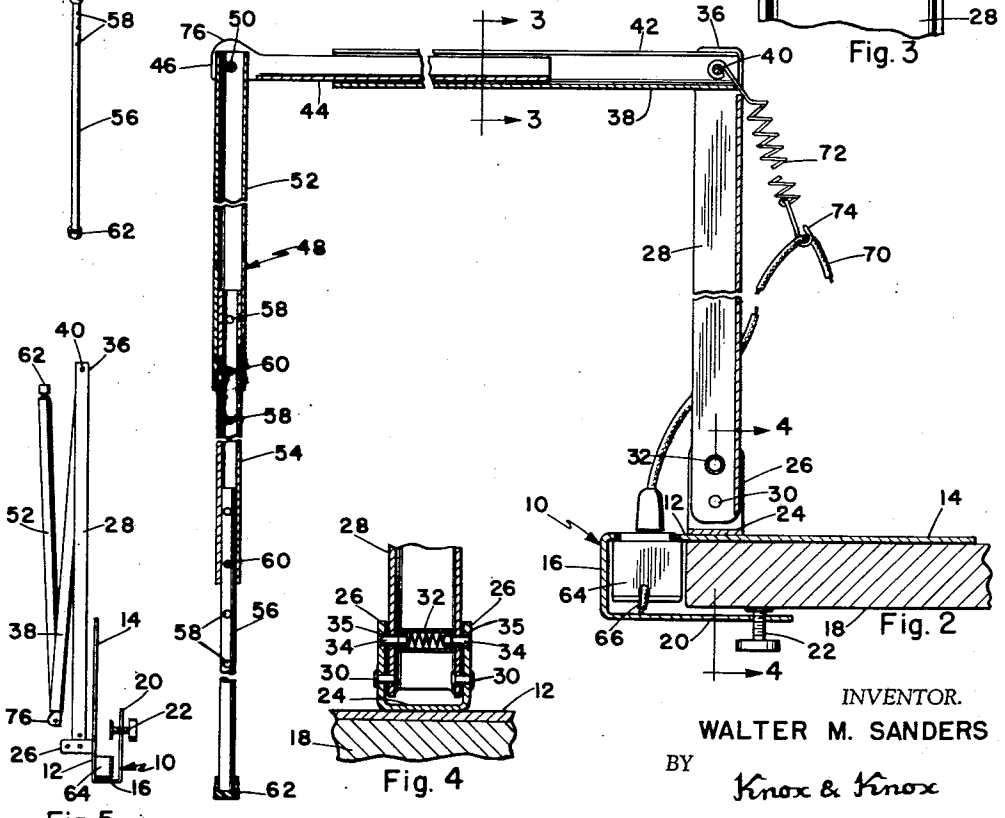


Fig. 2

Fig. 4

Fig. 5

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IRON HOLDER AND CLOTHES RACK ASSEMBLY FOR IRONING BOARD

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The present invention relates generally to ironing accessories and more particularly to an iron holder and clothes rack assembly for ironing boards.

The primary object of this invention is to provide an assembly for attachment to an ironing board which includes an iron stand to hold a hot iron, the iron stand containing an electrical outlet for the iron, and a clothes rack mounted on the iron stand to carry clothes after ironing.

Another object of this invention is to provide a clothes rack assembly which is easily clamped to the end of an ironing board by means of an integral bracket in the iron stand portion thereof.

Still another object of this invention is to provide a clothes rack assembly which is collapsible into a minimum of space for easy storage and which may be left on the ironing board when collapsed, or removed completely when not required.

A further object of this invention is to provide a clothes rack assembly having a spring support for the electrical cord of the iron, to hold the cord clear of the work area.

Another object of this invention is to provide an iron holder and clothes rack assembly which is adapted for fabrication from many different materials, so that the choice of material can be according to the dictates of availability and price considerations, the exact sizes and proportions being matters easily determined to suit particular conditions and needs.

Another object of this invention is to provide an iron holder and clothes rack assembly which is practicable and inexpensive to manufacture.

Finally, it is an object to provide an iron holder and clothes rack assembly of the aforementioned character which is simple, safe and convenient to use and which will give generally efficient and durable service.

With these and other objects definitely in view, this invention consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of elements and portions, as will be hereinafter fully described in the specification, particularly pointed out in the claims, and illustrated in the drawing which forms a material part of this disclosure, and in which:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of the iron holder with clothes rack erected, an ironing board being indicated fragmentarily;

FIGURE 2 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of FIGURE 1, the electrical outlet being shown in full;

FIGURE 3 is an enlarged sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of FIGURE 2;

FIGURE 4 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of FIGURE 2; and

FIGURE 5 is a side elevation view, on a reduced scale, showing the assembly almost completely collapsed to illustrate the method of folding the structure.

Similar characters of reference indicate similar or identical elements and portions throughout the specification and throughout the views of the drawing.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, wherein is illustrated one complete embodiment of my invention, the assembly includes a mounting bracket **10** having a base plate **12** which is extended to form a flat-iron stand **14**

at one end similar to the plate portion of a trivet, the other end of said bracket having a generally U-shaped portion **16** to fit over the end of an ironing board **18**. The U-shaped portion **16** has a flat clamp plate **20** which extends under the ironing board **18** parallel to the base plate **12**, and a clamp screw **22** is threaded through the clamp plate to bear against the underside of the ironing board, as in FIGURE 2. Fixed to the base plate **12** adjacent the U-shaped portion **16** is a U-shaped hinge bracket **24** having upwardly extending parallel arms **26**.

Mounted between the arms **26** is a support post **28** of channel section material, said support post being pivotal about transverse hinge pins **30** parallel to the plane of the base plate **12**. Secured in the support post **28** adjacent the hinge pins **30** is a spring actuated detent element **32** of any suitable well known type, said element having detent plungers **34** which extend from the element and engage in sockets **35** in the arms **26** to lock the support post in an upright position, as in FIGURE 4. The upper end of the support post **28** has a pair of upwardly extending hinge arms **36**, between which is secured one end of a cross bar **38**, pivotal on a hinge pin **40** between said hinge arms and parallel to the hinge pins **30**. The cross bar **38** is generally C-shaped in cross section and has opposed, inwardly turned edge flanges **42**, as illustrated in FIGURE 3. Slidably fitted into the cross bar **38** is a cross bar extension **44**, also C-shaped in cross section, the two elements comprising a telescopic member of rigid but light structure.

The cross bar extension **44** has, at its outer end, a pair of extended hinge arms **46** which straddle the upper end of a tubular telescopic post **48**, the post being held by a further hinge pin **50** parallel to the hinge pin **40**. The telescopic post **48**, as illustrated, includes an upper section **52**, an intermediate section **54** and a lower section **56**, which slide into each other, the intermediate and lower sections each having a plurality of longitudinally spaced holes **58** at their upper ends to receive stop pins **60** inserted through the next larger telescopic section in each case. Thus the length of the telescopic post **48** can be adjusted to suit, the lower end of the lower section **56** having a ferrule **62** thereon for frictional bearing support on the floor. It should be understood that the telescopic post **48** may be composed of any desired number of interfitting sections according to size and extension requirements.

The mounting bracket **10** contains an electrical outlet **64** secured in the U-shaped portion **16** and accessible through the base plate **12**, said outlet being connected to a suitable extension cord **66**. The base plate **12** takes the place of a separate trivet and serves as a resting surface for an electric flat-iron **68**, when hot, to avoid burning of the ironing board surface, the iron cord **70** being plugged into the outlet **64**. The position of the ironing board **18** relative to an electrical wall outlet is thus not limited by the length of the iron cord **70**, the full length of the iron cord being available at the work area. To prevent the iron cord **70** from interfering with the work, a retractor spring **72** is attached at one end to the hinge pin **40**, the other end of said spring having a loop **74**, through which the iron cord is passed. The retractor spring **72** is strong enough to lift the iron cord **70** clear of the work surface, yet not enough to exert an undue pull on the cord which might interfere with use of the iron.

The assembly may be attached to any conventional ironing board and the telescopic post **48** extended to the floor to hold the cross bar portion horizontal, the cross bar elements **38** and **44** being extended as necessary to the required length. When the assembly is erected, the single detent element **32** is sufficient to hold the entire structure against collapse, since the weight of ironed

articles hanging on the cross bar serves to hold the telescopic post **48** firmly on the floor and prevents slippage. To prevent hangers, on which ironed clothes are hung, from inadvertently sliding off the end of the cross bar extension **44** it is preferred that lugs **76** should be formed on the end of this extension **44**. These lugs have a secondary function in strengthening the hinge arms **46** against breakage. For storage, the telescopic post **48** collapses and folds upwardly into the cross bar extension **44** which, in turn, telescopes into the outer cross bar **38**, the entire structure then folding downwardly into the support post **28**, as in FIGURE 5. Also, the bracket **10** may be folded along the side of the support post **28** by manually releasing the detent plungers **34**.

It is noteworthy that the complete assembly can be folded into the top of the ironing board, and the bracket **10** need not be loosened or removed from the ironing board when the assembly is thus folded. The relative positions of the elements of the assembly are substantially as shown in FIGURE 5 except that the complete structure is folded down upon the top of the ironing board. In view of the collapsibility of the assembly, the storage space required is not materially increased.

The operation of this invention will be clearly comprehended from a consideration of the foregoing description of the mechanical details thereof, taken in connection with the drawing and the above recited objects. It will be obvious that all said objects are amply achieved by this invention.

It is understood that minor variation from the form of the invention disclosed herein may be made without departure from the spirit and scope of the invention, and that the specification and drawing are to be considered as merely illustrative rather than limiting.

I claim:

1. An iron holder and clothes rack assembly for an ironing board, comprising: a bracket having clamp means thereon for attachment to an ironing board; a support post pivotally attached at one end to said bracket said support post having a U-shaped cross section; means on said bracket to hold the post upright; a linearly adjustable garment supporting cross bar pivotally attached at one end to the other end of said support post said cross bar having a U-shaped cross section; a telescopically adjustable, floor-engaging post pivotally attached at one end to the other end of said cross bar; said floor-engaging post when collapsed being foldable into the hollow portion of said U-shaped cross section of said cross bar, and said cross bar when linearly collapsed being foldable into the hollow portion of said U-shaped cross section of said support post.

2. An iron holder and clothes rack assembly for an ironing board, comprising: a bracket having clamp means thereon for attachment to an ironing board; said bracket having a combined integral extended plate stabilizing means and supporting surface for a flat iron; a support post pivotally attached at one end to said bracket; means on said bracket to hold the post upright; said combined stabilizing means and supporting surface being adapted to contact a relatively large segment of the top surface of an ironing board and thus stabilizing the bracket and said means to hold the post upright and indirectly stabilizing said post; a linearly adjustable garment supporting cross bar pivotally attached at one end to the other end of said support post; a telescopically adjustable, floor-engaging post pivotally attached at one end to the other end of said cross bar; said floor-engaging post when collapsed being folded into an internesting relation with said cross bar, and said cross bar when linearly collapsed being foldable into an internesting relation with said support post; and said bracket and support post being pivotally connected together; means to lock said support post in vertical position when said extended plate portion of the bracket is in horizontal, operative position; said support post being foldable into parallelism with said extended plate portion and with said cross bar and said floor-engaging post folded into the support post.

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