March 4, 1958 C. W. HARDIN 2,825,074

LEG SUPPORT

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FIG. 1.

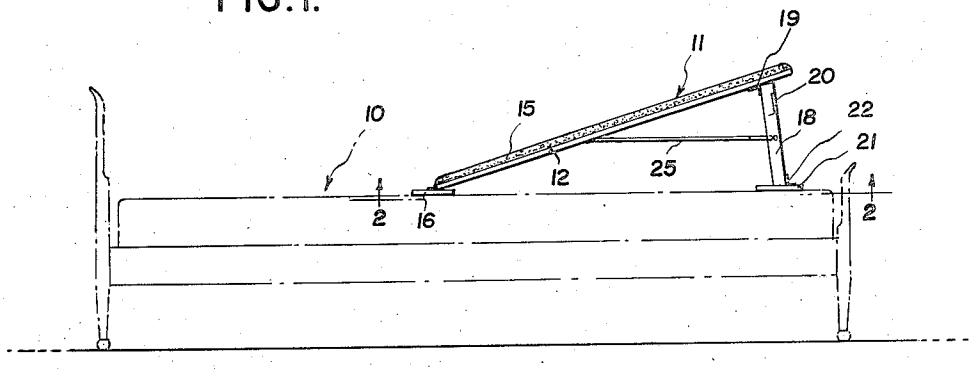


FIG. 2.

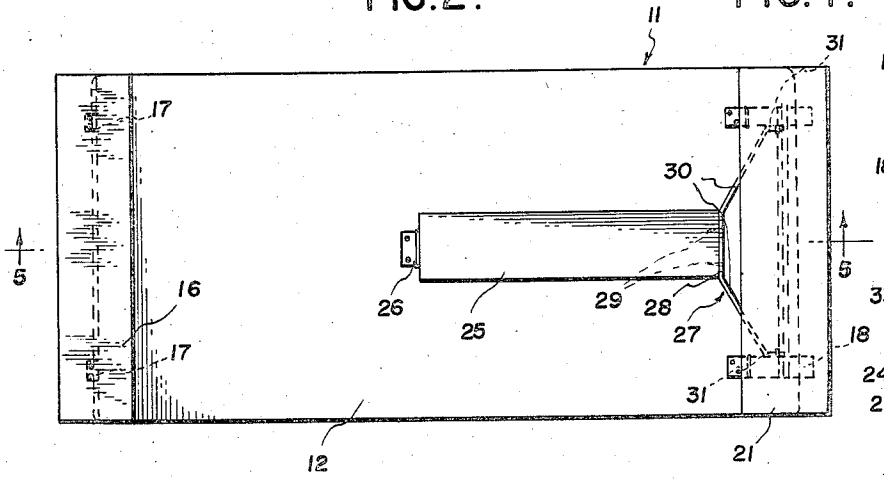
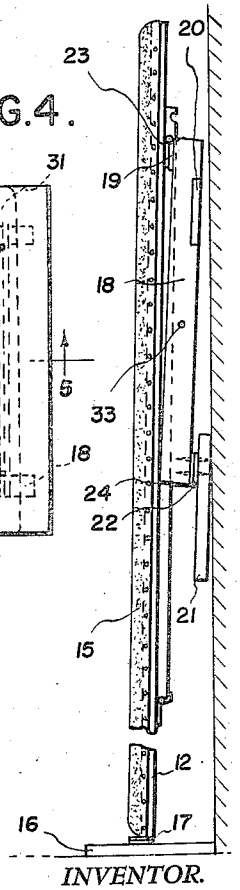


FIG. 4.



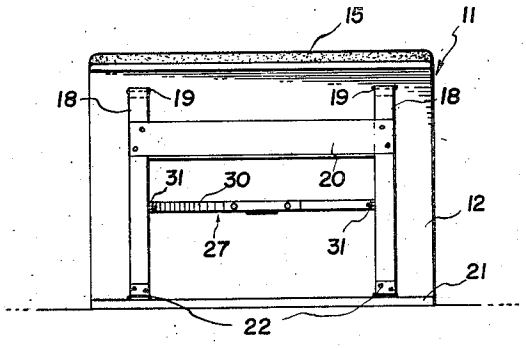


FIG. 3.

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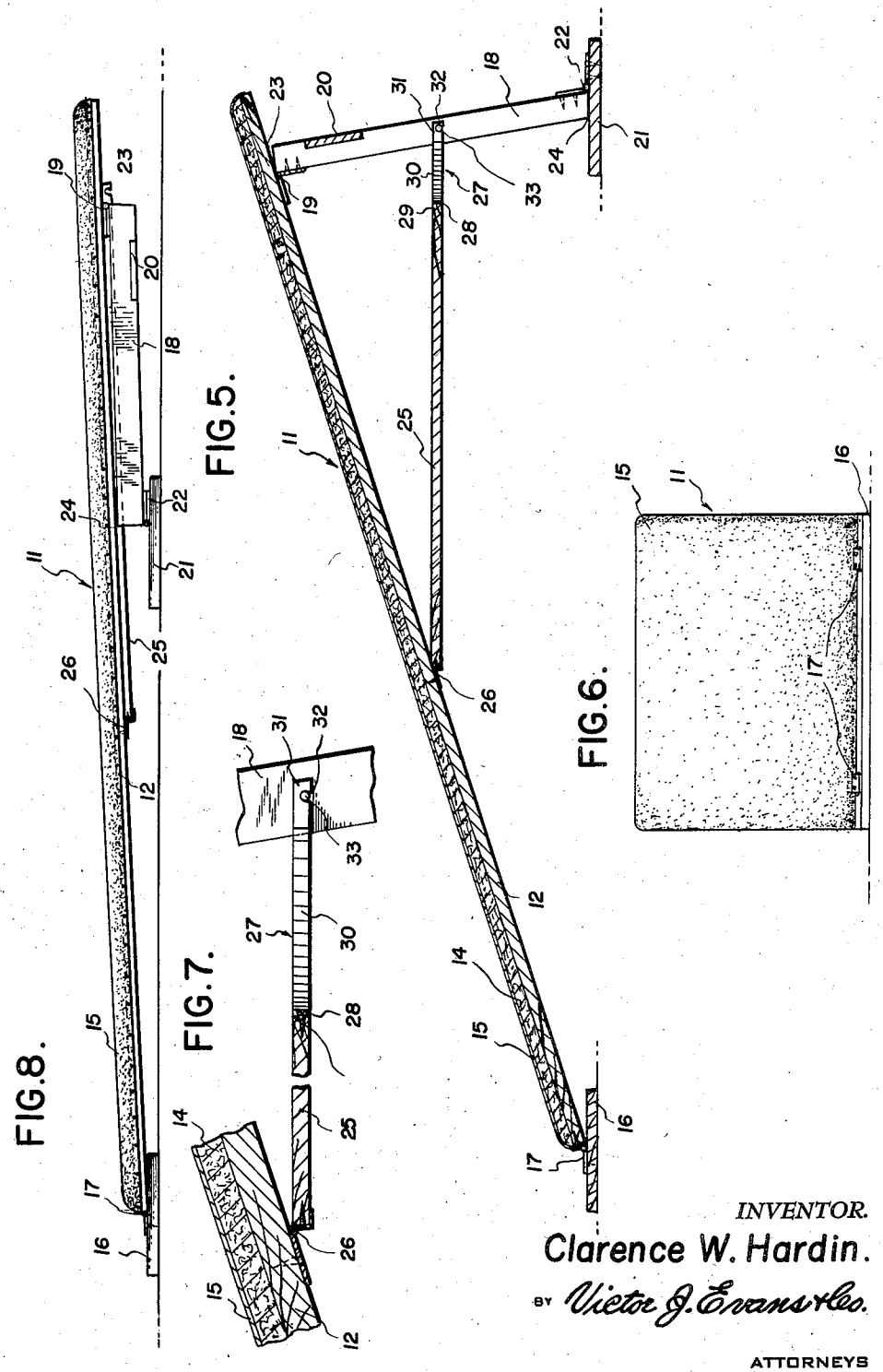
BY Victor J. Evans & Co.

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March 4, 1958 C. W. HARDIN 2,825,074

LEG SUPPORT

Filed May 12, 1955 2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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LEG SUPPORT

Clarence W. Hardin, Duncan, Okla.

Application May 12, 1955, Serial No. 507,791

2 Claims. (Cl. 5—327)

This invention relates to a support, and more particularly to a device for supporting the legs or hips in an upwardly inclined or raised position.

The object of the invention is to provide a support member for use by persons lying down on a couch or lying in bed or the like whereby the legs, thighs, hips and the like will be supported in a raised position to insure greater relaxation and help for the user.

Another object of the invention is to provide a support which will permit the user to achieve greater relaxation and health since the legs can be maintained in a raised position so that there will be less strain on the heart, and whereby the device can be readily folded to occupy a minimum amount of space as when it is to be shipped or stored.

A further object of the invention is to provide a support member which is extremely simple and inexpensive to manufacture.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this application, and in which like numerals are used to designate like parts throughout the same:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view showing the support member mounted on a bed, the bed being shown in broken lines, and the support member ready for use.

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is an end elevational view of the support member.

Figure 4 is a side elevational view of the support member, with the parts in folded or collapsed position.

Figure 5 is a sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 2.

Figure 6 is a front elevational view of the support member.

Figure 7 is a fragmentary sectional view illustrating certain constructional details of the device and showing the mechanism for maintaining the device in extended or operative position.

Figure 8 is a side elevation of the device.

Referring in detail to the drawings, the numeral **10** designates a bed in broken lines in Figure 1, and the present invention is directed to a support member which is indicated generally by the numeral **11**. The support member **11** is adapted to be used for supporting or maintaining a person's legs, thighs, and hips in a raised position when the person is lying in the bed or on a couch.

The support member **11** of the present invention includes a base **12** which can be made of any suitable material, and as shown in Figures 1 and 5, when the device is being used, the base **12** is in an inclined position. A pad **14** of yieldable material is secured to the upper surface of the base **12**, and a cover **15** may extend along the outer or upper surface of the pad **14** and is secured thereto.

Arranged contiguous to the lower end of the base **12** is a bar **16**, and the bar **16** is pivotally connected to the

lower end of the base **12** through the medium of a hinge assembly or assemblies **17**.

For maintaining the base **12** in its inclined position, there is provided a pair of spaced parallel legs **18** which have their upper ends hingedly connected to the base **12** by means of hinges **19**, Figure 5. A brace **20** interconnects the legs **18** together, and a body member **21** is hingedly connected to the lower ends of the legs **18** by means of hinges **22**, the body member **21** helping to stabilize the device. The upper ends of the legs **18** are inclined slightly as at **23**, and the lower ends of the legs **18** are inclined as at **24** so that when the parts are in the position shown in Figure 5 the base will be supported in its proper inclined position.

There is further provided a means for maintaining the parts immobile in their operative position, and this means comprises a beam **25** which has one end hingedly connected to the lower surface of the base **12** by means of a hinge **26**. A bracket **27** which may be made of metal or the like, includes an intermediate offset portion **28** which is secured to the other end of the beam **25** by suitable securing elements such as screws or nails **29**, Figure 2. The bracket **27** further includes outwardly extending or diverging portion **30** which terminate in flat portions **31**. Each of the flat portions **31** is provided with a slot or cutout **32** which is adapted to engage or receive therein pins **33** which extend inwardly from the legs **18**. Thus, by disengaging the portions **31** from the pins **33**, the device can be folded from the position shown in Figures 1 and 5 to the position shown in Figure 4 as when the device is to be stored or shipped whereby it will occupy a minimum amount of space.

From the foregoing it is apparent that there has been provided a support member **11** which can be used in a bed, couch or the like and in use the support member **11** may be positioned in the bed **10** as shown in Figure 1. The legs **18** when in the substantially vertical position will support the base **12** in the inclined position so that a person may place his head on the bed **10** and then place his or her legs on the pad **14**. Thus, the legs, thighs, and hips will be maintained in a raised or inclined position so that the person can relax completely and have his or her health greatly benefited. The bar **16** helps stabilize or support the front end of the device, and the body member **21** adds stability to the lower ends of the legs **18**. The upper and lower ends of the legs **18** are inclined as at **23** and **24** so that the parts will be supported in their proper position. The beam **25** has the bracket **27** connected thereto, and the slots **32** of the bracket **27** engage the pins **33** so as to prevent the device from accidentally collapsing when in use. However, when the device is not being used, the bracket **27** can be disengaged from the pins **33** so as to permit the device to be folded from the position shown in Figures 1 and 5 to the position shown in Figure 4 whereby it will occupy a minimum amount of space.

By having the legs elevated or supported, the person will be able to readily relax. The device is neat, compact, and is one complete unit. The present invention is especially suitable for people who are tired or who have poor circulation, sagging organs and the like since the legs and hips are elevated. The device can be kept near the couch or bed ready to be used. Not only is the device suitable for use by invalids, but it is also adapted to be used by anyone else. The device is light in weight and the pad **14** helps increase the comfort thereof. Due to the provision of the various hinges, the parts can be readily folded to the position shown in Figure 4. Furthermore, the device can be readily opened for use or readily closed without any difficulty. The bar **16**, body member **21**, and base **12** have the same width, but the size and shapes of the parts can be varied as desired.

I claim:

1. In a support member, an inclined base, a yieldable pad secured along the upper surface of said base, a cover extending along the upper surface of said pad, a bar hingedly connected to the lower end of said base, a pair of vertically disposed spaced parallel legs hingedly connected to the upper portion of said base, a brace extending between said legs and secured thereto, a body member hingedly connected to the lower ends of said legs, a beam having one end hingedly connected to the lower surface of said base intermediate the ends thereof, a bracket including an intermediate offset portion secured to the other end of said beam, a pair of diverging sections extending outwardly from said offset portion, spaced parallel flat portions extending from the ends of said divergent sections and provided with slots, pins extending from the inner surfaces of said legs for engagement by said slots, and the upper and lower edges of said legs are inclined whereby said legs may be folded against said base when the device is not being used.

2. A support member for use in supporting or maintaining a person's legs, thighs and hips in a raised position when the person is lying in bed or on a couch, comprising an inclined base, a bar hingedly connected to the lower end of said base for helping to stabilize or support an end of the support member, a pair of vertically disposed spaced parallel legs hingedly connected to the upper portion of said base, a brace extending between said legs and secured thereto, a body member hingedly connected to the lower ends of said legs for helping to stabilize the device, a beam having one end hingedly connected to the lower surface of said base intermediate the ends thereof, a bracket including an intermediate offset portion secured to the other end of said beam, a pair of diverging sections extending outwardly from said offset portion, spaced parallel flat portions extending from the ends of said divergent sections and provided with slots, and pins extending from the inner surfaces of said legs for engagement by said slots whereby by disengaging the flat portions from the pins, the device can be folded as when the device is to be stored or shipped whereby it will occupy a minimum amount of space.

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