May 25, 1948. S. KROLL ET AL 2,442,048

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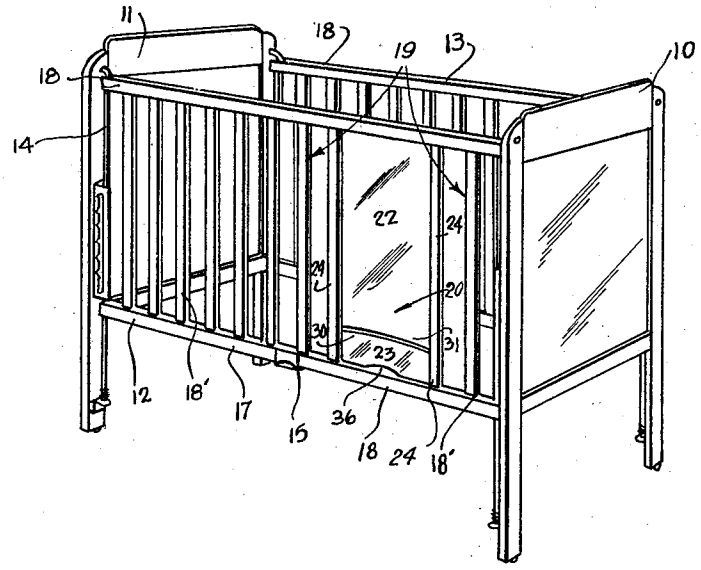


Fig 1

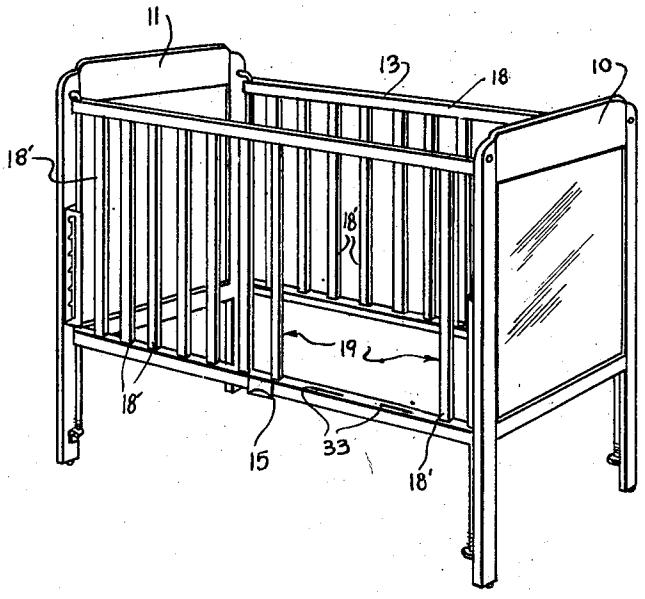


Fig. 2

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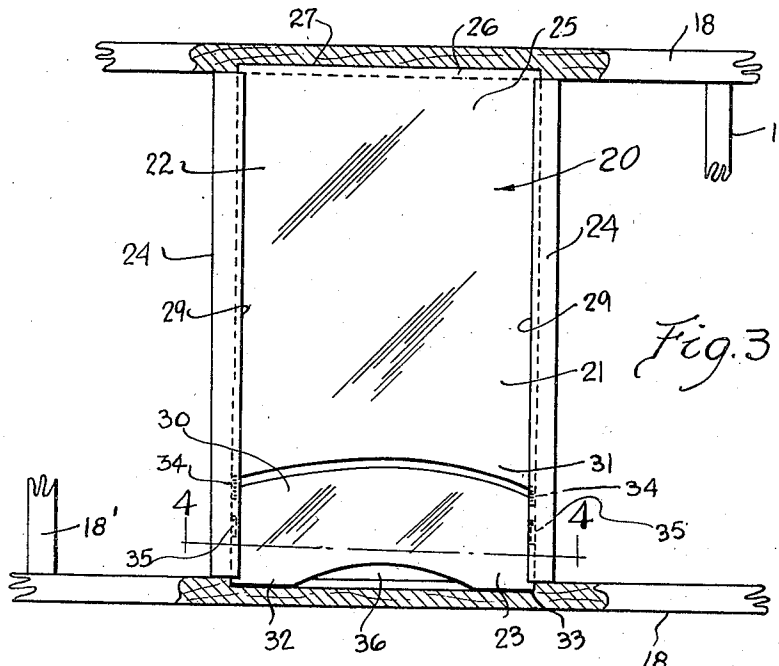


Fig. 3

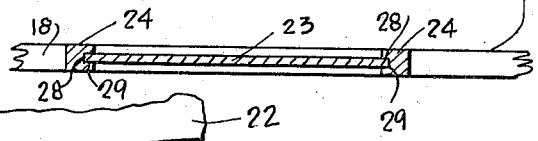


Fig. 4

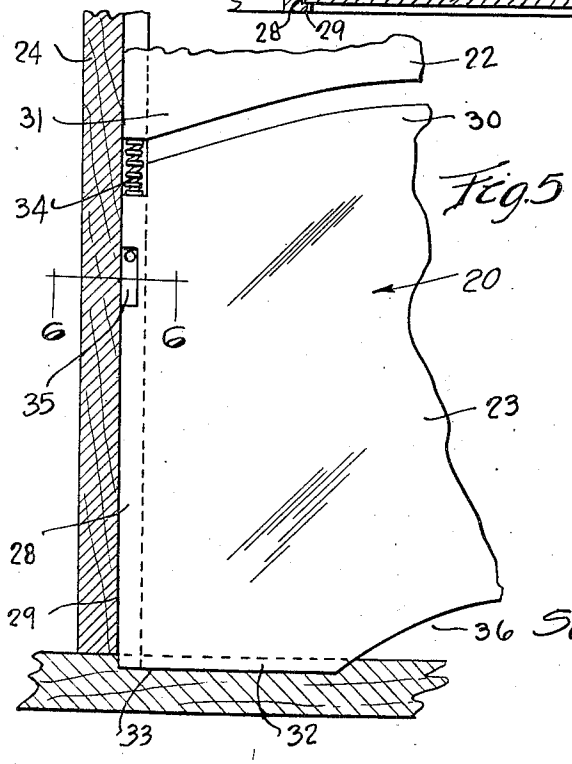


Fig. 5

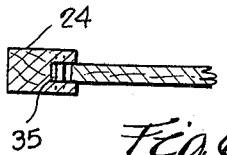


Fig. 6

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Samuel Kroll and Nathan J. Kroll, Chicago, Ill.

Application October 20, 1944, Serial No. 559,572

6 Claims. (Cl. 5—93)

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This invention relates to infant cribs and more particularly to a crib of this character in which provision is made to afford access to and from the crib by the child without assistance from the mother.

The invention has as one of its salient objects the provision of a construction for accomplishing the above stated results.

When the infant reaches the climbing age, the infant will attempt to climb over the drop side. In doing so, because of the height of the drop side from the floor there is grave danger of the infant's falling out of the crib in the attempt to climb out of the same. Our object is to provide a crib with a panel (which may be used as a no-draft panel), removably associated with the drop side in a manner such that when the infant reaches the age of desire to climb out of the crib without the aid of the mother, the panel may be removed to produce an opening in the drop side through which the infant may with ease and safety ascend from the crib without assistance from the mother.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a crib having the foregoing characteristics which will be simple in construction and economical in manufacture.

Another object of the invention is to provide a crib constructed to include the foregoing characteristics without deteriorating the eye appeal of the crib to the observer.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

The invention consists in the novel combination and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention will be best understood by reference to the accompanying drawings showing the preferred form of construction, and in which;

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of an infant's crib having the removable panel embodied in our invention, incorporated therein;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the infant's crib, illustrated in Fig. 1, showing the panel removed from the drop side of the crib;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary, part sectional, detail view of the crib drop side illustrated in Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary sectional detail view taken in substantially on line 4—4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary sectional detail view of the panel shown in Fig. 3; and

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary sectional detail view taken substantially on line 6—6 of Fig. 5.

The drawings illustrate the preferred form of construction by which the several objects of the invention are accomplished. In this connection the infant's crib illustrated comprises end panels 10 and 11 and drop sides 12 and 13. These drop sides 12 and 13 are slidably connected to the end panels in a manner well known in the art as, for example, through the medium of guide rods 14 carried by the end panels. The drop sides

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are also adjustably latched to the end panels by means of a latch unit 15 also well known in the art and which unit constitutes no part of our present invention.

In the present illustration of our invention the drop sides 12 and 13 each comprise top and bottom bars 18 spaced suitably from each other and having therebetween the bars 18'.

As shown in Fig. 2, an openng 19 of suitable dimension is provided in the drop side 12 to allow the child to climb into and from the crib. When not used for this purpose, this opening is closed by a panel 20 (Fig. 1) which is removably associated with the side rail in the following described manner.

The panel 20 comprises the parallel spaced side bars 24 between which a panel board 21 divided into two sections, an upper section 22 and a lower section 23, is arranged. The upper section 22 is fixed in any suitable manner to the side bars 24 and is removable therewith. The upper end 25 of this panel board section 22 extends above the top ends of the side bars 24 to provide a tongue 26 which is adapted to fit into a groove 27 formed in the top bar 18 of the drop side 12.

The panel board section 23 has its side edges 28 slidably received in grooves 29 formed in the bars 24. This panel board section is of such dimension as will provide a space between its top edge 30 and the lower edge 31 of the panel board section 22, thus to permit the slidable movement of the panel board section relative to the bars 24 to disengage the edge portions 32 thereof from grooves 33 formed in the bottom bar 18 of drop side 12, there being provided suitable springs 34 to urge the edge portions 32 into the grooves 33. These springs 34 are arranged as shown in Fig. 5, between the lower edge 31 of the panel board section 22 and the top edge portion 30 of the panel board section 23.

To limit outward movement of the panel board section 23, we provide slot and pin connection 35 (Fig. 5) between this section 23 and bars 24.

As shown in Figs. 1 and 3, we provide at the base of the panel board section 23 a hand hole 36 to facilitate lifting of this section to disengage the edge portions 32 from the grooves 33 upon removal of the panel from the drop side 12. To insert the panel 20 within the opening 19, the tongue 26 is inserted in the groove 27. The hand of the operator is positioned to engage the panel board section 23 adjacent the area providing the hand hole 36, and this panel board section 23 is moved upwardly against the action of the springs 34. This movement will elevate the panel board section 23 a sufficient distance to allow the edge portions 32 to pass into the grooves 33, thus removably securing the panel in place with respect to the rails 18. To remove the panel from this position with respect to the rails 18, the op-

erator inserts his hand through the hand hole 36 and bears upwardly against the panel board 23, moving the panel board 23 against the action of the springs 34 to disengage the edge portions from the grooves 33. The panel 20 is then tilted slightly outwardly so as to allow disengagement of the tongue 26 from the groove 27, whereupon the panel board, including the side bars 24, is removed from position with respect to the bars 18, to provide the opening 19 for the purposes hereinbefore stated.

While we have shown only one of the drop sides provided with the removable panel, both drop sides may be so provided. A crib constructed in accordance with the foregoing disclosure provides a means by which the child may climb with safety to and from the crib without the assistance of the mother. Until the infant has reached that age safe for his or her own independent climbing into and from the crib, the panel may be used for what is known as a "no-draft panel," protecting the child from unseasonable drafts.

While we have illustrated and described the preferred form of construction for carrying our invention into effect, this is capable of variation and modification without departing from the spirit of the invention. We, therefore, do not wish to be limited to the precise details of construction set forth, but desire to avail ourselves of such variations and modifications as come within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:

1. A crib bed comprising a drop side provided with an opening through which a child may climb into and out of the crib bed, said drop side comprising top and bottom bars each provided with longitudinally extending confronting grooves, and a panel for closing said opening when not used for the foregoing purpose, said panel comprising a stationary section and a movable section with said sections having tongues engaging said grooves.

2. A crib bed comprising a drop side provided with an opening through which a child may climb into and out of the crib bed, said drop side comprising top and bottom bars each provided with longitudinally extending confronting grooves, a panel for closing said opening when not used for the foregoing purpose, said panel comprising a stationary section and a movable section with said sections having tongues engaging said grooves, and spring means for urging the tongues of the movable section into their respective grooves.

3. A crib bed comprising a drop side provided with an opening through which a child may climb into and out of the crib bed, said drop side comprising top and bottom bars each provided with longitudinally extending confronting grooves, a panel for closing said opening when not used for the foregoing purpose, said panel comprising a stationary section and a movable section with said sections having tongues engaging said grooves, spring means for urging the tongues of the movable section into their respective grooves, and means for limiting moving of the movable section in a direction from the stationary section.

4. A crib bed comprising a drop side provided with an opening through which a child may climb into and out of the crib bed, said drop side comprising top and bottom bars each provided with longitudinally extending confronting grooves, a panel for closing said opening when not used for the foregoing purpose, said panel comprising a stationary section and a movable section with said sections having tongues engaging said grooves, spring means for urging the tongues of the movable section into their respective grooves, means for limiting moving of the movable section in a direction from the stationary section, and a hand hole provided by the movable section to facilitate movement of said movable section.

5. A panel for the drop side of a crib bed having top and bottom rails provided with confronting longitudinally extending grooves comprising spaced side bars having confronting grooves formed therein, a panel board section having opposite edge portions fixedly mounted in a portion of said grooves with one edge thereof extending beyond the ends of the side bars to provide a tongue for removable projection in the grooves of one of the rails of the drop side, a panel section having edge portions movably mounted in the remaining portions of said grooves and movable relative to the first-named section and adapted to have an edge portion projecting beyond the opposite end portions of the side bars to provide a tongue adapted to removably project in the grooves of the other of the rails, and spring means for yieldably projecting the tongues of the last-named section in said grooves of said other rail.

6. A panel for the drop side of a crib bed having top and bottom rails provided with confronting longitudinally extending grooves comprising spaced side bars having confronting grooves formed therein, a panel board section having opposite edge portions fixedly mounted in a portion of said grooves with one edge thereof extending beyond the ends of the side bars to provide a tongue for removable projection in the grooves of one of the rails of the drop side, a panel section having edge portions movably mounted in the remaining portions of said grooves and movable relative to the first-named section and adapted to have an edge portion projecting beyond the opposite end portions of the side bars to provide a tongue adapted to removably project in the grooves of the other of the rails, spring means for yieldably projecting the tongues of the last-named section in said grooves of said other rail, and means for limiting the movement of said last-named section by said spring means relative to said first-named section.

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