Jan. 15, 1952 D. DECEMBER 2,582,749

SECURING MEANS FOR UMBRELLA TOPS

Filed March 1, 1949

Fig. 1

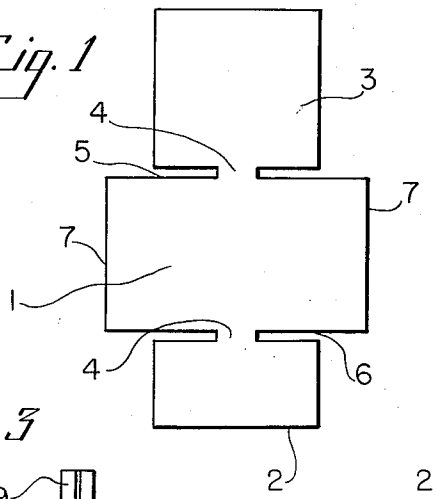


Fig. 2

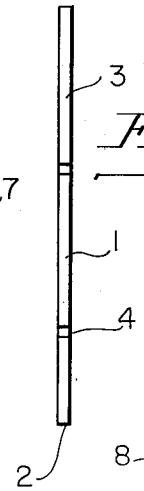


Fig. 3

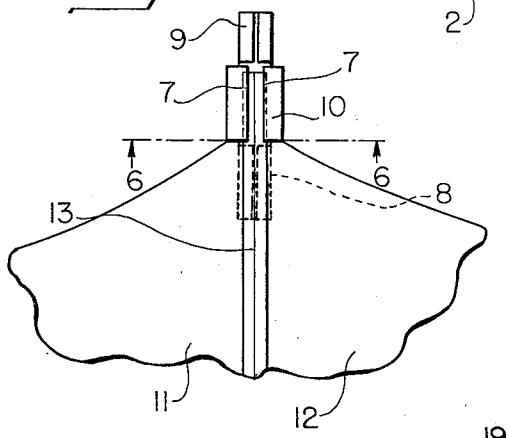


Fig. 4

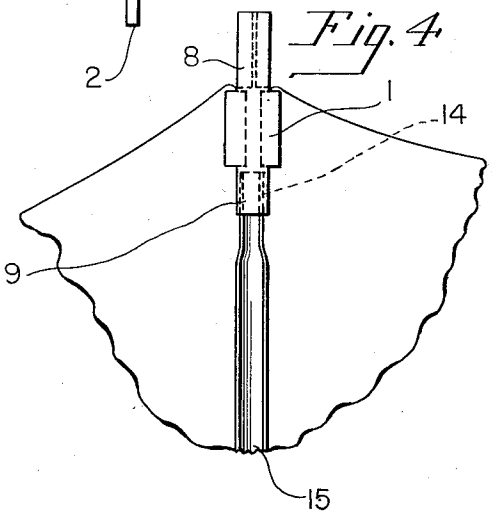


Fig. 7

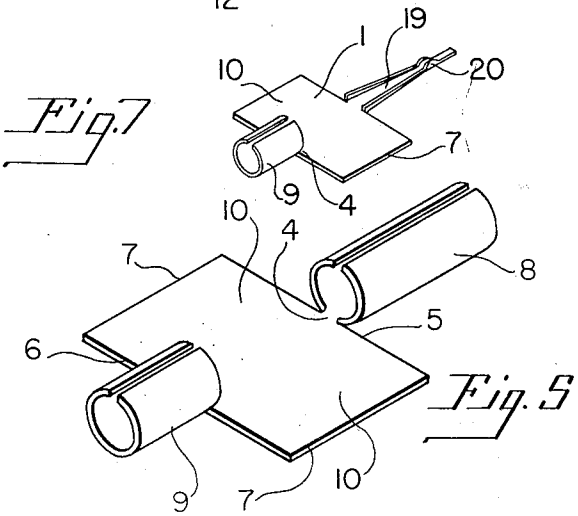
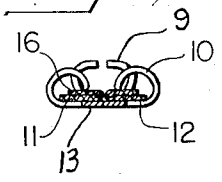


Fig. 6



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7 Claims. (Cl. 135—36)

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This invention is a securing means, and particularly means for securing a flexible cover in position to serve its intended purpose.

An important object of my invention is to provide a clip adapted to be permanently attached to the outer edge of the top or cover of cloth or other suitable material for a parasol or umbrella having extensible and collapsible ribs, and to engage the tip of a rib in the framework of the article; so as to retain the cover in place and hold in stretched condition when the top or cover is lifted.

Another object is to provide a clip for an umbrella cover or top made of the usual triangular pieces sewed together along the ribs and having their pointed ends adjacent a common center, with the clip in engagement with the rim of the cover, adjacent the seam uniting said pieces, in such a way that risk of tearing the cloth or ripping at the outer ends of said seams is fully obviated.

A further object is to provide a clip of simple design, easy and inexpensive to produce and capable of being readily affixed to the cover of an umbrella or the like, and then slipped upon the extremity of any of the ribs by which the top or cover is carried.

The nature of the invention is clearly described herein, and the drawings illustrate a practical embodiment thereof. But this disclosure is by way of example only and variations in structural details may be adopted without deviation from the characteristics of the invention, as set forth in the broad and general terms of the appended claims.

On the drawings,

Figure 1 is a top view of the clip in blank form.

Figure 2 is a side or edge view of the same.

Figure 3 shows the underside of the top or cover of the article, with the clip attached.

Figure 4 shows same surface of the cover with the tip secured thereto, and in final position.

Figure 5 is an enlarged perspective view of the clip in readiness for connection with the cover.

Figure 6 is an enlarged sectional detail on the line 6—6 in Figure 3, indicating how the clip engages and holds the cover when the clip is affixed thereto; and

Figure 7 is a view similar to Figure 4 of another form of clip.

The clip is made out of a piece of flat metal, having the shape of a blank with a quandrangular middle section 1. The blank also includes rectangular portions 2 and 3 united to the section 1 by necks 4, and the portion 2 can be somewhat smaller than the portion 3. The necks 4 are centrally located with respect to the adjacent edges of the portions 2 and 3, and are

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joined to the middle of the opposite ends 5 and 6 of the section 1, which is wider than the portions 2 and 3, so that the lateral edges 7 of the section 1 lie beyond the sides of the portions 2 and 3.

To make use of the clip, the portions 2 and 3 are given the shape of tubes 8 and 9 respectively and the parts 10 along the side edges 7 of the middle section 1 are curved towards each other. These tubes 8 and 9 are in alinement and their common axis lies above one face of the section 1. The cover is joined to the clip by laying a part of the cover between the sleeves 8 and 9 upon this face and forcing the parts 10 against the cover, as indicated in Figure 3; the final step of connecting the clip being presented in Figure 4.

The cover is placed lower side up on the section 1 between sleeves 8 and 9, the former being preferably the longer, and in innermost position. Two pieces 11 and 12 in the usual shape in the cover or top of an umbrella are shown in Figure 3, sewed together along a seam 13 that runs from the center of the cover towards the outer rim. The parts 10 are bent up and turned down upon the cloth at the adjacent corners of the pieces 11 and 12. Preferably these parts are curled to bear tightly against the cover along their edges. This fastens the clip, with the short sleeve 9 pointing outward and the long sleeve 8 inward. The sleeve 8 is then flattened. The clip is now turned over to make the sleeve 9 extend inward and the sleeve 8 outward. The tip 14 of an umbrella rib 15 is inserted into the sleeve 9. This is done at each junction of pieces such as 11 and 12 and the entire cover is connected to the ribs 15 in the same way. The ribs force the clips outward, stretching the cover from the center, where the handle rod or stem of the umbrella is located over the full length of all the ribs. When the umbrella is raised and the ribs are distended, the cover is pulled smooth and even between the ribs and held firmly at the ends of the ribs by the clips because of the parts 10 and the sleeves 8, that are flattened or collapsed. The sleeves 8 then prevent the tips 14 of the ribs from going through the cloth under the parts 10 and protruding beyond the clips; and the entire cover is secured as required. The flattening of the sleeve 8 serves to hold the over-turned part of the cover firmly under the parts 10 of the section 1. The tip of the rib 15 which enters the end of the short sleeve 9 will be of variable length in different umbrellas, and in some cases might pass entirely through the short sleeve 9 and press against the cloth gripped by the bent parts 10 of the section 1. Pressure would then be exerted on the

cloth tending to push it out from under the bent parts 10, but the flattened tip 8 prevents this.

The parts 10 along the sides of the section 4 are turned in and pressed against the cloth without penetrating it. The cover is usually hemmed on the under side along the seam 13 and the parts 10 make firm contact with the cover along their inner edges. See Figure 6. When the clip is inverted as in Figure 4, part of the cover also is turned over and inward towards the lower or under side of the cover and the liability of the cloth being pulled out of the clip is nullified. Also, the parts 8 which have no sharp edges, hold the cloth so tightly, without piercing it that no risk is run of tearing the cloth or ripping the seam 13 open.

The usefulness of the clip and the method of uniting the cover to the ribs with it is thus apparent. A clip of this kind not only joins the ribs at their outer ends to the rim of the cover, but strongly reinforces the cover, and makes the seams strongest at the outer ends, where the pull is greatest when the umbrella cover is raised.

Figure 7 shows another form in which the blank for the clip has a middle section 1 with a tubular sleeve 9 at one end and an elongated projecting tip 19 at the other. The extremity 20 of this tip can be beaded if desired. The cloth is fastened to the section 1 by proceeding as indicated on Figures 3 and 4; and in the final position of the clip, the sleeve 9 receives the rib and the tip 19 projects out past the rim of the cloth cover for the umbrella.

Having described my invention, what I believe to be new is:

1. Means for attaching a flexible cover to a framework containing extensible and collapsible ribs, comprising a clip having a central section and portions connected to opposite ends of the central section and formed into tubular sleeves, the cover having a part at its edge laid on said section between the opposed ends of said sleeves and gripped by the overturned sides of said section, said part and said clip being doubled upon the surface of the cover, with one sleeve extending outward with respect to said edge and compressed and the other sleeve being open and extending in the opposite direction to receive the end of a rib.

2. Means for attaching a flexible cover to a framework containing extensible and collapsible ribs, comprising a clip having a central section and portions connected to opposite ends of the central section and formed into tubular sleeves, the cover having a part at its edge laid on said section between the opposed ends of said sleeves and gripped by the overturned sides of said section, said part and said clip being doubled upon the surface of the cover, with one sleeve extending outward with respect to said edge and compressed and the other sleeve being open and extending in the opposite direction to receive the end of a rib, and the edges of the sides bearing tightly upon said cover.

3. Means for attaching a flexible cover to a framework containing extensible and collapsible ribs, comprising a clip having a central section and portions connected to opposite ends of the central section and formed into tubular sleeves that have a common axis spaced from one face of said section, the cover having a part at its edge laid on said section between the opposed ends of said sleeves and gripped by the overturned sides of said section, said part and said clip being doubled upon the surface of the cover, with one sleeve extending outward with respect to said edge and compressed and the other sleeve being open and extending in the opposite direction to receive the end of a rib.

4. Means for attaching a flexible cover to a framework containing extensible and collapsible ribs, comprising a clip having a central section and portions connected to opposite ends of the central section, one of said portions being formed into a tubular sleeve, the cover having a part at its edge laid on said section adjacent the inner end of said sleeve and gripped by the overturned sides of said section, said part and said clip being doubled upon the surface of the cover, with the sleeve open and lying upon the cloth to receive the end of a rib.

5. Means for attaching a flexible cover to a framework containing extensible and collapsible ribs, comprising a clip having a central section and portions connected to opposite ends of the central section, one portion being formed into a tubular sleeve, and the other having the shape of an elongated projecting tip, the cover having a part at its edge laid on said section between said portions and gripped by the overturned sides of said section, said part and said clip being doubled upon the surface of the cover, with the tip extending outward with respect to said edge and the sleeve being open and extending in the opposite direction to receive the end of a rib, and the edges of the sides bearing tightly upon said cover.

6. Means for attaching a flexible cover to a framework containing extensible and collapsible ribs, comprising a clip having a central section and portions connected to opposite ends of the central section, and one portion being formed into a tubular sleeve, and the other having the shape of an elongated projecting tip, the cover having a part at its edge laid on said section between the said portions and gripped by the overturned sides of said section, said part and said clip being doubled upon the surface of the cover, with the tip extending outward with respect to said edge and the sleeve being open and extending in the opposite direction to receive the end of a rib.

7. Means for attaching a flexible cover to a framework containing extensible and collapsible ribs, comprising a clip having a central section and portions connected to opposite ends of the central section, one portion being formed into a tubular sleeve, and the other having the shape of an elongated projecting tip, the cover having a part at its edge laid on said section between the said portions and gripped by the overturned sides of said section, said part and said clip being doubled upon the surface of the cover, with the tip extending outward with respect to said edge and the sleeve being open and extending in the opposite direction to receive the end of a rib, said sides being turned to present its edges to the cover, said edges bearing tightly thereon.

DOMENICK DECEMBER.

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