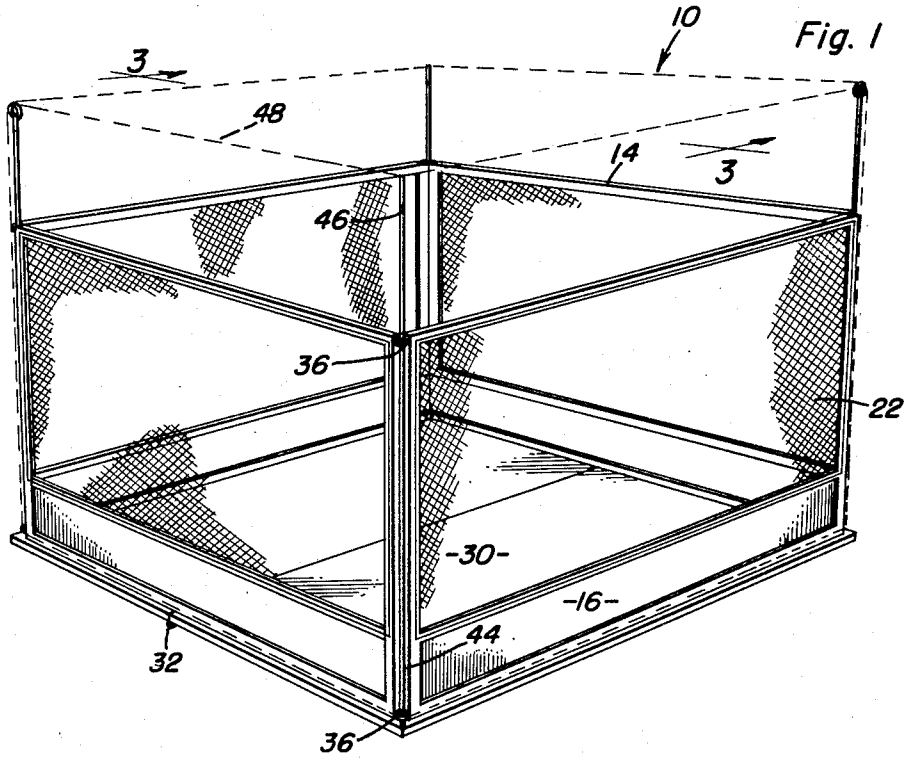
Dec. 28, 1954 P. M. SKRMETTI 2,697,843

PLAYPEN

Filed Feb. 26, 1953 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1



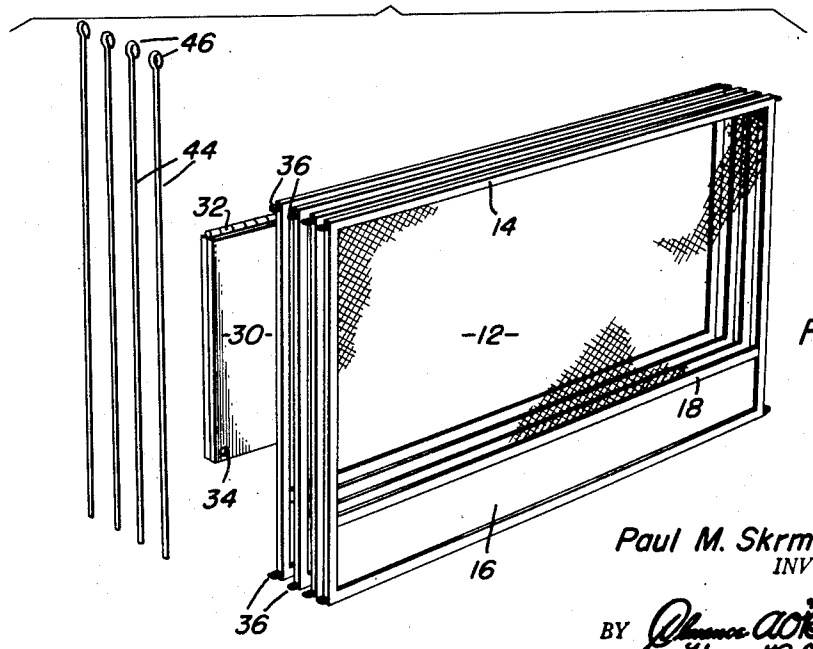


Fig. 2

Paul M. Skrmetti
INVENTOR.

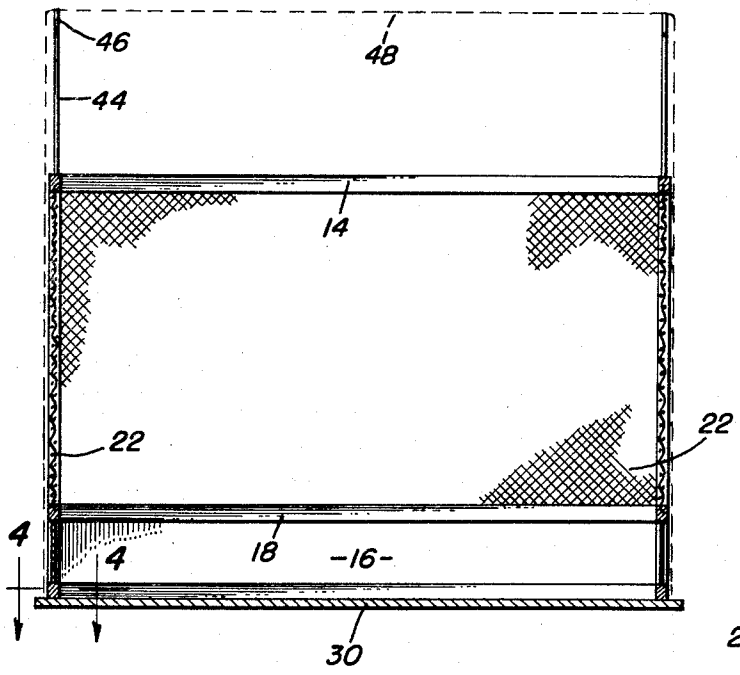
BY Clarence A. O'Brien and Harvey B. Jacobson
Attorneys

Dec. 28, 1954 P. M. SKRMETTI 2,697,843

PLAYPEN

Filed Feb. 26, 1953 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 3



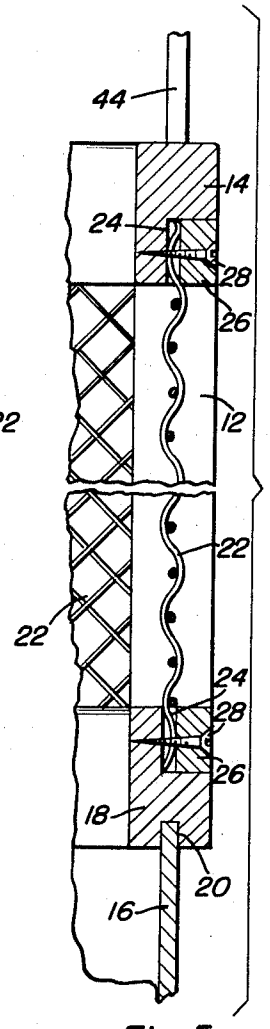
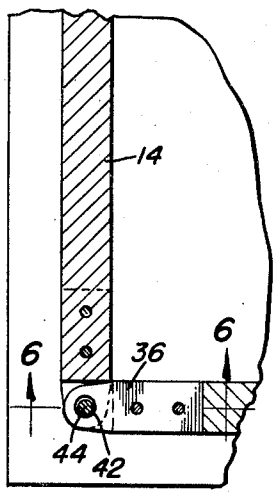


Fig. 5

Fig. 4



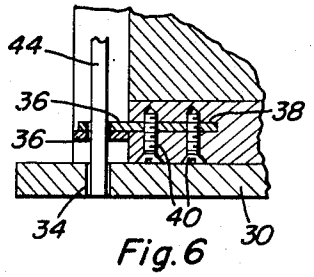


Fig. 6

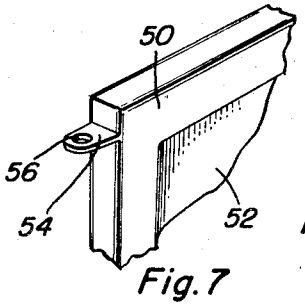


Fig. 7

Paul M. Skrmetti
INVENTOR.

BY Clarence A. O'Brien and Harvey B. Jacobson
Attorneys

United States Patent Office 2,697,843 Patented Dec. 28, 1954

2,697,843

PLAYPEN

Paul M. Skrmetti, Biloxi, Miss.

Application February 26, 1953, Serial No. 338,949

1 Claim. (Cl. 5—99)

This invention relates to a safety enclosure for babies and small children and is especially adapted for use as a portable play pen or bed for use on family picnics or at the beach, while being equally useful and quickly set up in any room in a home.

The primary object of this invention resides in the provision of a portable safety enclosure for babies and young children which may be quickly assembled and disassembled, which is capable of being stored in a space of a relatively small compass, and which is very light in weight because of the use of a resilient meshwork which also provides protection against injury should a small child fall against such mesh.

A further object of the invention resides in the provision of means for supporting mosquito netting or the like above and about a play pen or bed, the means for supporting the mosquito netting also serving as tie rods for detachably securing the elements of the play pen to each other.

Still further objects of the invention reside in the provision of a safety enclosure for children that is strong and durable, simple in construction and manufacture, constructed from a minimum number of parts, which may be manufactured readily and inexpensively out of a variety of easily obtained materials, and which is highly attractive in appearance.

These, together with the various ancillary objects and features of the invention which will become apparent as the following description proceeds, are attained by this play pen, preferred embodiments of which have been illustrated in the accompanying drawings by way of example only, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an assembled play pen comprising the present invention;

Figure 2 is a perspective view illustrating the play pen in its disassembled state;

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view taken along the plane of line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a horizontal sectional view taken along the plane of line 4—4 of Figure 3 illustrating the manner in which the perpendicularly abutting side panels of the play pen are secured together by the tie rods;

Figure 5 is an enlarged sectional detail view illustrating the construction of one of the side panels in greatest detail;

Figure 6 is a sectional detail view taken along the plane of line 6—6 in Figure 4 illustrating the means for lockingly securing metal ears in a framework which is constructed of wood; and

Figure 7 is a perspective view illustrating a composite metal framework having the ears integrally formed with the framework.

With continuing reference to the accompanying drawings wherein like reference numerals designate similar parts throughout the several views, the reference numeral **10** generally designates the safety enclosure for children or babies comprising the present invention. This safety enclosure may be used as a play pen but is equally adaptable for use as a child's bed and may be formed of any suitable size and configuration.

The play pen **10** is preferably rectangular in shape and is formed from a plurality of side panels **12** each of which is provided with a peripheral framework **14**. A kick plate **16** may be formed at the bottom of the framework **14** if it is desired to prevent damage to the panel by the kicking action of a child in the play pen. The framework **14** may be formed of wood or any suitable metal and an upper horizontal frame member **18** may be provided at the upper edge of the kick plate **16**. The framework **14** and the frame member **18** may be provided with grooves as at **20** for reception of the kick plate **16** which may be formed from plywood if the framework **14** is made of wood or which may be formed from a suitable sheet metal if the frame **14** is metallic. Secured to the peripheral framework is an open-work or mesh **22** which may be held in place within an inner peripheral recess **24** formed in the peripheral frame **14** by means of peripherally extending strips **26** secured in place by screws **28** or other suitable fasteners. Alternatively, the netting or mesh **22** may be knitted about the framework or may be tacked to the framework if such is desired.

A base **30** may be provided and may be formed in sections which may be optionally hinged or pivotally secured together as at **32** or which may simply be assembled without any hinges or pivot heads. The base **30** may be provided with recesses **34** in the corners thereof. If the frame **14** is formed of wood, ear members **36** may be secured within slots **38** in the framework **14** by means of screws **40** which may extend in either direction depending on the configuration of the frame and which threadingly engage the ears **36** to hold them in position. The ears **36** are provided with apertures **42** therethrough in the portion thereof extending beyond the vertical edges of the framework **14**. Obviously, the ears **36** are vertically staggered to permit adjacent ears to overlap. Tie rods **44** are positioned so as to extend through the ears **36** to lockingly hold the side panels **12** in their desired relationship. The tie rods **44** may extend into the recesses **34** in the base **30** to lockingly hold the entire safety enclosure in its assembled relationship.

Optionally, the tie rods **44** may extend above the top of the panels **12** and may be provided with loops **46** at the upper ends thereof so as to both provide means for easy insertion and withdrawal of the tie rods **44** and also providing means for supporting suitable line **48** which may be used in tying the rods together to further reinforce the entire structure, the line **48** also providing means for supporting mosquito netting above and about the entire play pen.

With reference to the structure as is disclosed in Figure 7, it will be noted that herein there is provided a framework **50** having a netting or open meshwork **52** secured thereto. Ears **54** are similar to the ears **36** and are preferably integrally formed with the framework **50** and apertures **56** are further provided for reception of the tie rods **46**. The framework **50** is preferably used when it is desired to form the play pen out of any metallic substance.

Since from the foregoing the construction and advantages of this play pen are readily apparent, further description is believed to be unnecessary.

However, since numerous modifications will readily occur to those skilled in the art after a consideration of the foregoing specification and accompanying drawings, it is not intended to limit the invention to the precise embodiments shown and described, but all suitable modifications and equivalents may be readily resorted to which fall within the scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

A portable safety enclosure for children comprising a plurality of vertically extending side panels arranged in perpendicularly abutting relationship, each of said panels including a peripheral framework, a flexible, non-metallic resilient meshwork secured to said framework forming a closure for said framework, ears extending from vertical edges of said framework, apertures through said ears, and tie rods extending through said apertures in said ears detachably lockingly securing said panels to each other, a base for said enclosure, recesses in said base, said panels being supported on said base with said rods extending into said recesses, said tie rods being of greater height than said panels, the upper ends of said tie rods being provided with loops, and means extending through said loops tying said tie rods together, said means supporting mosquito netting above and about said enclosure.

(References on following page)

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
11,449	Willard	Aug. 1, 1854
265,127	Millings	Sept. 26, 1882
364,415	Hooper	June 7, 1887
485,081	Baird	Oct. 25, 1892
1,264,734	Williams	Apr. 30, 1918
1,383,727	Kohn	July 5, 1921
1,495,988	Catino	June 3, 1924
2,097,506	Auty	Nov. 2, 1937
2,155,330	Pottenger	Apr. 18, 1939
2,581,318	Bartlett	Jan. 1, 1952