

Aug. 31, 1943.

M. KURTZ

2,328,069

SKI SPREADER

Filed Oct. 15, 1940

Fig. 1.

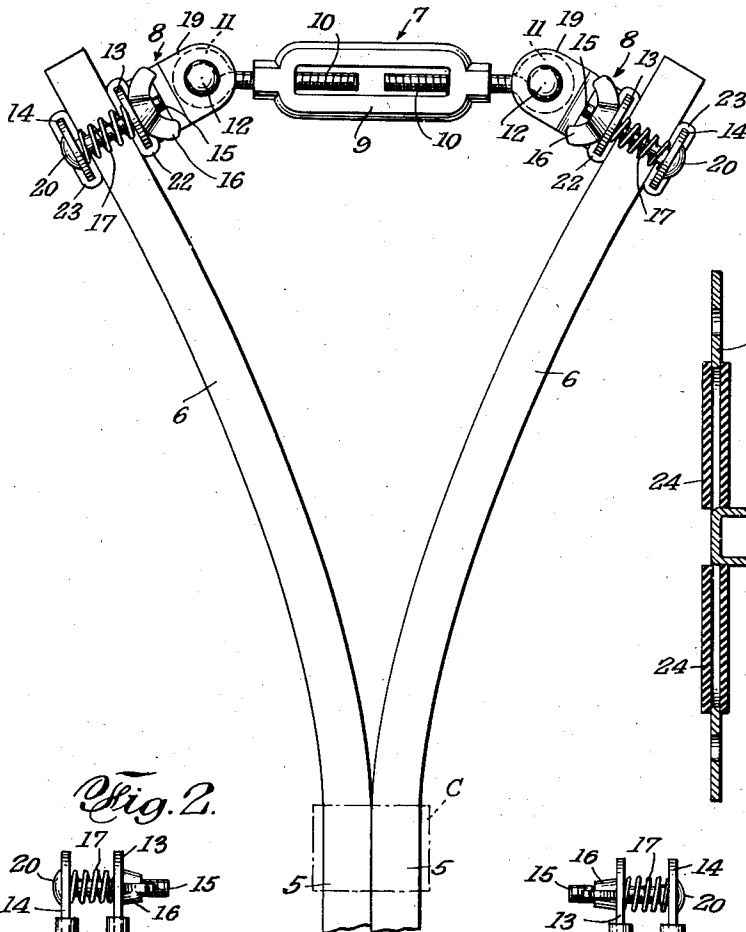


Fig. 2.

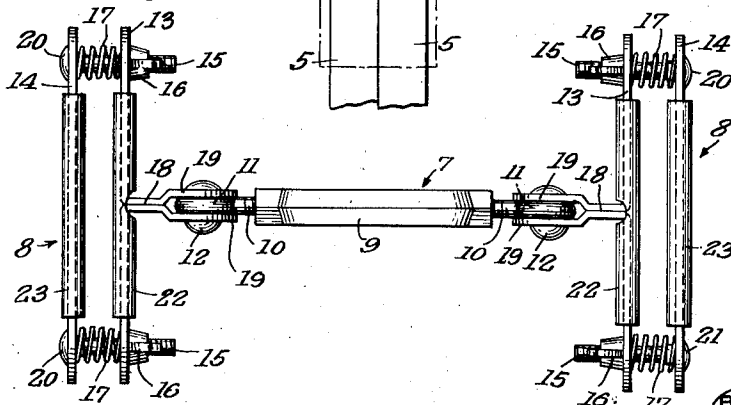


Fig. 3.

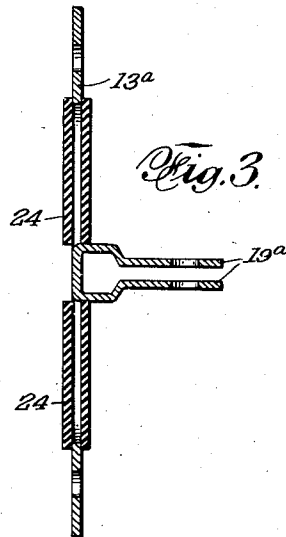
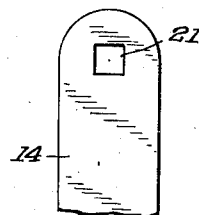


Fig. 4.



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SKI SPREADER

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Application October 15, 1940, Serial No. 361,201

1 Claim. (Cl. 280—11.37)

This invention relates to devices for spreading and clamping the tips of skis for maintaining the bend of said tips.

When skis are out of use, it is the practice to place them in pairs in bottom to bottom relation and to clamp them together in that relation. The tips of the skis, however, are bent away from each other and being unsupported, frequently flatten and change shape because the curvature of bend was initially artificially produced.

It is desirable, therefore, to provide means for counteracting this tendency of the ski tips to resume their initial natural form and to maintain the provided curvature of said tips. To this end, the invention contemplates a simple and novel form of spreader clamp engageable with both tips of a pair of skis in the above-mentioned relation, for clamping said tips during storage of the skis.

The invention further contemplates the provision of a spreader clamp for ski tips which is adjustable for universal use and which is articulately formed to render it applicable to any desired point along the ski tips to obtain the proper clamping position.

The design and arrangement of the constructional details of the spreader also form a material part of this invention, being characterized by simplicity and low cost of manufacture.

The foregoing objects, features, and advantages, and others later apparent, will be more clearly evident from the following disclosure of the invention in which the exemplified embodiments thereof as illustrated in the accompanying drawing, are described.

In the drawing—

Fig. 1 is a side view of the tips of a pair of skis with a spreader such as contemplated herein applied thereto.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the spreader.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view of a spreader clamp element of alternate form.

Fig. 4 is a detail view of one end of another clamp element.

When stored and out of use, the skis 5 are placed in the bottom to bottom relation shown in Fig. 1, and clamped together in various ways such as indicated at C. The tips 6 of the skis, thus are divergently curved and unsupported.

In order to maintain the desired curvature of the tips 6, the invention contemplates the provision of a device comprising essentially a turnbuckle 7 and the clamping units 8.

The turnbuckle 7 is of conventional design, comprising the loop or sleeve 9 formed with op-

positely threaded screw seats for the oppositely threaded screws 10. Each screw 10 is preferably provided with an eye 11 in the usual manner.

The turnbuckle thus formed, by means of the eyes 11, is connected as by the rivets 12, to the clamping units 8. In the present instance, the rivets 12 serve as hinge or pivot pins to provide for articulation between the turnbuckle and the clamping units and for universal adjustable positioning of said clamping units relatively to each other.

Each clamping unit 8 preferably comprises a pair of clamp plates 13 and 14, held together as by means of bolts 15 and nuts 16, and maintained in spaced relation by springs 17 strung on said bolts.

The clamp plates 13 and 14 are preferably formed as elongated flat members disposed transversely to the turnbuckle so that the entire device is generally H-shaped. Thus, as related to a pair of skis, the clamping units 8 are disposed in the plane of the width of the skis and the turnbuckle, between and transverse thereto.

As shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the clamp plates 13 may each be formed of two identical parts secured to each other as by welding, riveting, or the like as at 18, where angularly bent portions of said parts abut. The latter portions, in this instance also provide ears 19 which engage the rivet 12 carried by the screw eye 11.

Fig. 3 shows the clamp plate 13a as formed of one integral piece, the ears 19a being struck from the clamp plate and angularly bent.

The bolts 15 are preferably carriage bolts being formed with a polygonal, preferably square, portion adjacent its head 20, said square portion being arranged in a square opening 21 such as shown in Fig. 4. Thus the bolts 15 are nonrotationally mounted. The nuts 16 are preferably of the wing type so they may be hand-manipulated to provide for the exertion of considerable pressure.

As shown at 22 and 23 of Figs. 1 and 2 and at 24 of Fig. 3 the clamp plates 13 and 14 are preferably provided with compressible sleeve members to obviate direct contact between said clamp plates and the skis.

In use, the ski tips 6 are slipped between the clamp plates 13 and 14 to any desired points thereof and locked into place by means of the wing nuts 16. The turnbuckle is then manipulated to hold and maintain said ski tips in a desired position with respect to the skis. If desired, the tips may be forced beyond their normal

curvature to allow for a slight relaxing or straightening when the clamp is removed.

It will be noted that the articulation of the device at the pivot rivets 12, permits proper location of the clamp units. Thus, one of the clamp units may conceivably be nearer the extreme tip of the ski than the other and yet both clamping units will properly clamp the ski tips and be normal to the portions engaged thereby.

From the above it is evident that a novel and efficient clamping device for ski tips has been provided. Since many changes in the details and arrangement within the spirit and scope of the invention may well be made, I do not wish

to be limited by the exact details and arrangement shown and described in this disclosure.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

- 5 A ski spreading device of the character described comprising a pair of clamping units, each clamping unit comprising a pair of plates, means for moving said plates towards each other into clamping position, means for normally spacing said plates from each other, bearing ears formed on one of said clamp plates, and a screw device pivotally connected to the bearing ears of each clamp unit.

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