Sept. 4, 1934. H. F. SMITH 1,972,604

APPARATUS FOR SUPPORTING CURTAINS

Filed March 19, 1934 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

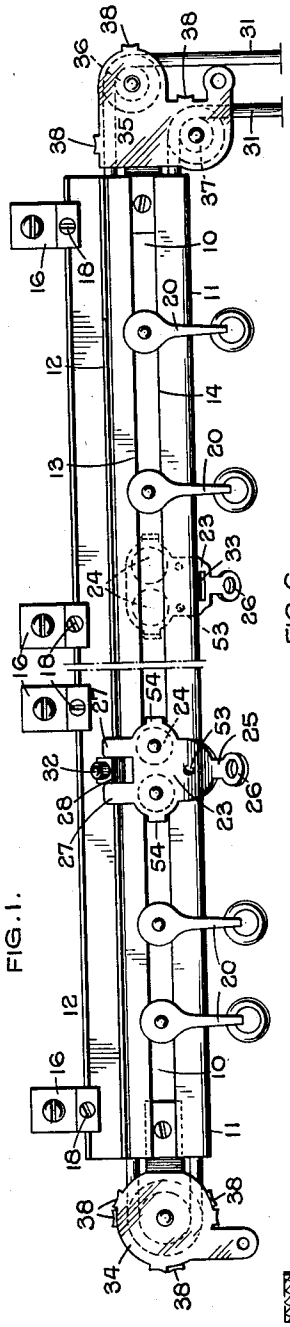


FIG. 1.

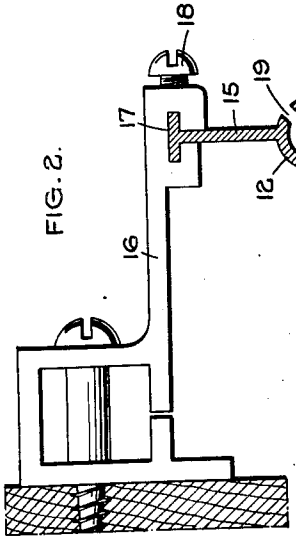


FIG. 2.

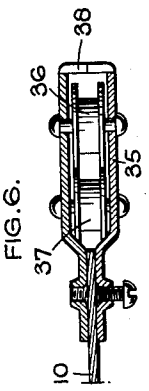


FIG. 6.

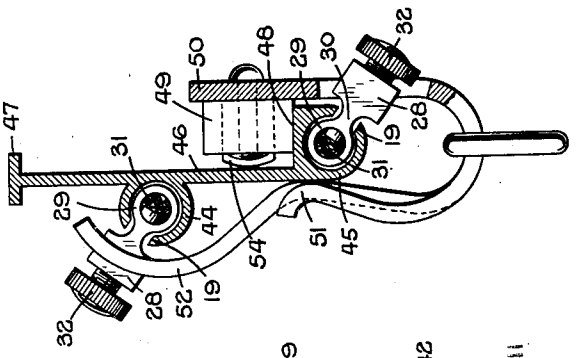


FIG. 8.

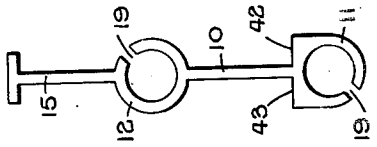


FIG. 7.

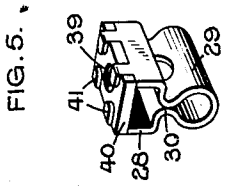


FIG. 5.

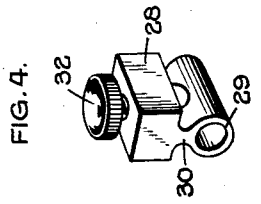


FIG. 4.

Howard Frederick Smith
INVENTOR
By Otto Schmidt
his Atty.

Sept. 4, 1934. H. F. SMITH 1,972,604

APPARATUS FOR SUPPORTING CURTAINS

Filed March 19, 1934 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 11.

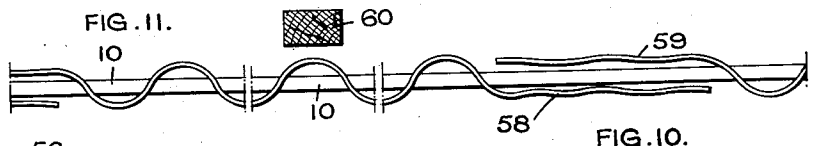


FIG. 9.

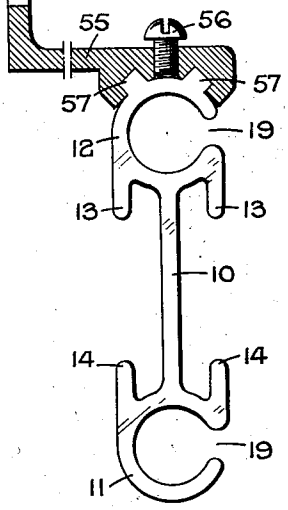


FIG. 3.

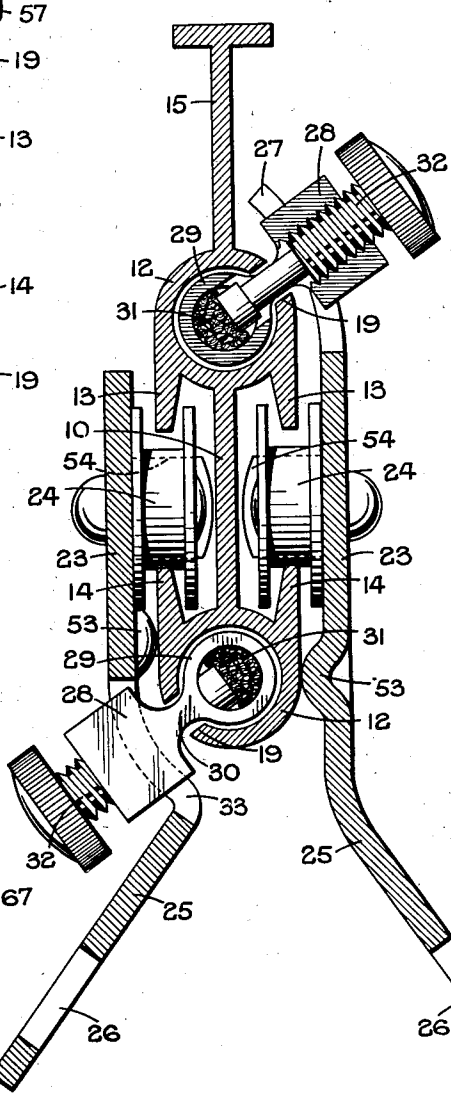


FIG. 10.

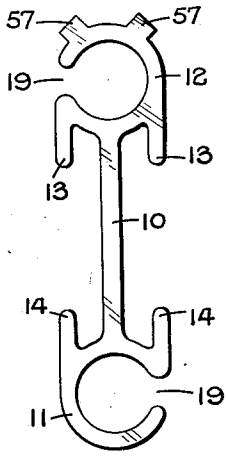


FIG. 13.

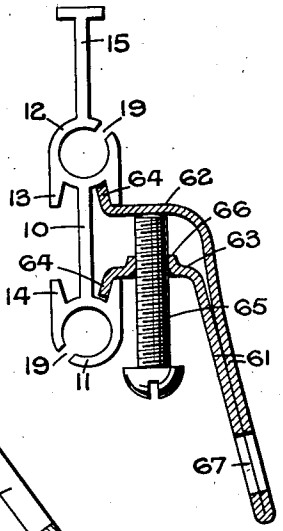
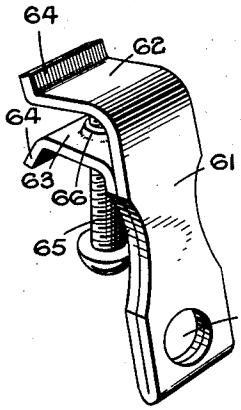


FIG. 12.



Howard Frederick Smith
INVENTOR
By Otto Schmidt
his Atty.

Patented Sept. 4, 1934

1,972,604

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,972,604

APPARATUS FOR SUPPORTING CURTAINS

Howard Frederick Smith, Birmingham, England

Application March 19, 1934, Serial No. 716,316
In Great Britain December 16, 1932

20 Claims. (Cl. 156—20)

This invention relates to curtain supporting apparatus of the kind which includes a rail upon which a number of runners are mounted, to which runners the curtains are attached, the apparatus also including a cord and at least one master runner for each curtain, the master runners having an attachment to the cord.

Referring to the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a front elevation showing one form of apparatus constructed in accordance with this invention.

Figure 2 is a section of same.

Figure 3 shows to an enlarged scale the arrangement of the master runners.

Figure 4 is a perspective view showing the cord clip used in the construction illustrated in Figures 1–3.

Figure 5 shows a modified form of clip.

Figure 6 is a detail view showing the pulleys for the cords at the end of the rail section.

Figure 7 is a detail view showing an alternative section of rail.

Figure 8 is a section showing a still further modification.

Figure 9 is a section through a still further modification.

Figure 10 shows a slightly modified section of rail.

Figure 11 is a diagrammatic view showing the curtain overlap possible with the construction according to this invention.

Figure 12 is a perspective view of a stop member.

Figure 13 is a section showing said stop attached to a rail.

In the construction illustrated in Figures 1–4, the apparatus includes a rail comprising a central vertical web 10, above and below which are provided a pair of slotted tubular portions 11 and 12 for housing the oppositely moving portions of the cord, the rail further being provided with a pair of spaced vertical flanges 13 and 14 arranged one above the other at each side of the rail, each pair constituting a complete track for the curtain runners.

In addition, the rail is formed with an integral portion 15 for engagement by the supporting brackets 16, this portion 15 being of T section and being retained in the correspondingly shaped slots 17 in the bracket 16 by means of a securing screw 18.

The slots 19 in the tubular portions are arranged on opposite sides of the rail and between the vertical and horizontal centre lines of the cross-section of each tubular part, this arrangement allowing the rail to be bent as required, for example, to conform to the shape of a bay window, without causing the cord to leave the slots or the latter to open or close locally.

Runners 20 of ordinary construction, each comprising a pair of rollers 21 connected by a loop-like hanger 22 extending beneath the rail, are mounted along the length of the rail for supporting the curtain as is usual, and for the leading edge of each curtain a master runner 23 is provided, the construction of such master runner being shown in Figure 3.

Each such runner includes a plate carrying a pair of rollers 24, arranged in side by side relationship and engaging the track at only one side of the rail, the plate being formed with a downwardly extending portion 25 provided with a ring 26 for the attachment of the curtain.

One of these master runners is provided at its upper part with an extension for engagement with a cord clip as shown on the right hand side of Figure 3, and this upper portion is forked or slotted to form a pair of arms 27 engaging one on either side of a block or head 28 on the cord clip. The latter is also formed with a tubular portion 29 engaging in the tubular part 12 of the rail, a neck 30 connecting the tubular part 29 and the head 28, this neck extending through the slot 19.

The cord 31 passes through the tubular parts 12 and 29, and the cord clip is fastened to the cord by means of a clamping screw 32 projecting through an aperture in the tubular part 29 as shown in Figure 3.

The master runner for the right hand curtain as shown in Figure 1 is slotted at 33 at its lower part, and a cord clip as described above is secured to the cord in the lower tubular part 11, the head of this clip engaging in the recess 33 as shown in the left hand side of Figure 3.

At one end of the rail is attached a housing 34 for a cord pulley around which the cord is looped, and at the opposite end is attached a further housing 35 in which are mounted a pair of pulleys 36 and 37, the upper cord passing over the pulley 36 and the lower cord over the pulley 37 as shown on the right hand side of Figure 1.

A continuous length of cord thus extends from the right hand side of the rail, over the pulley 36, along the tubular part 12 to the left hand side of the rail, around the pulley at that end and thence back along the tubular part 11 and over the pulley 37.

The housings carrying the pulleys are of cage-like form having portions or projections 38 which

extend over the cord when it is engaging the pulley.

Each plate is formed with one or more pressed out projections 53 for engagement with the tubular part 11 to space the master runners at their lower edges.

Each master runner is provided with a lug 54 at each side of the rollers 24, these lugs being bent to extend across the edge of the rollers at the leading and trailing edge of the master runner to prevent the rollers of the master runner fouling with the rollers of the ordinary runners.

The lugs 54 engage the ordinary runners, when the curtains are drawn apart, to limit the extent to which the master runners can be moved towards the ordinary runners. If desired balls or rollers could be provided in place of the projections 53.

In operation, one curtain is attached to the master runner mounted on the track at one side of the rail and to a number of ordinary runners engaging both tracks, whilst the other curtain is attached to the master runner engaging the track at the other side of the rail and upon a suitable number of ordinary runners engaging both tracks.

One master runner is secured to the upper run of cord by means of a cord clip, and the other master runner is secured to the lower run of cord.

If required there may be two or more master runners for each curtain, the number of such runners for each curtain controlling the amount of overlap, since the master runners can pass one another as they engage the track at only one side of the rail and the curtains can be overlapped by a corresponding amount.

Operation of the cords in one or other direction moves the curtain towards or away from one another, depending upon the direction in which the cords are moved.

The cord clip illustrated in Figure 5 is formed from sheet metal pressed to form the tubular part 29, the neck 30 and the head 28. A retaining screw is mounted in a screw threaded hole 39 in a plate 40 retained by lugs 41 on the head 28 and pressed over into engagement with the plate 40.

In the modified construction illustrated in Figure 7, the rail is constructed substantially as described above, but instead of providing vertical flanges 13 and 14 to form the tracks for the runners, horizontal flanges 42 and 43 are provided at opposite sides of the rail and along the upper edge of the lower tubular part 11.

Upon these tracks are mounted cylindrical rollers in place of the grooved rollers 24 in the construction illustrated in Figures 1–3. The master runners engage both tracks so that they cannot pass one another and the curtains cannot be overlapped.

In a further modification illustrated in Figure 8, the rail is constructed of a cross sectional shape which provides nearly the same resistance to bending on either side of the vertical plane passing through the web, so that the rail can be bent as required without serious distortion.

Tubular parts 44 and 45 are provided one on either side of the vertical web 46, the tubular part 45 being at the lower edge of the web whilst the tubular part 44 is at the centre of the height of the web including the portion 47 for engagement with the attachment brackets.

In this construction the runners are each provided with a single cylindrical roller engaging with a track constituted by a single horizontal flange 48 at the upper edge of the tubular part 45, and each roller is mounted upon a hanger having an arm extending at the back of the rail to retain the runner in position.

One of the master runners is provided with a cylindrical roller 49 mounted on one arm 50 of a "U" shaped hanger, the other arm 51 of which extends behind the web of the rail. A cord clip secured to the cord in the tubular part 45 is mounted in a slot in the hanger as in the case of the master runner illustrated on the left hand side of Figure 3.

The remaining master runner is constructed in a similar manner with the exception that the arm extending at the back of the web is projected upwardly as shown at 52 and is shaped to engage a cord clip secured to the cord in the tubular part 44. Such master runner would of course not be slotted in the arm to which the roller 49 is attached.

In this construction the master runners are secured one to each of the leading edges of the two curtains, and whilst the curtains can be drawn together or moved apart by operation of the cords, the curtains cannot be overlapped, but the leading edges can only be drawn into abutting relationship.

In the modification illustrated in Figure 9, the rail is constructed of section corresponding with that adopted in the construction illustrated in Figures 1 to 3, except that the integral attachment flange 15 is omitted, and the rail is provided on the upper tubular part 12 with two integral ribs or beads 57 which extend longitudinally of the rail and are formed integrally therewith.

The rail is adapted to be mounted in position by means of brackets 55 each of which is provided at its projecting end with a seat portion formed to engage the upper edge of the tubular part 12 and embrace the integral ribs 57 as shown in Figure 9.

The rail is clamped to the attachment portion by means of a screw or stud 56.

The rail is formed with flanges 13 and 14 to constitute the tracks for the runners as is the construction illustrated in Figures 1 to 3, but the upper tubular part 12 and the lower tubular part 11 are slotted on the same side of the rail instead of on opposite sides as in the previously described constructions.

In the slight modification illustrated in Figure 10, the rail is constructed with flanges 13 and 14 and longitudinal ribs 57 as described with reference to Figure 9, but the tubular parts 12 and 11 are slotted on opposite sides of the rail.

In Figure 11 is illustrated diagrammatically the manner in which a number of curtains can be moved into overlapping relationship, and it will be appreciated that two curtains 58 and 59 can be overlapped at their meeting edges by as large an amount as desired by providing two or more master runners at the leading edge of each curtain, these being mounted of course upon a rail of a form described with reference to Figures 1 to 3 or Figures 9 and 10, enabling the desired overlap of curtains.

The two edges of the curtain 58 may be moved in opposite directions so that, for example, the centre of the curtain located substantially opposite to the window post 60 can be anchored to the rail, and each edge of the curtain would then be drawn towards this post and to the centre or anchored position of the curtain.

In order to locate or anchor the centre of the curtain with respect to a definite position on the rail, and to limit or stop the movement of the runners up to this position, an anchor-

ing stop of the form illustrated in Figure 12 may be secured to the rail as shown in Figure 13.

This stop is formed from a strip of metal bent upon itself to form a double portion 61, and a pair of attachment arms 62, 63 disposed in spaced relationship for engagement with the flanges 13 and 14 at one side of the rail.

The end of each arm 62, 63 is bent outwardly to form a retaining flange 64, and the stop is mounted in position as shown in Figure 13 by engaging these flanges 64 behind the flanges 13 and 14. The stop is then locked in position by means of a stud 65 engaging in a screw threaded hole in a pressed up boss 66 in the lower arm 63, the end of the stud engaging the underside of the arm 62 so that by suitable adjustment of the stud the arms 62 and 63 can be separated and clamped upon the flanges 13 and 14 of the rail.

The stop may be secured to the rail at a position opposite to the vertical post as illustrated diagrammatically at 60 in Figure 11, and the centre part of the curtain can be anchored to this stop which is apertured at 67.

Thus, the curtain can be located with the stop which also projects across the flanges 13 and 14 and consequently forms a stop for the runners upon which the remainder of the curtain is mounted.

With a construction according to this invention a single rail can operate six light curtains or a smaller number of heavier curtains, and move them simultaneously in any desired direction, some for example being moved in one direction, and others in the opposite direction, whilst if desired the two ends of the same curtain can be moved in opposite directions towards and away from one another. All such adjustments can be made with a single cord, and the master runners can readily be clamped to the cord in any desired position by tightening the clamping screws 32 carried by the master runners.

The operating cords enclosed within the tubular parts of the rail consequently cannot get entangled with the supporting hooks or other portions of the apparatus, whilst the appearance of the structure is substantially improved by the reduction in number of guide brackets necessary in the apparatus.

The rail can be bent without local distortion of the tubular parts for housing the cords, and consequently the operation of the apparatus is facilitated since the tubular parts do not become closed or opened at the bends and consequently the cords can be moved freely around the bends without tendency for the cords to move out of position.

A single length of rail may accommodate any number of pairs of curtains and permit some being moved simultaneously in an opposite direction to the other, it being understood that there will be at least one master runner and one cord clip for each curtain.

What I claim then is:—

1. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, runners mounted on said rail for supporting a curtain, a master runner for the leading edge of said curtain, an operating cord to which said master runner is attached, a pair of slotted tubular parts on said rail for housing the cord and a track or tracks for said runners.

2. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, runners mounted on said rail for supporting a curtain, a master runner for the leading edge of said curtain, an operating cord to which said master runner is attached, a pair of slotted tubular parts on said rail for housing the cord and two complete tracks for said runners, each track being adapted to form a complete support for a master runner.

3. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, runners mounted on said rail for supporting a curtain, further runners on said rail for supporting a second curtain, a master runner for the leading edge of each curtain, a pair of slotted tubular parts extending longitudinally of said rail, a cord in said tubular parts, means for connecting said master runners to said cord, said means extending through the slots in said tubular parts, and two complete tracks for said runners, each track being adapted to form a complete support for one of said master runners to allow said master runners to pass one another for overlapping the edges of said curtains.

4. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, a web on said rail, a pair of upper and lower tubular parts extending longitudinally of said web, each of said tubular parts being longitudinally slotted and connected to said web, flanges on said lower tubular part adjacent each side of said web, runners mounted on said flanges for supporting a curtain, further runners on said flanges for supporting a second curtain, a master runner for the leading edge of each curtain, a cord in said tubular parts, means for connecting said master runners to said cord, said means extending through the slots in said tubular parts, and the master runners being mounted on and completely supported by the flanges on respective opposite sides of said web to allow said master runners to pass one another for overlapping the edges of said curtains.

5. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, a web on said rail, an upper tubular part extending adjacent the upper longitudinal edge of said web, a lower tubular part extending adjacent the lower longitudinal edge of said web, each of said tubular parts being longitudinally slotted and connected to said web, flanges on said lower tubular part adjacent each side of said web, runners mounted on said flanges for supporting a curtain, further runners on said flanges for supporting a second curtain, a master runner for the leading edge of each curtain, a cord in said tubular parts, means for connecting said master runners to said cord, said means extending through the slots in said tubular parts, and the master runners being mounted on and completely supported by the flanges on opposite sides of said web to allow said master runners to pass one another for overlapping the edges of said curtains.

6. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, a web on said rail, an upper tubular part extending adjacent the upper longitudinal edge of said web, a lower tubular part extending adjacent the lower longitudinal edge of said web, each of said tubular parts being longitudinally slotted and connected to said web, an upwardly projecting flange on said lower tubular part at each side of said web, a downwardly projecting flange on said upper tubular part at each side of said web, runners mounted on said flanges for supporting a curtain, further runners on said flanges for supporting a second curtain, a master runner for the leading edge of each curtain, a cord in said tubular parts, means for connecting said master runners to said cord, said means extending through the slots in said tubular parts, and the master runners being mounted on and completely supported by the flanges on opposite

sides of said web to allow said master runners to pass one another for overlapping the edges of said curtains.

7. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, a web on said rail, an upper tubular part extending adjacent the upper longitudinal edge of said web, a lower tubular part extending adjacent the lower longitudinal edge of said web, each of said tubular parts being longitudinally slotted and connected to said web, an upwardly projecting flange on said lower tubular part at each side of said web, a downwardly projecting flange on said upper tubular part at each side of said web, runners mounted on said flanges for supporting a curtain, further runners on said flanges for supporting a second curtain, said runners engaging said flanges on both sides of said web, a master runner for the leading edge of each curtain, each of said master runners engaging flanges at one side of said web to allow said master runners to pass one another for overlapping the edges of said curtains, a cord in said tubular parts, and means for connecting said master runners to said cord, said means extending through the slots in said tubular parts.

8. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, a web on said rail, a pair of tubular parts extending longitudinally of said web, each of said tubular parts being longitudinally slotted and connected to said web, flanges on said lower tubular part adjacent each side of said web, an integral attachment portion along the upper longitudinal edge of said rail, said portion being of beaded section for engaging attachment brackets, runners mounted on said flanges for supporting a curtain, further runners on said flanges for supporting a second curtain, a master runner for the leading edge of each curtain, a cord in said tubular parts, means for connecting said master runners to said cord, said means extending through the slots in said tubular parts, and each of said master runners engaging flanges at one side of said web to allow said master runners to pass one another for overlapping the edges of said curtains.

9. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, a web on said rail, an upper tubular part extending adjacent the upper longitudinal edge of said web, a lower tubular part extending adjacent the lower longitudinal edge of said web, each of said tubular parts being longitudinally slotted, an integral attachment portion along the upper longitudinal edge of said rail, said portion being of beaded section for engaging attachment brackets, an upwardly projecting flange on said lower tubular part at each side of said web, a downwardly projecting flange on said upper tubular part at each side of said web, runners mounted on said flanges for supporting a curtain, further runners on said flanges for supporting a second curtain, said runners engaging said flanges on both sides of said web, a master runner for the leading edge of each curtain, each of said master runners engaging flanges at one side of said web to allow said master runners to pass one another for overlapping the edges of said curtains, a cord in said tubular parts, and means for connecting said master runners to said cord, said means extending through the slots in said tubular parts.

10. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, a web on said rail, an upper tubular part extending adjacent the upper longitudinal edge of said web, a lower tubular part extending adjacent the lower longitudinal edge of said web, said tubular parts being on opposite sides of said web and being slotted longitudinally, an upwardly projecting flange on said lower tubular part at each side of said web, a downwardly projecting flange on said upper tubular part at each side of said web, runners mounted on said flanges for supporting a curtain, further runners on said flanges for supporting a second curtain, said runners engaging said flanges on both sides of said web, a master runner for the leading edge of each curtain, a cord in said tubular parts, means for connecting said master runners to said cord, said means extending through the slots in said tubular parts, and each of said master runners engaging flanges at one side of said web to allow said master runners to pass one another for overlapping the edges of said curtains.

11. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, a web on said rail, a pair of upper and lower tubular parts extending longitudinally of said web, each of said tubular parts being longitudinally slotted and connected to said web, flanges on said lower tubular part adjacent each side of said web, runners mounted on said flanges for supporting a curtain, further runners on said flanges for supporting a second curtain, a master runner for the leading edge of each curtain, a cord in said tubular parts, a cord clip for connecting each master runner to said cord, a neck on each clip extending through said slot, a portion on the outer end of said neck engaging said master runner, and each of said master runners engaging flanges at one side of said web to allow said master runners to pass one another for overlapping the edges of said curtains.

12. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, a web on said rail, an upper tubular part extending adjacent the upper longitudinal edge of said web, a lower tubular part extending adjacent the lower longitudinal edge of said web, each of said tubular parts being longitudinally slotted, an upwardly protecting flange on said lower tubular part at each side of said web, a downwardly projecting flange on said upper tubular part at each side of said web, runners mounted on said flanges for supporting a curtain, further runners on said flanges for supporting a second curtain, said runners engaging said flanges on both sides of said web, a master runner for the leading edge of each curtain, a cord in said tubular parts, a cord clip for connecting each master runner to said cord, a neck on each clip extending through said slot, a portion on the outer end of said neck engaging said master runner, and each of said master runners engaging flanges at one side of said web.

13. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, a web on said rail, an upper tubular part extending adjacent the upper longitudinal edge of said web, a lower tubular part extending adjacent the lower longitudinal edge of said web, each of said tubular parts being longitudinally slotted and connected to said rail, an upwardly projecting flange on said lower tubular part at each side of said web, a downwardly projecting flange on said upper tubular part at each side of said web, runners mounted on said flanges for supporting a curtain, further runners on said flanges for supporting a second curtain, said runners engaging said flanges on both sides of said web, a master runner for the leading edge of each curtain, each of said master runners having an attachment plate with a cut away recess, a cord in said tubular parts, a cord clip for connecting each master runner to said cord, a neck

on each clip extending through said slot, a part on the projecting end of said neck, said part engaging in said cut away recess, and each of said master runners engaging flanges at one side of said web.

14. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, a web on said rail, a pair of tubular parts extending longitudinally of said web, each of said tubular parts being longitudinally slotted and connected to said web, flanges on said lower tubular part adjacent each side of said web, runners mounted on said flanges for supporting a curtain, further runners on said flanges for supporting a second curtain, a master runner for the leading edge of each curtain, each of said master runners having an attachment plate with a cut away recess, a cord in said tubular parts, a cord clip for connecting each master runner to said cord, an eye on each clip, said eye engaging in one of said tubular parts and threading over said cord, a neck connected to said eye and extending through said slot, a part on the projecting end of said neck, said part engaging in said cut away recess, a clamping stud extending through said neck to clamp said cord in said eye, and each of said master runners engaging flanges at one side of said web.

15. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, a web on said rail, an upper tubular part extending adjacent the upper longitudinal edge of said web, a lower tubular part extending adjacent the lower longitudinal edge of said web, each of said tubular parts being longitudinally slotted and connected to said web, flanges on said lower tubular part adjacent each side of said web, runners mounted on said flanges for supporting a curtain, further runners on said flanges for supporting a second curtain, a master runner for the leading edge of each curtain, each of said master runners having an attachment plate with a cut away recess, a cord in said tubular parts, a cord clip for connecting each master runner to said cord, an eye on each clip, said eye engaging in one of said tubular parts and treading over said cord, a neck connected to said eye and extending through said slot, a part on the projecting end of said neck, said part engaging in said cut away recess, a clamping stud extending through said neck to clamp said cord in said eye, and each of said master runners engaging flanges at one side of said web.

16. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, a web on said rail, an upper tubular part extending adjacent the upper longitudinal edge of said web, a lower tubular part extending adjacent the lower longitudinal edge of said web, each of said tubular parts being longitudinally slotted and connected to said web, flanges on said lower tubular part adjacent each side of said web, runners mounted on said flanges for supporting a curtain, further runners on said flanges for supporting a second curtain, a master runner for the leading edge of each curtain, a cord in said tubular parts, means for connecting said master runners to said cord, said means extending through the slots in said tubular parts, the master runners being mounted on and completely supported by the flanges on opposite sides of said web, longitudinally extending ribs on said upper tubular part, and attachment brackets engaging said ribs.

17. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, a web on said rail, an upper tubular part extending adjacent the upper longitudinal edge of said web, a lower tubular part extending adjacent the lower longitudinal edge of said web, each of said tubular parts being longitudinally slotted and connected to said web, flanges on said lower tubular part adjacent each side of said web, runners mounted on said flanges for supporting a curtain, further runners on said flanges for supporting a second curtain, a master runner for the leading edge of each curtain, a cord in said tubular parts, a cord clip for connecting each master runner to said cord, an eye on each clip, said eye engaging in one of said tubular parts and threading over said cord, a neck connected to said eye and extending through said slot, a portion on the outer end of said neck engaging said master runner, a clamping stud extending through said neck to clamp said cord in said eye, each of said master runners engaging flanges at one side of said web to allow said master runners to pass one another for overlapping the edges of said curtains, longitudinally extending ribs on said upper tubular part, and attachment brackets engaging said ribs.

18. Curtain supporting apparatus including a rail, a web on said rail, an upper tubular part extending adjacent the upper longitudinal edge of said web, a lower tubular part extending adjacent the lower longitudinal edge of said web, each of said tubular parts being longitudinally slotted, an upwardly projecting flange on said lower tubular part at each side of said web, a downwardly projecting flange on said upper tubular part at each side of said web, runners mounted on said flanges for supporting a curtain, further runners on said flanges for supporting a second curtain, a master runner for the leading edge of each curtain, a cord in said tubular parts, means for connecting said master runners to said cord, said means extending through the slots in said tubular parts, a stop for said runners, a pair of spaced arms on said stop engageable with the flanges at one side of the web, a connecting portion for said arms, said connecting portion being adapted for anchoring one of said curtains, a clamping screw acting between said arms and each of said master runners engaging flanges at one side of said web to allow said master runners to pass one another for overlapping the edges of said curtains.

19. A rail for curtain supporting apparatus including a web, an upper tubular part extending adjacent the upper longitudinal edge of said web, a lower tubular part extending adjacent the lower longitudinal edge of said web, each of said tubular parts being longitudinally slotted and connected to said web, and flanges on said lower tubular part adjacent each side of said web, said flanges being adapted to form two complete tracks for curtain supporting runners.

20. A rail for curtain supporting apparatus including a web, an upper tubular part extending adjacent the upper longitudinal edge of said web, a lower tubular part extending adjacent the lower longitudinal edge of said web, each of said tubular parts being longitudinally slotted, an upwardly projecting flange on said lower tubular part at each side of said web, and a downwardly projecting flange on said upper tubular part at each side of said web, said flanges being adapted to form two complete tracks for curtain supporting runners.

HOWARD FREDERICK SMITH.