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W. H. SIMMONS, JR
INFANT'S FOLDABLE PLAY PEN

2,479,273

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3 Sheets-Sheet 1

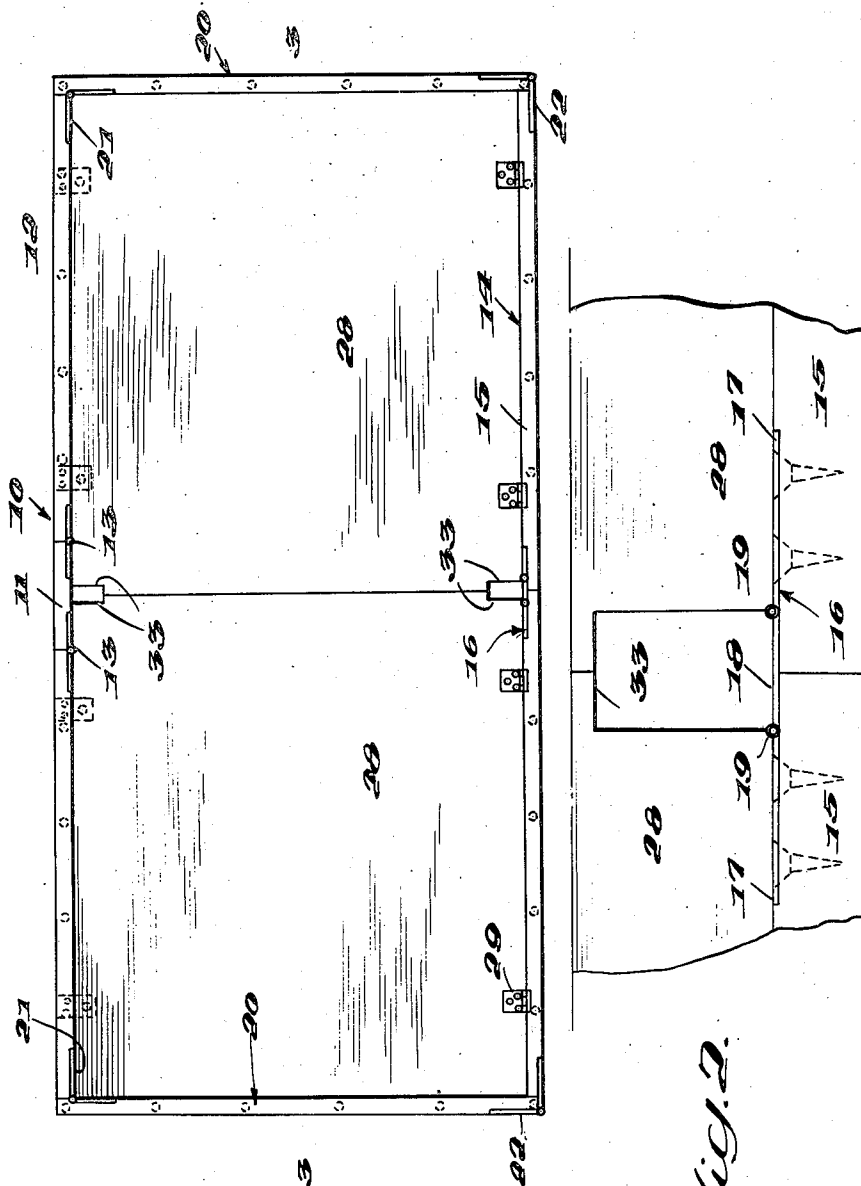


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

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3 Sheets-Sheet 2

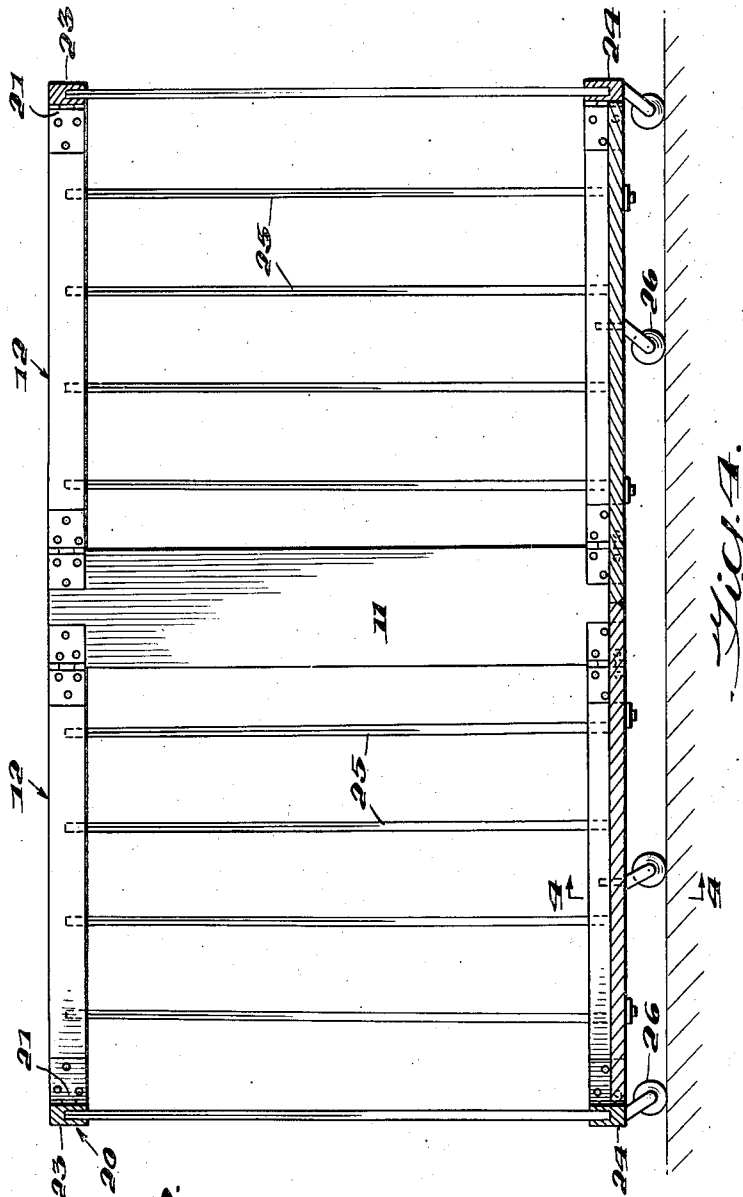


Fig. 3.

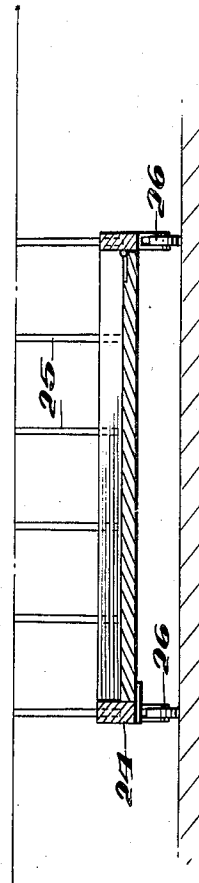


Fig. 4.

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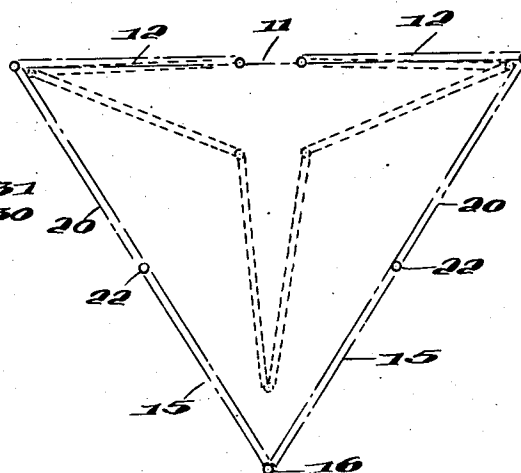
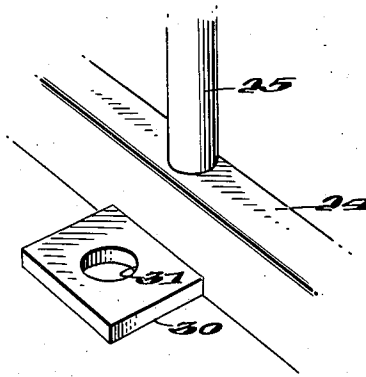
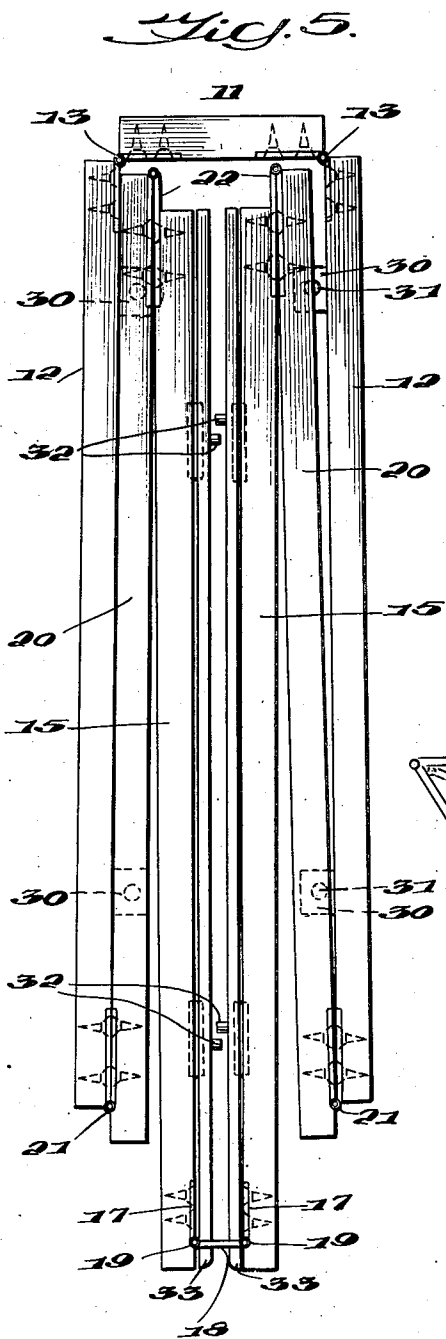
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INFANT'S FOLDABLE PLAY PEN

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3 Sheets-Sheet 3



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INFANT'S FOLDABLE PLAY PEN

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7 Claims. (Cl. 5-99)

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The present invention relates to infants' play pens, and particularly to that type of pen which is foldable or collapsible so that it may be readily stored when not in use.

The invention has for its primary object the provision of an improved play pen having a sectional bottom and hingedly connected sides, and conveniently foldable into compact relationship.

Minor aims and objects of the invention will be apparent to persons skilled in the art to which the invention relates from a consideration of the accompanying drawings and annexed specification, illustrating and describing a preferred form of the invention.

In the drawings

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of an infant's play pen embodying the invention and shown in open position ready for use;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail plan view of a portion of the bottom section and one of the sides;

Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view of the pen as taken on the line 3-3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view of the bottom of the pen as taken on the line 4-4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a top plan view of the pen in folded or collapsed position;

Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of a fragmentary portion of a bottom rail of a side, illustrating a bottom supporting bracket thereon; and

Fig. 7 is a diagrammatic plan view illustrating the manner of folding the sides of the pen from the open position shown in Fig. 1 to the collapsed position shown in Fig. 5.

Referring to the drawings, the preferred form of play yard or play pen is of elongated rectangular shape having preferably a length of about twice the width. The opposed longer sides may be of equal length, the front side 10 including an upright spacing panel or section 11 and side panels or sections 12 hingedly connected to the opposite vertical edges thereof by means of hinges 13, and arranged to fold inwardly with respect thereto. The opposite or rear panel 14 is composed of a pair of side sections 15 hingedly connected along their adjoining vertical edges by means of double hinges 16. These double hinges have straps 17 secured to the respective panels 15, as by screws, and each strap is connected to a centerpiece 18 by a hinge pin 19 so that the hinge breaks in spaced centers. Preferably, the rear panels or sections 15 are of greater length than the front panels 12.

The end panels 20 of the pen overlie the ends

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of the front and rear side panels 12 and 15, and are hingedly connected to the front panel 12 along adjoining inner faces by a hinge 21 so as to fold inwardly with respect thereto. The end panels 20 are hingedly connected to the rear side panels 15 along adjoining outer faces by hinges 22 so as to fold outwardly with respect thereto. Preferably, the end panels or sections 20 are of slightly greater length than the front panels 12 and of slightly less length than the rear panels 15.

The movable side and end panels or sections 12, 15 and 20 may be of any suitable construction. Preferably, they may consist of upper and lower rails 23 and 24, respectively, connected by spaced dowels 25 so as to provide an open panel or section. The lower rails conveniently may be provided with casters 26 to facilitate moving the sections 12, 15 and 20 relatively to each other and to the spacer sections 11 when it is desired to fold the pen, or to move the pen as a whole about the room to a convenient location.

The pen advantageously includes a bottom or floor structure which preferably comprises sections 28 hingedly connected, as at 29, to the bottom rails 24 of one of the side sections 15. The opposite sides of the bottom sections 28 rest upon and are supported by supporting brackets 30 extending inwardly from the bottom rails 24 of the side 12 (see Figs. 1 and 6), which brackets are apertured as at 31 to receive pegs or pins 32 on the floor to lock the floor in place and prevent accidental displacement of the sides 15 laterally away from the sides 12.

The meeting edges of the floor sections 28 is advantageously on the transverse median line of the pen, as shown in Fig. 1, and preferably the opposed ends of the meeting edge of the floor sections are notched as at 33 (Figs. 1 and 2) to receive the pins 19 of the double hinge 16 connecting the sections 15 when the panels or sections are in their folded or collapsed position as shown in Fig. 5. This permits the floor sections 28 to be folded upwardly substantially flush with the inner face of their respective side sections 15 as shown in Fig. 5.

The pen may be readily folded from its open operative position, shown in Fig. 1, to the collapsed position shown in Fig. 5, by first folding the floor sections 28 upwardly against the side sections 15. This releases the pins 32 from the apertures 31 in the brackets 30 and permits the side sections to be moved laterally away from the side sections 12.

The side sections 15 may then be moved out-

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wardly away from the side sections 12, so as to present a substantially triangular frame as shown in dash lines in Fig. 7, wherein the side sections 15 are in alignment with the end sections 20. The hinged connections 22, between the side and end sections 15 and 20, may then be moved inwardly toward the spacer panel 11 to substantially the dotted line position shown in Fig. 7. Thereafter the side sections 12 may be swung about their hinges 13 to embrace the end sections and move the several hinged panel sections into nested relation disposed substantially normal to the spacing panel and substantially between the side edges thereof as shown in Fig. 5.

From the above it will be seen that the play pen is of simple construction, readily foldable to collapsed form, as shown in Fig. 5, for convenient storage.

When it is desired to open the pen for use, the side sections 12 are swung outwardly about the hinged connections 13, from the position shown in Fig. 5, to a position approximating that shown in dotted lines in Fig. 7, and thus all side and end sections may be moved to the rectangular open position shown in Fig. 1.

Although I have illustrated and disclosed a preferred embodiment of the invention, I do not intend to be restricted thereto as the scope of the invention is best defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. An infant's collapsible play pen comprising a spacing section, inwardly folding side sections hingedly connected to opposed side edges of said spacing section, inwardly folding end sections hingedly connected to the side edges of said side sections remote from said spacing panel, outwardly folding side sections hingedly connected to the side edges of the end sections remote from the first named side sections, and an inwardly folding hinged connection connecting the second named side sections.

2. An infant's collapsible play pen comprising a spacing section, inwardly folding side sections hingedly connected to opposed side edges of said spacing section, inwardly folding end sections of slightly greater length than the side sections hingedly connected to the side edges of said side sections remote from said spacing panel, outwardly folding side sections hingedly connected to the side edges of the end sections remote from the first named side sections and an inwardly folding hinged connection connecting the second named side sections.

3. An infant's collapsible play pen comprising a spacing section, inwardly folding side sections hingedly connected to opposed side edges of said spacing section, inwardly folding end sections hingedly connected to the side edges of said side sections remote from said spacing panel, outwardly folding side sections of greater length than the first named side sections hingedly connected to the side edges of the end sections remote from the first named side sections, and an inwardly folding hinged connection connecting the second named side section.

4. An infant's collapsible play pen comprising

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a spacing section, inwardly folding side sections hingedly connected to opposed side edges of said spacing section, inwardly folding end sections of slightly greater length than the side sections hingedly connected to the edges of said side sections remote from said spacing panel, outwardly folding side sections of greater length than the first named side sections hingedly connected to the side edges of the end sections remote from the first named side sections, and an inwardly folding hinged connection connecting the second named side sections.

5. An infant's collapsible play pen comprising a spacing section, side sections hingedly connected to the side edges of said spacing section, end sections hingedly connected to said side sections along an edge opposite said spacing panel, and a second set of hingedly connected side sections hingedly connected along their side edges to said end sections, and flooring sections hingedly connected to the sections of one of said sides and adapted to be folded thereagainst when the pen is in collapsed position.

6. An infant's collapsible play pen comprising a spacing section, inwardly folding side sections hingedly connected to opposed side edges of said spacing section, inwardly folding end sections hingedly connected to the side edges of said side sections remote from said spacing panel, outwardly folding side sections hingedly connected to the side edges of the end sections remote from the first named side sections, an inwardly folding hinged connection connecting the second named side sections, and floor sections hingedly connected to the second named side sections and adapted to be folded thereagainst when the pen is in collapsed position.

7. An infant's collapsible play pen comprising a spacing section, inwardly folding side sections hingedly connected to opposed side edges of said spacing section, inwardly folding end sections hingedly connected to the side edges of said side sections remote from said spacing panel, outwardly folding side sections hingedly connected to the side edges of the end sections remote from the first named side sections, an inwardly folding hinged connection connecting the second named side sections, and floor sections hingedly connected to the second named side sections and adapted to be folded thereagainst when the pen is in collapsed position, the meeting edges of said floor sections being recessed adjacent their opposite ends to receive the hinge connections between the second named side sections when the pen is in folded position.

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The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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