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Kaminski

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[54] **DRAPERY TIE BACK DEVICE**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **160/349 D,** 211/87

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A47h 1/00**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 211/87, 105.2; 160/349 D, 160/349; 248/315, 298, 295

[56] **References Cited**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A concealed drapery tie-back device comprising a generally U-shaped member having a pair of support arms connected by a cross member, the support arms having mounting ears formed thereon forming a planar surface for engagement with a drapery wall. A cross-bar is connected between the arms at a location off-set from said cross member toward said ears, the cross-bar is provided with a hole for receiving a split ring for securing of the tie-back cord to the tie-back device. The cross-member is disposed within the first pleat of a drape to position the drape and to support said pleat. The distance between said cross-bar and cross member provides sufficient space to accommodate the pleats of the drape without crushing of said pleats in a direction toward said drape wall.

3 Claims, 7 Drawing Figures

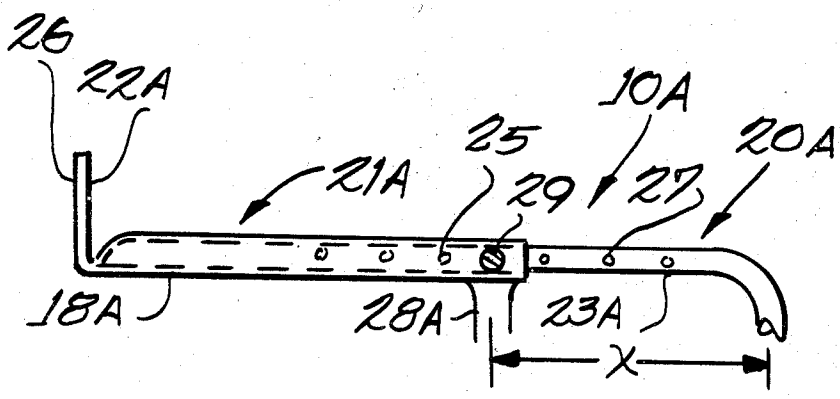


Fig. 1

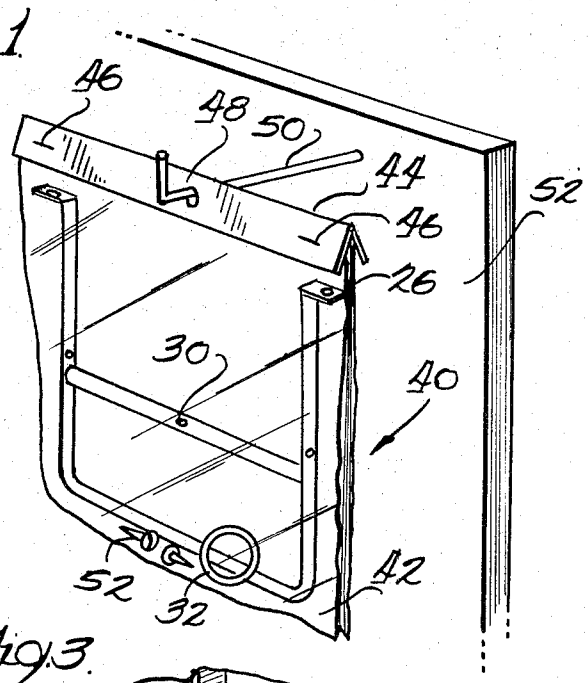


Fig. 2

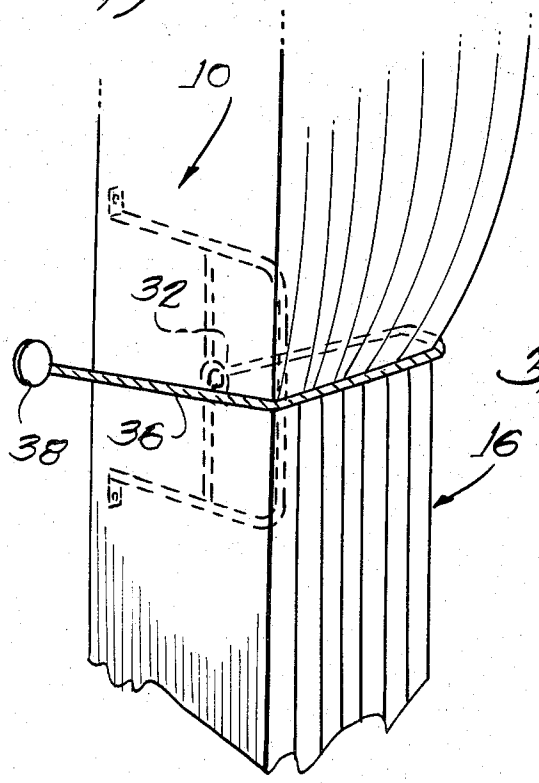


Fig. 3

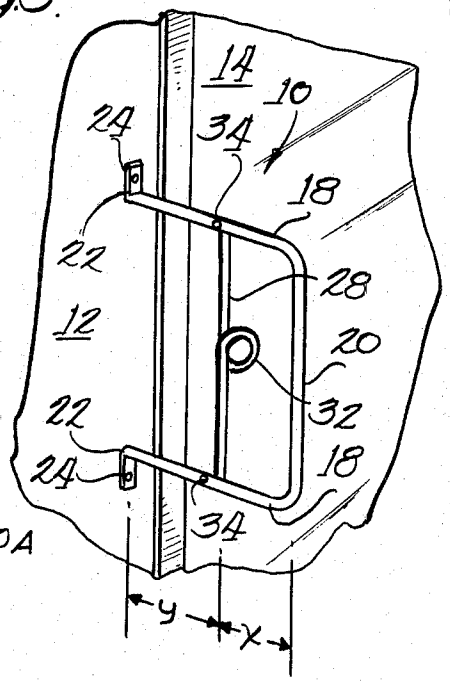


Fig. 4

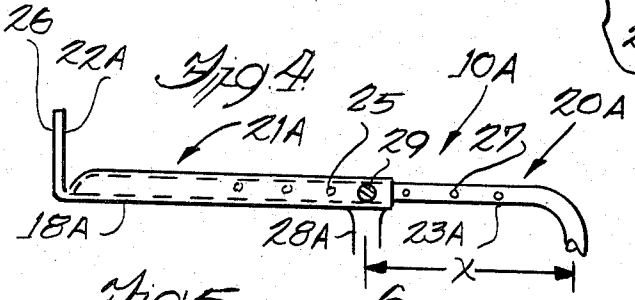


Fig. 5

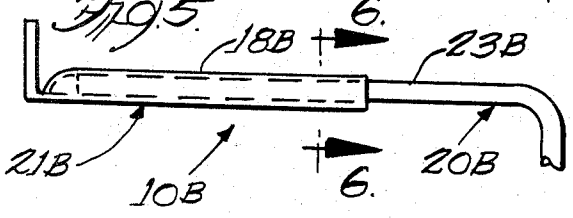


Fig. 6

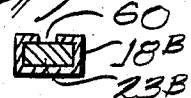
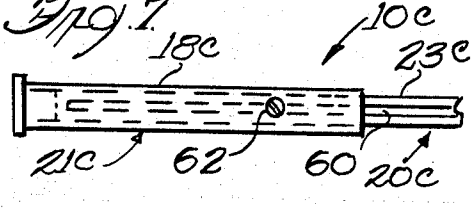


Fig. 7



DRAPERY TIE BACK DEVICE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates generally to a type of drapery tie-back device or support which is adapted to position one edge of the drape so that the edge will hang straight in a vertical sense when the drape is tied back with a tie-back cord and is invisible, being mounted behind the drape. The device is optionally constructed in two pieces having an adjustable relationship therebetween to accomodate varying depths of pleats.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PRIOR ART

At the present time, many homes are decorated utilizing drapes of the type adapted to be tied back at the outer edges to create a decorative appearance. A problem which has existed with known tie-back structures is that the first pleat or the pleat adjacent the ends may be distorted and not hang straight under the pressure exerted by a tie-back cord. A further problem in known type of structures is that the tie-back structure in most cases does not space the drape out from the underlying curtain or inner drape thereby allowing interference of the closable curtain or inner drape with the decorative drape.

In addition devices of a type similar to the present invention which provide invisible support for a tie-back cord do not provide for an adjustment for varying depths of pleats which limits the usefulness of the prior art devices. In addition the prior art devices do not provide for a variable position of the ring or other mechanism to which the tie-back cord is to be tied to provide for varying effects by changing the position of one end of the tie-back cord relative to the drape.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is designated to overcome the above noted limitations and disadvantages of known types of drapery tie-back devices by providing a novel tie-back support structure which may be conveniently sold in a transparent package to the general public and which may be easily installed by the homeowner to provide for the decorative effect of swag-type to tie-back type drapes while at the same time keeping the cost of same to a minimum.

It is a feature of the present invention to provide a tie-back support which is invisible, being disposed within the first pleat at the edge of the drape to prevent distortion of the edge of the drape in a vertical sense when the tie-back cord is in place and in essence to "set" the first pleat of the drape.

A further feature of the present invention is to provide for a space between the securing point for the tie-back cord to the device and the portion of the device which engages the drape at the outer portion of a pleat to provide space to accomodate the pleats between the tie-back cord on the front and back side of the drape to prevent crushing of the pleats of the drape.

A further feature of the present invention is to provide a two-piece type of construction of the device wherein the position of the portion of the device engaging the drape may be varied with respect to the wall mounting portion of the device to accomodate pleats of varying depths.

A further feature of the present invention is the provision of the means for securing the tie-back cord to the tie-back device being displaced from the drapery wall when the device is in position whereby the support in combination with the tie-back cord will position the decorative swag-type drape from the wall to prevent interference between the swag-type drape and the movable inner-drape or curtain.

A further feature of the present invention is the provision of a plurality of locations at which the tie-back cord can be secured to the device to provide for varying decorative effects of the drape by varying the position of one end of the tie-back cord with respect to the drape.

The provision of a drapery tie-back device such as briefly outlined above and possessing the stated advantages, constitutes the principle feature of the present invention. The provision of a device as described above which is extremely simple in construction and therefore economical to manufacture; one which is adaptable to varying requirements due to differing widths of pleats of the drape to be used with the present invention and different decorative effects which may be desired; one which may be conveniently packaged in a transparent package for mounting on a display board for sale to the general public; and one which may be conveniently and easily installed by the homeowner are further desirable features which have been borne in mind in the production and development of the present invention.

Other features and advantages of this invention will become apparent from the description which follows.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of the specification, and in which like reference characters are employed to designate like parts of the same:

FIG. **1** is a perspective view of the present invention, packaged for sale to the public and mounted on a display board;

FIG. **2** is a perspective view showing the device of the present invention mounted behind a drape and having the tie-back cord secured thereto;

FIG. **3** is a perspective view of the device of the present invention mounted to a drapery wall;

FIG. **4** is a modified form of the present invention showing a two-piece construction wherein the effective length of the device with respect to the drapery wall may be varied;

FIG. **5** is a further modified form of the invention showing a two-piece construction wherein a friction fit is used to secure the two pieces together;

FIG. **6** is a sectional view taken along the lines **6—6** of FIG. **5**; and

FIG. **7** is a further modified form of the present invention showing a two-piece construction wherein the means to variably secure the two pieces together comprises a setscrew arrangement.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring now to FIGS. **2** and **3** a drapery tie-back support or device **10** is illustrated which is adapted to be attached to a wall **12** having a window **14** therein with a drape **16** of the swag or decorative type hung to cover the edge of the window **14.**

Referring more particularly to the tie-back device or support **10,** as illustrated in FIGS. **1** and **2,** it will be seen that device **10** is generally a "U"-shaped one-piece structure comprised of a pair of support arms **18**

connected by a cross-member **20.** Extending at right angles from each of the support arms **18** are mounting ears **22** which each have a hole **24** therethrough for mounting of device **10** to the wall. As illustrated in FIGS. **1** and **4,** the ears **22** have a flat mounting face **26** thereon for engagement with wall **12.** The two faces **26** lie in a common flat plane.

A cross-bar **28** is provided which is attached to each of the support arms **18.** Cross-bar **28** has a hole **30** pierced through the center thereof which is adapted to receive a split-ring **32.** Holes **34** are provided in each of the support arms **18** to which the split ring **32** may be attached if desired. Referring to FIG. **2,** a drapery tie-back cord **36** is illustrated which is attached at one end to the split ring **32** and at the other end to a visible wall fixture **38.**

As seen in FIG. **2,** the tie-back cord surrounds drape **16,** pulling in the mid-section thereof to give a decorative or swag-type effect. It will be seen that by attaching the split ring in one of the holes **34** rather than hole **30,** a different type of decorative effect may be produced since the location of the end of cord **36** at the split ring **32** with respect to the end at fixture **38** would be displaced as compared to the position of the ends of the cord **36** as illustrated in FIG. **2.**

Referring to FIG. **3,** the cross-bar **28** of device **10** is displaced from cross-member **20** a predetermined distance indicated as "X" and the cross-bar **28** is displaced from the ears **22** of support arms **18** a predetermined distance "Y" for reasons to be discussed.

The distance X defines the space which will exist between the invisible part of cord **36** or the part behind drape **16** and the visible part of the cord or the part along the front of drape **16.** It will be apparent then that the distance X defines a space which will prevent the cord **36** from crushing or deforming the pleats of the drape.

The distance *y* is in effect the distance between the cross-bar **28** and the wall **12.** The distance *y* represents then the distance that the device **10** will create between the inner side of drape **16** and wall **12.** This offset or holding out of drape **16** from the wall will prevent interference between the drape **10** and any inner drape or curtain which may be movable to open or close same.

The device **10** being of a one-piece construction, it will be obvious that same can be made by a one-piece die casting of metallic material, a one-piece molding of plastic material, can be injection molded of plastic material, or as illustrated, may be fabricated from a tubular material.

Referring to FIG. **1** a display of the tie-back device **10** suitable for sales to the general public is illustrated. The device **10** is shown mounted in a display package **40** comprised of a clear plastic envelope **42** enclosed by a cardboard or stiff material cap **44** which is secured to bag **42** by staples **46.** A hole **48** is pierced through cap **44** for mounting of the package on a support post **50** attached to a display board **52.** Also provided in the package **40** are a pair of wood screws **52** for use in attaching the mounting ears **22** to a drapery wall.

It will be seen as best illustrated in FIG. **2** that device **10** is adapted to be mounted to wall **12** behind the drape **16** and will be engaged in the first pleat of the drape to "set" or position the outer edge of the drape. Thus, it will be apparent that the edge of drape **16** will hang straight vertically since the device **10** being mounting within the first pleat will prevent distortion of the edge due to pressure created by cord **36.**

Referring to FIG. **4** a modified form of the invention is shown using a two-piece construction. The tie-back device **10A** is comprised of a cross-member portion **20A** and a support portion **21A.** The support portion includes a pair of hollow support arms **18A** connected by a cross-bar **28A.** Received within support arms **18A** in a telescopic manner, are arms **23A** provided on the cross-member portion **20A.** The arms **18A** have holes **25** formed therein. A pin **29** extending in a plane at right angles to the general plane of the device **10** is engaged in a pair of holes **25** and **27** which will be aligned when a desired position of cross-member portion **20A** relative to support portion **21A** is selected. The pin **29** will thus secure the two portions **20A** and **21A** in the adjusted position. The structure of FIG. **4** thus provides an adjustable device **10A** wherein the distance X may be varied to accomodate varying widths of pleats and to adjust for different distances of the drape **16** from wall **12.**

Referring to FIG. **5** a further modified form of the present invention is shown of two-piece construction similar to the structure of FIG. **4.** The tie-back device **10B** of FIG. **5** is comprised of a cross-member portion **20B** and a support portion **21B.** The support arms **18B** are of a rectangular configuration as shown in FIG. **6** and are provided with a slot **50.** The cross-member portion **20B** has arms **23B** which are also rectangular in configuration and adapted to fit within hollow support arms **18B.** The arms **18B** and **23B** are designed and sized to create a friction fit therebetween. The slot **50** allows the arms **18B** to expand slightly when the arms **23B** are disposed therein to create a friction fit whereby the position of cross-member portion **20B** may be easily adjusted relative to support portion **21B** and will be retained in the selected position by the friction fit.

Referring to FIG. **7** a further embodiment is shown wherein a tie-back device **10C** is illustrated having a support portion **21C** and a cross-member portion **20C.** The arms **23C** of cross-member portion **20C** are rectangular in configuration with a slot **60** extending along one side of arms **23C.** A set screw **62** is provided extending through each of arms **23C** in engagement with slot **60.** As in the embodiments of FIGS. **4** and **5,** arms **23C** on cross-member portion **20C** are telescopically received in arms **18C** so as to provide for an adjustable position of cross-member portion **20C.** The set screw **62** may be tightened to secure the cross-member **20C** in its selected position.

It is to be understood that other forms or modifications will become apparent of making the device **10** of a two-piece adjustable structure other than those illustrated in FIGS. **4** through **7.** Further, it is to be understood that various materials such as aluminum, steel or plastic may be used to construct the modified forms of FIGS. **4** through **7** as with the structure of FIGS. **1** through **3.**

The form of this invention as shown and described is to be taken as preferred examples of same, and the invention is not to be considered as limited to the exact arrangements of parts shown in the accompanying drawings or described in this specification as various changes in the details of construction as to shape, size, and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention, the scope of

the novel concepts thereof, or the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:

1. A drapery tie-back device for use with a flexible tie-back cord for a drape to support the drapery in folds to one side of an opening, such as a window opening, with the flexible tie-back cord passed thereabout and with the drapery pleats projecting in spaced relationship to the surrounding wall, the device comprising, in combination:

a generally U-shaped member having a pair of parallel support arms connected by a bight forming cross member at one end thereof and extending normal thereto;

a cross bar connected between said support arms at a location offset inwardly from said cross member and extending parallel to said cross member;

an opening provided in said cross bar adapted to receive a split-ring element to which one end of the flexible tie-back cord may be attached;

a pair of identical separate bracket members each having an elongated hollow leg member open at its front end and closed at its back end with a mounting ear affixed to the closed back end and extending forwardly therefrom at generally right angles to the axis of said leg member;

said brackets adapted to be mounted to a wall within an end pleat of the draperies with said mounting ear projecting in an opposite direction from each other and with the brackets spaced apart a distance corresponding to the spacing between said support arms of said U-shaped member;

said support arms of said U-shaped member adapted to be telescopically received for sliding movement in associated ones of said leg members such that the cross member is movable selectively as to its distance from said mounting ears;

a series of longitudinally spaced apart and aligned openings extending along each of said support arms from the cross member to the terminal end thereof;

an opening disposed in each of said leg members of said bracket adjacent the top open end thereof and oriented therethrough in a manner to be brought into selective registration with selected ones of said openings in said support arms when said support arms are telescopically received in said brackets;

pin means adapted to pass through said leg member opening and through the selected one of said support arm openings in registration therewith to maintain the selected adjustment of said U-shaped member relative to said bracket in a manner to accommodate a variety of pleat thicknesses of draperies;

apertures disposed in said leg members adapted for receipt of a split-ring to which one end of said tie-back cord may be secured so that the cord may be selectively attached to positions on said bracket leg members;

the mounting ears of said bracket extending at generally right angles to said leg members to provide planar mounting surfaces for engagement with said drapery wall;

said cross member adapted to be disposed within a pleat of said drapery with said distance between said cross member and said mounting ears being adjusted to provide sufficient space to accommodate varying widths of pleats of said drape with a minimum of crushing of said drape pleats in a direction toward said wall by said tie-back cord.

2. A drapery tie-back device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said device is manufactured of tubular mettalic material.

3. A drapery tie-back device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said device is manufactured of a rigid plastic material.

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