F. KOUP.

CLOTHESPIN.

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1,413,035. Patented Apr. 18, 1922.

Fig. 1.

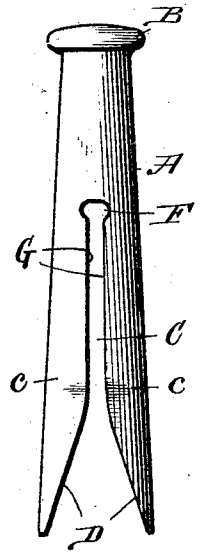
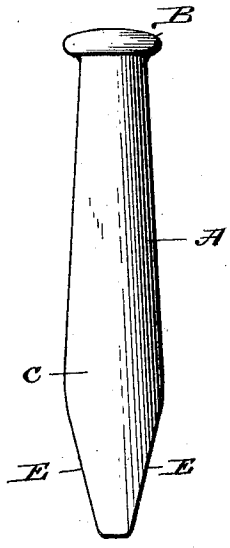


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK KOUP, a citizen of the United States, residing at Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clothespins, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to clothes pins, and more particularly to a metallic clothes pin.

Clothes pins constructed of wood, although enlarged between the clothes-line receiving-slot and the head of the pin with a view of strengthening them at such points, often become split and therefore useless. Moreover, soot and grit carried in the air settle upon the pins and necessitate frequent washing. The particles of soot and grit, however, lodging in the pores of the wood cannot be removed by ordinary cleansing means, with the result that the wash fastened to a line by means of the pins is often marked where clamped by the pins. Therefore, it is necessary to replenish the supply of wooden clothes pins quite frequently.

The primary object of my invention is to provide a metallic clothes pin, and more particularly a clothes pin constructed of aluminum, which can be easily cleaned, which is durable, and while more expensive than a wooden clothes pin; it will, on account of its durability, be found much cheaper over a long period of time. Owing to its being more expensive than a wooden clothes pin, greater care will be taken in preventing loss, as it is very common to find wooden clothes pins scattered about where wash is usually hung to dry.

A pin constructed of aluminum is comparatively light, but owing to the cost of the material, economy in construction is a highly essential feature, and with this in view my invention is constructed so that the minimum cost is required in constructing a pin, due to the fact that it can be made small at the point where the ordinary wooden clothes pin is made extremely large for strength, and thus a considerable saving of material and at the same time reduction in weight is secured. Moreover, it is the purpose of my invention to produce a pin of this kind which is less bulky than the ordinary wooden clothes pin commonly used.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in a clothes pin having a body portion gradually reduced in diameter from its lower end upwardly and having a line-clamping slot extending upwardly from its lower end through the major portion thereof, said body portion being of smallest diameter at that part thereof above said slot and having also a head and the lower ends of the arms at opposite sides of the slot narrowed downwardly.

In the drawings:—

Figs. 1 and 2 are elevations of a pin constructed according to my invention, the views being taken at right angles to each other.

In the construction of a clothes pin formed of aluminum, it is highly essential, owing to its cost, that the minimum amount of material be used, yet full regard must be given in respect to the clamping of clothes by the pin and also the strength thereof, and while this clothes pin may be cast, in which case only the exact quantity of material required will be utilized, I have in mind, in order to provide a polished finish for the same, to turn the pins from bar material, the material turned off, to complete the pin to the construction required in this invention, being re-melted for further use so that no loss in material will be sustained in the manufacture of these pins.

When using clothes pins, they are invariably taken hold of at their upper ends, and in wooden clothes pins the greatest diameter is at the upper ends thereof, viz. between the head of the pin and the upper end of the slot, this being required to provide the necessary strength; such enlargement being intended to prevent splitting of the pin. A clothes pin, however, constructed with an enlarged upper portion is bulky to handle, and by reducing the diameter of the pin where ordinarily made largest, a pin is provided that will be more conveniently handled, and by reason of its being made of metal has no tendency to split.

Reference being had to the drawings in detail, A represents the body portion of the pin and B the head. This body portion is tapered upwardly so that its greatest diameter is at the lower end and its smallest diameter at the head B. It is provided with a line-receiving slot C forming two opposite arms *c* at opposite sides of the slot, the slot being enlarged at its lower end by beveling the inner sides of the two arms at their lower ends, as at D, and these arms are

gradually reduced in width from a point approximately in line with the upper end of the beveled inner portions D, as at E, thus considerable material is saved by beveling the arms, as at D and by reducing the widths of said arms, as at E. The upper end of the line-receiving slot is enlarged, as at F, so as to provide slight yielding action for the arms, whereby assurance is had that the line will be firmly clamped by the opposite parallel sided portions G of the slot. That part of the body portion between the upper end of the slot and the head B is therefore of smallest diameter and the necessary strength. is provided for the arms at opposite sides of the line-receiving slot, due to the body portion being widest along the range of said slot. This also gives the arms the desired thickness to assure a firm clamping action against the wash clamped to a line.

By constructing clothes pins as described they are convenient to handle, possess all the advantages of the ordinary wooden clothes pin, and have several advantages thereover.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:—

1. A clothes pin having a body portion provided with a line-receiving slot extending from a point a distance from its upper end to its lower end and having a head at its upper end, said body portion being of smaller diameter at all points above the upper end of said slot than at any point along the region of said slot.

2. A clothes pin formed of aluminum having a body portion tapered upwardly its full length and having a head at its upper end, said body portion having a line-receiving slot enlarged at its upper end and providing two clamping arms, said slot having outwardly beveled walls at its lower end and parallel sided walls between said outwardly beveled walls and the enlarged upper end thereof, the diameter of said body portion being greater at all points of said clamping arms than at other points thereof.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FRANK KOUP.