June 26, 1923.

1,460,260

H. H. LITCHFIELD

DRYING FRAME

Filed June 26, 1922

Fig. 1.

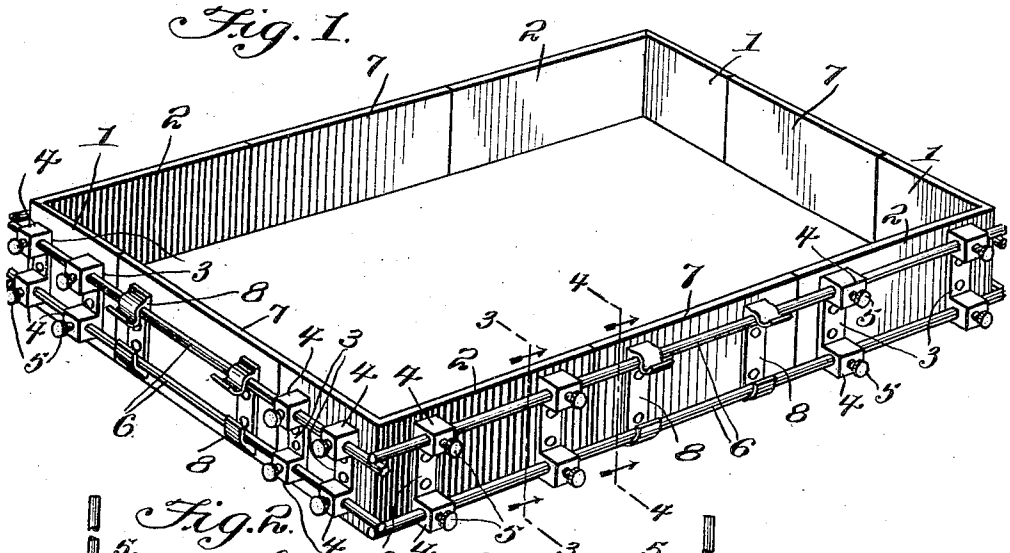


Fig. 2.

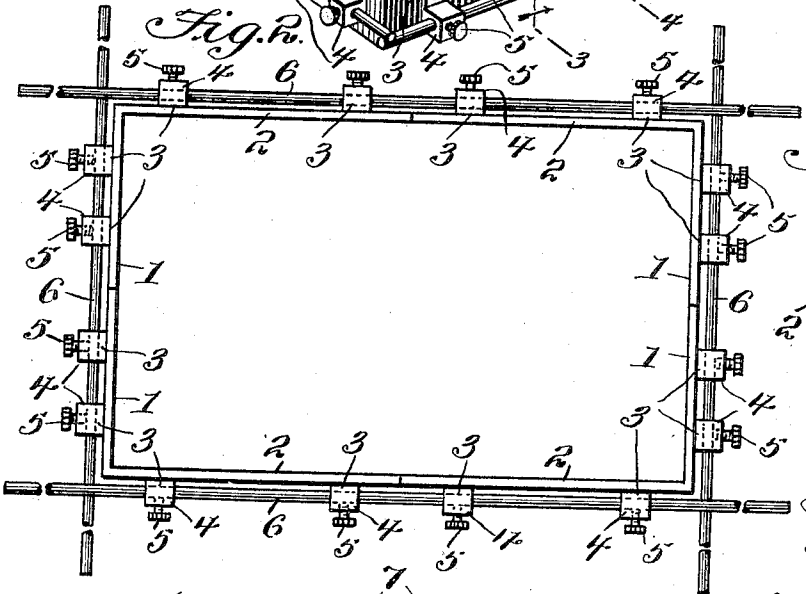


Fig. 3.

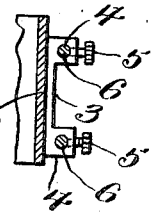


Fig. 4.

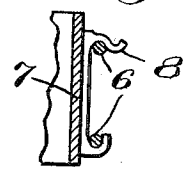
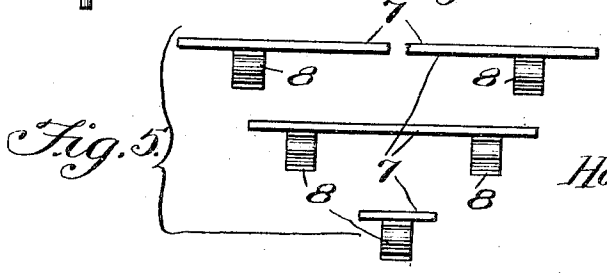


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOMER H. LITCHFIELD, OF ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS.

DRYING FRAME.

Application filed June 26, 1922. Serial No. 570,793.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HOMER H. LITCHFIELD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Rockford, in the county of Winnebago and State of Illinois, have invented new and useful Improvements in Drying Frames, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention has reference to an adjustable drying frame and resides in the construction, combination and operative association of parts set forth in the following description and falling within the scope of what is claimed.

In the drawing:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a drying frame in accordance with this invention.

Figure 2 is a plan view showing the device reduced to produce a smaller frame from that disclosed in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a sectional view on the line 4—4 of Figure 1.

Figure 5 is a top plan view illustrating the various sizes of filler blocks which may be employed.

In printing plants that handle fine halftone or color work, it is a practice to have the sheets of paper as they come through the cylinder presses pass over a gas flame or other heating device. This occurs just previous to the papers reaching the delivery board of the press. On this delivery board there is placed a tray which is usually made of slats or boards. When the printed sheets reach this tray some means must be provided to cause the same to pile up in a straight and even stack. If at the same time means can be provided to conserve and retain the heat the sheet has obtained from the flame, danger from "offsets" will be lessened and the drying of the ink hastened. The ordinary frame for this purpose is made of 4 in. boards which are ¼″ thick. Such frames give perfect results in use, but at the same time they are not practical owing to the fact that so many sizes of paper are in use. It would require an enormous number of frames to fit all of the varying sizes of paper. The average size press takes a sheet 10″ x 16″ for the minimum up to 30″ x 50″, the maximum limit. It is therefore to be considered the object of this invention to produce a frame for this purpose which can be readily adjusted to accommodate all of the varying sizes of sheets which the press will take.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, it will be seen that all of the corners of my frame are similarly constructed. Each corner comprises a right angular member, the shorter angle of each corner being indicated by the numeral 1, and the longer by the numeral 2. On the outer face of each of the faces 1 and 2 of the corners there are vertically disposed plates 3. Each plate is provided at its ends with ears 4, and each ear has a threaded opening therethrough for the reception of a binding screw 5 and another opening therethrough at right angles to said first opening. Through the lateral openings in ears 4 there are passed rods 6. By such arrangement it will be apparent that the angle corners may have their ends brought to contacting engagement and locked in such engagement and also by such construction it will be apparent that the angle corners may be spread away from each other and locked so spread.

Were it not necessary to fill in the space between the confronting ends of the corner sections, any manner of telescopic frames might be successfully employed for my purpose, but the filling in of the corners is an essential feature in the construction as otherwise the frame would not properly receive and properly stack the sheets therein, nor would the sheets be retained in desired heated condition. Therefore I employ any desired number of filler blocks 7 respectively each of a width corresponding to that of the corner members. The blocks 7 are arranged in pairs of the same length, the lengths of the pairs, however, varying. The filler blocks also are of a thickness equalling that of the corner lengths, and on the outer face of each of the filler blocks there is a pair of spaced spring clips 8, the said clips designed to be sprung over the rods 6 when the filler plates 7 are arranged in the space between the confronting ends of the corner sections.

It is thought that the foregoing description, when taken in connection with the drawing will amply set forth the construction and advantages of the improvement to

those skilled in the art to which such inventions relate and that further detailed description will not be required.

Having described the invention, I claim:—

In a drying frame, right angular corner members comprising branches, one of which branches is shorter than the other, spaced eyes on the outer faces of the corner members, rods passing therethrough, binding elements passing through the eyes contacting the rods for holding the corner members adjusted with respect to each other, filler plates between the corner members when the latter are extended, and spring clamps on the outer faces of the filler plates for engaging the rods.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

HOMER H. LITCHFIELD.