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C. E. WISECUP

2,279,934

CLOTHESLINE PIN

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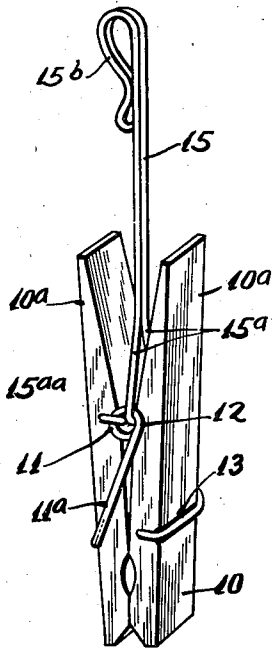


Fig. 1.

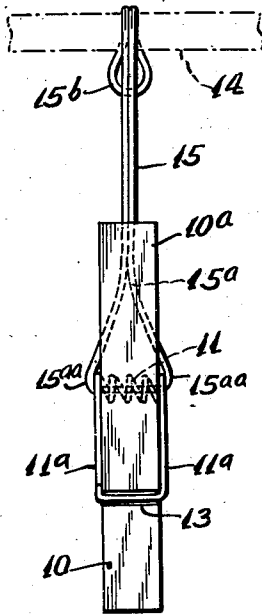


Fig. 2.

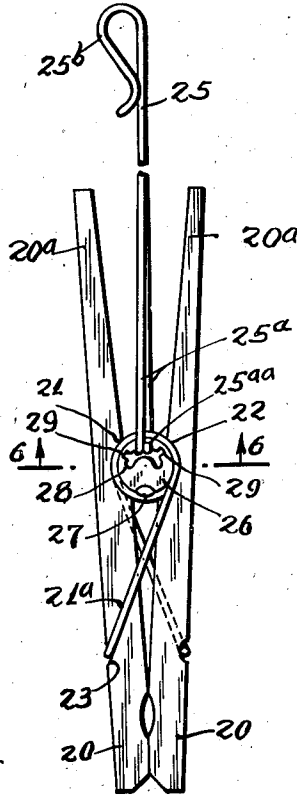


Fig. 4.

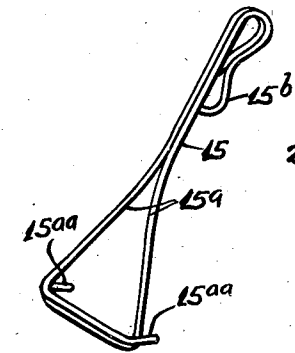


Fig. 3.

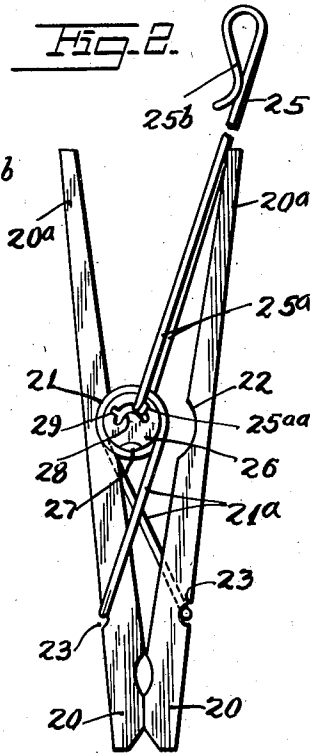


Fig. 5.

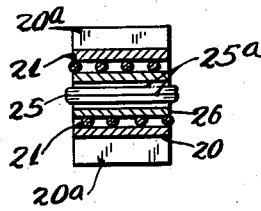


Fig. 6.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## CLOTHESLINE PIN

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7 Claims. (Cl. 24—84)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in a clothes line pin.

More specifically the invention proposes the construction of a clothes line pin characterized by a pair of cooperative gripping jaws pivotally mounted about a coil spring and urged together thereby to be engageable upon the edge of a piece of clothing or similar material and a novel arrangement by which the jaws may be engaged upon a clothes line.

Still further it is proposed to provide the clothes pin with a hook engaged through the coil spring thereof in a certain way and extended upwards to be engageable upon a clothes line for supporting the pin thereon.

Still further it is proposed to characterize the pin by a pair of rear projections forming handles adapted to be pressed together for opening the jaws to permit the clothing to be placed therebetween.

A further object of this invention proposes to have the hook extend upwards between the adjacent faces of the hereinabove mentioned handles for the purpose of limiting the pivoting of the handle with relation to the pin about the coil spring.

Still further a modification of this invention proposes means for removably mounting the hook upon the clothes pin in a manner to permit the same to be removed therefrom when desired.

A further object of this invention is to construct a clothes line pin as mentioned which is simple and durable and which may be manufactured and sold at a reasonable cost.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawing forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a clothes line pin constructed in accordance with this invention.

Fig. 2 is a vertical elevational view of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the hook, per se.

Fig. 4 is a side elevational view of a pin constructed in accordance with a modification of this invention.

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4 but illustrating a different position of the parts.

Fig. 6 is a sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 4.

The clothes line pin according to this inven-

tion, includes a pair of cooperative gripping jaws 10 which are pivotally engaged on the sides of a coil spring 11. The gripping jaws 10 are provided with cutouts 12 which partially encircle the spring 11 for acting as a pivot for the jaws 10. The coil spring 11 has its ends 11<sup>a</sup> extended along opposite sides of the pin and cooperative with the exposed faces of the jaws 10 for the purpose of urging the same together. The ends 10 of the spring 11 are engaged within cutouts 13 formed in the faces of the jaws 10 for preventing relative movement of the jaws 10 with relation to the spring 11.

The gripping jaws 10 are preferably constructed of wood or other similar material and are provided with rearwardly extending projections 10<sup>a</sup> which act as handles. These handles 10<sup>a</sup> are adapted to be manually urged together for pivoting the jaws 10 about the coil spring 11 to open the same and permit a piece of clothing or other similar material to be hung upon a clothes line to be engaged therebetween.

A means is provided for supporting the clothes pin upon a clothes line indicated by the dot and dash lines 14 in Fig. 2. This means comprises a hook 15 having a pair of wire connection elements 15<sup>a</sup> which are extended through the coil spring 11 from opposite ends and which have laterally bent ends 15<sup>aa</sup> for the purpose of gripping the coil spring 11 and preventing the wire connection elements 15<sup>a</sup> from becoming disengaged from the coil spring 11. The top end of the hook 15 is provided with a hook portion 15<sup>b</sup> which is adapted to be engaged upon the clothes line as shown in Fig. 2. This hook 15 is bent from a continuous length of wire into the shape shown in Fig. 3.

The operation of this form of the invention is as follows:

A piece of clothing or other material to be engaged upon a clothes line 14 is engaged between the jaws 10 of the clothes pin by spreading the same and permitting the spring 11 to clamp the jaws thereon. After the pin has been engaged upon the clothing or material to be supported on the line, the hook portion 15<sup>b</sup> of the hook 15 is engaged over the clothes line 14 for supporting the clothing or other material thereon. One or more clothes pins is to be used for supporting the said piece of clothing, depending upon the size thereof.

According to the modification of the invention shown in Figs. 4 to 6 the clothes line pin is characterized by a pair of cooperative gripping jaws 20 which are pivotally engaged on

the sides of the coil spring 21. The ends 21<sup>a</sup> of the coil spring 21 extend along the sides of the jaws 20 and are bent to engage the faces thereof for the purpose of urging the jaws 20 together. The inner faces of the jaws 20 are provided with cutouts 22 which partially encircle the coil spring 21 and the faces of the jaws 20 are provided with cutouts 23 into which the ends of the coil spring 21 engage. The cutouts 22 and 23 act to prevent relative movement of the jaws 20 with relation to the spring 21. The jaws 20 are provided with rearwardly extending projections 20<sup>a</sup> which are adapted to act as handles. These handles are adapted to be urged together for the purpose of spreading the jaws 20 to permit clothing or other material to be supported upon a wash line to be engaged between the jaws.

A hook 25 is provided for supporting the clothes pin upon a wash line. This hook 25 has a pair of connection elements 25<sup>a</sup> which are engaged through the central opening of the coil spring 21 from opposite ends. More specifically the coil spring 21 carries a tubular member 26 which is securely attached to the outermost coil thereof by means of welding, brazing or other similar material and indicated by the reference numeral 27. The tubular member 26 has a central opening 28 through which the ends of the connection elements 25<sup>a</sup> of the hook 25 engage. This central opening 28 is arcuately shaped in cross-section and is provided with outwardly directed grooves 29 arranged adjacent the ends thereof. The ends of the gripping elements 25<sup>a</sup> are bent upwards as indicated by reference numeral 25<sup>aa</sup> for the purpose of gripping the ends of the tubular member 26 between the grooves 29 for the purpose of preventing disengagement of the gripping elements from this tubular member. The top end of the hook 25 is provided with a hook element 25<sup>b</sup> engageable upon a conventional wash line. The construction is such that the hook 25 normally extends upwards between the handles 20<sup>a</sup> to prevent relative movement of the hook with relation to the clothes pin.

However, when desired, it is possible to remove the hook 25 from the clothes pin. This is accomplished by spreading the handle portions 20<sup>a</sup> of the jaws as shown in Fig. 5 permitting the hook 25 to be pivoted to a position in which the upwardly bent end 25<sup>aa</sup> of one of the gripping elements 25<sup>a</sup> will be aligned with one of the grooves 29 for permitting the gripping element 25<sup>a</sup> to be pulled longitudinally outwards with relation to the tubular member 26 causing the upwardly bent end 25<sup>aa</sup> to pass through the groove 29 and free the said gripping element 25 from the tubular member 26. The same procedure is followed for disengaging the other gripping element 25<sup>a</sup> of the hook 25, except that the hook is pivoted in the opposite direction. The weld spot 27 is provided for securely attaching the tubular member 26 to the spring 21 for the purpose of preventing movement of the tubular member 26 with relation to the spring 21 when the hook 25 is pivoted as hereinabove outlined.

It is to be understood that this clothes line pin may be of any desired size, proportion and material, also that the shape of the clothes line pin may be changed as desired for hanging other objects besides clothes such as photographic negatives for drying, dyed fabrics, etc.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the pre-

cise constructions herein disclosed and the right is reserved to all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

1. A clothes line pin, comprising a pair of cooperative gripping jaws pivotally engaged on the sides of a coil spring having end portions engaging the jaws and urging them together, a member fixedly mounted in said coil spring, and a hook for supporting said jaws and having a pair of wire connection elements engaging through an arcuate shaped opening in said member from opposite ends and having laterally bent ends for gripping the ends of said member to prevent the removal of said ends from said member.

2. A clothes line pin, comprising a pair of cooperative gripping jaws pivotally engaged on the sides of a coil spring having end portions engaging the jaws and urging them together, a tubular member fixedly mounted through said coil spring and having a central opening which is arcuately shaped in cross-section and having grooves near the ends thereof, and a hook for supporting said jaws and having a pair of wire connection elements engaging through said central opening from opposite ends and having laterally bent ends gripping the tubular member at areas between said grooves, and said hook being movable to positions in which said laterally bent ends may pass through said grooves.

3. A clothes line pin, comprising a pair of cooperative gripping jaws pivotally engaged on the sides of a coil spring having end portions engaging the jaws and urging them together, a tubular member fixedly mounted through said coil spring and having a central opening which is arcuately shaped in cross-section and having grooves near the ends thereof, and a hook for supporting said jaws and having a pair of wire connection elements engaging through said central opening from opposite ends and having laterally bent ends gripping the tubular member at areas between said grooves, and said hook being movable to positions in which said laterally bent ends may pass through said grooves, said jaws being provided with rear projections forming handles for facilitating the pivoting of said jaws and said hook being extended upwards between the adjacent faces of said handles for preventing pivoting of said hook relative to said pin.

4. A clothes line pin, comprising a pair of cooperative gripping jaws pivotally engaged on the sides of a coil spring having end portions engaging the jaws and urging them together, a tubular member fixedly mounted through said coil spring and having a central opening which is arcuately shaped in cross-section and having grooves near the ends thereof, and a hook for supporting said jaws and having a pair of wire connection elements engaging through said central opening from opposite ends and having laterally bent ends gripping the tubular member at areas between said grooves, and said hook being movable to positions in which said laterally bent ends may pass through said grooves, said jaws being provided with rear projections forming handles for facilitating the pivoting of said jaws and said hook being extended upwards between the adjacent faces of said handles for preventing pivoting of said hook relative to said pin, said handles being adapted to be spread for permitting said hook to be pivoted relative to said tubular mem-

ber to align the ends of said connection elements with said grooves.

5. A clothes line pin, comprising a pair of cooperative gripping jaws pivotally engaged on the sides of a coil spring having end portions engaging the jaws and urging them together, a tubular member fixedly mounted through said coil spring and having a central opening which is arcuately shaped in cross-section and having grooves near the ends thereof, and a hook for supporting said jaws and having a pair of wire connection elements engaging through said central opening from opposite ends and having laterally bent ends gripping the tubular member at areas between said grooves, and said hook being movable to positions in which said laterally bent ends may pass through said grooves, said jaws being provided with rear projections forming handles for facilitating the pivoting of said jaws and said hook being extended upwards between the adjacent faces of said handles for preventing pivoting of said hook relative to said pin, said handles being adapted to be spread for permitting said hook to be pivoted relative to said tubular member to align the ends of said connection elements with said grooves, said tubular member being attached to said spring to prevent movement of said member relative to said spring when said hook is pivoted.

6. A clothes line pin, comprising a coil spring supporting and resiliently urging a pair of cooperative gripping jaws together, a member having an arcuate opening extended through said coil spring and having an area securely attached to one of the coils of said spring, a hook for supporting said coil spring from a clothes line

or the like having a pair of wire connection elements extended through said arcuate opening from opposite ends, laterally bent ends formed on the ends of said wire connection elements and directed upwards along the ends of said member for gripping the same to prevent disengagement of the wire connection elements from said arcuate opening, and means with which the laterally bent ends may be aligned in a pivoted position of said hook relative to said member permitting said laterally bent ends to be withdrawn from said tubular member when desired.

7. A clothes line pin, comprising a coil spring supporting and resiliently urging a pair of cooperative gripping jaws together, a member having an arcuate opening extended through said coil spring and having an area securely attached to one of the coils of said spring, a hook for supporting said coil spring from a clothes line or the like having a pair of wire connection elements extended through said arcuate opening from opposite ends, laterally bent ends formed on the ends of said wire connection elements and directed upwards along the ends of said member for gripping the same to prevent disengagement of the wire connection elements from said arcuate opening, and means with which the laterally bent ends may be aligned in a pivoted position of said hook relative to said member permitting said laterally bent ends to be withdrawn from said tubular member when desired, comprising grooves formed on the ends of said arcuate opening and extended upwards on opposite sides of the normal upwardly extended position of said laterally bent ends.

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