Jan. 24, 1950 R. A. SMITH 2,495,610

ADJUSTABLE CLOTHES POLE

Filed Oct. 25, 1946

FIG. 1

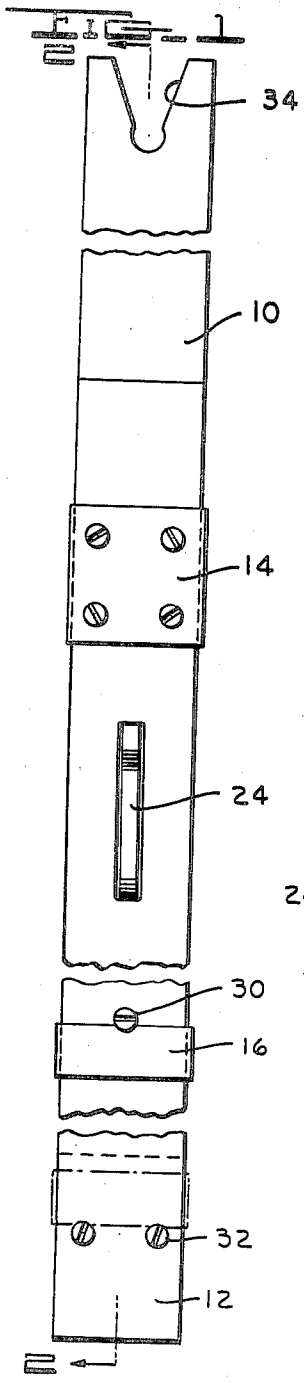


FIG. 2

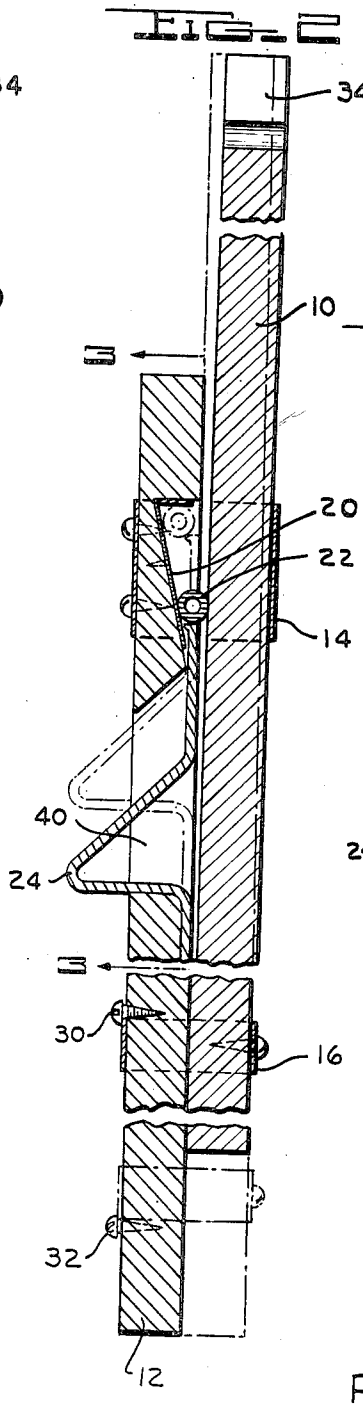
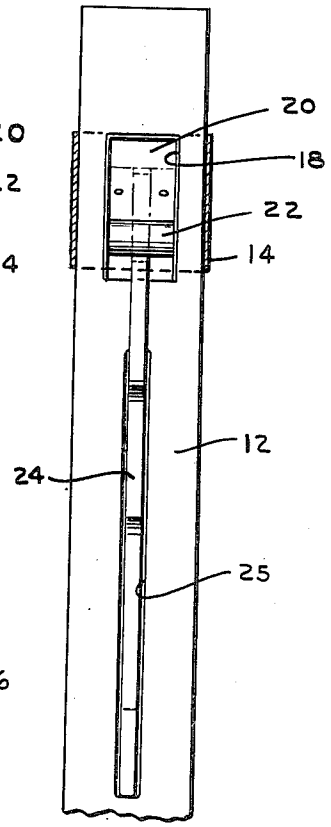


FIG. 3



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ADJUSTABLE CLOTHES POLE

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1 Claim. (Cl. 248—353)

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This invention relates to adjustable clothes poles.

A principal object of the invention is to provide an adjustable clothes pole which is simple in construction and easy to adjust when the pole is in use.

Another object of the invention is to provide an adjustable clothes pole in which the length of the pole may be adjusted to any position within its range of adjustment that may be desired.

Other and further objects of the invention will be apparent from the following description and claim and will be understood by reference to the accompanying drawing, of which there is one sheet, which by way of illustration shows a preferred embodiment and the principles thereof and what I now consider to be the best mode in which I have contemplated applying those principles. Other embodiments of the invention embodying the same or equivalent principles may be used and structural changes may be made as desired by those skilled in the art without departing from the present invention and the purview of the appended claim.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary elevational view of a pole embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view thereof taken along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 3 is a view taken along the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

The adjustable clothes pole comprises a pair of rods 10 and 12, and sleeves 14 and 16 slidably interconnecting the rods for lengthwise extension and retraction relative to each other. One of the rods is provided with a wedge-shaped slot or groove 18 facing the other of the rods and a metal facing 20 is provided on the bottom of the slot 18. A roller 22 is arranged in the slot and is adapted upon relative movement between the rods in one direction to wedge between the face 20 and the rod 10 so as to lock the rods against relative movement in one direction. A release member 24 is movably mounted on the rod 12 and is positioned to engage the roller 22 and dislodge it from its wedging position so as to free the rods from movement in such direction.

The sleeves 14 and 16 may comprise metal bands, the sleeve 14 being secured to the rod 12 while the sleeve 16 is secured to the rod 10 by means of screws. Screws 30 and 32 on the rod 12 form stops for engagement with the sleeve 16 to limit the extent of extension or retraction of the rods relative to each other. The upper end of the rod 10 is notched as at 34 so as to receive a clothesline. The arrangement of the slot 18 and the roller 22 is such that with the rods in the extended position illustrated in full lines in Figs. 1 and 2, the roller will wedge between the shallow part of the slot 18 and the face of the rod 10 and prevent

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the retraction movement of the rods relative to each other. However, the rods are free to move in the direction of their extension relative to each other up to the limit of their relative movement.

The release member 24 comprises a bar which is slidably arranged in a groove 25 in the rod 12 and one end of the bar is positioned so that it may project into the groove 18 and engage the roller 22 so as to dislodge it from its gripping position between the facing 20 and the rod 10. The roller 22 is shown in full lines in its gripping position in Fig. 2 and in dotted lines in released position in such figure. The release member 24 is shown in full lines in its inoperative position in Fig. 2 and in its releasing position in dotted lines in Fig. 2. A bend in the bar 24 extends through a slot 40 in the rod 12 so that the release member 24 may be manually actuated.

The roller 22 is adapted to wedge between the facing 20 and the rod 10 in any relative position thereof, and under the wedge action of the roller the upper ends of the rods 10 and 12 will separate slightly, as shown in full lines in Fig. 2. However, the sleeve 14 will limit such separating movement.

While I have illustrated and described a preferred embodiment of my invention, it is understood that this is capable of modification, and I therefore do not wish to be limited to the precise details set forth, but desire to avail myself of such changes and alterations as fall within the purview of the following claim.

I claim:

An adjustable clothes pole comprising a pair of rods, sleeves slidably interconnecting said rods for lengthwise extension and retraction relative to each other, one of said rods being provided with a wedge-shaped slot facing the other of said rods, a metal facing on the bottom of said slot, a roller in said slot and adapted upon relative movement between said rods in one direction to wedge between said face and said other rod so as to lock said rods against relative movement in said direction, a slidable release member movably mounted in a groove formed longitudinally in one of said rods and communicating with said slot, said member in said groove being positioned to engage said roller and dislodge it from its wedging position so as to free said rods for movement in such direction, and stops limiting lengthwise movement of said rods relative to each other.

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

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