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TENT SUPPORTING APPARATUS

Filed Aug. 5, 1921

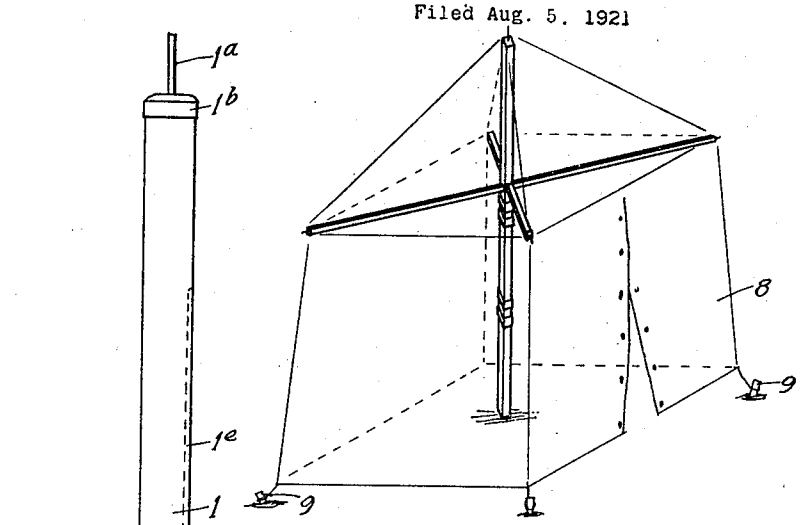


FIG. 1

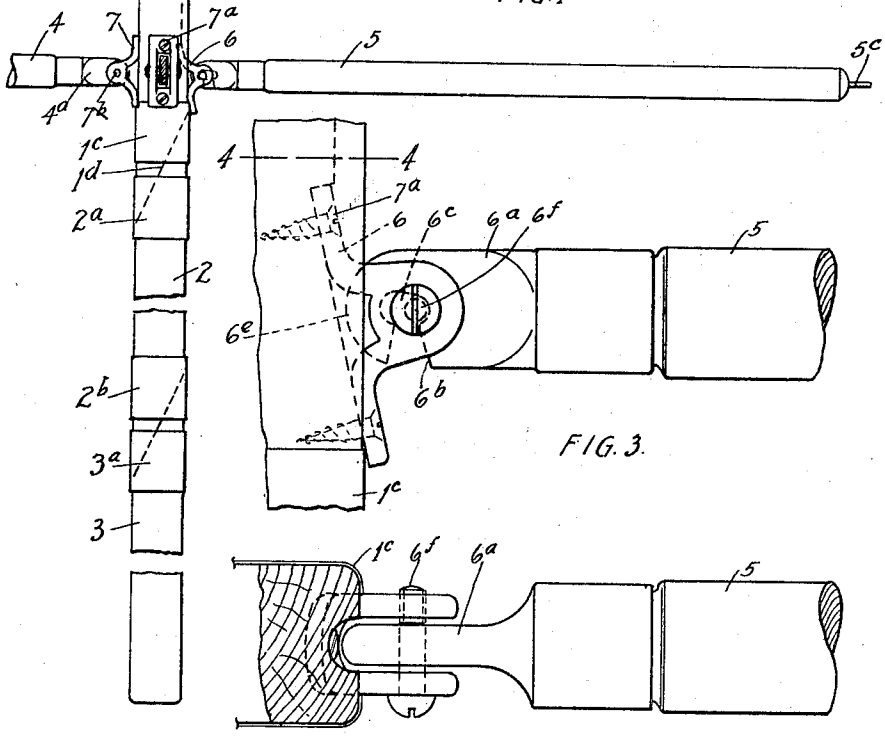


FIG. 2

FIG. 3

FIG. 4

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ADOLPH MUEHLEISEN AND GROVER C. MUEHLEISEN, OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.

TENT-SUPPORTING APPARATUS.

Application filed August 5, 1921. Serial No. 489,948.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ADOLPH MUEHLEISEN and GROVER C. MUEHLEISEN, citizens of the United States, residing at San Diego, in the county of San Diego and State of California, have invented a certain new and useful Tent-Supporting Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to tents, more particularly collapsible supporting means for tents of the central support square tapering type, and the objects of our inventions are: first, to provide a collapsible support for a tent which may be folded up into compact form for transporting; second, to provide a novel spreader means for spreading the upper portion of the tent in center pole tents; third, to provide a novelly constructed center pole tent supporting apparatus; fourth, to provide a four-cornered tent support in which one of the members is used as a spreader member for tightening the upper portion of the tent and thereby securing the tent in position on its supports; and fifth, to provide a tent supporting structure of this class which is very simple and economical of construction, easy to install, efficient in its action and which will not readily deteriorate or get out of order.

With these and other objects in view as will appear hereinafter, our invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts and portions as will be hereinafter described in detail and particularly set forth in the appended claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the characters of reference thereon, which form a part of this application, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a tent shown in stretched position and showing the supporting means in connection therewith. Fig. 2 is a side elevational view of a fragmentary portion of the main tent support on an enlarged scale and showing some of the portions in section to facilitate the illustration. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detailed view of the connecting joint for the spreader member with the main central pole, and Fig. 4 is a sectional view through 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Similar characters of reference refer to similar parts and portions throughout the several views of the drawings.

The central post members 1, 2 and 3, spreader members 4 and 5, clips 6 and 7, tent 8 and stakes 9, constitute the principal parts and portions of our tent structure.

The tent 8 may be of any shape or form desired, the one disclosed is a square one which is preferable for this supporting structure. It is secured at its four corners by means of stakes 9 and positioned vertically in the center is a pole consisting of the members 1, 2 and 3 which are of the proper length when connected together for stretching the tent the proper height. The member 1 is provided with a pin 1^a in its upper end and with a reinforcing band 1^b to prevent the same from splitting and on its normally lower end it is provided with a wide reinforcing band 1^c and the pole is cut on a taper 1^d. The member 2 is a similar pole member provided with a taper on each end conforming to the taper 1^d and also provided with supporting and reinforcing bands 2^a and 2^b, one on each end and the member 3 is provided with a similar supporting band 3^a on its upper end and with a taper conforming to the taper 1^d, thus providing means for rigidly securing the three members, 1, 2 and 3 together, thus permitting them to be separated so that they may be positioned in collapsed form for transportation. This member 1 is provided some distance from its upper end with a plurality of clip members 7. In this case we have shown four, spaced an equal distance apart around said pole, three of which are placed on the outer surface of the pole and supported by means of screws 7^a and extend outwardly in bifurcated form and mounted therein is a bolt, preferably a stove bolt 7^b which passes through a hole in the thimble member 4^a. This thimble member 4^a is fitted on one end of the support 4 which is preferably a wooden member and the opposite end of said support 4 is provided with a pin similar to the pin 5^c in the support 5. The clip member 6, it will be noted, is the same construction as the clip member 7. However, it will be noted that the clip member 6 is set in at its upper side so that it is positioned on an angle as shown best in Fig. 3 of the drawings and the member 1 on the side is provided with a tapered groove 1^e in the middle thereof extending to the outer surface of one of the leg members of said clip member 6. The spreader member 5 is of the same construction as the members 4, except that the thimble member 6^a is provided with a notch 6^b in its lower surface which is

tapered, the walls converge upwardly and with an elongated hole 6^c, the ends of which extend past the upper side of the notch 6^b thus providing a means for latching and supporting the member 5 in position relatively to the clip. This member 5 is the spreader member and is the last member to be positioned. The outer end is positioned in the hole in the tent in the usual manner and the inner end engages the upper end of the slot 1^e in the member 1 and is forced downwardly in the said slot, the end 6^e engaging the inner surface of said slot and as it is forced downwardly the tent is spread at the top and tightened in all directions so that when it reaches the foot of the member 6 it is forced over the bolt 6^f where it is held in position until released. It will be noted that the pole member 1 must be moved away from the support 5 slightly before the member 5 may be moved upwardly in the groove 1^e so that the two are locked together except when separated by pressure in a horizontal direction. It will also be noted that the members 4 and 5 when the tent is stretched in position are approximately in a horizontal position and support the upper side of the tent.

Though we have shown and described a particular construction, combination and arrangement of parts and portions, we do not wish to be limited to this particular construction, combination and arrangement but desire to include in the scope of our invention the construction, combination and arrangement substantially as set forth in the appended claims.

It is obvious that with this construction there is provided a tent which is supported by a central pole which is collapsible; that there is provided means extending from said pole in varying directions around said pole for supporting the upper side of said tent and special means adapted to engage said pole and be drawn downwardly along said pole for spreading the tent and tightening it in its position; that said members 4 and 5 will collapse against the member 1 and the members 2 and 3 may be positioned against said members forming them in very compact form for transportation and the like.

Having thus described our invention what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A tent apparatus, including a tent cover, a central pole, a plurality of spreader supports secured to said pole and radiating therefrom, a plurality of spreader members secured to said supports and extending outwardly therefrom and supported by said cover at their outer ends and a special spreader member, its one end adapted to engage said pole and when drawn downwardly against said pole to an approximately horizontal position for tightening the tent will engage one of said radiating spreader supports.

2. A tent apparatus, including a tent cover, a central pole, a plurality of spreader supports secured to said pole and radiating therefrom, a plurality of spreader members secured to said supports and extending outwardly therefrom and supported by said cover at their outer ends, a special spreader member, its one end adapted to engage said pole and when drawn downwardly against said pole to an approximately horizontal position for tightening the tent will engage one of said radiating spreader supports and latch means for latching said special spreader member in its downward position.

3. A tent support including, a central pole provided with a tapering groove positioned in one side of said pole deepening downwardly, a plurality of radiating spreader supports pivotally connected to said pole, a clip member secured to said pole at the lower end of said groove and a special spreader member consisting of a pole provided with a thimble on one end provided with a notch extending into an elongated hole in said thimble member, the end of said thimble member adapted to engage said tapered groove and when one end is moved downwardly will tighten the tent and engage said clip.

4. A device of the class described, including a tent cover, a central pole, a plurality of general substantially horizontal spreader members pivotally connected to said tent cover at their outer ends and connected with said pole at their inner ends, and a special spreader member adapted to engage said pole at its inner end and be shifted from an incline to a horizontal position for tightening said tent cover.

5. A tent support including, a central pole composed of several separate members provided with a tapering groove positioned in one side of said pole deepening downwardly, a plurality of radiating spreader supports pivotally connected to said pole, a clip member secured to said pole at the lower end of said groove and a special spreader member consisting of a pole provided with a thimble on one end provided with a notch extending into an elongated hole in said thimble member, the end of said thimble member adapted to engage said tapered groove and when one end is moved downwardly will tighten the tent and engage said clip and means for readily connecting and disconnecting the ends of the separate members of said central pole.

In testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands at San Diego, California, this 29th day of July, 1921.

ADOLPH MUEHLEISEN.
GROVER C. MUEHLEISEN.