

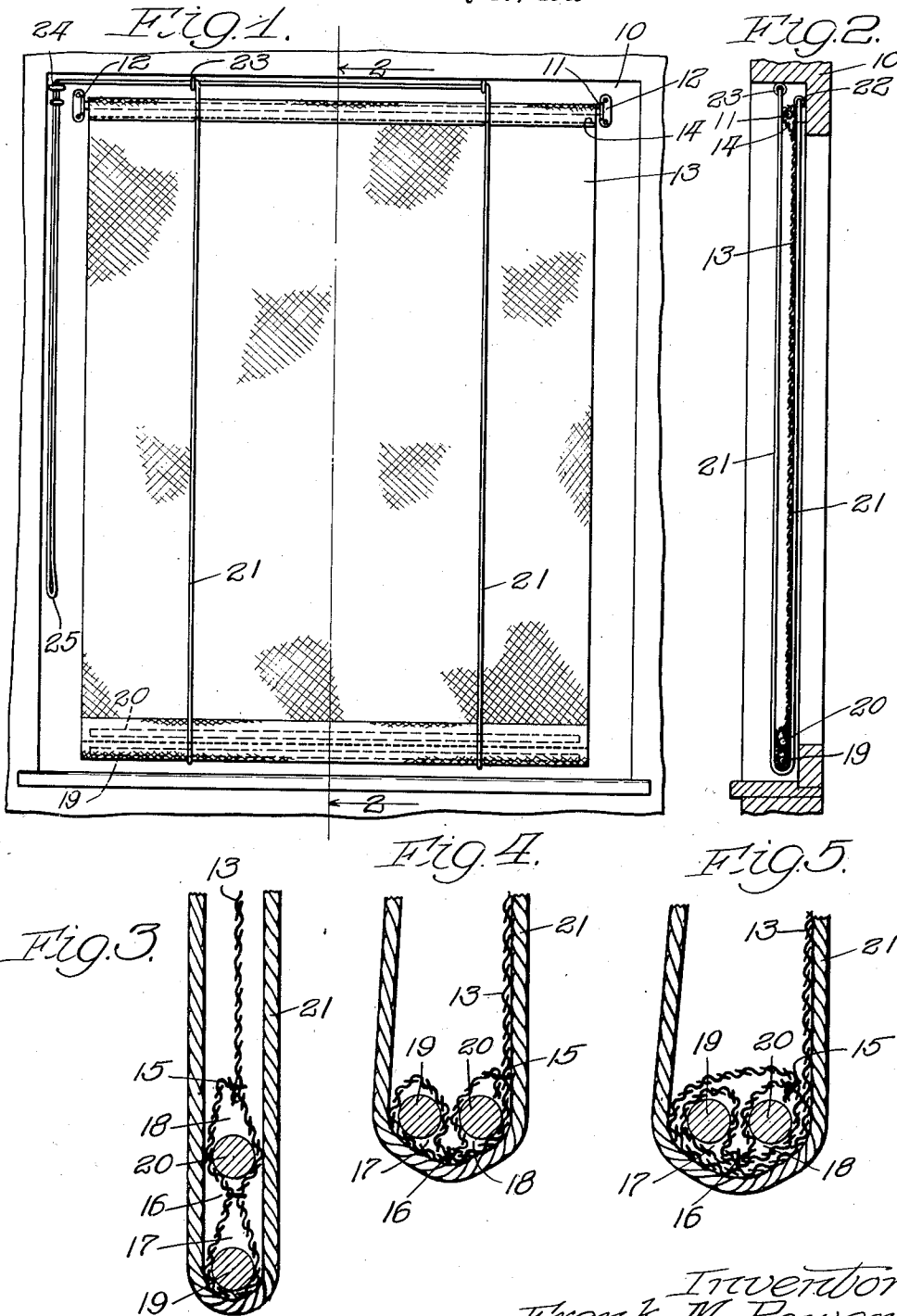
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PORCH SHADE

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PORCH SHADE

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6 Claims. (Cl. 160—243)

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This invention relates to an improved fabric porch shade of the type which is adapted to be hung in a porch or window opening and to be rolled up when its draw cord is pulled.

Such porch shades have commonly been made of canvas or similar pliable fabrics, and are provided with a large bar in a tubular seam in the lower end of the shade. The draw cords extend down one surface of the shade, loop around the lower end and extend up the other face of the shade so that when the free ends are pulled, they raise the shade, which tends to roll about the heavy bottom bar.

Such shades have never rolled tightly because the fabric tends to bunch up above the bottom bar before any rolling action takes place. As a result, the finished roll is usually loose in the middle and presents an untidy appearance. Likewise, the bunching effect increases the likelihood that the cords will draw the shade up unevenly.

I have found that if the fabric shade is provided with at least two immediately adjoining tubular seams, and a cross bar is placed in each of the tubes, a pull on the draw cord rolls the lower bar upwardly alongside the next adjacent bar so as to form the core for a tight roll and eliminate bunching of the fabric above the bars.

Furthermore, the use of two or more bars of small cross section provides a relatively strong bottom bar assembly without the necessity of using a thick bar which forms a large bulge at the lower end of the shade.

The improved shade is illustrated in a preferred embodiment in the accompanying drawings in which Fig. 1 is a front elevation of an improved porch shade; Fig. 2 is a section taken as indicated at 2—2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view showing the extreme lower end of the porch shade and draw cord, together with the two lower bars; Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 showing the position of the bars immediately after starting the roll; and Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4 showing the lower end of the shade after it is partly raised.

Referring to the drawings in greater detail, 10 indicates the frame of a porch or window opening to the upper portion of which a porch shade may be secured. The shade itself comprises a headrod 11 provided with mounting brackets 12 by means of which it may be secured to the framework 10 of the porch. A shade of pliable material 13, such as canvas, has a tubular seam 14 at its upper end through which the headrod 11 passes so that the fabric is supported from the headrod.

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The lower end of the fabric shade 13 is doubled back against itself and stitched at 15 to form a deep tubular seam, and this seam is then stitched in the middle, at 16, to form a pair of adjoining tubular seams 17 and 18. A first rod 19 hangs in the lower tubular seam 17, and a second rod 20 hangs in the upper tubular seam 18. Rods 19 and 20 are thus spaced apart, are parallel to one another and each rod extends substantially entirely across the width of the shade. In order to give the desired effect, the rod 19 must be far enough below the rod 20 that it can swing about the rod 20 and lie beside it as the shade is rolled.

The shade is provided with a draw cord 21 by means of which it may be raised and lowered. This cord is secured to the porch by means of eyes 22, and runs through eyes 23 and 24 in the conventional fashion, so as to pass down one side of the shade, loop around the lower end thereof and up the opposite side of the shade and have a free end 25 which may be pulled to effect the raising of the shade.

When the shade is in its lowered position, its bottom end appears as seen in Fig. 3, with the rod 19 hanging substantially directly below the rod 20. When the free end 25 of the cord 21 is pulled, it swings the rod 19 up in its tubular seam 17 about the rod 20 until the two rods are side by side as seen in Fig. 4. As the raising action is continued, the rod 19 rolls to a position above the rod 20, and this rolling action of the two rods then continues as the shade is raised. Thus, the shade rolls smoothly and cleanly from the beginning of the raising action, and bunching of the shade above the bottom bars is avoided.

The foregoing detailed description is given for clearness of understanding only, and no unnecessary limitations should be understood therefrom, as modifications will be obvious to those skilled in the art.

I claim:

1. A porch shade, comprising: a headrod adapted to be secured to the upper framework of a porch; a sheet of pliable material suspended from said headrod; a plurality of parallel, substantially rigid members secured to and extending substantially entirely across said sheet of pliable material adjacent its lower end portion, said members being spaced apart longitudinally of said sheet and the space between said members being only sufficient to permit any member to swing about the next higher member and lie beside it to form a compact composite core about which the sheet rolls; and a draw cord adapted to raise the sheet by rolling it about said rigid

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members when the free end of the cord is pulled.

2. A porch shade according to claim 1 wherein the substantially rigid members are carried in a pair of immediately adjacent tubular seams formed in the sheet of pliable material.

3. A porch shade, comprising: a headrod adapted to be secured to the upper framework of a porch; a sheet of pliable material suspended from said headrod; a plurality of spaced, parallel, substantially rigid members secured to and extending substantially entirely across said sheet of pliable material, at least two of said members being closely spaced adjacent its lower end and being separated by only a sufficient distance that any member may swing about the next higher member and lie beside it to form a compact composite core about which the sheet rolls; and a draw cord adapted to raise the sheet by rolling it about said rigid members when the free end of the cord is pulled.

4. In a pliable fabric porch shade having a headrod by which it may be secured to the upper framework of a porch and having a draw cord by which it may be raised and lowered by rolling and unrolling it, a plurality of closely spaced, parallel, substantially rigid members secured to and extending substantially across the lower end portion of the curtain about which the curtain may roll when the draw cord is pulled, the space between said members being only sufficient to permit any member to swing about the next

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higher member and lie beside it to form a compact composite core about which the sheet rolls.

5. A porch shade according to claim 4 wherein the substantially rigid members are carried in a plurality of tubular seams formed in the fabric.

6. A porch shade, comprising: a headrod adapted to be secured to the upper framework of a porch; a sheet of pliable material suspended from said headrod; a pair of closely spaced, parallel, substantially rigid members secured to and extending substantially entirely across said sheet of pliable material adjacent its lower end, the space between said members being only sufficient to permit the lower member of the pair to swing about the upper member of the pair and lie beside it as the sheet is rolled; and a draw cord adapted to raise the sheet by rolling it about said rigid members when the free end of the cord is pulled.

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