

H. C. DUNBAR.
SKEIN HOLDER.
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Patented Dec. 17, 1918.

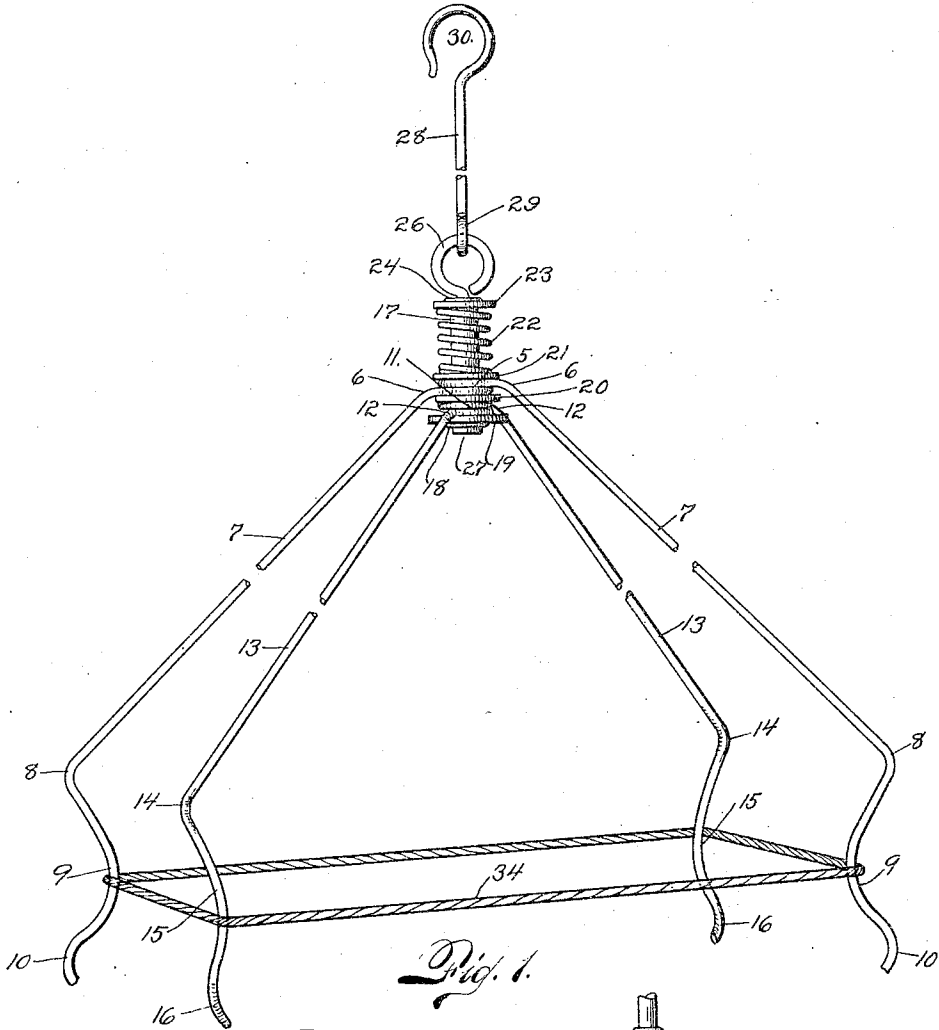


Fig. 1.

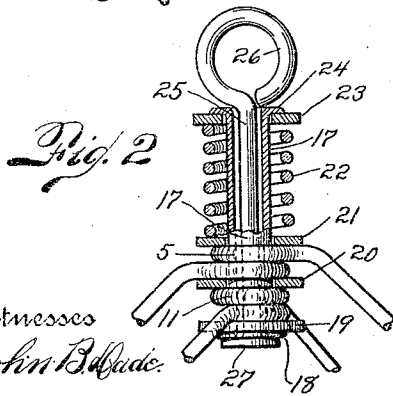


Fig. 2.

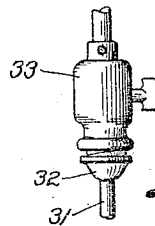


Fig. 3.

Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SKEIN-HOLDER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRIETTA C. DUNBAR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Boise, in the county of Ada and State of Idaho, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Skein-Holders; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in skein holders, and more particularly resides in certain novel departures in the structural formation of such devices, whereby there is produced an article, that can be readily suspended from some suitable hook or fixture ordinarily found in a home, and which is not only of simple design and light in weight, durable and efficient in action, and comparatively inexpensive to manufacture, but which is also of a semi-collapsible nature for folding up and placing aside out of the way when not in use.

It is understood that these skein holders are adapted to support a skein of yarn, or the like, in such manner as to prevent the same from becoming caught or tangled, while the yarn is being wound into a ball for further use in knitting, and as these aims and advantages are fully known, it will be unnecessary to further initially refer to the specific objects of the present improvements, which will be clearly apparent as incidental to the following disclosure.

With these prefacing remarks, the invention consists of the novel arrangement, functioning, and combination of parts as hereinafter described and more succinctly stated in the ensuing claims, but to more clearly understand the same, reference will now be had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1, is a perspective view of the device in its open or distended operative position.

Fig. 2, is an enlarged detail view of the swiveling support, and its associated parts, and

Fig. 3, simply shows the application of the use of an electric light lamp socket, as a convenient means for suspending the device.

In carrying out my invention broadly, I employ a revolubly suspended spider-like frame, for holding the skein of yarn,

worsted or the like, consisting of a pair of congruently formed members, each comprising a centrally apertured portion from the diametrically opposite sides of which a pair of downwardly divergent arms extend, providing for the yarn holding frame proper; and while it will be manifest that in a broad sense these members need not necessarily be of bent wire, still for simplicity and other advantageous reasons, I prefer to form each of such members from a continuous length of substantially resilient wire, and have so illustrated and will describe the same with reference thereto.

A length of stiff resilient wire is turned centrally upon itself into an open coil 5, and then bent as from the proper peripheral positions 6 to provide a pair of diametrically opposed downwardly divergent arms 7, which in turn, toward their lower ends are again bent, as at 8, downwardly and convergently, terminating in ogee-shaped curved members lying in the same planes as their body portions, and providing the elongated concave yarn holding arms 9 and the short convexly curved fingers 10, over which the strand of the skein will easily slip or ride, without catching, as it is being unwound.

The complementary member, making up the spider-like frame, is congruently formed as just described, the corresponding parts being respectively indicated by the reference numerals 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16.

In describing the details of mounting this revoluble frame, and to avoid unnecessary repetition, I will at the same time set forth a convenient manner of assembling the parts, although the exact reverse operation may be employed, or indeed all of the parts may be assembled loosely, and placed in a proper swaging machine for heading over the ends of the tube simultaneously. This, however, is immaterial.

17 designates the real swiveled support, which is in the nature of an elongated barrel hub or metallic tube, the lower end of which is headed over as at 18.

Down this tube are then slipped or strung the following elements in their sequential order:—a bearing washer 19, open coil 11 of one frame member, bearing washer 20, open coil 5 of the other frame member, bearing washer 21, stiff coiled spring 22, and header bearing washer 23, after which the upper end of the tube 17 is peened or headed over, as at 24, until the spring 22 has become sufficiently

compressed to normally hold all of the assembled parts fixed against rotation independently of the barrel hub 17 itself, while permitting of the adjustment of the frame members 7 and 13 therearound, to their proper operative or folded up positions as desired, upon a reasonably exerted pressure being applied.

It may be emphasized here that I deem these arrangements of considerable importance, for while permitting of the ready adjustment of the frame members to any desired positions, thus accommodating any length skein or holding it more tightly or loosely, they will not collapse when set, but will be securely held against displacement in their variable adjusted positions, during the whole period of unwinding, or until further adjusted or folded up.

When the parts are thus mounted, a swivel pin 25, having an eye 26, may then be inserted through the barrel 17, and headed over as at 27, from which it will be obvious that the whole arrangement will now be compactly assembled as an adjustable frame swiveling around the swivel pin 25.

It will also be obvious that instead of making the swivel pin of short length, as shown, it may be substantially extended and form the direct means of suspending the whole device from an eye, hook or the like in the ceiling of the room, or from any support, where there is room left for the unobstructed revolution of the spider frame.

However, in the drawings I have illustrated a separate suspension rod or wire 28, having a hook 29 at one end, adapted to engage the hook or eye 26 of the swivel pin, and being also provided at its other end with another hook, which in this case would form the attaching means to the ceiling or other support.

As another obvious expedient, a rod 31 might be employed, as shown in Fig. 3, having a threaded plug 32, adapted to engage the socket 33 of an electric light fixture.

In the drawings, the frame members are shown as being so adjusted relatively to each other that the skein of yarn, designated at 34, is supported in a rectangular manner, more elongated than a square, although in practice it may be preferable to adjust them more nearly approaching a square. However, the device permits of any of these variations.

From the foregoing complete description,

it is thought that the operation will be fully apparent, as it is evident that as the strand of yarn is paid out from its skein, upon the operative winding up a ball, the frame will be slowly revolved or swung around, and as each corner of the open rectangular framework comes around, the strand will smoothly slide over and off the curved finger 10 then at that position, and so on until the whole skein is paid off.

I am aware of the fact that other forms of skein holders have been patented, and I make no broad claim to the generic idea as such, nor on the other hand do I wish to limit myself to the exact details of construction disclosed, excepting as come within the purview of the ensuing claims, when fairly interpreted and viewed in the light of the specification, a reasonable range of equivalents being anticipated.

What I do claim, as new and patentable, is:—

1. In skein holders, the combination of a plurality of congruently formed open frame members, each comprising a pair of downwardly divergent arms having a pivotal aperture at their apex and terminating at their ends in shorter yarn holding arms; a tubular hub pivotally mounting said frame members, through their apertured apices; a stiff coil spring, encircling said hub, mounted and functioning to hold said frame members frictionally against displacement in variable adjusted positions; and a pivot rod swiveling said hub thereon and adapted to be suspended from a suitable support, substantially as described.

2. In skein holders, the combination of a plurality of congruently formed open frame members, each comprising a pair of downwardly divergent triangular arms having a pivotal aperture at their apex and terminating at their ends in inwardly converging yarn holding arms of ogee curvature; a tubular hub pivotally mounting said frame members, through their apertured apices; a stiff coil spring, encircling said hub, mounted and functioning to hold said frame members frictionally against displacement in variable adjusted positions; and a pivot rod swiveling said hub thereon and adapted to be suspended from a suitable support, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature. 110

HENRIETTA C. DUNBAR.