Dec. 31, 1940. G. L. REENSTIERNA 2,227,106

CLOTHESPIN

Filed Nov. 15, 1938

FIG 1

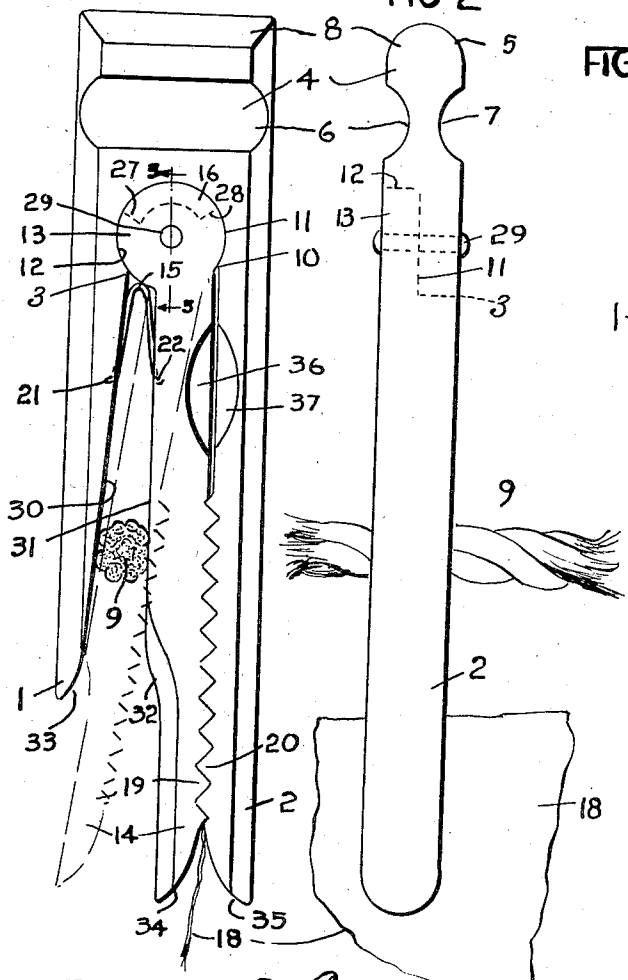


FIG 2

FIG 3

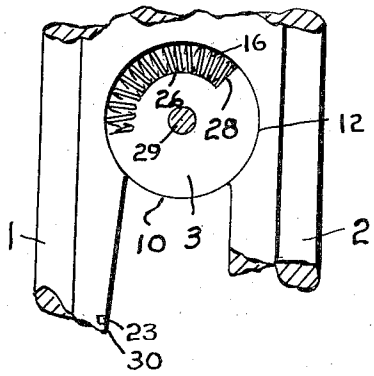


FIG 4

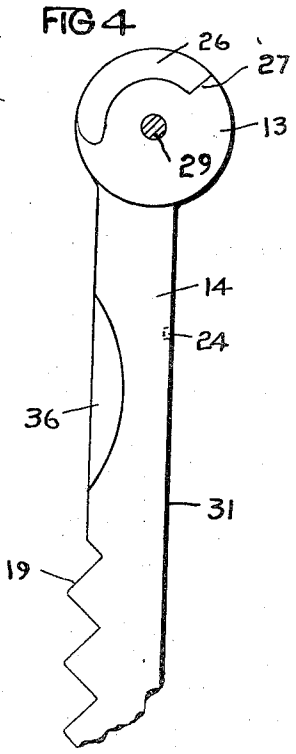
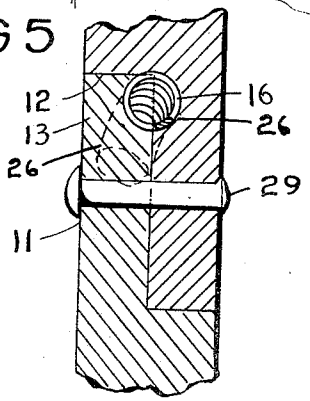


FIG 5



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2,227,106

CLOTHESPIN

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Application November 15, 1938, Serial No. 240,459

7 Claims. (Cl. 24—137)

My invention relates to an improvement in clothespins and particularly to clothespins used in hanging clothes and fabrics, etc. on a clothesline to dry and bleach and has among its purposes and objects to provide:

A means of supporting clothes and fabrics on a line so that the article supported does not come in contact with the clothesline.

A means of hanging delicate fabrics and laces to prevent damage to the fabric.

A clothespin which may be removed from the clothesline in winter weather without removing the fabric from the clothespin.

A clothespin preventing the clothes or fabric from being soiled by the clothesline.

A clothespin which tightly grips the fabric when wedged on the clothesline and also grips the fabric when not wedged upon the clothesline.

I accomplish these and other objects by the construction herein described and shown in the accompanying drawing forming a part hereof in which:

Fig. 1 is an elevation.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary detail of the joint.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary detail of the swinging jaw.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary section at 5—5 Fig. 1.

Similar reference characters refer to similar parts throughout the several views of the drawing and in the specification to follow.

Clothespins and particularly the most common wooden clothespins that wedge the clothes on the clothesline with the fabric jammed between the clothespin and line, have been found to be expensive and troublesome even though their initial cost is little, due to the clothes being torn, soiled from the dirt and soot on the line and also to being frozen onto the clothesline in the winter.

Ordinary clothespins also do not hold the clothes and particularly large pieces on the clothesline in windy weather.

These and other objectionable characteristics are overcome by my improvements and invention herein described and shown in one of its simple forms. It will be obvious after a study of the specification and drawing by those skilled in the art to which my invention pertains, that numerous modifications may be made without departing from the underlying principles embodied in my invention. The size of the parts, the shape and the construction of the joint and spring are some of the details of construction which may be varied in many respects to suit the many uses to which my invention is adapted.

Referring to the drawing it may be seen that I have provided the stationary jaws 1 and 2 formed integral and preferably constructed of wood or other suitable material connected together at 3 near the top and extended upwardly to form the handle 4 which is preferably rounded at the top end 5 and so reduced in thickness by the transverse grooves 6 and 7 as to provide a somewhat cylindrical knob 8 for pulling the clothespin off of the clothesline 9 onto which it may be forced or wedged.

Below the handle and at the crotch 10 the joint 11 is constructed and made extremely strong by the cylindrical depression or socket 12 which receives the cylindrindical end 13 of the swinging jaw 14 which is journaled in said socket 12.

Yieldingly holding the jaw 14 against the jaw 2 is the spring or springs 15 and 16.

The fabric 18 is placed between the jaws 2 and 14 by forcing the jaw 14 to swing away from the jaw 2 and when released will hold the fabric between the jaws which may be provided with the intermeshing serrated surfaces 19 and 20.

The hairpin spring 15 may be sprung between the jaws 1 and 14 and held in place by the ends 21 and 22 engaging the depressions 23 and 24 in the jaws 1 and 14.

The coil spring 16 is concealed within the joint 11 and lies in the spiral groove 26 a part of which is in the stationary part at the bottom of the socket 12 and the other part in the cylindrical head or end 13 of the jaw 14. The groove 26 terminating at each end in the shoulder 22 in the swinging jaw 14 and shoulder 28 in the stationary part.

The joint 11 is preferably provided with the rivet or other means 29 which holds the end 13 from being withdrawn from the socket 12.

The jaw 1 is preferably shorter than the jaw 2 and is provided with the inclined surface 30 which is suitable in size and shape to engage the clothesline 9 which is forced against the back surface 31 of the jaw 14, causing the fabric to be held more firmly between the jaws 2 and 14 than when alone held by the springs or elastic band. The inclined surface is so disposed in relation to the clothesline that the greater the weight or tension caused by pulling on the fabric held between the jaws 2 and 14, the greater the pressure on the back surface 31 of the jaw 14 and the tighter the clothesline is held or wedged in between the jaws 1 and 14.

The back surface 31 may also be inclined and is so shaped as to make the placing of the clothespin over the clothesline an easy matter by being rounded at a point 32 opposite the rounded end

33 of the jaw 1. The ends 34 and 35 may also be rounded or belled to facilitate the insertion of the fabric or clothes between the jaws 2 and 14.

Finger recesses 36 and 37 are provided on each side of my clothes pin to assist in opening or swinging the jaw 14.

I do not wish to be limited to the details of construction as I may wish to depart therefrom within the scope of the appended claims which set forth my invention.

I claim:

1. In a clothespin, stationary jaws held in fixed relationship and joined at a crotch, and a swinging jaw positioned to grip clothes between one of its surfaces and one of said stationary jaws and to grip the clothes line between the other of its surfaces and the other stationary jaw said stationary jaws having a cylindrical depression at the crotch thereof and a cylindrical end on said swinging jaw engaging said depression to form a joint.

2. In a clothespin, stationary jaws held in fixed relationship and joined at a crotch having a cylindrical depression, and a swinging jaw positioned to grip clothes between one of its surfaces and one of said stationary jaws and to grip the clothesline between the other of its surfaces and the other stationary jaw, means yieldingly holding said swinging jaw to grip the clothes between one of said stationary jaws and a cylindrical end on said swinging jaw engaging said cylindrical depression to form a joint for said swinging jaw.

3. In a clothespin, a pair of jaws and a movable jaw held between said pair of jaws and positioned to grip clothes between one of said pair of jaws and to grip and wedge the clothesline between the other of said pair of jaws said pair of jaws having an enlarged cylindrical recess at the point of juncture of said pair of jaws and an enlarged end on said movable jaw engaging said cylindrical recess to form a joint in which said movable jaw swings.

4. In a clothespin, a pair of jaws having a cylindrical recess forming a part of a joint and a movable jaw held between said pair of jaws and positioned to grip clothes between one of said pair of jaws and to grip and wedge the clothesline between the other of said pair of jaws whereby the clothes are gripped more firmly as tension is increased on said clothes said movable jaw having an enlarged cylindrical end engaging said cylindrical recess forming the other part of said joint.

5. In a clothespin, a pair of jaws and a movable jaw held between said pair of jaws and positioned to grip clothes between one of said pair of jaws and to grip and wedge the clothesline between the other of said pair of jaws, said pair of jaws having a cylindrical socket at the crotch thereof and an enlarged cylindrical end on said movable jaw engaging said socket holding and swingingly mounting said movable jaw in relationship to said pair of jaws.

6. In a clothespin, a pair of stationary jaws joined at one end, thereby forming a crotch, having an enlarged cylindrical depression adjacent said crotch, said depression having a spiral groove and spring seat therein and a swinging jaw between said pair of jaws having an enlarged end engaging said depression and thereby forming a joint, said enlarged end having a spiral groove and spring seat in said enlarged end to conceal a spring between the parts of the joint and to force said swinging jaw against one of said pairs of jaws.

7. In a clothespin, a pair of stationary jaws joined at one end, thereby forming a crotch, having an enlarged cylindrical depression adjacent said crotch, said depression having a spiral groove and spring seat therein and a swinging jaw between said pair of jaws having an enlarged end engaging said depression and thereby forming a joint, said enlarged end having a spiral groove and spring seat in said enlarged end to conceal a spring between the parts of the joint and to force said swinging jaw against one of said pairs of jaws, a handle extension above said joint having transverse grooves to provide a cylindrical knob for pulling said clothespin from the clothesline.

GUSTAF L. REENSTIERNA.