June 27, 1967 C. PURVIS 3,327,329

SUPPORTING MEANS FOR BED COVERS

Filed July 19, 1965

Fig. 1.

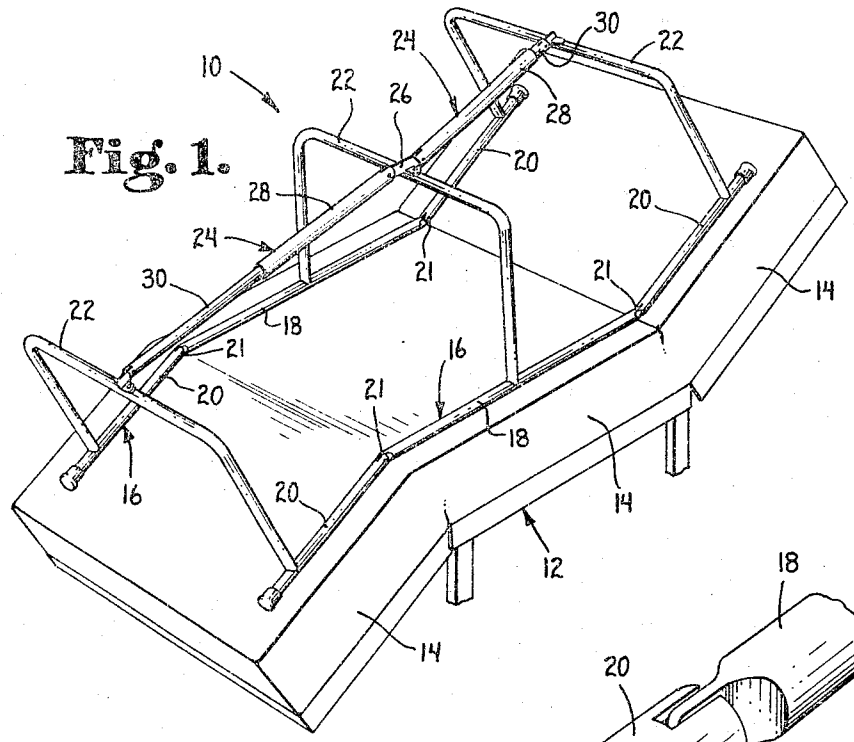
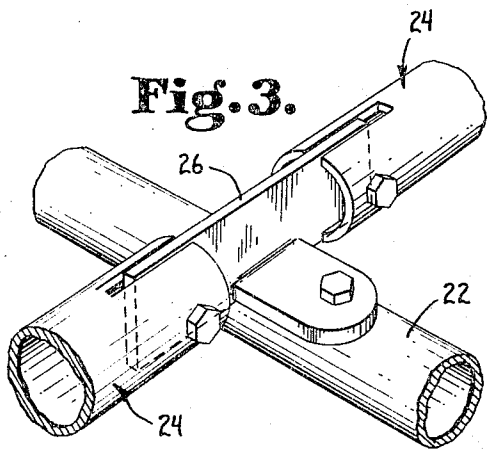






Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



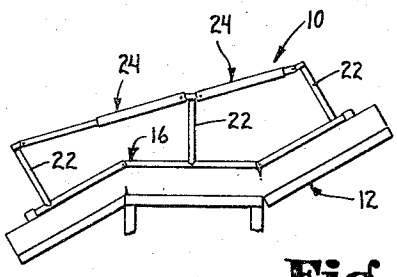




Fig. 5.

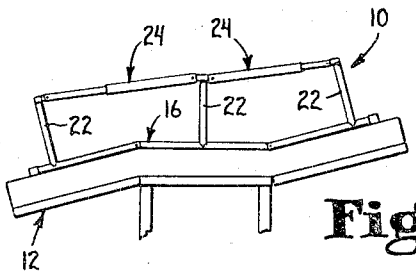



Fig. 4.

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# SUPPORTING MEANS FOR BED COVERS

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This invention relates to means for the covers of a hospital-type or adjustable bed; and concepts of the invention provide an advantageous, simple, and economical support means in association with such a bed, which supports the bed covers above the mattress even though the sections of the bed are moved relative to one another, and which automatically adjusts its longitudinal length to accommodate such relative movement of the bed-sections.

In certain instances, as where a person has been severely burned, it is desirable to keep bed coverings elevated, off the body of the patent; yet it is also desirable, on occasion, to adjust the sections of the bed relative to each other. It is with such a use-situation that a device according to the present invention is particularly useful.

The concepts which provide this support means are described in detail in the following description of an illustrative embodiment thereof, reference being had to the accompanying somewhat diagrammatic drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a pictorial view of a supporting means for bed covers, mounted on an associated hospital-type or adjustable bed;

FIGS. 2 and 3 are detail views illustrating pivotal connections of members of the supporting means;

FIG. 4 is a side elevation, schematic view of the supporting means illustrating the support means in one position of adjustment of the bed-sections; and

FIG. 5 is a view similar to FIG. 4, but illustrating the parts in another position of bed-section adjustment.

As shown in the drawings, an illustrative embodiment of the invention provides a bed-cover support means for an articulated or foldable bed, reference numerals **10** and **12** being applied generally to the support means and bed, respectively. The bed **12**, it will be understood, has suitable mechanism and construction so that its upper surface, here shown as relatively foldable mattress-sections **14**, is capable of being adjusted to a plurality of positions such as shown in FIGS. 4 and 5.

Turning to FIG. 1 for a showing of details of the cover-support means **10**, it is noted that the support means **10** includes a pair of longitudinally-extending bottom-pieces or support rails **16**, each of articulated nature with a center section **18** and head and foot end-sections **20**. The center sections **18** are of a length corresponding to the longitudinal length of the central mattress-section **14**; and the connections **21** between the center section **18** and the end-sections **20** of each rail **16** are pivotal (see FIG. 2) permitting the rail-sections to assume a position supportingly lying on their respective mattress-sections.

Three cover-supporting lateral arch members **22** extend cross-wise of the bed, the ends of the members **22** being rigidly connected to respective portions of the rails **16**, that is, one of the members **22** extends between respective rail-end sections **20**, another member **22** extends between the rail center-sections **18**, and the third member **22** extends between the other rail-end sections **20**.

In the embodiment shown, the members **22** are each perpendicular to the associated rail-section; but, although this relation provides large cover-elevation throughout a variety of positions of bed adjustment, the inventive concepts are not limited to this perpendicular relation. Neither is there a limitation to a rigid connection of members **22** to rails **16**, and in some models, it may be desirable to provide a pivotal connection, desirably with a winged



thumbscrew or knurled nut to conveniently maintain a selected orientation.

Interconnecting the central lateral arch-member **22** and each end arch-member **22** is a longitudinal support member indicated generally by reference numeral **24**. Each member **24** is shown pivotally connected (see FIG. 3) to a bracket **26** fastened to the adjacent lateral support member **22**; and each of the longitudinal members **24** is made of telescoping sections **28** and **30**.

Thus, in use, as for example when the bed is adjusted from its position shown in FIG. 4 to that of FIG. 5, the longitudinal link members **24** automatically adjust in length to accommodate the movement and the change in dimension between the arch members **22**.

It is seen that a cover support means according to the invention provides a device which is simple in construction, yet which is quite convenient and certain in its operation as described above.

Thus, the present invention accomplishes its intended objects, including those hereinbefore pointed out and others that are inherent in the invention.

It will be understood that modifications and variations may be effected without departing from the scope of the novel concepts of the present invention. Accordingly, the invention is not to be considered limited to the specific form or arrangements herein described and shown.

I claim:

**1.** A cover-support for an adjustable-section bed, comprising:

a pair of articulated supporting rails having sections adapted to supportingly lie on sections of the bed;

laterally-extending cover-supporting members, supportingly connected to said rails, and spaced along the bed for supporting bed covers at an elevation spaced from the bed;

linkage means supportingly connected to said cover-supporting members, being telescopable of nature and thus permitting relative movement of the cover-supporting members in and between different positions of bed-adjustment.

**2.** A cover-support for an adjustable bed, comprising:

an assembly of laterally-extending and longitudinally-extending cover-supporting members for supporting bed covers at an elevation above said bed;

the laterally-extending members being movable with respect to one another to accommodate different positions of bed adjustment; and the longitudinally-extending members being of telescoping nature to accommodate said relative movement of the said laterally-extending members.

**3.** A cover-support for an adjustable bed, comprising:

laterally extending cover-supporting members supported by said bed and movable with respect to one another to accommodate different positions of bed-adjustment;

longitudinally-extending members interconnecting adjacent ones of the said laterally-extending members, and being of telescoping nature to accommodate said movement thereof.

**4.** A cover-support for an adjustable bed, comprising:

laterally extending cover-supporting members supported by said bed and movable with respect to one another to accommodate different positions of bed-adjustment;

longitudinally-extending cover-supporting means extending between adjacent ones of said laterally-extending members, and being of variable-length nature to accommodate said movement thereof.

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