

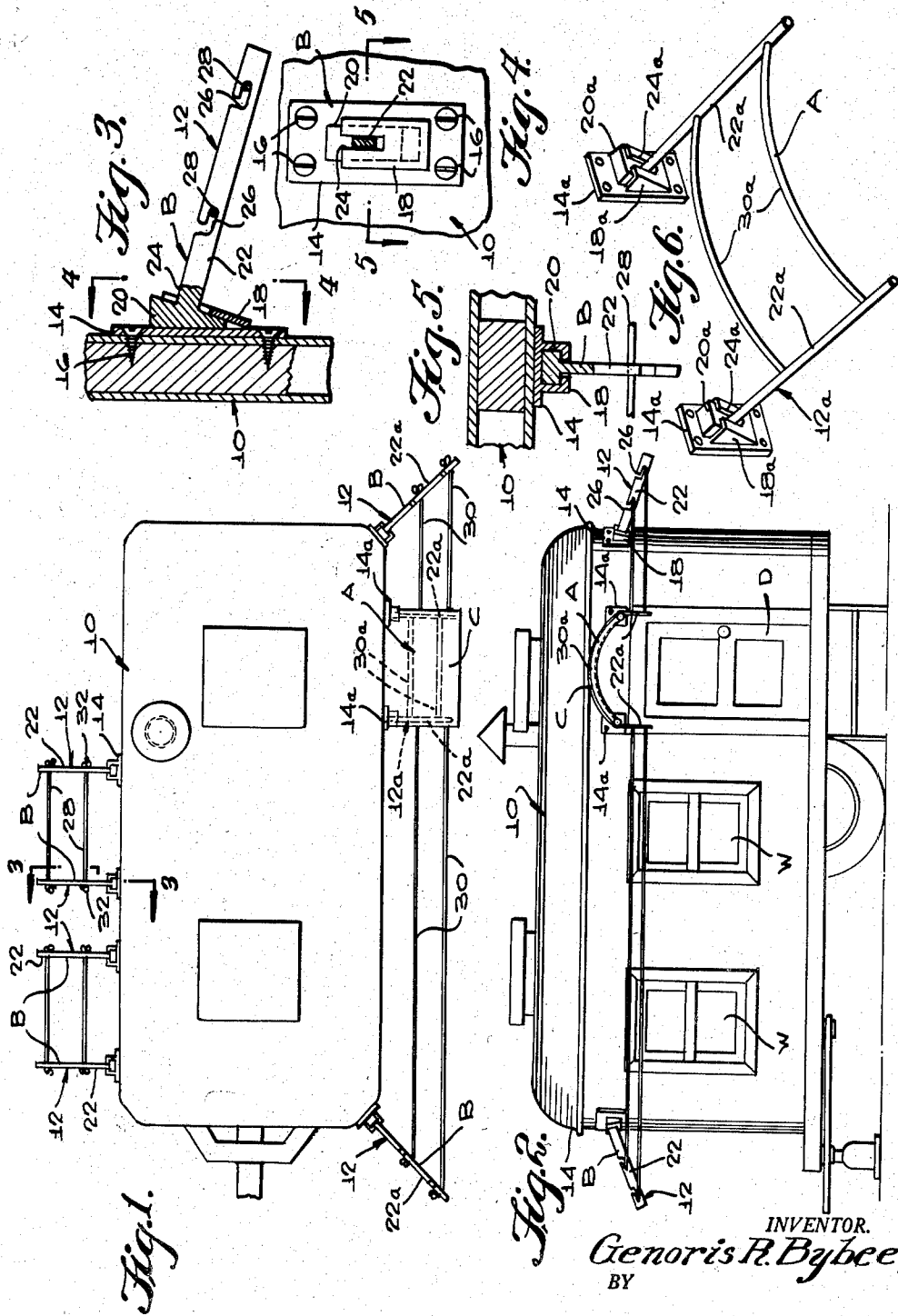
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COMBINED CLOTHESLINE AND RACK AND AWNING FRAME

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COMBINED CLOTHESLINE AND RACK AND AWNING FRAME

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1 Claim. (Cl. 211-87)

This invention relates to a combined clothesline and rack and awning frame, adapted to be detachably or permanently secured to the side of a trailer, house, ship, barge, house boat, or related structure.

In many instances, it is difficult to find available space surrounding a structure of the type referred to, which can be used for hanging clothes, and in fact in some instances no surrounding area, available for the erection of clothes poles and the like, exists. This is true, for example, on house boats, and may also be true with respect to trailers, etc. Under these circumstances, it is desirable to provide a clothesline and rack that can be mounted directly upon the side wall of the building structure.

Apart from the fact that surrounding space may not exist, usable for the desired purpose, there is the further consideration that a resident of a house trailer, house boat, or the like may desire in any event to mount a clothesline support assembly directly upon the structure in which he resides, so that it can be taken with him, with the least possible difficulty, whenever said structure is to be moved to a new location.

Still further, the clear desirability exists for a combination clothesline and rack and awning frame, with the component parts of the combination assembly cooperating to provide, upon the wall of a building structure of the type described, not only a means for supporting a door canopy, window canopy or awning, or the like, but also means associated directly with the canopy support frame for supporting clotheslines.

An important object of the present invention is to provide a device having the several desirable characteristics mentioned above.

More specific objects of the invention include the following:

First, to provide a combination structure as described which can be sectionally constituted, so that a purchaser can buy any desired number of sections, and can arrange them upon the wall of the building structure in any way desired;

Second, to provide a combination device as stated which will be characterized by its ease of attachment to the building structure;

Third, to so design the structure as to permit it to be left upon the building structure permanently, or alternatively, to be readily removable and capable of being stored in a relatively compact, folded assembly for transportation or for any other period of nonuse;

Fourth, to provide a combination clothesline and rack and awning frame which will be particularly strong, will be adapted to support a substantial number of garments, as well as a canopy or awning covering, and will not interfere with normal use of the building structure on which the invention is mounted; and

Fifth, to provide a combination device of the type referred to which can be manufactured at a very low cost, thus to increase measurably its commercial feasibility, while still being possessed of the desired characteristics

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of ruggedness, long life, and ease of installation or removal.

Other objects will appear from the following description, the claim appended thereto, and from the annexed drawing, in which like reference characters designate like parts throughout the several views, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a house trailer equipped with a combination device formed according to the present invention;

Figure 2 is a side elevational view of said trailer and combination clothesline and rack and awning frame;

Figure 3 is an enlarged vertical section substantially on line 3-3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a transverse sectional view on line 4-4 of Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a horizontal section substantially on line 5-5 of Figure 4; and

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the awning frame per se.

Designated generally by the reference numeral 10 is a house trailer, on which the device 12 constituting the present invention may be readily mounted. In this connection, as previously noted the device can be mounted upon any of various building structures, a house trailer being shown purely by way of example. Further, the device is adapted to be mounted upon any form of house trailer, house boat, etc., including those of the more modern designs, since the construction of the invention is such as to permit it to be mounted upon any of various wall surfaces, as will be presently made apparent.

The combination device 12 is adapted to be manufactured in sections, with the purchaser being enabled to buy any number of sections and to arrange them in any way desired.

Each section will generally include a pair of stationary support brackets 14, each of which includes a plate flat in the present instance, but adapted if necessary to be curved to fit the conformation of the building structure surface on which it is to be mounted. The support plate 14a is disposed generally vertically, and is provided in the present instance with rectangularly spaced openings receiving lag screws 16 or equivalent fastening elements, which can be extended into a vertical rib, stud, or the like through the exterior paneling or other outer finish of the building wall.

Integrally or otherwise fixedly secured to and projecting outwardly from the support plate 14a is a pocket member 18, having an inclined outer wall 24a and vertical side walls 18a. Removably seated in the pocket member is a wedge shaped head 20 formed upon the inner end of an elongated support arm 22 which preferably is inclined out of the horizontal as shown in Figure 3, although said support arm can be disposed fully horizontally if desired. The outer, inclined wall of the pocket member 18 has a slot 24 opening upwardly to receive the inner end portion of the arm 22.

Formed in the arm 22, at selected locations along the length thereof, are upwardly opening bayonet slots 26, receiving the end portions of clotheslines 28, said clotheslines being of any of various materials. It will be understood that the materials of the brackets, the support arms, and the clotheslines, can be varied as desired by the particular manufacture, it being mainly important that materials possessing the necessary requisites of strength, resistance to deterioration after exposure to the elements, etc., be used.

As shown in Figure 1, in a typical mounting sections are mounted upon that side wall of the trailer opposite the side wall in which the door D of the trailer is provided. Each section includes a pair of horizontally spaced brackets, support arms extending outwardly from said brackets, and one or more clothes-lines extending between

the arms. The brackets and arms can be spaced any desired distance apart, and it is even possible to extend clotheslines between adjacent sections, as well as between the arms of a single section.

On the side of the trailer in which the door D is mounted, there is shown by way of example elongated clotheslines 30 extending between an awning frame generally designated at 12a, and support arms disposed at opposite sides of said awning frame. The awning or canopy frame is disposed in the present instance over the door D, but also could be disposed over windows W if desired. Further, clotheslines could be extended between adjacent awning frames if more than one awning frame is used.

The awning frame, as shown in Figure 6, is formed similarly to one of the sections, with the exception that the elements 30a extending between the arms 22a of the awning frame are rigidly constituted, and are bowed upwardly, to support an awning covering C.

The awning or canopy frame 12a includes brackets 14a secured fixedly to the side wall of the trailer, above the door header, and formed with upwardly opening pocket members 18a of wedge-shape, removably receiving wedge shaped heads 20a rigid with the support arms 22a, the support arms extending through slots 24a of the pocket members. Fixedly connected between the arms 22a are connecting elements 30a on which the awning covering is supported.

The versatility of the device will be readily apparent, since it will be seen that one can mount the several brackets 14 or 14a at any location upon the periphery of the building structure, and can arrange the device in sections of any desired length and number. Then, the connecting elements 28, 30, 30a are extending between spaced support arms, whether said support arms be on the canopy frame or be designed entirely for supporting clotheslines, and clotheslines of any desired number or length can be then provided, together with a canopy frame of a selected size, with the canopy frame discharging the function not only of supporting the canopy or awning covering, but also the function of supporting the clotheslines at one end thereof.

In the illustrated example, a demountable construction is shown, and it will be apparent that to remove the structure, it is merely necessary that the several arms 22 or 22a be lifted out of their associated brackets. The brackets are left upon the side wall of the building structure, but the removed components can be packed away in a relatively compact form for transportation or storage. In another type of commercial embodiment, it may be

desired to provide a permanent mounting of the support arms upon the wall of the building structure. In either event, the construction is such that the entire combination clothesline and rack and canopy frame will be firmly supported upon the wall of the building structure against movement, accidental dislodgement, or vibration when in use.

It is believed apparent that the invention is not necessarily confined to the specific use or uses thereof described above, since it may be utilized for any purpose to which it may be suited. Nor is the invention to be necessarily limited to the specific construction illustrated and described, since such construction is only intended to be illustrative of the principles, it being considered that the invention comprehends any minor change in construction that may be permitted within the scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

In a clothesline rack, a pair of brackets each including a vertical, flat plate and an upwardly opening, wedge-shaped pocket member, each pocket member being formed with side walls and with a front wall in an inclined plane converging with the plate member in a downward direction, said front wall having a narrow slot opening upon the top edge of the front wall; support arms projecting forwardly from the respective brackets perpendicularly to the planes of the front walls through said slots; heads of wedge shape formed in the respective support arms, each head being formed with a vertical back surface, side surfaces, and an inclined front wall in face-to-face contact with the plate, side walls, and front wall respectively of the bracket, said arms being rigidly connected to the inclined front surfaces of the respective heads; and garment support elements connected between the respective arms at locations spaced longitudinally of the arms.

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