April 20, 1954 M. A. PURSEL 2,675,807

BLANKET ADAPTED FOR USE IN SUN BATHING

Filed Aug. 7, 1951 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

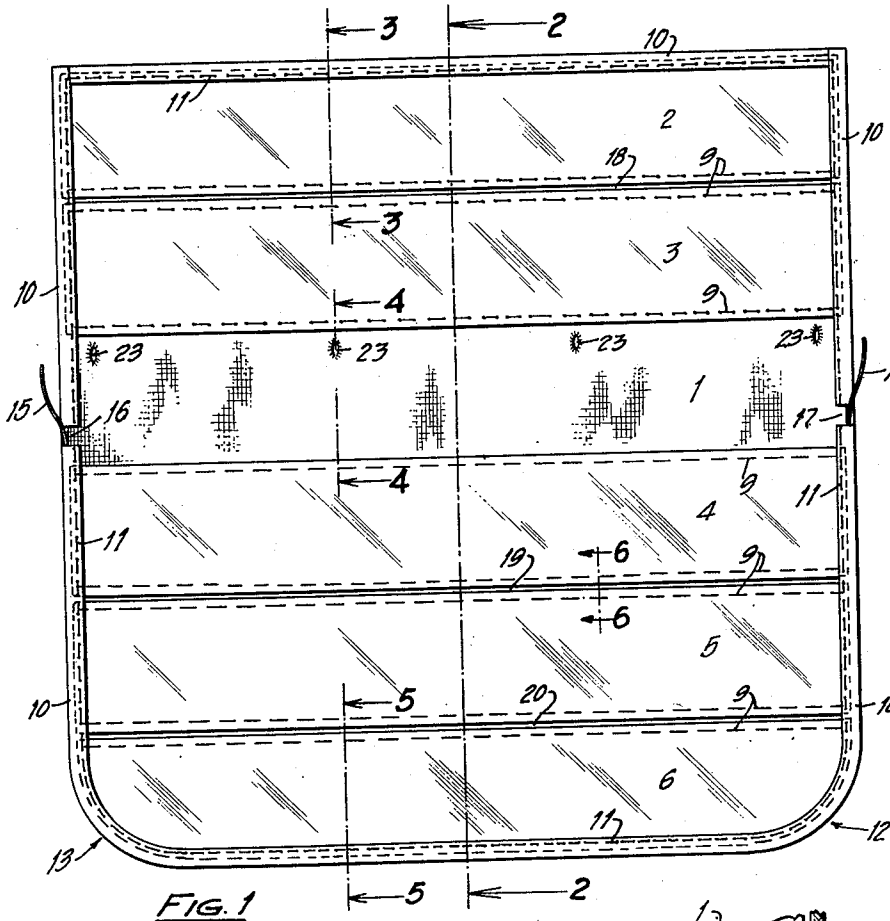


FIG. 1

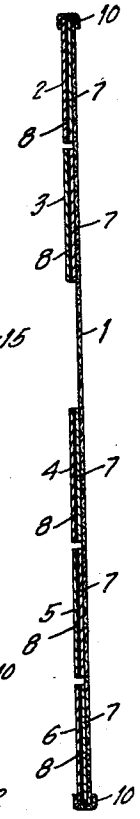


FIG. 2

FIG. 3

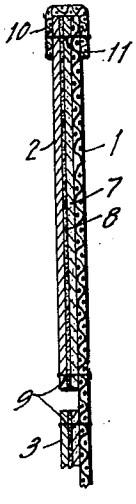


FIG. 4

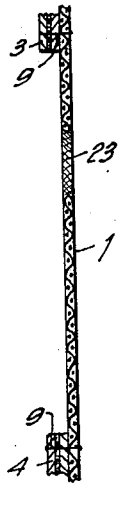
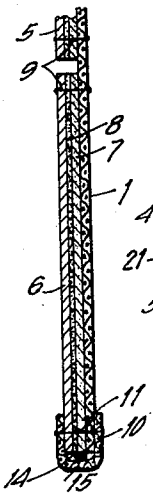


FIG. 5



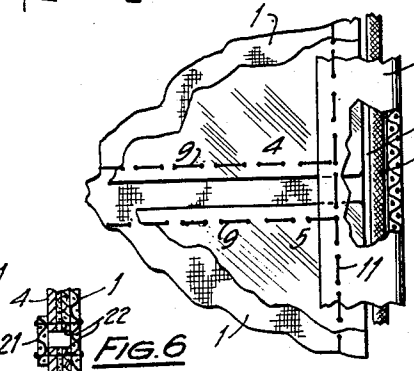


FIG. 7

FIG. 6

Inventor
Marshall A. Pursel
by Cullen & Smith
His Attorneys

April 20, 1954 M. A. PURSEL 2,675,807

BLANKET ADAPTED FOR USE IN SUN BATHING

Filed Aug. 7, 1951 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

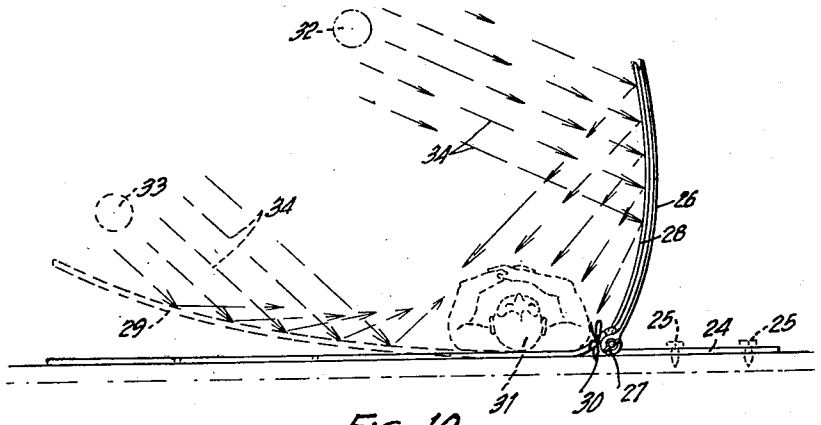


FIG. 10

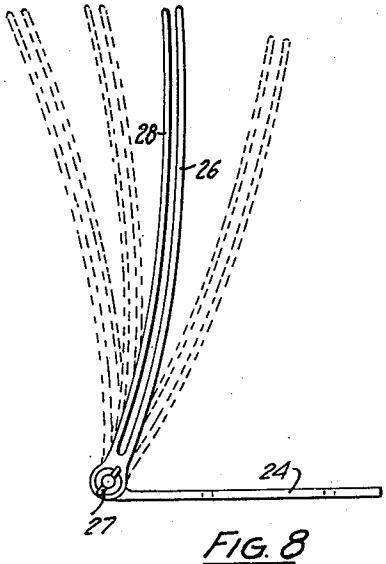


FIG. 8

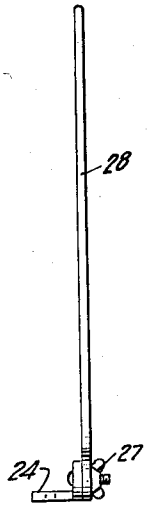


FIG. 9

Inventor
Marshall A. Pursel
by Cushman & Smith
His Attorneys

Patented Apr. 20, 1954 2,675,807

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,675,807

BLANKET ADAPTED FOR USE IN SUN BATHING

Marshall A. Pursel, Brunswick, N. Y.

Application August 7, 1951, Serial No. 240,620

8 Claims. (Cl. 128—372)

1

My invention relates to a blanket especially adapted for use by sun bathers and to a means for supporting a portion of the blanket in a substantially upright position.

The principal object of my invention is to provide a flexible blanket upon which the sun bather may lie and which has a light reflecting surface which may be adjusted relative to the sun so that the sun's rays will be reflected therefrom to the body of the bather. Another object is to provide a device of this character which will be comparatively low in cost and which may be rolled or folded for convenience in transportation. A further object is to provide adjustable means for supporting at least a portion of the blanket in upright position and which may simply rest upon or be secured to the surface of the ground, the roof of a building, or the like.

I accomplish these objects by means of the novel elements and the combinations and arrangements thereof described below and illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which—

Fig. 1 is a plan view of my blanket;

Fig. 2 is a section of Fig. 1 in the plane 2—2;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged section of Fig. 1 in the plane 3—3;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged section of Fig. 1 in the plane 4—4;

Fig. 5 is an enlarged section of Fig. 1 in the plane 5—5;

Fig. 6 is an alternate section of Fig. 1 in the plane 6—6;

Fig. 7 is an enlarged fragmentary portion of the blanket, partially in section, and with portions broken away;

Fig. 8 is a side elevation of a support;

Fig. 9 is a front elevation of the support; and

Fig. 10 is an elevation view showing how the device is used.

Referring to the drawings—

My blanket comprises a fabric backing 1 which may be of canvas and, while the size is not particularly critical, it is preferably about 8' x 8'. Secured to the backing and forming the face of the blanket is a plurality of strips 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of metallic foil having a highly polished surface whereby it is adapted to reflect rays of light. Highly polished aluminum foil adhesively secured to a paper backing is commercially available in strips about 16" wide, is highly resistant to corrosion, and I prefer to use such foil. The strips of foil which are secured to the backing paper 7 by means of an adhesive 8 (see Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6) are secured to the face of the blanket by stitches 9, and the edges of the blanket are protected by bindings 10 which are secured to the blanket by stitching 11.

2

The lower corners of the blanket are preferably rounded, as shown at 12 and 13, and the binding, at least around the lower half of the blanket, is spaced somewhat from the edges of the foil and canvas, as shown at 14 in Figs. 5 and 7, to provide space for the drawstring 15. There are breaks in the binding at 16 and 17 (see Fig. 1) and the drawstring 15 passes into one of these breaks and out of the other, as shown.

In order to make the blanket readily foldable, the strips of foil are preferably slightly separated, as shown at 18, 19 and 20, to provide lines along which the blanket may be folded. In Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, I have shown the transversely-extending, marginal edges of the foil and paper backing as being exposed. However, it is to be understood that these may be covered by a suitable binding 21 which may be stitched thereto, as shown at 22 in Fig. 6.

While the entire face surface of the blanket may be covered with foil, I prefer to have one panel omitted so that the canvas backing will appear on the face of the blanket, as shown at 1 in Figs. 1, 2 and 4. The reason for this is to provide a space on which the sun bather may lie on the fabric rather than upon the foil. In other words, the blanket, as illustrated, has two, transversely-extending panels of foil in the upper portion thereof and three such panels in the lower portion thereof; said panels being spaced apart where the canvas forms both the back and the face of the blanket. Where the canvas is exposed on the face of the blanket, it is provided, near the marginal edge of the next adjacent panel of foil thereabove, with four buttonholes or grommets 23 which are adapted to receive standards for supporting the upper portion of the blanket substantially in upright position.

One of the supporting standards is shown in Figs. 8, 9 and 10 and comprises a base portion 24 which is adapted to rest, either upon the ground and may be spiked thereto, or upon a roof or floor to which it may be attached by means of screws, as shown at 25 in Fig. 10.

Pivotally secured to one end of the base member 24, is a bifurcated upright member 26, preferably arcuate in form about as shown, which may be swung into various positions, as indicated in dotted outline in Fig. 8, and secured in adjusted position by means of the wing nut 27 which clamps the bifurcated member to the base.

Assuming that four supporting standards are used, the front branches 28 of the bifurcated members are passed through the buttonholes or grommets 23 from the back of the blanket and

the blanket is pulled down to the bottom of the bifurcation thus holding the portions 2 and 3 of the blanket above the buttonholes or grommets in upright position between the branches 26 and 28 which closely engage the back and front of the blanket. If desired, the lower portion of the blanket may be pulled up into the position shown in dotted outline at 29 in Fig. 10 by pulling the ends of the drawstrings 15 and securing them to the outside supports to hold the blanket in the position shown, or the drawstrings may be made long enough so that the ends can be tied together, as shown at 30 in Fig. 10.

In use, the sun bather 31, lies on the canvas exposed portion of the face of the blanket and, depending upon the position of the sun, which is shown in dotted outline at 32 and 33, the bifurcated supports may be adjusted and the lower portion of the blanket also adjusted so that the sun's rays 34 will be reflected to the body of the bather, as shown in Fig. 10.

The blanket may, of course, be rolled or folded along the lines separating the panels of foil and for that matter, may be otherwise folded without injuring the foil unless the folds are very tight. The blanket and its supports are readily portable and may be used practically anywhere.

While I have described my invention in its preferred embodiment, it is to be understood that the words which I have used are words of description rather than of limitation and that changes, within the purview of the appended claims, may be made without departing from the true scope and spirit of my invention in its broader aspects.

What I claim is:

1. In a device for use in sun bathing, the combination with a flexible blanket comprising a fabric backing, a facing of light-reflecting metallic foil, and means securing said facing to said backing; said blanket having a plurality of transversely-spaced openings therein intermediate the top and bottom thereof; of a plurality of supports for holding that portion of said blanket between said openings and the top thereof in an upright position; said supports comprising bifurcated, upstanding members adapted to receive and hold said portion of said blanket between the branches thereof when one of said members of each support is passed through one of said openings.

2. A flexible blanket of a size adapted for use in sun bathing with the bather lying thereupon and comprising a fabric backing; a first facing of light-reflecting metallic foil extending downwardly a substantial distance from the top edge of said blanket, a second facing of said foil extending upwardly a substantial distance from the bottom edge of said blanket; and means securing said facings to said backing in parallel-disposed, substantially spaced relation to each other with said backing exposed on the face of said blanket in the zone between said facings and providing a fabric faced zone on said blanket on which said bather may lie.

3. A device adapted for use in sun bathing comprising a flexible blanket of a size adapting a bather to lie thereupon and having light-reflecting face portions of substantial area, comprising a metallic foil, adapted to be disposed at either side of said bather, and a plurality of spaced supports adapted to cooperate with one of said portions of said blanket having a light-reflecting face for holding said portion in substantially upright position; each of said supports comprising a base adapted to rest upon a flat surface, and a upright bifurcated member, adapted to embrace said one portion of said blanket between the branches thereof, pivotally secured to said base; whereby the inclination of said upright to surface upon which said base is resting may be adjusted.

4. The structure set forth in claim 3 in which said upright bifurcated members are arcuate in form for maintaining the light-reflecting face of that portion of said blanket held thereby slightly concave.

5. A device adapted for use in sun bathing comprising a blanket of flexible material of a size adapting a bather to lie prone thereupon with portions of substantial area of said blanket disposed at either side of said bather; said portions of substantial area being provided with a light-reflecting face comprising metallic foil; a binding around the marginal edges of said blanket; a draw string within that portion of said binding extending around one of said portions of substantial area and having its ends extending through opposite sides of said blanket; and means cooperating with the other portion of said blanket of substantial area for supporting said portion in substantially upright position with the light reflecting face thereof slightly concave.

6. The structure set forth in claim 5 in which said supporting means includes means for adjusting the position of said concave light-reflecting face relative to the direction of the light rays from the sun; and means for securing said supporting means in adjusted position.

7. A device adapted for use in sun bathing comprising the combination with a flexible blanket comprising a fabric backing and a light-reflecting surface of metallic foil, and having a surface area of a size adapting a first portion thereof, when laid upon the ground, to extend a substantial distance beyond at least one side of a bather lying thereon, and a second portion to extend upwardly a substantial distance above said first portion at the other side of said bather; of a plurality of separate supports comprising upstanding bifurcated elements adapted to receive and closely engage said second portion of said blanket within the bifurcations thereof and hold the same in upright position.

8. The structure set forth in claim 7 in which the upstanding bifurcated elements are arcuate in shape; whereby said second portion of said blanket may be positioned within said bifurcations with the light-reflecting surface thereof concave on the side thereof adjacent a bather lying on said first portion.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
73,355	Marshall	Jan. 14, 1868
1,611,031	Henderson	Dec. 14, 1926
1,974,820	Krell	Sept. 25, 1934
2,543,597	Peery	Feb. 27, 1951

FOREIGN PATENTS

Number	Country	Date
250,769	Switzerland	July 16, 1948
388,574	France	June 3, 1908
446,247	Great Britain	Jan. 14, 1935
948,440	France	Jan. 31, 1949
962,768	France	Dec. 12, 1949