

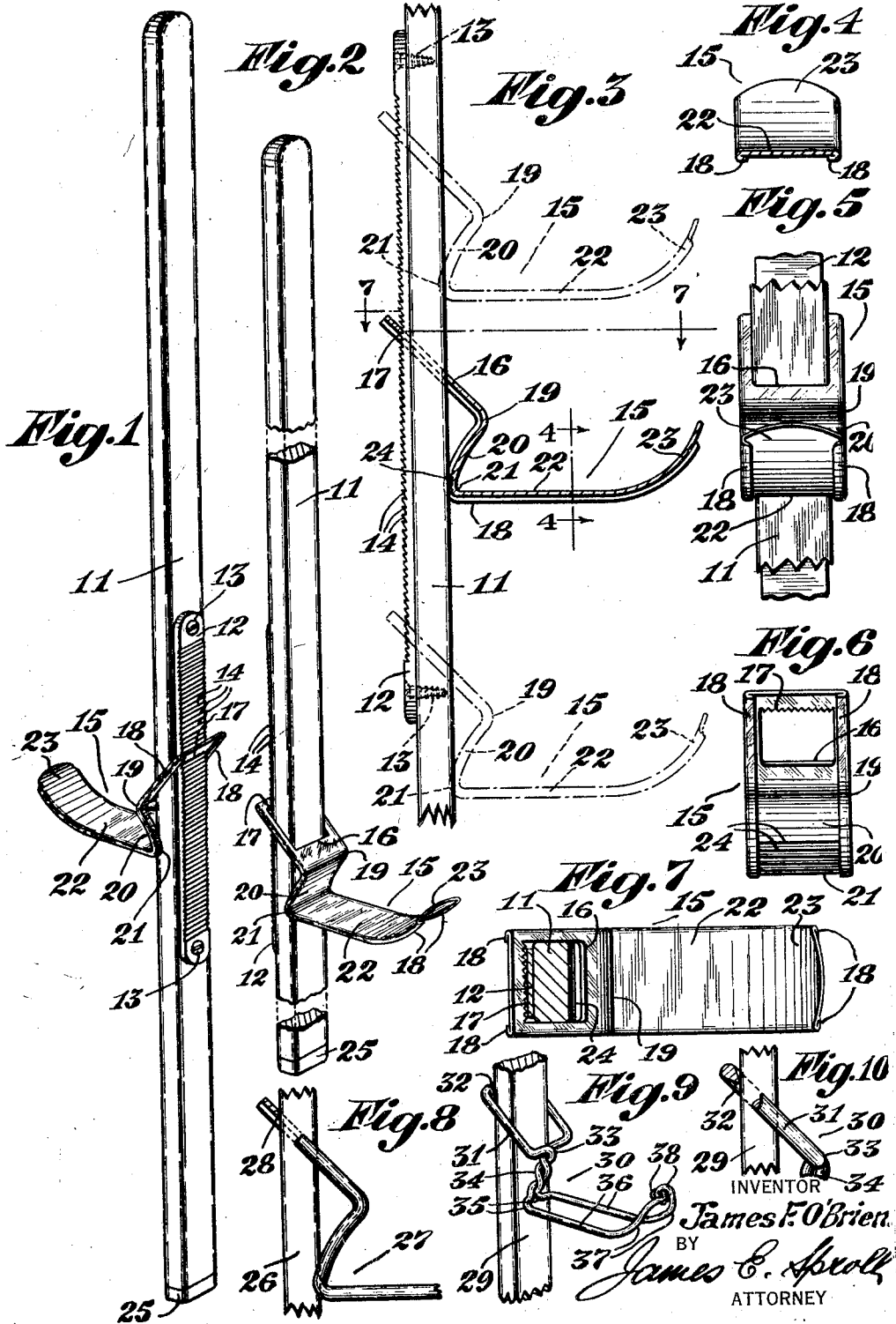
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ADJUSTABLE STILT

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ADJUSTABLE STILT.

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This invention relates more particularly to novel improvements in adjustable steps for stilts and aims primarily to provide a non-slipping adjustable step for a stilt that is readily and quickly applied or removed from the correlated stilt pole or standard, that may be closely and accurately adjusted longitudinally thereon in a rapid and expeditious manner to vary the height of such step from the ground for different users, that is restrainingly engaged in a selected or adjusted position upon said pole against longitudinal or lateral dislodgment thereon or therefrom in a novel manner to prevent and obviate injury to or marring of the pole, and that will not become distorted when subjected to excessive downward pressure and is so constructed that such pressure will tend to more positively secure the step upon the pole.

With these and other ends in view the invention essentially consists in the provision of an adjustable stilt embodying a pole or standard, preferably of wood and of rectangular cross-section; a serrated or notched metallic bar rigidly secured to the lower portion of the outer side of the pole; an adjustable step, preferably fabricated or stamped as an integral structure from sheet metal or other suitable material, having the edges thereof doubled upon themselves to reinforce and stiffen the step thereat and having a rectangular opening at one end to receive and accommodate the correlated pole, the material of the step being angularly bent downwardly and inwardly adjacent the said opening to form an arcuate foot engaging portion terminating in a pole engaging serrated heel formed by angularly bending the material upwardly and outwardly thereat to provide a tread portion having an arcuate terminal to prevent dislodgment of the foot therefrom.

The invention further consists in the novel construction, combination, adaptation, and arrangement of parts, as will hereinafter be more fully described and succinctly defined in the claims appended hereto.

Referring now to the accompanying drawing, wherein is illustrated the preferred embodiment of the invention.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the outer side of an adjustable stilt fabricated in accordance with the invention.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary perspective view of the opposite side thereof.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary sectional side elevation of the same.

Fig. 4 is a transverse vertical section taken through 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is an end elevation of the adjustable step operatively positioned upon the correlated pole thereof.

Fig. 6 is an elevation of the opposite end of the adjustable step removed from the correlated pole thereof.

Fig. 7 is a horizontal section taken through 7—7 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary sectional side elevation of a slightly modified form of adjustable stilt.

Fig. 9 is a fragmentary perspective of a modified form of adjustable step, and

Fig. 10 is a fragmentary sectional side elevation of the same.

In the drawing similar reference characters designate similar parts throughout the several views.

The numeral 11 designates a pole or standard of a stilt, preferably fabricated from wood and of rectangular cross-section, having a flat metallic bar or strip 12 rigidly secured by screws 13 upon the lower portion of the outer side thereof, said bar having a series of step engageable serrations or notches 14 cut in the exterior surface thereof, as shown more clearly in Figs. 1 and 3.

An adjustable step 15 formed with a large rectangular opening 16 at one end thereof, one edge of which is provided with a series of serrations or notches 17 selectively engageable with the metallic bar serrations 14, when the step 15 is operatively positioned upon the pole 11.

While the step 15 may be otherwise formed, the same is preferably stamped from sheet metal and has the side edges thereof bent or doubled upon themselves, as indicated at 18, to thereby reinforce the material thereat and to effectually prevent distortion of the step when in use. The material of the step is flexed or bent downwardly and inwardly, as at 19, adjacent the inner end of the opening 16 to form an arcuate foot engaging portion 20, which terminates in a heel 21 formed by bending the material upwardly and outwardly at said heel to provide a substantially horizontal tread portion 22 having an upwardly curving terminal portion 23, which latter serves and functions to prevent side movement of the foot upon the tread 22. The face of the heel 21 in contact

or abutment with the inner side of the pole 11 is provided with a series of serrations or notches 24, which latter frictionally engage said pole to more positively retain the step 15 in the desired or selected adjusted position thereon, as will be manifest and apparent by referring to Fig. 3. The heel 21 of the step 15 is maintained and retained against sidewise dislodgment upon the pole 11 by the doubled edges of the material of said step abutting the side faces of the said pole thereat, as shown more clearly in Figs. 1, 2 and 3, whereby rocking or twisting action of such step by the user is positively prevented.

If desired the lower end of the pole 11 may be provided with a pad or cushion 25 of resilient material, such as rubber or the like, which pad may be secured thereto in any well known manner, to thereby minimize shock or jarring during use of the stilt and to provide greater adhesive friction for the lower end of the stilt to effectually prevent skidding of the same.

The principal functions and the particular advantages accruing from the use and employment of the flat serrated bar 12 is to preserve the outer side of the pole 11 intact and prevent marring or injuring of the same by the step serrations 17, when the correlated step 15 thereof is operatively positioned upon the said pole; to obtain very close and accurate longitudinal adjustment of the step 15 upon the pole 11 for conveniently varying the height of the step from the ground to accommodate the stilt for any user; and to positively and restrainingly engage the step 15 in selective longitudinally adjusted positions upon the pole 11, whereby such step is rendered safe in use and slipping of the same thereon or therefrom is effectually prevented.

In Fig. 8 I have illustrated a slightly modified form of adjustable stilt embodying a pole 26 having a longitudinally adjustable step 27 operatively positioned thereon and fabricated in a manner similar to that described for the step 15 having a series of serrations 28 which directly engage the pole 26, as shown.

In Figs. 9 and 10, I have illustrated a still further modified form of adjustable stilt, wherein the numeral 29 designates a pole having an adjustable step 30 fabricated from wire operatively positioned thereon.

The wire material of the step 30 is bent or flexed midway of the length thereof to form a rectangular loop 31, the inner side of the outer end of which is formed or provided with a knife or biting edge 32 to engage and lightly bite into the outer side of the pole 29 to thereby support and maintain the step 30 thereon without materially marring or injuring the pole. The loop 31 is completed at the inner end by twisting the material

thereof upon itself and flexing or bending the same downwardly and inwardly, as at 33, to form an arcuate foot engaging portion 34, terminating in a heel 35 formed by bending and spreading the material upwardly thereat and outwardly therefrom to form spaced parallel tread portions 36 the outer free ends of which are flexed or bent upwardly and inwardly, as at 37, and are interconnected thereat by loops 38 formed upon the terminals thereof.

From the foregoing it will be manifest and apparent that the adjustable step for the stilt herein shown and described embodies simplicity, durability and economy in construction, will not slip upon the correlated pole thereof and is therefore safe, reliable, efficient and positive in use and action, combines considerable strength with lightness of weight, and in the present preferred form may be manufactured at an extremely low cost.

To adjust the step upon the correlated pole the upwardly curved end thereof is slightly elevated to release the same from the plate 12, or poles 25 or 28, whereupon the step is elevated or lowered to the desired height, whereat such curved end is lowered to seat or engage the step upon the said plate or pole in the position selected. By referring to the drawings, it will be obvious that downward pressure exerted upon the tread of the step will tend to secure such step more positively upon the correlated pole thereof and prevent longitudinal displacement of the same thereon.

While I have herein shown and described my invention with sufficient detail to enable those skilled in the art to understand the mode of construction and the principles involved it is to be understood that there is no intentional limitation herein to the specific form and precise details of construction of the invention herein shown and described except as expressly defined by the appended claims, and that various modifications of said construction may be resorted to without departing from the invention, or the benefits derivable therefrom. I also desire to have it understood that certain features of the invention herein disclosed may be employed in other combinations than those herein shown.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A step for an adjustable stilt stamped from a single piece of sheet metal and having an aperture formed therein adjacent one end thereof, to accommodate a pole and the like, one edge of said aperture having a series of pole engaging serrations, the material of the step being angularly and downwardly bent adjacent said aperture to form an arcuate foot engaging portion and the angularly bent portion return-bent to form

a pole abutting heel thereat and a tread portion for said step extending outwardly therefrom, said pole abutting heel having a series of pole engaging serrations formed therein.

5 2. A step for an adjustable stilt fabricated from a single piece of sheet metal having the edges thereof doubled upon themselves, said step having an aperture formed therein

adjacent one end thereof to accommodate a pole and the like, the material of the step 10 being angularly bent at said aperture and return-bent to form a pole abutting tread portion for the step.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JAMES F. O'BRIEN.