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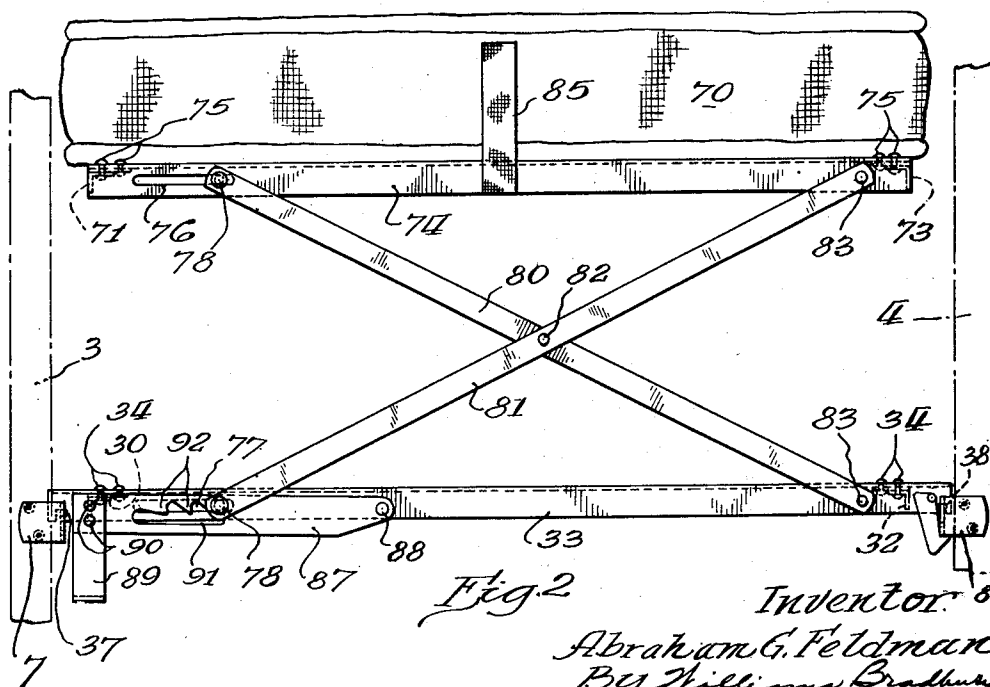
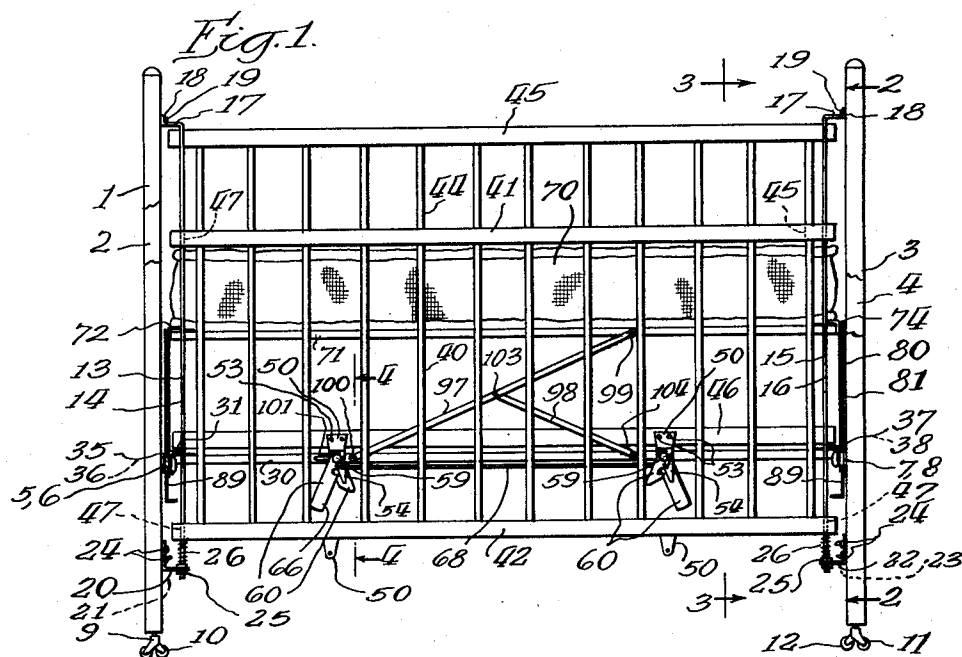
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2,299,136

BABY CRIB

Filed Aug. 31, 1939

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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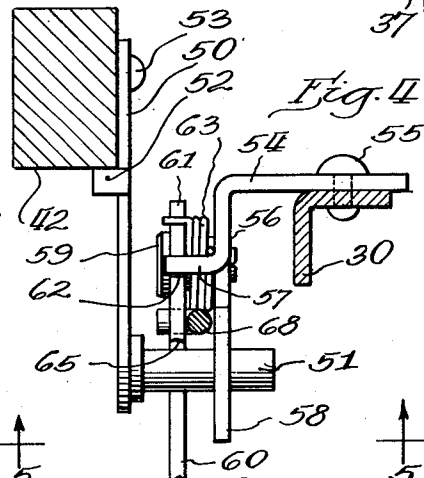
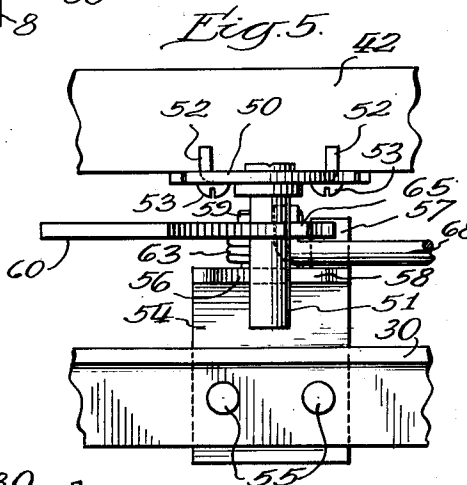
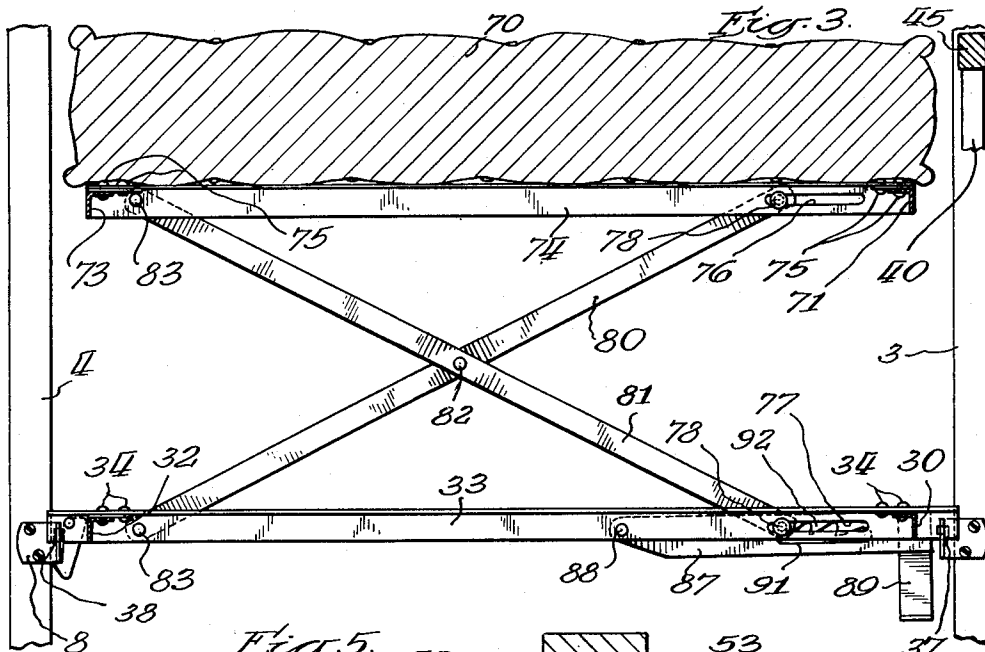
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,299,136

BABY CRIB

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5 Claims. (Cl. 5—11)

This invention relates generally to baby cribs and specifically to a novel type of crib in which the bedding supporting structure, hereinafter termed the springs, may be adjustably elevated at either or both ends of the crib.

It has been customary to build baby cribs with fixed springs which bear a more or less permanent relationship to the crib structure and which are located a relatively short distance above the ground. Because the springs are usually low, cribs have customarily been provided with one or more sliding gates or side panels, enabling ready access to the interior of the crib without stooping. Cribs hitherto have served the function only of beds. It has customarily been necessary to provide other furniture for dressing the baby, such as the well known "bathinettes" which are used chiefly as a dressing table.

I have endeavored to combine the functions of a dressing table with those of a crib, at the same time rendering my new article of furniture more serviceable and useful than ever were the separate cribs and dressing tables.

My invention in general comprises adjustable means for elevating the springs of a baby crib above their normal height from the floor, thereby facilitating manipulation of the bedding within the crib and of the infant placed thereupon, and providing, when extended to its extreme vertical displacement in conjunction with the lowered side gates, a useful and superior dressing table.

One of the objects of my invention therefore is to provide a combined crib and dressing table.

Another object of my invention is to provide a baby crib including means for adjustably elevating the springs thereof at either or both ends.

Another object of my invention is to provide a crib of the class described of superior rigidity and strength, but yet of great simplicity and economy of manufacture.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will become apparent upon reading the following specification, taken in conjunction with the appended drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of my crib, the front gate being open;

Fig. 2 is a section through my crib, looking along the lines 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a section through my crib, looking along the lines 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a section through my crib, taken along the lines 4—4 of Fig. 1, showing one of the gate catches;

Fig. 5 is an upward plan view of the gate catch, looking along the lines 5—5 of Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is a side elevation of a modification of my invention.

In all of the figures, like reference numerals refer to like parts.

My crib comprises the conventional head and foot ends, each provided with two corner posts 1, 2, 3 and 4, respectively. Hook plates 5, 6, 7 and 8 are screwed one to each corner post 1, 2, 3 and 4, respectively, at a short distance above the floor. Each corner post is provided with a caster 9, 10, 11 and 12, respectively. Each corner post is also provided with long guide rods 13, 14, 15 and 16, each provided with a right-angled bend 17 at its upper end terminating in a lug 18 secured to the corner post by means of a screw 19. The lower end of each guide rod is slidably and spacedly held by means of angle brackets 20, 21, 22 and 23 secured to each corner post by means of screws 24. To avoid metal-to-metal contact, I provide each angle bracket with a rubber bushing 25 through which passes the lower end of each guide rod, and upon each of which rests a compression spring 26.

The four corner posts supporting the head and foot ends are spacedly separated by and support a rectangular metal frame consisting of four angle iron members 30, 31, 32 and 33 riveted together near their corners by rivets 34. The end angle iron members 31 and 33 extend somewhat beyond the angle irons 30 and 32 and are provided with slots 35, 36, 37 and 38 cooperating with the slotted hook plates 5, 6, 7 and 8, respectively, upon which they rest. The said angle iron frame supported by said posts is the base upon which rest the adjustable means for elevating the springs and bedding.

The sides of my crib comprise two conventional sliding gates 40 and 44, whose transverse railings 41, 42, 45 and 46 are provided with vertical holes 47 near both ends thereof through which pass the guide rods 13, 14, 15 and 16. When a gate is in its lowered position, as is gate 40 in Fig. 1, the ends of the lower transverse bars 42 and 46 rest upon the springs 23, which also prevent noise resulting from a sudden lowering of one of the gates.

The lower railing 42 or 46 of each gate 40 and 44, respectively, has screwed thereto two catch plates 50 of stamped metal, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, provided with a catch bar 51 and two bent retaining lugs 52 which augment the action of the screws 53 fastening the plates to the rail.

At corresponding points on the angle members

30 and 32 are fastened the catch mechanisms which retain the catch bars 51 when the gate to which they are affixed is raised to its closed position. As illustrated in Figs. 1, 4 and 5, the catch mechanism comprises an angle bracket 54 fastened to one of the frame members 30 by means of rivets 55. The depending leg 56 of the bracket 54 is provided with a stop lug 57 and terminates in a crotch 58. The depending leg 56 of bracket 54 mounts a headed pin 59 at the height of, but somewhat to the side of, stop lug 57. Upon this pin 59 is journaled a straight lever 60 sloping downwardly at an angle.

Lever 60 is urged in a direction tending to close the crotch by a coil spring 63 surrounding pin 59 and situated between lever 60 and depending leg 56. One end of spring 63 reacts against stop lug 57; the other end reacts against the upper end 61 of lever 60. Movement of lever 60 under the influence of spring 63 is limited by the reaction of shoulder 62 of lever 60 against stop lug 57.

Lever 60 is provided with a notch 65 for receiving catch bar 51 when it is drawn up into crotch 58 as the gate to which it is attached is elevated. Spring 63 tends to urge lever 60 into contact with the catch bar 51 and to maintain it in locked position within notch 65. The lower railing 42 or 46 of each crib gate is provided with two catch mechanisms. It will be noted that I have made one of the levers 60 of each set of catches of greater length or provided with an extension 66 for ease of pedal or manual manipulation. The shorter lever 60 is actuated by means of a rod 68 connecting the same to the long lever 60.

The mattress 70 and the bedding placed thereon are supported by the usual springs stretched upon a rectangular frame comprising four angle iron members 71, 72, 73 and 74 securely joined at their corners by rivets 75. Each end member 72 and 74 of the springs frame, as well as the end members 31 and 33 of the supporting frame are provided with a narrow elongated slot, respectively 76 and 77, for the spring frame and the supporting frame, in vertically and horizontally aligned relationship to each other. These slots serve as guides for headed pins 78 affixed to the upper and lower extremities respectively of a pair of cross arms 80 and 81 located near each end of the crib.

These cross arms are mutually centrally pivoted about a loose rivet 82. The lower and upper extremities respectively of each of the cross arms 80 and 81 are pivoted to the respective extremities of members 72 and 31, and members 74 and 33 by means of loose rivets 83 opposite the end at which are provided the slots 76 and 77. It will now be apparent that by means of this unique and simple construction the springs and bedding may be elevated by grasping the fabric loops 85 attached to end angle irons 72 and 74, respectively, provided for that purpose. The cross arms 80 and 81 are so constrained by my construction that they allow for vertical movement of the springs frame yet maintain the same in its normal horizontal position when elevated and allow it to be brought into substantially coplanar relationship to its supporting frame.

In order to maintain the springs and bedding in any one of several desired vertical positions, I provide each of slots 77 with a simple locking mechanism. This consists of a lever 87 pivoted to each of members 31 and 33 by means of a loose rivet 88. The free extremity of each lever is pro-

vided with a suitable handle 89 which may consist of an angle iron riveted to said lever by means of rivets 90.

Each lever 87 is provided with a narrow longitudinal slot 91 approximately coextensive with slots 77, but having its upper surface serrated to form a number of large teeth 92 of a shape adapted to engage and retain the pins 78. It is apparent that the height of the bed may be varied by locking pin 78 at varying points along its path through slot 77 by means of the locking mechanism described. To lower the springs and bedding at either or both ends of the crib it is necessary only to pull upwardly on either or both levers 87 by means of the handles 89, thereby releasing the teeth 92 permitting sideward movement of pins 78 and collapse of the cross arms 80 and 81.

In a modification of my invention depicted in Fig. 6, I have joined each of the handles 89 by means of a cross bar 93, preferably a simple angle iron. To insure secure locking of the bed at any desired vertical adjustment, each handle is urged downwardly into its locking position by means of a spring 94 reacting against members 31 or 33. The springs 94 are guided by means of a pin 95 pinned to members 31 or 33 and protruding through a small hole 96 in bar 93 to allow for upward movement of the bar.

By manipulating bar 93 near its middle, both ends of the bed may be lowered simultaneously. Individual adjustments can be made by operating the ends of the bar. The handle, lever and connecting rod structures are sufficiently flexible and the connections between these members are sufficiently loose to permit tilting of one end of the connecting rod to disengage the notched lever at that end of the rod without releasing the notched lever at the other end of the connecting rod. Although the modification described above is most convenient, many will prefer the simple individual locks first described, because the fact that the teeth 92 must be manually brought into engagement with pins 78 is conducive to the exercise of greater caution in making certain that the crib is safely locked in its elevated position, than when springs are relied upon.

To secure the spring frame against longitudinal movement, a single pair of cross arms 97 and 98 is provided at one side of the crib. The upper end of arm 97 is pivoted to member 71 by means of a loose rivet 99. The lower end of arm 97 bears a headed pin 100 guided in a long narrow slot 101 in member 30. The short cross arm 98 is pivoted to the central part of arm 97 and to member 30 by means of loose rivets 103 and 104, respectively.

When the crib is to be used as a bed, the cross arms 80 and 81 are completely collapsed. They may also be adjusted to any desired height at either end. I prefer so to dimension my cribs that at the maximum height the top of the mattress 70 will be flush or, at most, slightly higher than the top railings 41 or 45 of one of the gates 40 or 44, when they are lowered. By lowering the front gate 40, one may conveniently use the crib as a dressing table, the surrounding ends of the crib and the elevated rear gate 44 providing a most desirable protection against the occupant's falling out of the crib.

Although I have described my invention in explicit terms for the sake of clarity, it is to be understood that departures therefrom in form

although not in substance are within the scope of the following appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a combined baby crib and dressing table, the combination with a crib having side and end enclosure members, a lower supporting frame of substantially rectangular shape secured to said end enclosure members in spaced relation to the lower ends thereof, a secondary spring frame adapted to support a mattress above said supporting frame, and a pair of cross arms at each end of said supporting frame, said cross arms extending to said spring frame, each cross arm having pivoted connection with one of said frames and having slidable connection with the other of said frames, to permit relative vertical movement of said spring frame with respect to the supporting frame, of a releasable latching lever pivoted to one of said frame members at one side of a slidable connection of one of each pair of said cross arms, said levers having a plurality of locking detents located to engage selectively a slidable portion of a cross arm to lock said cross arm in adjusted position with said spring frame raised to dressing table height, a handle carried by said levers and positioned for engagement by an operator, and spring means mounted between each of said levers and its mounting frame normally to urge said levers into locking position.

2. In a combined baby crib and dressing table, the combination with a crib having side and end enclosure members, a lower supporting frame of substantially rectangular shape secured to said end enclosure members in spaced relation to the lower ends thereof, a secondary spring frame adapted to support a mattress above said supporting frame, and a pair of cross arms at each end of said supporting frame, said cross arms extending to said spring frame, each cross arm having pivoted connection with one of said frames and slidable connection with the other of said frames, to permit relative vertical movement of said spring frame with respect to the supporting frame, of a releasable latching lever pivoted to one of said frame members at one side of a slidable connection of one of each pair of said cross arms, said levers having a plurality of locking detents located to engage selectively a slidable portion of a cross arm to lock said cross arm in adjusted position with said spring frame raised to dressing table height, and a rigid handle cross-connected to both of said levers, said handle extending below said supporting frame to move both of said levers simultaneously to releasing position by a force applied to a middle portion of said handle.

3. In a combined baby crib and dressing table, the combination with a crib having side and end enclosure members, a lower supporting frame of substantially rectangular shape secured to said end enclosure members in spaced relation to the lower ends thereof, a secondary spring frame adapted to support a mattress above said supporting frame, and a pair of cross arms at each end of said supporting frame, said cross arms extending to said spring frame, each cross arm having pivoted connection with one of said frames and slidable connection with the other of said frames, to permit relative vertical movement of said spring frame with respect to the supporting frame, of a releasable latching lever pivoted to one of said frame members at one side of a slidable connection of one of each pair of said cross arms, said lever having a plurality of locking detents located to engage selectively a slidable por-

tion of a cross arm to lock said cross arm in adjusted position with said spring frame raised to dressing table height, a rigid handle cross-connected to both of said levers, said handle extending below said supporting frame to move both of said levers simultaneously to releasing position by a force applied to a middle portion of said handle, and spring means mounted to operate between said handle and one of said frames normally to urge said levers into locking position.

4. In a combined baby crib and dressing table, the combination with a crib having side and end enclosure members, a lower supporting frame of substantially rectangular shape secured to said end enclosure members in spaced relation to the lower ends thereof, a secondary spring frame adapted to support a mattress above said supporting frame, and a pair of cross arms at each end of said supporting frame, said cross arms extending to said spring frame, each cross arm having pivoted connection with one of said frames and slidable connection with the other of said frames, to permit relative vertical movement of said spring frame with respect to the supporting frame, of a releasable latching lever pivoted to one of said frame members at one side of a slidable connection of one of each pair of said cross arms, said levers having a plurality of locking detents located to engage selectively a slidable portion of a cross arm to lock said cross arm in adjusted position with said spring frame raised to dressing table height, a rigid handle cross-connected to both of said levers, said handle extending below said supporting frame to move both of said levers simultaneously to releasing position by a force applied to a middle portion of said handle, said assembly of handle and levers being laterally bendable by a force applied to an end portion of said handle to move only the handle at the end to which said force is applied to a releasing position, and spring means mounted to operate between said handle and one of said frames normally to urge said levers into locking position.

5. In a variable height spring unit for baby cribs and the like, the combination of a supporting frame of substantially rectangular shape, comprising a pair of end frame members and a pair of side frame members secured together at the corners, and provided with means for attachment to a baby crib enclosure at the four corners of said frame, with a spring comprising a second rectangular frame having two side frame members and two end frame members secured together at the corners, and supporting a bed spring, and means for supporting said spring frame on said supporting frame in a plurality of adjustable positions, comprising a pair of links located at each end of said frames, each pair being pivoted together substantially midway between their ends, and each pair having one end of each link pivotally secured to the adjacent end frame members of said supporting frame and spring frame, respectively, the opposite ends of the links of each pair being slidably mounted with respect to the end frame members of the supporting frame and spring frame, respectively, and a pivoted, notched, locking lever carried by one of said frames at each end of said unit for engaging a part carried by the slidably mounted end of one of said links for locking the spring frame in any of a plurality of positions relative to the supporting frame.