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1,982,998

BEDCLOTHES HOLDER

Filed April 10, 1933

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

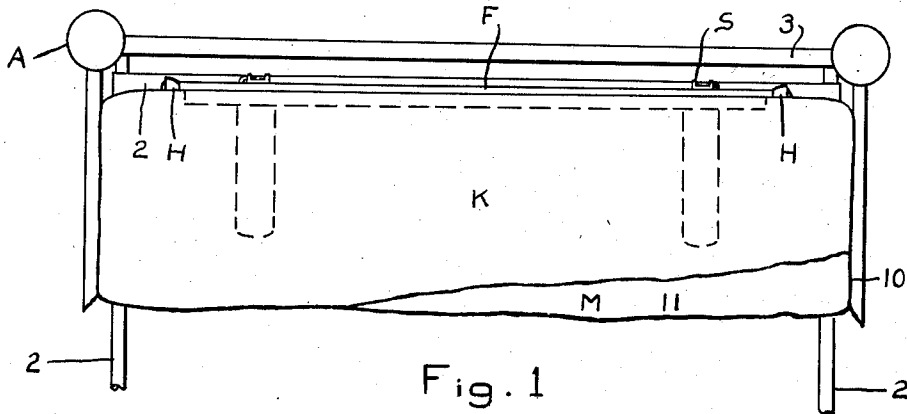


Fig. 1

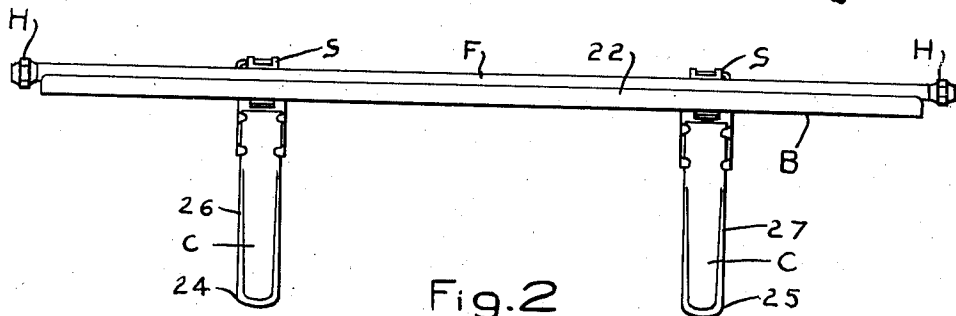


Fig. 2

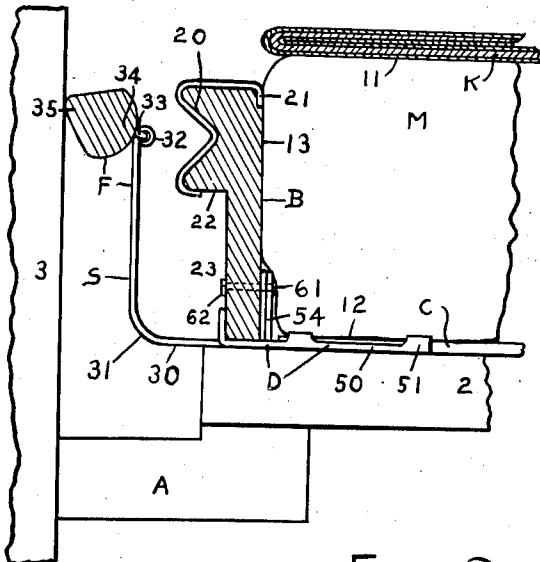


Fig 3

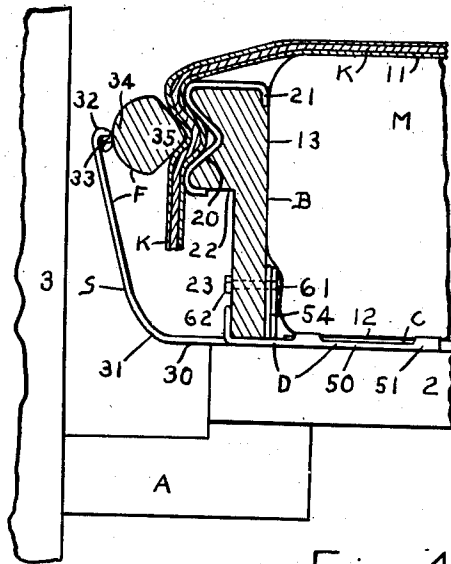


Fig. 4

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

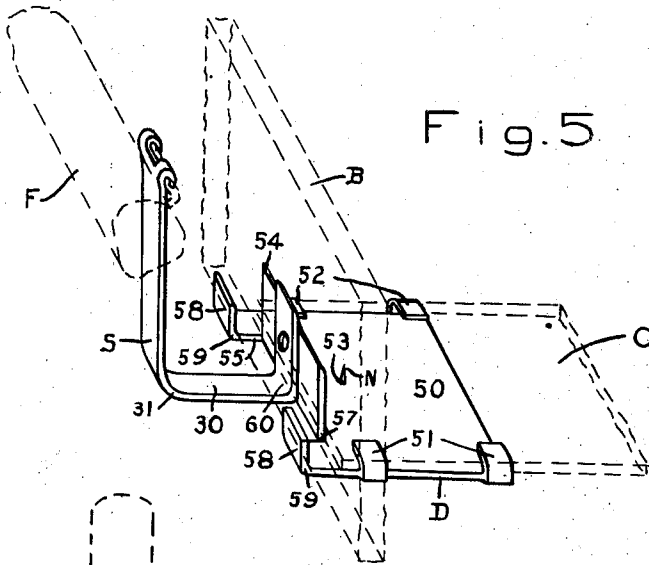


Fig. 5

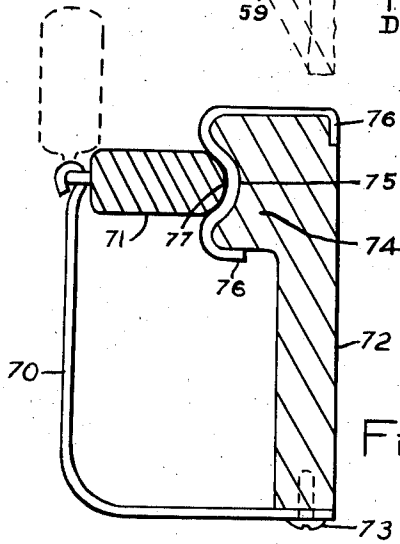


Fig. 6

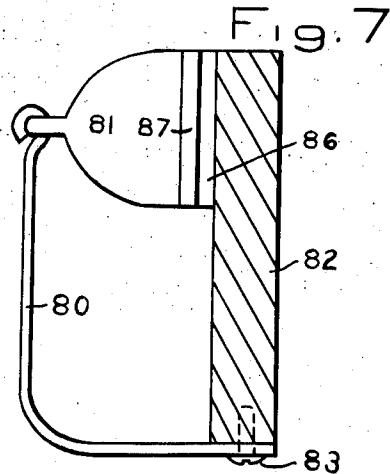


Fig. 7

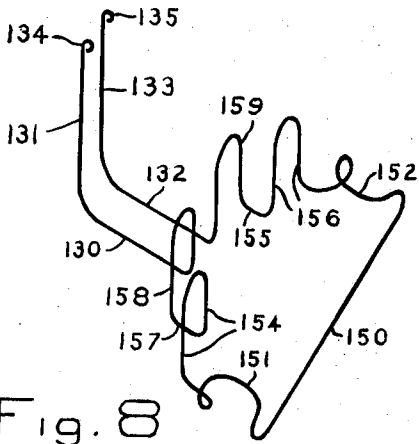


Fig. 8

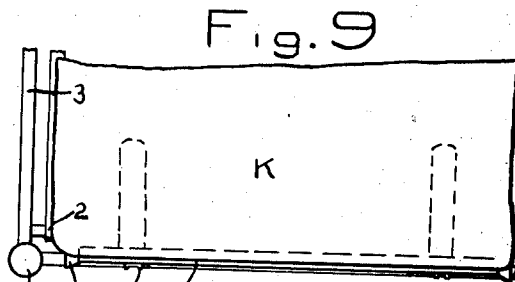


Fig. 9

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BEDCLOTHES HOLDER

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Application April 10, 1933, Serial No. 665,317

7 Claims. (Cl. 24—72.5)

This invention is a device for holding in place bedclothes such as blankets, sheets, spreads etc. on the ordinary type of bed on which there is a mattress.

I am aware that various expedients such as the use of safety pins and various kinds of individual clamps, some of which are fastened to the foot board, have been used for the same purpose, but the principal advantage of my device is that, without any fastening devices, it or they can instantly be put in place in any ordinary bed as my devices are held or my device is held in place by the weight of the mattress.

Other advantages are that in the preferred form of my device, there is a single very wide holding mouth formed by two wide jaws, one fixed and the other movable. This mouth can instantly be opened by the motion of one or both hands applied to the movable jaw and the parts are so arranged that the mouth will remain open with ample space for tucking in the bedclothes. When the bedclothes have been tucked or rather when their ends have been placed in the mouth, the movable jaw can instantly be closed by another motion of the hands. The bedclothes are firmly held in place until the jaw is again opened.

In the drawings Fig. 1 is a plan view showing part of the lower end of a bed of usual construction.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the bedclothes holder removed from the bed and with the jaws closed.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the bedclothes and bedclothes holder proper with a mattress and bed indicated diagrammatically.

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 showing the bedclothes down between and caught by the jaws of the bedclothes holder.

Fig. 5 is an isometric view of the preferred form of bracket and one of the spring arms, one of the feet and part of the fixed jaw and the bar of the movable jaw being shown in dotted lines.

Fig. 6 is a vertical section of a modified form of jaws in the closed position.

Fig. 7 is a vertical section of another form of jaws in the closed position.

Fig. 8 is an isometric view of a modification of a combination of holding bracket and spring arm.

Fig. 9 is a fragmentary plan view showing part of the end and part of one of the sides of a bed with the device in position.

In the drawings, A represents the frame of a bed having a foot board 3 and springs or other flat part 2 upon which rests the mattress M. This mattress, as usual, has the sides such as 10, top

11, bottom 12 which rests on the part 2 and foot end 13 which ordinarily approaches fairly close to the foot board 3. K represents the bedclothes.

It is necessary that there should be some space between the mattress end 13 and the foot board 3, but the customary space is sufficient for my purpose.

B represents a fixed jaw which is shown as a vertical wooden board which is preferably not quite as high as the thickness of mattress M and is of a length somewhat less than the width of the mattress M.

Along the outside near the top of jaw B is an angular groove 20 which extends its entire length and is preferably lined its entire length with felt padding 21. Groove 20 preferably is formed in a projection 22 so that there is a clear space 23 under 22 in which any excess of the bedclothes such as K can be placed.

C, C represent a plurality of flat feet each of which is fixed at one end to the bottom of jaw B so that each foot, when the device is in place, extends well under the mattress M between it and part 2 of the frame. These feet, therefore, hold the jaw B in position.

The toe of each foot is preferably rounded as at 24 and 25 and the top edge of each foot is beveled as at 26 or 27.

F represents a movable jaw which includes supporting arms S, S, preferably of the spring type, such arms being fastened at their bottom ends either to the ends of the feet C, C or the bottom of fixed jaw B or to both.

As shown, the part 30 is fastened to or is a part of one of the brackets such as D, D, and this part 30 extends outward towards the foot board and is thence bent up at 31 terminating at the top in a loop 32 which carries a one legged staple such as 33 passing into the back of the pivoted part 34 of the jaw F. This pivoted part 34, as shown, is a bar of wood and at the side 35 opposite the staples 33, 33 is shaped to fit into the groove 20 in jaw B.

As shown in Fig. 4, the bar 34 should be of such size that when it engages the groove, such as 20, of the fixed jaw, it will somewhat stretch the spring parts of, or the springs associated with, arms S, S so that the jaws will firmly grip the bedclothes, but when disengaged and thrown back, there will be plenty of room to push the bedclothes K down into an open mouth.

At the ends, preferably, are provided the handles H, H which may readily be grasped by the hands of the operator to open or close

the movable jaw F. When the mouth is opened by moving jaw F, it will stay open until the bedclothes K are properly placed and smoothed, upon which, by a single motion, the jaws are snapped together.

The preferred type of bar such as 34 which is the engaging member of the movable jaw is preferably formed from a cylindrical stick which maintains its curved form for about one hundred eighty degrees, while the other half has equal segments cut out whereby an angular projection or horizontal rib 35 is formed such rib preferably having a slightly rounded nose. This nose is diametrically opposite the staples 33.

At D, I show a preferred form of sheet metal bracket for attaching each foot C to jaw B and jaw B to jaw F.

50 is the base which may have a nail hole 53, and 51, 52, are side ears and 54 and 58, 58 are upright tongues cut from the base at 55 and bent at 57 and 59 to form one recess into which jaw B can fit and another recess between base 50, ears 51, 52 and tongue 54 into which an end of a foot C can fit.

Each foot C may be held in place by a nail N driven through hole 53 or the fit may be so tight that no nailing is necessary.

As shown, part 30 of each arm S is bent up at 60 and is bolted to tongue 54 and jaw B by a bolt 61 and nut 62. This bolt holds jaw B, jaw F and bracket D together and ears 51, 52 or nail N or both hold each foot C and a bracket D together.

While I prefer to use an angular groove like 20 in the fixed jaw cooperating with an angular projection in the movable jaw, I can modify the construction in several ways, as shown in Fig. 6 and in Fig. 7.

In Fig. 6, 70 represents the spring member which is substantially similar to S of the movable jaw and 71 represents the member corresponding with F while 72 is a fixed jaw to which member 70 is fastened as by a screw 73, the fixed jaw having a projection 74 in which is a curved recess 75 covered with felt 76 and with which the curved edge 77 of member 71 is adapted to engage.

As shown in Fig. 7, I can use a movable jaw with a spring member such as 80 similar to 70 and to S which is attached by means of a screw 83 to fixed jaw 82 which jaw has no projection corresponding with 22 and 74 but is flat and is faced with felt 86 or other similar friction material such as cork. The member 81 corresponds with member F and member 71, being pivoted or hinged to spring member 80, but instead of having an angular projection such as 35, it is flat and is faced with felt 87 or other friction material such as cork, the friction faces 86 and 87 being held normally together but being separated when tucking in the bedclothes.

In Fig. 8, I show a bracket made of one piece of wire which may be used in place of bracket D. 150 indicates the base from which sides formed as ears 151 and 152 are bent up and inward and from the back of which, jaws, which also serve as stop loops, 154 and 156 are bent upward. Between 150, 151, 152, 154 and 156, a foot such as C can be held by frictional contact or by the elasticity of the ears 151, 152.

The material is again bent back at 155, 157 and then up around at 158, 159 forming back jaws which with 154 and 156 form a pocket to receive a fixed jaw such as D. The wire is again bent down and back at 130, 132 up at 131, 133

and terminates in loops 134, 135 through which a staple such as 33 can be passed for fastening the movable friction jaw member in place.

As shown in Fig. 9, if desired, my device can be used on the side of a bed as well as at the foot.

I claim:

1. The combination with a bed including a mattress and a mattress support; of a fixed jaw which extends nearly the entire width of an end of the mattress, said jaw being formed of a board having an angular groove near its top at the outside and a recess below the groove; a plurality of flat feet, each fixed at one end to the bottom of the fixed jaw and each extending between the mattress and its support; a movable jaw which engages the fixed jaw and includes a plurality of elastic supporting arms each attached to the bottom of the fixed jaw and each extending upward therefrom, and a holding bar pivoted to the top of said arms, said holding bar having an angular projection which engages the angular groove in the fixed jaw and having a projecting handle at each end, the parts being so formed and arranged that when the movable jaw is disengaged from the fixed jaw, there will be sufficient space between the parts for the introduction of bed clothing between the jaws but when the jaws are engaged, the elastic supporting arms will be under tension.

2. The combination with a bed including a mattress and a mattress support; of a fixed jaw which extends nearly the entire width of an end of the mattress, said jaw having an angular groove near its top at the outside; a plurality of flat feet, each fixed at one end to the bottom of the fixed jaw and each extending between the mattress and its support; a movable jaw which engages the fixed jaw and includes a plurality of elastic supporting arms each attached to the bottom of the fixed jaw and each extending upward therefrom, and a holding bar pivoted to the top of said arms, said holding bar having an angular projection which engages the angular groove in the fixed jaw, the parts being so formed and arranged that when the movable jaw is disengaged from the fixed jaw, there will be sufficient space between the parts for the introduction of bed clothing between the jaws but when the jaws are engaged, the elastic supporting arms will be under tension.

3. The combination with a bed including a mattress and a mattress support; of a fixed jaw which extends nearly the entire width of an end of the mattress; a plurality of flat feet, each fixed at one end to the bottom of the fixed jaw and each extending between the mattress and its support; a movable jaw which engages the fixed jaw and includes a plurality of elastic supporting arms each attached to the bottom of the fixed jaw and each extending upward therefrom, and a holding bar pivoted to the top of said arms, the parts being so formed and arranged that when the movable jaw is disengaged from the fixed jaw, there will be sufficient space between the parts for the introduction of bed clothing between the jaws but when the jaws are engaged, the elastic supporting arms will be under tension.

4. In a bedclothes holder, the combination of a vertical fixed jaw; with a plurality of flat feet, each fixed at one end to the bottom of the fixed jaw and each extending at a right angle thereto; a movable jaw which engages the fixed jaw and includes a plurality of elastic supporting arms each attached to the bottom of the fixed jaw and

each extending upward therefrom and a holding bar pivoted to the top of said arms, the parts being so formed and arranged that when the movable jaw is disengaged from the fixed jaw, there will be sufficient space between the parts for the introduction of bed clothing between the jaws but when the jaws are engaged, the elastic supporting arms will be under tension.

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5. In a bedclothes holder, the combination of a vertical fixed jaw; with a plurality of flat feet, each fixed at one end to the bottom of the fixed jaw and each extending on one side at a right angle thereto; a movable jaw which engages the fixed jaw at the top of the side opposite to the feet and includes a plurality of elastic supporting arms each attached to the fixed jaw and extending in spaced relation to the fixed jaw, which arms carry a holding bar pivoted to the top of said arms, the parts being so formed and arranged that when the movable jaw is disengaged from the fixed jaw, there will be sufficient space between the parts for the introduction of bed

clothing between the jaws but when the jaws are engaged, the elastic supporting arms will be under tension.

6. In a bedclothes holder, the combination of a fixed jaw having an angular horizontal groove near its top at the outside; with a movable jaw which engages the fixed jaw and includes a plurality of elastic supporting arms each attached to the bottom of the fixed jaw and each extending upward therefrom; and a holding bar having an angular projection which engages said angular groove and which is hung to the top of said arms at points opposite said angular projection.

7. In a bedclothes holder, the combination of a fixed jaw; with a movable jaw which engages the fixed jaw and includes a plurality of elastic supporting arms each attached to the bottom of the fixed jaw and each extending upward therefrom; and a holding bar which is hung to the top of said arms in position to engage the top of the fixed jaw.

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