May 8, 1945. J. H. WOODWARD 2,375,457

DEVICE FOR THE OBSCURING OF WINDOWS

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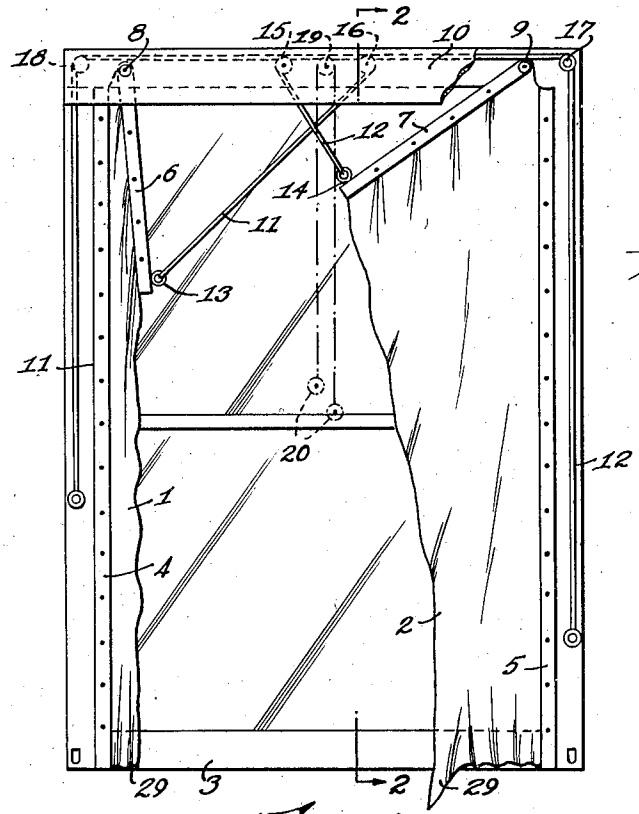


Fig. 1

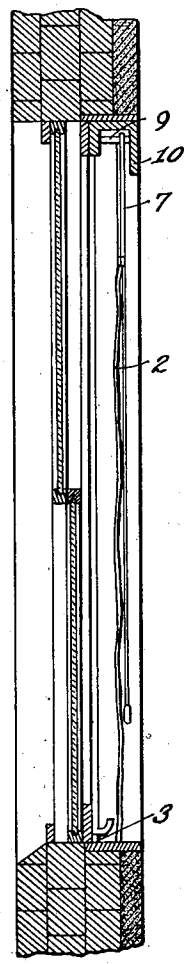


Fig. 2

Fig. 3

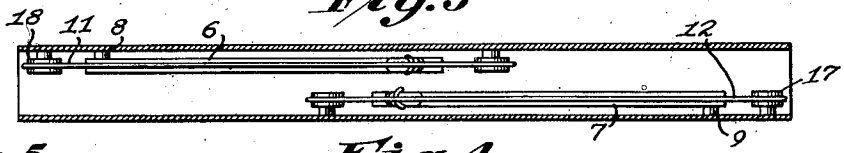


Fig. 5

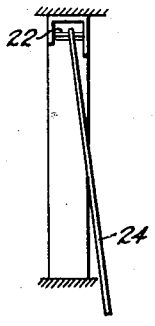
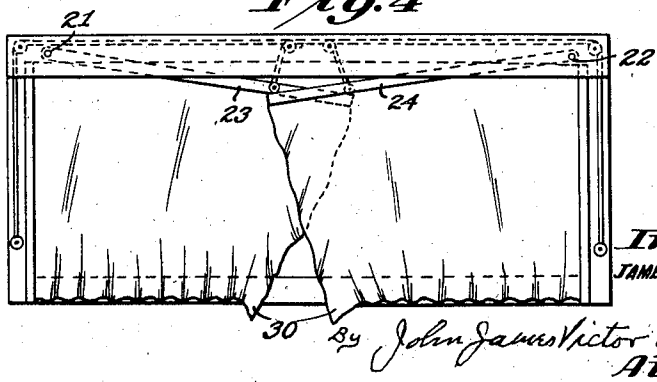


Fig. 4



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DEVICE FOR THE OBSCURING OF WINDOWS

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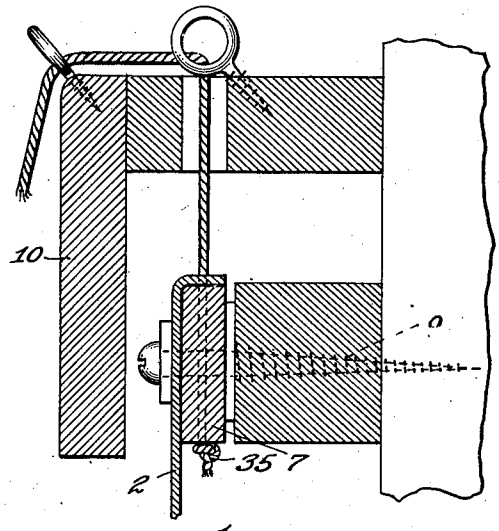


Fig. 7

Fig. 8

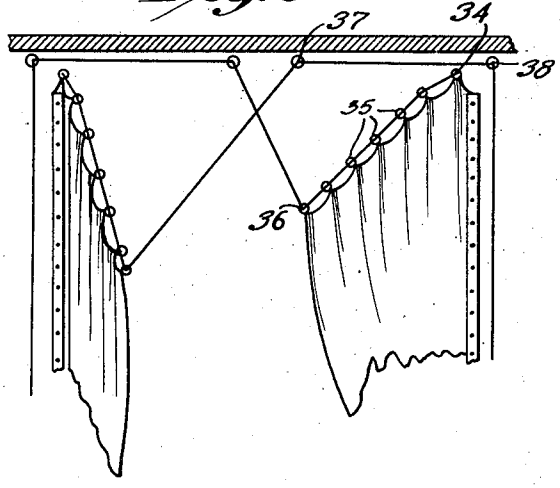
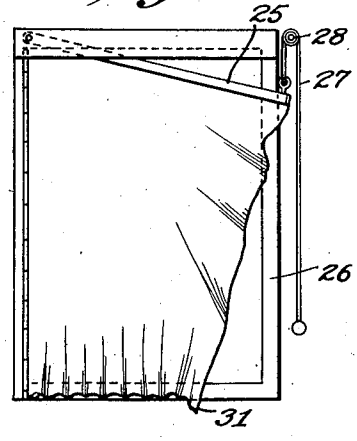


Fig. 6



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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DEVICE FOR THE OBSCURING OF WINDOWS

James Harold Woodward, Heswall Hills, England

Application December 28, 1942, Serial No. 470,380
In Great Britain August 15, 1942

5 Claims. (Cl. 160—336)

The present invention relates to an improved device for the obscuring of windows.

An object of this invention is to provide a device whereby a window may be obscured, and yet, at other times be left unobscured.

According to the present invention a curtain of greater width than the area to be obscured is fastened along one edge to a side of the window, a flexible connection being provided to raise another edge of the curtain to a point on the window frame spaced horizontally away from the edge of the curtain where it is attached to the window frame, so that when this connection is tensioned, the curtain is drawn up from a position in which it lies in fan folds at one side of the window, to a position in which it will lie in a plane parallel with the window.

The invention is more particularly described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an outside elevation of one form of the device,

Figure 2 is a vertical sectional view taken substantially on the line 2—2 of Figure 1,

Figure 3 is a corresponding sectional plan view,

Figure 4 is an outside elevation of a modified form of construction,

Figure 5 is a corresponding side sectional view,

Figure 6 is an outside elevation of another form of construction,

Figure 7 is a detail end sectional view of the pelmet showing a modified form of attachment of the ends,

Figure 8 shows another form of construction.

Curtains 1, 2, of light impervious material are secured along one vertical edge to the vertical sides of the window frame 3, in a light-tight manner by battens 4, 5, respectively, nailed or screwed to the window frame.

The top horizontal edges of the curtains 1, 2, are attached to battens 6, 7, either by tacks or by slipping the battens into a hollow seam at this curtain edge. These battens are pivoted at one end by pivots 8, 9, to the window frame within a masking pelmet of wood, cloth or the like material 10.

Cords 11, 12, are attached to eyelets 13, 14, on the outer ends of battens 6, 7, and then pass through eyelets on the window frame, or over pulleys 15, 16, preferably as shown spaced outwardly from the centre of the window. These cords then pass through guide eyelets, or over pulleys 17, 18, on the sides of the window and hang down each side of the window frame.

Alternatively they may be threaded through a common eyelet 19 at the centre of the window, and hang down together as shown in dotted lines at 20.

Preferably the width of each curtain 1, 2, is greater than half the width of the window, and the battens 4, 5, extend beyond the centre line of the window, so that when these battens 4, 5, lie horizontally they will cause the curtains to overlap and efficiently obscure the window.

As shown in Figure 7 distance pieces 32 may be threaded on the pivot pins 9 to keep the slats or battens 6, 7, from engagement with one another as these are raised. Further, instead of eyelets 13, 14, the cords may pass through holes in the slats or battens 6, 7, and be knotted as at 33.

Where a window frame is of greater width than height, it will be preferred, as shown in Figures 4 and 5, to arrange that the pivots 21, 22, for the battens 23, 24, do not lie horizontally but are inclined to the horizontal, so that when the battens 23, 24, lie vertically downwards they will clear the window ledge at their bottom ends, as shown in Figure 5. In certain cases it will be desired to use a single curtain as shown in Figure 6, where the horizontal batten 25 extends beyond one side of the window frame 26. A single cord 27 and guide eyelet or pulley 28 then suffices.

It will in certain cases be desirable to weight the lower outer corner of the curtains as at 29, 30, 31, or to insert a weight made for instance of a rectangular strip of metal or slate in a hollow seam of the curtain at its lower edge so that the folds of the curtain do not catch up on one another, and the curtain wholly hangs in a vertical plane parallel with the window.

In the alternative arrangement of Figure 8, the cords are connected to pins 34 at the inner top corner of the curtain, then knotted around a number of rings secured to the top curtain ring 36 at the outer top edge of the curtain whence it passes through guide eyes 37, 38. It will be seen that this arrangement is the equivalent of a rigid batten as at 6, 7.

It will be obvious that instead of mounting the pivots on the window frame, the valance may be made as an open box as shown in the drawings, to carry the said pivots, eyelets, pulleys or other parts. Furthermore the whole device may be mounted in a frame detachable from the window frame.

It will be obvious that the slats or battens 4, 5, 6, 7, 23, 23, 25, may be made of a moulded plastic

composition perforated for the passage of screws and operating cords.

In order to provide an arrangement which can be immediately mounted on windows of any width between set limits, the horizontal battens or slats 6, 7, may be made from two separate strips provided with perforations at even intervals secured together for instance by small nuts and bolts passing through the curtain gripping this between the slats, which slats can be displaced horizontally relatively to one another to form a rigid element of variable length.

I declare that what I claim is:

1. A window obscuring device comprising a flexible curtain of greater vertical dimensions than the height of the area to be obscured, means to attach one edge of said curtain to one side of the window frame, and means to raise another edge of the said curtain from a position at said side of the window frame to a position in which said curtain lies substantially parallel with the frame.

2. A window obscuring device comprising a pair of flexible curtains together of greater area than the window area to be obscured, means to attach one edge of each curtain to respective opposite sides of a window frame, and means to raise another edge of each curtain from a position at a side of the window frame to a position in which it lies parallel with the frame.

3. A window obscuring device comprising a flexible curtain of greater area than half the window area to be obscured, a rigid batten attached to one side of the window frame and securing an edge of the curtain thereto in a light-tight manner, a second rigid batten attached to another edge of said curtain, and means to displace the second batten with its attached curtain from a position in which said curtain is suspended chiefly from the upper end of the first batten to a position in which it lies parallel with the window frame.

4. A window obscuring device comprising a flexible curtain of greater area than half the window area to be obscured, a batten attaching the curtain along a vertical edge to the window frame in a light-tight manner, a second batten hinged about a horizontal axis and attached to a contiguous edge of the said curtain, and means to draw up the latter batten with its appendant curtain from a position adjacent the vertical batten to a position at right angles thereto.

5. A window obscuring device comprising a flexible curtain of greater area than half the window area to be obscured, means to attach one edge of said curtain to a side of the window frame, a rigid batten attached to a contiguous edge of said curtain, and means to raise said curtain by said batten to a position substantially parallel to the window, so that its outer edge may overlap a similarly disposed curtain at the opposite side of the window.

JAMES HAROLD WOODWARD.