Oct. 16, 1951 R. LOVE 2,571,906

VENETIAN BLIND CLEANER

Filed May 8, 1947 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1

Fig. 1.

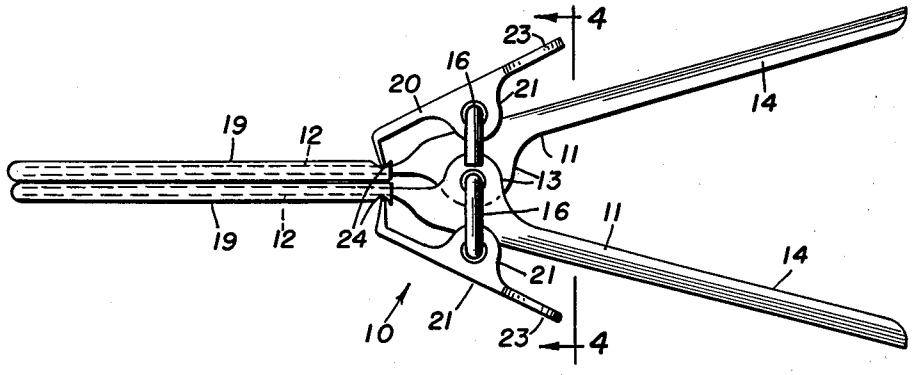
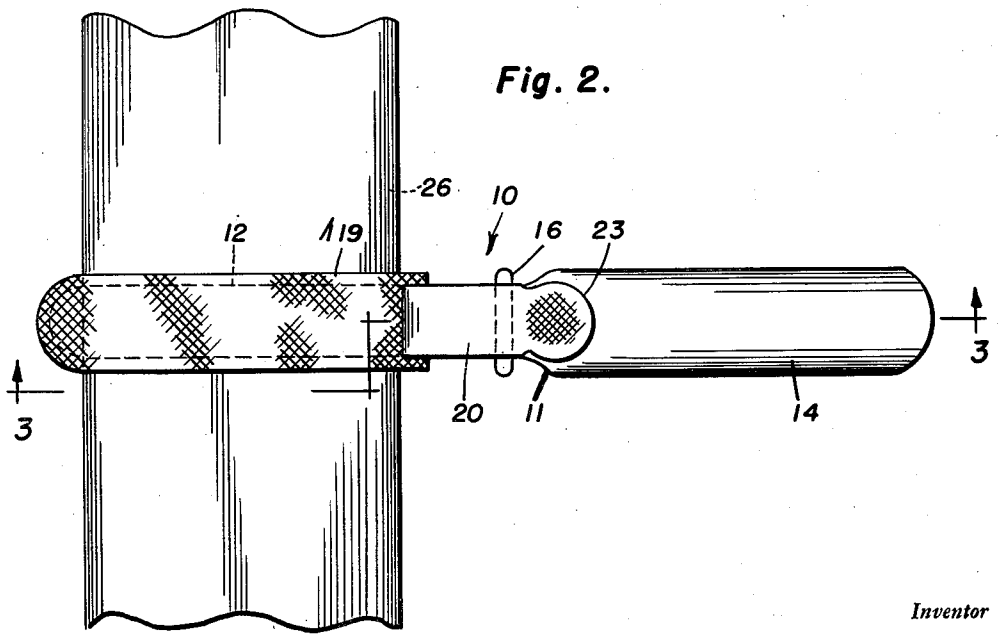


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.

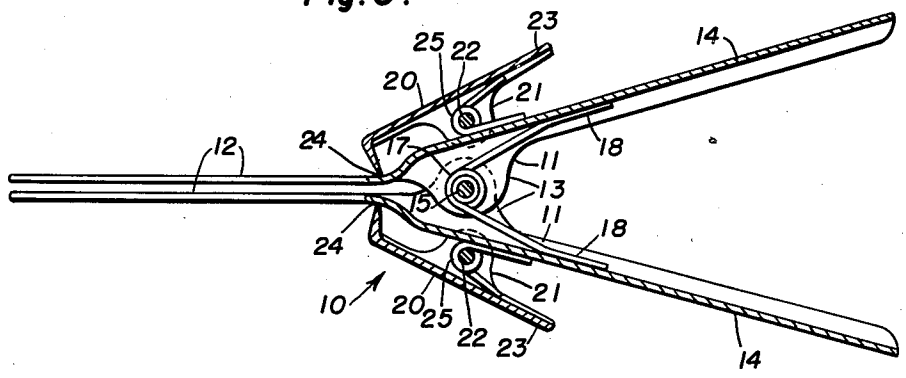


Fig. 4.

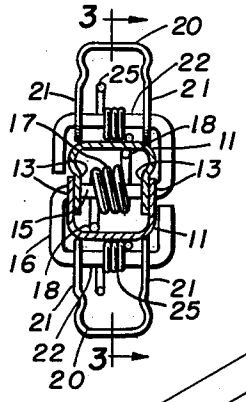


Fig. 5

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VENETIAN BLIND CLEANER

Rosalie Love, Los Angeles, Calif.

Application May 8, 1947, Serial No. 746,767

3 Claims. (Cl. 15—210)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements and structural refinements in Venetian blind cleaners, and the principal object of the invention is to provide a device of the character herein described which may be conveniently and effectively employed for the dusting or cleaning of Venetian blind slats, both the earlier wooden slats as well as the metallic slats of modern design.

A further object of the invention is to provide a Venetian blind cleaner which is equipped with removable cleaning members or pads, so that such pads when soiled, may be quickly and easily removed from the cleaning device for purposes of washing or replacement.

Another object of the invention is to provide a Venetian blind cleaner which is simple in construction, pleasing in appearance and which may be conveniently manipulated.

An additional object of the invention is to provide a Venetian blind cleaner which will readily lend itself to economical manufacture and which is otherwise well adapted for the purpose for which it is intended.

With the above more important objects in view, and such other objects as may become apparent as this specification proceeds, the invention consists essentially of the arrangement and construction of parts as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the invention,

Figure 2 is a top plan view thereof, showing the same in use,

Figure 3 is a cross sectional view of the invention per se, taken substantially in the plane of the line 3—3 in Figure 2 with the cleaning pads removed,

Figure 4 is a cross sectional view, taken substantially in the plane of the line 4—4 in Figure 1, and

Figure 5 is a fragmentary perspective view showing a modified embodiment of the invention.

Like characters of reference are used to designate like parts in the specification and throughout the several views.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings in detail, more particularly to Figures 1–4, inclusively, the invention consists of a Venetian blind cleaning device designated generally by the reference character 10, the same embodying in its construction a pair of arms 11 provided at one end thereof with normally parallel, substantially flat end portions 12.

The arms 11 are formed medially of their length with complementary pairs of ears 13, while the remaining end portions of the arms

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constitute a pair of coacting, outwardly divergent handles 14, configurated substantially as shown.

The arms 11 are pivotally connected together by the mid-portion 15 of a substantially S-shaped rod 16 which extends through the ears 13, as is best illustrated in Figure 4. A suitable coil spring 17 is positioned on the mid-portion 15 of the rod 16, the end portions 18 of this spring bearing against the inner surfaces of the handles 14, whereby the flattened portions 12 of the arms are normally urged together, as will be clearly apparent.

Each of the flattened arm portions 12 is covered by a sheath-like cleaning pad 19, the outer extremities of these pads being closed, so that the pad may be simply "slipped over" the portions 12 to the proper extent. The pads 19 are formed from fabric, plush, or similar material, and the configuration thereof will be clearly apparent from the accompanying drawings.

Means are provided for removably retaining the pads 19 in position, said means comprising a pair of keeper dogs 20, each provided medially of its length with a pair of ears 21 whereby it may be pivotally mounted on one of the outer, transversely extending portions 22 of oppositely directed V-shaped extensions of the aforementioned rod 16.

One end portion of each of the dogs 20 provides what may be referred to as a finger-piece 23, this being disposed adjacent the handles 14. The remaining end portions of the dogs are downturned and terminate in sharp, preferably toothed edges 24 which are adapted for frictionally engaging the inner end portions of the aforementioned pads 19.

Suitable coiled springs 25, similar to the aforementioned spring 17, are positioned on the rod portions 22, whereby the edges 24 are urged into engagement with the pads.

Accordingly, when the invention is placed in use, the device will assume the form of a pair of tongs, as it were, and after the pads 19 have been positioned on the arm portions 12, the pads may be applied to the relatively opposite surfaces of the Venetian blind slats 26, as indicated in Figure 2.

The cleaning or dusting action is facilitated by simply sliding the entire device longitudinally along the blind slat and the device may be applied successively to the various slats composing the blind by simply manipulating the handles 14, as will be quite apparent.

After the pads 19 have become soiled, the same may be readily removed from the device for purposes of cleaning or replacement by simply de-

pressing the finger-pieces **23** toward the handles **14**, so as to disengage the pointed edges **24** from the pads.

Finally, with respect to the modified embodiment of the invention illustrated in the accompanying Figure 5, this embodiment may, if desired, be employed in association with the cleaning device **10**.

In Figure 5, **50** represents one of the arm portions **12**, the same being provided at one longitudinal edge adjacent the outer end thereof with a pair of spaced, laterally projecting lugs **51**.

The aforementioned cleaning pad **19** is, in this instance, substituted by a cleaning pad **52** which simply consists of a sheet of suitable material enveloping the arm portion **50** and provided with suitable extensions or projections **53** to receive the lugs **51**.

The pad **52** is, of course, applied laterally rather than longitudinally to the arm portion **50**, and the adjacent free edges of the pad are provided with rows of apertures **54** through which a suitable lace or cord **55** may be threaded for the purpose of separably securing the edges together.

When this embodiment of the invention is placed in use, the space **56** existing between the lugs **51** will enable the pad portions **53** to "straddle" the vertically extending cords whereby the blind slats are usually connected together, and in this manner, the entire area of the blind slats will be subjected to the cleaning operation without interference such as would be otherwise caused by the presence of the connecting cords.

It is believed that the advantages and use of the invention will be clearly apparent from the foregoing disclosure, and accordingly, further description thereof at this point is deemed unnecessary.

While in the foregoing there has been shown and described the preferred embodiment of this invention, it is to be understood that minor changes in the details of construction, combination and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A Venetian blind cleaning apparatus comprising a pair of flat arms, angled handles on said arms, laterally extending complementary ears on said handles, a pivot element inserted through said ears, a spring coiled about said pivot and engaging said handles for biasing said arms in clamping engagement, sheath-like cleaning pads positioned on said arms and resiliently actuated keeper prongs positioned on said arms and pivoted on the pivot element for releasably retaining said pads on the arms.

2. Combination of claim 1; wherein said keeper prongs include a pair of finger bars, apertured ears on said bars secured to said pivot element, lateral prongs disposed on one end of the bars, resilient means interposed between said finger bars and the handles for biasing said prongs relative to said arms.

3. A Venetian blind cleaner comprising a pair of flat arms, cooperative handles diverging outwardly from one end of said arms, laterally extending complementary ears on said handles, a pivot element, said ears being journaled on the pivot element, oppositely directed U-shaped extensions on the opposite ends of the pivot element and forming prolongations thereof, the base portions of said U-shaped extensions being in parallelism with the pivot element, resiliently actuated keeper prongs mounted on the said base portions of the extensions and normally engaged on the arms, and tubular fabric pads positioned on said arms and releasably retained thereon by the keeper prongs.

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