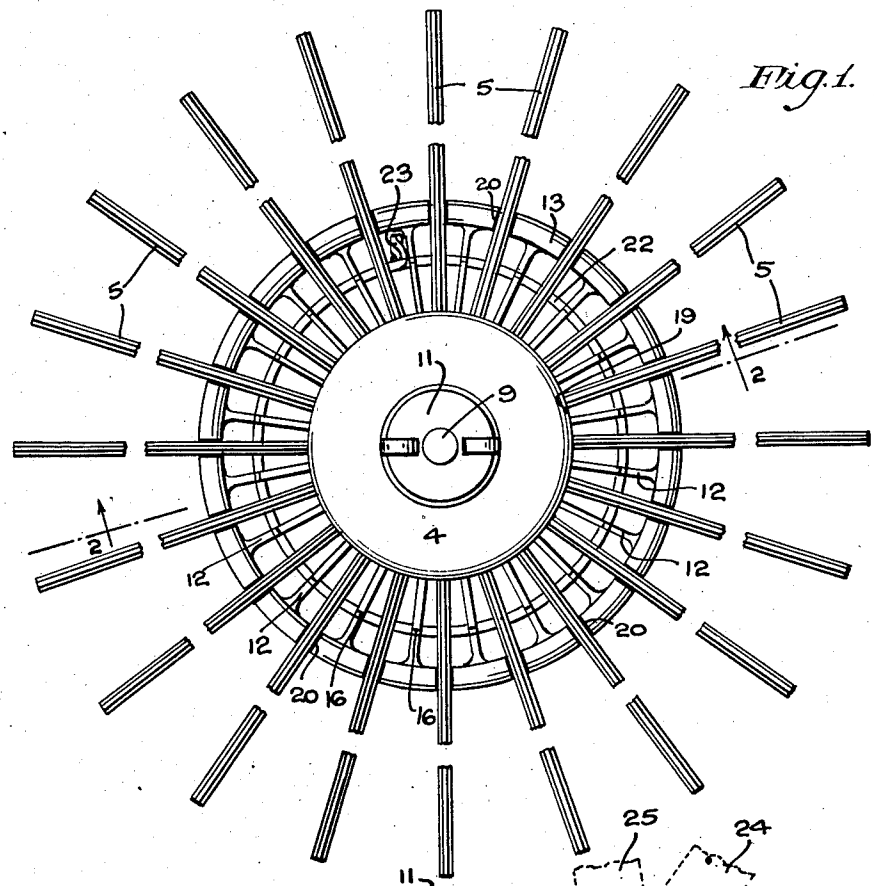
Sept. 18, 1945. P. BERMAN 2,384,878

COLLAPSIBLE CLOTHES DRIER

Filed June 1, 1944

Fig. 1.



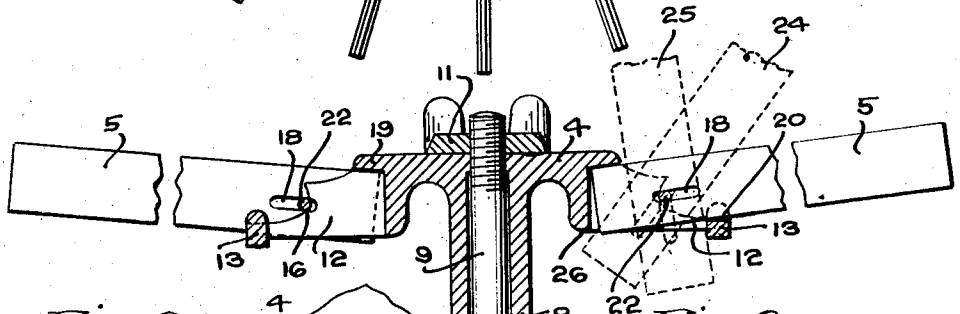
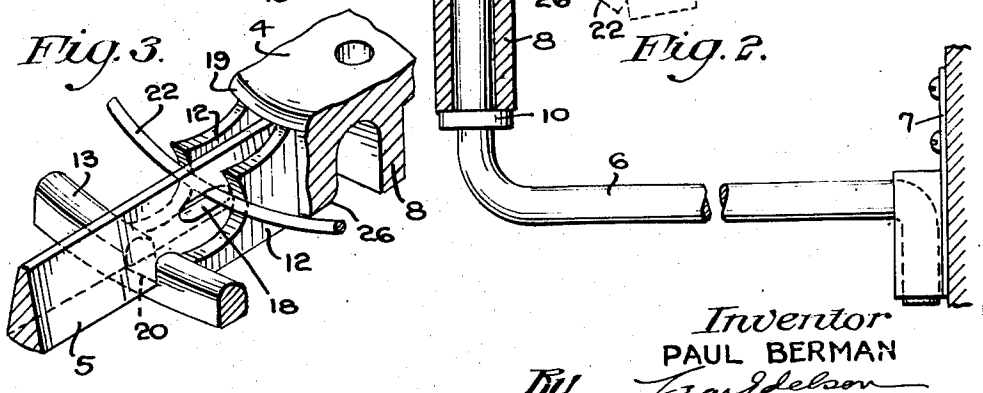


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



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COLLAPSIBLE CLOTHES DRIER

Paul Berman, Philadelphia, Pa.

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4 Claims. (Cl. 211—100)

This invention relates generally to clothes drying frames and more particularly to improvements in the construction of a type of clothes drying frame having a plurality of radially extending collapsible drying arms.

Among the objects of the present invention is the provision of a type of clothes drying frame having a plurality of radially extending drying arms which may quickly and easily be collapsed or expanded to either occupy a minimum of storage space or to provide a maximum length of effective clothes drying arms. It is a further object of this invention to provide means which will retain the drying arms in collapsed position against accidental displacement thereof and which will permit quick and easy disposition of selected arms in their expanded clothes drying position.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the description of the accompanying drawing in which:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the clothes drying frame of my invention in expanded position;

Figure 2 is a section of the clothes drying frame taken on line 2—2 of Figure 1 and showing the clothes drying frame mounted upon a suitable bracket; and

Figure 3 is a detail view in perspective of a section of the clothes drying frame showing the means for mounting the drying arms.

Referring to the drawing, Figure 2, the clothes drying frame of my invention comprises generally a centrally disposed main supporting base member or hub 4, drying arms 5 mounted on the hub 4 and a supporting member 6 by means of which the frame may be mounted upon any suitable wall bracket, such as that designated by the reference numeral 7.

The generally circular shaped base member 4, preferably of metal, has a hollow tubular depending sleeve 8 through which is adapted to extend a vertical post 9 which is an extension of the supporting member 6. Formed on the post 9 is a stop 10 upon which the hub 4 rests, being securely held in this position by a wing-nut 11 threaded on the post 9. If desired, the supporting member 6 may be reversed from that as shown for insertion downwardly through the bore of the tubular sleeve 8 in order to provide an overhead support for the member 4, in which case the stop 10 would engage the upper surface of the member 4 and the wing-nut 11 the lower end of the tubular sleeve 8. An annular ring 13 and a plurality of circumferentially spaced outwardly extending radial arms 12 are preferably formed as integral parts of the base member 4, the annular ring 13 interconnecting the outer ends of the arms 12. As most clearly appears in Figures 2 and 3, the arms 12 are each notched, as at 16, to provide a plurality of circumferentially alined shoulders or seats for a purpose which will presently appear. Formed integrally with the base member 4 at the top thereof is a circumferential flange 19 which extends outwardly above the inner ends of the arms 12 and constitutes an abutment for the inner ends of the drying members 5.

Individual clothes-supporting drying members 5, each with an elongated slot 18 adjacent the inner end thereof, are disposed between each pair of the arms 12, these members 5, which are tapered in cross-section to cooperate specially with the usual type of clothes pin, being of any desired length and of any suitable material, such as wood. Each of these members 5, which rests with its bottom edge in a seat 20 formed in the ring 13 (see Figure 3), is held in place by means of a retaining wire 22 which extends commonly through the slots 18 of the several arms 5, the retaining wire 22 being held securely in position within the circumferentially alined seats 16 by drawing the wire tautly thereabout and twisting the ends together, as at 23. It will be noted that when the arm 5 is in full line position (see Figure 2), the upper edge of its inner end is engaged beneath the overhanging flange or ledge 19 while the lower edge thereof rests upon the outer supporting ring 13, the retaining wire 22 being then in engagement with the inner end of the elongated slots 18 of the drying arms 5.

When these members 5 are in the positions shown in full lines, the clothes drying frame is in its expanded position providing a maximum length of effective clothes drying arms. To collapse the frame, each arm 5 is pivotally raised about the wire 22 from the full line substantially horizontal position to the dotted line position 25 shown in Figure 2, the arm 5 at the same time being then shifted so that the wire pivot 22 engages the outer end of the slot 18. It will be seen that in this position 25, the arm is tilted past its dead center vertical position and that the top edge of the slotted end of the arm rests against the ledge 19 while the bottom edge of the arm rests against the inner face of the ring 13. The arms 5 will remain in the dotted line position 25 due to the fact that they are beyond dead center and in this position the clothes frame is collapsed and will occupy a minimum of storage space.

In the handling of the collapsed storage frame, if the arms 5 should be accidentally displaced

from the dotted line position 25, it will be noted that the arms 5 will not fall to the full line position, but will be stopped in an intermediate position, as shown by the dotted line position 24, with one edge of the arms 5 resting against the underside 26 of the base member 4. To move any selected arm 5 from the dotted line positions 25 or 24 to the full line position, it is only necessary to shift that arm lengthwise of the pivot wire 22 for the length of the slot 18, thereby permitting the end of the arm to be disengaged from the underside 26 of the base member 4, with the result that the arm 5, being free to pivot on the wire 22, then engages the ledge 19 and the ring 13 for maintenance in fully extended substantially horizontal position. It will be noted that means have thus been provided whereby the arms are retained in collapsed position against accidental displacement and whereby any arm may be selectively moved from a collapsed inoperative position to a fully extended operative position.

It will be understood, of course, that the present invention is susceptible of various changes and modifications which may be made from time to time without departing from the general principles or real spirit thereof, and it is accordingly intended to claim the same broadly, as well as specifically, as indicated by the appended claims.

What is claimed as new and useful is:

1. In a collapsible clothes drying frame, in combination, a centrally disposed main supporting member having an annular flange from which project a plurality of circumferentially spaced radially extending wing-like elements, an annular member extending circumferentially about and interconnecting the outer extremities of said elements, an annular ledge on said flange overlying the inner extremities of said elements, a plurality of radially extending clothes supporting arms each disposed between a pair of said elements with its inner end pivotally secured against displacement therefrom, the arrangement being such that opposite edges of each arm are respectively engageable at points spaced to either side of the pivot point with the upper face of said annular member and with the lower face of said annular ledge to support the arm in a substantially horizontal position, and means providing for longitudinal shifting of each clothes supporting arm relative to its pivot point whereby said arm may be supported in generally upright position with one edge thereof in engagement with the lower edge of said depending flange.

2. In a collapsible clothes drying frame, in combination, a main supporting member having a depending annular flange from which project a plurality of circumferentially spaced radial elements, each pair of adjacent elements defining a space therebetween, a member extending circumferentially about and interconnecting the outer extremities of said radial elements, an annular ledge on said flange overlying the inner portions of said elements, and a plurality of radially extending clothes supporting arms each having an elongated slot adjacent the inner end thereof, each arm being disposed with the slotted end thereof positioned between a pair of adjacent elements aforesaid, and pivot means for said arms projecting commonly through the slots thereof and supported by said radial elements, the arrangement being such that the said arms may be selectively shifted relatively to and rotated about their respective pivots to cause any selected arm to assume either a horizontal position in which opposite edges thereof, at points spaced to either side of the pivot, respectively engage the connecting member at the outer extremities of said radial elements and the overlying ledge at the inner extremities thereof or a generally upright position in which one edge thereof engages the lower edge of said depending flange.

3. In a collapsible clothes drying frame, in combination, a centrally disposed main supporting member having a plurality of circumferentially spaced radially extending wing-like elements, an annular member extending circumferentially about the outer extremities of said elements, an annular ledge on said supporting member overlying the inner extremities of said elements, a plurality of radially extending clothes supporting arms each disposed between adjacent pairs of said wing-like elements, each of said arms having an elongated slot adjacent the inner end thereof, and a common retainer for said arms consisting of a wire bail extending circumferentially through the slots of said arms and supported by said wing-like elements at points spaced between said annular member and annular ledge, said elongated slot in each arm being operative in association with said retainer to prevent complete disengagement of the arm from said ledge when said arm is radially extended to rest upon said annular member.

4. In a collapsible clothes drying frame, in combination, a centrally disposed main supporting member having a plurality of circumferentially spaced radially extending wing-like elements, an annular member extending circumferentially about the outer extremities of said elements, an annular ledge on said supporting member overlying the inner extremities of said elements, a plurality of radially extending clothes supporting arms each disposed between adjacent pairs of said wing-like elements, each of said arms having an elongated slot adjacent the inner end thereof, and a common retainer for said arms consisting of a wire bail extending circumferentially through the slots of said arms and supported by said wing-like elements at points spaced between said annular member and annular ledge, the arrangement being such that opposite edges of each arm are respectively engageable at points spaced to either side of the pivot point with the upper face of said annular member and with the lower face of said annular ledge to limit movement about its pivot in one direction and with the inner face of said annular member and with the outer edge of said annular ledge to limit movement about its pivot in the opposite direction, each of said arms being further characterized in that the elongated slot thereof is of such length and so located relatively to its retainer as to effectually preclude disengagement of the arm from the lower face of the annular ledge when the arm is rotated into engagement with the upper face of the annular ledge.

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