Oct. 18, 1927. 1,645,691

J. E. DAVIS

PROTECTIVE HOUSING FOR ATTACHMENT TO FLAGPOLES

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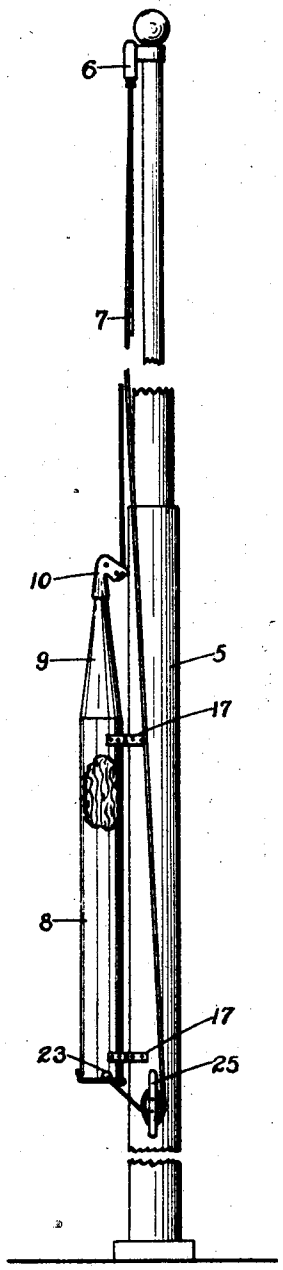


Fig. 1.

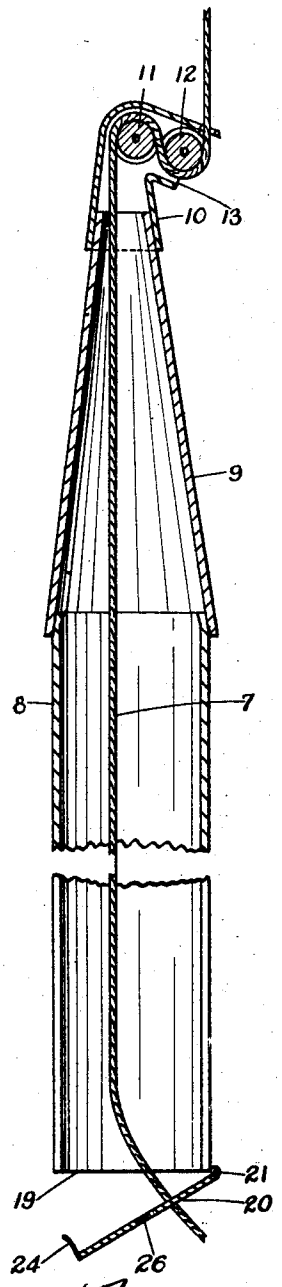


Fig. 3.

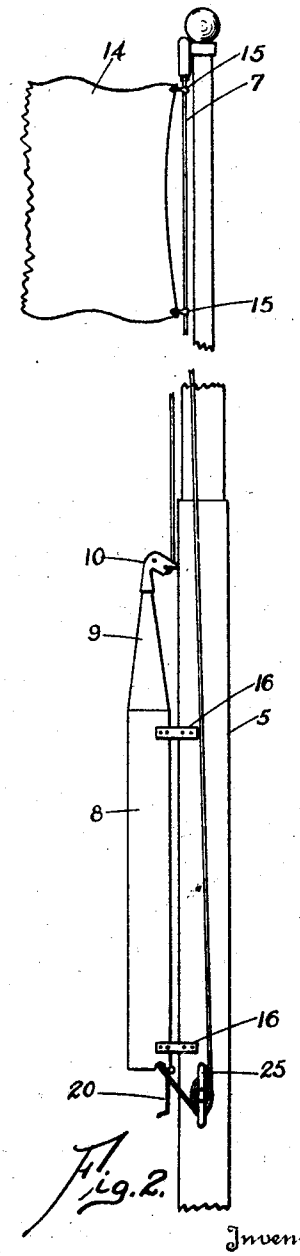


Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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PROTECTIVE HOUSING FOR ATTACHMENT TO FLAGPOLES.

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This invention relates to a protective casing for flags and is adapted to be permanently secured to a flag pole, so that a flag may be housed therein without necessitating removal of the flag from its halyard.

An object of my invention is to provide a protective casing for flags, into and from which a flag may be furled and unfurled with a minimum of effort.

Another object is to provide a device of this kind wherein the halyard extends through opposite open ends of the casing, but which will preclude the entry of rain, dust, and other derogatory elements into the casing, so that the flag may keep dry and clean.

Another object is to provide a structure for the purposes stated, wherein there is provided ample ventilation, so that the flag may not become moldy when housed therein in a damp condition.

Another object is to provide a device of this kind which requires a minimum of effort in raising, mooring and housing a flag.

These and other objects are retained by the means described herein and disclosed in the accompanying drawings, in which Fig. 1 is an elevational view of a flag staff, having associated therewith a device of my invention and showing a flag housed within the device in its closed position, parts being broken away.

Figure 2 is a view similar to Figure 1, showing the device of my invention in an open position with a flag flown from the staff.

Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view of the device of my invention, showing the halyard extending therefrom. A flag staff 5 has secured at the top thereof a suitable pulley 6, over which the halyard 7 is passed. The halyard 7 takes the form of an endless rope or cable, which extends downwardly from pulley 6 to a conveniently accessible height on the flag staff, where it again extends vertically through the center of a preferably cylindrical housing 8 having an upwardly tapered section 9 and through a closing housing 10, in which a pair of pulley sheaves 11 and 12 are rotatably mounted. The circumference of the pulley 11 is substantially in horizontal alignment with the center axis of the casing 8, and is disposed at substantially the highest point of the closing member 10. The pulley 11 is pivoted in an outwardly and downwardly sloping extension 13 of closing member 10, and said pulley finds its pivotal mounting somewhat at a slightly lower elevation. A flag 14 is secured to the halyard 7 in any suitable manner, such as by using snap hooks 15. Casing 8 carries suitable brackets 16, which may be secured to the flag staff 5 by means of bolts of screws 17. At the lower opening 19 of casing 8 a perforated cover member 20 is hingedly mounted as at 21 thereto, and the side wall of said casing adjacent the opening 19 is apertured as at 23, to permit passage of halyard 7 into the casing when the member 20 is closed. Any suitable fastening means may be employed for holding the cover 20 in its closed position. As herein shown a resilient clamp 24 serves this purpose. A suitable winding cleat 25 may be mounted on the flag staff for securing the rope when the flag is being flown from the staff.

The operation of the device is as follows: The endless halyard or hoisting means 7 is initially passed over pulley 6 and through casing 8, and is then passed over the top of pulley 11 in the top thereof, whereupon it is passed below pulley 12, from whence it passes out of the extension 13 at the top of the casing and returns to the pulley. A flag 14 is then secured to halyard 7 at any convenient place in said halyard, and may be raised to the top of the staff by pulling downwardly on that portion of the halyard which passes through the casing 8. When a flag reaches the top of the staff, the halyard 7 may be wound about winding cleat 25.

When it is desired to lower the flag, the halyard 7 is removed from winding cleat 25 and that portion of the halyard disposed exteriorly of the casing is pulled downwardly until the flag passes beneath the lower level of the opening 19 in the casing. A continued downward movement of the halyard will then cause the flag to raise interiorly of the casing 8 and to effect a loose and natural furling of the flag within said casing. Cover 20 is then closed, at which time the halyard 7 extends through the aperture 23 in the casing adjacent said cover. If desired a suitable locking means may be employed for preventing tampering with the flag by unauthorized persons. The perforations 26 in the cover permit a free circulation of air therethrough and through the casing 8 and out through the open end of extension 13. It should be noted that the downwardly in-

clined top face of extension 13 will prevent the entry of rain and dew into the casing, so that the flag is amply protected against moisture and also against foreign matter in suspension in the air. I do not intend to limit myself to the exact form of the structure shown and described herein, as it is adaptable to modification within the purview of this invention and within the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. The combination of a flag staff having a pulley at its top, a hollow casing on the staff, and having openings at its top and bottom, an endless halyard extending through the hollow casing and about the pulley, a means for precluding entry of descending foreign matter at the top opening of the casing, and a flag on the halyard adapted to be moved into and out of the casing through the lower opening, the casing being arranged to preclude entry of the flag through the upper opening therein.

2. In a device of the class described, the combination of a hollow casing having a restricted upper opening and unrestricted lower opening therein, pulley means in the casing adjacent the restricted opening, a halyard extending through the casing to the pulley means therein, and a flag carried by the halyard and adapted to be moved into and out of the casing through the lower unrestricted opening.

3. In a device of the class described the combination of a hollow casing having a restricted top opening, an unrestricted bottom opening, a hollow closure element communicating with the restricted opening at the top of the casing and having a downwardly and outwardly extending restricted passage therethrough, pulleys rotatably mounted laterally of one another within the restricted passage in said closure member, and a halyard extending through the unrestricted opening in the bottom of the casing and about the pulleys in the closure member and through the restricted passage in said closure member.

4. The combination of a flag, a halyard for the flag, a hollow casing for the flag, said halyard being movable longitudinally of the hollow interior of the casing, said casing having a restricted opening at the top permitting passage of the halyard but precluding movement of the flag through said opening said opening being arranged to preclude entry of descending foreign matter, said casing being provided at its lower end with an opening through which the flag may be drawn into the casing upon movement of the halyard.

5. A protective casing adapted for mounting on a flag staff or the like and comprising a hollow casing section, a fixed member at the top of the casing having a downwardly and outwardly extending restricted passage therein, a halyard extending through the hollow interior of the casing and through the restricted passage, a flag on the halyard and means in the restricted passage for guiding the halyard therethrough and precluding movement of the flag into and out of the casing by way of the restricted passage at the top of said casing, the bottom of the casing being open to provide for entry and exit of the flag therethrough upon movement of the halyard.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name this first day of May, 1926.

JOHN E. DAVIS.