

April 5, 1932.

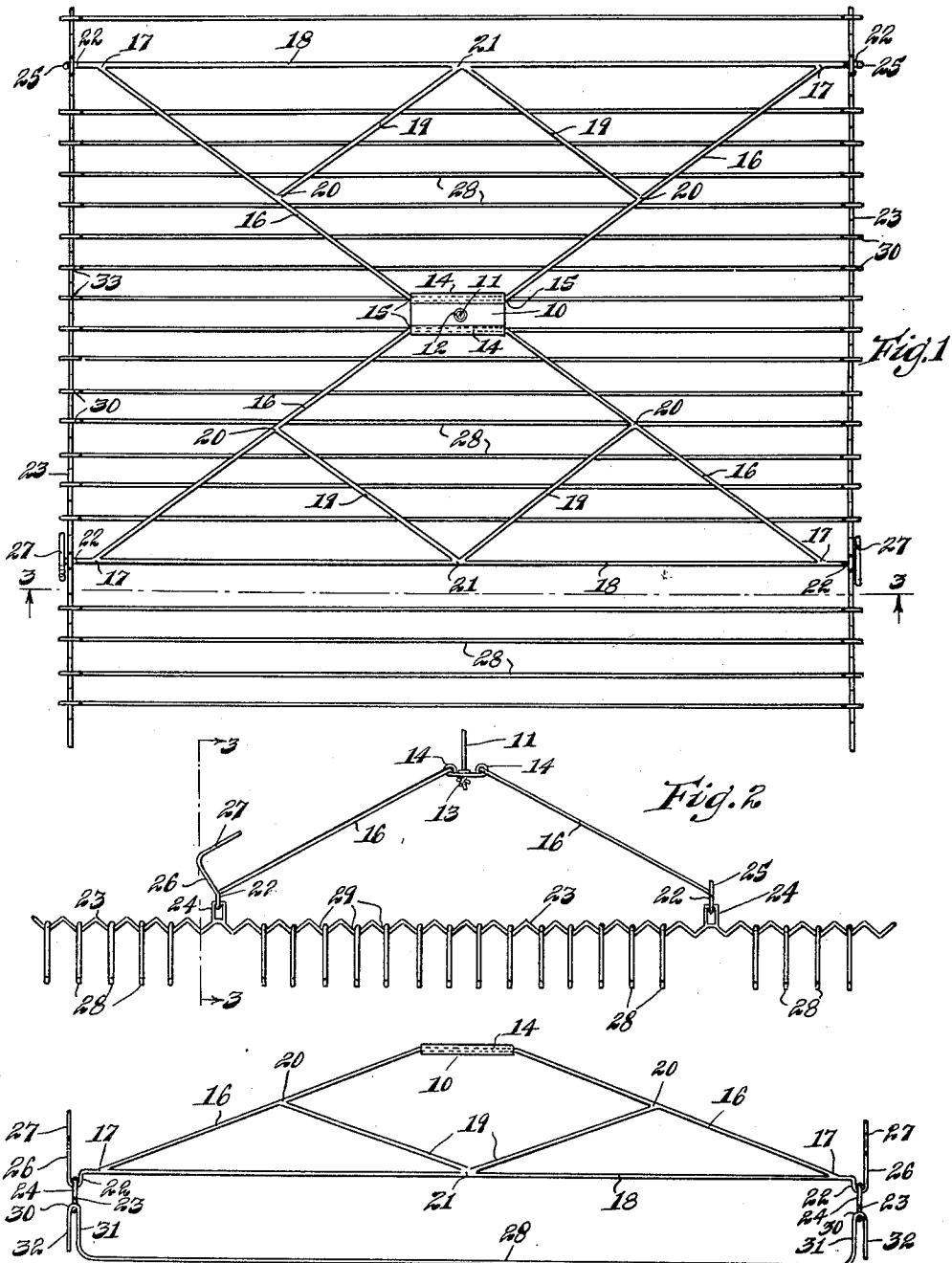
J. VILLEMURE

1,852,631

## CLOTHESRACK

Filed June 18, 1930

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



*Witnesses:*

*C. E. Wessels  
F. C. Appleton*

Joseph Villenure,  
By Joshua R. Droke,  
his Attorney.

April 5, 1932.

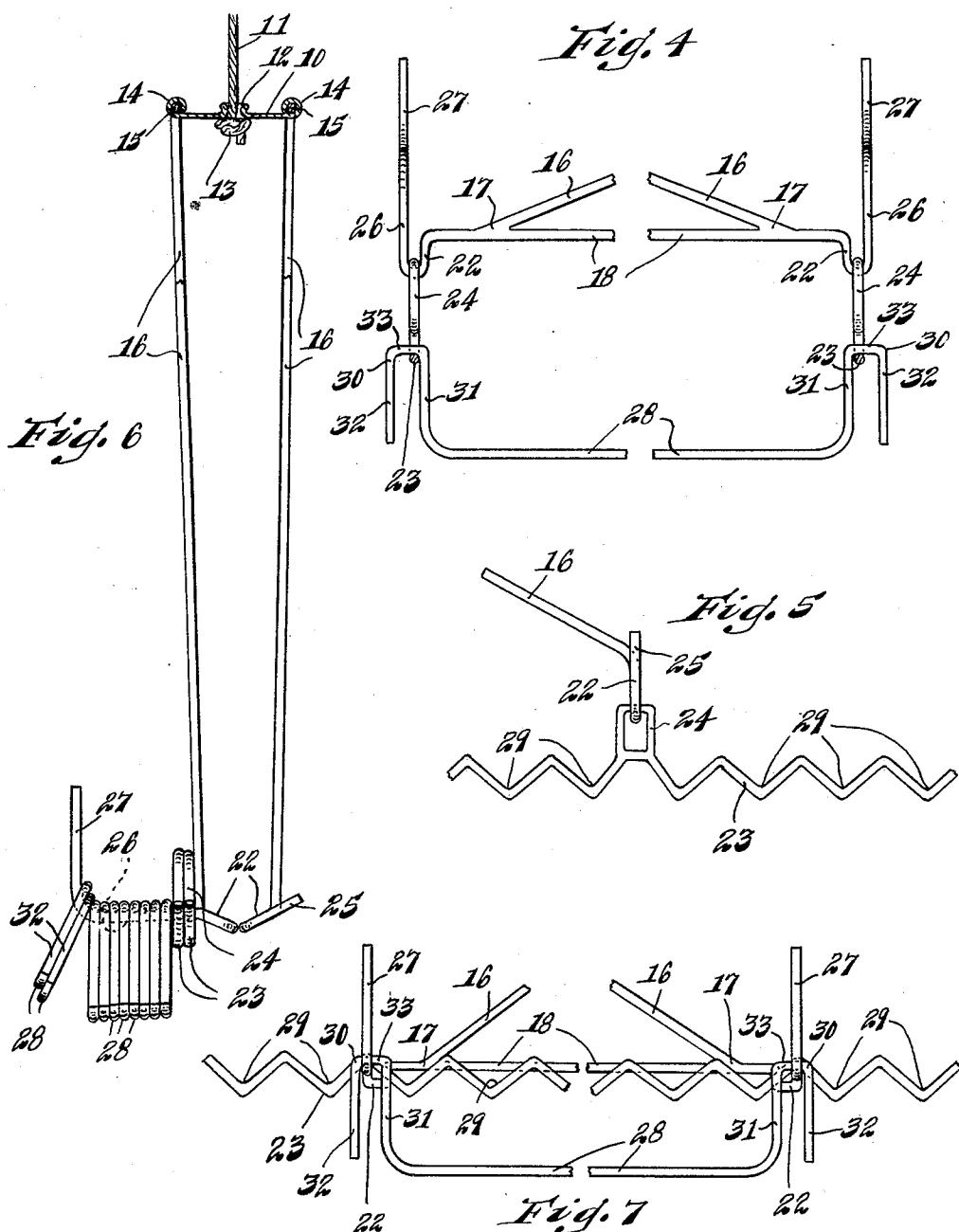
J. VILLEMURE

1,852,631

## CLOTHESRACK

Filed June 18, 1930

2 Sheets-Sheet 2



*Witnesses:*

L. E. Weasels  
F. C. Appleton

Inventor:  
Joseph Villemure,  
By Joshua R. Folke,  
his Attorney.

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JOSEPH VILLEMURE, OF NEWBERRY, MICHIGAN

## CLOTHES RACK

Application filed June 13, 1930. Serial No. 461,883.

This invention relates to clothes racks, and more particularly to devices of that kind for hanging laundered clothing and other articles for drying the same.

5 The invention has for its principal objects to produce a simple and inexpensive structure of a collapsible or knockdown character, which is light in weight, yet strong, durable and practical for the purposes intended, and 10 to attain certain other advantages which will more fully appear in the following description.

The invention consists in the general arrangement and in the novel structural features and parts and combinations and arrangements of parts as hereinafter described and pointed out with particularity in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating 20 a practical adaptation of the invention,—

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of the device in condition for use, one end portion of the frame being broken away;

Fig. 2 is an end view;

25 Fig. 3 is a section on the lines 3—3 of Figs. 1 and 2;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary view, on an enlarged scale, illustrating details of the cooperating hooked end portions of the main supporting 30 frame and detachable hanger members;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary view illustrating further details of the main supporting frame portion of the device;

Fig. 6 is a view, partly in section and partly in end elevation, showing the hanger members of the main supporting frame in folded condition and the detachable side members of the supporting frame together with the detachable article hangers supported for storage on the hooked end portions of the main frame hanger members; and

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary side elevation of the parts shown in Fig. 6.

Referring now to the drawings, the numeral 10 designates the central supporting member by which the device, in use, is suspended from the ceiling of a room or other support by a rope 11. As shown, the member 10 comprises a plate or sheet metal body 50 having a central aperture 12 for the attach-

ment of the rope 11, the metal surrounding said opening being preferably rolled so as to protect the rope from being cut, it being only necessary to form a knot 13 at the end of the rope for supporting the plate 10. However, a suitable swivel member or device (not shown) may be obviously applied to the opening 12 for the attachment and accommodation of the rope 11, if desired. The opposite marginal portions 14 of the supporting plate 10 are preferably rolled, as shown more clearly in Figs. 2 and 6 of the drawings, in which the middle portions 15 of substantially V-shaped folding frame members 16 are hingedly mounted. The outer end portions 17 of the frame members 16 are attached to the cross members 18 of the frame, by the process of electrical or other method of welding, or any other suitable or approved means of attachment. The frame members 16 and 18 are further braced by the diagonal stays 19 which are secured to said members 16, as at 20, and to the members 18, as at 21, preferably by a welding process, or in a manner similar to that in which the jointures 17 between the members 16 and 18 are effected.

The frame members 18 are provided at their opposite ends with looped portions 22 affording hooks for supporting detachable frame members 23, said frame members 23, as well as the aforesaid frame members 16, 18 and 19, being preferably composed of wire which is galvanized or otherwise coated, or obviously composed of an alloy which is resistant to corrosion. As shown, loops or eye extensions 24 are provided on the frame members 23, they being formed either integrally therewith or made separately and welded thereto, for the reception of the hooked end portions 22 of the foldable supporting frame members, whereby said detachable members 23 are supported and the supporting frames 16 are held in opened condition.

Preferably, the end portions 25 of the hooks 22 of one of the foldable supporting frame members 16 are extended only sufficiently to retain the loop or eye extension 24 in place, as shown more clearly in Figs. 2 and 5 of the drawings, but the end portions of the other

folding frame 16 are extended, first as at 26, substantially at right angles outwardly from the general flat plane of the frame, and then rebent upwardly, as at 27, substantially at 5 right angles to said portion 26, thereby affording hooks of considerable dimensions for supporting the frame members 23, and detachable article hanger members 28 to be now described, in the collapsed or knocked down 10 condition of the device for storage or conveniently packaging the device for shipping.

The detachable frame members or bars 23 are provided with a series of seating portions 29 throughout their length, said seating portions 15 being formed by uniformly crimping the bars, thereby producing substantially V-shaped recesses or notches for the reception of the hooked end portions 30 of the article hanger bars 28, said hooked end portions 30 being formed by first bending the end portions of the members 28 perpendicularly to the main body portion, at 31, and then rebending the extreme end portions 32 in spaced 20 parallel relation to said portions 31. It is further preferable to form the intermediate portions 33 of the hooks 30 square with respect to the portions 31 and 32 so that said hooks are substantially rectangular, as shown 25 more clearly in Figs. 4 and 7 of the drawings.

30 By this provision, when the article hanger members 28 are supported with their hooked portions 30 engaged with the respective bars 23, as shown in Fig. 3 and more clearly in Fig. 4, the portions 31 of said hooks 30 are 35 closely contiguous to the members 23, in the opened working condition of the device, but when the device is knocked down, the supporting frame members 16 are folded in collapsed condition, as shown in Fig. 6, in which 40 condition the crimped frame bars 23 are supported on the hooked extensions 26 of one of the frame members 16, as shown in Fig. 7. In this condition of the supporting frame members 16 the hooked portions 30 of the 45 article hanger members 28 are engaged over the said hooked portions 26 of the frame member 16, the rebent end portions 32 of said members 28 being closely contiguous to said portions 26. It will thus be seen that 50 the relative distance between the portions 31 and 32 of the hooks 30 of said members 28 adapt the members 28 for these two particular ways of supporting them.

In using the device the supporting frame 55 members 16 are opened and the transverse members 23 are hung thereon with their loops or eye extensions 24 engaged with the respective hooks 22 of said frame members 16. The clothing or other articles to be hung from 60 the device for drying or other purposes are placed upon the individual rods or members 28 and said members are then mounted supportingly with their hooked end portions engaged in the corresponding notches or seating portions 29 of said transverse members or

bars 23, using as many of said rods or members 28 as may be necessary and placing them in properly spaced parallel relation to each other to balance the device which is suspended centrally from the cord or rope 11. In 70 practice, the device may be suspended from any suitable support but preferably by carrying the cord or rope 11 over a pulley near the ceiling and tying or otherwise adjustably fastening said cord or rope to a hook or cleat 75 located conveniently on the side wall of a room whereby the rack may be raised and lowered at will. In this way the rack may be let down into convenient position for placing the articles thereon and removing them 80 therefrom, and lifted close to the ceiling, at will, where it is out of the way and in the region of greater heat when the device is used as a drying rack.

Obviously, the structure admits of considerable modification in the details of its parts and their relative arrangements without in the least departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the appended claims. The invention, therefore, is not 90 limited to the specific construction and arrangement shown in the accompanying drawings.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters 95 Patent is:

1. A device of the character described, comprising a collapsibly foldable supporting frame, transverse supporting members detachably mounted on opposite end portions 100 of said frame in its operative open condition, and longitudinal article hanger members detachably mounted at their opposite ends on said transverse supporting members.

2. A device of the character described, comprising a collapsibly foldable supporting frame, transverse supporting members mounted detachably at the opposite ends of said supporting frame in its operative open condition, said transverse members by their means of attachment to said foldable supporting frame releasably holding the latter in opened condition, and longitudinal article hanger members detachably mounted at their opposite ends on said transverse supporting 110 members, the article hanger engaging portions of said transverse supporting members being arranged to maintain the mounted article hanger members thereon in variably spaced relation to each other.

3. In a device of the character described, a collapsibly foldable supporting frame comprising a central supporting member and an oppositely disposed pair of frames hinged- 125 ly mounted on said central supporting member, transverse supporting members detachably mounted on the opposite end portions of said hinged frame members in the open condition of the frame, said transverse members by their means of attachment holding said 130

hinged frame members in their opened relation, a plurality of longitudinal article hanger members detachably secured on said transverse supporting members, and means on said 5 collapsibly foldable supporting frame for storing thereon in its collapsed condition the respective detachable transverse supporting members and longitudinal article hanger members.

10 4. In a device of the character described, a knockdown and collapsibly foldable structure comprising a pair of supporting frame members having a central hinged connection and hooked end portions, a pair of transverse 15 supporting members having a series of recessed seating portions and a pair of looped portions each interlockingly but detachably secured on the hooked end portions of said first mentioned supporting frame members, 20 and a multiplicity of article hanger rods having hooked end portions interlockingly but detachably secured on said seating portions of said transverse supporting members.

25 5. In a device of the character described, a knockdown and collapsibly foldable structure comprising a pair of supporting frame members having a central hinged connection and hooked end portions, a pair of transverse supporting members provided with a series of 30 recessed seating portions and having a pair of looped portions each detachably secured on the hooked end portions of said first mentioned supporting frame members, and a multiplicity of article hanger rods having hooked 35 end portions detachably secured in the seat portions of said transverse supporting members, one of said first mentioned hinged frame members having supplemental extensions of its hooked end portions whereby in the 40 knocked down condition of the device said transverse supporting members and said article hanger bars may be detachably supported thereon.

45 6. In a device of the character described, a collapsibly moldable supporting frame comprising a central member and a pair of substantially triangular wire frames hingedly attached to said central member, the base and inclined members of said frames being braced 50 by internal strut members, said frames having hooked end portions, transverse supporting members comprising crimped rods affording a series of notched seating portions, said rods being provided with looped lateral extensions detachably secured on the hooked end portions of said first mentioned hinged frames, and article hanger members comprising rods having rebent end portions detachably engaged in the respective notched seat 55 portions of said transverse supporting members.

60 7. In a device of the character described, a central supporting member having provision for swiveling it upon a support, a pair of triangular frames hingedly supported on

said central supporting member, said triangular frames having end extensions at their bases formed to provide hooks, transverse supporting members detachably engaged with the hooked end portions of said 70 triangular frames whereby to be supported thereon and constitute struts for holding said triangular frame members in opened relation to each other, said strut members having a series of recessed seating portions, and a 75 multiplicity of article hanger rods having substantially perpendicular rebent end portions providing hooks detachably engaged in the respective seat portions of said transverse supporting members whereby said article 80 hanger rods are detachably suspended from said transverse supporting members.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

JOSEPH VILLEMURE. 85

90

95

100

105

110

115

120

125

130