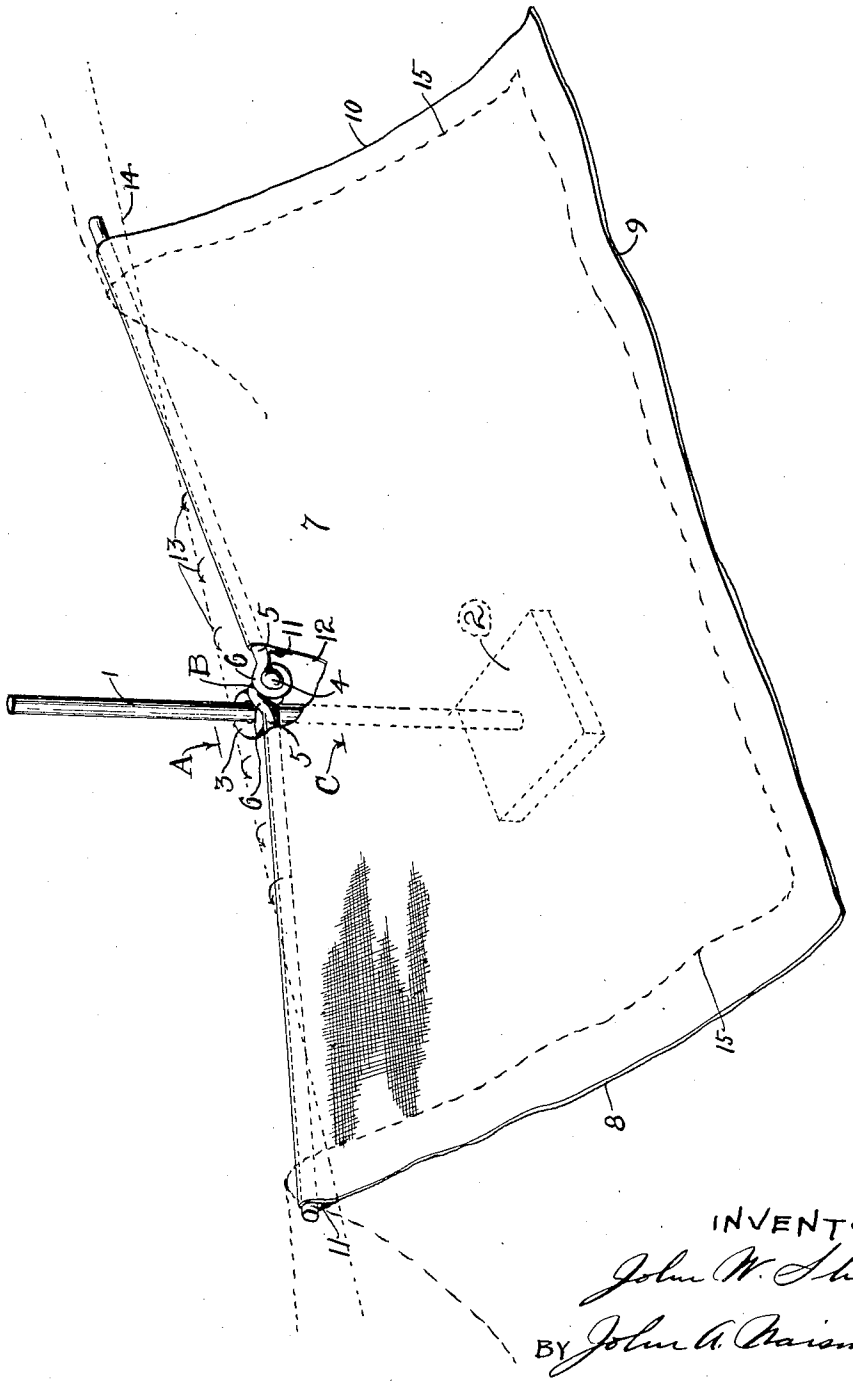
J. W. SHAW.

ARTIFICIAL DAM.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 27, 1919.

1,330,957.

Patented Feb. 17, 1920.



INVENTOR

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ARTIFICIAL DAM.

1,330,957. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 17, 1920.

Application filed June 27, 1919. Serial No. 307,048.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. SHAW, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Santa Clara county, in the State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Artificial Dams, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a device for use in forming a dam to control the flow of water used in irrigating land.

It is the object of my invention to provide a simple, substantial means for forming an artificial dam to control the flow of irrigating water, and one that may be adjusted to permit more or less water to flow thereover as desired, and that will be cheap to manufacture, that will fold into small space, and that may be quickly and easily positioned and adjusted.

In the drawing the figure is a perspective view of my improved artificial dam in an operative position.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, 1 indicates a standard supported in an upright position on base 2. At 3 is a collar carrying a pin 4, freely movable on standard 1 and held in any position thereon by frictional contact therewith when in an inclined position as shown. Upon pin 4 are pivotally mounted a pair of arms 5, each arm having an eye 6 formed upon its end to engage pin 4. At 7 is shown an oblong piece of canvas having three free edges 8, 9 and 10 and having its fourth edge formed into a pair of loops 11, a division of this edge being made as shown at 12 to permit the free movement of arms 5 on pin 4.

In use the device is positioned as shown with the outer ends of members 5 resting upon the sides of the opening to be dammed and with sufficient soil thrown upon its free edges 8—9 and 10 to prevent the passage of water thereby. The members above referred to may now be positioned at the point indicated at A thereby preventing the passage of water over the top of the dam, or they may be placed in any lower position as indicated at B to permit the passage of a small amount of water thereover as indicated by the small arrows 13. By dropping the members still lower as to point C a larger amount of water is permitted to pass over the dam. The water level in the main stream is indicated by the dotted line 14.

The result of this construction is that the exact quantity of water desired may be allowed to flow over the dam without danger of that quantity increasing as long as the main flow remains uniform, and without danger of destructive erosion and washes. This accurate control of the water flow is not possible where an earth dam is used since the erosive action of the water tends to rapidly enlarge the passage over an earth dam. If edges 8—9 and 10 are properly bedded in the soil as indicated at 15 there is no opportunity for undue erosion. The quantity of water flowing over the members 5 can be quickly and easily stopped, lessened or increased merely by sliding collar 3 upwardly or downwardly on standard 1 as desired. A dam of this type may be set and adjusted in but a fraction of the time required for forming a dam of earth and with much less labor.

It is understood of course that changes in form, construction, proportions and method of operation may be made within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. An artificial dam comprising a standard, a member adjustably mounted thereon, a pair of arms pivotally mounted on said adjustable member, and a sheet of flexible material supported by said arms.

2. An artificial dam comprising a standard, a member slidably mounted thereon and maintained in position thereon by frictional contact therewith, a pair of arms pivotally mounted on said adjustable member, and a sheet of flexible material supported by said arms.

3. An artificial dam comprising a standard, a laterally projecting pin having an eye formed thereon and slidably engaging said standard, a pair of arms, each arm having an eye formed on one end thereof engaging said pin, and a sheet of flexible material having a pair of loops formed on one edge thereof, each loop being adapted to engage one of said arms.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature this 21st day of June, 1919.

JOHN W. SHAW.