Oct. 3, 1950 E. L. KISER 2,524,352

CLOTHESPIN CONTAINER

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Fig. 1.

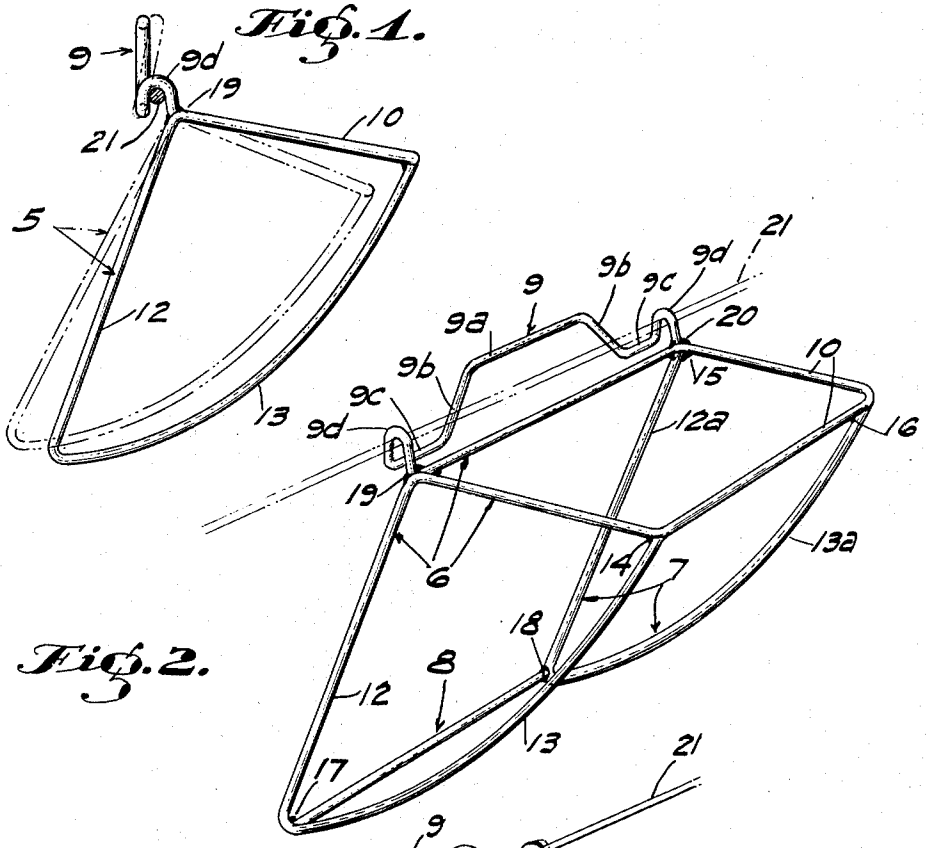


Fig. 2.

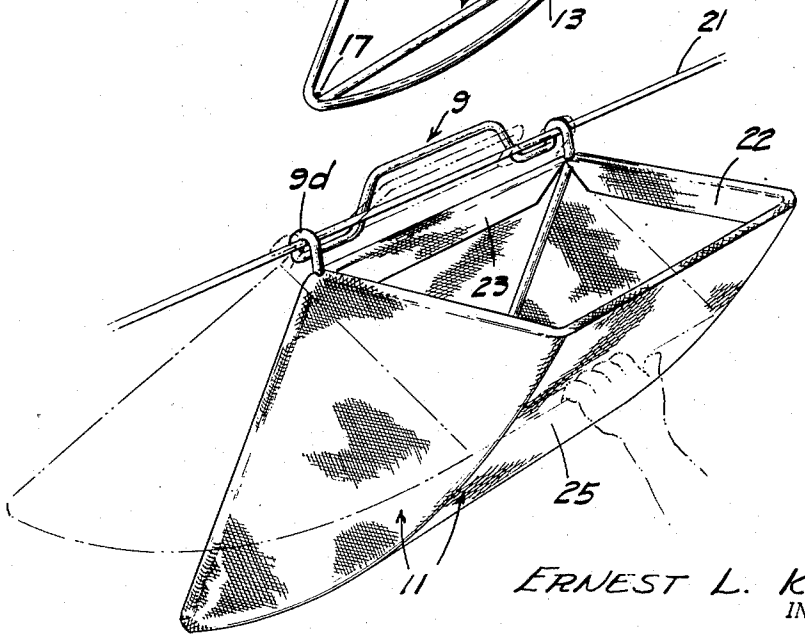


Fig. 3.

ERNEST L. KISER
INVENTOR.

BY

ATTORNEY

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CLOTHESPIN CONTAINER

Ernest L. Kiser, Los Angeles, Calif., assignor of one-half to Morris A. Kaiser, Los Angeles, Calif.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 150—1.8)

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This invention relates to a clothespin container.

More specifically speaking, the invention pertains to a clothespin container of the class wherein a basket-like frame is provided with a handle portion usable both as a means for manually carrying the device and for suspending it upon a clothesline in such a manner that it may be advanced along the latter as the laundress proceeds to move along the line while hanging thereon clothes or other laundried articles.

Although a considerable number of clothespin containers have been patented there still remains room for improving such devices particularly in regard to constructing them in a simpler, more compact manner. One defect in prior devices of this class has been in regard to making them unnecessarily long, this being done with a view to suspending them from the clothesline in such a manner as to bring the mouth of the container down to a sufficiently low point to enable the laundress to obtain convenient manual access to the clothespins.

An important object of the present invention is to overcome the last mentioned defect by providing means to suspend the clothespin container from the clothesline in an off-center manner, so that the weight of the clothespins contained therein will tend to swing the container into a position wherein its mouth will be somewhat lowered and at the same time will be inclined in such a manner as to make it more convenient to remove the clothespins therethrough.

Another object pertains to providing an improved skeletal wire frame for the fabric portion of a clothespin bag, provided with a handle portion which can be used to suspend the device from the clothesline, as well as for grasping by the hand of the user.

Other objects, advantages and features of invention will hereinafter appear.

Referring to the accompanying drawing, which illustrates a preferred embodiment of the invention,

Fig. 1 is an end elevation of the wire frame of the suspended device, showing in full lines the position thereof when the device is empty and in broken lines the position to which it gravitates when loaded with clothespins.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the complete wire frame of the device as suspended from a clothesline.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing in full lines the position of the complete device when suspended on a clothesline in the empty condition,

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dotted lines indicating the position to which the operator may swing the device to facilitate manual removal of the clothespins therefrom.

Referring in detail to the drawing, the downwardly tapering wire frame or skeleton 5 is shown consisting of four wires 6, 7, 8 and 9 welded together at corner portions of the frame; but it is obvious that said frame may be made from a greater or less number of wires, if desired. One end portion of the wire 6 is shown shaped as a rectangular loop 10 which extends around and stabilizes the mouth of the fabric portion 11 of the sack structure the lengths of the sides being about three quarters the depth of the bag. After being shaped into said loop 10 the wire 6 is continued downwardly at one rear corner of the device, to form a run 12, the wire being directed upwardly from the lower end of said run to form a forwardly bowed wire run 13 the upper extremity of which is welded at 14 to the front corner, at that end of the device, of the loop 10. At the opposite end of the device the aforesaid wire 7 is shaped into runs 12*a* and 13*a* corresponding, respectively, in shape, dimension and position to said runs 12 and 13 of the wire 6, the upper end of the run 12*a* being welded to the loop at 15, and the run 13*a* being welded to said loop at 16. The runs 13 and 13*a* join runs 12 and 12*a* at an angle greater than half a right angle. The body portion of the wire part of the container is completed by providing the already mentioned horizontal, straight bottom wire run 8 the ends of which are welded on at 17 and 18. An elongated wire structure is thus provided which is approximately triangular as viewed in end elevation, the upper rear, inner angle at each end being materially more than ninety degrees.

A suitable combined suspending means and wire handle is afforded by the already mentioned wire 9, the extremities of which are welded to the rear corner portions of the frame at 19 and 20. Said wire, viewed as hung upon the clothesline 21, comprises a straight, horizontal mid-length run 9*a*, behind the clothesline and extending slightly thereabove. At each end of this run is a downwardly and outwardly inclined run 9*b* which joins an outwardly extending horizontal run 9*c*, the latter run in each instance being connected with the adjacent extremity of the wire 9 by means of an upwardly arched run 9*d* arranged to be looped over the clothesline.

The already mentioned flexible sheet portion 11 of the device may be secured to the wire portion in any desired conventional manner, for example, with inwardly directed attaching flaps

at its upper end of which flaps an end flap **22** and side flap **23** appear in Fig. 3.

In using the device, after the desired number of clothespins have been deposited therein it is taken to the clothesline and hung thereon by means of the loops **9***d* of its wire handle portion **9**. It will be seen that the upwardly and downwardly extending rear wire runs **12** and **12***a* combine with the horizontal bottom wire run **8** and with the wire loop **10** to hold the mouth portion of the device open at all times; and at the same time to maintain rigid and in a fixed relation to each other both the upwardly opening mouth portion of the device and its back wall. Because of this, and for the further reason that the suspending means is located at the back side of the device, the suspended device (especially when loaded with clothespins) will tend to swing to the dotted line position of Fig. 1, in which position its downwardly inclined, widely open mouth portion will be very conveniently accessible to the hand of the laundress, who can readily, by using one hand only, quickly obtain the clothespins from the device to be applied to the clothes being hung on the line. Furthermore, when the device contains only a few clothespins the user, by pressing her hand downwardly upon the front edge of the mouth portion of the container, can cause the clothespins to roll forward to points within convenient reach of her hand. This can be done by a one-handed operation which it would be difficult (if not impossible) to carry out if a bag or other flexible container with a collapsible mouth portion were to be used for the clothespins. The outcurved front wall **25** of the container contributes to the forward rolling of the clothespins when the device is tilted to and beyond the dotted line position of Fig. 3. Hence

the laundress can more conveniently reach the forwardly positioned pins than would be possible if the bag were constructed in the conventional manner. The stiff back structure of the device contributes to this advantage.

I claim:

A clothespin bag having a top opening and having a wire frame providing a flat depending back portion provided at its top with hooks for hanging on a clothesline and a handle for carrying the bag, and with a front convexly curved wall, extending from the opening of the bag to the bottom edge of the back portion, comprising: a front edge frame member at the top opening connected to side frame members at the top opening and having a length of about three quarters the depth of the back portion of the bag; and said front wall having a full convex curvature and joining the bottom edge of the back portion at an angle greater than half a right angle, whereby the bag assumes a tilted position when hung on a clothesline and downward tilting of the front edge of the bag by the user is effective to cause the clothespins in the bag to roll toward the opening of the bag into position to be readily grasped by the user's hand.

ERNEST L. KISER.

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