Dec. 25, 1945. E. M. ANDERSON ET AL 2,391,536

CLOTHES POST

Filed July 21, 1944

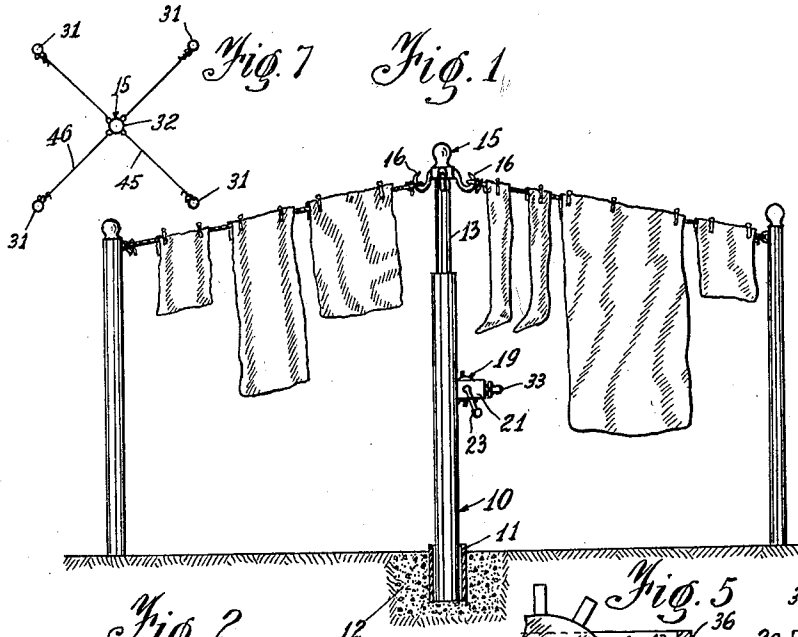


Fig. 7

Fig. 1

Fig. 2

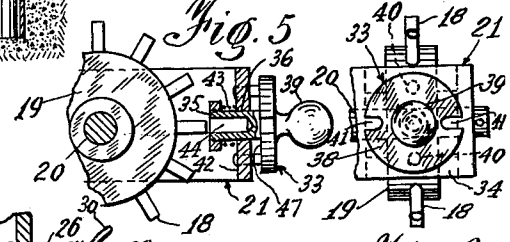


Fig. 5

Fig. 6

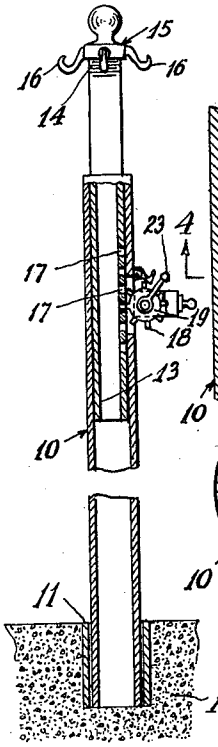


Fig. 3

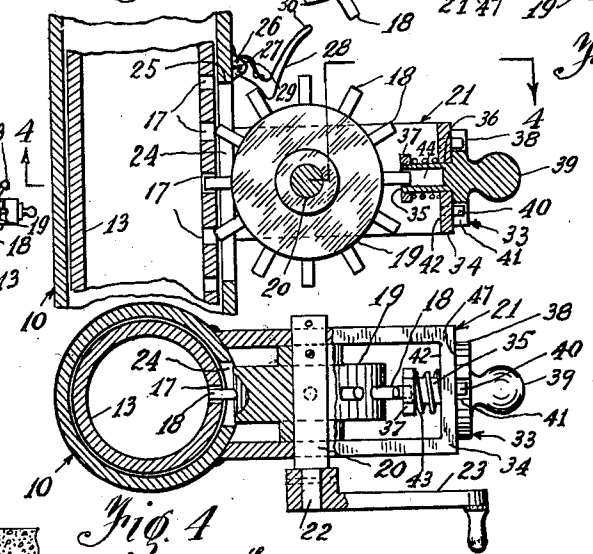


Fig. 4

Edward M. Anderson & Donald H. Morris

INVENTORS,

BY Ralph Dorsath

Attorney.

Patented Dec. 25, 1945

2,391,536

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,391,536

CLOTHES POST

Edward M. Anderson and Donald H. Morris,
Monaca, Pa.

Application July 21, 1944, Serial No. 546,602

1 Claim. (Cl. 211—119.17)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in clothesline posts.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a vertically adjustable clothesline supporting post by means of which a clothesline may be loosened or stretched as needed, from a central point.

Another object of the invention is to provide a clothesline post for adjusting the clotheslines lower or higher to suit persons of various heights in hanging up or removing clothes.

A further object of the invention is to provide a simple and inexpensively constructed clothesline post comprising a tubular supporting member including a tubular telescoping member including simple means for elevating or lowering the telescopic member.

Still another object of the invention is to provide simple and effective means to lock the telescopic member in any desired position thereby preventing tampering with the device when not in use or other reasons.

To the accomplishment of these and such other objects as may hereafter appear the invention consists of the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts herein specifically described and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein is shown an embodiment of the present invention, but it is to be understood that changes, variations and modifications may be resorted to which come within the scope of the claim hereunto appended.

In the drawing wherein like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, in which

Figure 1 is a front view of the preferred embodiment of the invention in general, showing the adjustable clothesline post stretching a clothesline.

Figure 2 is a sectional view of the clothesline post, partly in outline and drawn to an enlarged scale.

Figure 3 is an enlarged sectional detail view of the raising and lowering mechanism, also showing the locking means of the telescoping member.

Figure 4 is a transverse sectional view on line 4—4 in Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary view, partly in cross-section, of the locking mechanism shown in Figures 3 and 4 with the exception that the pin wheel is in operating position, instead of in locked position.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary end view of Figure 5.

Figure 7 is a diagrammatic view of an arrangement showing four corner posts, preferably fixed to the ground and a central extension post adapted to loosen or stretch the clothesline.

Referring to the drawing in the shown embodiment thereof, 10 designates a tubular main post, the lowermost end of which is adapted to be inserted in a sleeve 11 secured in concrete 12, as shown in Figures 1 and 2.

Telescopically inserted in the main post 10 is a tubular extension member 13 which is provided at the upper end with threads 14 adapted to receive a cap 15 usually provided with four diametrical spaced hooks or loops 16 welded on the side of the cap.

In order to elevate or lower the tubular extension member 13 in the main post 10, the extension member 13 is provided with a row of vertically aligned apertures 17 spaced apart a distance equal to the pitch of the pins 18 of the pin-wheel 19. This pin-wheel is secured to a shaft 20 and rotatably supported in a U-shaped bracket 21 which is welded or otherwise fastened to the exterior of the main post 10.

One end of shaft 20 is provided with a reduced portion 22 which is adapted to receive the operating handle 23, by means of which the extension member 13 may be alternately elevated or lowered, as needed.

The main post 10 has a vertical, elongated slot 24 which corresponds to the location of the apertures 17 of the extension member 13. In close proximity to the outer, upper edge 25 of said slot 24 of main post 10 are a pair of ears 26, preferably welded, between which is freely mounted on a pin-connection 27 a pawl 28, suitably tensioned by a spring 29 against one of the pins 18 of the pin-wheel 19 so as to permit upward movement of the extension member 13 in the main post 10 when turning the operating handle 23 in clockwise direction.

In order to lower the extension member 13 it is only required to push the extension 30 of pawl 28 with a finger towards the main post 10 and turn the operating handle 23 in counter-clockwise direction.

In Figure 7 there is shown a diagrammatic top view of an arrangement in which 31 represents four stationary common posts, while 32 represents the centrally located removable extension post. Two crosswise clotheslines 45 and 46 may be stretched from the diagonally opposed corner-posts by looping the lines over the hooks 16 on cap 15 of the extension post.

When using the aforesaid arrangement it is possible for a person to adjust the clothesline to a height easily accessible from the ground when

hanging wet clothes on the lines or when removing the clothes when dried without the use of boxes or other supports for a person to stand on.

In order to prevent undesirable manipulation of the extension member 13, a safety lock 33 is provided by means of which it is made impossible to either raise or lower the extension member including of course the clotheslines unless the lock is released.

This safety lock 33 is preferably mounted on the bight 34 of the U-shaped pin-wheel bracket 21 as best shown in Figures 3, 4, 5 and 6 inclusive and the same consists of a hollow member 35 slidably and rotatably mounted in the central aperture 36 of said bight 34. This hollow member 35 is provided at one end with exterior threads to accommodate a nut 37 and at the other end with an integral circular disk 38 which merges outwardly into a ball-like knob 39. Secured to said bracket bight 34 are two oppositely spaced stub-pins 40 which cooperate with the open slots 41 of disk 38. Around the hollow member 35 and between the nut 37 and the inner face 42 of the bight 34 is an expansion coil spring 43 to retain the hollow member 35 in constant tension.

The operation of the safety lock 33 is as follows:

As will be noted, Figures 3 and 4 show the safety lock 33 in locked position while Figures 5 and 6 show the same in open or unlocked position.

In order to lock the device, which of course means that the extension member 13 is prevented from up or down movement, it is only required to take hold of the knob 39 and turn the same until the stub-pins 40 engage in the open slots 41 of the disk 38. By doing this, the inner bore 44 of the hollow member 35 slides in engagement and over one of the pins 18 of the pin-wheel 19 and is held in that position by the coil-spring 43 as shown in Figures 3 and 4 until again manually released by taking hold of the knob 39, then pulling the hollow member 35 out of engagement of one of the pins 18 of the pin-wheel 19 after which the knob 39 is slightly rotated until the stub-pins 40 come into contact with the under face 47 of disk 38.

It will be apparent from the foregoing description that the general arrangement of a clothesline supported on a central post which may be conveniently elevated or lowered thereby loosening or tightening the clothesline and which can be maintained at various heights makes the device a very useful and convenient implement for any household more so because tampering is prevented without the use of a key.

It is thought from the foregoing description that the advantages and novel features of the invention will be readily apparent.

It is also desired to be understood that changes may be made in the construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts, provided that such changes fall within the scope of the appended claim.

We claim:

A clothes post of the character described, comprising a tubular main post and a tubular, telescoping extension member having a plurality of vertically aligned, equally spaced openings; means for raising or lowering said extension member, said means comprising a pin-wheel having radially disposed, equally spaced pins adapted to register with the openings of said extension member; said pin-wheel rotatably supported in a U-shaped bracket secured to said main post; an operating handle secured to said pin-wheel for rotating same; a pawl pivotally mounted on the main post in engagement with one of the pins of said pin-wheel for retaining said extension member in raised position and means independent from said pawl for locking said pin-wheel from rotation thereby preventing the extension member from being raised or lowered by said operating handle, said locking means adapted to embrace one of the pin-wheel pins by means of a hollow, spring tensioned member slidably and rotatably mounted in an aperture positioned in the bight of said U-shaped bracket; said hollow member terminating outwardly into an integral disc which merges into an operating knob; said disc provided with oppositely spaced openings arranged to receive a pair of outwardly extending pins, secured to the bight of said U-shaped bracket, when in locked position.

EDWARD M. ANDERSON.
DONALD H. MORRIS.