

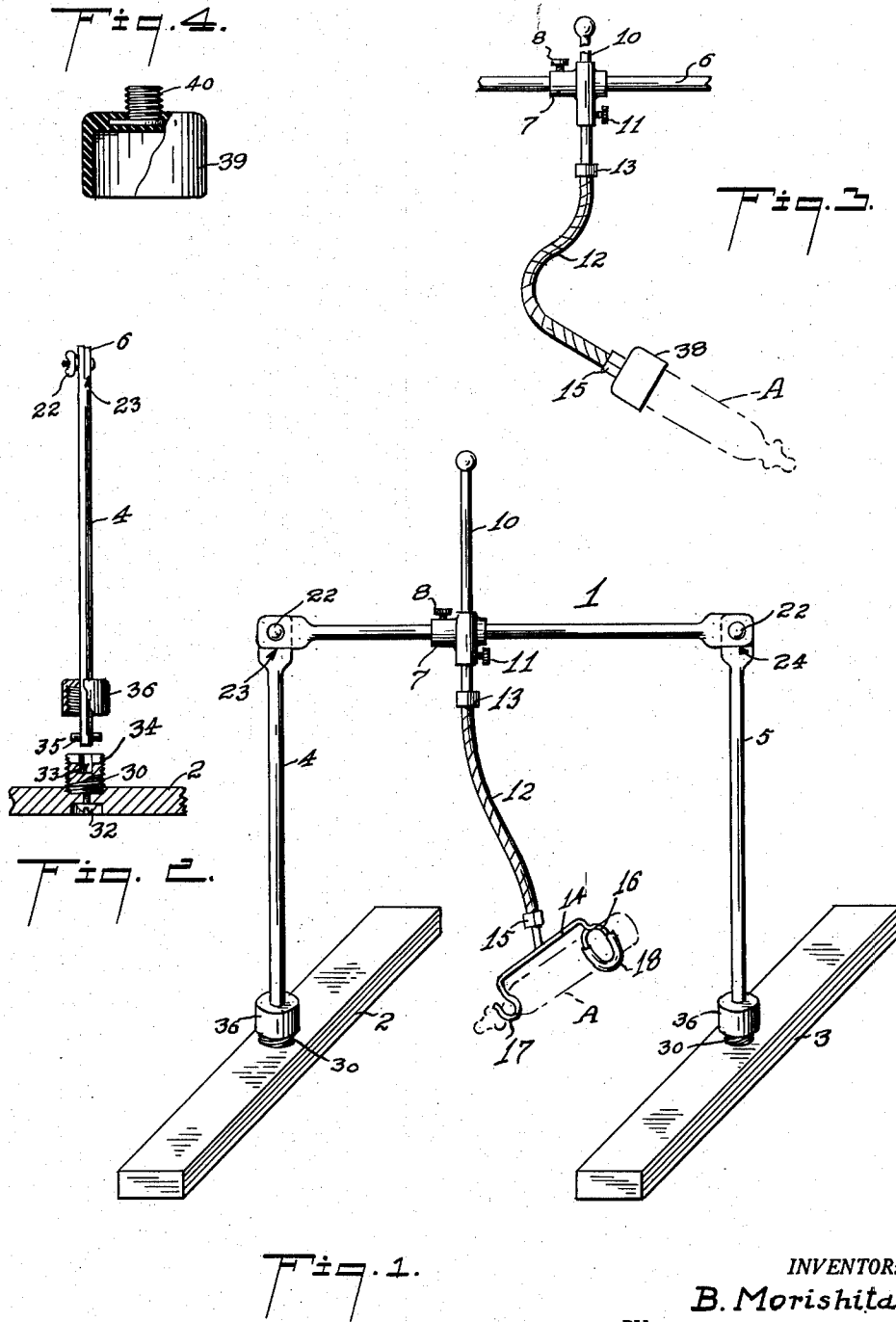
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NURSING BOTTLE SUPPORTING DEVICE

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NURSING BOTTLE SUPPORTING DEVICE

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1 Claim. (Cl. 248—106)

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This invention relates to a device for supporting nursing bottles and has for its object to provide a device which may be freely placed within a crib to support the bottle in any desired position for comfortable feeding without the necessity of a person holding or frequently adjusting the position of the bottle.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a bottle supporting device which may be set on any flat surface on which it is desired to cradle the baby to be nursed and which will not only remain in position without additional fastening means such as generally found necessary but which will also assist in maintaining the infant comfortably in nursing position.

A still further object is to provide a device which, when not in use, may be collapsed and folded very compactly for convenient and inexpensive shipment or storage and which may be quickly and easily reassembled by anyone competent to take care of the infant.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction and arrangement of parts substantially as shown in the accompanying drawing and as hereinafter described in detail.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 shows, somewhat in perspective, a device embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a side elevational view of one end of the device with parts thereof removed therefrom for the sake of clearness;

Figs. 3 and 4 illustrate a somewhat modified form of bottle holder.

The device of the invention, in the form illustrated in the drawing, includes a rectangular frame 1 which is mounted on base members 2, 3. These members are of a length to fit freely within the conventional size crib and the frame is of a width snugly to locate the base members on or under the mattress or other bottom surface of the crib against or in close relation to the side walls thereof. When thereupon the bed clothes are placed under and about the baby it is found that the device is held firmly in position without interfering with freedom of movement of the infant.

The frame 1 consists of two posts 4, 5 and a cross piece 6, all of which are constructed for quick assembly in the manner which will be explained presently. As shown in Fig. 1, the central portion of the cross piece 6 is cylindrical in shape and of a diameter slidably to support thereon a detachable clamping element 7. A set screw 8 locks this element in adjusted position on the

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cross piece. A rod 10 is seated for vertical adjustment in this clamping element and it is shown locked in adjusted position therein by means of a set screw 11. A flexible stem 12 is by a threaded fitting 13 attached to the lower end of the rod 10 and a bottle holder 14 is by means of a similar threaded fitting 15 attached to the free end of this stem to support a bottle, substantially as indicated in dotted outline in Fig. 1. When supported in this manner, it is seen that the bottle may quickly and conveniently be moved into any desired position and firmly locked in place. Any minor adjustment may then be made by merely bending the stem.

The bottle holder 14 takes the form of a wire bracket having at one end thereof a loop 16 of a diameter freely to encompass the bottle. The other end of the bracket is shown bent to form a hook 17 of a size to receive therein the neck of the bottle, substantially as outlined in the drawing. When in addition a soft tubular rubber cover 18 is slipped over the loop 16 it is seen that the bottle may be held firmly in position in the bracket.

It was above given as one of the important features of the invention that the device is collapsible and foldable into compact form. The three members 4, 5, 6 of the frame are for this purpose shown pivotally joined and bolts 22 serve rigidly to clamp the parts together. While this method of assembly may be found sufficient to prevent distortion of the frame, it is a simple matter to add means for positively locking the parts of the frame against relative movement. The upper ends of the posts 4, 5 are for this purpose shown recessed to provide shoulders 23, 24 against which the bottom edges of the flattened ends of the cross piece come to rest. When it is desired to collapse the frame it is merely required to loosen the bolts 22 sufficiently to withdraw the cross piece ends from these shoulders.

The posts 4, 5 are detachably secured in position on the base members 2, 3 in the following manner. A threaded stud 30 is seated in a recess of each base member and it is clamped in position therein by suitable means, such as a screw 32. A recess 33 is centrally sunk into the upper surface of this stud of a diameter fittingly to receive therein the lower end of one of the posts, substantially as illustrated in Fig. 2 of the drawing. A slot 34 is cut diametrically across the upper surface of the stud of a width and depth to receive therein a pin 35 which is transversely mounted in the post near the lower end thereof.

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When it is desired to assemble the device, it is merely required to push the ends of the posts into the recesses 33. They may then be locked in position by means of a thimbleshaped nut 36, one of which is seated to slide on each post. When both posts in such manner have been locked in position on the base members it is found that the entire frame is rigidly assembled.

The members 2, 3 are in Fig. 1, for the sake of clearness, swung out of rectangular alinement with the frame but it is to be understood that correct alinement is obtained by rotation of the studs in the recesses of the members.

The device may, when completely assembled, be placed within the crib or it may be set on any flat surface on which it is desired to cradle the baby. And it is important to note that, when so placed on a flat surface and when the bedding is tucked about the baby between the two posts, these posts will effectively serve to maintain the infant and the bed clothes in position therebetween.

When the device again is dismounted and collapsed, it is found that the parts thereof can be folded and packed into a relatively small container for convenient storage and for inexpensive shipment. The size of this package may be even further reduced by modifying the construction of the bottle holder 14 and such modified construction is illustrated in Fig. 3 of the drawing. The parts supporting the bracket 14 may remain unchanged, but I have in this case shown a cap 38 attached to the fitting 15. This cap, as best shown in Fig. 4, consists of a soft resilient cup 39 of a size firmly to grip the bottle and a threaded stem 40 is molded into the cup for engagement with the fitting 15.

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I claim:

A device for supporting a nursing bottle comprising, two elongated base members, a threaded stud vertically seated in each member, each stud having a recess axially sunk into the upper surface thereof and a transverse slot cut into said surface, a post vertically seated in the recess of the stud, a pin transversely fixed in the post to lodge in the slot of the stud, a nut slidable on the post to engage the threads of the stud rigidly to press the pin of the post into the slot of the stud thereby to lock the post in position on the member, a horizontal cross piece interconnecting the upper ends of the posts, a clamping element on said cross piece, a flexible stem detachably secured to the end of said rod, and a bottle holder mounted on the end of said stem.

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