July 20, 1965 E. A. CORE 3,195,256

PICTURE FRAME

Filed March 7, 1963

Fig.1

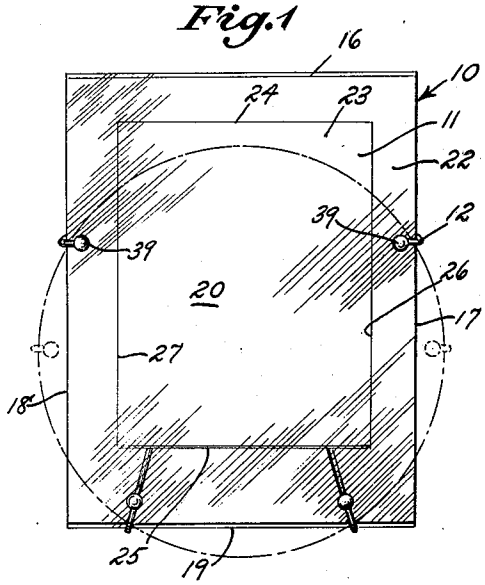
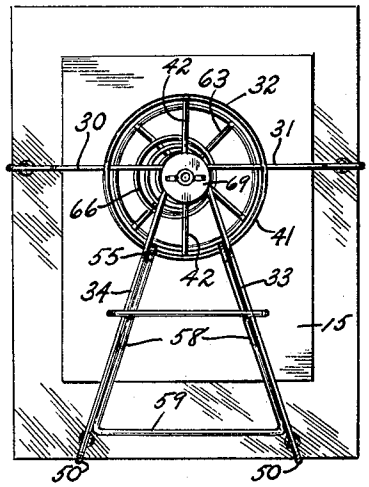


Fig.2



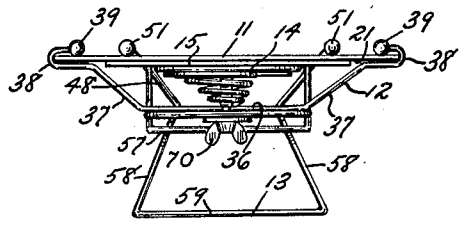


Fig.3

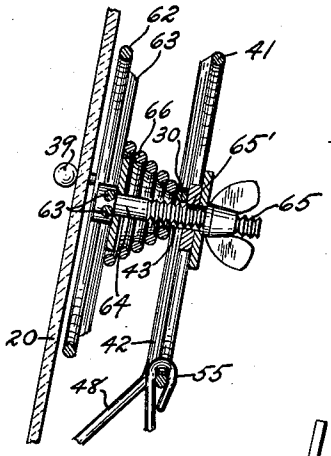
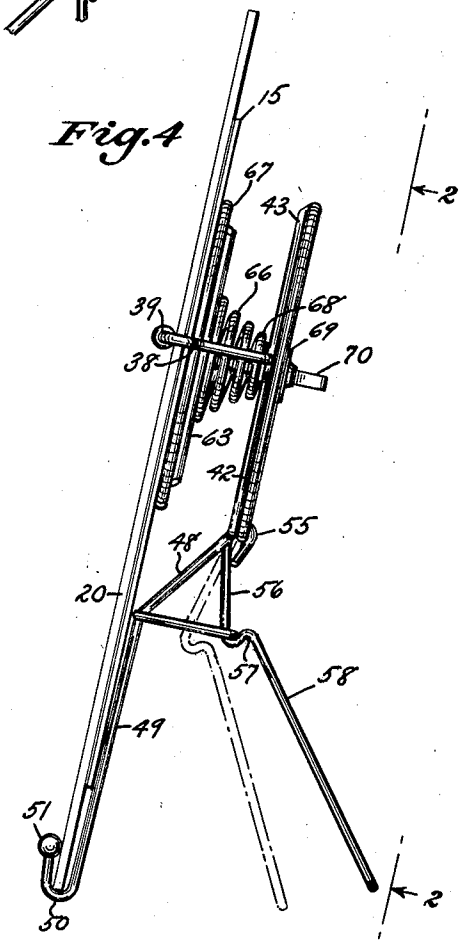


Fig.5

Fig.4



United States Patent Office

3,195,256
Patented July 20, 1965

3,195,256

PICTURE FRAME

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Filed Mar. 7, 1963, Ser. No. 263,550
1 Claim. (Cl. 40—156)

This invention relates generally to the field of picture frames adapted to be supported upon a horizontal surface in a generally vertically disposed position, and more particularly to an improved form of such frame particularly adapted for mounting pictures which have been mounted upon a stiffening member.

It is among the principal objects of the present invention to provide an improved picture frame incorporating resilient means for pressing such stiffened picture against the rear surface of a forwardly facing transparent glass member, without the necessity of gluing or otherwise contacting said picture, so that the same may be readily removed when desired.

Another object of the invention lies in the provision of an improved picture frame of the class described, in which the cost of fabrication may be of a reasonably low order, with consequent wide sale, distribution and use.

A further object of the invention lies in the provision of an improved picture frame, in which substantially all of the components may be formed from bent steel wire, and with a minimum of tooling.

Still another object of the invention lies in the provision of an improved picture frame incorporating collapsible supporting means which may be erected or collapsed as desired, when not in use.

A feature of the invention lies in the unusually attractive appearance of the device as seen from the forwardly facing portions thereof.

Another feature of the invention lies in the fact that the resilient force exerted against the picture may be adjusted.

These objects and features, as well as other incidental ends and advantages, will more fully appear in the progress of the following disclosure, and be pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawing, to which reference will be made in the specification, similar reference characters have been employed to designate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

FIGURE 1 is a front elevational view of an embodiment of the invention.

FIGURE 2 is a rear elevational view thereof.

FIGURE 3 is a plan view thereof.

FIGURE 4 is a side elevational view thereof.

FIGURE 5 is a vertical central sectional view, corresponding to that seen in FIGURE 4 but showing certain of the component parts in altered relative position.

In accordance with the invention, the device, generally indicated by reference character **10**, comprises broadly: a glass pane member **11**, a wire frame element **12**, a pivotally mounted supporting element **13**, and a resilient compression element **14**.

The glass pane member **11** may also be formed of transparent synthetic resinous material, and is preferably of rectangular configuration, being bounded by an upper edge **16**, side edges **17** and **18**, a lower edge **19**, an outer surface **20**, and an inner surface **21**. An ornamentation member **22** may be optionally secured to either surface **20–21** of the member **11**, the same being formed as a

decalcomania transfer or cellulosic material which may be cemented in place. The member **22** includes a rectangular opening **23** bounded by an upper edge **24**, a lower edge **25**, and side edges **26** and **27**. If desired, a circular-type pane member may be employed, the same being indicated in dashed lines in FIGURE 1 in the drawing.

The wire frame element **12** is best seen from a consideration of FIGURES 2, 3 and 4, and includes a pair of upper glass-engaging arms **30** and **31**, a centrally disposed frame member **32**, and a pair of lower glass-engaging arms **33** and **34**, respectively. The upper glass-engaging arms **30–31** are similar and symmetrical, and include a mutual central portion **36**, angularly disposed portions **37**, U-shaped portions **38**, and a decorative tip **39**. The centrally disposed frame member **32** includes an annular ring **41** interconnected by supporting spokes **42** and defining a central opening **43**.

The lower glass-engaging arms **33** and **34** are also similar, and symmetrical, being joined by a looped upper portion **47**, each arm including an angularly disposed portion **48**, a vertical portion **49**, and a U-shaped portion **50** terminating in a decorative tip **51**. Secured to and interconnecting angularly disposed portions **48** is a loop member **52** which controls the degree of permissible rotation of the supporting element **13**, as well as providing means for locking the same in extended position (see FIGURE 4).

The supporting element **13** is interconnected to the ring **41**, and includes a pair of upper loop members **55**, a pair of first rectilinear portions **56**, a pair of offset portions **57**, a pair of second rectilinear portions **58**, and a connecting portion **59**. As best seen from a consideration of FIGURE 4, when the supporting element **13** is in extended position as shown in full lines the offset portions **57** have been resiliently flexed past the loop member **52** to retain the same in such condition. When not desired, the resilient force maintaining the same in extended condition may be overcome to move the element **13** to the position shown in dashed lines.

The resilient compression element **14** includes a ring member **62** having a plurality of interconnecting spokes **63**. The spokes **63** support an axially extending bolt member **64** having a threaded free end portion **65** extending through an opening **65'** in the member **32**. Surrounding the bolt member **64** is a conically-shaped coil spring **66**, the outer end **67** of which is adapted to bear directly against the inner surface of a picture **15**, and the inner or smaller end **68** of which bears against the spokes **42**. On the inner side of the member **32** the bolt member **64** is engaged by a washer **69** and a wing nut **70**. To install the picture **15**, it is necessary only to tighten the wing nut **70** to a point where the outer end **67** parts contact with the inner surface **21** of the member **11**. In the interstice formed therein, the picture **15** may be inserted, following which loosening of the wing nut allows the spring **66** to exert pressure against the inner surface of the picture **15** to press it against the inner surface of the member **11**.

I wish it to be understood that I do not consider the invention limited to the precise details of structure shown and set forth in this specification, for obvious modifications will occur to those skilled in the art to which the invention pertains.

I claim:

In a device for supporting a picture in framed condition, including a transparent planar member, and a wire

frame element detachably engaging said transparent planar member, the improvement comprising: a resilient compression element connected to the wire frame element and having means resiliently pressing against one surface of the planar member, the compression element including a wire loop member, a bolt connected to the loop member and passing through an opening in the frame element, a nut engaging the bolt, a coil spring surrounding the bolt and disposed between the frame element and the loop member, rotational movement of the nut serving to adjust the force exerted by the ring member against the surface of the planar member.

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