Nov. 4, 1952 H. L. GRIFFIN 2,616,570

COMBINATION SUNSHADE AND CLOTHES DRIER

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Fig. 1.

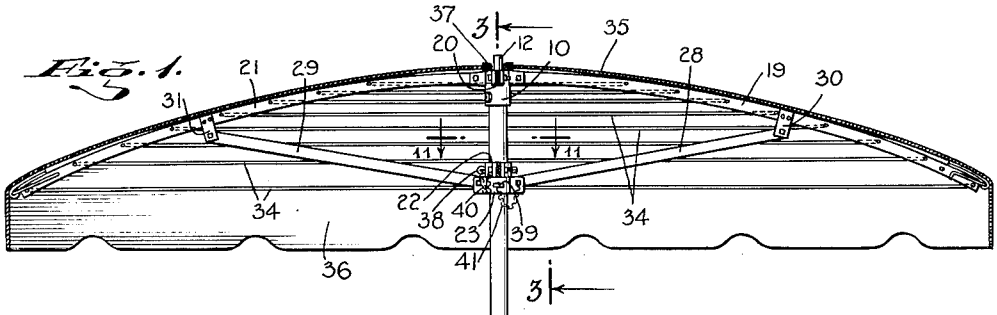


Fig. 4.

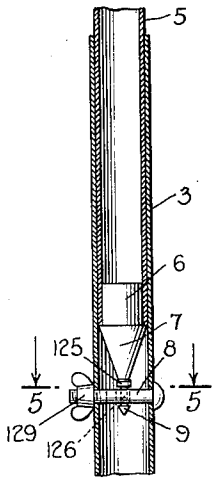
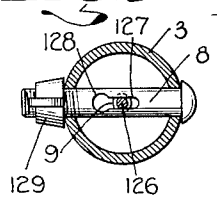


Fig. 5.



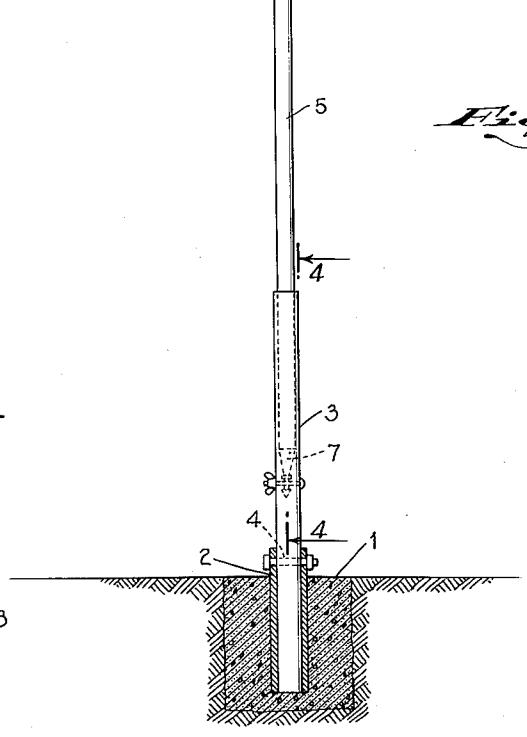


Fig. 2.

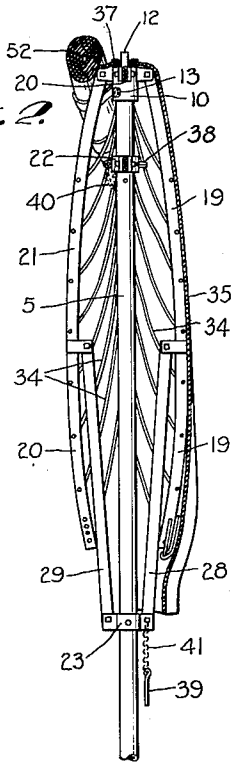
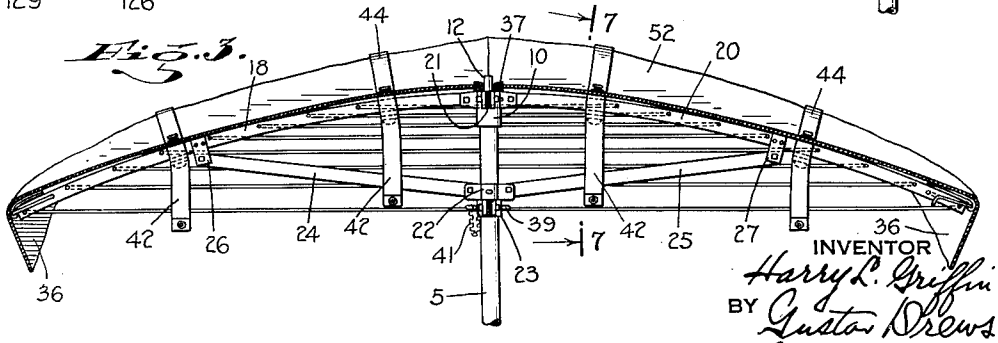


Fig. 3.



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Fig. 6.

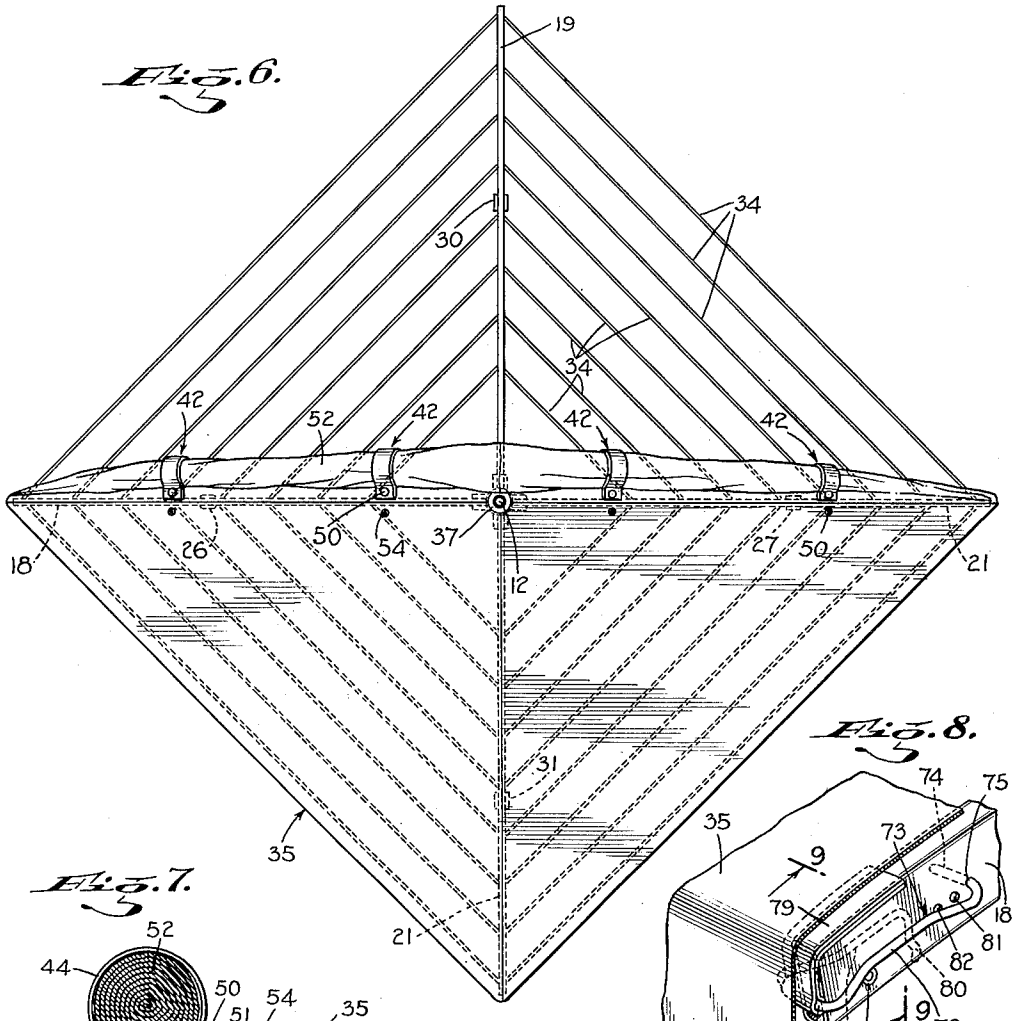


Fig. 8.

Fig. 7.

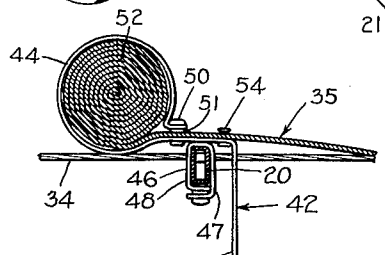


Fig. 9.

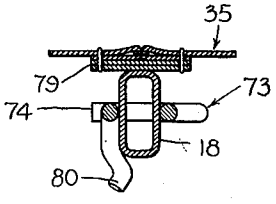
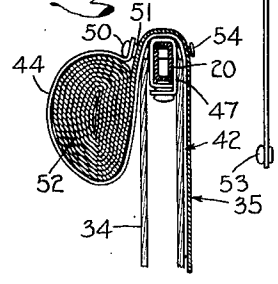


Fig. 10.



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COMBINATION SUNSHADE AND CLOTHES DRIER

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Fig. 11.

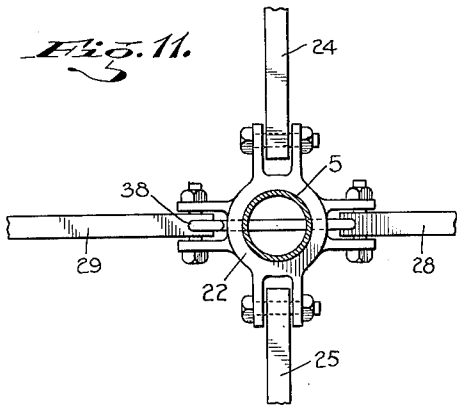


Fig. 13.

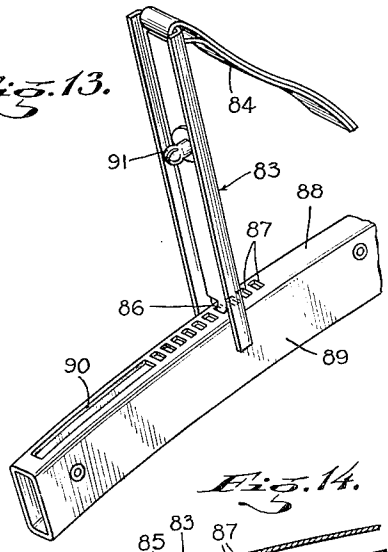


Fig. 12.

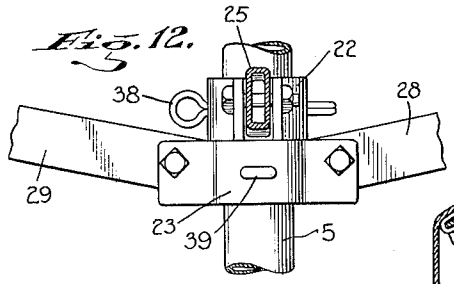


Fig. 14.

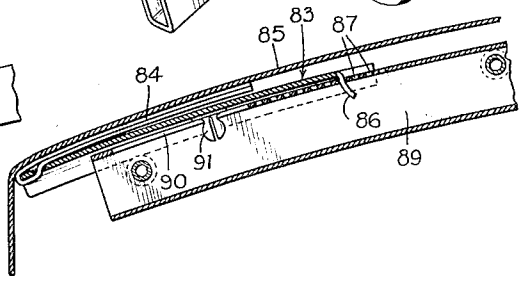


Fig. 15.

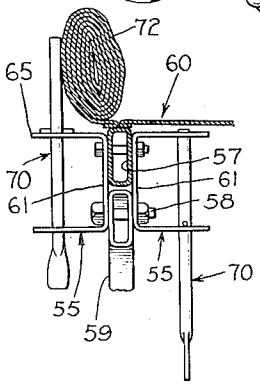


Fig. 17.

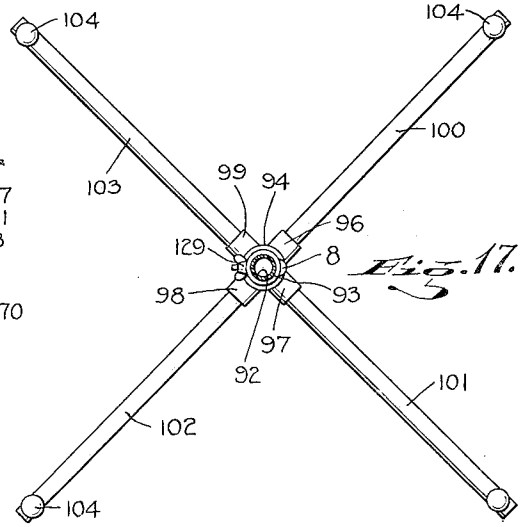
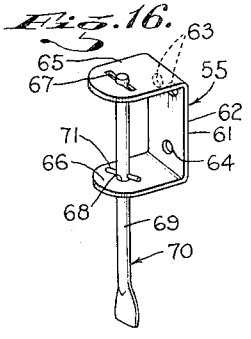


Fig. 16.



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Fig. 19.

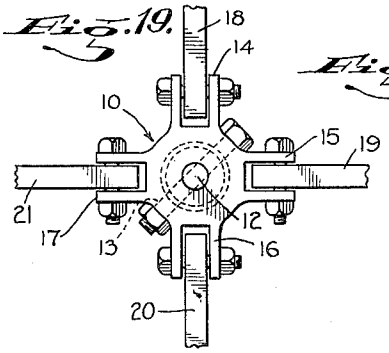


Fig. 18.

Fig. 20.

Fig. 22.

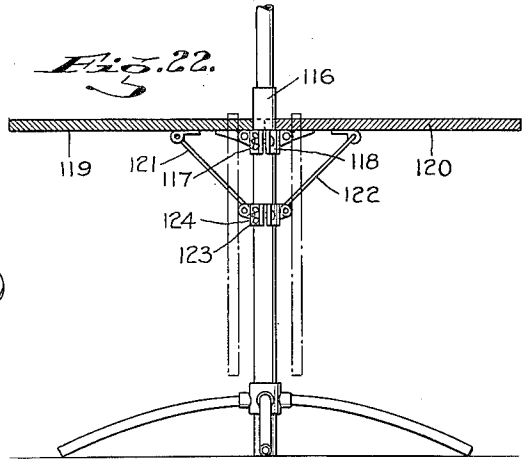


Fig. 21.

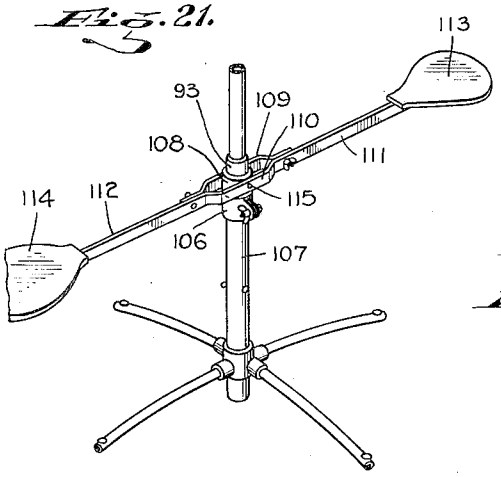
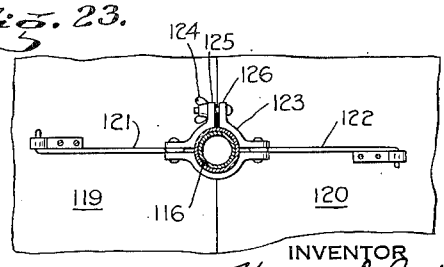


Fig. 23.



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Patented Nov. 4, 1952

2,616,570

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,616,570

COMBINATION SUNSHADE AND CLOTHES DRIER

Harry L. Griffin, New York, N. Y., assignor to Dry-Or-Shade, Inc., New York, N. Y., a corporation of New York

Application April 27, 1948, Serial No. 23,571

1 Claim. (Cl. 211—171)

1

This invention relates to awnings, sun shades and the like, and more especially to combination sun shades and clothes driers.

Among the objects of the present invention it is aimed to provide an improved combination sun shade and clothes drier by means of which the arms are mounted in pairs or groups so that a covering, such as canvas and the like, when once positioned on the arms, may, when out of use, be rolled up onto, or supported by, one set of arms and thereupon the several arms with their clothes lines used as a clothes drier, and thus use one set of arms to store or support the rolled up canvas while the clothes lines are being used for drying purposes, and at least one of the other arms be collapsible to facilitate removal and placing of the canvas on the arms, and in turn also facilitate rolling the canvas onto the arms.

It is still another object of the present invention to provide an improved sun shade and clothes drier having two pairs of arms associated with links that are slidably associated with the main supporting shaft so that one pair may be independently folded down and thereby facilitate placing the covering, such as canvas, on, or over, the arms, and in turn facilitate removing the canvas from the arms.

These and other features, capabilities and advantages of the invention will appear from the subjoined detail description of specific embodiments thereof illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the combination sun shade and clothes drier erected according to one embodiment partly in section.

Fig. 2 is a fragmental side elevation partly in section and collapsed in part.

Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, with one-half of the sun shade rolled up.

Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a plan view of the embodiment shown in Fig. 1 with one-half of the sun shade rolled up.

Fig. 7 is a section on the line 7—7 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 8 is a fragmental perspective partly in section enlarged showing one form for connecting the awning to the outer end of one of the awning supporting arms.

Fig. 9 is a section on the line 9—9 of Fig. 8.

Fig. 10 is a section similar to that shown in Fig. 7 but with two of the awning supporting arms folded down as shown in Fig. 2.

Fig. 11 is a fragmental section on the line 11—11 of Fig. 1.

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Fig. 12 is a fragmental side elevation partly in section of the connection shown in Fig. 11.

Fig. 13 is a fragmental perspective showing another form of means for connecting the awning to the outer end of an awning supporting arm with the connecting means in its initial connecting position.

Fig. 14 is a fragmental section of the connecting means shown in Fig. 13 in its final connecting position.

Fig. 15 is a fragmental side elevation partly in section of a second form for anchoring a part of the awning in rolled up position.

Fig. 16 is a detached perspective of the anchoring means shown in Fig. 15.

Fig. 17 is a section showing four base arms which may be connected to the supporting post to form a base for the same instead of the base shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 18 is a fragmental side elevation of the base arms shown in Fig. 17.

Fig. 19 is a fragmental plan view of the upper end of the means for connecting the awning supporting arms to the main supporting post.

Fig. 20 is a fragmental side elevation partly in section of the embodiment shown in Fig. 19.

Fig. 21 is a fragmental perspective showing a see-saw and merry-go-round device attachable to the main supporting post.

Fig. 22 is a fragmental side elevation partly in section of a collapsible table that may be attached to the main supporting post.

Fig. 23 is a fragmental bottom plan view of the embodiment shown in Fig. 22, partly in section.

In the embodiment shown in Figs. 1 to 12, inclusive, 19 and 20, it will appear that there is provided a concrete base 1 formed in the ground having embedded therein the tubular socket 2. In this socket 2, according to this embodiment, a first tubular member 3 is positioned and anchored in place by the pin 4. In this tubular member 3 in turn there is positioned the main supporting post 5 which preferably as shown in Fig. 4, is also composed of tubular stock, and has formed at its lower end a plug 6 having a lower tapering extremity 7. When the post 5 is intended to be thrust into the ground, then the tapering portions 7 and 9 will of course come into service. However, if a base, such as the base 1, is provided with a tubular socket 2 and tubular member 3, then excellent results have been achieved when a transverse pin 8 extends through the tubular member 3 and the tapering portion 7 is provided with a collar 125 and a

tapering portion 9 spaced from the collar 125 by the shank 126. The shank 126 is narrow enough to clear the elongated slot 127 in the pin 8 and the terminal tapering portion 9 is small enough to clear the enlargement 128 at the end of the slot 127, but the opening 128 is smaller than the collar 125 so that in the process of positioning the post 5, the terminal 9 and shank 126 will initially pass through the opening 128 but not permit the collar 125 to pass therethrough. Thereupon as the pin 8 is drawn over by the wing nut 129, the slot 127 will register with the shank 126. In the final position shown in Figs. 4 and 5, the post 5 will be anchored by the pin 8 against removal but be free to rotate and the collar 125 will cooperate with the edges of the slot 127 to form a two-line bearing to substantially reduce the friction between the two.

The upper end of the main post 5, according to the present invention, preferably has secured thereto, a cap 10, see Figs. 19 and 20, consisting of a tubular portion 11 closed at the top and provided with an upwardly protruding pin 12. The cap 10 may be secured to the post 5 by any suitable means, such for instance as the pin 13. The cap 10 in the present instance, has four pairs of bifurcations 14, 15, 16 and 17 constituting jaws to receive the inner free ends of the arms 18, 19, 20 and 21, respectively. These arms 18, 19, 20 and 21, in the present instance, are composed of tubular stock that is rectangular in cross section and curved downwardly slightly when in extended position as shown in Fig. 1.

The arms 18 to 21, inclusive, in turn are arranged in pairs, the arms 18 and 20 constituting one pair, and the arms 19 and 21 constituting the other pair. The arms 18 and 20 are operatively connected to the sleeve 22 slidably mounted on the post 5, and the arms 19 and 21 are operatively connected to the sleeve 23 also slidably mounted on the post 5 but below the sleeve 22. The sleeve 22, as shown in Fig. 3, has pivotally connected thereto the links 24 and 25 which are in turn pivotally connected to the projections 26 and 27, respectively, extending down from the arms 18 and 20, respectively. The sleeve 23, on the other hand, has pivotally connected thereto the links 28 and 29, see Fig. 1, which are pivotally connected to the projections 30 and 31, respectively, extending down from the arms 19 and 21, respectively.

The arms 18, 19, 20 and 21 when used to support clothes lines are preferably provided with a plurality of grommets 33, Fig. 8, extending through from one vertical wall to the other of each arm 18, 19, 20 and 21. In the present instance, each arm is provided with eight of these grommets 33 through which extend the cords 34 serving as clothes lines in one case and in another case serving in part to support the awning or canvas covering 35. The canvas covering 35, in the present instance, is substantially rectangular with a flange or apron 36 extending down from each side, as an instance, between the ends of the arms 18 and 19, between the ends of the arms 19 and 20, between the ends of the arms 20 and 21, and between the ends of the arms 21 and 18. This covering 35 may have a reinforcement 37 at the middle provided with an opening to receive the pin 12. The present device satisfies several valuable uses. As an instance, when the awning is in place on the arms 18 to 21, inclusive, and on the cords 34, it may serve as a sun shade on a beach or adjacent to a cabana, or in the back yard of a home, and in turn when the awning 35 is removed or rolled up as hereinafter to be described, it may serve when used on a beach to dry beach clothes, bathing suits or the like, or when used in the back yard of a home as the conventional clothes drier.

One of the features of the present invention resides in the fact that the arms 18 to 21 may readily be manipulated to facilitate either for positioning the awning 35, for removing it, or for rolling it up. In extended or sun shade position, that shown in Figs. 1, 3 and 6, the sleeves 22 and 23 will be secured in place on the post 5 by any suitable means, such for instance as the pins 38 and 39, respectively, the pin 38 in the present instance being anchored to the sleeve 22 by the chain 40, and the pin 39 anchored to the sleeve 23 by the chain 41, the pins 38 and 39 in anchoring position extending through the sleeves 22 and 23, respectively, into openings formed in the post 5. To anchor the awning 35 to the arms 18 to 21, inclusive, preferably the awning 35 is provided with a plurality of fastening devices, such as the devices 42, see Figs. 7 and 10 secured to the inner face of the awning 35, where the awning rests on the arms 18 and 20. Each of these devices 42 consists of one elongated fabric strip having two extensions 44 and 45 and one short fabric strip having two extensions 46 and 47. The extension 46 has a male fastening member 48 and the extension 47 a female fastening member 49 which engage one another as shown in Fig. 7 after the extensions 46 and 47 are wrapped around an arm 18 or 20. The extension 44, see Fig. 7, has a female fastening member 50 at the free end thereof to cooperate with the male fastening member 51 on the outer face of the awning 35, one-half of the awning 35 being first rolled up into roll 52, Fig. 7, and then the extension 44 wrapped around it and the fastening member 50 at its free end brought over into anchoring engagement with the male fastening member 51. Should the other half of the awning 35 also be rolled up, then the extension 45 would similarly be wrapped around such second rolled up portion, and the female fastening member 53 then brought into fastening engagement with the male fastening member 54 on the outer face of the awning 35. Preferably the male fastening members 51 and 54 are so spaced apart relative to the short strips 46 and 47 so that they will be positioned adjacent the vertical faces of the arm 20, as shown in Fig. 10. In the present instance, there are provided four such fastening devices 42 although obviously a greater or less number may be used without departing from the general spirit of the invention. Furthermore, as shown, the arms 18 and 20 or at least the arms which are connected to the uppermost sleeve 22 alone have the fastening devices 42 connected thereto. In the process of rolling up one or both halves of the awning, preferably the lower arms 19 and 21 are first lowered into the position shown in Fig. 2 and then if at least one-half of the awning 35 has been rolled up into the roll 52, then the arms 19 and 21 may again be raised and one-half of the awning 35, see Figs. 6 and 7, will be rolled up and the clothes line portions of the cords 34 extending through the arm 19 cleared or liberated for receiving clothes, bathing suits and the like, and the other half of the awning 35 still be extended in sun shade position. Obviously in turn, if all of the clothes line portions are to be used for receiving clothes, then both halves of the awning

may be rolled up onto, and connected to, the arms 18 and 20, or in some cases when the arms 19 and 21 alone are dropped into the position shown in Fig. 2, the entire awning 35 may be removed. After the awning 35 has been removed, then for the purpose of shipment, obviously the other two arms 18 and 20 may also be folded down adjacent the arms 19 and 21.

In place of the fastening devices 42 shown in Figs. 7 and 10, the fastening devices 55 shown in Figs. 15 and 16 may also be used to good advantage. Just as was the case with the devices 42, a plurality of the devices 55 may be used spaced along the arms 18 and 20. Or else a combination of devices 42 and devices 55 may be used in which the devices 55 merely supplement the devices 42. In the embodiment shown in Fig. 15, two of the devices 55 are there shown as connected to an arm 57, such as arm 18, and by the pivot pin 58 to the arm 59, such as the link 24 in which case the devices 55 serve for pivotally mounting the ends of the arms or links 59 in place of the projection 26 shown in Fig. 3.

When a pair of devices 55 are used as shown in Fig. 15, to function also as the abutments for the pin 58 of the link 59, the awning 60 rests on the arm 57 and preferably has fabric strips, such as the strips 46 and 47 shown in Fig. 7 to supplement the devices 55 to secure the awning 60 to the arm 57. Each device 55 consists essentially of a U-shaped sheet metal bracket 61 having an intermediate web 62 provided with the upper openings 63 to receive fastening means for connecting the web 62 to the arm 57. The intermediate web 62 is also provided with a single opening 64 to receive the pin 58. Each bracket 61 in addition has two legs 65 and 66, the upper leg having a slot 67, and the lower leg having an opening 68 through which passes the shank 69 of the pin 70. The shank 69 also has a cross pin 71 which in the lower position rests on the leg 66. In Fig. 15 the pin 70 of the device 55 on the left is extended upwardly to engage the roll 72 of the arm 60 after it has been rolled up. To maintain the pin 70 in the raised position, the cross pin 71 is provided which can pass through the slot 67 when registering with the same. After the cross pin 71 is so registered with the slot 67 and the pin 70 is raised, the pin 70 must be turned so that the cross pin 71 then rests on the leg 65. If, as shown in Fig. 6, only one-half of the awning 60 is to be rolled up, then of course the pin 70 of the other device 55 to the right of the arm 57 will be maintained in its lower position as shown, and only the pin 70 to the left of the arm 57 anchored in its raised position.

In order to maintain the awning smooth and taut on the arms 18 to 21, inclusive, and the cords 34, it has been found that if devices such as shown in Figs. 8, 9, 13 and 14 are used, the ends of the awning, such as awning 35, may easily be maintained smooth and taut. The embodiment shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3, 8 and 9 consists essentially of a wire clip 73, see Figs. 8 and 9, which has a finger 74 extending into and through a pair of openings 75 formed in the adjacent walls of the arm 18. The bracket 73 also has two arms 76 and 77 connected by the cross portion 78, which arms are preferably bent inwardly to frictionally engage the opposite outer faces of the arm 18. The cross piece 78 of the bracket 73 preferably has secured thereto a fabric strip 79 which is secured to the inner face of the awning 35. In order to increase the frictional engagement of the arm 77 and also to guide the arm 77 into anchoring position at the end of the arm 18, the arm 77 preferably has an extension 80. Depending upon the composition of the awning 35, it may either shrink or stretch during use. For this reason, additional openings, such as the openings 81 and 82, may be provided to receive the finger 74. For extreme tautness or tension the finger 74 would of course be inserted in the opening 82, and when less tension or shrinkage takes place the finger 74 can be inserted either in the opening 81 or 75. In the use of this bracket 73, it will be attached to the awning 35 by the strip 79 as aforesaid. After the awning 35 has been positioned on the arms 18 and 20 with its reinforcement 37 slipped over the pin 12, the clip 73 will initially have its finger 74 inserted into one of the sets of openings, as an instance, the openings 75, and then the clip bent downwardly into the position shown in Fig. 3 beyond the outer free end of the arm 18.

In the embodiment shown in Figs. 13 and 14, instead of the wire bracket 73, there is provided a sheet metal bracket 83 which has at one end a fabric strip 84 which is secured to the inner face of the awning 85, see Fig. 14. The bracket 83 also has a finger 86 to be inserted in any one of the openings 87 formed in the upper web 88 of the arm 89, such as the arm 18. Preferably the web 88 also has an extended slot 90 to frictionally receive the projection 91 mounted on the bracket 83 when the bracket 83 is pressed down into awning tensioning position, that shown in Fig. 14.

In some instances it may be desirable instead of securing the post 5 into a tubular socket 2, such as illustrated in Fig. 1, to secure the same into the ground by the device shown in Figs. 17 and 18. Here the post 92 in place of the post 5 is mounted in the tubular member 93 in place of the tubular member 3 and this tubular member 93 in turn is connected to a sleeve 94 by any suitable means, such as the set screw 95. The sleeve 94, see Figs. 17 and 18, in the present instance, is provided with four tubular fittings 96, 97, 98 and 99 to receive the arcuate arms 100, 101, 102 and 103, respectively. These arcuate arms in the present instance are provided with openings at the outer ends to receive the spikes 104 which may be driven into the ground as shown in Fig. 18. In order to anchor the spikes 104 in position on the arms 100, 101, 102 and 103, preferably as shown in Fig. 18, cotter pins 130 are secured to the spikes 104 directly beneath these arms. In order to compensate for a ground surface that is not perfectly horizontal, some of the arms may be spaced from the ground surface 105 as is the case with the arm 101 in Fig. 18. The set screw 95 also cooperates with the arms 100 to 103, inclusive, to accommodate various levels of ground surface. As an instance, when the position of the arms 100 to 103, inclusive, has once been determined by the spikes 104, in order to afford an additional brace or support, the set screw 95 may be loosened to allow the tubular member 93 to descend into engagement with the supporting surface 105 and thereupon the set screw 95 fastened in the position shown in Fig. 18.

The tubular member 93 may have secured thereon a sleeve 106, see the sleeve 106 in Fig. 21, mounted on the tubular member 107. Above the sleeve 106 there is rotatably mounted the diminished post 108 to be surrounded by the yoke portions 109 and 110 of the arms 111 and 112 which are provided with the seats 113 and 114, respectively, to form a see-saw and/or merry-go-

round. The yoke elements 109 and 110 may be secured to the post 108 by the pivot pin 115.

In place of the tubular member 107 there may be provided the tubular member 116 to which are connected the hinge brackets 117 and 118 to which are secured the table leaves 119 and 120, respectively. The table leaves 119 and 120 in turn have pivotally connected thereto the links 121 and 122, respectively, the lower ends of which are pivotally connected to the sleeve bracket 123 slidably mounted on the tubular member 116. This sleeve bracket 123 may be secured in the position shown in Fig. 22 by the wing nut 124 clamping the opposing jaw members 125 and 126 of the sleeve bracket 123 into anchoring engagement with the tubular member 116. When it is desired to drop the table leaves 119 and 120 into the dash and dot line position shown in Fig. 22, it will only be necessary to turn the wing nut 124 to free the sleeve bracket 123 and permit the sleeve bracket 123 to slide down and therewith draw down the table leaves 119 and 120.

In the interest of reducing the weight of the apparatus to a minimum, the arms 18 to 21, inclusive, the links 24, 25, 28 and 29, the post 5, socket 2, tubular member 3 and associated parts may all be composed of aluminum. For the purpose of reinforcement, obviously not only the arms 18 to 21, inclusive, but also the links 24, 25, 28 and 29 may be composed of tubular stock instead of composed of flat stock and rectangular in cross section as shown.

In some cases when the device is to be used on the beach, post 5 shown in Fig. 1 may be used without the tubular socket 2 and tubular member 3, the tapering portion 7 being used initially to prepare or ready the opening for receiving the post 5. The overall length of the post 5 need not exceed five feet for the purpose aforesaid, and in turn excellent results have been achieved when the overall length approximates seven feet, eight inches from the top of the post 5 to the lower end of the socket 2 in the form shown in Fig. 1.

It is obvious that various changes and modifications may be made to the details of construction without departing from the general spirit of the invention as set forth in the appended claim.

I claim:

In a combination sun shade and clothes drier, the combination of a supporting post, two pairs of arms pivotally connected to the side of the post adjacent the upper end thereof and extending at right angles to one another when outstretched, the arms of each pair being in substantial alinement with one another when outstretched, sleeves slidably mounted on said post one above the other and below the upper end of said post, links pivotally connecting one pair of alined arms to one of said sleeves and the other pair of alined arms to the other of said sleeves, removable pins connecting the sleeves independent of one another near the upper end of said post to enable said arms to extend outwardly in outstretched position, the sleeves when liberated to slide downwardly enabling the arms and links to extend down adjacent to said post in collapsible position, the removal of the pin from said lower sleeve without removing the pin from the upper sleeve enabling one pair of alined arms to descend downwardly in collapsed position adjacent to said post without affecting the outstretched position of the other pair of arms, a covering connected at its middle to the upper end of said post, clips for removably connecting the outer ends of said covering to the outer ends of said arms, clothes line sections connected to said arms and extending around said post beneath said covering, said clips enabling the covering to be liberated from at least one of the ends of the arms connected to the lower sleeve when said latter arms have been lowered and in turn enabling the covering so removed, without being liberated from the arms connected to the upper sleeve, to be rolled up onto the arms connected to the upper sleeve, and means for securing the awning so rolled up onto the arms connected to the upper sleeve so that when the lower sleeve is raised and the arms connected thereto returned into outstretched position, the arm from which the covering was removed will be in position to enable exposing to the sun the clothes suspended from its clothes line sections without removing the awning from the post and other outstretched arms.

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