

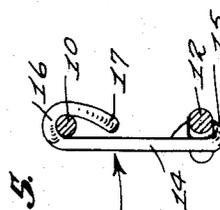
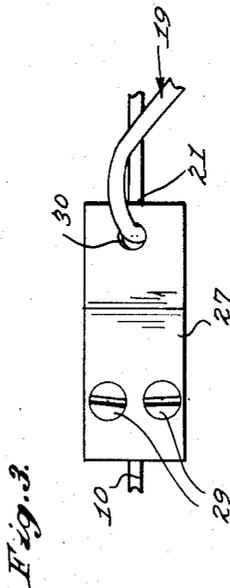
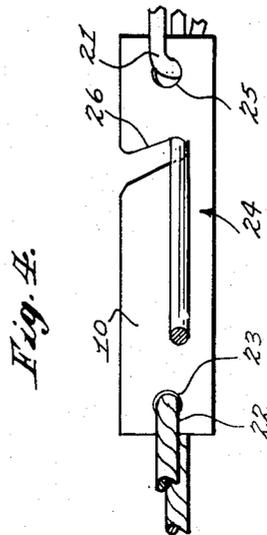
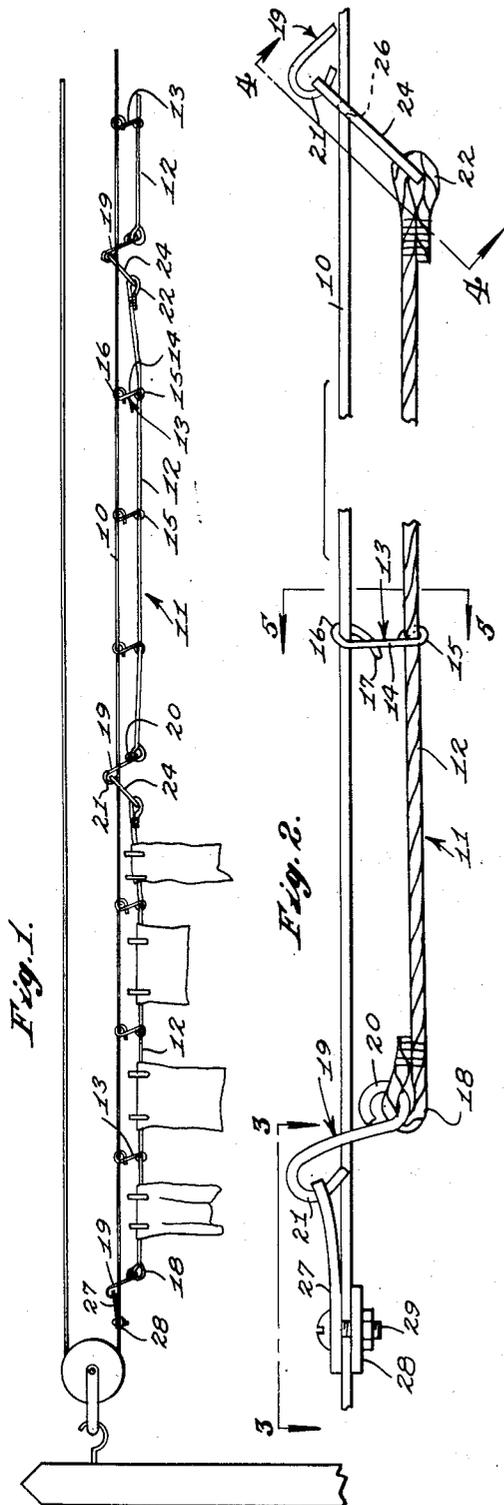
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SUPPLEMENTARY CLOTHESLINE

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## SUPPLEMENTARY CLOTHESLINE

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### 1 Claim. (Cl. 211—119.12)

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My invention relates to clotheslines and more particularly to an auxiliary or supplementary clothesline which may be readily detachably secured to a conventional main clothesline.

A primary object of the invention is to provide an auxiliary or supplementary clothesline which is highly simplified in construction, reliable and efficient in operation, easy to manipulate and cheap to manufacture.

A further important object is to provide an auxiliary clothesline to which the clothes may be pinned or otherwise secured in the comfort of an indoor area, the auxiliary line being then taken out of doors and detachably secured to a conventional main clothesline with a minimum of effort and very little time required to complete the transfer.

A further object is to provide an auxiliary clothesline of the above mentioned character which will facilitate the rapid removal of clothes from the line when dry clothes are caught in a rain storm, or the like.

A still further object of the invention is to provide an auxiliary clothesline which may be kept indoors and free from dirt and moisture when it is not being used.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this application, and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same,

Figure 1 is a fragmentary side elevational view of an auxiliary clothesline embodying my invention and showing the same applied to a conventional main clothesline,

Figure 2 is an enlarged fragmentary side elevational view of a single section of my auxiliary clothesline and illustrating the manner in which the same is attached to the main clothesline,

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary plan view taken on line 3—3 of Figure 2,

Figure 4 is an enlarged fragmentary diagonal elevational view taken on line 4—4 of Figure 2, and,

Figure 5 is an enlarged transverse vertical sectional view taken on line 5—5 of Figure 2.

In the drawings, where for the purpose of illustration is shown a preferred embodiment of my invention, the numeral 10 designates a conventional main taut or tensioned wire clothesline which may be of the endless pulley mounted type, as shown, or of the single strand fixedly mounted type, if desired. My auxiliary or supplementary

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clothesline is designated generally by the numeral 11, and includes a plurality of separate elongated line sections or strands 12 of rope or the like.

Each line section or strand 12 carries a plurality of separate attaching or suspension elements 13, preferably formed of wire, and these suspension elements 13 comprise straight body portions or shanks 14 which are substantially vertical in use, and bent at their bottom ends to form integral substantially closed loops or eyes 15 which engage snugly about the line section 12 for securing the elements 13 in fixed positions upon the line section. The loops 15 are squeezed or pinched when the elements 13 are applied to each line section 12 so that the loops 15 will tightly embrace the line section and slippage will not occur between the line section and suspension elements 13. The shanks 14 are bent at their upper ends to form integral line attaching eyes or loops 16, having free substantially tangential ends 17 which are spaced laterally of the shank 14, so that the loops 16 may be applied over the horizontal main line 10, Figure 5. The upper loops 16 are substantially spirally wound and spaced progressively farther from the shanks 14, toward their free ends or tails 17. The loops or eyes 16 slidably receive the main line 10 and the suspension elements 13 are freely slidable or adjustable longitudinally of the main line 10.

Each auxiliary line section 12 is formed at one end to provide an attaching loop 18, integral therewith, and a generally S-shaped flat end attaching element 19 has a closed loop or eye 20 at one end thereof, permanently secured to the loop 18. The opposite end of the attaching element 19 constitutes an open generally U-shaped hook 21, as shown.

Each auxiliary line section 12 is provided at its opposite end with a closed integral attaching loop 22, permanently secured within an aperture 23 formed near one end of an elongated flat line tightening element or plate 24, provided near its opposite end with an additional aperture 25 for detachably receiving the hook 21 of the next adjacent auxiliary clothesline section 12. The tightening plate 24 is further provided in one longitudinal edge thereof and near and longitudinally inwardly of one end with a narrow transverse locking slot 26, extending through the major portion of the width of the tightening plate 24 and preferably arranged somewhat diagonally, as shown. The sides of the slot 26 are straight and parallel, and the slot is slightly wider than

the diameter of the main clothesline 10 which it removably receives. When the tightening plates 24 are applied to the main line 10, such line is introduced into the slots 26 which are disposed near the upper ends of the plates 24 when the plates are applied to the main line. In assembly, the tightening plates 24 will assume inclined or canted depending positions, Figure 1, due to the tension in the line sections 12, and this jams the main clothesline 10 within the slots 26 so that the tightening plates 24 are releasably locked in their selected positions along the main clothesline 10.

A pair of opposed generally flat clamp plates 27 and 28 are positioned at opposite sides of the main clothesline 10 at one point along such line, and tightly clamped together with the main line between them by means of a pair of laterally spaced bolts 29 or the like, arranged upon opposite sides of the main clothesline 10. The uppermost clamp plate 27, Figure 2, is longer than the other clamp plate 28 and extends longitudinally of the main clothesline 10 and has its free end upturned slightly and apertured as at 30, for the reception of the hook 21 of the first adjacent or endmost auxiliary clothesline section 12. The clamp plates 27 and 28 are fixedly secured to the main line 10 and cannot move longitudinally therealong.

In Figure 1 of the drawings I have illustrated my auxiliary clothesline 11 as being made up of three of the line sections 12, but it should be understood that any desired number of the line sections 12 may be employed for forming an auxiliary clothesline of substantially any desired length.

I prefer to form the line sections 12 in lengths of between fifteen and twenty-five feet, although these lengths may be varied as desired, and I prefer to secure the suspension elements 13 to the line sections 12 at approximately three-foot intervals, and this distance may likewise be varied as desired.

In use, the wash is attached to the required number of auxiliary line sections 12 at a convenient point indoors, and the line sections, with the clothes attached, are then carried to the main clothesline 10. An auxiliary clothesline section 12 is selected and the hook 21 thereof is inserted in the aperture 30 of the fixed clamping plate 27. The suspension elements 13 of the selected line section 12 are then applied over the main clothesline 10. The line tightening plate 24 attached to the other end of the selected line section 12 is then applied to the main line 10 by introducing such main line into the slot 26, and the tightening plate 24 is then slidably adjusted longitudinally on the line 10 until the selected line section 12 is properly tensioned or taut. A second auxiliary line section 12 is then selected, and its hook 21 is inserted in the aperture 25 near the top end of the tightening plate 24 of the first selected line section 12. The suspension elements 13 and tightening plate 24 of the second line section 12 are then used to secure the second section to the main line 10 in the exact manner described in connection with the first selected auxiliary clothesline section.

When the tightening plates 24 are applied to the main line 10, they are held substantially perpendicular to the main line so that it may freely enter the slots 26 which are only slightly wider than the diameter of the line 10, as previously stated. When the plates 24 are thus applied to

the main line 10 and released, the tension in the line sections 12 will incline or cant the plates 24 and tightly jam the main line 10 between the side edges of the slots 26 for releasably locking the plates 24 in their selected adjusted positions.

When it is desired to bring the clothes indoors in a hurry, such as when a thunder shower is approaching and the clothes are substantially dry, it is merely necessary to swing the line tightening plates 24 to positions generally normal to the main line 10 and then slide all of the plates 24, elements 13 and 19 along the main line 10 toward the clamp plate 27. This bunches or folds all of the auxiliary line sections 12 carrying the clothes together at the clamp plate 27, where the hook 21 may be disengaged from the clamp plate and the suspensions elements 13 and tightening plates 24 disengaged from the main line 10. The auxiliary clothesline 11 with the clothes still attached thereto may now be carried bodily indoors, and a minimum of time and effort is required for the entire operation. Much time is saved with the use of my auxiliary clothesline in both applying the clothes to the main clothesline 10 and removing them therefrom. Further, the auxiliary clothesline 11 is stored indoors when it is not in use so that it may be kept in a clean and dry condition.

It is to be understood that the form of the invention herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example of the same, and that various changes in shape, size and arrangement of parts may be resorted to, without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claim.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

A clothesline assembly comprising a supporting line supported in a taut and substantially horizontal position, and an auxiliary line suspended from said supporting line and comprising a plurality of line sections disposed in end to end relationship along said supporting line, a flat clamp plate permanently secured to said supporting line at one end of said auxiliary line and having an aperture therein, hooks secured one to each auxiliary line section at the ends of said sections nearest said clamp plate with the hook on the auxiliary line section adjacent said clamp plate engaged in the aperture in the latter, flat tightening plates secured one to each of said auxiliary line sections at the ends of the latter remote from said hooks and each having intermediately its length a notch receiving and crampingly engaging said supporting line and apertures disposed one near each end thereof and respectively receiving the end portion of the corresponding auxiliary line section to which the tightening plate is attached and the hook on the end of the adjacent auxiliary line section, and hooks secured to each auxiliary line section at spaced apart locations therealong and engaging said supporting line to assist in suspending said auxiliary line sections from said supporting line.

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