Oct. 9, 1945. R. E. GARDINER 2,386,306

BASE CONSTRUCTION

Filed Nov. 29, 1943

Fig. 1.

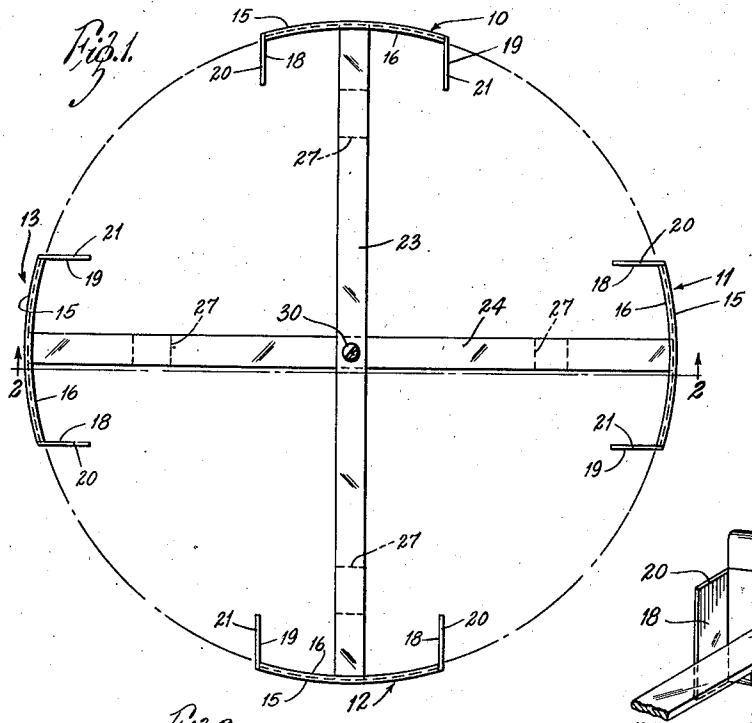


Fig. 3.

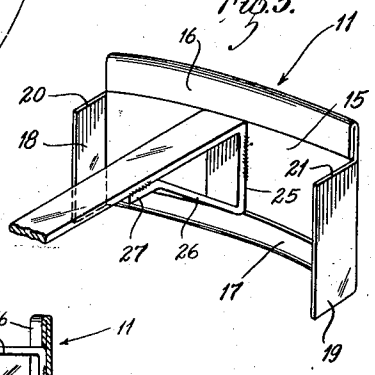


Fig. 2.

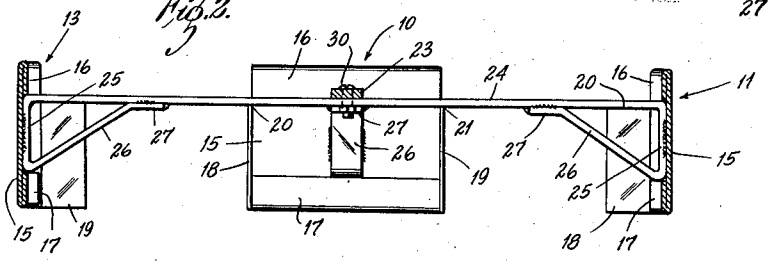


Fig. 4.

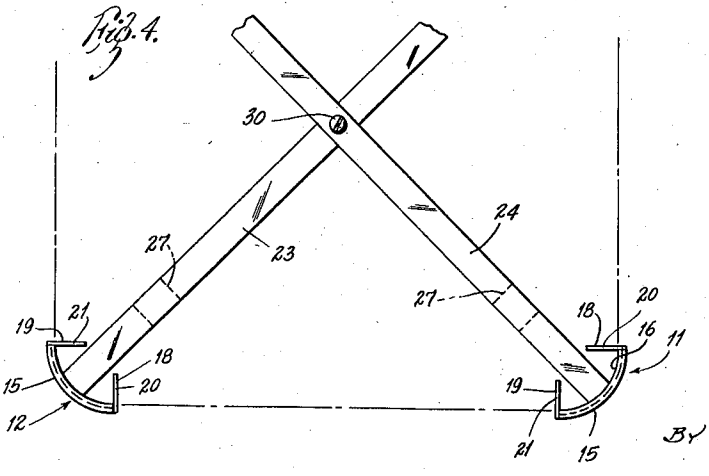
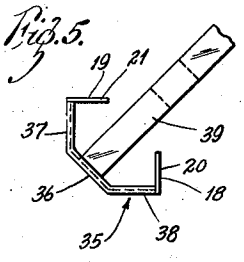


Fig. 5.



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BASE CONSTRUCTION

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8 Claims. (Cl. 248—150)

The present invention relates to a base construction.

It is an object of the invention to provide a base-supporting construction that may be used with any number of different things, such as room heaters and the like, which may be inexpensively fabricated out of sheet metal.

A further object is to provide a base member that may be collapsed when not in use so as to occupy a small space.

A particular object of the invention is to provide a base construction embodying a plurality of leg members formed from sheet metal stampings in a manner to be completely rigid, which leg members are joined together by struts to form an integral base structure.

A further object is to provide leg members made of stampings with facile means to receive and hold the connecting strut members.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the base construction as it would be shaped for a round device to be supported;

Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the leg members;

Fig. 4 is a plan view of part of a base construction for a rectangular supported device with rounded corners;

Fig. 5 is a view of a similar construction for beveled corners.

Referring to Figs. 1–3, there are a plurality of leg members 10, 11, 12 and 13. These are identical, and the member 11 is shown in Fig. 3. It consists of a sheet of steel or other like material having a back panel 15 or main body portion that is arcuate in shape. The non-planar shape of the portion 15 increases its strength against compression vertically. The upper part 16 of the main body portion 15 is preferably folded back to reenforce the upper edge, and the lower part 17 is similarly turned up to reenforce the bottom edge. In-turned wings 18 and 19 provide further reenforcement and additionally act to prevent the leg members from collapsing inwardly, and to conceal parts of the inner construction. The wings 18 and 19 have their upper edges 20 and 21, respectively, terminating below the upper edge of the main portion 15. The edges 20 and 21 may desirably register with the depending edge of the overlapped portion 16. They thus provide seats against which the supported device may rest.

Opposite leg members 10 and 12, or 11 and 13, are connected by struts. The struts are designated 23 and 24, respectively. Each strut is formed from a strip, and has a turned-down portion 25 extending at right angles downwardly from the main portion of the strut. Beyond the portion 25 is a turned-back portion 26, and an overlapping portion 27. Preferably, the portion 25 is of a length to fit between the depending edge of the turned-down element 16 and the turned-up portion 17 of the main leg member. This gives added support and rigidity.

The portion 25 may be welded to the portion 15 of the leg members. The portion 27 may be welded along the main part 24 of the strut.

The two struts are preferably joined at their crossing by a screw or rivet 30, which may be sufficiently loose to permit folding. One of them will be deflected upwardly over the other. Both may be deflected downwardly, if desired to lower the area of their crossing.

The structure of Fig. 4 is similar except that the members are given a somewhat greater curvature. Otherwise, the construction is identical, to indicate which, the two leg members shown have been indicated as 11 and 12, with the cross members as 23 and 24.

In Fig. 5, the leg member 35 is similar to those previously described except for having its middle portion 36 straight and at an angle to the outer portions 37 and 38. This has the advantage that the strut 39 very readily engages against the portion 36 for secure welding.

It will be seen that the construction provides a strong, rigid base device, into which a device to be supported may be cradled and securely held. It is not essential that the device to be supported fit down on to the top edges 20 and 21, although this is desirable. The upper edges of the leg members 15 may constitute the supports. When not in use, as in the case of shipping, the two portions comprising each strut and the two legs attached thereto, may be folded about the pivot 30 to occupy a smaller space.

Owing to the relative cheapness of stampings over other forms of construction, this base member is particularly desirable.

What is claimed is:

1. A base construction including means to engage a floor or the like formed from sheet material including a main body portion, the upper part thereof being folded down to overlap the main portion thereof, the lower part being folded up to overlap the main portion thereof, and strut means secured to said floor engaging means and

extending transversely of said main body portion thereof.

2. A base construction including means to engage a floor or the like formed from sheet material including a main body portion, the upper part thereof being folded down to overlap the main portion thereof, the lower part being folded up to overlap the main portion thereof, and strut means secured to said floor engaging means and extending transversely of said main body portion thereof, said strut means comprising a strip having a portion extending in the direction of the main body portion of the leg members, said strut portion being securely united to said main body portion.

3. A base construction comprising a plurality of leg members, said leg members being formed of sheet material with a main body portion and end portions turned inwardly relative to said body portion, said end portions having supporting upper edges, the upper part of the main body portion being folded downwardly to provide a double thickness in the upper part of the main body portion, the upper edge of the main body portion being disposed above the upper edges of the in-turned end parts thereof, and means connecting said leg members to hold them in spaced relation to receive apparatus to be supported.

4. A base construction comprising a plurality of leg members, said leg members being formed of sheet material with a main body portion and end portions turned inwardly relative to said body portion, said end portions having supporting upper edges, the upper part of the main body portion being folded downwardly to provide a double thickness in the upper part of the main body portion, the upper edge of the main body portion being disposed above the upper edges of the in-turned end parts thereof, the lower part of the main body portion being folded upwardly to provide double thickness, the lower edge of the main body portion being in the same plane as the lower edges of the in-turned ends thereof, and means connecting said leg members to hold them in spaced relation to receive apparatus to be supported.

5. A base construction comprising a plurality of leg members, said leg members being formed of sheet material with a main body portion and end portions turned inwardly relative to said body portion, said end portions having supporting upper edges, the upper part of the main body portion being folded downwardly to provide a double thickness in the upper part of the main body portion, the upper edge of the main body portion being disposed above the upper edges of the in-turned end parts thereof, the lower part of the main body portion being folded upwardly to provide double thickness, the lower edge of the main body portion being in the same plane as the lower edges of the in-turned ends thereof, and means connecting said leg members to hold them in spaced relation to receive apparatus to be supported, said means comprising strips having down-turned ends adapted to fit against the main body portion between the overlapped parts thereof, and secured thereto.

6. In a base construction, a plurality of leg members, each consisting of a main body portion of sheet material disposed in a substantially vertical plane and being non-planar in horizontal section, an end portion turned inwardly from each end of the main body portion, said in-turned end portions having their lower edges adapted to rest upon a floor or the like and their upper edges adapted to receive the device to be supported, the main body portion having its upper part turned downwardly to overlap, the lower edge of the overlap substantially coinciding with the plane of the upper edges of the in-turned end portions, the lower part of the main body portion being turned upwardly to overlap and providing a bottom edge for the main body portion that coincides with the bottom edges of the in-turned end portion, strut members joining said leg members, said strut members being of strap-like shape joined at each end to a leg member, each end having a portion turned down to lie against the main body portion of the leg member between the overlaps thereon, and integrally united with said main body portion, said straps beyond said united parts extending back upwardly and along a part of the strap inwardly from the united portion and integrally united therewith.

7. In a base construction, crossed struts and a leg member carried on the outer end of each strut, said struts forming the sole connection between the leg members, and said leg members each comprising a main vertically positioned body portion secured to a strut end and provided with vertically positioned wing portions extending inwardly at an angle thereto, said wing portions having lower edges adapted to engage the surface upon which the base is to rest and upper edges terminating at a different elevation from the main body portion whereby when a device to be upheld by the base is received thereon a shoulder will be presented for engagement with a part of the device to prevent lateral slippage thereof on the base.

8. In a base construction, crossed struts, a leg member carried on the outer ends of each strut and means for pivotally connecting the struts together at their crossed portions, said struts forming the sole connection between the leg members and permitting the base to be reduced in size by swinging the struts on the pivot means so that the leg members will be placed adjacent each other, said leg members each comprising a main vertically positioned body portion secured to a strut end and provided with vertically positioned wing portions extending inwardly at an angle thereto, said wing portions having their lower edges in the same plane as the lower edge of the body so that all portions can rest on a floor or like surface and said wing portions having their upper edges positioned below the upper edge of the body portion and arranged to receive and support the device to be upheld and to enable the upper part of the body portion to be engaged and prevent slippage of the device from the base.

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