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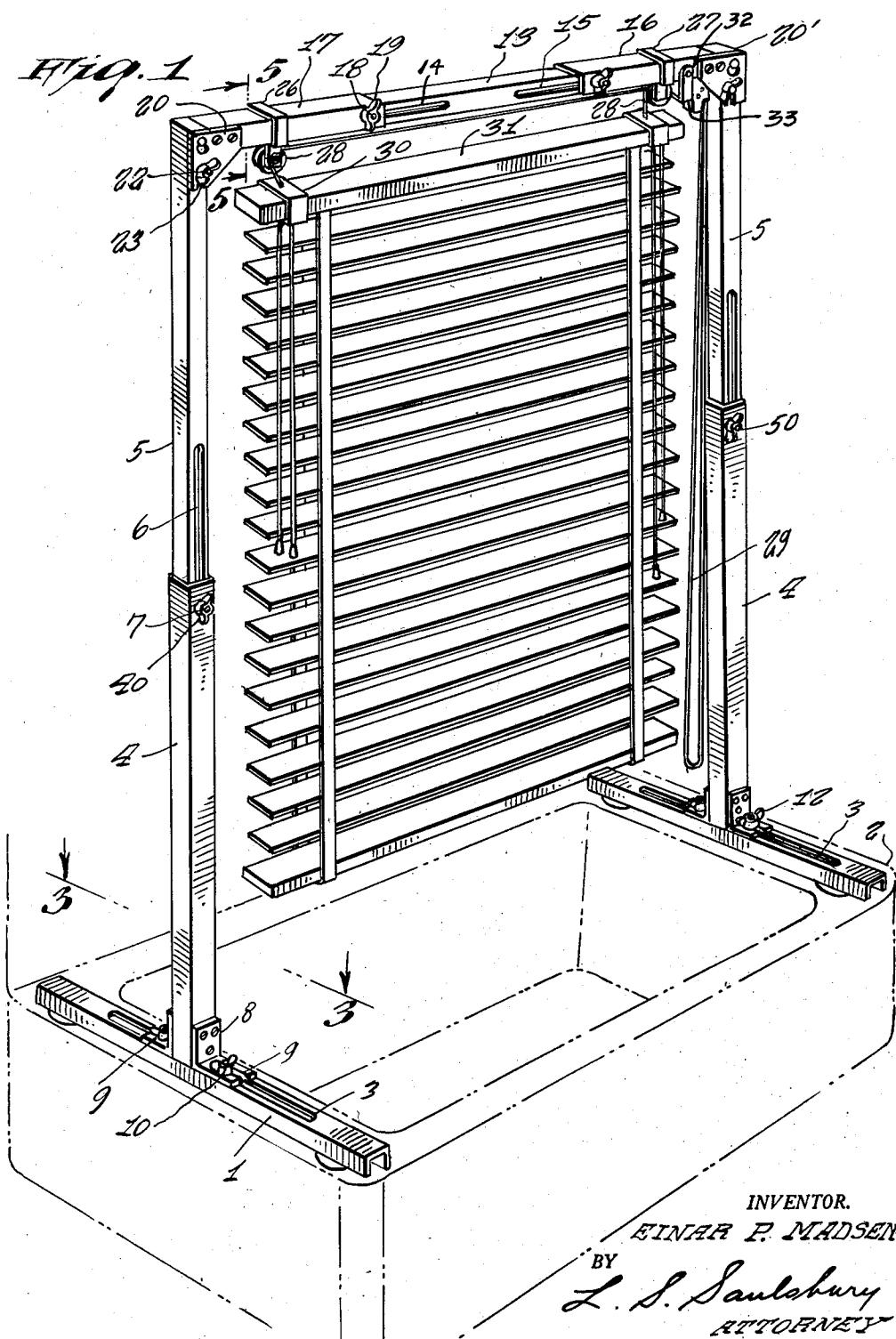
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**2,849,745**

## VENETIAN BLIND CLEANING RACK

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2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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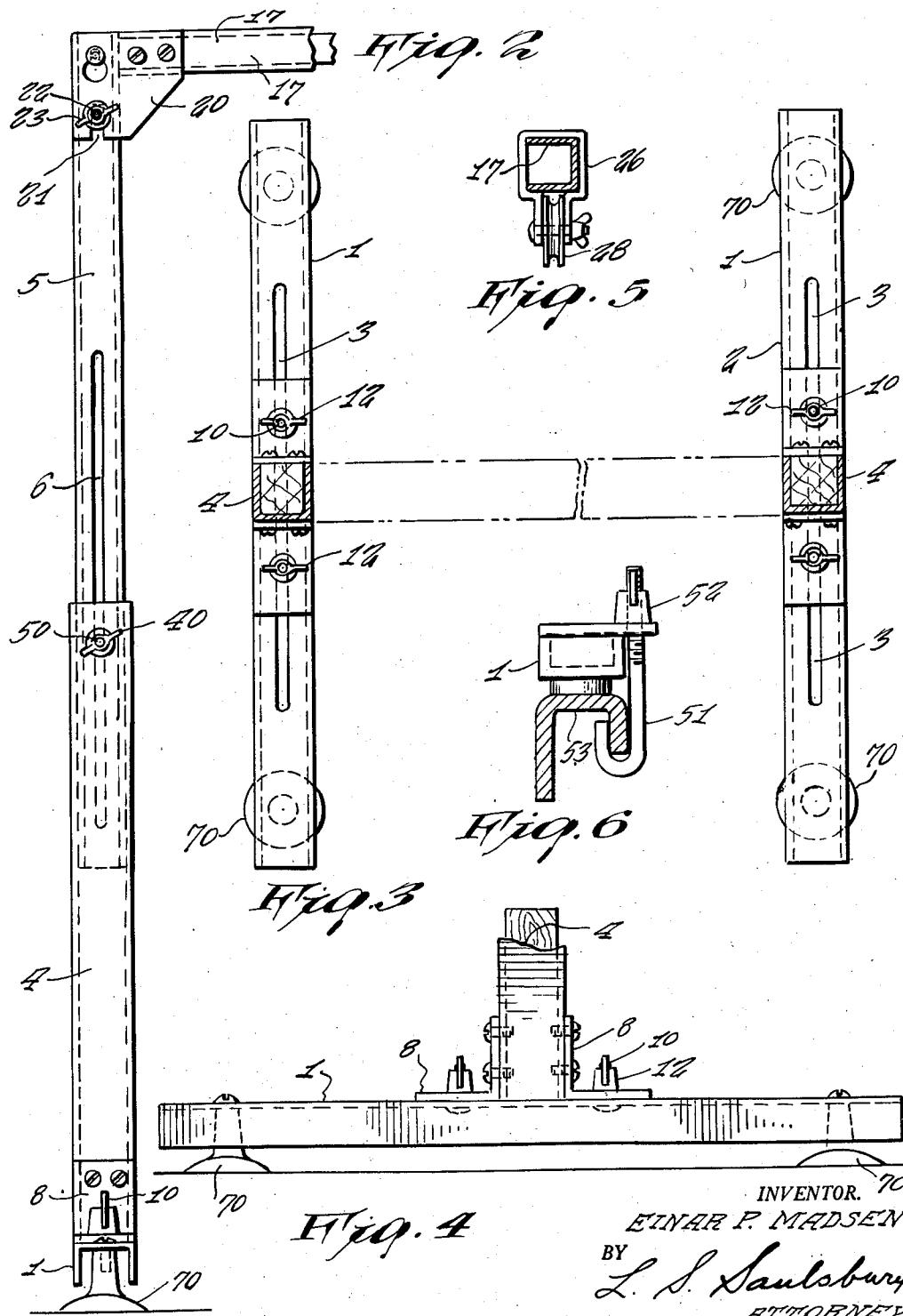
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2,849,745

**VENETIAN BLIND CLEANING RACK**

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4 Claims. (Cl. 15—268)

This invention relates to a rack or stand for supporting Venetian blinds while they are being washed or repaired.

The primary object of this invention is to provide means for suspending the blind in an extended condition above a washing tub or the like and for lowering this blind into the tub, whereby the slats of the blind are readily accessible and can be thoroughly and conveniently cleaned without damage to the slats or other parts.

Another object of this invention is to provide a stand which is completely adjustable to accommodate varying sizes and shapes of tubs and different sizes of Venetian blinds.

In its preferred embodiment, the stand comprising an upper cross bar of telescoping members which bar supports two pulleys and two stirrups used for raising and lowering the upper bar of the blind, two upright bars also of telescoping members for adjustability, and two bottom rails or foot members extending at right angles to the uprights and to the cross bar, which foot members are attached to the uprights by means permitting adjustment longitudinally of the foot members.

For other objects and for a better understanding of the invention, reference may be had to the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a three-dimensional view of the rack supporting a Venetian blind;

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary elevational view;

Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary elevational view of a foot member illustrating its laterally adjustable connection to an upright;

Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 6 is an end elevational view of a foot member where a hook is used to hold the stand on tubs having curled edges.

Referring now in detail to the drawings, the stand includes horizontal foot members 1 and 2 of channel section. Each member is provided with two suction cups 70 to hold it in place and with an elongated slot 3 in which the foot of an upright is fastened. Each upright comprises two telescoping channel bars 4 and 5 fastened to each other by means of a wing nut 40 and a bolt 50 operating and sliding in slot 6. Attached to the lower end of each bar 4 are two L-shaped brackets 8. Each bracket has an open-ended slot 9 to receive a bolt 10. Bolts 10 slide in slots 3 and are fastened by wing nuts 12. As shown in Fig. 1, each upright 4, 5 may be fastened upon feet 1 and 2 in a wide range of positions provided by slots 3. This is advantageous where faucets or pipes are in the way of the uprights, since it permits adjustment of the position of the uprights away from the faucets or pipes.

A cross bar assembly comprises a center member 13, having slots at 14 and 15, and two end members 16 and 17 that telescope upon rail or channel member 13. Wing

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nuts 19 and bolts 18 mounted in slots 14 and 15 fasten rail 13 to the end members 16 and 17. Permanently bolted on each end member 16 and 17 are bracket plates 20 and 20'. Each bracket plate is provided with an open-ended slot at 21 (Fig. 2) to receive the bolt 22. Bolts 22 are permanently attached to upright elements 5. Wing nut 23 fastens bolt 22 to the bracket plates. Above slot 21 is an inverted keyhole opening 24 which receives the round head 25 of a bolt fastened to upright element 5. 10 Slidably mounted upon the end pieces 16 and 17 of the cross bar assembly are two metal straps 26, 27, each of which suspends a pulley 28. Each end of cord 29 is attached to a stirrup 30 which is slipped over or slidable upon an end of the top bar 31 of the Venetian blind A. 15 The two ends of cord 29 pass upwardly together through locking means 32 and over a first pulley 28. Then one strand runs over a second pulley 28. The locking means 32 includes the conventional lever 33 having a toothed or serrated edge. When the cord is moved upwardly 20 by the weight of the blind, the serrated edge catches upon the cord and locks the cord in position.

To set up the rack, the vertical members are adjusted to the desired height and then locked by means of nuts and bolts 40, 50. Each vertical member is placed upon a foot member 1, 2 in the desired position, with the slots 9 in position to receive, endwise, a bolt 10. Wing nuts 12 are then tightened in place. The cross bar is then attached by fitting slots 21 under wing nuts 23 and passing bolt head 25 through opening 24 and then pushing or 30 sliding the bracket plates down.

The blind is conveniently cleaned by lowering the opened or extended blind into the tub of water or detergent and permitting it to soak for a time. The blind is then raised part way or fully, and the slats washed 35 individually with brush or sponge and then rinsed with a bath spray.

In Fig. 6, there is shown an alternative fastening means for securing the foot members to a different type of tub. Hook bolt 51 and wing nut 52 lock foot member 1 in 40 position upon curled edge 53 of the tube.

While the several members are made of channel shaped pieces, it will be understood that they may be tubular telescoping members.

While various changes may be made in the detail construction, it shall be understood that such changes shall be within the spirit and scope of the present invention as defined by the appended claims.

**What is claimed is:**

1. A Venetian blind support rack comprising a pair of 50 parallel spaced horizontal foot members, each of said foot members having an elongated slot, an upright telescoping member slidably in each of said foot member slots, a telescoping cross bar detachably secured to the upper ends of said uprights, and suspending means for a Venetian blind, said suspending means including a pair of spaced pulleys depending from said cross bar and a metal strap for each pulley secured at each end of the cross bar and adjustable thereon to accommodate different widths of Venetian blinds, a cord over each of said 55 pulleys, means engageable with the top bar of a blind depending from said cords and locking means for said cords.

2. A Venetian blind supporting rack as defined in claim 1, having a plurality of suction cups secured to the under 60 sides of said foot members.

3. A Venetian blind supporting rack as defined in claim 1, having a hook bolt adjustably secured to each of said foot members.

4. A Venetian blind supporting rack comprising a pair 70 of parallel spaced horizontal foot members, each of said foot members having an elongated slot, telescoping supporting member extending upwardly from each of said

foot members, means slidably connecting said supporting members with said foot members, said connecting members including an L-shaped bracket secured to the lower end of said supporting member, said bracket having an open-ended horizontal slot, a bolt in said bracket slot and slideable in said foot member slot, and a nut for securing said bolt, a telescoping cross bar detachably secured to the upper ends of said supporting members, said cross bar including a center member having slots adjacent its ends, end members having bolts slideable in said slots and nuts for securing said bolts, and suspending means for a Venetian blind, said suspending means including a pair of spaced pulleys depending from said cross bar and a metal strap for each pulley secured at each end of the cross bar and adjustable thereon to ac- 15

commodate different widths of Venetian blinds; and a cord over each of said pulleys, stirrup means depending from said cords.

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