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B. KUGLER

1,503,538

EXTENSIBLE SCREEN

Filed April 3, 1923

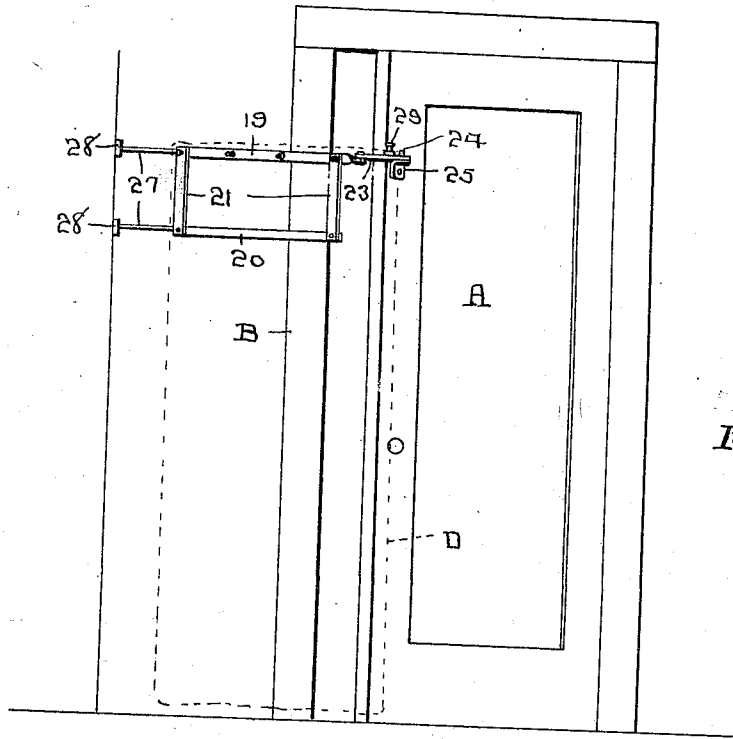


Fig. 1.

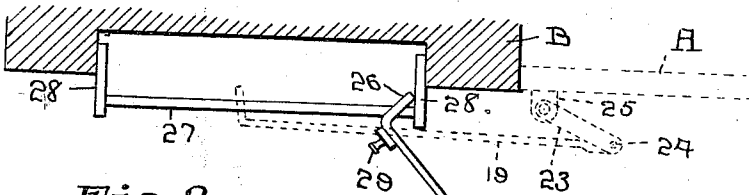


Fig. 2.

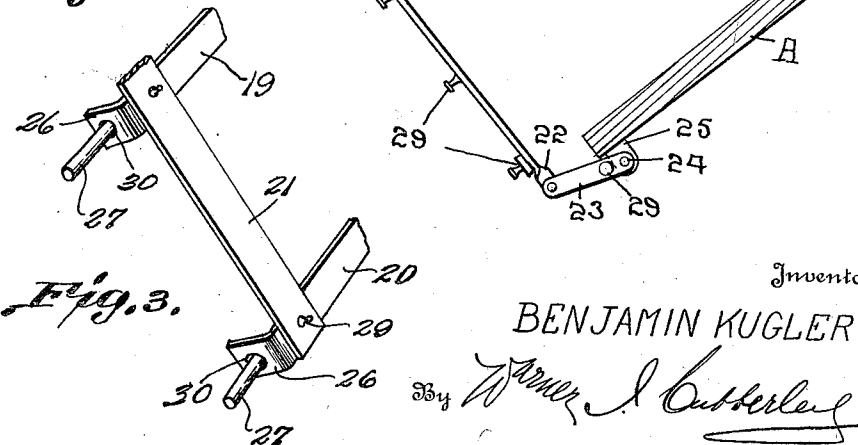


Fig. 3.

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BENJAMIN KUGLER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

EXTENSIBLE SCREEN.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN KUGLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented new and useful Improvements in Extensible Screens, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has reference, in its broad aspect, to improvements in extensible screening or curtaining devices of the type adapted for use in conjunction with swinging closures whereby to provide an effective means for completely, and at all times, obstructing the view through a door way, or the like; and more particularly my invention contemplates the provision of an adjustable frame which may be utilized to limit the movement of the closure.

One of the principal advantages of my invention may be recognized by its application upon the doors of hospital rooms or wards, hotel guest rooms, entrances to private apartments opening upon a public corridor, and the like, where expediency directs that the door or other closure be opened without exposing the interior, or where it is desired to obtain the maximum ventilation without exposing the interior of a room or ward to the view of persons passing along an adjoining corridor, as in a hospital. Usually there are now provided movable and foldable screens for this purpose which are set up as occasion demands across open doorways or the like, but these are inherently unstable and unsatisfactory, and are oftentimes blown down, disarranged or otherwise rendered ineffective. Furthermore, screens of this type are essentially fragile, difficult to clean and thereby unsightly and unsanitary, and are generally a poor make-shift for the purpose for which they are designed. My screen on the other hand contemplates the provision of a frame which is positively, but removably, attached to a doorway, or the like, and the closure therefore; and which is expansible with the closure whereby to completely obstruct the view through the doorway, or the like, at all times. Furthermore, my screen or curtain, per se, may be readily detached from the frame and washed, repaired, or replaced: or when it is desired to dispense with the screen it may be removed without disturbing the frame therefore, in which case the frame may be

utilized simply to limit the movement of the closure.

Other and equally important objects of my invention, though more briefly stated, may be defined as: first, to provide a screen or curtain which may be quickly applied to conventional doorways or the like; second, to provide a screen or curtain which may be removed from its supporting frame when worn and replaced at small cost, and one which may be formed of any suitable fabric, although a washable fabric is desirable for sanitary purposes: third, to provide a frame for the screen or curtain which may be manufactured in quantities from standard stock at comparatively small cost, thereby adapting the device to general distribution upon the market; fourth, to form my frame of relatively few parts, and these of simple construction and arrangement, thus eliminating the necessity of employing skilled labor in its application or adjustment; fifth, to provide a screen or curtain, per se, which may be fabricated by any person possessed of even a slight knowledge of layout and needlework, thereby adapting it for usage upon a large scale in hospitals, apartment houses, hotels, and the like and; sixth, to so arrange the parts of my device that when the door, or the like, is closed the screen will be folded up automatically into a small and compact object.

The structural elements employed to accomplish the above and other results and objects will be hereinafter more fully described in detail and specifically pointed out in the claims appended hereto and forming a part of this specification.

In the accompanying drawings wherein are illustrated two embodiments of my invention:—

Figure 1, is a view of the frame used with my invention shown as applied to a conventional door way the screen being shown in dotted lines, and

Figure 2, is a top plan view of my frame applied, with the same shown in closed position in dotted lines; the position of my link both in the open and closed position is also shown in this view.

Figure 3 is an enlarged detail view in perspective showing the manner of slidably and pivotally mounting the frame on the support.

Like characters of reference designate like

or similar parts throughout the several views of the drawings, in which:—

A conventional door, and frame therefore, are designated by the letters (A) and (B) respectively.

The screen or curtain is designated by (D) and is fabricated of any suitable material. The curtain is foldable and extensible with the frame so that a door or other closure upon which my invention is applied may be opened without exposing the interior, and furthermore the curtain being readily detachable and replaceable, it may be taken down, cleaned or repaired with little labor or expense.

The body of the frame for supporting the screen is formed with upper and lower horizontal rails (19) and (20) which are connected at a point adjacent their ends by vertical bars (21). The upper rail (19) has one of its ends twisted as at (22) and pivotally connected by a link (23) to the pintle (24) of a bracket (25) secured to the door (A). The opposite end of the rail (19) and the corresponding end of the rail (20) are bent at right angles as at (26) and provided with openings through which the rods (27) of the support for the frame are mounted. The rods are mounted on brackets (28) attached to the wall of a room adjacent the door frame, or to adjacent door frames, and the frame is freely slidable thereon. The upper rail (19) and the link (23) have mounted thereon studs (29) upon which a curtain, such as has hereinbefore been described, is hung.

In operation, when the door or other closure is opened the link first swings in a semi-circle, after which the frame is drawn to a position across the intervening space to dispose the curtain across the doorway. When the door is closed the link swings back in a semi-circle after which the frame follows to a position of rest, with the curtain folded up as in the preferred form of my invention, or disposed substantially flat against the wall adjoining the door frame as in the modified form. Attention is here directed to the fact

that while my invention is described as applied to a door, it may be applied with equal advantage to any form of swinging closure.

While in the foregoing, there has been illustrated and described such combination and arrangement of elements as constitute the preferred embodiments of my invention, it is nevertheless desired to emphasize the fact that interpretation of the invention should only be conclusive when made in the light of the subjoined claims.

Having described my invention and its objects with such attention to detail as will thoroughly acquaint one skilled in the art with its construction and advantages, I claim:—

1. A screen for swinging closures comprising a support, a frame formed with spaced, horizontal and vertical members, the ends of each of the horizontal members adjacent the support being formed with openings through which the support is loosely engaged to permit slidable and pivotal movement of the frame relative the support, a link pivotally connected with the remaining end of the uppermost horizontal frame member, and said link being pivotally connected with the closure and adapted to fold upon the frame upon movement of the closure to a closed position.

2. A screen for swinging closures comprising a support, a frame formed with spaced, relatively parallel horizontal and vertical members, the ends of each of the horizontal members adjacent the support being bent substantially at right angles and formed with openings through which the support is loosely engaged to permit slidable and pivotal movement of the frame relative the support, a link pivotally connected with the remaining end of the uppermost horizontal frame member, and said link being pivotally connected with the closure and adapted to fold upon the frame upon movement of the closure to a closed position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature hereto.

BENJAMIN KUGLER.