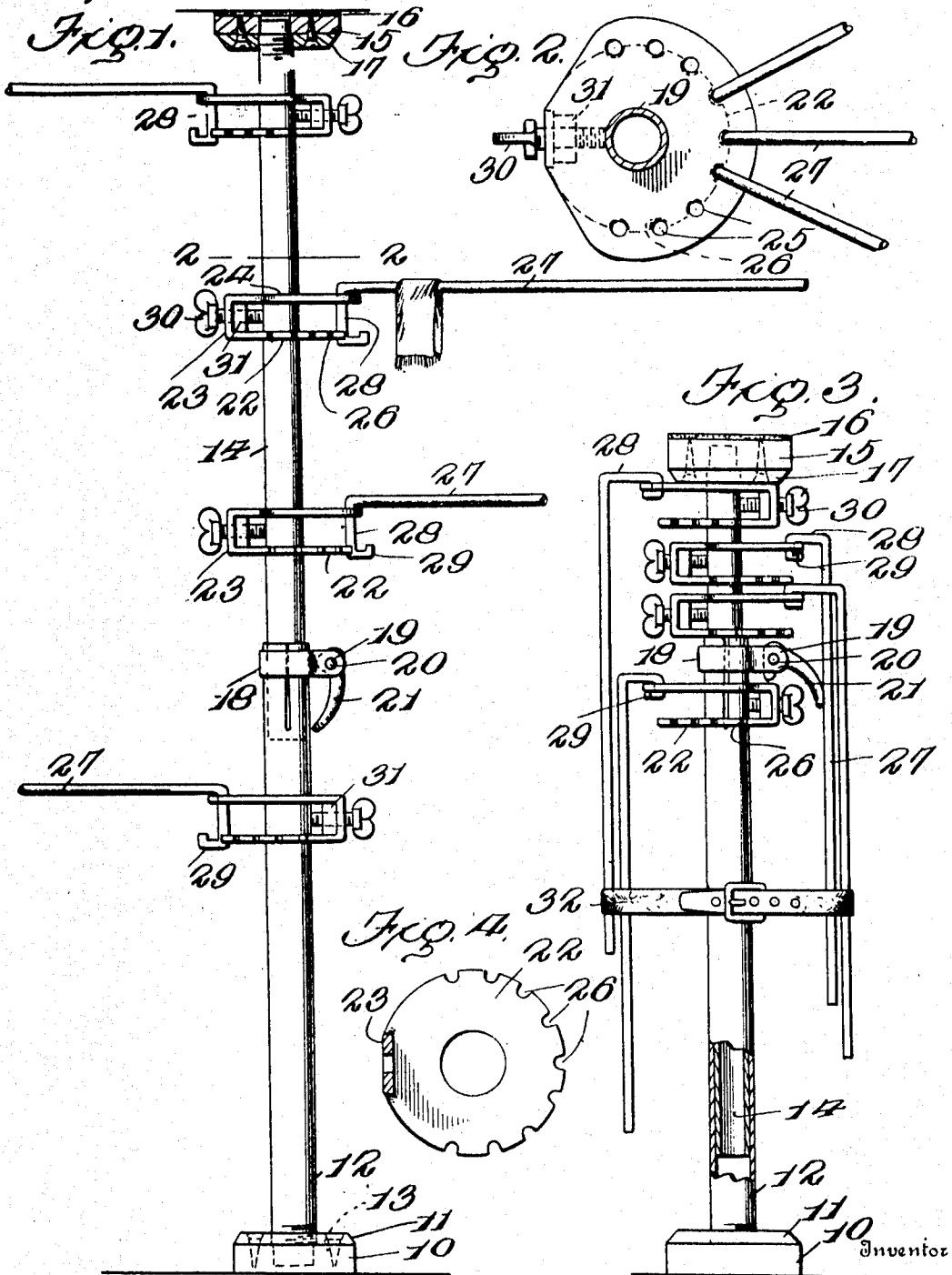


P. L. FOWLER.
CLOTHES RACK.
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949,066.

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Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PAUL L. FOWLER, OF CROCKETT, CALIFORNIA.

CLOTHES-RACK.

949,066.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PAUL L. FOWLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Crockett, in the county of Contra Costa and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clothes-Racks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to racks, and refers particularly to a device of this nature to be employed as a clothes rack for drying clothes.

An object of the invention is to construct a rack of this character which may be folded into a comparatively small space so that the same may be readily conveyed from place to place or may be packed away, occupying but little room.

The device has for another object the provision of a rack of this character which may be secured against the floor and the ceiling in order to be substantially braced to the same to support drying articles.

The invention further contemplates the provision of improved means for adjustably securing the supporting arms in position and in adjusting the same relative to the desired height or angle.

For a full understanding of the invention and the merits thereof, and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction and the means for effecting the result, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the complete rack in an extended position. Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2-2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a side elevation showing the complete rack in a folded position, the lower end of the same being broken away. Fig. 4 is a detailed view of one of the disks for supporting the arms.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings, by the same reference characters.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 10 designates a base block which is preferably of circular formation and which is provided upon its upper face with a metallic plate 11. The base 10 is provided in its upper face with a circular depression for the reception of a tube 12, which is upwardly extended from the base 10 and which is passed through an aperture formed centrally in the plate 11 and which is disposed in threaded engagement with plate 11 to retain the same rigidly

in position. The plate 11 is secured upon the base 10 by suitable screws 13 or the like. The tube 12 is open at its upper extremity into which is passed a second tubular member 14 of reduced diameter in order to snugly and slidably engage within the tube 12.

The tubular member 14 is provided upon its upper extremity with a ceiling block 15 which is provided with a strip of leather, 16 upon its upper face to engage with the ceiling and which carries a plate 17 which is disposed in threaded engagement about the tubular member 14.

The means employed for holding the blocks 10 and 15 against the floor and ceiling respectively comprises a split sleeve 18 which is formed with lugs 19 which project outwardly from the same at the end portions thereof, through which a screw 20 is disposed which pivotally supports the inner end of a cam lever 21. The tube 12 is oppositely split at its upper extremity and is adapted for communication upon the engagement of the cam lever 21 against the adjacent side of the same, the same being effected by the swinging of the outer end of the cam lever 21 downwardly. The supporting means which is carried by the device comprises a disk 22 which is loosely engaged about the tubular member 14 and which is provided at one side with an upwardly projected flange 23 which is secured upon one side of a circular plate 24. The circular plate is enlarged at its outer side to project beyond the disk 22 and is provided with a plurality of apertures 25 which are disposed in spaced relation adjacent the outer edge of the same and which are registered with semicircular grooves 26 formed in the edge of the disk 22 in spaced relation. A plurality of arms 27 are employed which greatly extend from the circular plate 24, the arms 27 being curved downwardly at substantially right angles at their inner extremities to form abutments 28, the abutments 28 being extended through the apertures 25 and engaged at their lower extremities in the semicircular grooves 26. The lower extremities of the abutments 28 are turned inwardly and enlarged as at 29 to prevent the displacement of the arms 27 when the same are disengaged from the disk 22. For the purpose of clamping the disk 22 to the circular plate 24 in adjusted position upon the tubular member 14 a set screw 30 is provided which is extended through the flange 23

and engaged at its inner extremity against the side of the tubular member 14, the same being retained in position by the employment of a jam nut 31. In the drawings is disclosed several series of arms 27 and in actual manufacture of the rack any number of arms may be employed, the same being adjusted to the desired height upon the tubular member 14 by providing a plurality of disks 22 and circular plates 24.

When it is desired to erect the device the telescopic sections 12 and 14 are extended to engage the base 10 upon the floor and the block 15 against the ceiling of the room in which the device is erected, although any position may be had with the device provided an upper support is convenient. When the cam lever 21 is thrown downwardly and caused to contract the split sections of the upper end of the tube 12 and thus bind the tubular member 14 in rigid relation within the same, the set screws 30 are operated to release the disks 22 and circular plates 24 to couple the adjustment of the arms 27 vertically with respect to the device, when such adjustment is obtained the arms 27 are raised to slide their inwardly curved portions 29 downwardly through the apertures 25 and plates 24 to engage the abutments 26 through the apertures and at the lower extremities in the semicircular grooves 26. When the device is positioned it will be observed from the drawings that the arms 27 are radially extended from the tubular member 14 and are retained in a substantially horizontal position to enable the hanging of articles thereon. A suitable strap 32 is positioned about the tube 12 to engage the outer extremities of the arms 27 when the same are folded downwardly against the sides of the tube 12.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A rack as specified comprising a pair of telescopic members, a base carried upon the end of one of said members, a ceiling block mounted on the outer end of the opposite of said members, the inner end of the larger of said members being split, a split sleeve engaged about the split portion of said member, a cam lever carried adjacent the split portion of said sleeve to impinge against the split portion to contract the same, a disk carried by the upper of said telescopic members, a flange upwardly extended from one side of said disk, a circular plate projecting from said flange in spaced relation from said disk, a plurality of arms extended from said plate, abutments carried from said arms and extended downwardly through said plate, said disk having a plurality of semicircular grooves formed in spaced relation in the edge of the same,

said abutments adapted to engage in the grooves to support said arms, and a stud screw carried by said flange for adjustably retaining said disk and said plate in position.

2. A rack as specified comprising a pair of telescopic members, a cam lever carried by one of said members to contract the same and bind said members in position, disks carried by said members, circular plates carried by said members and spaced upwardly from said disks, flanges extended between said plates and said disks at one side thereof, at the edges to secure the same in rigid relation to one another, a set screw carried by each of said flanges to adjustably retain the same on said members and a plurality of arms radially extended from said plates and adjustably supported by the same.

3. A rack as specified comprising a pair of telescopic members, disks carried by said members, flanges upwardly extended from one side of said disks, circular plates carried by said members and spaced upwardly from said disks, said plates being supported on said flanges, said plates being provided with a series of apertures, formed therethrough in spaced relation adjacent the edges of the same, said disks being provided with corresponding series of grooves in the outer edges of the same, arms radially extended from said plates, abutments carried upon the inner ends of said arms to engage through said plates, said abutments adapted to engage in the grooves in said disks at the lower extremities, and inwardly curved and enlarged portions formed on said abutments for retaining the same in position through said plates.

4. A rack including a telescopic standard, supporting members mounted adjustably on said standard and integrally formed in pairs, a set-screw carried by each pair of said members for engagement against said standard to secure said members in adjusted position, the upper of each pair of said members being apertured and the lower members having recesses formed in the outer edges thereof, arms outwardly extended from the upper of said members, abutments carried upon the inner ends of said arms and extended through the apertures formed in said upper members for engagement with the lower of said members and enlargements formed on said abutments for retaining the same within said upper members.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

PAUL L. FOWLER. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

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