Nov. 6, 1945. J. A. PETERSON ET AL 2,388,366

TOWEL RACK

Filed May 24, 1944 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

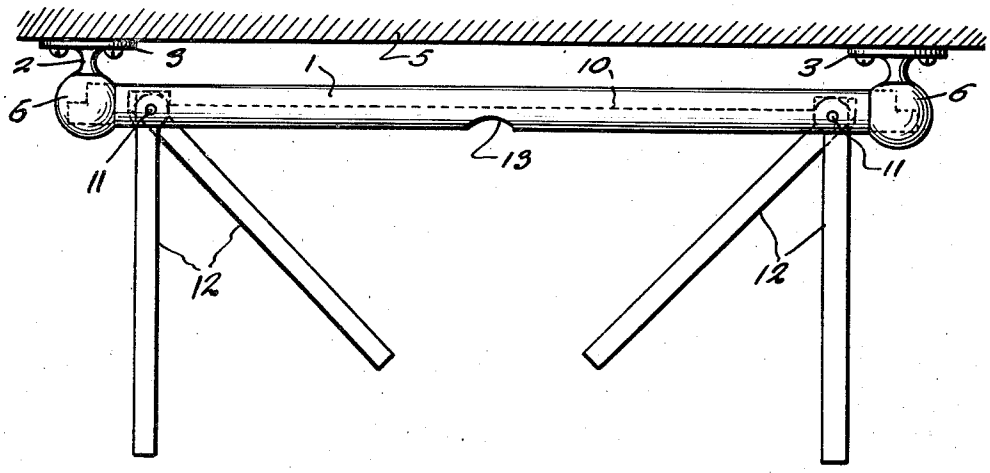


Fig. 1.

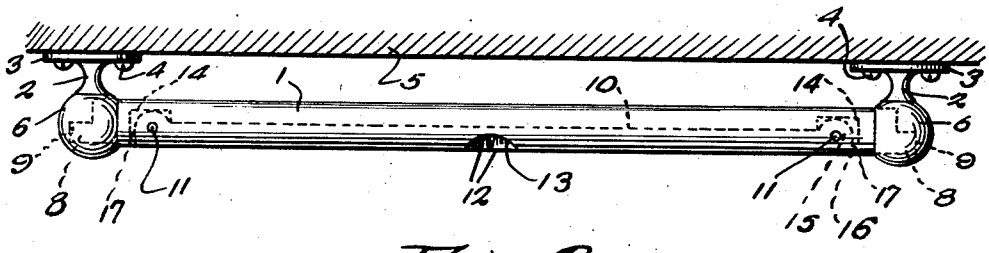


Fig. 2.

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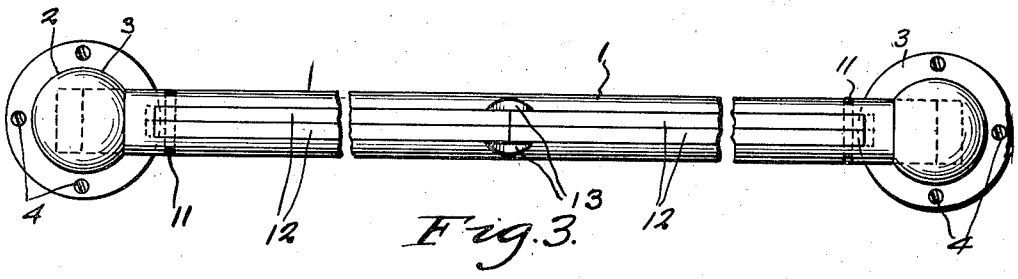


Fig. 3.

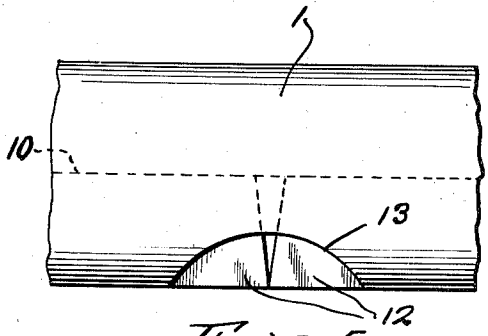


Fig. 5.

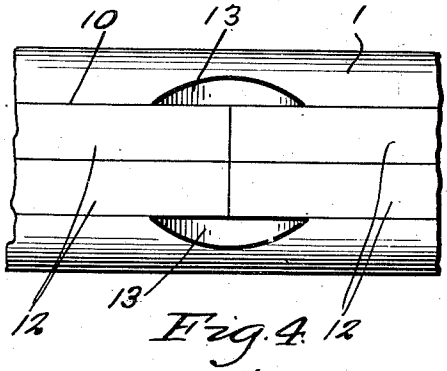


Fig. 4.

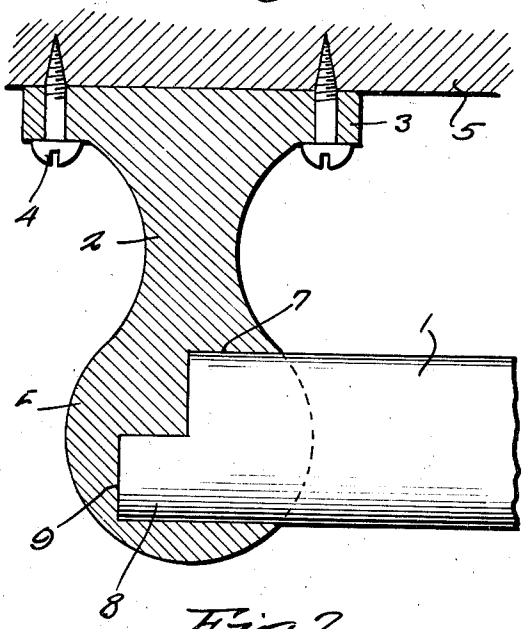


Fig. 7.

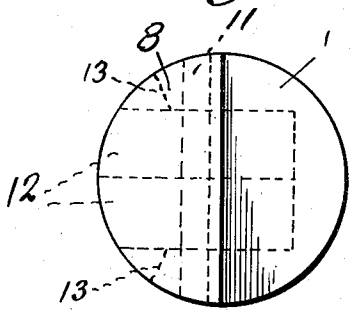


Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,388,366

TOWEL RACK

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Chicago, Ill.

Application May 24, 1944, Serial No. 537,084

1 Claim. (Cl. 211—87)

The present invention relates to new and useful improvements in towel racks, and has for its primary object to provide, in a manner as hereinafter set forth, a bath room fixture of this character comprising unique means for supporting wash cloths, small articles of apparel, et cetera, to be dried.

Other objects of the invention are to provide a combination bath room fixture of the character described which will be comparatively simple in construction, strong, durable, highly efficient and reliable in use, compact and which may be manufactured at low cost.

All of the foregoing, and still further objects and advantages of the invention, will become apparent from a study of the following specification, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings wherein like characters of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a fixture constructed in accordance with the present invention, showing the pivoted arms in open position.

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the device, showing the pivoted arms in closed position.

Figure 3 is a view in front elevation of the device.

Figure 4 is an enlarged view in front elevation of an intermediate portion of the device.

Figure 5 is a top plan view of the portion of the device shown in Figure 4.

Figure 6 is an end view of the rod.

Figure 7 is a view in horizontal section through one end portion of the device.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, it will be seen that the embodiment of the invention which has been illustrated comprises a rod 1 of wood or other suitable material, which rod may be of any desired length and diameter. The rod 1 is mounted between a pair of brackets 2, which, in the installation shown, includes base members 3 having openings therein which accommodate screws 4 for securing said brackets in position on a wall structure or other support 5.

The brackets 2 further include substantially spherical, integral heads 6 having sockets 7 therein for the reception of the end portions of the rod 1. As illustrated to advantage in Figure 7 of the drawings, the end portions of the rod 1 are formed to provide substantially segmental tongues or keys 8 which are engaged in correspondingly-shaped recesses 9 in the inner end walls of the sockets 7 for positively securing said rod 1 against rotation on the brackets 2.

Formed longitudinally in the front of the rod 1 is a groove or channel 10 which terminates adjacent the brackets 2. Vertical pins 11 traverse the end portions of the groove 10. Horizontally swinging arms 12 have one end portion journaled on the pins 11. It will be observed that a pair of the arms 12 is provided on each pin 11. The arms 12 are adapted, when not in use, to be swung into the groove 10, in which position the outer edges of said arms are substantially flush with the periphery of the rod 1. Finger receiving notches or recesses 13 are provided in the front of the rod 1 and communicate with the groove 10 for exposing the end portions of the arms 12 to facilitate swinging said arms outwardly for use.

The groove 10 comprises relatively deep end portions 14 which accommodate the eyes 15 on the pivoted end portions of the arms 12. The eyes 15 are formed to provide stops 16 for abutting engagement with the bottom of the portions 14 of the groove 10. Also, the end walls of the groove 10 are formed to provide stops 17 for the arms 12, as best seen in Figure 1 of the drawings.

It is thought that the manner in which the device is used will be readily apparent from a consideration of the foregoing. Briefly, with the swinging arms 12 in folded or inoperative position in the groove 10, the rod 1 may be used in the usual manner as a towel rack. When it is desired to mount small articles of apparel, wash cloths, et cetera, on the fixture, the exposed end portions of the folded arms 12 are gripped in the notches or recesses 13 and said arms are swung outwardly to any desired angle relative to the rod 1 (see Fig. 1). In the construction shown, the stops 16 and 17 prevent the arms 12 from being swung outwardly beyond a position at right angles to the rod 1. Of course, with the swinging arms 12 in open or operative position, the rod 1 may continue to be used as a towel rack.

It is believed that the many advantages of a combination fixture constructed in accordance with the present invention will be readily understood, and although a preferred embodiment of the device is as illustrated and described, it is to be understood that changes in the details of construction may be resorted to which will fall within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed is:

A fixture of the character described comprising, in combination, a pair of brackets mounted on a support, said brackets including substantially spherical heads having opposed sockets therein, the inner end walls of the sockets having sub-

stantially segmental recesses therein, a cylindrical rod having end portions engaged in the sockets, substantially segmental keys projecting longitudinally from the ends of the rod and engaged in the recesses for retaining said rod against rotation in the sockets, said rod having a longitudinal groove extending horizontally therein from the periphery thereof, a plurality of arms pivotally mounted on the rod and engageable in the groove when in inoperative position, the outer surfaces of said arms being arcuate and of a radius of curvature equal to the radius of said rod, whereby when positioned in said groove a substantially cylindrical unit is formed, and means forming a recess at an intermediate point in said bar to provide a finger grip for extending said rods.

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