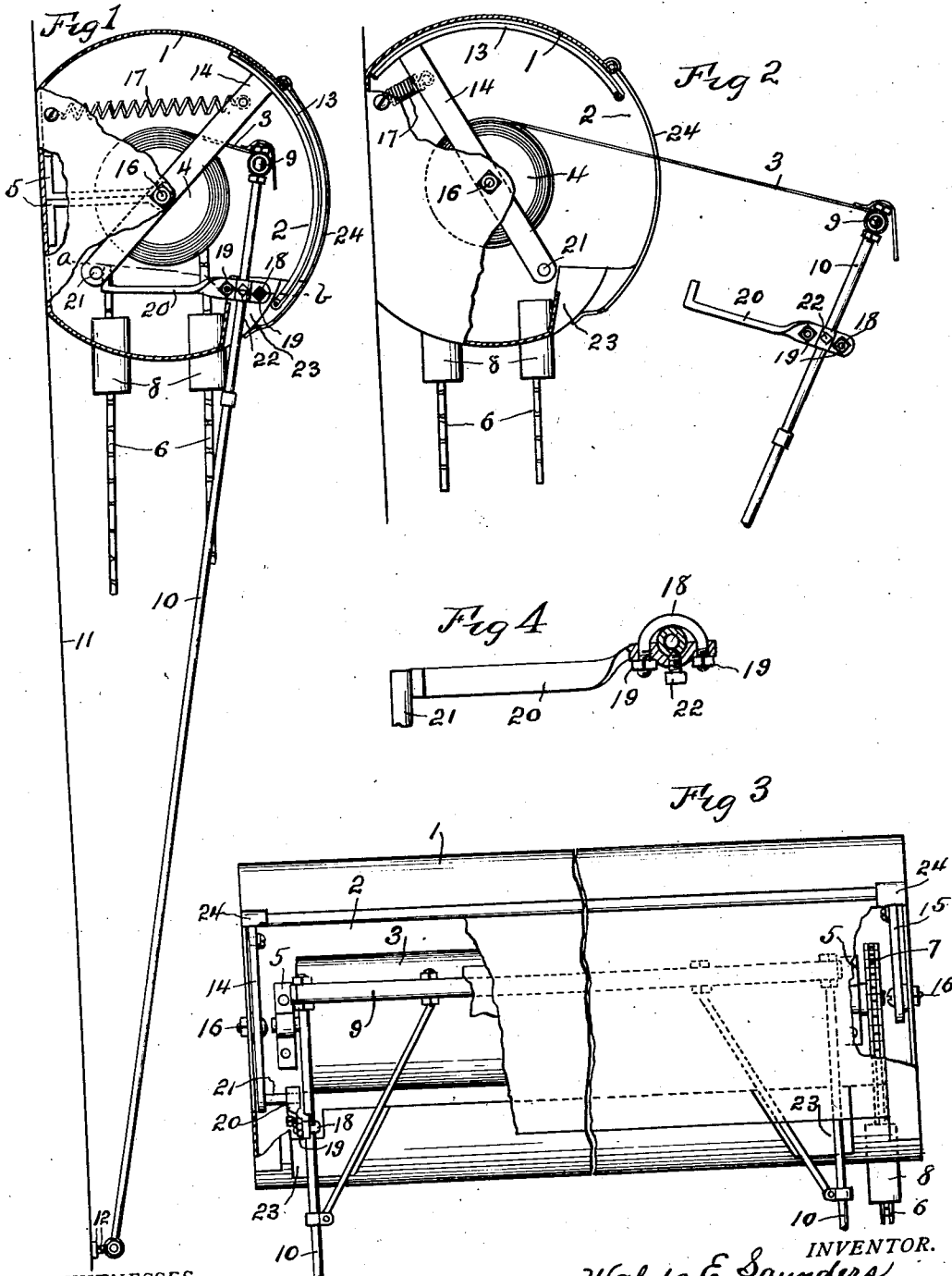


W. E. SAUNDERS.
AWNING.
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WALDO E. SAUNDERS, OF LA CYGNE, KANSAS.

AWNING.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALDO E. SAUNDERS, a citizen of the United States, residing at La Cygne, in the county of Linn and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Awnings, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in awnings.

The object of my invention is to provide means by which an awning sheet when in the retracted or wound position may be protected from the destructive action of the elements.

In carrying my invention into effect I provide a housing provided with an opening through which the awning sheet may be extended or retracted, a closure being provided, which, when the awning sheet is retracted may be moved to a position covering said opening.

A further object of my invention is to provide a construction in which the cover moving to the open position may clear itself from snow or ice which may have accumulated upon it.

A further object of my invention is to provide means by which the cover may be automatically moved to and from the closed position when the awning sheet is retracted and extended.

My invention further provides a novel form of housing.

Other novel features of my invention are hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing which illustrates the preferred form of my invention, Figure 1 is a view partly in end elevation and partly in cross section, the awning sheet being shown retracted and the closure in the closed position. Fig. 2 is a view partly in end elevation and partly in cross section, the awning sheet being shown partly extended and the closure in the open position, a portion of the stretcher arm shown being broken away. Fig. 3 is a front elevation partly broken away, the awning sheet being retracted and the closure in the closed position. Fig. 4 is an enlarged cross section view on the line *a-b* of Fig. 1.

Similar reference characters designate similar parts in the different views.

1 designates the housing which may be of any suitable shape and material, but which is preferably substantially of cylindrical

form and composed of sheet metal, such as galvanized iron, copper, zinc or other material.

In the forward side of the housing 1 is provided an opening 2 through which an ordinary awning sheet 3 may be extended or retracted. The inner end of the awning sheet 3 is secured to and adapted to be wound upon the periphery of a horizontal roller 4, which is rotatively mounted in brackets 5, which are secured to the rear inner wall of the housing 1. The roller 4 may be turned in any well known manner, as by a chain belt 6 mounted on a sprocket wheel 7, which is secured to the roller 4. The belt or chain 6 extends through two vertical passages 8 which are provided in the lower side of the housing 1.

The outer end of the awning sheet 3 is secured in the usual manner to an awning pole 9, to which may be secured the upper ends of swinging stretcher arms 10, the lower ends of which may be pivoted to the building wall 11 by brackets 12 secured thereto.

To close the opening 2 when the awning sheet 3 is retracted to the position shown in Fig. 1, I provide a closure 13 which is preferably curved and located within the housing 1. The closure 13 is provided at opposite ends with arms 14 and 15 which are pivoted by bolts 16 to the ends of the housing 1.

Two coil springs 17 are secured respectively to the closure arms 14 and 15 and to the rear wall of the housing 1. These springs normally retract the closure 13 to the open position shown in Fig. 2.

To swing the closure 13 to the closed position shown in Fig. 1, one of the stretcher arms 10 has secured to it by a U bolt 18 provided with nuts 19 a member 20 located on the stretcher arm 10 so that when the said arm is swung to the inner position, the member 20 will strike a horizontal pin 21 secured to the arm 14, thereby swinging said arm 14 and closure 13 to the closed position shown in Fig. 1. To reliably hold the member 20 in the position to which it may be adjusted on the arm 10, a set screw 22 is mounted in a threaded hole in the member 20. This set screw may be turned so as to penetrate the arm 10, as shown in Fig. 4.

The forward side of the housing 1 below the opening 2 is provided with two upwardly and downwardly extending grooves or depressions 23 which are adapted to respec-

tively receive the stretcher arms 10 when said arms are swung to the inner position shown in Fig. 1.

Preferably the closure 13 is arranged to overlap the outer side of the housing below the opening and to cover the depressions or grooves 23, so as to keep water from running from the closure 13 into the housing when it rains. The closure 13 is also arranged in the housing so that when in the closed position the housing above the opening 2 overlaps the outer side of the closure. This prevents water from passing into the housing at the upper side of the opening 2. It also effects the removal of the ice and snow from the closure 13 by the opening movement thereof.

In the operation of my invention, when the roller 4 is turned to retract the awning sheet 3 to the position shown in Fig. 1, the member 20 will strike the pin 21, thereby swinging the arm 14 and closure 13 to the closed position against the tension of the springs 17, the relative arrangement of the member 20 and arm 14 being such that the closure 13 will pass to the outer sides of the arms 10 and pole 9 after said parts have passed inwardly across the path of movement of the closure 13. At opposite ends of the opening 2 the housing 1 is provided with guard plates 24 adapted to overlap the ends of the closure 13 when the closure is in the closed position, thus preventing moisture passing into the housing at the ends of the closure.

When the awning sheet 3 is extended, which may be effected by pulling outwardly on the arms 10, the member 20 being withdrawn from contact with the pin 21, the springs 17 will cause the closure 13 to swing to the open position.

I do not limit my invention to the structure described and shown as modifications, within the scope of the appended claims, may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. In an awning, a housing having an opening, a closure for said opening, means for normally moving the closure to the open position, an awning sheet extensible and retractable through said opening, an awning pole secured to the outer end of the awning sheet, and means movable with the awning pole for moving the closure to the closed position when the awning sheet and pole have been moved to the retracted position.

2. In an awning, a housing having an opening, a closure for said opening, means for normally moving the closure to the open position, an awning sheet, extensible and retractable through said opening, an awning pole secured to the said sheet, a swinging stretcher arm secured to the awning pole,

and means carried by said stretcher arm for moving the closure to the closed position when the awning and pole are moved to the retracted position.

3. In an awning, a housing having an opening, a pivoted closure for said opening, means for normally swinging the closure to the open position, an awning sheet extensible and retractable through said opening, an awning pole secured to the outer end of the awning sheet, a swinging stretcher arm secured to the said pole, and means adjustable to different positions on the stretcher arm for moving the closure to the closed position when the pole and sheet are moved to the retracted position.

4. In an awning, a housing having an opening, a closure having two arms pivoted to the housing and movable to and from a position closing said opening, a spring connecting one of said arms and the housing for normally swinging the closure to the open position, an awning sheet extensible and retractable through said opening, an awning pole secured to the outer end of the awning sheet, means movable with the said pole for engaging one of said arms for forcing the closure to the closed position when the awning sheet and pole are moved to the retracted position.

5. In an awning, a housing having an opening, a closure for said opening provided with two arms pivoted to the housing, a spring for forcing the closure to the open position, an awning sheet extensible and retractable through said opening, an awning pole secured to the outer end of the awning sheet, a stretcher arm secured to and movable with the awning pole, and a member secured to the stretcher arm for engaging one of the closure arms for forcing the closure to the closed position when the awning sheet and pole are moved to the retracted position.

6. In an awning, a housing having an opening, a roller rotatively mounted in the housing, an awning pole, an awning sheet extensible and retractable through said opening and having its ends secured respectively to the roller and to the said pole, a closure for said opening, means for normally moving the closure to the open position, and means movable with the pole by which the closure is moved to the closed position after the awning sheet has been retracted into the housing.

7. In an awning, a housing having in its forward side an opening and in its forward side below said opening having two upwardly and downwardly extending grooves, a roller mounted in the housing, an awning sheet extensible and retractable through said opening and having one end secured to the roller, an awning pole secured to the other end of the awning sheet, two swinging stretcher

arms having their free ends secured to said pole and when the awning sheet is retracted into the housing being disposed respectively in said grooves, and a closure movable to and from a position closing said opening and in the closed position covering said grooves.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in presence of two subscribing witnesses:

WALDO E. SAUNDERS.

Witnesses:

C. W. GILLENWATER,

R. O. WILSON.