Nov. 15, 1932. E. E. BALDWIN 1,887,986

SCALE

Filed Jan. 19, 1931

Fig. 1

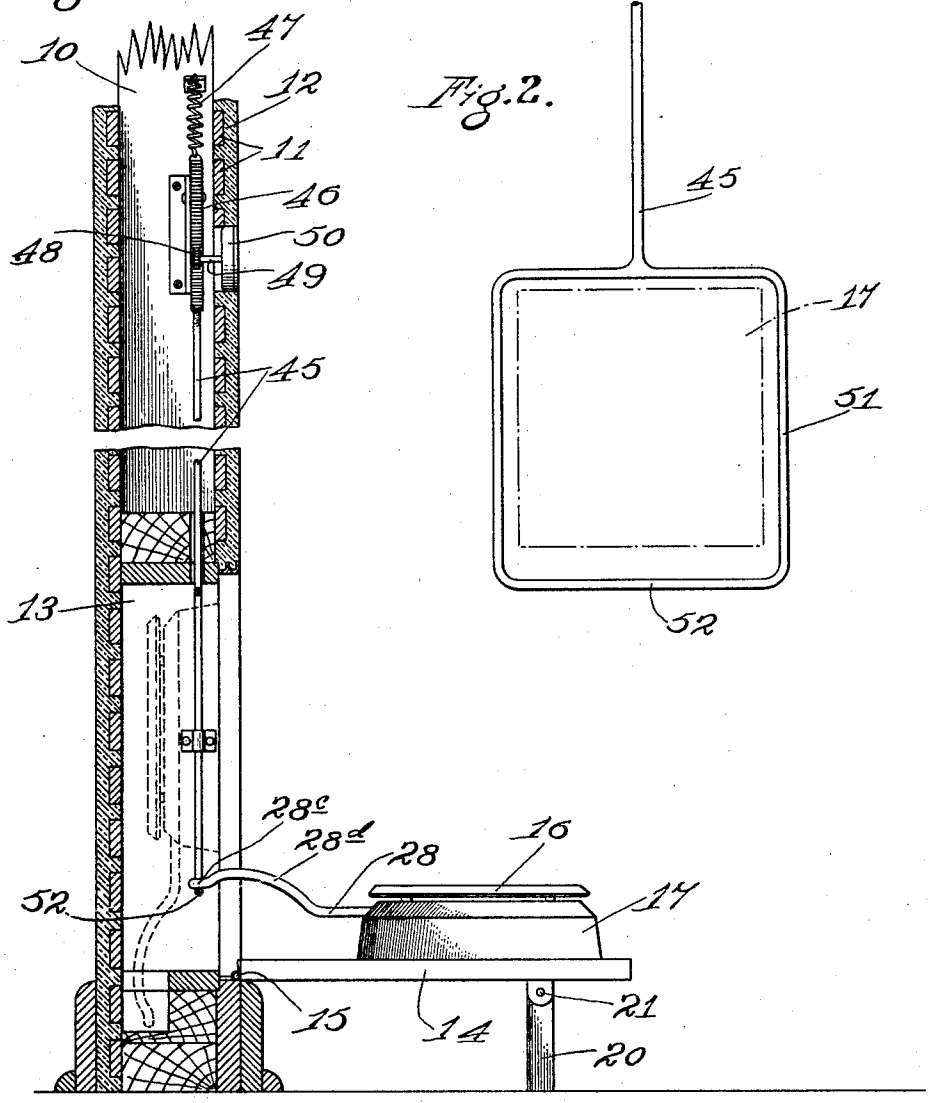


Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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SCALE

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This invention relates to improvements in scales and, more especially, a scale particularly adapted for home use.

Scales of the character referred to are frequently used in the home for weighing persons and, for convenience, are ordinarily placed in bathrooms or other quarters of more or less limited or restricted capacity. It is highly desirable to have such scales easily available for immediate use. On the other hand, such a scale, if permitted to remain on the floor at all times, is frequently objectionable because of the space that it occupies. The principal feature of my invention, therefore, is the provision of a scale that lessens or eliminates the objections mentioned. My improved scale is readily available for instant use and can be permanently kept in a small room, such as a bathroom. When not in use, it can be readily folded into a recess in the wall where it is entirely out of the way and not objectionable in any respect.

Other features and advantages of my invention will appear more fully as I proceed with my specification.

In those forms of devices embodying the features of my invention shown in the accompanying drawings—

Figure 1 is a view in side elevation; and Fig. 2 is a view in front elevation of a part of the weight-indicating means.

The principal feature of my invention is the provision of a relatively thin flat scale platform and stand hingedly attached to the wall and adapted to be swung into horizontal operative position or vertical inoperative position substantially completely housing the platform and stand in the recess in the wall. The weight-indicating mechanism may be permanently housed in the wall, in which case a connection is provided between the scale arm and such indicating mechanism, said connection permitting the platform and stand to be swung into the recess in the wall when not in use. The invention is particularly designed for use in connection with a wall of ordinary tile or plaster construction on 2 x 4 studding. In such a wall, there ordinarily can be conveniently provided a recess with a depth of from 3 to 4 inches or slightly less. My improved scale is so designed that it can be housed in a recess in such a wall of ordinary construction. This permits the installation of such a scale in any room without requiring any substantial alterations in the wall construction and without requiring any pronounced protuberances on the wall or increase in the normal thickness of the wall.

In the form of device shown in the drawings, an ordinary wall construction is indicated in which 10 may represent 2 x 4 studs; 11, lath; and 12, plaster. In this wall, there is provided a recess 13.

In the form of device shown in the drawings, the weight-indicating means is permanently mounted in the wall. Any suitable platform 16 and stand 17 may be provided with well-known link mechanism and beams inside (not shown). The stand is mounted on a panel 14 and suitable folding legs 20 pivoted at 21 may be provided. 28 indicates a scale beam or arm extending from the stand 17. There is a connection between the arm 28 and the weight-indicating means which permits the folding of the sale into the recess 13, as indicated by the broken lines. When thus folded, the panel 14 acts as a cover for the recess 13, said panel lying substantially flush with the wall to conceal the recess. When thus housed, the scale is entirely out of the way and the wall construction not substantially interfered with. When the scale is to be used, it is swung into horizontal position on the hinges 15, as shown by the solid lines. The scale is supported in horizontal operative position by the legs 20. The weight-indicating mechanism or means permanently mounted in the wall may be of any suitable design. As here shown, I have provided a vertically movable rod 45 attached to a rack bar 46, the upper end of said rack bar being attached to the spring 47. Vertical movements of the rack bar 46 rotate the pinion 48 on the shaft 49 operating a pointer (not shown) on the dial 50 to indicate the weight. The dial 50 is preferably mounted in the wall with its face flush with the surface thereof. The lower end of the rod 45 is provided with a square loop 51, the lower bar thereof being indicated by 52.

The connection for indicating the weight when the scale is in use is provided between the horizontal bar 52 and the end 28^c of the scale beam 28. When the scale is in operative position, as shown in Fig. 1, the end 28^c of the scale beam rests on top of the bar 52 so that downward movement caused by depression of the platform 16 will pull down the rod 45 against the tension of the spring 47 to indicate the weight. When the platform and stand are swung into vertical position on the hinge 15, as shown by the broken lines in Fig. 1, the platform and stand 16 and 17, respectively, are folded into the square loop 51. The end of the scale beam 28 is also upwardly arched or curved, as indicated by 28^d to permit the folding away of the platform and stand. This arched construction permits the end to move into the position indicated by the broken lines passing through the loop 51 when the platform is folded away.

While I have shown and described certain embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that it is capable of many modifications. Changes, therefore, in the construction and arrangement may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as disclosed in the appended claims, in which it is my intention to claim all novelty inherent in my invention as broadly as permissible, in view of the prior art.

What I regard as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. In combination with a wall having a recess therein; weight-indicating means mounted in the wall and having a part leading to the recess; a scale platform and stand therefor hingedly attached to the wall, said scale and stand adapted to be swung into horizontal operative position or vertical inoperative position substantially completely housed in said recess; and a connection between said weight-indicating means and said scale platform, said connection permitting said swinging of said scale platform and stand.

2. A device as claimed in claim 1, in which the weight-indicating means includes a vertically movable loop in the recess, the platform and stand adapted to be swung into said loop when moved into vertical inoperative position in the recess in the wall.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this 15th day of January, A. D. 1931.

ELMER E. BALDWIN.