Nov. 17, 1931. J. H. BOYE 1,832,086

CURTAIN FIXTURE CENTER SUPPORT

Filed April 30, 1931 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

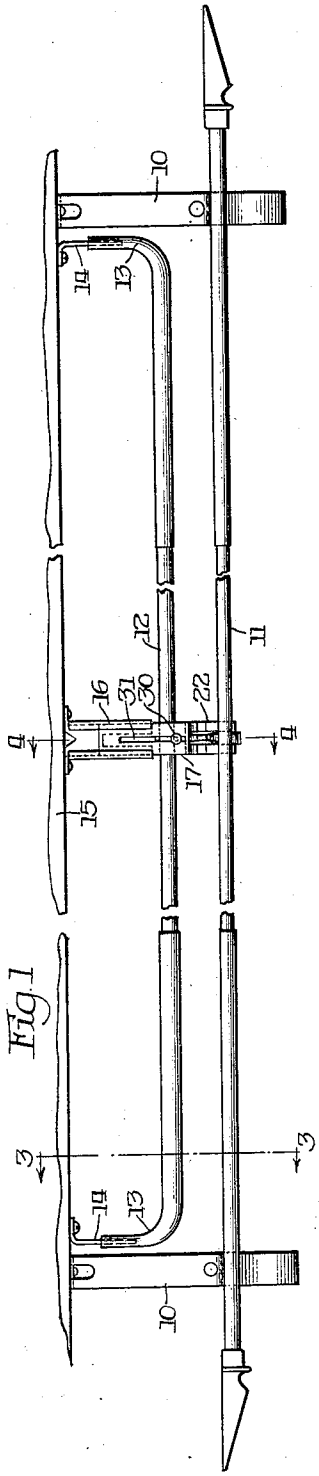


Fig. 1

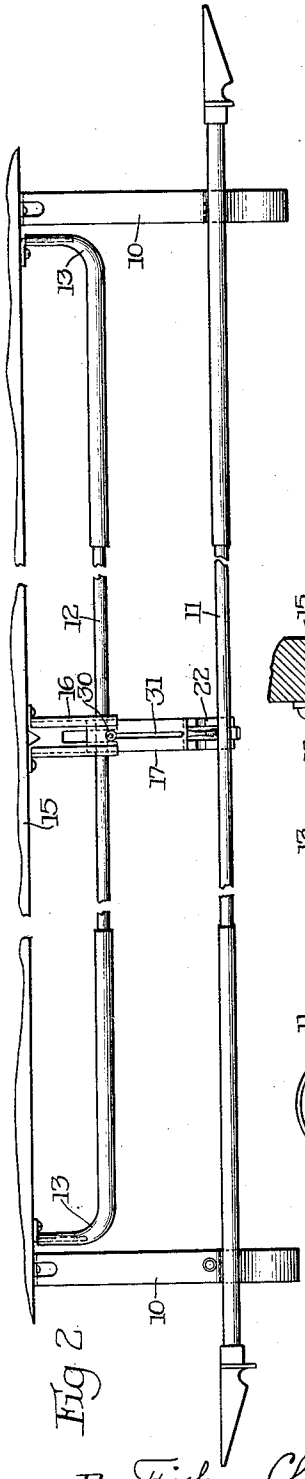


Fig. 2

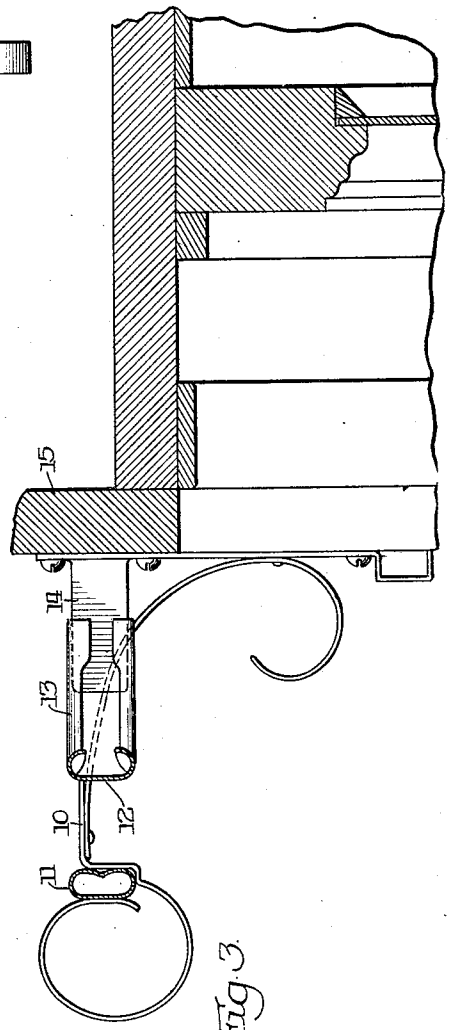


Fig. 3

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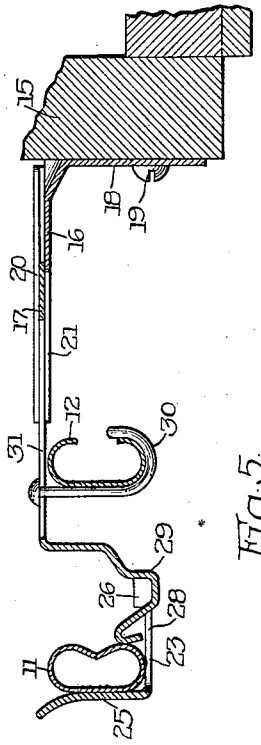


Fig. 4

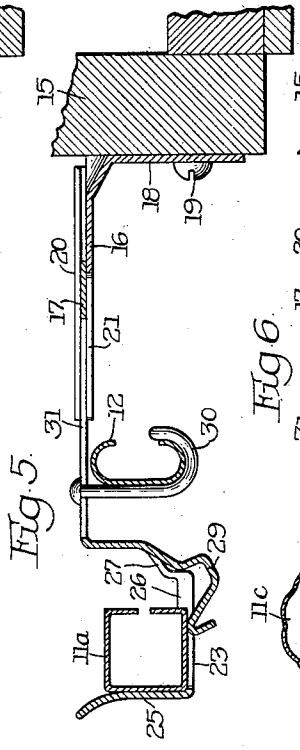


Fig. 5

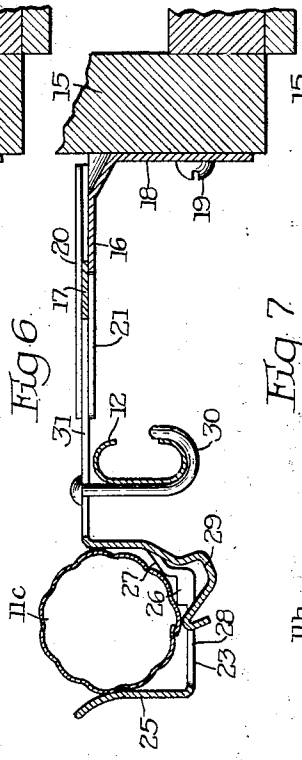


Fig. 6

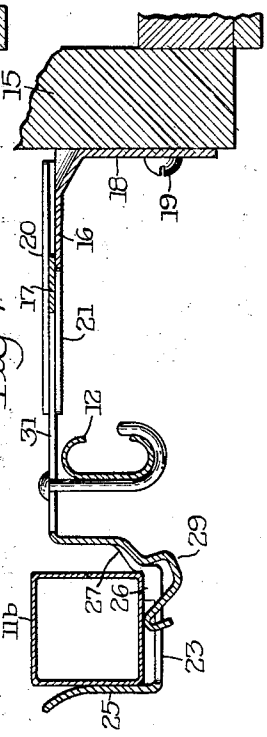


Fig. 7

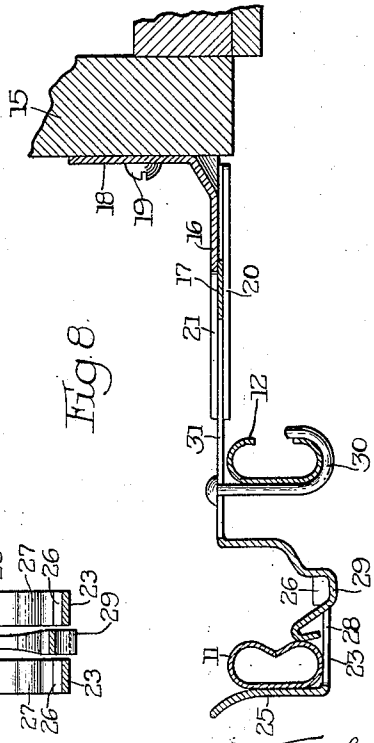


Fig. 8

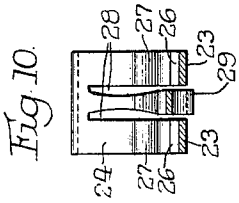


Fig. 10

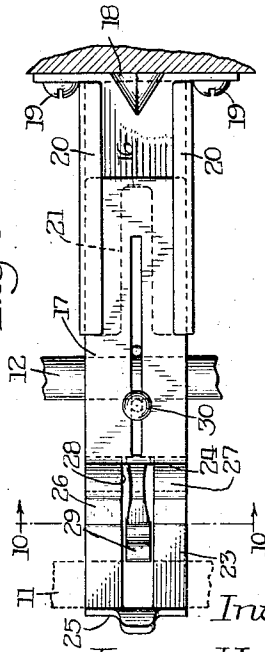


Fig. 9

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Patented Nov. 17, 1931 1,832,086

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JAMES H. BOYE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO JAMES H. BOYE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, A CORPORATION OF ILLINOIS

CURTAIN FIXTURE CENTER SUPPORT

Application filed April 30, 1931. Serial No. 533,957.

This invention pertains to what are known as center supports for long curtain rods that span a very wide window or two or more windows and require one or more intermediate supports to prevent sagging of the rod or rods. Heretofore center supports for such curtain fixtures have been made special for each type of rod used in the fixture; that is, a round rod having a round rod seat, a square rod, a square rod seat, a flat rod, a flat rod seat, and so forth. This involves a large number of parts, and is inconvenient to the dealer selling curtain fixtures because of requiring him to carry in stock so many different sizes and shapes of center supports, and confusion and mistakes in the filling of orders frequently occur.

One object of my present invention is to provide what might aptly be termed a universal center support; that is, a center support adaptable to many different sizes and shapes of curtain poles and rods, and that will support the rod at bottom, front and rear.

Modern curtain fixtures often include two parallel rods—an inner rod to suspend what is known as the glass curtain (that is, a curtain that lies next to the window), and an outer rod to suspend an outer curtain or drapes. Heretofore, so far as I am aware, center brackets for such multiple rod fixtures have been formed with a pair of rod seats, hooks or other rod supports spaced a fixed distance from each other, although extensible brackets by which the distance of both rod supports from the window frame or casing might be varied are known, as, for example, in my prior Patent No. 1,518,245, granted December 9, 1924. But users of this type of fixture often desire to space the inner and outer rods at different distances from the window frame and from each other, and heretofore this has been accomplished only by providing a large number of center brackets of varying lengths wherein the rod supports were spaced at different distances from each other. Another object of my present invention has been to provide a multiple rod center bracket that would be universal in the above noted respect, and thus greatly reduce the number of differently sized brackets required to be made and carried in stock to meet the demands of the trade.

A still further object of the invention has been to provide a center bracket of such construction that, by simply inverting the shank member which is attached to the top bar of the window frame, the rod support of the bracket may be located higher or lower relatively to the top of the window, the inverting of the shank member not involving any inversion of the rod seat or support.

Still other objects and attendant advantages of the invention will be apparent to persons skilled in the art from the following detailed description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which I have illustrated one practical and efficient embodiment of the principle of the invention, and wherein—

Fig. 1 is a top plan view, broken out, of a multiple rod curtain fixture employing my improved center support, and illustrating one spacing of the outer and inner rods relatively to each other and to the window frame.

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 showing a different relative spacing of the outer and inner rods and window frame.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged cross sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged cross sectional view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Figs. 5, 6 and 7 are enlarged cross sectional views similar to Fig. 4, illustrating the adaptability of the center support to various forms and sizes of outer curtain rod other than the flat type shown in Fig. 4.

Fig. 8 is an enlarged cross sectional view, similar to Fig. 4, showing the shank member of the center support inverted relatively to Fig. 4.

Fig. 9 is an enlarged top plan view of the center support as the same appears in Fig. 1.

Fig. 10 is a cross sectional detail on the line 10—10 of Fig. 9.

Referring to the drawings, 10 designates the end bracket fixtures, the form or style of which may be varied to suit the particular form or style of the outer rod. These end

brackets are furnished in different lengths and shapes of rod supporting seats, and with such end brackets the present invention is not concerned. In the present instance I have shown, in Fig. 3, end brackets adapted for the seating of an outer rod 11 of the well known flat type.

12 designates the inner or glass curtain rod which is also shown of the flat type formed with elbow ends 13 that telescope over brackets 14 attached to the upper member 15 of the window frame, whereby the rod 12 has a limited adjustment toward and from the window frame.

Describing now my improved center support, this comprises a bracket which, in the preferred form of the invention best illustrated in Figs. 4 to 9 inclusive, comprises a shank member 16 and an arm 17 mounted on and having a sliding engagement with the shank member 16. This shank member, in the preferred form illustrated, consists of a flat strip formed with an integral rectangularly extended attachment plate 18 apertured for fastening screws 19 and having inturned marginal lips or flanges 20 that constitute a guide and slideway for the arm 17. The strip 16 is formed with a central longitudinal slot 21 opening through its outer end for a purpose later disclosed.

The arm 17 is formed at its forward end with a depending support or seat for the outer rod. This rod seat, designated as an entirety by 22, preferably has the cross sectional form and structure illustrated in Figs. 4 to 8 inclusive. In general, it comprises a bottom wall 23, a rear wall 24 and a front wall 25 that flares outwardly at its upper end. The rear portion of the bottom wall 23 carries a low step 26, while the rear wall 24 is formed with an inclined offset 27. As best shown in Figs. 9 and 10, the bottom and rear walls of the seat are formed with a continuous longitudinal slot 28, and the metal cut from said slot is bent into a tongue or prong 29 having substantially the form shown in Figs. 4 to 10 inclusive. The arm 17 and rod seat 22 are made of relatively soft or ductile metal, and the rear portion of the tongue or prong 29 is preferably narrowed, as shown in Figs. 9 and 10, whereby said tongue may be readily bent, through the slot 28, between the elevated position shown in Figs. 4 and 8 and the depressed position shown in Figs. 5, 6 and 7.

When the outer rod 11 is of the flat type illustrated in Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 8 and 9, the tongue 29 occupies the position shown in Figs. 4 and 8 wherein its free upper end forms a rear support or backing for the rod 11, the latter resting on the bottom wall 23 and being laterally supported at its face by the front wall 25. When the fixture is supplied with a square rod, such as 11^a, Fig. 5, the tongue 29 is bent downwardly so that its upper free end lies below the seat, and the rod 11^a rests on the bottom wall 23 and is confined laterally between the front wall 25 and the riser of the step 26.

When the fixture is equipped with a larger rectangular rod or pole such as shown at 11^b in Fig. 7, the tongue 29 is also bent down sufficiently to allow the rod to rest on the step 26; and when the fixture is equipped with a round rod or pole such as that shown at 11^c in Fig. 6, the tongue 29 is also depressed sufficiently to permit the pole to rest on the front corner of the step 26.

It will be observed that with all of the four types or shapes of rod illustrated, the rod is not only supported at its lower edge, but is also supported laterally both at front and rear, which prevents lateral bending or displacement of the central portion of the rod.

In a multiple rod fixture, the inner rod 12 is supported at its center from the arm 17 by means which readily permits the desired spacing of the rod 12 relatively to both the window frame 15 and the outer rod 11. The means I have herein shown for this purpose consists of a simple headed hook 30 that is passed through a longitudinal slot 31 (Fig. 9) in the arm 17, the rear portion of the slot 31 overlying the longitudinal slot 21 of the shank member 16. This construction permits the ready adjustment of the rod 12 toward or from the outer rod 11 without disturbing the latter; and where longer end brackets are used, as shown in Fig 2, the center support of the outer rod is readily adjusted to suit, by simply drawing out the arm 17 to the required extent. This does not interfere with the subsequent adjustment of the spacing of the inner rod in the manner above described. It will thus be seen that my invention, in its complete form illustrated, provides a center support for a multiple rod fixture having two supporting sockets or seats, one for an outer rod and the other for an inner rod, each of the two being adjustable to different distances from the window frame and from each other independently of each other.

Figs. 4 and 8 illustrate another advantage possessed by the described structure. Where it may be desired to mount the rods more or less above the top of the window, the shank member is attached to the window frame with its attachment plate 18 extending downwardly, as shown in Fig. 4. Where it may be desired to mount the rods in a lower position on a level with or slightly below the top of the window, this may be accomplished, so far as the center support is concerned, by simply inverting the shank member of the bracket, so that the attachment plate 18 extends upwardly, as shown in Fig. 8. This feature adapts the center bracket to use with end brackets located at varying heights, and does not require the employment of special center brackets to obtain the low mounting of the fixture illustrated in Fig 8.

While I have herein illustrated and described one practical and efficient means for securing the above result, I do not limit the invention to the structural details shown, but reserve all such variations, modifications and mechanical equivalents as fall within the spirit and purview of the claims.

I claim:

1. A curtain fixture center support, comprising a projecting shank attachable to a window frame, and a holder member on the forward end of said shank, said holder member formed with a concave seat adapted to support a round or square rod and with a pliable tongue adapted, when bent upwardly, to form a backing for a flat curtain rod.

2. A curtain fixture center support, comprising a projecting shank attachable to a window frame, and a holder member on the forward end of said shank, said holder member formed with a slotted concave seat adapted to support a round or square rod and with an integral pliable tongue adapted, when bent up through said slot, to form a backing for a flat curtain rod.

3. A curtain fixture center support, comprising a projecting shank attachable to a window frame, and a rod holder member on the forward end of said shank, said holder member formed with front, rear and bottom walls, and with a step on said bottom wall, said step adapted to underlie and support a wide rod substantially fitting between said front and rear walls, and to form a backing for a narrower rod resting on said bottom wall and fitting between said step and one of said front and rear walls.

4. A curtain fixture center support, comprising a projecting shank attachable to a window frame, and a rod holder member on the forward end of said shank, said holder member formed with front, rear and bottom walls, and with a step on said bottom wall at the base of said rear wall, said step adapted to underlie and support a wide rod substantially fitting between said front and rear walls and to form a backing for a narrower rod resting on said bottom wall and fitting between said step and said front wall.

5. A curtain fixture center support, comprising a projecting shank attachable to a window frame, and a rod holder member on the forward end of said shank, said holder member formed with front, rear and bottom walls, and with a step on said bottom wall, said step adapted to underlie and support a wide rod substantially fitting between said front and rear walls, and to form a backing for a narrower rod fitting between said step and one of said front and rear walls, said holder member being further equipped with a pliable tongue adapted to be bent between positions below and above said bottom wall, and when bent upwardly forming a backing for a flat curtain rod lying against said front wall.

6. A multiple curtain rod fixture center support, comprising a projecting bracket attachable to a window frame, an outer rod support on the outer end of said bracket, and an inner rod support suspended from and adjustable lengthwise of said bracket.

7. A multiple curtain rod fixture center support, comprising a longitudinally slotted projecting bracket attachable to a window frame, a seat member for an outer rod on the outer end of said bracket, and an inner rod support comprising a headed hook member suspended through and adjustable lengthwise of the slot of said bracket.

8. A multiple curtain rod fixture center support, comprising a projecting shank attachable to a window frame, an arm mounted on and adjustable lengthwise of said shank and formed at its forward end with a seat for an outer rod, and a support for an inner rod suspended from and adjustable lengthwise of said arm.

9. A multiple curtain rod fixture center support, comprising a projecting shank attachable to a window frame, a longitudinally slotted arm telescopingly engaged with said shank and formed at its forward end with a seat for an outer rod, and an inner rod support comprising a headed hook member suspended through and adjustable lengthwise of the slot of said arm.

10. A curtain rod fixture center support, comprising an arm formed at its forward end with a rod seat, and a shank member with which said arm in the same position thereof may be telescopically engaged in either an upright or an inverted position of said shank member, said shank member having at its inner end a rectangularly extended attachment plate, whereby said shank member may be attached to a window frame in either of two relatively inverted positions, to thereby vary the height of said rod seat relatively to the window frame.

11. A curtain rod fixture center support, comprising a flat arm formed at its forward end with a rod seat, and a flat shank member formed with inturned marginal portions with which said arm in the same position thereof may be telescopically engaged in either an upright or an inverted position of said shank member, said shank member having at its inner end a rectangularly extended attachment plate, whereby said shank member may be attached to a window frame in either of two relatively inverted positions, to thereby vary the height of said rod seat relatively to the window frame.

JAMES H. BOYE.