F. W. STOTLER AND R. H. JAMISON.

NURSERY NEST.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 10, 1919.

1,374,333. Patented Apr. 12, 1921.

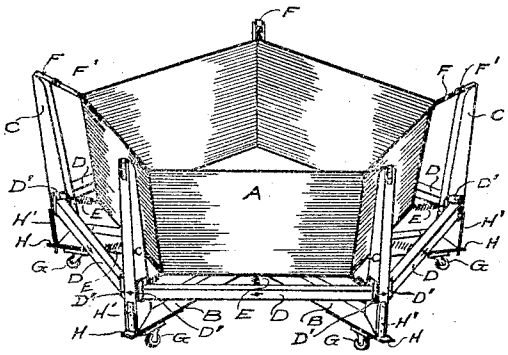

Fig. 1

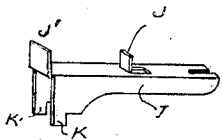

Fig 2

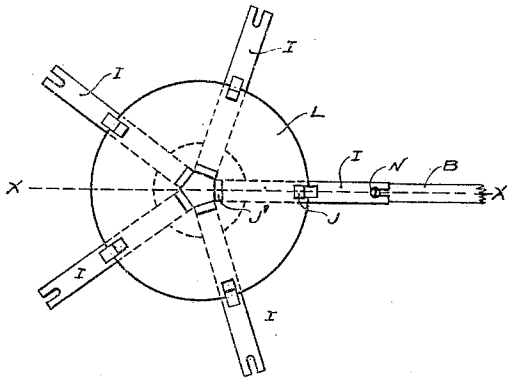

Fig 3

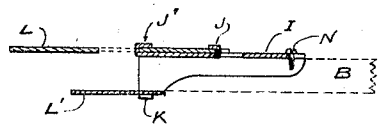

Fig 4

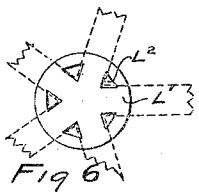

Fig 6

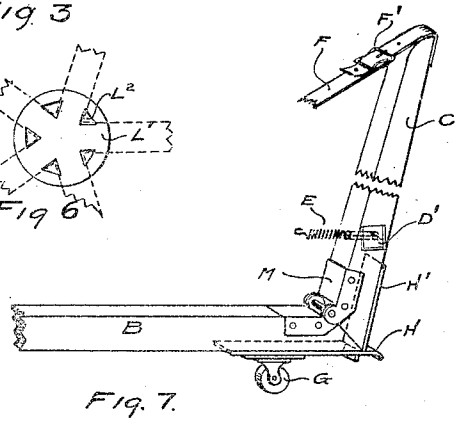

Fig. 7

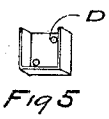

Fig 5

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NURSERY-NEST.

1,374,333. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 12, 1921.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, FRANK W. STOTLER, a resident of Wilkinsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, and RICHARD H. JAMISON, a resident of Wilkinsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Nursery-Nests, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to nursery devices, and its object is to provide a device in which an infant can be placed and safely held without danger of falling out or coming in contact with any hard object, and in which the infant can move around to some extent, and also lie down. A further object is to provide a device of this kind which is portable and also collapsible, so that it can be readily moved from place to place and can be conveniently collapsed to pack in small compass for carrying from place to place.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the device in assembled condition; Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one of the radial base members; Fig. 3 is a plan view of the fixed or uncollapsible portion of the base; Fig. 4 is a sectional view therethrough on the line *x*—*x*, Fig. 3; Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the socket members for receiving an end of a horizontal brace; Fig. 6 is a plan view of the lower central base plate; and Fig. 7 is a perspective view showing the assemblage of a radial base member and the upright connected thereto.

In the drawings A represents the body of the device, which is formed of canvas or other fabric or flexible material, and which is shaped to form in effect a basket or nest having a substantially flat bottom and sides rising therefrom either vertically, or slightly flaring as shown. This body may be of various shapes, preferably being five sided as illustrated, but obviously it may be formed with any number of sides,—preferably not less than four. The top edges of this body will be strengthened by having a heavy cord, small rope or wooden, ratan or steel rods inclosed in the hem thereof, and if desired the various angles of the bottom may be similarly strengthened. This body is suspended in a suitable frame in a manner to be entirely out of contact therewith at all points in order that the infant in the nest cannot accidentally come into contact with any hard object. Various forms of supporting frames may be employed, that illustrated showing a convenient construction adapted to be readily dis-assembled and collapsed for packing into small compass. This frame comprises a centrally rigid base section comprising an upper base plate L, a lower base plate L′, and a number of radial channel or socket members I, the number of the latter corresponding preferably to the number of sides to the body or nest, five being shown. All of these parts are formed of thin plate metal, and are assembled with the inner ends of the radial members I between the two base plates. The upper base plate L is provided with a central opening having as many sides as there are members, for receiving upturned lugs J′ on the radial members, which lugs are afterward bent over the top of the base plate as shown in Fig. 3, and with peripheral notches through which project upwardly extending lugs J on the radial members, and which lugs are afterward bent inwardly over the base plate as shown in Fig. 3. The lower plate L′ is provided with a number of substantial triangular holes L^2 for receiving downwardly projecting lugs K on the radial members, which lugs are bent sidewise onto the lower face of said plate as shown in Fig. 4. In this manner the plates L and L′ and radial socket members I are conveniently, cheaply and securely fastened together.

The radial members I form channels which are open on their lower sides to receive the inner ends of radial frame members B, which are preferably formed of wood, and which are inserted into these channel members until their inner ends extend between the top and bottom plates L and L′ and are confined between said plates. These radial frame members B are provided with upwardly projecting headed members, such as screws N, which slip into slots formed in the upper walls at the outer ends of the radial members I, and which form stops to limit the inward projection of the members B and also serve to hold the members B in the channels.

These radial members B preferably have secured to their bottom faces near their outer ends casters G or other means for enabling the device to be moved about. Collapsibly secured to the outer ends of the members B,

such as by means of hinges M, are uprights C which may extend vertically but preferably are inclined slightly outwardly and from the upper end of which the body or nest A is suspended, such for instance as by means of straps F and buckles F′, the latter being convenient means for adjusting the lengths of the suspending members or straps. The uprights C are locked in rigid relation to the radial base member B by means of plates H′ secured to the outer faces of the uprights near their lower ends and provided with lugs or projections arranged to enter slots in plate springs H secured to the lower faces of the radial members B at their outer ends as shown in Fig. 7. This forms a secure locking connection between the radial members and uprights C and yet permits the uprights to be easily unlocked so as to permit the same to collapse onto the radial members by turning on the hinges M. Between adjacent uprights C are bracing members D, detachably connected to the uprights in a convenient way, such as having their ends fitting into sockets D′ secured to the side faces of the uprights.

The bottom of the body or nest A is preferably connected to the frame by elastic or yielding members so that the bottom of the nest A will always be held taut and yet maintain a safe distance from the uprights C. As shown said body is connected to the frame by a number of helical springs E, ten such springs being indicated, one at each angle of the body connecting the same with an upright and one midway on each side of the body and connected to a horizontal brace D. The inner ends of these springs can be secured to the fabric body in any suitable way, such as by providing the springs at their inner ends with a hook as shown in Fig. 7, and their outer ends can be also secured to the frame members in any convenient way, the drawings showing the outer ends of the springs formed with straight portions which extend through holes in the frame members and are provided on their outer ends with eyes through which are passed cross pins.

The device illustrated and described can be moved from place to place as desired, and is readily collapsible so that it will pack into a small compass for carrying around from place to place. The body or nest is formed of flexible fabric, and is suspended in the frame entirely out of contact with the latter on all sides and also on the bottom, the suspending means being flexible so as to permit movement to the body but without any portion of the body coming into contact with the frame. The body is sufficiently roomy for the infant to move around in to a considerable extent, and is sufficiently high to prevent it from falling or climbing out.

Various modifications obviously can be made in the construction and arrangement of the parts illustrated.

We claim:

1. A portable nursery nest of the kind described, comprising in combination, a supporting frame having at least three uprights arranged out of line with each other and adapted to rest upon a floor, a flexible fabric body having a continuous bottom and sides, connections from said upright to the upper edge of said body sides, said connections forming the sole means for suspending and laterally spreading taut the body at its upper edge between pairs of said uprights, and connections from the bottom of the body to said frame forming the sole means for holding the bottom taut, said body affording a yielding horizontal support and vertical side guard on and within which an infant may play in safety.

2. A portable device of the kind described comprising a collapsible frame consisting of a central base member, radial members detachably secured thereto, uprights collapsibly connected to the radial members, and a fabric body having a bottom and sides suspended between and held taut by the said uprights.

3. A portable device of the kind described comprising, in combination, a collapsible frame consisting of a central base member, radial members detachably secured thereto, uprights collapsibly connected to said radial members, a fabric body having a bottom and sides, detachable means for suspending and laterally spreading taut the upper edge of said body from said uprights, and elastic members detachably connecting the bottom of said body to said frame members for holding the bottom taut.

4. A portable device of the kind described comprising, in combination, a collapsible frame consisting of a central base member, radial socket members secured thereto, radial frame members inserted in said socket members and readily removable therefrom, uprights collapsibly secured to the outer ends of said radial members, a fabric body having a bottom and sides, means for suspending and laterally spreading taut its upper edge from said uprights, and detachable means connecting the bottom thereof to said frame members.

4. A portable device of the kind described, comprising, in combination, a fabric body having a bottom and sides, a collapsible frame consisting of a central base member, radial members detachably secured thereto, uprights hinged to the outer ends of the said radial members, means for locking said uprights to said radial members in upright position, means for suspending and spreading laterally taut the upper edge of said body from the upper ends of said up-

rights, and means for connecting the bottom of said fabric body to the lower ends of said uprights, said bottom being held taut by said connecting means.

6. In a device of the kind described, a frame including a pair of base plates, radial socket members having their inner ends located between said base plates, lugs on said radial members in locking engagement with said base plates, and radial frame members inserted in said sockets with their inner ends confined between said base plates.

7. A portable nursery nest of the kind described, comprising a collapsible frame adapted to rest upon a floor and consisting of a central base member, radial members secured thereto, and rigid uprights connected to the outer ends of and adapted to collapse upon the radial members, and a fabric body having a bottom and sides suspended between and held taut by said uprights, said body affording a yielding horizontal support and vertical side guards on and within which an infant may play in safety.

In testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands.

FRANK W. STOTLER.
RICHARD H. JAMISON.

Witness:
G. G. TRILL.