July 13, 1926. 1,592,356

L. B. GOLDBERG ET AL

TENT STRETCHING DEVICE

Filed Sept. 23, 1924 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

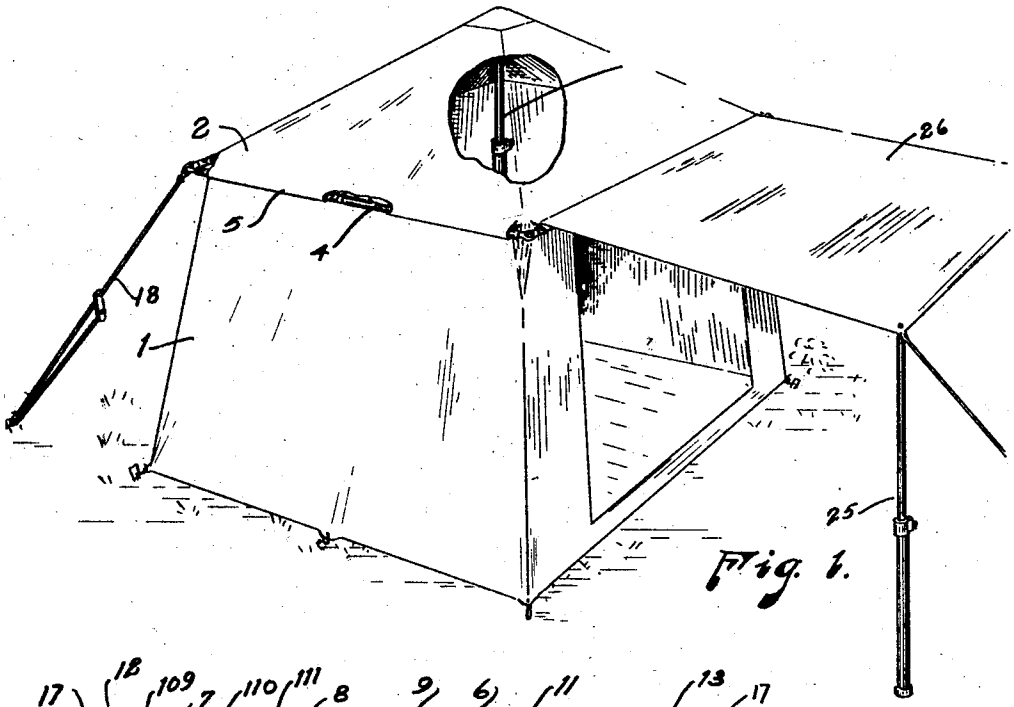


Fig. 1.

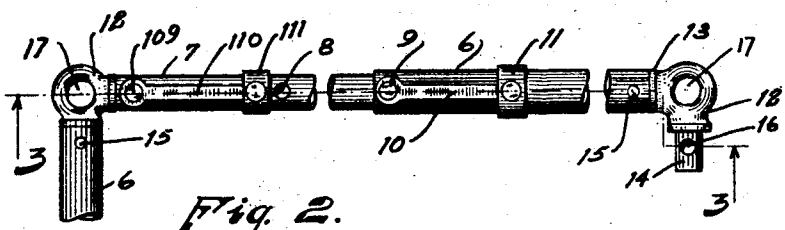
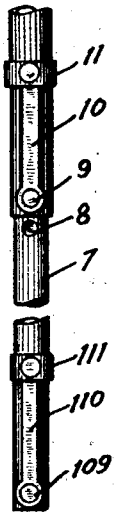


Fig. 2.



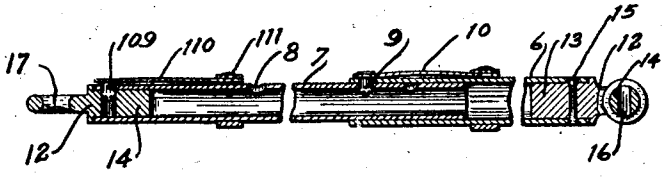


Fig. 3.

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TENT STRETCHING DEVICE

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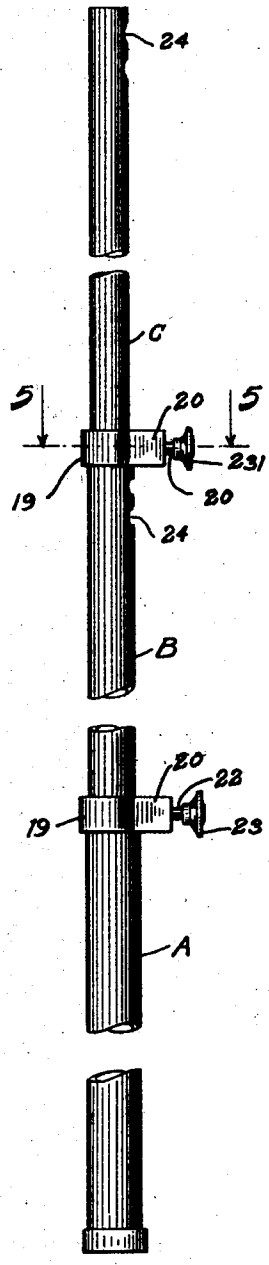

Fig. 4.

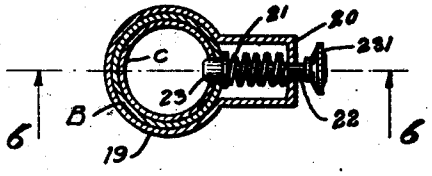

Fig. 5.

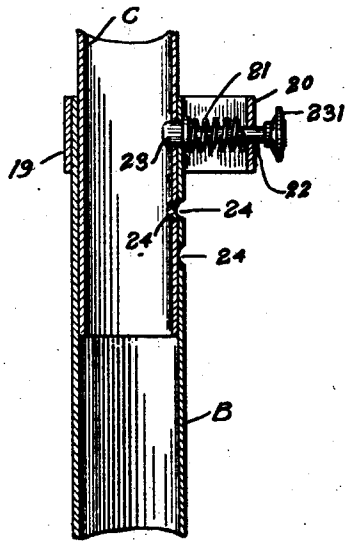

Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TENT-STRETCHING DEVICE.

Application filed September 23, 1924. Serial No. 739,317.

This invention relates to improvement in tent stretching devices.

The prevalence of automobile touring has created a large demand for tents of the type sometimes referred to as umbrella tents. These tents are usually square and are supported by a single center pole. The upper edges of the walls are spread and stretched by some suitable means, such as sectional or telescopic bars which are inserted thru pockets in the tent walls near their juncture with the roof portion. As tents of this type are employed mostly by automobile tourists, compactness is a matter of prime importance. We have therefore constructed our spreading devices as well as the center pole from tubular members which are telescopically related to each other so that they can be collapsed when not in use. In order to hold the parts in extended or adjusted position, we have provided spring pressed detents which will be hereinafter described.

Our invention can be most clearly explained and will be most readily understood when reference is had to the accompanying drawing in which the same is illustrated and in which

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing a tent in which our adjustable center pole and spreaders are employed.

Fig. 2 is a plan view, partly broken away, showing two of the four spreader members employed.

Fig. 3 is a section taken on line 3—3, Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of our improved center pole.

Fig. 5 is a section taken on line 5—5, Fig. 4, and

Fig. 6 is a section taken on line 6—6, Fig. 5.

In Fig. 1 we have shown a tent wall having side walls and a roof 2. The tent is supported entirely by means of a single center pole 3, whose upper end engages the underside of the center portion of the roof. To spread the tent and hold it in spread position, we have provided four spreader bars, which have been indicated by the numeral 4 (Fig. 1). These bars are inserted through pockets formed in the material of the tent and have their ends provided with coupling means which hold the members in adjusted position. The construction of the spreaders is more fully disclosed in Figs. 2 and 3 where numeral 6 represents the larger and 7 the smaller of the two telescopic tubular members of each bar. The member 7 is provided at suitable places with openings 8 which are adapted to receive the pins 9 that are attached to the free ends of the springs 10, the other ends of which are secured to the tubular member by means of a clamp 11. It is obvious that when the pins 9 occupy the position shown in Fig. 3, the two members 6 and 7 will be locked against relative longitudinal movement. Secured to the members 7 near the outer ends thereof are springs 110 having pins 109 at one end and secured at the other end by clamps 111. Each tent requires four telescopic bars such as shown in Fig. 3, all of which are of identical construction. Secured to the outer end of each member 6 is a coupling 12 having two shanks 13 and 14 at right angles to each other. The shank 13 is of the proper diameter to fit the interior of the member 6 and the shank 14 is smaller and fits the inside of the member 7. The couplings are secured to the end of member 6 by means of a pin 15. The shanks 14 have openings 16 for the reception of the pins 109 (Fig. 3). Each coupling is also provided with an eyelet 17 for convenience in attaching a guy rope 18 thereto. After the four bars have been inserted into the pockets 5 and properly connected, they will hold the tent square in the manner indicated in Fig. 1. The angular couplings which are anchored to the members 6 and 7 prevent the spreading devices from pulling apart when the tent is subjected to wind stresses.

The center pole 3 is preferably made from the tubular sections A, B, and C, which are telescopically connected one with the other. Section B has an outside diameter equal to the inside diameter or section A and section C fits the inside of section C. Sections A and B are provided at their upper ends with straps 19 which have an offset portion 20 within which a spring 21 is located. This spring surrounds a pin 22 whose inner end 23 is enlarged and projects thru an opening in the wall of the section to which it is attached. The end 23 is also adapted to project thru openings 24 in the wall of the inner tube so as to lock the two adjacent tubes against sliding movement. By grasping the handle 231 the pin can be withdrawn from

the hole in the inner tube so as to permit the pole to be collapsed or extended. Holes 24 are provided near the upper as well as the lower ends of the tubes B and C so as to hold them in collapsed position. Poles 25 constructed in a manner similar to that in which the center pole is constructed may be used to support the flap 26, if desired.

We desire to call particular attention to the construction of the spreader bars illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3 and to the fact that one end of each is provided with an angled coupling member 12 provided (at its corners) with an eyelet for the reception of a guy rope. The rigid coupling members with their right angularly related shanks serve to hold the spreader frame rigid and thereby hold the tent in proper shape. The angle connections also make it easy both to erect and take down the tent.

Having now described our invention, what we claim as new is:

1. A stretcher frame comprising a plurality of substantially identical bar members, each adapted to be inserted through a pocket in a tent one end of each bar having an angular coupling attached thereto, said coupling having an opening adapted to receive a guy rope, the other end of each bar and the coupling having cooperating connecting means.

2. A stretcher frame comprising a plurality of substantially identical bar members, each formed from a plurality of tubular members telescopically associated with each other, one end of each bar having a coupling member attached thereto, said coupling having two studs projecting at right angles to each other, one of said studs projecting into the bar with which it is associated and the other stud being adapted to enter the other bar and an opening at the point of intersection of said studs.

3. A stretcher frame for tents comprising four members adapted to respectively enter pockets formed at the junction of the side walls and roof of a tent, each of said stretcher members being composed of a plurality of tubular telescoping parts, and corner coupling members each having two studs disposed at right angles to each other and of different size, the said studs being adapted to respectively fit into the larger and smaller ends of the cooperating stretcher members of the frame which are correspondingly disposed for the purpose, each corner coupling member being provided with an eye for convenience in attaching guy ropes.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

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