March 21, 1939. L. E. LEATHERBURY 2,151,387

RUG DISPLAY MEANS

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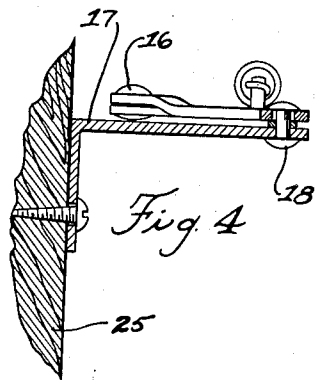


Fig. 4

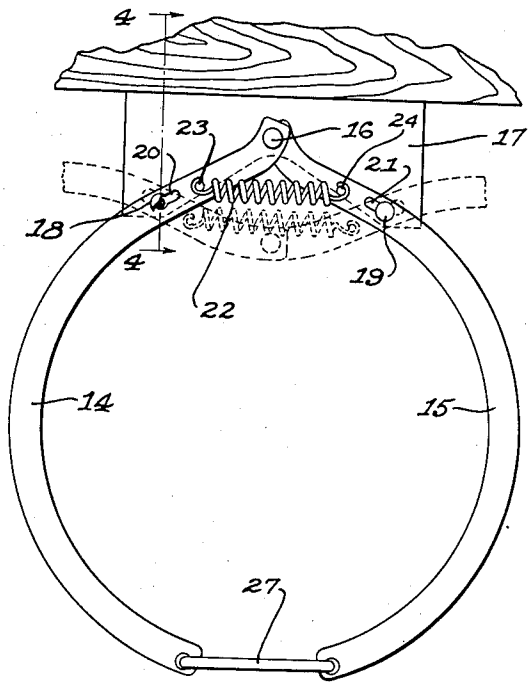


Fig. 2

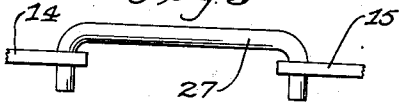


Fig. 5

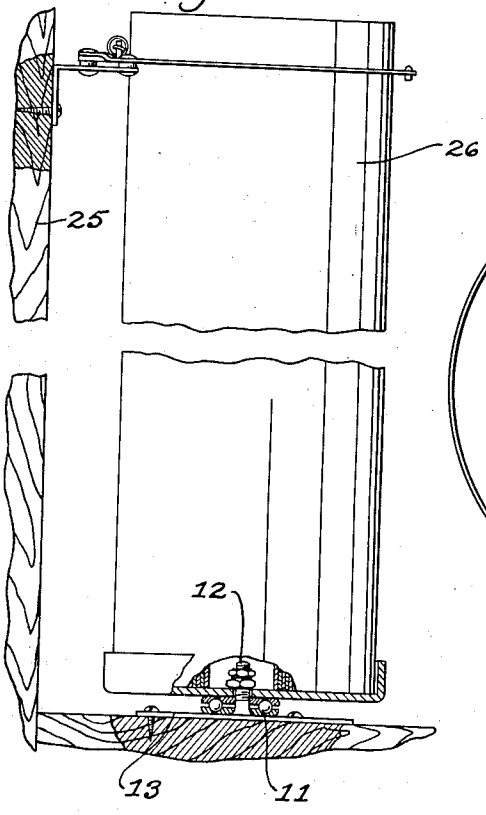


Fig. 1

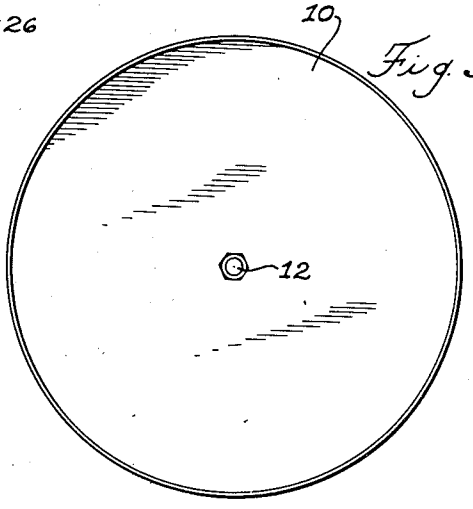


Fig. 3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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RUG DISPLAY MEANS

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Application May 18, 1938, Serial No. 208,558

4 Claims. (Cl. 24—254)

This invention relates to means for supporting and maintaining objects such as rugs, rolls of linoleum, etc., in vertical positions and has for its primary object the provision of a very simple and yet effective structure that may be produced at relatively low cost, and which will engage and permit disengagement of the roll without use of tools or the like.

Articles of the nature indicated, particularly linoleum rugs, must be stored in rolls on end to prevent damage. It has been a problem to arrange for such storage without danger of the rolls falling over, particularly when one or more rolls are to be selected from a group for display purposes or the like.

My invention provides for the support of each individual roll whereby that roll is held securely in vertical position and cannot fall over even though it may be bumped into, and at the same time the roll may be quickly taken from its retaining device.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will be better understood by those versed in the art from the following description of the invention as illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a structure embodying the invention;

Fig. 2, a top plan view of the support for retaining the roll in vertical position;

Fig. 3, a top plan view of the base on which the roll rests;

Fig. 4, a transverse vertical section on the line 4—4 in Fig. 2, and

Fig. 5, a detail in front elevation of a securing means.

Like characters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views in the drawing.

A supporting base 10, on which the roll rests, is formed in any suitable shape to conform to the size of the lower end of the roll to be carried. In the present form, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, this base 10 is in the form of a disk having a peripheral upturned flange. This base 10 is preferably mounted to be rotatable and is herein shown as being mounted on the bearing 11 and secured in place by the central post 12 which extends upwardly from a mounting plate 13.

Further means are provided for engaging and supporting the roll at the upper portion thereof. Such means comprises a pair of arcuate arms 14 and 15 which are hinged or provided together by a pin 16 at their inner or rear ends, preferably by end portions turning outwardly from the general curve of the respective arms. A mounting bracket 17 is provided and these arms 14, 15 are mounted on this bracket, for opening and closing movement by means of pins or rivets 18, 19 extending through slots 20, 21 in the arms and engaging the bracket 17. These slots extend longitudinally of the respective arms.

A coiled spring 22 is interconnected at its ends, by pins 23, 24, with the arms 14, 15 back of the pins 18, 19 and forwardly of the hinge pin 16 when the arms are in closed position, as indicated in full lines Fig. 2. By reason of the tension of this spring 22, the two arms 14 and 15 are pulled one toward the other into closed position, that is the outer ends of the arms are pulled one toward the other to their inner limit of travel as fixed by engagements of the pins 18 and 19 on the side walls of the respective slots 20 and 21.

When in this closed position, the outer ends of these respective slots will be in abutment with the respective pins. In order to prevent shifting of the arms along these pins, the outer end of each of the slots 20 and 21 is enlarged by a circular portion so as to provide a shoulder in the side wall of the slot in each case to bear against the pin.

The attaching plate or bracket 17 carrying the arcuate arms is mounted in an upper position spaced from the base 10 to have the arms in vertical alignment therewith. This bracket 17 may be attached to a wall member 25. Now when a roll 26 is to be carried by the device, its lower end is placed on the base member 10 and the arms 14 and 15 are pulled apart or separated so as to provide a sufficient opening between their outer ends to receive the roll 26 therebetween. It is to be noted that when these arms 14 and 15 are thus shifted to the open position, there is sufficient movement permitted by reason of the slots 20 and 21 in association with the pins 18 and 19 to allow for the travel of the respective arms and to permit the spring 22 to be carried forwardly of the pins 18 and 19, as indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 2, whereby the arms will be maintained by the spring in the full open position and at the same time the inner hinged ends of the arms will be forward of the bracket 17. Thus when the upper end of the roll 26 is pushed against the hinged inner ends of the arms the rearward movement of the latter will overcome the pull of the spring 22 and carry the hinged end backwardly beyond the line of the pins 18 and 19 to permit the spring 22 to then pull the arms around again to a closed position, the tension of the spring in holding the arms in either open or closed position depending

principally on the location of the pivotal connection 16—in front of the spring and in the rear thereof in the respective positions of the arms.

Accidental shifting of the arms 14 and 15 while the roll 26 is supported thereby may be prevented by a link 27 having downturned ends engaging holes in the outer ends of the arms.

While I have herein shown and described my invention in the one best form as now known to me, it is obvious that structural variations may be employed without departing from the spirit of the invention, and I, therefore, do not desire to be limited to that precise form beyond the limitations as may be imposed by the following claims.

I claim:

1. The combination of a pair of arcuate arms, means hinging together the rear ends of the arms, a supporting bracket, a pair of pins carried by the bracket guiding said arms and limiting swinging thereof, and a spring interconnecting said arms back of said pins and forwardly of said hinge means, said pin means being arranged to allow the hinged ends of the arms to travel forwardly of the line of the pins when the arms are spread apart, and said spring being further mounted in relation to the pins and hinged ends to be carried forwardly of the pins upon said spreading.

2. The combination of a pair of arcuate arms, means hinging together the rear ends of the arms, a supporting bracket, a pair of pins carried by the bracket guiding said arms and limiting swinging thereof, and a spring interconnecting said arms back of said pins and forwardly of said hinge means, said pin means being arranged to allow the hinged ends of the arms to travel forwardly of the line of the pins when the arms are spread apart, and said spring being further mounted in relation to the pins and hinged ends to be carried forwardly of the pins upon said spreading, said arms having slots engaging said pins, and a shoulder in the outer portion of each slot for releasable engagement of the pins when the arms are in either the fully spread or closed positions.

3. The combination of a pair of arcuate arms, means hinging together the rear ends of the arms, a supporting bracket, a pair of pins carried by the bracket guiding said arms and limiting swinging thereof, and a spring interconnecting said arms back of said pins and forwardly of said hinge means, said pin means being arranged to allow the hinged ends of the arms to travel forwardly of the line of the pins when the arms are spread apart, and said spring being further mounted in relation to the pins and hinged ends to be carried forwardly of the pins upon said spreading, and means interconnecting the outer ends of said arms when in closed positions.

4. The combination of a pair of arcuate arms, means hinging together the rear ends of the arms, a supporting bracket, a pair of pins carried by the bracket guiding said arms and limiting swinging thereof, and a spring interconnecting said arms back of said pins and forwardly of said hinge means, said pin means being arranged to allow the hinged ends of the arms to travel forwardly of the line of the pins when the arms are spread apart, and said spring being further mounted in relation to the pins and hinged ends to be carried forwardly of the pins upon said spreading, and means interconnecting the outer ends of said arms when in closed positions, said interconnecting means comprising a link having turned ends engaging the arms.

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