

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,447,460

EASEL STAND

Edmond J. Forsyth, Chicago, Ill.

Application October 8, 1945, Serial No. 620,999

7 Claims. (Cl. 248—34)

1

This invention relates to improvements in easel stands and it consists of the matters hereinafter described and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

The easel stand with which the present invention is more especially concerned comprises a panel-like display member and a prop or brace member adapted to be detachably connected to the back of the display member for holding it in a substantially upright position upon a suitable supporting surface.

One of the objects of the present invention is to provide an easel stand of simple construction with the display member carrying at the back thereof means whereby the associated prop or brace member may be quickly and easily applied to and removed from the display member without the use of tools of any kind.

Another object of the invention is to provide in an easel stand of this kind, a novel recess arrangement at the back of the display member, each having a side and an end entrance opening which readily permits the detachable engagement of certain parts of the legs of the prop or brace member that supports the display member in a substantially upright position.

A further object of the invention is to provide a novel display member for the stand, composed of laminated adhesively united pieces of sheet material, with certain of said sheets being formed to provide undercut recesses in the back of the member, each having an end entrance and a communicating side entrance that open through the back of the display member.

The above mentioned objects of the invention, as well as others, together with the advantages thereof will more fully appear as the specification proceeds.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of an easel stand embodying the preferred form of the invention, as viewed from the back or rear thereof.

Fig. 2 is a view in elevation on an enlarged scale showing a fragment of the back of the display member of Fig. 1 and the undercut recesses therein, each having a side and an end entrance opening.

Fig. 3 is a detail horizontal sectional view through a part of Fig. 2 as taken on the line 3—3 thereof.

Fig. 4 is a detail vertical sectional view through a part of Fig. 2 as taken on the line 4—4 thereof.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary view in elevation of the sheet parts at the back of the display member, when of a laminated construction, formed to pro-

2

vide a certain L-shaped opening therein later mentioned.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary view in elevation of the sheet parts of the display arranged inwardly of the sheets of Fig. 5 and formed to provide a rectangular opening therein later mentioned.

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a certain prop or brace for the display member of Fig. 1 for holding it in a substantially upright position, with the legs of the prop or brace in substantially their normal parallel condition or position.

Referring now in detail to that embodiment of the invention illustrated in the drawings, the improved easel stand comprises but two parts, namely a panel-like display member 10 and a prop or brace 11 adapted for detachable engagement therewith for holding the same in a substantially upright position in use.

The display member, which as shown in Fig. 1, is of a rectangular shape and may be an advertising board, photograph or other article having a front display face. Preferably the member 10 is a laminated pack member made up of a number of adhesively united sheets 12—12 of chip board, binder stock or other suitable material, as best appears in Figs. 3 and 4.

As shown, certain of the sheets 12a, spaced inwardly from the rear face of the display member, are made with a pair of laterally spaced rectangular openings 13—13, one of which appears in Fig. 6 and the sheets 12b forming the rear face of said member are made with a pair of L-shaped openings 14—14, one of which appears in Fig. 5. The L-shaped openings have substantially the same height and width dimensions as the rectangular openings and when all of the sheets 12—12a and 12b are adhesively united, the said openings 13 and 14 register with each other so that each L-shaped opening forms side and end entrances 14a—14b for the undercut recesses 13a produced by that part of the openings 13—13 covered by parts 15—15 at the inside corners of said openings 14—14. The end entrances of said openings are directed outwardly in opposite directions, as best appears in Fig. 2.

The prop or brace member 11 is preferably made from a piece of wire bent into a U shape to include a pair of laterally spaced legs 16—16 that are connected together at their bottom end by a cross or footing piece 17. A galvanized wire having 0.120 diameter and known as S. A. E. 1015 well serves the purpose when the panel is of the order of ten by fifteen inches. Obviously, wire of other sizes and kinds could be used when the panel is of different sizes, if this were neces-

3

sary. When the legs are in the normal position they are substantially parallel as shown, but as they are of a substantial length they have a lateral resiliency so that when sprung toward each other and released they will return toward normal. The legs could be initially non-parallel, if desired, as they could be sprung from normal and would function in the same way.

The upper end of each leg is bent downwardly and forwardly and then back upwardly to form an upwardly opening U-shaped arm 18 at said end of the leg comprising the inner and outer arm parts 19 and 20 respectively. The upper end of the inner arm part 19 is connected to the upper end of the associated leg and is connected at the lower end to the like end of the associated outer arm by the bend best appearing in Fig. 7. The generally U-shaped arms have a length approximating the length of the side entrance as formed by the L-shaped openings 14—14 in the back of the member 10.

Normally the upper ends of the legs 16—16 have a spread somewhat greater than the distance between the outer ends of the end entrances 14b—14b.

To apply the brace or prop 11 to the display member 10, the upper ends of the legs 16 are sprung toward each other so that the arms 18—18 are spaced apart a distance equal to that between the side entrance openings 14a—14a in the back of the member 10. Said arms are then inserted lengthwise through said side entrance openings and when the pressure on said legs is released, the upper ends of said legs spring back toward their normal position. This will dispose the outer parts 20—20 of the arms 18—18 in the undercut recesses 13a—13a and will dispose the inner parts 19—19 of said arms in engagement with the outer face of said sheet parts 15—15. Thus the parts 19 and 20 at the upper end of each leg will embrace the sheet parts 15—15 and will dispose the arms snugly against the outer side edges of the recesses 13—13. As the upper ends of said legs are still under tension, the U-shaped arms 18—18 are held securely against accidental displacement but in a manner permitting a quick detachment of the brace from the display member.

While in describing the invention I have referred in detail to the form, arrangement and construction of the parts involved, the same is to be considered only in the illustrative sense so that I do not wish to be limited thereto except as may be specifically set forth in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. The combination of a panel-like display member, means at the back thereof providing laterally spaced undercut recesses, each so covered in part as to leave communicating entrance openings along one side and one end thereof, said entrance openings along the ends of said recesses facing in opposite directions, and a member adapted to be detachably connected to the back of said display member for supporting the same in a substantially upright position and including legs having laterally resilient upper ends, an arm having inner and outer portions connected to the upper end of each leg, said outer portions of said arms when the upper ends of said legs are sprung relatively from a normal position a predetermined amount being insertable lengthwise through the side entrance openings of both recesses, said outer portions of said arms when said upper ends of said legs have been re-

4

leased and spring back toward their normal position each disposing itself in its associated recess to be confined therein by that part of said means covering a part of said associated recess, with each inner arm portion engaged with the outer surface of said part of its associated means.

2. The combination of a panel-like display member, means at the back thereof providing laterally spaced undercut recesses, each so covered in part as to leave communicating entrance openings along one side and the bottom end thereof, said entrance openings along the bottom end of said recesses facing outwardly in opposite directions, and a member adapted to be detachably connected to the back of said display member for supporting the same in a substantially upright position and including legs having laterally resilient upper ends, which in a normal position are spaced apart a distance greater than the distance between the side entrance openings for said recesses, an arm having inner and outer portions connected to the upper end of each leg, said outer portions of said arms when the upper ends of said legs are sprung inwardly toward each other a predetermined amount being insertable lengthwise through the side entrance opening of both recesses, said outer portions of said arms when said upper ends of said legs have been released and spring laterally outward toward their normal position each disposing itself in its associated recess to be confined therein by that part of said means covering a part of said associated recess, with each inner arm portion engaged with the outer face of said part of its associated means.

3. The combination of a panel-like display member, means at the back thereof providing laterally spaced undercut recesses, each so covered in part as to leave communicating entrance openings along one side and one end thereof, said entrance openings along the ends of said recesses facing in opposite directions, and a member adapted to be detachably connected to the back of said display member for supporting the same in a substantially upright position and including legs having laterally resilient upper ends, a U-shaped arm associated with the upper end of each leg and having inner and outer arm parts with the inner arm part of each arm connected to the upper end of the associated leg, said outer parts of said U-shaped arms when the upper ends of said legs are sprung relatively from a normal position a predetermined amount being insertable lengthwise through the side entrance openings of both recesses, said upper ends of said legs when released springing back toward their normal position and disposing the outer part of each U-shaped arm in the associated undercut recess, in engaging relation with the inner surface of that part of the display member covering a part of the associated recess and disposing the inner part of each U-shaped arm in engaging relation with the outer surface of said part of the display member covering a part of the associated recess.

4. The combination of a panel-like display member composed of sheets of laminated material, certain ones of said sheets inwardly of the rear face of said member having laterally spaced rectangular openings therein and others of said sheets at the back of the member having laterally spaced L-shaped openings therein overlying marginal parts of the sheets beneath and which L-shaped openings provide side and end entrances for the associated undercut recess formed by a part of said other of said sheets adjacent said

5

L-shaped openings and covering the remainder of said rectangular openings, and a member adapted to be detachably connected to the back of said display member for supporting the same in a substantially upright position and including legs having laterally resilient upper ends, an arm connected to the upper end of each leg, said arms when the upper ends of said legs are sprung relatively from a normal position a predetermined amount being insertable lengthwise through the side entrances for both recesses, said upper ends of said legs when released springing back toward their normal position and disposing each arm in its associated recesses to be confined therein by said parts of said other of said sheets adjacent said L-shaped openings and covering the remainder of said rectangular openings.

5. The combination of a panel-like display member composed of sheets of laminated material, certain ones of said sheets inwardly of the rear face of said member having laterally spaced rectangular openings therein and others of said sheets at the back of the board having laterally spaced L-shaped openings therein overlying marginal parts of the sheets beneath and which L-shaped openings provide side and end entrances for the associated undercut recess formed by a part of said other of said sheets adjacent said L-shaped openings covering the remainder of said rectangular openings, and a member adapted to be detachably connected to the back of said display member for supporting the same in a substantially upright position and including legs having laterally resilient upper ends, a U-shaped arm associated with the upper end of each leg and having inner and outer arm parts with the inner arm part of each arm connected to the upper end of the associated leg, said outer arm parts of said U-shaped arms when the upper end of said legs are sprung relatively

6

from a normal position a predetermined amount being insertable lengthwise through the side entrance openings for both recesses, said upper ends of said legs when released springing back toward their normal position and disposing the outer parts of each U-shaped arm in the associated recess and disposing the inner part of each U-shaped arm in engaging relation to the outer surface of said part of said other sheets covering a part of the associated rectangular opening and disposing the outer part of each U-shaped arm in engaging relation with the inner surface of said part of said other of said sheets covering the remainder of said rectangular openings.

6. As an article of manufacture a panel-like display member having at the back thereof an undercut recess covered in part by a portion at the back of the member and having substantially L-shaped side and end entrance openings communicating therewith.

7. As an article of manufacture a panel-like display member composed of sheets of laminated material, certain ones of said sheets inward of the rear face of said member having rectangular openings therein and other of said sheets at the back of the member having L-shaped openings therein so overlying parts of the sheets beneath as to form undercut recesses each having a side entrance and an end entrance in the rear face of said member.

EDMOND J. FORSYTH.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
607,104	Whitehead	July 12, 1898