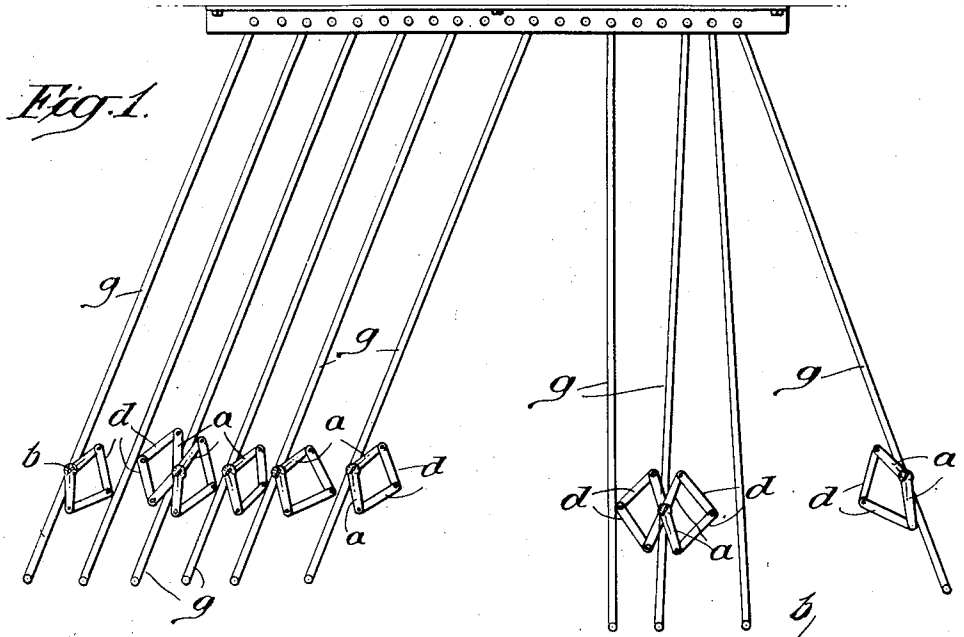
H. V. LOUGH.

SPACER FOR PANELS OF DISPLAY FIXTURES.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 16, 1918.

1,344,239. Patented June 22, 1920.

Fig. 1.



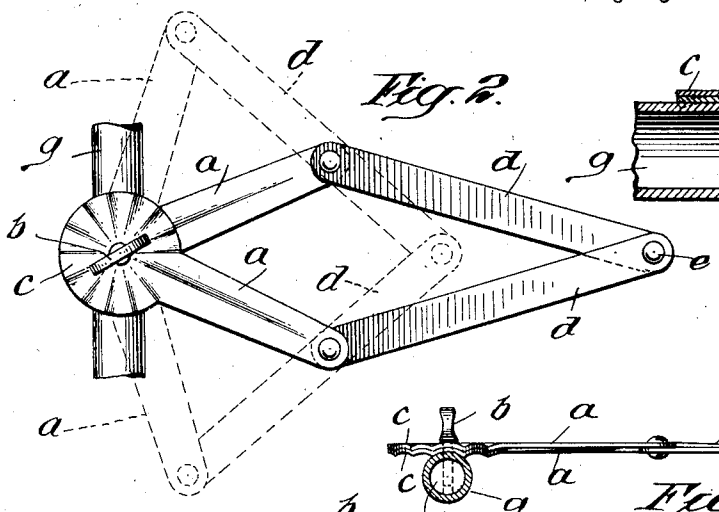


Fig. 2.

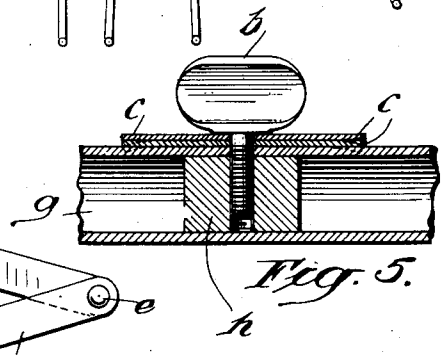


Fig. 5.

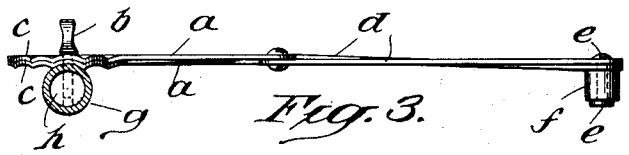


Fig. 3.

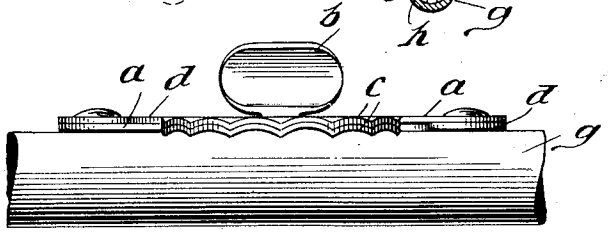


Fig. 4.

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SPACER FOR PANELS OF DISPLAY-FIXTURES.

1,344,239. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented June 22, 1920.**

Application filed November 16, 1918. Serial No. 262,859.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HECTOR V. LOUGH, a subject of the King of Great Britain, and a resident of Hartford, county of Hartford, and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Spacers for Panels of Display-Fixtures, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has relation to that class of display fixtures in which a series of horizontally swinging frames are employed for holding the articles to be displayed, each of these frames being pivoted at its inner end upon a vertical axis and the pivots of these frames being suitably spaced apart to enable the frames to be readily swung from one side to the other in the manner of the leaves of an album, means being provided on the top edges of the swinging frames to variably space the frames apart to prevent the articles affixed to the frames contacting with each other or with the opposite frames. The present invention is intended to improve the spacing device to the end that it shall be not only stronger and more substantial in construction, but shall also have a wider range of adjustment, as more fully set forth.

In the drawings annexed:—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the display apparatus provided with my invention.

Fig. 2 is a detail plan view of one of the spacing devices.

Fig. 3 is a side elevation thereof, the top or other display frame being shown in cross section.

Fig. 4 is a rear elevation of one of the spacing devices, and

Fig. 5 is a detail vertical section, taken through the anchored end of the spacing device.

This invention may be embodied in a number of specifically different structures, but I prefer the structure illustrated in the accompanying drawings. In this structure I employ a pair of arms *a* which are overlapped at their inner ends and pivotally clamped to the top rail of the display frame by a clamp screw *b*, the overlapped parts *c* being circular in shape to provide an ample frictional and supporting area, these disk-like members being radially corrugated correspondingly to insure their being locked in their adjusted position.

Pivotally connected to the outer or free end of each of the arms *a* is a flat link *d*, and the outer ends of these links are overlapped and pivotally connected together by a vertical pivot *e*, the depending end of this pivot being provided with the usual elastic buffer *f* adapted to receive the impact of the adjacent panel.

With this construction it will be seen that when the arms *a* are adjusted toward each other, the links *d* will be advanced outwardly and thus move the buffer *f* farther from the display frame, and when the arms *a* are adjusted away from each other, the links *e* will be drawn inwardly, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2, to thus bring the buffer or stop *f* nearer to the frame which carries the spacing device. It will thus be seen that I provide a spacing device of substantial construction and one which has a wide range of adjustment. It will be seen also that the buffer *f* may be brought quite close to the display frame by reason of the fact that the arms *a* may be swung backwardly to a position directly over and nearly parallel with the top rail of the display frame, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2, or even to a position back of the pivotal point of the arms.

A further important feature of the invention consists in providing the hubs *c* of arms *a* with coöperating sets of radially extending corrugations. These corrugations or alternate grooves and ridges serve to lock arms *a* and consequently also links *d* in their adjusted positions when screw *b* is tightened, and thus prevent accidental variation of the length of the spacer. It will also be observed that the upper side of the tubular top rail of the panel *g* is adapted to engage in two oppositely disposed grooves in the hub *c* of the lower arm *a*, as shown in Figs. 3 and 5, so that when screw *b* is threaded into plug *h* in the tubular top rail of panel *g* the spacer will be held against lateral movement.

A single spacing device may be secured to each display frame, as shown at the left-hand side of Fig. 1; or, if desired, two spacers may be secured to a frame and extend in opposite directions, as shown at the right-hand side of Fig. 1. In this latter arrangement the alternate frames are without spacers, and one screw is used to secure both spacers in position.

Having thus described the preferred form of my invention, what I claim is:—

1. In a display fixture, the combination of a support, a plurality of swinging panels mounted on the support, and a spacer carried by one of said panels comprising a pair of relatively movable arms pivotally connected with each other and with an edge of the panel at one end, a pair of links pivotally connected with the free ends of said arms, an elongated pivot pin connecting the outer ends of the links, and a sleeve of yieldable material surrounding said pin at one side of the links and adapted to engage an adjacent panel.

2. The combination with a swinging panel of a display fixture of a spacer comprising a pair of arms each having a hub portion formed with radially extending grooves and ridges, a clamping screw extending axially through said hub portions and threaded into one edge of the panel for adjustably locking the arms to each other and to the edge of the panel, a pair of links pivotally connected with the free ends of the arms, an elongated pivot pin connecting the outer ends of the links together, and a pad of yieldable material surrounding said pin at one side of the links.

3. The combination with a display apparatus embodying a series of swinging panels, of a spacing device for the panels embodying a pair of arms and a screw clamp device for pivotally clamping them to one edge of a panel, the ends of the arms being overlapped so as to have frictional engagement with each other and both arms being adapted to be swung backwardly across the edge of the panel, and a link pivoted to the outer end of each one of said arms and having their outer ends pivotally connected together and provided with a buffer.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

HECTOR V. LOUGH.