Oct. 10, 1950 J. DUMAS 2,524,898

PAINTER'S EASEL

Filed March 25, 1947 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

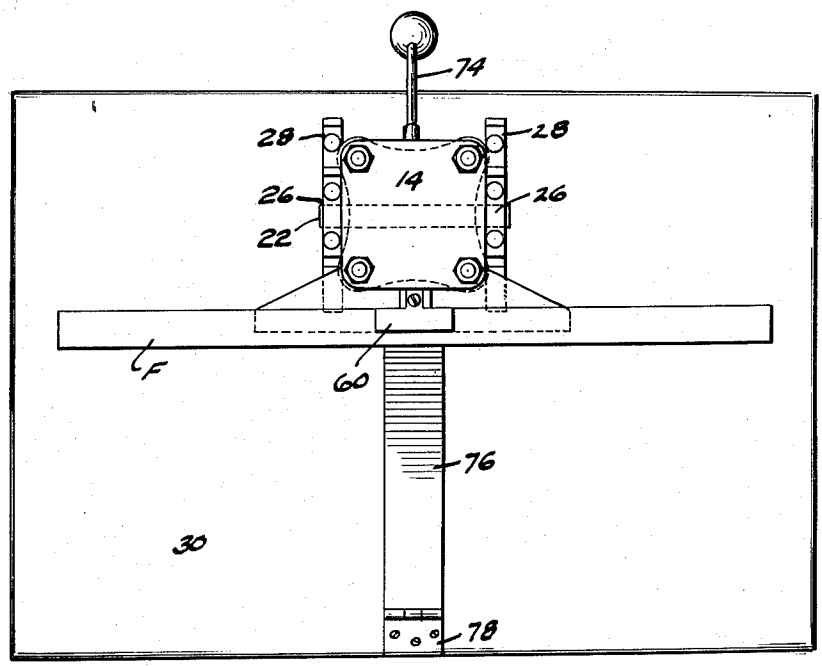
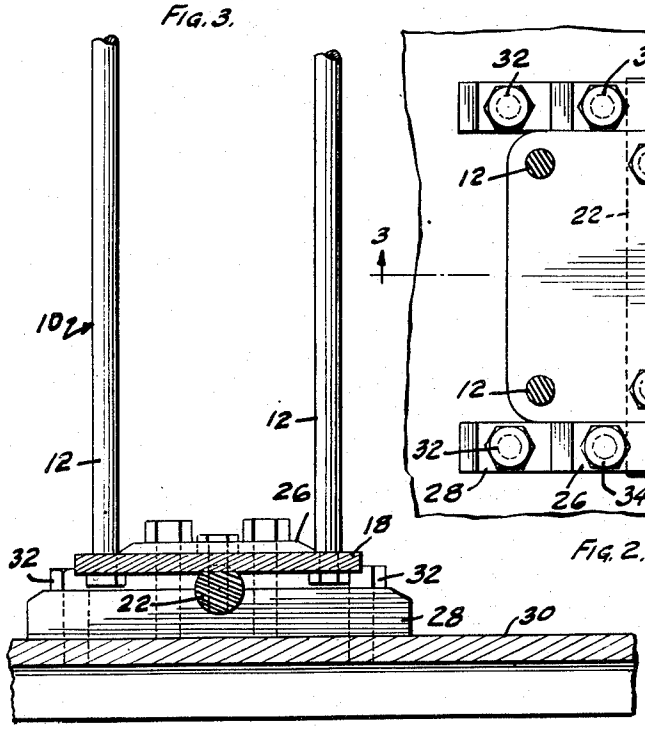


FIG. 3.



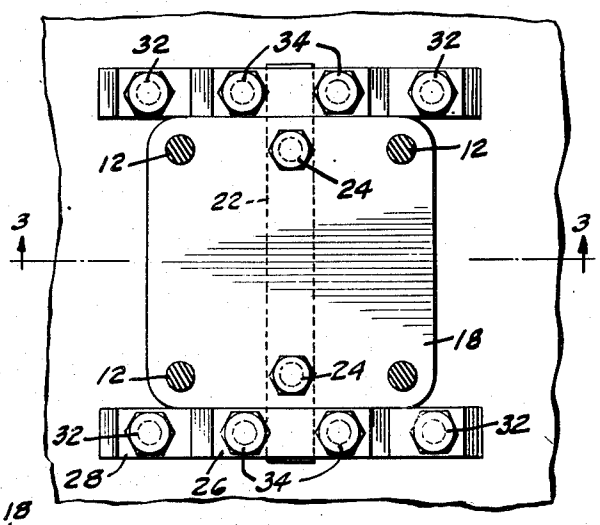


FIG. 2.

INVENTOR.
JEAN DUMAS
BY
Harry N. Hitzeman
ATTORNEY

Oct. 10, 1950 J. DUMAS 2,524,898

PAINTER'S EASEL

Filed March 25, 1947 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 4.

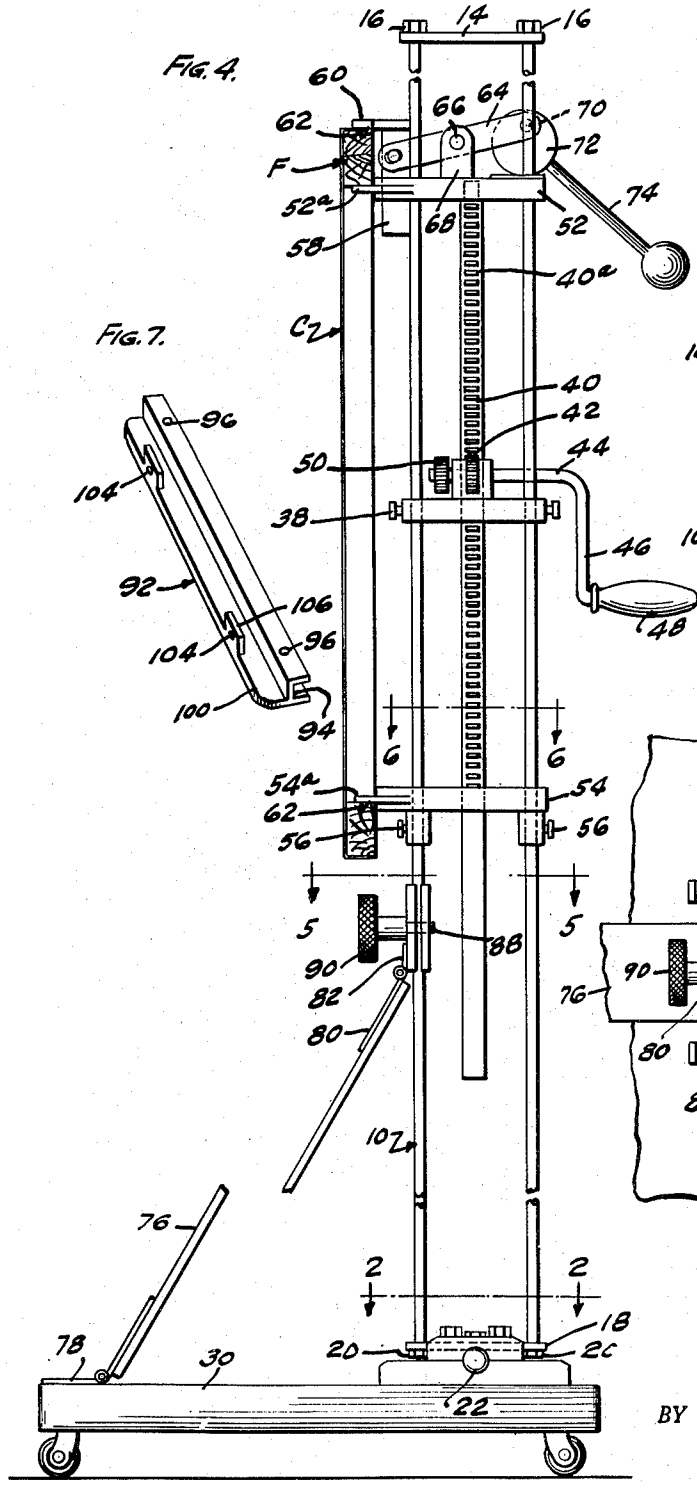


FIG. 6.

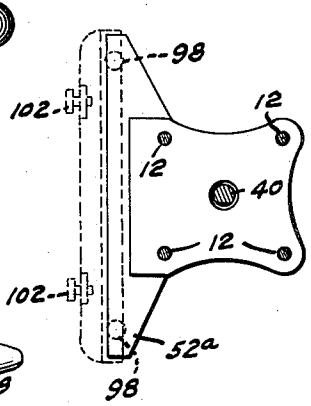


FIG. 7.

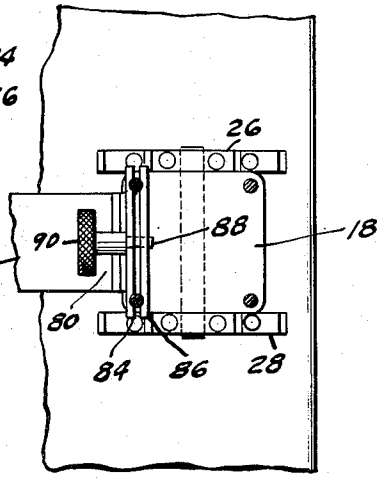


FIG. 5.

INVENTOR.
JEAN DUMAS

BY Harry N. Hitzeman
ATTORNEY

Patented Oct. 10, 1950

2,524,898

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,524,898

PAINTER'S EASEL

Jean Dumas, Chicago, Ill.

Application March 25, 1947, Serial No. 736,930

3 Claims. (Cl. 248—195)

1

My invention relates to improvements in easels for painters and artists and to similar devices.

My invention relates more particularly to improvements over the invention shown and described in my previous Patent No. 1,809,268 issued June 9, 1931. The above mentioned patent relates generally to mechanism for holding canvas stretching frames on a vertically disposed support and permits raising or lowering of the frame as desired. Also it relates to mechanism to permit the canvas to be stretched to compensate for irregularities in the surface of the same occasioned by moisture and temperature changes without removal from or changing the position of the work on the easel.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide an improved construction of artist easel or painting frame support pivotally mounted at its base, so that the angle at which the canvas is held may be determined within limits to the exact slope at which an artist desires to work.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved mechanism that is comparatively simple and easily adjusted for making the changes in the angular position of the easel.

A further object of the invention is to provide an easel supported upon a comparatively large flat base to provide the necessary rigidity and structural support for the same, the base being capable of being easily moved from place to place, so that the painting may be done in the most advantageous position to receive the best light available.

A further object of the invention is to provide auxiliary holders which may be mounted upon the usual holders provided for the regular size canvas frames which holders are capable of supporting a canvas mounted upon ⅛ to ½" thick frames, the same being comparatively smaller than those normally used, but which are frequently employed for certain purposes.

A further object of the invention is to provide a construction of the type described that is comparatively simple to manufacture, easily and quickly adjustable, as desired by the artist, and one which will stand long, and hard usage without becoming broken or out of order.

Other objects and advantages will be more apparent from the following description wherein reference is had to the accompanying drawings upon which:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of my improved construction;

Fig. 2 is a plan fragmentary sectional view

2

showing the pivoted easel frame support on the base;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged detailed section through a portion of the base and the pivoted easel frame support taken on the lines 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a side elevational view of the complete easel and base;

Fig. 5 is a plan sectional view taken generally on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is a similar sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 4;

Fig. 7 is a front perspective view of the auxiliary frame member employed for smaller canvas frames.

In the embodiment of the invention which I have chosen to illustrate and describe, I have shown an upright frame 10 which may consist of four vertical rod members 12. The rod members may be connected together at their upper end by a suitable rectangularly shaped bracket 14 being fastened therein by suitable nut members 16. A similar bracket 18 may be secured to the lower end of the rod members by similar nut members 20. The bracket 18, as more clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3, may be fastened to a cross shaft 22 by cap screw members 24. The shaft 22 may be mounted for rotation between a pair of clamping bars 26 and 28. The bar 28 being fastened to the base 30 by means of cap screws 32 and the bar 26 being fastened to the bar 28 by means of cap screws 34. With this construction, it can be seen that the frame 10 may be tilted from a vertical to an inclined angle within limits either forward or back to suit the individual requirements of the artist.

The frame 10 is adapted to provide a support for the artist's work at any desired angle and also provides a vise for stretching the canvas which is being painted. For elevating the work to a desired height, I provide a plate 38 intermediate the ends of frame 10, the plate being fixed relative to the frame. The plate provides a mounting for a rack 40 as well as a cooperating pinion 42. The pinion 42 is mounted upon a shaft 44 which terminates in a crank 46 having a handle 48. A ratchet wheel 50 may also be mounted upon the shaft 44, having a spring pressed pawl associated therewith, so that by rotation of the handle 48 the pinion 42 which engages the teeth 40a of the rack 40 will raise or lower a plate member 52 secured to the upper end of the rack, the pawl and ratchet 50 previously described being provided to hold the same in locked engagement at any desired raised or lowered position.

A frame F for a canvas C may be mounted

between a fixed plate **54** secured to the upright rods **12** by thumb screw members **56** and the plate **52**. The ledges **54***a* and **52***a* being extended, so that a comparatively long grip may be had upon the canvas frame. Means for locking the upper section of the frame on the plate **52** may comprise a movable clamp member **58** mounted for reciprocation in a suitable opening in the plate **52**. The clamp member **58** may have a forwardly extending ledge **60** provided with teeth **62** for engaging in the wooden frame F, the ledge **54***a* of the plate **54** having similar teeth for engaging in the lower portion of the frame. The clamp member **58** may be pivotally mounted upon the end of a rocker arm **64**, the arm being pivoted at **66** on a bracket **68** on the plate **52**, the opposite end of the rocker arm being pivotally connected at **70** to a disc member **72**. A handle **74** is provided for rotating the disc, so that by means of the eccentric movement, the vise member **58** may be brought down to rigidly clamp the upper portion of the canvas frame against the plate **52**.

The mechanism which has been described for raising or lowering the upper plate **52** and for clamping the canvas frame in place may be generally similar to that shown and described in my previous patent and will, therefore, not be described in any further detail herein.

In order to position the frame **10** at the desired angle from the vertical or to fixedly hold the same in a rigid vertical position, I have provided a brace member **76** which may be pivotally secured to the base **30** by a hinge member **78**. The upper end of the brace **76** may also carry a hinge member **80**, the portion **82** of the same being fixedly secured to a plate **84**.

A similar plate **86** may be provided to work in conjunction with the same, the plates being provided with arcuate grooves to partially engage around the upright rods **12**, the plates being capable of fastening to the rods by means of a bolt member **88** screw-threadedly engaging the plate **86** and having a tightening handle **90** connected thereto. With this construction the handle **90** may be rotated to loosen the engaging plates, the frame may be swung to the desired angle; by rotating the handle **90** the brace will be rigidly clamped to the frame to support it in the desired angular position.

The auxiliary frame, which I provide for supporting smaller canvas frames, as shown in Figs. 6 and 7, may be in the form of a bracket **92** having a slot **94** therein provided with tapped openings **96** to receive thumb screws **98**, so the same can be fastened to the ledges **52***a* and **54***a* of the plates **52** and **54**. The picture frame may then be inserted over the horizontal ledge **100** of the frame and be rigidly fastened thereto by thumb-screws **102** which extend through the tapped openings **104** in the upright leaves **106**.

From the above and foregoing description, it can be seen that with the construction provided I have made considerable improvement over the construction shown in my previous patent. The easel supporting frame is now capable of angular adjustment back and forth from the vertical by easy and simple manipulation and can be rigidly braced at the desired angular position. In addition, the auxiliary supporting frames for smaller canvas frames are adapted for easy attachment to the plates **52** and **54**, so that smaller or larger canvas frames may be employed, as desired.

I contemplate that changes and modifications may be made in the exact details shown, and I do not wish to be limited in any particular; rather what I desire to secure and protect by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. Easel construction comprising a base, a bracket pivotally mounted thereon, a plurality of vertical rods mounted in fixed spaced apart relation on said bracket, a pair of plates slidably mounted on said rods, the forward edges of said plates each forming a shelf, means operable to hold one of said plates fixed relative to said rods, and a rack and pinion operable to control the movement of the other of said plates.

2. Easel construction comprising a base, a bracket pivotally mounted thereon, a plurality of vertical rods mounted in fixed spaced apart relation on said bracket, a pair of plates slidably mounted on said rods, the forward edges of said plates each forming a shelf, means operable to hold one of said plates fixed relative to said rods, a rack and pinion operable to control the movement of the other of said plates and a brace for said vertical rods, said brace having locking plates slidable on said vertical rods and capable of fixedly connecting said base and said vertical rods at a predetermined fixed angle.

3. Easel construction comprising a base, a bracket mounted on said base, a plurality of vertical rods mounted in fixed spaced-apart relation on said bracket, a pair of plates slidably mounted on said rods, the forward edges of each plate forming a shelf, means operable to hold one of said plates fixed relative to said rods, a rack and pinion operable to control the movement of the other of said plates, a clamping plate movably mounted on said rack controlled plate, cam mechanism operable to control the clamping plate and means connected between said base and said plurality of vertical rods for adjusting the same to desired vertical angular position.

JEAN DUMAS.

REFERENCES CITED

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

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
121,240	Forbes	Nov. 28, 1871
410,226	White	Sept. 3, 1889
1,809,268	Dumas	June 9, 1931
2,032,872	Friedrichs	Mar. 3, 1936
2,059,525	Huelsdonk	Nov. 3, 1936