Feb. 23, 1932. J. W. DIXON 1,846,798

POSTER SUPPORTING DEVICE

Filed Dec. 28, 1928

Fig. 1.

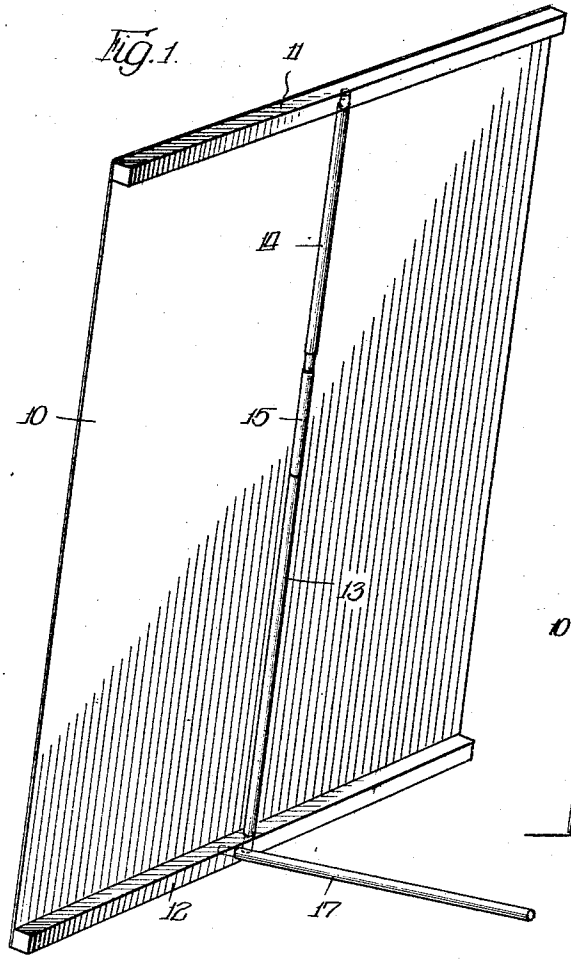


Fig. 2.

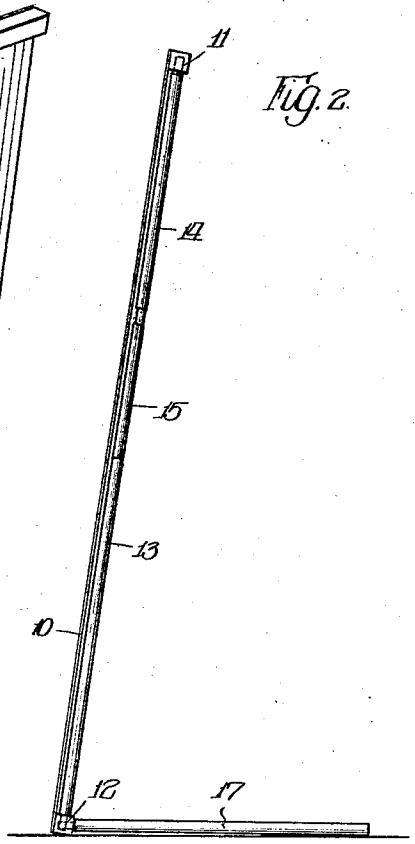


Fig. 3.

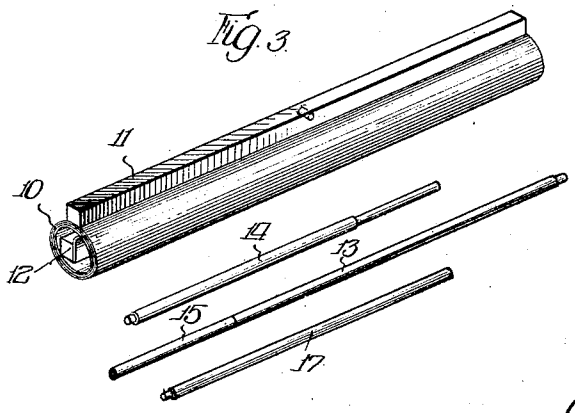
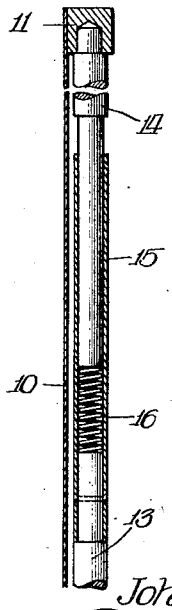


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JOHN W. DIXON, OF MAYWOOD, ILLINOIS

POSTER SUPPORTING DEVICE

Application filed December 28, 1928. Serial No. 328,932.

The present invention has to do with flexible posters, and is concerned particularly with the means employed for supporting such posters in outspread position.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a novel poster support which is inexpensive to manufacture, is easy to assemble, can be taken apart readily, is light in weight, occupies but little space when taken apart, and will maintain the poster with which associated tautly outspread in an upright position.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be evident to those skilled in the art upon a full understanding of the construction, arrangement and manner of use of the improved support.

One form of the invention is presented herein for the purpose of exemplification, but it will of course be appreciated that the invention is susceptible of embodiment in other structurally modified forms coming within the scope of the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a poster with the supporting device of the invention operatively associated therewith;

Fig. 2 is a side view;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view, showing the poster rolled up for shipment and the supporting device taken apart for inclusion with the poster in a mailing tube; and

Fig. 4 is a sectional view, showing certain portions of the support in detail.

The supporting device, which is adapted to be applied to a poster made up of a flexible sheet 10 and upper and lower edge strips 11 and 12, includes primarily two axially aligned rods 13 and 14. The rod 13 has its lower end reduced for insertion in a hole in the lower edge strip, while the rod 14 has its upper end reduced for insertion in a hole in the upper edge strip. A tube 15 is attached to the upper end of the rod 13, and a coil spring 16 is positioned in the tube. The lower end of the rod 14 is reduced for insertion in the tube and seats against the spring therein.

When the supporting device is applied to the poster, the spring 16 is compressed between the adjacent ends of the rods 13 and 14, with the result that the poster is maintained by the action of the spring in a tautly outspread position. The poster is prevented from falling over backward by a horizontally extending rod 17, the front end of which is reduced for insertion in a hole in the lower edge strip.

In applying the support to a poster, the poster is unrolled and placed in a horizontal position with the edge strips up. The lower end of the rod 13 is inserted in the hole in the lower edge strip, and the lower end of the rod 14 is inserted in the tube 15 and forced far enough into the same against the yielding action of the spring to permit the upper end of the rod 14 to clear the upper edge strip, after which the upper end of the rod 14 is inserted in the hole in the upper edge strip. The spring 16, acting through the rods 13 and 14 against the strips 11 and 12, serves to stretch the poster taut. Finally, the front end of the rod 17 is inserted in the hole in the lower edge strip. The poster is then ready to be raised up into the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

I claim:

1. The combination with a flexible poster having strips permanently secured to the opposite edges thereof, of centrally arranged means for spreading the strips apart comprising a rod which is adapted to engage at one end with one of the edge strips and is provided at the other end with a socket, a coiled compression spring housed within the socket, and another rod which is adapted to seat at one end in said socket against the spring and is adapted to engage at the other end with the other edge strip, said rods being readily detachable from the edge strips and being separable from each other to permit collapsing and compacting for shipment.

2. The combination with a flexible poster having centrally recessed strips permanently secured to the upper and lower edges thereof, of means for spreading the strips apart comprising a rod which is adapted to seat at one end within the recess in one of the edge strips and is provided at the other end with a socket, a coiled compression spring housed within

the socket, and another rod which is adapted to seat at one end in the socket against the spring and is adapted to seat at the other end within the recess in the other edge strip, said rods being withdrawable from the recesses in said edge strips, and said socket being sufficiently deep to permit the other rod to be forced inwardly therein against the yielding resistance of the spring far enough to allow one of the rods to be withdrawn from its recess.

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name.

JOHN W. DIXON.