Oct. 14, 1947. R. L. SMITH 2,429,173

RACK FOR SUPPORTING AND DISPLAYING WEARING APPAREL

Filed June 24, 1944 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

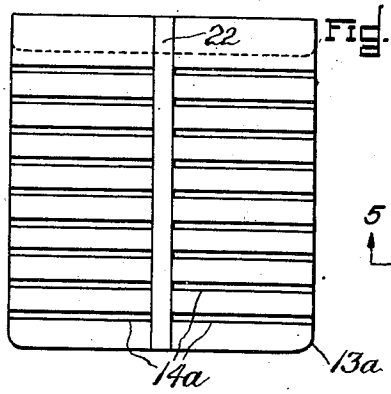

Fig. 3.

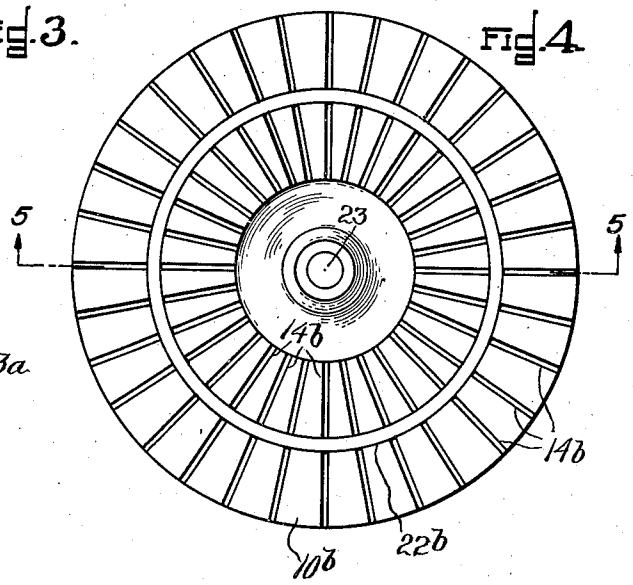

Fig. 4.

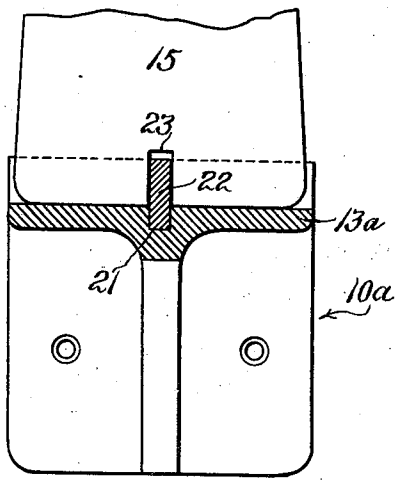

Fig. 2.

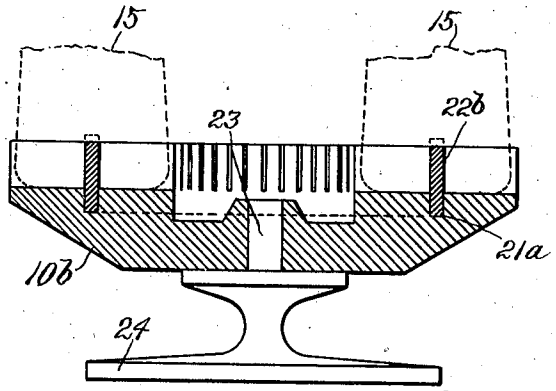

Fig. 5.

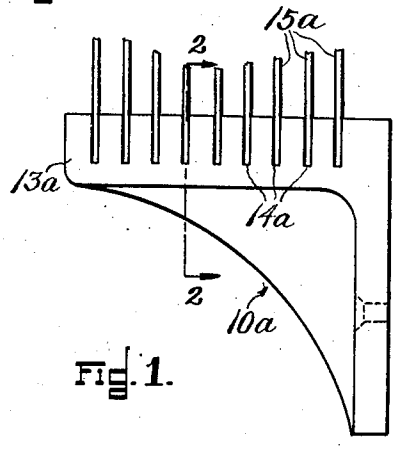

Fig. 1.

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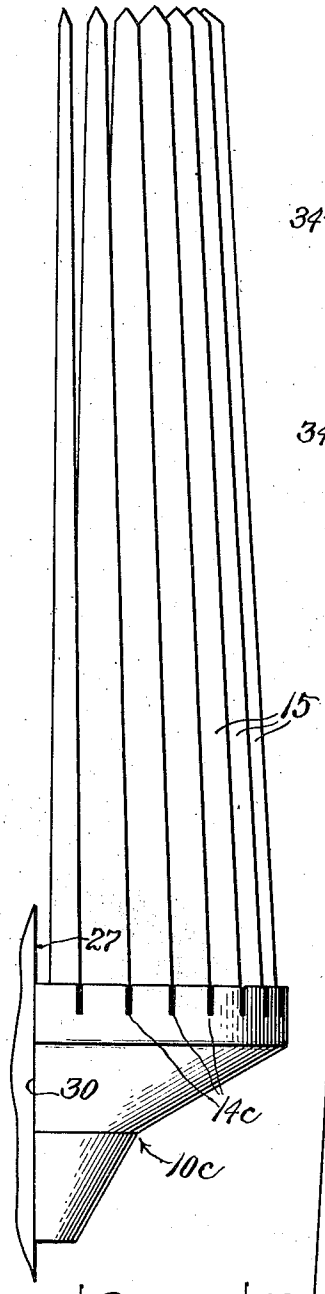

Fig. 6.

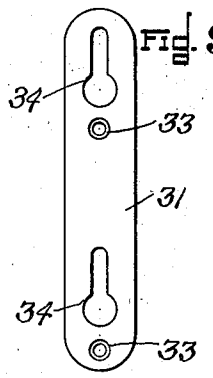

Fig. 9.

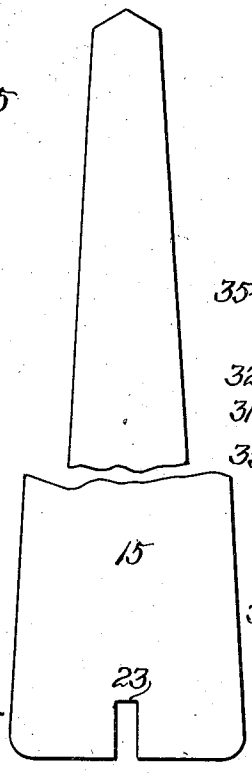

Fig. 10.

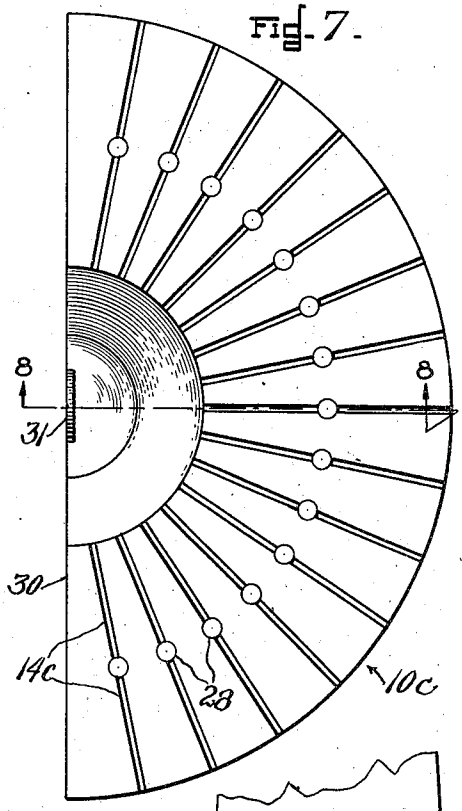

Fig. 7.

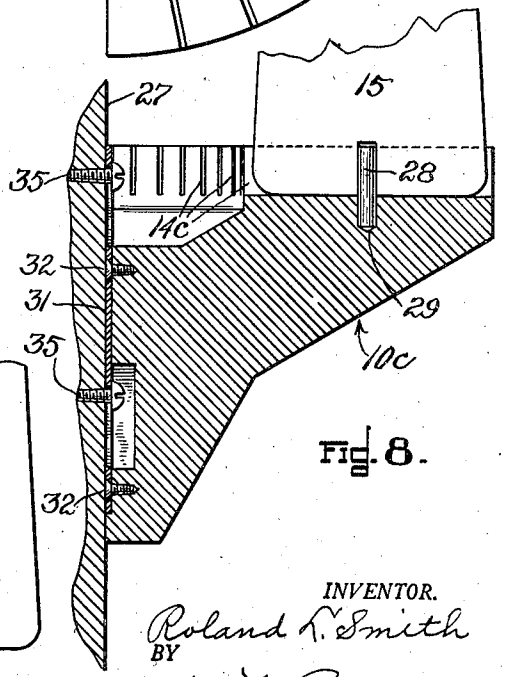

Fig. 8.

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2,429,173

RACK FOR SUPPORTING AND DISPLAYING WEARING APPAREL

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Application June 24, 1944, Serial No. 541,919

3 Claims. (Cl. 211—59)

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My invention relates to improvements in racks for supporting and displaying wearing apparel such, for example, as four-in-hand neckties, and it has for its primary object to improve the construction of racks of the class referred to.

It is also an object of the invention to provide a rack of the class described which will not only support and display the apparel to good advantage but which will also maintain the same distended and free and clear of wrinkles.

A third object of the invention is to provide a rack of the class described which will support a plurality of articles of wearing apparel in closely grouped relationship and in such manner that they are not only held in shape and displayed to good advantage but are also individually accessible for removal.

A further object of the invention is to provide an efficient rack of the character described which will be of simple and inexpensive construction.

To these ends I have provided certain improvements in apparel racks as set forth in the following description, the several novel features of the invention being particularly pointed out and defined in the claims at the close of said description.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the lower portion of a necktie rack embodying the invention.

Figure 2 is a section on line 2—2 og Fig. 1.

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the lower blade-holding member or base shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

Figure 4 is a top plan view of a necktie rack embodying a second form of the invention.

Figure 5 is a section on line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Figure 6 is a side elevation of a necktie rack embodying a third form of the invention.

Figure 7 is a top plan view, enlarged, of the lower blade-holding member of the rack shown in Fig. 6, but with the blades of Fig. 6 removed.

Figure 8 is a section on line 8—8 of Fig. 7 showing one of the blades in position thereon.

Figure 9 is an elevation of the attachment plate, hereinafter described, forming part of the blade-holding member shown in Figs. 7 and 8.

Figure 10 is an elevation, partly broken away, of one of the blades of the rack shown in Fig. 6.

The embodiment of my invention illustrated in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 inclusive comprises a blade-holding base member 10*a* in the form of an angular bracket including a perpendicular back wall formed with apertures for the reception of screws or nails by means of which said member is secured in position against a wall, door or other supporting fixture. At its top the back wall connects with a horizontal shelf 13*a* whose top portion is formed with a plurality of relatively parallel transverse slots 14*a* which are preferably parallel with the vertical back wall of the base.

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Into each slot 14 is fitted the lower end of an elongate tie-holding blade 15 which tapers in width from its lower end toward its upper end and which is of a size and shape to fit snugly within the larger end flap portion of an ordinary four-in-hand necktie so as to maintain the same distended and free and clear of wrinkles.

Each blade 15 is preferably made from flat rustproof shape-retaining sheet material of a thickness to fit snugly within its slot 14*a* of shelf 13*a* so that while occupying said slot it is supported in an upstanding position by the side and bottom walls thereof as will be clear from Figs. 1 and 2. That is, the oppositely disposed side walls of each slot 14*a* hold the blade of said slot vertical as viewed edgewise (Fig. 1), while the engagement of the bottom wall of said slot with the lower end of the blade at two points at opposite sides of the longitudinal medial line of the blade normally holds the latter vertical as viewed sidewise (Fig. 2).

The horizontal shelf 13*a* is also formed upon its top with a longitudinal medial groove 21 disposed between the rows 14*a* and within this groove is secured, by means of cement or otherwise, a straight key strip or tongue 22 that is disposed between the two rows of slot sections and adapted to occupy open medial slots 23 formed in the lower ends of the blades 15. This key strip 22 serves to align the blades on the shelf, said blades being constructed as shown in Fig. 10.

The embodiment of the invention illustrated in Figs. 4 and 5 comprises a circular base member 10*b* made upon its top with two concentric circular series of alined radial blade-receiving slot sections 14*b* between which series is provided a circular blade-positioning key strip or tongue 22*b* that is secured by means of cement or otherwise within a groove 21*a* formed in base member 10*b*. The blades 15 (Fig. 10) provided with this form of the invention are applied to the base in the same manner as in the case of the blades of Fig. 2.

The base 10*b* is formed at its middle with a vertical cylindrical hole within which is journaled a trunnion 23 provided at the top of a pedestal member 24 adapted to stand upright upon a floor, store counter, or other horizontal support and to support base member 10*b* so that it can be rotated thereon.

The embodiment of the invention illustrated in

Figs. 6 to 9, inclusive, comprises a bracket base member 10c whose upper portion is semicircular as viewed in plan and whose back wall 30 is adapted to fit flatwise against a flat vertical supporting wall 27, means being provided upon said back wall by means of which the base member is removably fastened to said wall 27.

The top of base member 10c is made with two semicircular series of aligned radial blade-receiving slot sections 14c and between each pair of slot sections is provided a vertical key in the form of a blade-positioning dowel 28 secured, by means of cement or otherwise, within a hole 29 (Fig. 8) bored in the top of base member 10c. As shown, these dowels are disposed in a semicircular series parallel with and between the two series of slot sections.

The lower slotted end of a blade 15 (Fig. 10) is slid into position within each pair of slot sections with its slot 23 occupied by the dowel key 28 of sad pair as shown in Figs. 6 and 8 so that a partial side view of each of the ties (not shown) is presented to view while at the same time the blades and ties are disposed in a compact group close to wall 27.

The means herein provided for removably fastening base member 10c to wall 27 comprises a metal plate 31 (Figs. 8 and 9) fastened by screws 32 within a recess provided upon the back wall 30 of the base member so that its exposed face is flush with rear wall 30, said plate being formed with apertures 33 to accommodate the screws 32 and also with a pair of buttonhole slots 34 having their larger ends disposed lowermost. The wall 27 is provided with two vertically alined screws 35 whose heads are spaced slightly away from said wall, said screws being spaced apart the same distance as are the button hole slots 34. It will therefore be clear that when base member 10c is placed against wall 27 with the screws 35 within the enlargements of slots 34 and then slid downwardly the base member is securely held in position against wall 27. To disconnect the base member from wall 27 it is slid upwardly until it can be shifted away from screws 35.

By means of a rack constructed as above described an individual may store a plurality of ties in a compact group where they are readily accessible and conveniently displayed for selection, the blade or form on which each tie is mounted serving to hold its tie in flat distended condition so as to have the same effect thereon as ironing. While I have herein shown racks adapted to hold neckties, it will be obvious that

blades or forms of other designs may be substituted to adapt the racks to support stockings or other articles.

What I claim is:

1. A rack for supporting and displaying wearing apparel, said rack comprising a base member and a plurality of flat elongate forms each consisting of a single blade of sheet material adapted to be fitted telescopically endwise into a tubular article of wearing apparel so as to maintain the same distended, said base member being made upon its top side with a row of form receiving slots disposed side by side into each of which the lower end of one of said forms is removably fitted so that the latter is supported in an upstanding position by said base member, and each of said forms having its lower end provided with a longitudinal medial slot that is open at one end, and means permanently and fixedly connected with said base member intermediate the opposite ends of the slots thereof for occupying the longitudinal medial slot of each form so as to engage the opposite sides only of said medial slot thereby to hold said form against lateral edgewise displacement in either direction relatively to said base member and to maintain the several forms in alinement.

2. A rack of the character described constructed in accordance with claim 1 and wherein said base member is a bracket that is attached to a vertically disposed supporting fixture.

3. A rack of the character described constructed in accordance with claim 1 wherein the slots of said base member are arranged in a circular row and wherein there is also provided a pedestal member upon which said base member is mounted for rotative adjustment on a vertical axis.

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