July 28, 1925. 1,547,356

F. BERR

STENCILING APPARATUS

Filed April 8, 1925

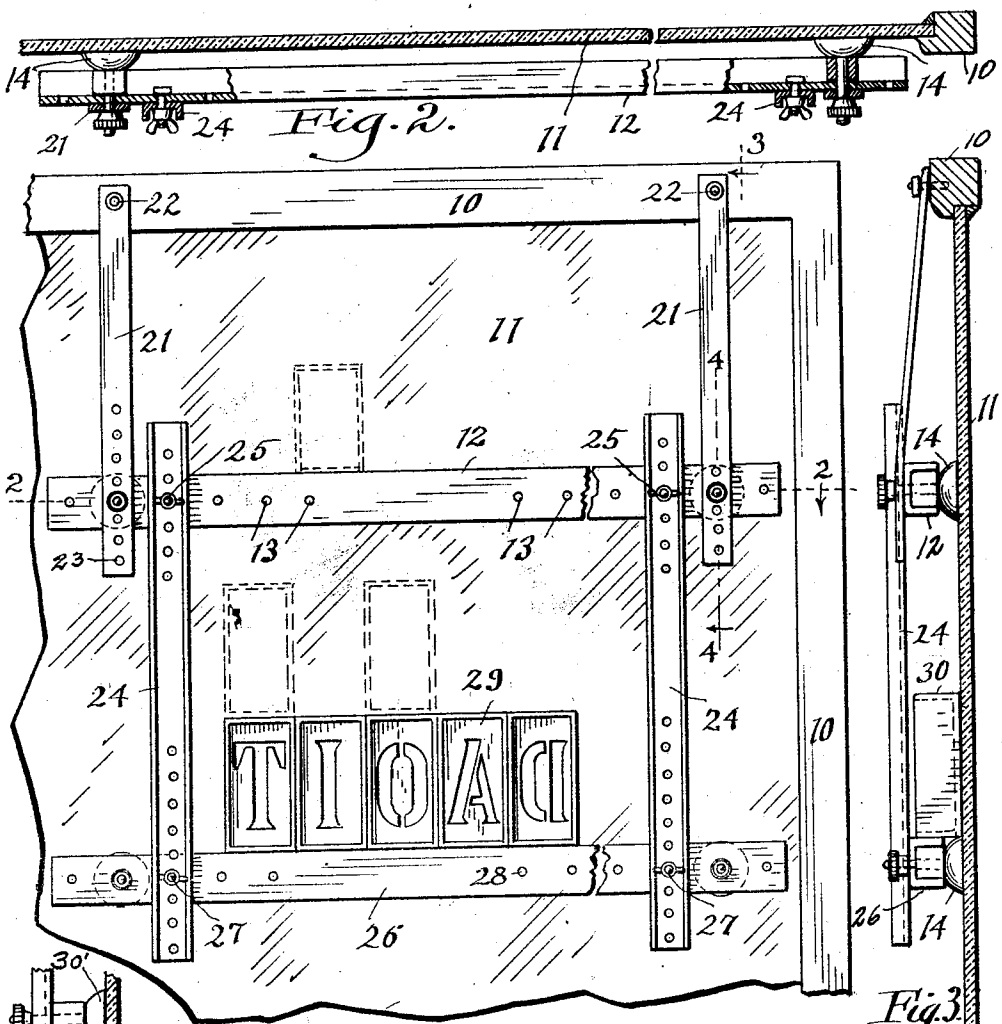



Fig. 2.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 3.

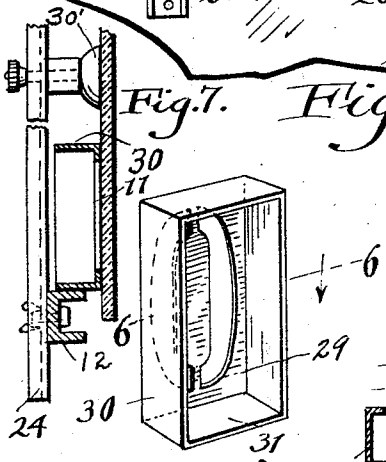



Fig. 7.

Fig. 5.

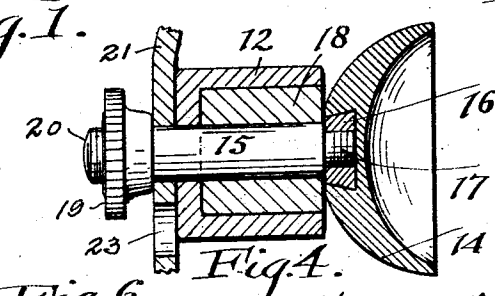



Fig. 4.

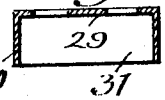



Fig. 6.

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Patented July 28, 1925. 1,547,356

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK BERR, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

## STENCILING APPARATUS.

Application filed April 8, 1925. Serial No. 21,489.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK BERR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Stenciling Apparatus, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to apparatus especially designed for stenciling signs on store windows and for other similar purposes.

It is one of the objects of the invention to provide an apparatus, for the purposes specified, that may be readily supported against a store window and used to conveniently and quickly make an attractive sign. It is a further object of the invention to provide an apparatus made in separable sections that may be conveniently assembled and form a structure that will support stencils in any desired arrangement for the purpose of stenciling a sign on a window or other surface. It is a further object of the invention to provide an apparatus, of the type referred to, that will be comparatively inexpensive to manufacture, require only a small amount of manufacturing equipment and which may be retailed at a relatively low price.

It is a common practice among storekeepers, and particularly in the case of grocers and butchers, to paint signs on the outside of their store windows for the purpose of displaying to the public, information reguarding items for sale and the price thereof. These signs are usually painted on the store window so as to be readily removable and one objection to this practice has been that such signs have been subject to mutilation and erasure by mischievously inclined persons. A further objection is that very few storekeepers have the requisite skill for painting an attractive sign so that, as a rule, these signs greatly disfigure the appearance of the store window. It is one of the objects of this invention to provide an apparatus by which the sign may be painted on the inside of the window in an attractive manner and only require a small amount of time and very little skill in applying.

Other objects and the features of novelty will be apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, of which:

Figure 1 is an elevation of a portion of a window having my invention applied thereto;

Fig. 2 is a horizontal section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1 with certain parts shown in section on the line 2′—2′;

Fig. 3 is an elevation of the apparatus shown in Fig. 2, as seen from the right thereof, with certain parts in section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the stencil units;

Fig. 6 is a section thereof on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5; and

Fig. 7 is a detail of a slight modification.

Referring to the drawings 10 indicates the frame of a window having the glass 11 therein. My invention, in the form illustrated in the drawings, comprises a horizontally arranged channel bar 12 that is provided with a series of openings 13 extending lengthwise thereof. Suction cups 14, made of rubber, are arranged adjacent the ends of the bar 12, between the latter and the glass 11 for the purpose of supporting the bar 12 adjacent to the glass. Each of the suction cups 14 has a rearwardly projecting stem 15 thereon, which may be secured to the cup in any preferred manner, as by means of a nut 16, which is embedded in the rubber and which has engagement with the threaded extension 17 of the stem 15. The stem 15 extends through a filler block 18 arranged in the channel of the bar 12, as shown in Fig. 4, and through one of the openings 13, being secured by a thumb nut 19 on the threaded outer end 20 of the stem. In order to give additional support to the bar 12 and also to insure accurate horizontal arrangement thereof, I may also use the suspension members 21, which have their upper ends supported on hooks or screws or other fastening devices 22 at the top of the frame 10. The suspension members 21 are each provided with a series of perforations 23 through which the stems 15 may project, the openings 23 in the two suspension members being in horizontal alignment to permit the member 12 to be arranged at different elevations. When the suspension members 21 are employed they are secured beneath the nuts 19.

Upright members 24, preferably of channel form, are supported from the member 12

by means of bolts 25, the members 24 having series of openings extending longitudinally thereof at their upper and lower ends which permit vertical adjustment of these members and also permit vertical adjustment of a horizontally arranged bar 26 that is attached to the lower ends of the bars 24 by means of bolts 27. The bar 26 is preferably of channel form and has a series of openings 28 in either end permitting horizontal adjustment of the upright members 24 and also serving as a means for securing suction-cups 29 thereto, these suction-cups being similar to the cups 14 and serving to firmly hold the bar 26 in position. The suction-cups may, if preferred be attached to the bars 24 by means similar to that disclosed for attaching them to the bars 12 and 26, and I have indicated this arrangement at 30′ in Fig. 7.

The channel members 12 and 26 are preferably arranged with their flanges directed toward the window 11 and the upright members 24 engage the backs of these channels so as to provide open spaces throughout the full length of the bars 12 and 26 whereby the full length of the upper flanges of these bars may serve as shelves to support stencils. The type of stencil which I prefer to use is illustrated in detail in Figs. 5 and 6, each stencil consisting of the usual perforated metal sheet 29 surrounded by a rectangular frame 30, the bottom wall 31 of this frame constituting a base that is adapted to rest on either of the bars 12 or 26 and support the stencil with the plate 29 against the window, as shown in Fig. 3. The frame 30 also serves as a means for confining the paint and preventing it from reaching the window, except through the stencil, when a paint spraying device is used, it being my recommendation that the stenciling be done in this manner on account of the relatively rapid operation of these devices and the fact that the work may be neatly done by an unskilled operator. I prefer to use individual letter stencils permitting any desired combination and, if desired, these stencils may be arranged in tiers, as shown in Fig. 1, for the purpose of conveniently painting signs in several lines.

The parts of the apparatus, which I have illustrated in the drawings, may be readily assembled and disassembled and when the horizontal and upright members are made in channel form, as shown, a relatively strong but light construction is provided that will occupy only a very small space when the various members are disassembled for storage or transporation. The suction cups provide a convenient means for securing the apparatus to a window and, it has been my experience, that these suction cups are very efficient and amply able to support the weight that is imposed on them for such time as may be required in painting a sign.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. In a device of the class described, the combination of a horizontally arranged bar adapted to serve as a supporting shelf, means for suspending said bar alongside the surface to be painted, and stencils each surrounded by a separate frame adapted to rest loosely on said bar and support the stencil in contact with said surface and to prevent a paint spray from reaching said surface except through the openings in the stencils.

2. In a device of the class described, the combination of a horizontally arranged bar adapted to serve as a supporting shelf, suction-cups for supporting said bar on a window-glass, and stencils each surrounded by a separate frame adapted to rest on said bar with the stencil against said glass, said frames also serving to confine a paint spray and prevent it from reaching the glass except through the stencil.

3. In a device of the class described, the combination of a horizontally arranged bar adapted to serve as a supporting shelf, suction-cups for supporting said bar on a window-glass, upright bars adjustably supported on said bar, a horizontally arranged bar supported on said upright bars and adapted to serve as a supporting shelf, and stencils having frames whereby they may be loosely arranged on said horizontal bars in contact with the surface to be painted.

4. In a device of the class described, the combination of a horizontally arranged channel bar having a longitudinally arranged series of openings, members adapted to be secured in said openings and provided with suction cups whereby said bar may be attached to a window-glass, suspension means extending upwardly from said bar and on which the bar is adjustable vertically, and stencils loosely arranged on said bar in contact with said glass.

5. In a device of the class described, the combination of a horizontally arranged channel bar having a longitudinally arranged series of openings, members adapted to be secured in said openings and provided with suction cups whereby said bar may be attached to a window-glass, suspension means extending upwardly from said bar and on which the bar is adjustable vertically, and stencils loosely arranged on said bar in contact with said glass and each surrounded by a frame for confining a paint spray to the stencil and also permitting the stencils to be arranged in tiers above said bar.

6. In a device of the class described, the combination of a horizontally arranged channel bar having a longitudinally ar-

ranged series of openings, members adapted to be secured in said openings and provided with suction cups whereby said bar may be attached to a window-glass, suspension means extending upwardly from said bar and on which the bar is adjustable vertically, upright members carried by said bar and adjustable horizontally thereon, a horizontal bar carried by said upright members and adjustable vertically thereon, and a plurality of stencils each having a frame for supporting it independently on said bars with the stencil against said glass, and said upright members being so positioned as to permit said stencils to be placed at any point along the upper surfaces of said bars.

7. In a device of the class described, the combination of a horizontal arranged bar having a longitudinally arranged series of openings, means for supporting said bar adjacent a surface to be painted, and a series of stencils each surrounded by an enclosing frame whereby they may be supported on said bar and said frames also serving to confine a paint spray and prevent it from reaching said surface except through the stencil.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

FRANK BERR.