Aug. 2, 1932. J. W. RODACK 1,869,714

PANEL SUPPORT

Filed March 9, 1929

Fig. 1.

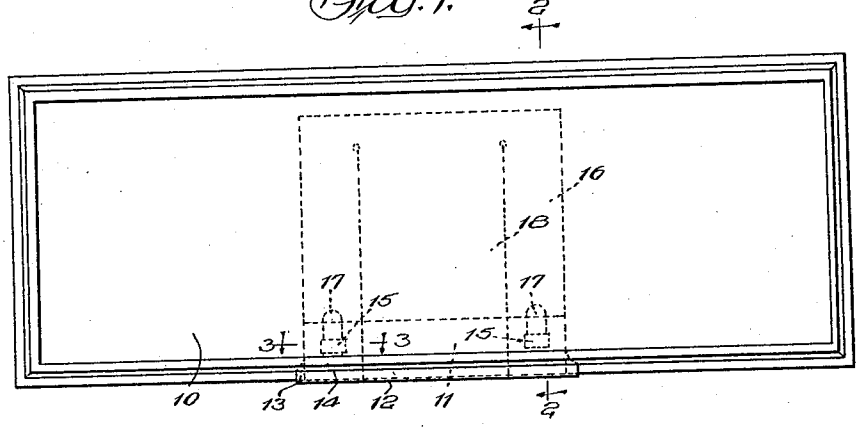


Fig. 2.

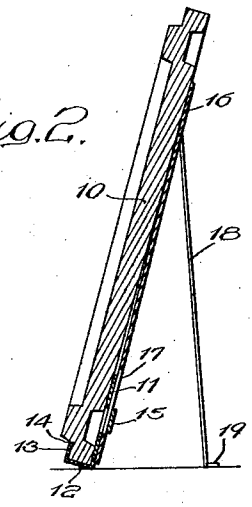
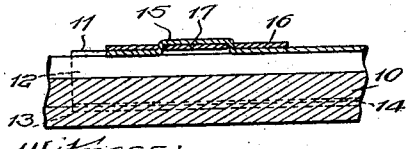


Fig. 3.



Witness:
William P. Kilroy

Fig. 4.

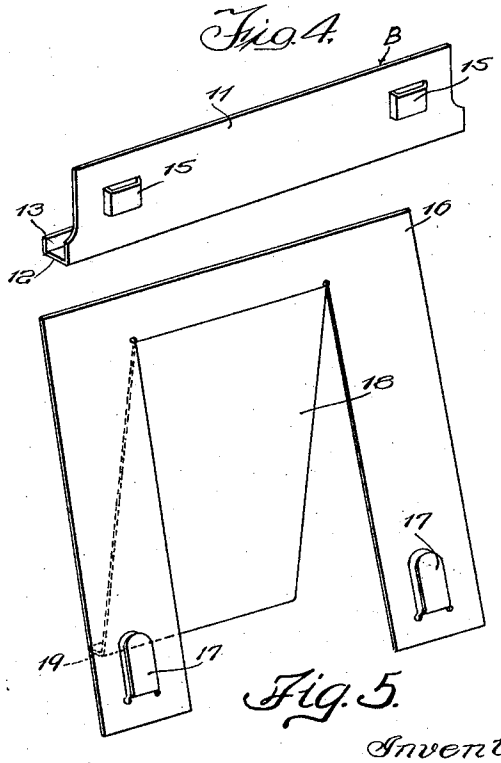


Fig. 5.

Inventor:
James W. Rodack
Charles S. Wilson
Atty

By

Patented Aug. 2, 1932 1,869,714

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JAMES W. RODACK, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO WOODALL INDUSTRIES, INCORPORATED, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN

PANEL SUPPORT

Application filed March 9, 1929. Serial No. 345,725.

The present invention relates to panel supports, of the type which may be generally designated as easels and has for its object the provision of such a device that will be rigid and durable, and that at the same time may be readily attached to or removed from the panel.

With the above and other objects in view, as will be apparent, this invention consists of the construction, combination and arrangement of parts, all as hereinafter more fully described, claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawing wherein:

Fig. 1 is an elevation of a panel illustrating the present invention in conjunction therewith;

Fig. 2 is a vertical section taken along line 2—2 of Fig. 1 illustrating the cooperation between the panel and the support therefor;

Fig. 3 is a horizontal section taken along line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the bracket secured to the panel; and

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the easel or supporting device which cooperates with the bracket.

Heretofore in attaching supports to panels such as signs, plaques, pictures and similar articles, it has been generally customary to provide the panel with a back to which the supporting structure is attached, usually in the approximate center or above the center of such back. These devices have been expensive as well as inconvenient as to the method of attaching them and in collapsing them for shipping purposes. Furthermore, devices of this character have in no way provided a protection for the edges of the panel being supported, the edges thereof being usually in contact upon the table or counter or other platform upon which the article is exhibited.

The present invention is designed to provide a support for a panel such as a plaque, sign or picture, which does not involve the use of a back or backing for the panel and which, at the same time, provides a protection for the supporting edge of the article. Furthermore, the present invention is designed to provide such a support of a character that can be easily and readily attached to the panel and which can be detached and collapsed for shipping the article.

Reference being had more particularly to the drawings, 10 designates a panel which may be a picture, sign, plaque or any other similar article. A bracket B illustrated in Fig. 4 is secured to the lower edge of the panel 10, and comprises a body 11 having a lateral extension 12 along one edge which passes under the lower edge of the panel 10 and is provided with a flange 13 at its outer edge which is parallel to the body of the bracket 11. When the bracket B is in position the right angular extension 12 rests against the lower edge of the panel 10 while the body 11 of the bracket rests flush against the rear wall thereof and the flange 13, rests parallel to the body 11 and against the face of the panel 10. By exerting a pressure upon the body 11 and the flange 13, the bracket may be rapidly and securely attached to the lower edge of the panel 10. If desired, the upper edge of the flange 13 may be curved slightly or bent inwardly as at 14, to be imbedded in the body of the panel 10 when pressure is applied to the flange, thus creating additional security in the connection between the panel 10 and bracket B.

In this manner the bracket B is firmly and rigidly secured to the panel and becomes to all intents and purposes, a permanent part thereof. In the event the panel has a metal binder about the edge thereof, the bracket B may be secured to the panel over the binder or may constitute a part of the binder, the rear side of the binder being extended to act in lieu of the body 11 of the bracket.

At each end of the body 11 of the bracket B is provided a socket 15 which is formed from the body 11 of the bracket and integrally therewith. These sockets 15 project outwardly from the plane of the body 11 of the bracket and constitute means whereby the easel or supporting device may be secured to the panel 10. Cooperating with the bracket is an easel or support comprising a U-shaped frame 16 at the ends of the arms of which are formed a pair of outstanding upwardly pro-

jecting tongues 17 designed to be received in the sockets 15 formed in or carried by the bracket B. As illustrated in Fig. 2 the positioning of the tongues 17 in the sockets 15 of the body 11 of the bracket B, positions the frame 16 against the rear face of the panel 10 so that the base of the frame 16 is located above the approximate horizontal center of the panel 10. In other words the frame 16 constitutes a reinforcing back for the panel 10 and extends substantially throughout the major portion of the height of said panel.

To constitute a support for the frame 16 and through it for the panel 10, the base of the frame or that part thereof joining or connecting the legs of the frame 16, has secured thereto a leg 18 which, when in use occupies a position at an angle to the frame 16 so that it constitutes an angularly disposed support for the frame 16 and through it for the panel 10. At its lower end the leg 18 is provided with a laterally disposed foot 19.

From the foregoing it is apparent that the frame 16 may be readily attached to and detached from the bracket B which is for all intents and purposes permanently secured to the panel 10. When in its operative position and cooperating with the bracket B, the frame 16 rests flush against the rear face of the panel 10 and the tongues 17 thereof are snugly embraced by the sockets 15 of said bracket. When it is desired to ship or pack the panel with its easel or supporting structure, the leg 18 may occupy a position coplanar with the frame 16 so that the panel and its supporting structure occupy substantially the same space as does the panel alone. By adjusting the angle of the leg 18 to the frame 16, the angle of the panel 10 to the horizontal may be determined.

It will be observed that the extension 12 of the bracket B rests under the lower edge of the panel 10 and slightly elevates the same thereby protecting the lower edges of the panel.

Manifestly the present invention provides a simple, inexpensive panel support, which may be easily and readily placed in position, and yet possesses all of the strength and advantages of the more complicated and expensive supports of a like character.

What is claimed is:

1. The combination with a panel, of a bracket cooperating with one edge of said panel, comprising a body resting against the rear face of said panel, an extension projecting laterally from said body and a flange carried by said extension and resting against the front face of said panel, outstanding sockets on said bracket, a supporting frame, tongues on said frame for reception in said sockets, and a leg secured to said frame to be positioned at an angle thereto.

2. In combination with an easel having a plurality of spaced apart projecting lugs on the lower front face thereof and a pivoted supporting leg, a bracket having a channel like base adapted to firmly seat a plaque, said bracket including a portion adapted to lie flush with the rear face of said plaque across a substantial portion of its width, and means projecting rearwardly therefrom adapted to cooperate with the projecting lugs of said supporting easel.

JAMES W. RODACK.