J. L. FLANNERY, Jr.

DISPLAY CABINET.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 3, 1918.

1,325,239. Patented Dec. 16, 1919.

Fig. 1.

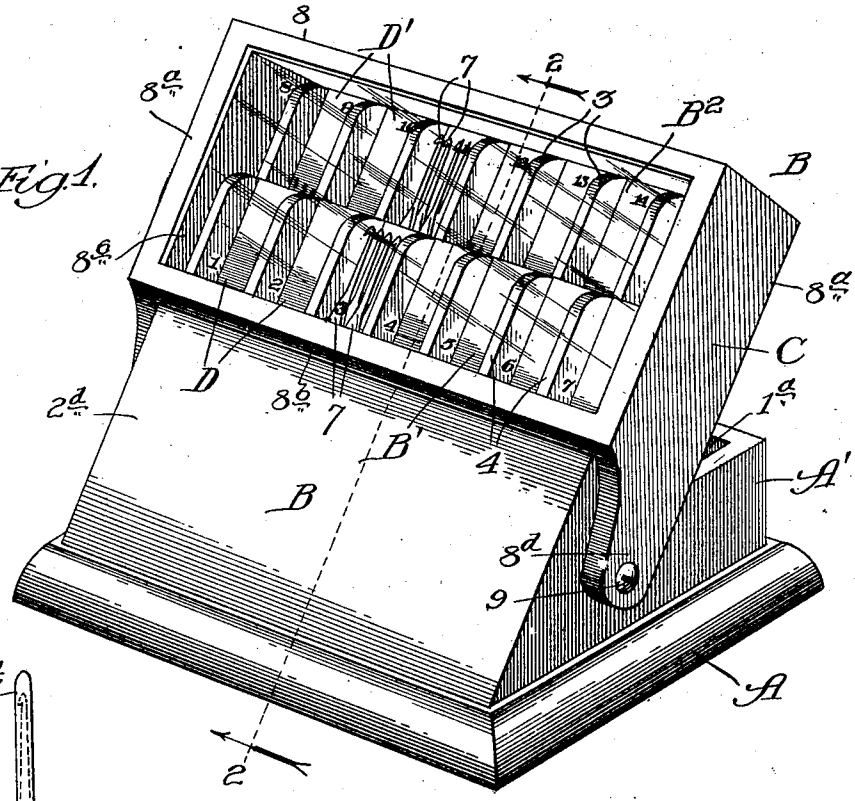




Fig. 3.

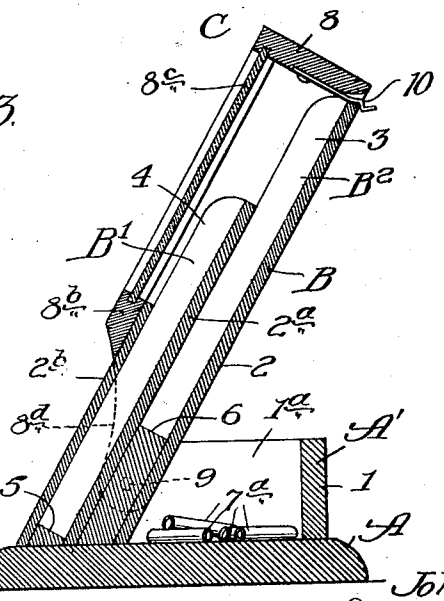


Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DISPLAY-CABINET.

1,325,239. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 16, 1919.

Application filed October 3, 1918. Serial No. 256,668.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN L. FLANNERY, Jr., a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Display-Cabinets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates particularly to display cabinets adapted for storing and displaying small articles of merchandise, especially hand-crochet needles.

The primary object is to provide a cabinet of simple and inexpensive construction which will facilitate the display and sale of small articles of merchandise of the character indicated.

The present invention constitutes a modification of the invention disclosed in my application No. 256,667 filed October 3, 1918, of even date herewith.

The present invention is illustrated, in its preferred embodiment, in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a display cabinet constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2, a vertical sectional view taken as indicated at line 2 of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3, a view, on an enlarged scale, of a crochet needle and its sheath, the improved cabinet being especially useful for the display and sale of needles of this character.

In the construction illustrated, A represents a base equipped with a box A^1; B, an upstanding tray having its lower end-portion rigidly mounted on the base, said tray being provided with two series of elongated compartments, the two series being arranged in stepped relation; and C, a movable closure for the tray.

The base A may comprise a base-block, or board, adapted to be supported flatwise on a counter; and the box A^1 comprises the rear wall 1, the end walls 1^a, and the lower portion of the back wall of the tray B.

The tray B comprises a front series of parallel, elongated compartments B^1, and a rear series of parallel elongated compartments B^2 occupying a stepped relation with respect to the front series of compartments. The tray is constructed with a series of parallel rearwardly and upwardly-inclined walls 2, 2^a, and 2^b, which extend from one end of the base to the other, these walls being separated a small distance to afford spaces, which are divided into the compartments by means of partition walls 3 and 4.

The wall 2 constitutes the rear wall of the tray and also the front wall of the base-box A^1. The wall 2^a is the intermediate wall, and constitutes the front wall of the rear series of compartments and the rear wall of the front series of compartments. The wall 2^b constitutes the front wall of the front series of compartments. The rear wall 2 rises some distance above the upper end of the intermediate wall 2^a, so that in effect the front wall of the rear series of compartments is cut away, leaving the upper portions of the compartments open in front and at their upper ends. The intermediate wall 2^a rises some distance above the upper edge of the front wall 2^b, so that in effect the upper portion of the wall 2^b is cut away, leaving the upper portions of the front series of the compartments B^1 open at their front side and at their upper ends. The lower ends of the front series of compartments B^1 are provided with a wall 5; and the lower ends of the rear series of compartments B^2 are provided with a bottom wall 6.

From the description given, it will be understood that the crochet needles 7 may be introduced into the compartments, with the ends of their handles resting upon the bottom walls of the compartments, and the hook portions of the crochet needles will be exposed, as illustrated in Fig. 1.

The closure C comprises an open rectangular frame having an upper wall 8, the lateral walls 8^a, and a cross-bar 8^b, said frame supporting a window 8^c, which may be of glass or other transparent medium. The top member 8 and the side members 8^a of the frame mentioned are adapted to embrace the sides and upper portion of the tray. The side members 8^a are extended or provided with pivot-arms 8^d at their lower ends, which are connected, by pivots 9, to the lateral or end walls of the tray. The cross-member 8^b, in the closed position of the closure C, bears against the upper portion of the front wall 2^b of the tray. The window 8^c permits the contents of the compartments to be viewed. The window is preferably provided with a series of numbers D along the lower portion thereof, affording a number for each compartment of the lower front series of compartments of the tray. The upper portion of the window is provided with a series of

numbers D^1, affording a number corresponding with each compartment of the rear upper series of compartments of the tray. In the illustration given, the lower series of numerals D runs from 1 to 7; and the upper series of numbers runs from 8 to 14. These numbers correspond with the sizes of the crochet needles, enabling the needles to be introduced into the compartments in assorted sizes, and to be at once located by the salesman when a customer desires a needle of a given size.

It is customary to provide sheaths 7^a, which can be slipped upon the hooked end of the crochet needle when a sale is effected, so that the needle may be conveniently carried. The receptacle afforded by the base-box A^1 affords a convenient place for storing the sheaths, as indicated in Fig. 2.

The upper wall 8 of the closure C is preferably provided with a spring catch 10, which is adapted to engage the upper end of the rear wall 2 of the tray when the closure is in the closed position, as indicated in Fig. 2. The closure may be opened by swinging it forwardly about the pivots 9 until the bar 8^b rests upon the front edge-portion of the base A. Thus, ready access to needle compartments is gained.

Preferably two parallel series of compartments arranged in stepped relation and inclined rearwardly and upwardly are employed, as in the illustration given. However, the compartments are so constructed as to afford sockets into which the handle-portions of the crochet needles may be dropped, so that it will be understood that the inclination of the compartments is not absolutely essential.

The foregoing detailed description has been given for clearness of understanding only, and no unnecessary limitation should be understood therefrom, but the claims should be construed as broadly as permissible, in view of the prior art.

What I regard as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a display cabinet, the combination of a base, an inclined tray rising from and rigidly supported by said base, said tray having a plurality of series of parallel elongated compartments, said series being arranged in stepped relation and said compartments having open fronts at their upper portions, and a closure for said tray which is adapted to be opened by swinging forwardly and downwardly, said closure having a transparent wall through which the contents of said compartments may be viewed and having flanges which house the tray.

2. In a display cabinet, the combination of a base provided with a box, an upstanding rearwardly-inclined tray having its lower end mounted on said base in front of said box, said tray comprising a plurality of series of elongated compartments, said series arranged in stepped relation and the front walls of said compartments being cut away, and a forwardly-swinging closure for said tray provided with a transparent wall through which the contents of said compartments may be viewed.

3. In a display cabinet, the combination of a base, an inclined tray having its lower end secured on said base, said tray comprising a plurality of series of parallel elongated compartments, said series arranged in stepped relation and having front walls with cut-away upper portions, and a closure for said tray comprising a frame adapted to embrace the upper portion of the tray and arms depending from said closure and having pivotal supports near the lower end of the tray, said closure having a transparent wall through which the contents of said compartments may be viewed and said closure being adapted to swing forwardly to give access to the interior of the tray.

JOHN L. FLANNERY, JR.