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1,983,187

COUNTER SET-UP RACK

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Fig. 1.

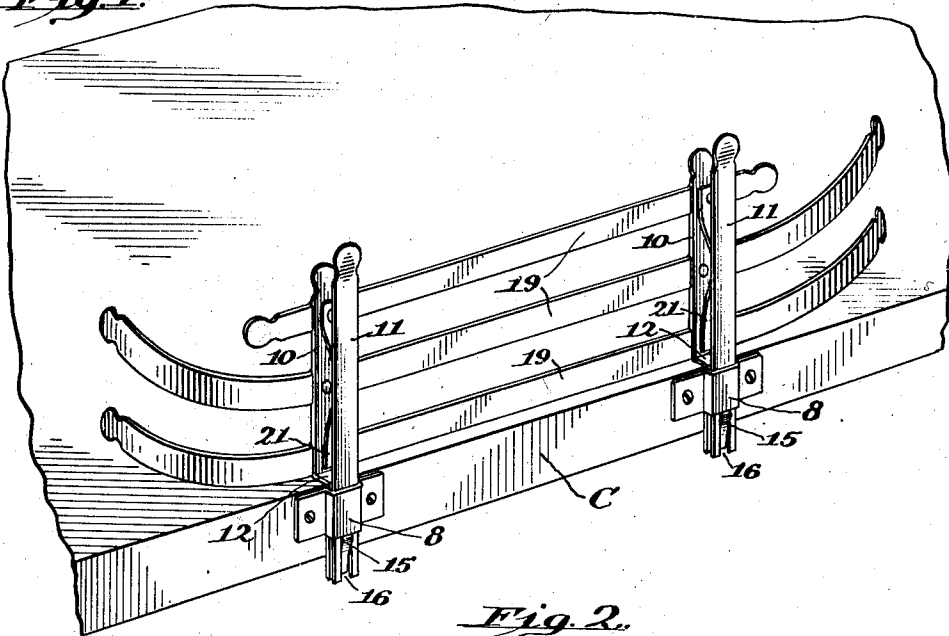
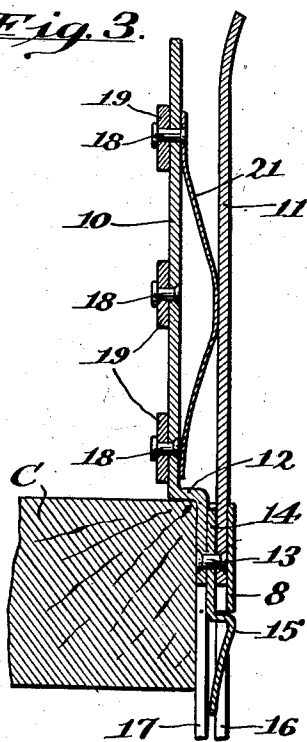
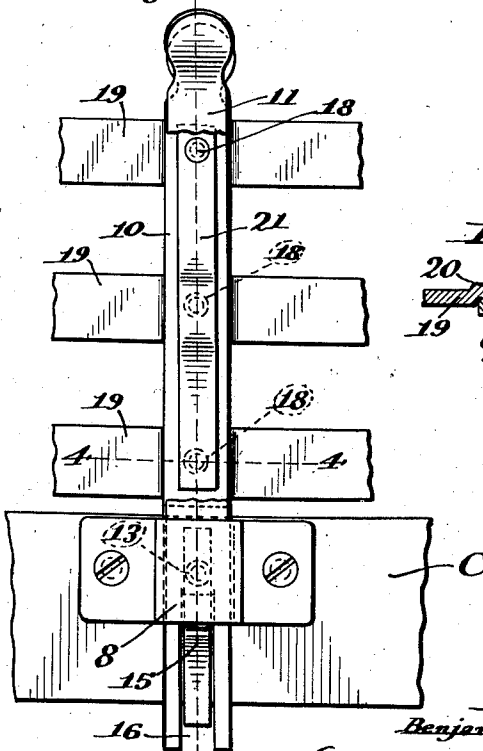
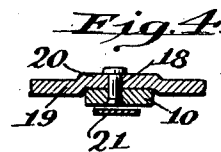


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COUNTER SET-UP RACK

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5 Claims. (Cl. 312—140.4)

My invention relates to a counter set-up rack that is especially designed for use on lunch counters and the like for holding in proper position sugar bowls, pepper and salt shakers, sauce bottles and the like and for also receiving and holding in convenient position menu cards or bills of fare.

The principal objects of my invention are, to provide a rack of the class described that is relatively simple in construction, inexpensive of manufacture and which may be conveniently applied to or removed from the counter and further, to construct the rack and its attaching means so that said rack may be easily and quickly removed from the counter in order to permit the latter to be washed, painted or finished.

A further object of my invention is, to provide a counter set-up rack which when properly positioned on the counter, is firmly retained thereon by readily releasable catches and which rack is constructed so that there are no projecting parts to interfere with the free movements or catch the clothing of persons working behind the counter.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, my invention consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangements of parts that will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a rack constructed in accordance with my invention and showing the same in position on the rear edge of a counter.

Fig. 2 is a rear elevational view of a portion of the rack and showing one of the standards and the keeper that serves to support the standard on the counter.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a horizontal section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Referring by numerals to the accompanying drawing which illustrates a preferred embodiment of my invention, 8, 8 designate clips or keepers preferably formed of sheet metal that are secured by screws or the like to the rear edge of the counter C.

The intermediate portions of these clips or keepers are offset or bent outwardly relative to the end portions so as to provide vertically disposed sockets for the reception of the lower portions of the posts or standards of the rack.

Each post or standard comprises a pair of members 10 and 11, preferably formed of narrow strips of metal and the intermediate portion of

member 10 is bent to provide a short horizontally disposed portion 12, that serves as a foot or shoulder to rest on the upper surface of the counter to which the rack is applied.

Rigidly seated in the lower portion of member 10, a short distance below the foot or shoulder 12, is the head of a rivet 13 that extends through the lower portion of member 11 and the latter is mounted so as to swing on said rivet in order to facilitate the cleansing and polishing of the rack.

Interposed between those portions of the members 10 and 11 that are connected by the rivet 13, is the upper portion of a thin strip 14 of resilient metal preferably steel and the intermediate portion of this strip is bent outwardly to form a shoulder 15 which when the lower portions of the members 10 and 11 are inserted in the clips or keepers 8, projects beneath said clip or keeper to hold the upright members firmly therein.

This shoulder 15 and the lower portion of the latching member extend downwardly through a slot 16 that is formed in the lower portion of member 11 and a corresponding slot 17 is formed in the lower portion of member 10 in order to permit the lower portion of the latching member to be pressed rearwardly when the lower portions of members 10 and 11 are withdrawn from the clip or keeper.

Secured to that portion of member 10 above the foot or shoulder 12, preferably by means of rivets 18, are horizontally disposed spaced rails 19, preferably of metal straps and the ends of the two lower rails are curved away from member 10 so as to overlie the counter and partially enclose the bowls or bottles that are positioned against the rack.

In order to provide firm and substantial joints between the upright members 10 and rails 19, the latter are slightly indented or offset as designated by 20 at the points where the members 10 cross the rails 19, as illustrated in Fig. 4 and this arrangement provides a very rigid structure that firmly holds the parts in assembled relation.

The ends of the upper rail 19 terminate just beyond the upright members 10, as illustrated in Fig. 1.

Positioned between the upright members 10 and 11, are springs 21 of resilient metal, the upper portions of which are secured to members 10 by the rivets that connect said members to the upper rail 19.

The intermediate portions of these springs are bent toward and normally engage directly against the intermediate portions of the members

11, in order to engage with pressure against the menu cards or bills of fare that are inserted between members 10 and 11.

In order to facilitate the placing of the menu cards between the members 10 and 11, the upper ends of members 11 extend a short distance above the upper ends of members 10 and said upwardly extending ends are curved away from the members 10 as illustrated in Fig. 3.

When my improved rack constructed as described, is applied to the counter, the lower portions of members 10 and 11 are inserted downwardly through the clips or keepers 8 until the shoulders 12 rest on the upper surface of the counter and with the parts so positioned the shoulders 15 of the resilient latches project beneath the lower edges of the keepers, thereby firmly holding the rack in proper position on the counter.

Articles such as sugar bowls, salt and pepper shakers, sauce bottles and the like, are positioned against the rack between the curved ends of the lower rails 19 and the menu cards or bills of fare are inserted between members 10 and 11 and yieldingly held in such position by the pressure of the springs 21.

When properly positioned upon the counter, there are no portions of the rack that project a substantial distance beyond the rear edge of the counter and therefore persons working behind the counter may move freely without danger of catching portions of their clothing on the rack.

In the event that it is desired to wash, scrub, paint or finish the upper surface of the counter, the rack may be very easily and quickly removed from the counter by pressing the lower portions of the springs 14 inwardly until the shoulders 15 on said springs are in position to pass upwardly through the clips or keepers 8.

Thus when the rack is removed from the counter, the entire upper surface thereof is free to be washed, polished or painted.

An especially desirable feature of my invention resides in the arrangement and location of the rack supporting clips on the rear edge of the counter, for by such arrangement, the upper surface of the counter is in no wise broken or marred by said fastening means or by the rack when properly positioned on the edge of the counter.

Thus it will be seen that I have provided a counter set-up rack that is relatively simple in construction, inexpensive of manufacture and very effective in performing the functions for which it is intended.

It will be understood that minor changes in the size, form and construction of the various parts of my improved counter set-up rack may be made and substituted for those herein shown and de-

scribed without departing from the spirit of my invention, the scope of which is set forth in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. In a counter set-up rack, a pair of uprights, each comprising a pair of members, means for anchoring the lower portions of said uprights to the edge of a counter, one member of each upright having a shoulder that rests on top of the counter, a spring arranged between the members of each upright and connected to one of said members and a series of horizontally disposed rails connected to one member of each upright.

2. In a counter set-up rack, a pair of uprights, each comprising a pair of members, the upper portions of which are spaced apart, one member of each upright being hinged to the other member, means for anchoring the lower portions of said uprights to the edge of a counter, a spring arranged between the upper portions of the members forming each upright and connected to one of said members and a series of spaced horizontally disposed rails connected to one member of each upright.

3. The combination with a counter and a pair of clips secured to the edge thereof, of a counter set-up rack comprising a pair of uprights, each composed of two members, the lower portions of which are adapted to extend through the clips on the edge of the counter, latches carried by the lower portions of said uprights for engaging said clips to retain the uprights therein and a series of horizontally disposed rails secured to one member of each of said uprights.

4. The combination with a counter and a pair of clips secured to the edge thereof, of a counter set-up rack comprising a pair of uprights, each composed of two members, the lower portions of which are adapted to extend through the clips on the edge of the counter, latches carried by the lower portions of said uprights for engaging said clips to retain the uprights therein, a series of horizontally disposed rails secured to one member of each of said uprights and springs located between the upper portions of the members forming each upright with the upper portion of each spring secured to one of said uprights.

5. In a counter set-up rack, a pair of uprights, each comprising a pair of members, one member of each pair being hinged to the other member, one member of each pair having a shoulder that is adapted to rest on top of a counter, means for securing the lower portions of said uprights to a counter and a series of horizontally disposed spaced rails secured to one member of each upright.

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