Nov. 16, 1937. F. O. BRANT 2,099,192

EASEL CONSTRUCTION

Filed Oct. 12, 1936

FIG. 1.

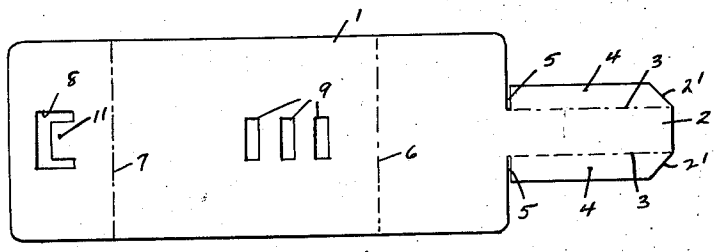


FIG. 6.

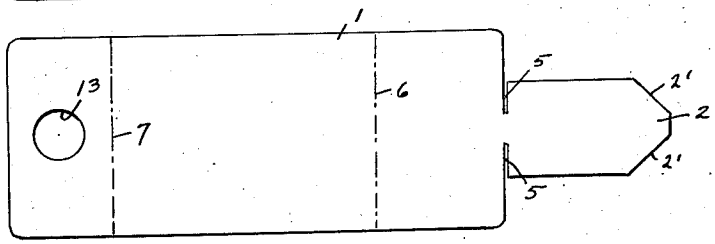


FIG. 2.

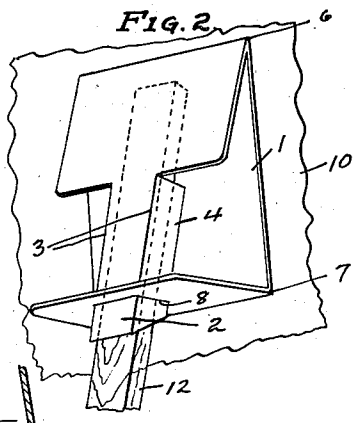


FIG. 7.

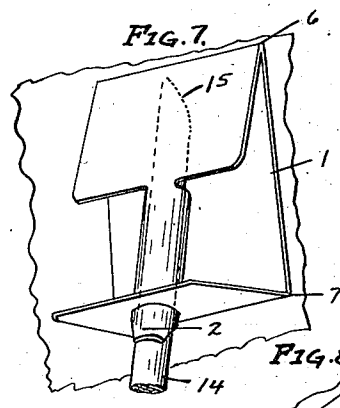


FIG. 9.

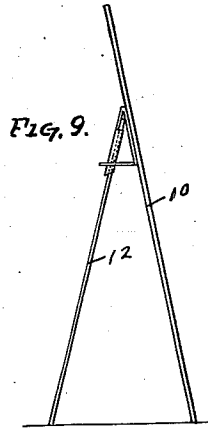


FIG. 8.

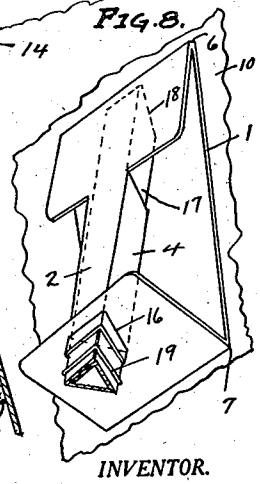


FIG. 3.

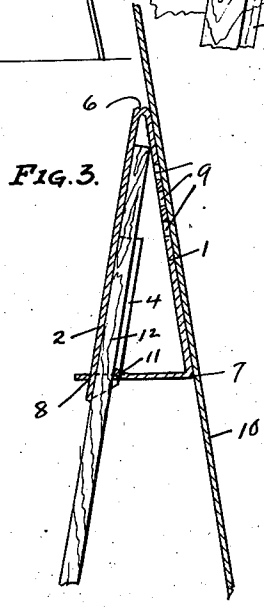


FIG. 4.

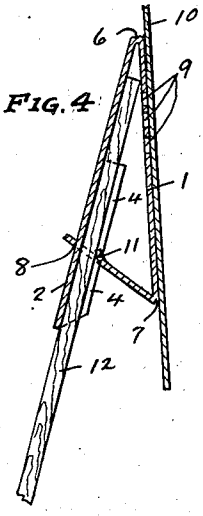
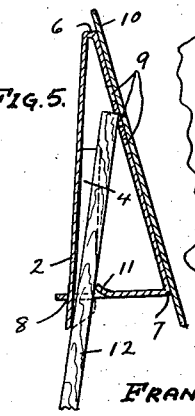


FIG. 5.



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EASEL CONSTRUCTION

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Application October 12, 1936, Serial No. 105,200

10 Claims. (Cl. 248—37)

This invention relates to easels and has for its objects the provision of a strong and easily assembled leg support for supporting a show card or the like in generally vertically extending inclined position, and which construction permits folding the leg support flat against the card for shipment. Another object is the provision of such leg support that is very cheap to manufacture and to assemble and disassemble and which provides for adjusting the leg for supporting a card in various degrees of inclination relative to vertical.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the specification and drawing annexed hereto.

In the drawing, Fig. 1 is a plan view of a blank of relatively stiff cardboard from which the support for the leg is formed.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the device of Fig. 1 formed to support the leg and attached to a card and the leg being shown in position, but broken away at its lower end, and the card being broken away.

Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view taken through the center of the device of Fig. 2, the leg being shown in elevation.

Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view similar to Fig. 3 but with the leg in one position of adjustment relative to the card.

Fig. 5 is a vertical sectional view similar to Fig. 3 but with the leg in another position of adjustment.

Fig. 6 is a plan view of a blank slightly different in form from that of Fig. 1, for use with a cylindrical leg.

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the blank of Fig. 6 when assembled on a card and formed for engagement with a cylindrical leg, the leg and card being broken away to accommodate the view to the sheet.

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of a blank generally similar to that of Figs. 1 and 6 but formed to support a leg of triangular shape in cross section, the blank being shown attached to the card and formed for supporting the leg, the leg and card being broken away.

Fig. 9 is a reduced size elevational view of my invention showing the card, leg and leg supporting member, all assembled with the card supported by the leg on a horizontal surface.

Briefly described, heretofore it has been the ordinary practice to provide large cards with a vertically elongated generally triangular piece of card-board pasted to the back of the card along the full height of the triangular piece along one of the vertically extending margins of the card and to bend the triangular piece at right angles along the pasted margin so the bent portion will extend rearwardly of the card so that the rearwardly extending lower edge of the triangular piece will support the card in inclined position. This construction is not only costly, but the cardboard tends to warp, thus making the card stand awry, and the construction also requires a true horizontal supporting surface, and also the rearwardly projecting portion of the triangular piece requires a clear space behind the card, thus taking up valuable space or requiring the exhibitor to clear a large space for the card. With my construction, the aforesaid disadvantages are substantially overcome.

In detail, in the drawing (Figs. 1 to 5) I provide a blank of relatively stiff, flat cardboard comprising a main body 1 of elongated rectangular form having an elongated tongue 2 formed integral therewith and extending in longitudinal extension of the body at one end thereof and positioned centrally of the end. Said tongue is longitudinally creased along spaced lines 3, thus providing marginal strips 4 hingedly connected to the tongue along the length of the tongue, said strips being cut free of the main body 1 at their ends adjacent the body, as indicated at 5.

The main body 1 is creased thereacross at right angles to the length of the body along line 6, said crease 6, being spaced from the end of the body adjacent the tongue a distance about one-fourth the length of the body and the body is also creased thereacross along line 7, which crease 7 is parallel to crease 6 and is spaced from the end of the body, opposite the tongue a distance about one-fifth the length of the body. The portion of the body between crease 7 and the end of the body adjacent thereto is formed with a generally U shaped opening 8 positioned about centrally of said portion with the legs extending toward the tongue end of the body and the main body portion is formed with a row of spaced rectangular openings 9, which row extends longitudinally of the body and in alignment with the tongue.

In assembling the blank on the card intended to be supported, the blank is pasted to the rear side of the card 10 over that portion of the blank lying between creases 6 and 7, the body being positioned with the tongue extending toward the top edge of the card and at a point intermediate the upper and lower edges of the card most suitable for insuring a proper support.

After the blank is pasted in position, the

tongue end thereof, including the tongue, is bent downwardly along crease 6 and the lower or opposite end of the blank carrying opening 8 is bent upwardly or toward the tongue end along crease 7. The strips 4 on the tongue are bent along creases 3 toward the portion of the blank lying between creases 6 and 7 thus forming the tongue to U-shape in cross section, and the tongue, thus formed, is inserted at its outer end through the opening 8, the strips 4 being supported in the legs of the opening, and the main body of the tongue extending across the opening between the legs, with a tab 11 on the body at the opening supporting the strips 4 in substantially parallel relation at right-angles to the portion of the tongue between the strips.

After the blank is formed, as above, I insert a rigid, elongated stick 12 of generally rectangular cross section, into the outer open end of the channel formed by the tongue and force the stick longitudinally of the tongue until the end of the stick at the tongue engages the blank at the apex thereof formed by bending the blank along crease 6. In forcing the stick to this position, the tab 11 is bent slightly upwardly as seen in Fig. 3, thus forming a releasable lock between the tab and stick at the point of engagement of the tab and stick, which prevents accidental withdrawal of the stick 12 when it is once in place, and the card can be lifted around without fear of the stick falling out, but the operator can readily withdraw the stick by merely pressing upwardly on the tab.

It will be seen from the foregoing that the stick 12 will form a supporting leg for the card 10 when assembled with the blank 1, which leg fits snugly within the tongue, between the strips 4 thereof, and is held at its upper end and at tab 11, thus preventing any lateral movement of the stick in any direction.

It is sometimes desirable to move the lower end of the leg toward or away from the lower edge of the card 10 to change the inclination of the card or to position the leg on a more suitable supporting surface, or to a more convenient place to avoid obstructions on the supporting surface.

To move the lower end of the leg closer to the card, the portion of the blank through which the leg and tongue extend, may be bent upwardly a greater distance, as in Fig. 4, or to move the lower end of the leg away from the card, the leg 12 may be slightly slipped outwardly relative to the tongue, as in Fig. 5, so the upper end of the stick will engage in one of the openings 9.

It is, of course, obvious that any desired length leg can be quickly connected to the blank to satisfy any unusual condition and the leg 10, may be of wood, or of cardboard folded to form a rectangular outline in cross-section, although wood is preferable where the leg is relatively long and greater strength is required. While arranging the stick edgewise relative to the plane of the board is workable, the arrangement shown in the drawing is preferable.

The blank of Fig. 6 is similar to that of Fig. 1, except instead of a U-shaped opening in the one end of the blank, I provide a circular opening 13, and the tongue is not creased. Otherwise the parts similar to the elements of the device of Fig. 1 are similarly numbered. With the device of Fig. 6, the tongue is merely shaped to fit within the circular opening 13, in assembling the same, and a cylindrical leg 14 (Fig. 7) is fitted within the tongue, the upper end of the stick being beveled, as at 15 to fit in the apex formed by the blank in folding the same. The tongue, in this form of device, functions in a manner similar to that of the tongue in Fig. 1, and the tendency of the sides of the tongue to return to a flat position acts to frictionally engage the edges of the opening 13.

Fig. 8 shows a still further form of the blank and leg, in which the blank is identical with that of Fig. 1, except that a triangular opening 16 takes the place of the U-shape opening of Fig. 1, the sides of the triangular opening being substantially equal in length with one side parallel with the end of the blank adjacent thereto and the apex of the adjacent sides being toward the tongue. In this form of device, I provide a leg 17 made of a strip of relatively stiff cardboard, which strip is creased longitudinally along three parallel lines so that the strip may be folded to form a hollow leg of triangular outline in cross-section adapted to fit through the opening 16, the upper end of the leg being beveled at 18 so it will fit in the apex formed by the blank in folding. In thus forming the leg 17, one side is of double thickness, as indicated in the drawing, and this side preferably slides along the edge of the triangular opening positioned adjacent the end of the blank. This double thickness of this side of the leg may be secured together by glue between adjacent surfaces, or the leg may be shipped flat (unfolded) with the card, and then folded to form the leg when the card is set up, and one or more rubber bands 19 slipped over the folded leg to hold the leg folded, or a piece of tape or other suitable securing means may be used to the same end, and in some instances, I coat the sides of the strips that are intended to overlap, with ordinary rubber cement of the type that is non-adherent to objects not similarly coated, but readily adheres to a similarly coated surface.

It is, of course, obvious that the blank 1 may be of various widths, or lengths, as desired, that shown in the drawing, being about half actual size as used for cards running up to three or four feet in height and more.

In all the forms of devices, similar parts are similarly numbered and in all form of device, it is preferable that the corners of the tongue at the outer end thereof be cut-off, as at 2', although this need not be done, and the corners may be left square, as in Fig. 8.

Having described my invention, I claim:

1. In easel construction, a generally vertical display board and a rigid leg for supporting the same in upright slightly inclined position, said leg being positioned generally vertically with its upper end adjacent the rear side of the board and extending downwardly divergently outwardly of the board, a flat blank of sheet material separable from the leg secured to the board adjacent the upper end of the leg, and means hingedly connected to said blank arranged and adapted to removably engage the upper end of the leg in substantially embracing relation for removably securing the leg to the board.

2. In easels, a display board, means for supporting the board in an inclined position between vertical and horizontal comprising a body member adapted for securement to the rear of the board, an extension on said body member hingedly connected thereto for moving to a position projecting rearwardly of the board, said extension being formed with a recess for receiving the upper end of a leg therein, with the leg extending from its upper end divergently outwardly of

the plane of the board, a leg with its upper end removably fitted within said recess and means on said body member adapted to coact with the recess for supporting the leg substantially rigid against lateral movement of its lower end and for limiting upward movement of the leg longitudinally thereof relative to the board, while permitting downward withdrawal of the leg from the body member and board.

3. In a construction as defined in claim 2, said last mentioned means comprising a projection hingedly connected to the body member at a point spaced above said extension, said projection extending at its outer end in said recess and across the upper end of said leg.

4. In a construction as defined in claim 2, said recess being formed with a plurality of straight sides and said leg having straight flat sides at its upper end adapted to fit against the sides of the recess for preventing twisting of the leg within the recess.

5. In a construction as defined in claim 2, said leg being beveled at its upper end and said last mentioned means comprising a flat extension and the beveled surface of the leg engaging against the flat surface of such means.

6. In a device of the character described, a generally vertically extending display board, a blank formed of flat relatively stiff cardboard folded along parallel lines to form a generally triangular shaped body with the base thereof shorter than the two remaining sides, means for securing the blank to said display board with the base of the body lowermost and a leg separable from the blank and board removably secured to the blank in downward extension of one of the sides of the body arranged and adapted to support the board in generally vertically extending position.

7. In a construction as defined in claim 6, the base of said body being formed with an opening adapted to slidably pass the upper end of the leg therethrough and means for removably connecting said base to one of the sides of the body adjacent said opening.

8. In a construction as defined in claim 6, means for selectively supporting said leg at various degrees of inclination relative to the plane of the board without distorting the leg and without changing the angular relation between the sides of the body.

9. In a device of the character described, a display board, a leg for supporting the board in upright slightly inclined position, a blank formed of flat, relatively stiff cardboard folded along parallel lines to form a generally triangular shaped body with the base thereof substantially horizontal and secured at opposite ends to the lower ends of the sides and the adjacent sides being secured together at their upper ends, one of said sides being secured flat against the board, and means removably securing said leg to the body in generally downward extension of the opposite side of said body, said means including a releasable locking member arranged and adapted to prevent downward movement of the leg relative to the body while permitting the leg to move upwardly in a direction longitudinally of the leg.

10. In a device of the character described, a display board, a leg for supporting the board in upright slightly inclined position, means removably securing said leg to the board comprising a generally vertically extending elongated channel shaped member open along one side, means hingedly securing the upper end of said member to the board with the open side of the channel facing said board, and the upper end of said leg being removably fitted within the channel with the major portion of the leg extending downwardly and outwardly therefrom and means for securing said channel in a predetermined angularly extending position relative to the board.

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