J. W. DANCER.

DISPLAY RACK.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 9, 1918.

1,280,174. Patented Oct. 1, 1918.

Fig 1.

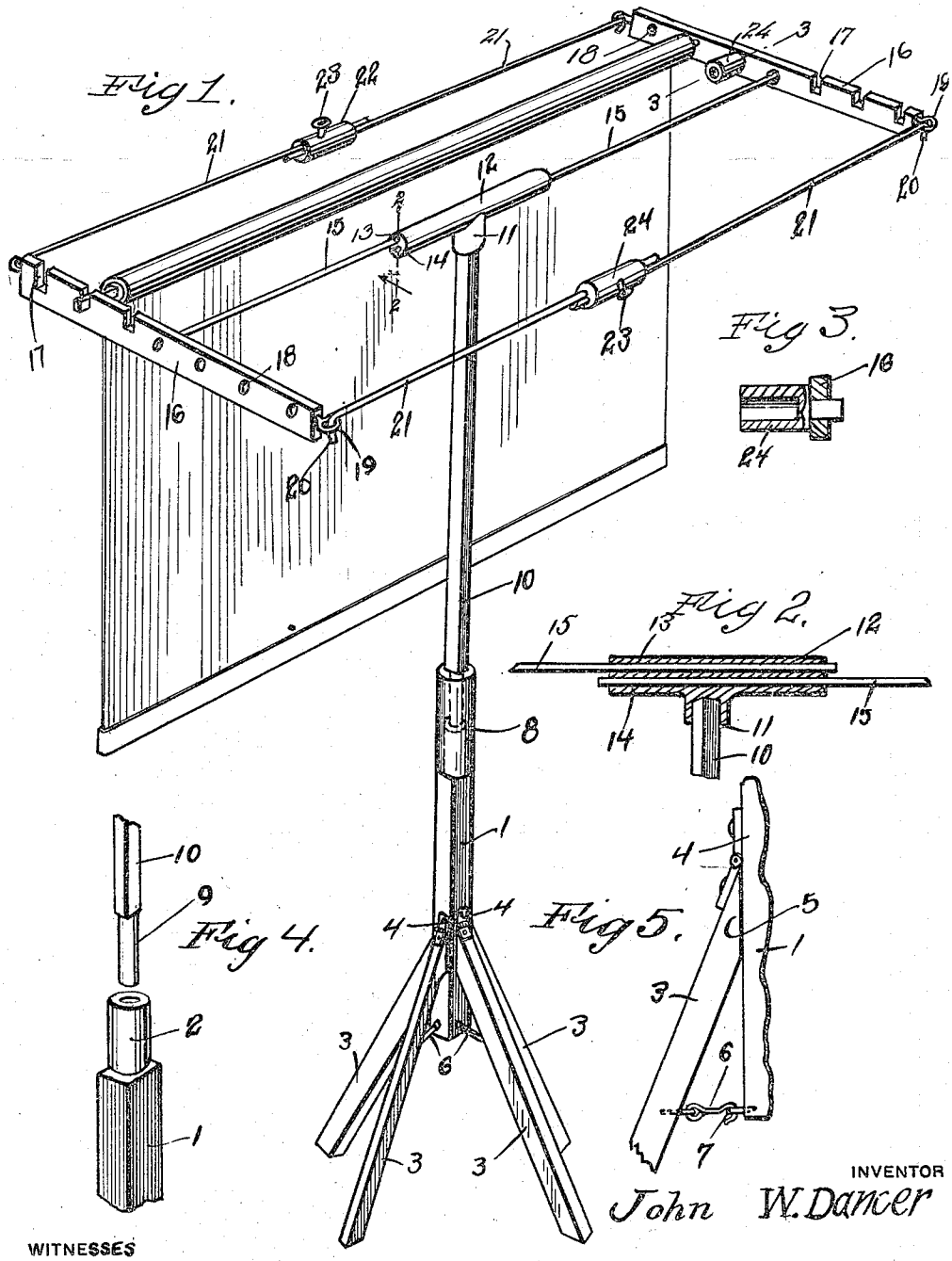



Fig 3.




Fig 2.




Fig 4.




Fig 5.




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## DISPLAY-RACK.

1,280,174. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 1, 1918.

Application filed March 9, 1918. Serial No. 221,468.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN W. DANCER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Tuskegee, in the county of Macon and State of Alabama, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Display-Racks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to display racks and more particularly to a collapsible support or holder for a plurality of charts or maps mounted upon rollers in a manner that will permit the charts or maps to be suspended from the rack for exhibition purposes.

One of the principal objects of the invention is to provide a rack especially adapted for holding a number of charts each arranged upon a roller, the rollers being mounted upon the rack and held in a manner that will permit the chart to be unwound from the rollers to be readily exhibited from a platform or rostrum to assist a speaker or lecturer.

The invention also aims at the provision of a rack of this character that may be readily manipulated for turning about a central axis so that both sides of the chart may be readily exposed to the view of the audience.

A further object of the invention is to provide a rack of this character that may be dismantled and folded into a comparatively small space for facilitating shipping and packing.

A further object of this invention is the provision of a device of this character which consists of comparatively few parts and is simple in construction, but durable and well adapted to withstand the rough usage to which devices of this character are ordinarily subjected.

For a full description of the invention and the advantages and merits thereof, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device constructed in accordance with my invention, and showing a chart partially unwound mounted thereon.

Fig. 2 is a section taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a detail view of a portion of the invention, and

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary view of another portion of the invention.

Referring to the drawings, wherein is illustrated the preferred form of my invention, wherein like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views, a standard 1 is provided at its upper end with a cylindrical projection 2. The standard is substantially square in cross section throughout its length with the exception of the cylindrical portion 2 and hingedly connected to each flat side of the standard is a leg 3 the hinges 4 of which have their leads fastened to the standards and to the legs as shown to advantage in Fig. 5 of the drawing. The beveled ends 5 of the legs are adapted to contact with the flat sides of the standards so that the legs are disposed at an angle with respect to the standard whereby their lower ends are spread apart to provide a firm base upon which the device may stand. To maintain the legs in the proper rigid position, each has a hook 6 attached to its inner edge, and each hook is adapted for engagement with an eye 7 carried by each flat side of the standard near the lower end thereof. When the hooks 6 are released from engagement with the eyes 7, the legs 3 may be swung upwardly on the hinges 4 thereby permitting the support to be packed in a minimum space, when not in use.

Mounted upon the cylindrical extension 2 is a sleeve 8 which is longer than the extension and is provided with a central opening for receiving the cylindrical end 9 of the extension 10 which acts as an extension of the support or standard 1. As shown in detail in Fig. 2 of the drawing, the upper end of the extension 10 is received in a socket 11 formed on a sleeve 12, which is provided with two longitudinal openings 13 and 14. Each opening 13 and 14 receives one end of a supporting rod 15 so that the rods are slidable through the openings. The outer ends of the rods are connected to the rack bars 16. Each rack bar consists of a suitable strip of any preferred material having a plurality of notches 17 arranged near one end and a plurality of openings 18 near the opposite end. These openings and notches are for the reception of the trunnions of the rollers upon which the charts are wound in a manner similar to the ordinary window shade roller. Because of the slidable connection of the rods 15 with the sleeve 12 it will be obvious that the rack bars 16 may be moved toward and away

from each other for accommodating rollers of different lengths. The end of each rack bar is provided with an eyelet 19 each of which is engaged by a hook 20 on the end of a retaining rod 21. The meeting ends of the rods 21 are joined together by coupling members 22 which consist of cylindrical sleeves having the meeting ends of the rods projected through their interiors, and each sleeve is provided with a set screw 23 extended through a screw threaded opening in the sleeve and adapted to bind against the overlapped ends of the rod 21, whereby they may be held in a desired position for retaining the ends of the rack bars 16 in the desired position and to give the necessary rigidity to the device when assembled.

In Fig. 3 I have illustrated an accessory sleeve 24, which is shown mounted on the rack bar 16 in Fig. 1. This sleeve is adapted to receive the trunnion on the end of the roller when a roller shorter than the other rollers on the rack is employed. In this manner a number of rollers of different lengths may be supported by the rack without altering the position of the rack bars 16. It will be noted that all of the parts may be readily disconnected for the purpose of packing the device in a small space, and, while I have illustrated the rack bars 16 as being adapted to accommodate six rollers, it will be understood that the rack bars may be of any desired length and easily adapted to accommodate a greater number of rollers. The sleeve 8 mounted on the cylindrical portions 2 and 9 will permit the upper portion to be readily swung on the pivot thus provided for the purpose of exhibiting both sides of the chart.

From the foregoing it will be observed that a very simple and durable display rack has been provided, the details of which embody the preferred form. I desire it to be understood that slight changes may be made in the minor details of construction without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the claims hereunto appended.

I claim:

1. A display rack comprising a support having its end provided with a projection, a sleeve mounted on the projection and carrying an extension of the said support, a central sleeve provided with a socket to receive the end of the said extension, parallel rack bars disposed in spaced relation beyond the ends of the said central sleeve, the latter being provided with two longitudinal openings, and longitudinally adjustable supporting rods mounted in the openings and connected to said rack bars.

2. A display rack comprising a support, a sleeve mounted on the end of the support and provided with oppositely extending rods, a rack bar attached to the outer end of each rod, eyelets carried by the ends of the rack bars, and retaining rods connected to the said eyelets for connecting the ends of the said rack bars together.

3. A display rack comprising a support, a pair of rack bars, means connected to the said rack bars and to the upper end of the said support for supporting the said rack bars, each of the latter being provided with eyelets at their ends, a rod connected to each eyelet, and means connecting the meeting ends of the said rods to releasably hold the rod and permit longitudinal adjustment of the said rack bars toward and away from each other.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN W. DANCER.

Witnesses:
A. O. MATHEWS,
Mrs. W. W. PENN.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."