Feb. 15, 1955 W. J. DULLE 2,702,176

ADJUSTABLE HANGER

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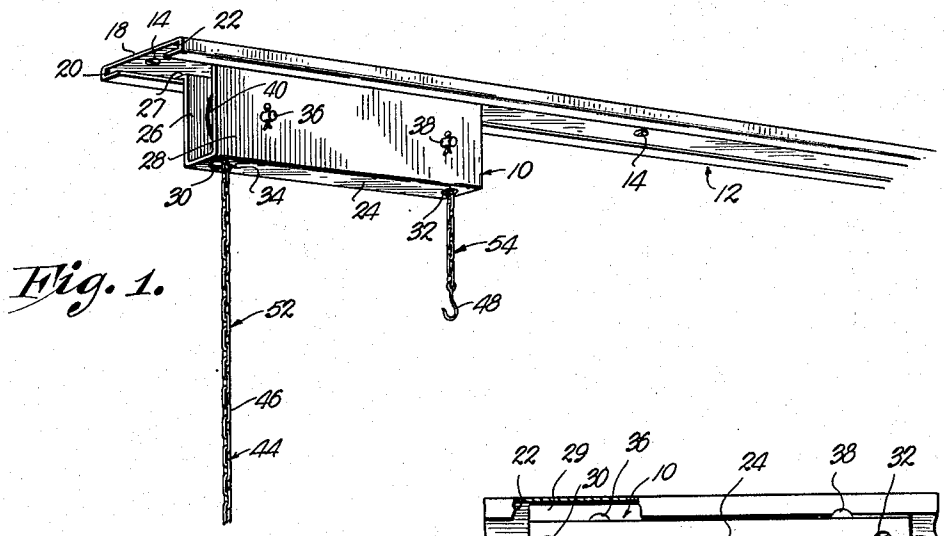


Fig. 1.

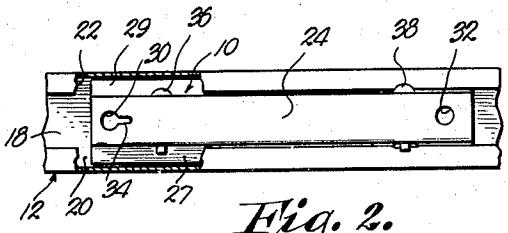


Fig. 2.

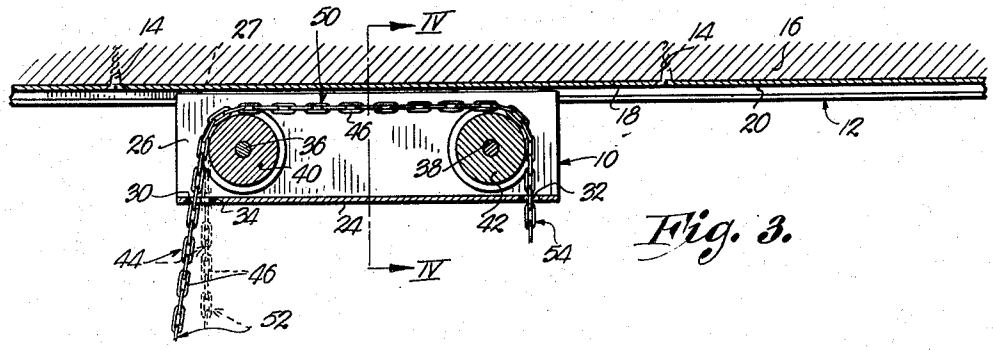


Fig. 3.

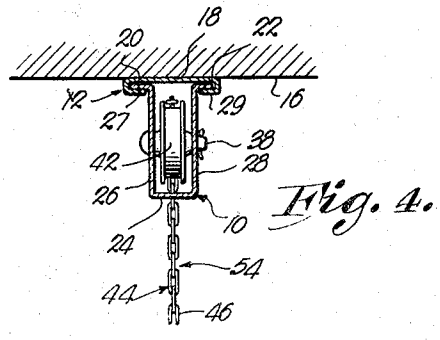


Fig. 4.

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ADJUSTABLE HANGER

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1 Claim. (Cl. 248—323)

This invention relates to a hanger assembly adapted particularly for supporting articles of merchandise overhead and out of the way, yet in full display until such time as it is desired to lower the articles for inspection, removal and/or sale.

It is the most important object of this invention to provide an adjustable hanger that includes a reciprocable carriage having a track therefor adapted for attachment to an overhead support, the carriage in turn being provided with a flexible element such as a chain adjustably secured thereto and adapted to receive the articles to be hung.

Another object of the present invention is the provision of an adjustable hanger of the aforementioned nature wherein the carriage has a pair of openings for clearing the chain which is trained over a pair of pulleys, there being a slot extending from one of the openings for receiving the links of the chain and thereby releasably holding the articles at a predetermined height adjacent the carriage.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a fragmentary, perspective view of an adjustable hanger made pursuant to the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary, inverted view of the carriage and its supporting track with the chain removed, parts being broken away to reveal details of construction.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal, cross-sectional view through the track and the carriage; and

Fig. 4 is a transverse, cross-sectional view taken on line IV—IV of Fig. 3.

Many articles of merchandise are difficult to store and at the same time remain on display because of the bulkiness thereof, a typical example being lamp shades. If the shades are placed upon shelves in the usual manner, considerable space is needed, it is difficult to remove the shades from the shelves and replace the same, the shades are easily damaged during such handling, and if the same are suspended from a ceiling to save shelf space they are not easily removed for inspection and sale with subsequent replacement.

As will hereinafter appear the adjustable hanger of the present invention is capable of eliminating the aforesaid disadvantages and the hanger forming the subject matter hereof is not only adapted for receiving merchandise such as lamp shades, but many other articles capable of hanging from a ceiling or other overhead.

Accordingly, there is provided an elongated carriage broadly designated by the numeral **10**, reciprocably mounted on a track **12** that is in turn mounted through the medium of screws or other fasteners **14** on a ceiling or other overhead support **16**. Track **12** includes an elongated plate **18** having a pair of opposed channels **20** and **22** coextensive in length therewith at its longitudinal edges and in underlying relationship to the plate **18**.

Carriage **10** is U-shaped in cross-section presenting a bight **24** and a pair of upstanding, spaced, parallel legs **26** and **28** that are in turn provided with out-turned flanges **27** and **29** respectively, which underlie the plate **18** and extend into the channels **20** and **22** respectively for sliding movement therein. The bight **24** is provided with a pair of openings **30** and **32** together with a slot

34 extending from the opening **30**. A pair of spaced, horizontal axles **36** and **38**, spanning the distance between the legs **26** and **28** are supported thereby, journal a pair of pulleys **40** and **42** respectively between the legs **26** and **28**.

An elongated chain **44** made up of a number of interconnected links **46**, has a hook **48** on one end thereof. Chain **44** is threaded upwardly through the opening **30**, thence over the pulleys **40** and **42** and downwardly through the opening **32**, terminating in the hook **48**. Thus, chain **44** has a bight portion **50** extending across the pulleys **40** and **42**, a stretch **52** depending from the pulley **40** through the opening **30**, and a stretch **54** depending from pulley **42** and extending through the opening **32**, hook **48** being mounted on stretch **54**. The openings **30** and **32** are sufficiently large to clear the chain **44** as the same is pulled to rotate the pulleys **40** and **42**. However, the slot **34** is adapted to receive any one of the links **46** to adjustably hold the chain **44** in a selected position and therefore, maintain the hook **48** and the articles carried thereby, at a predetermined height.

It is manifest therefore, that when the chain stretch **52** is moved from the full-line position shown in Fig. 3 to the dotted-line position of this figure, one of the links **46** will be positioned in the elongated slot **34** and the chain **44** held against movement relative to the carriage **10**.

It is a simple matter therefore, to lower the hook **48** and the articles thereon, to a position where the articles may be removed from the hook **48** by simply swinging the chain stretch **52** into the opening **30**, thereby clearing the slot **34**. Furthermore, by virtue of the reciprocable movement of the carriage **10** in the track **12**, the user may easily shift the entire assembly, including the articles on hook **48**, to any part of the store, warehouse or other point of storage or display of the articles of merchandise.

The length of the track **12** may vary and any number of carriages **10** may be mounted for reciprocable movement on a single track **12** if desired.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is:

Apparatus for hanging lamp shades from an overhead support, said apparatus comprising an elongated plate having structure on each longitudinal edge thereof respectively presenting a pair of opposed channels below the plate in facing relationship; means for mounting the plate on said support; an elongated, U-shaped carriage having a bight and a pair of spaced, parallel legs extending upwardly from the bight, there being a pair of spaced openings in said bight and a slot extending from one opening toward the other opening; an out-turned flange on each leg respectively, said flanges extending into said channels for reciprocation relative to said plate longitudinally thereof; a pair of spaced pulleys rotatably carried by said legs therebetween; and an elongated chain extending upwardly through said one opening, over the pulleys, downwardly through the other opening, and terminating in a lamp shade-receiving hook, said chain being comprised of a plurality of interconnected links, said links being selectively engageable in the slot for holding the chain in any one of a number of adjusted positions relative to the carriage.

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