Jan. 5, 1937. L. COHEN 2,066,822

RACK

Filed Aug. 13, 1935 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

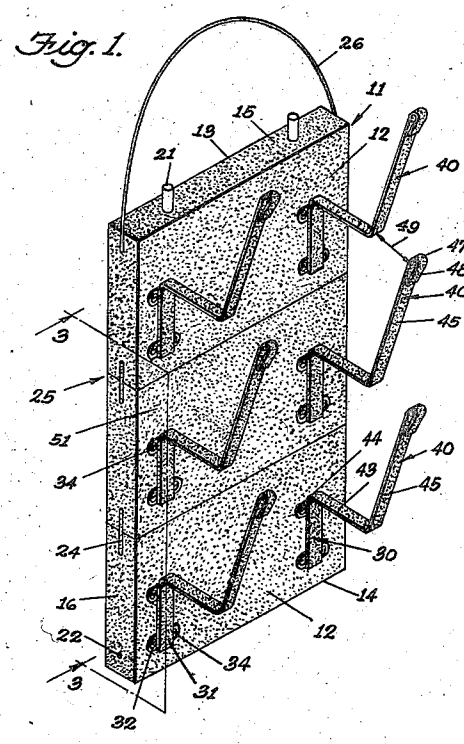


Fig. 3.

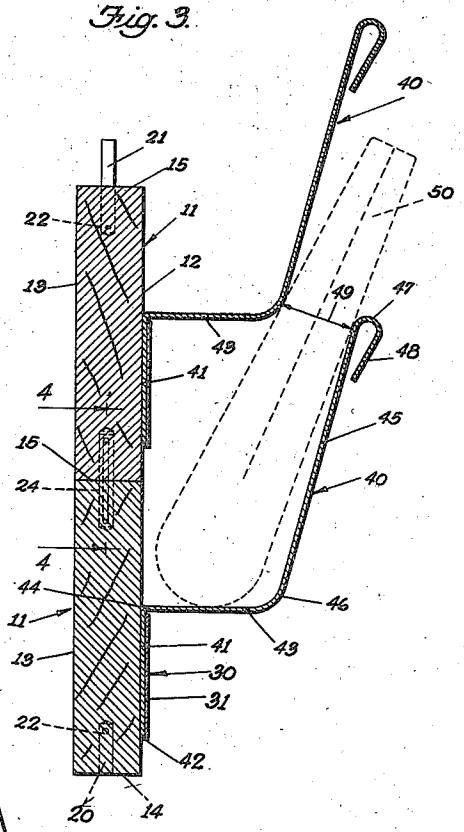


Fig. 2.

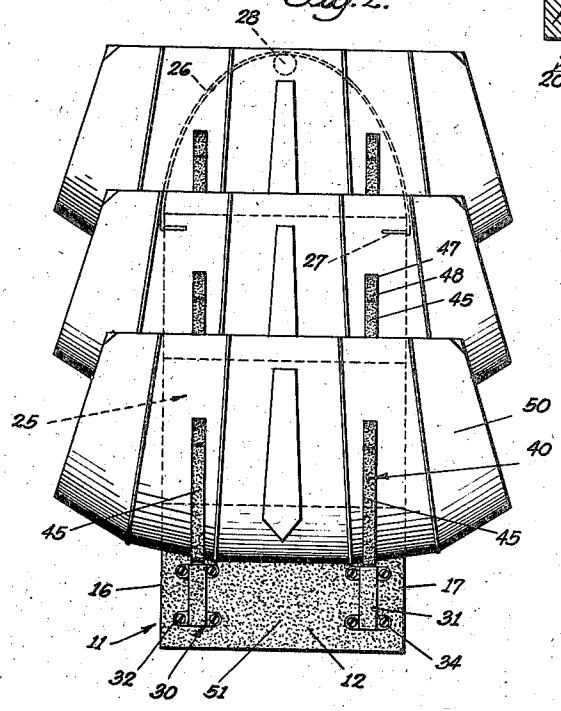
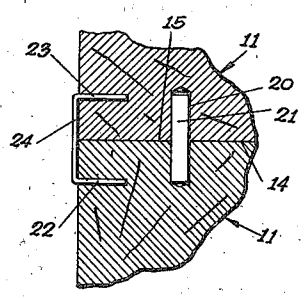


Fig. 4.



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Filed Aug. 13, 1935 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 5.

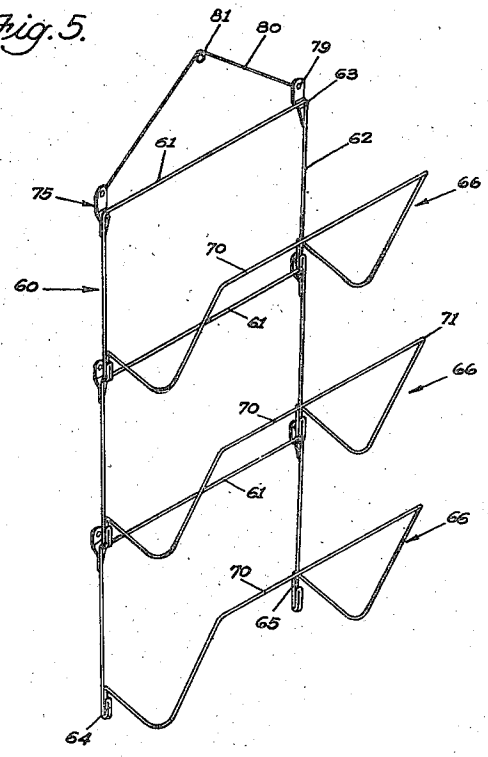


Fig. 7.

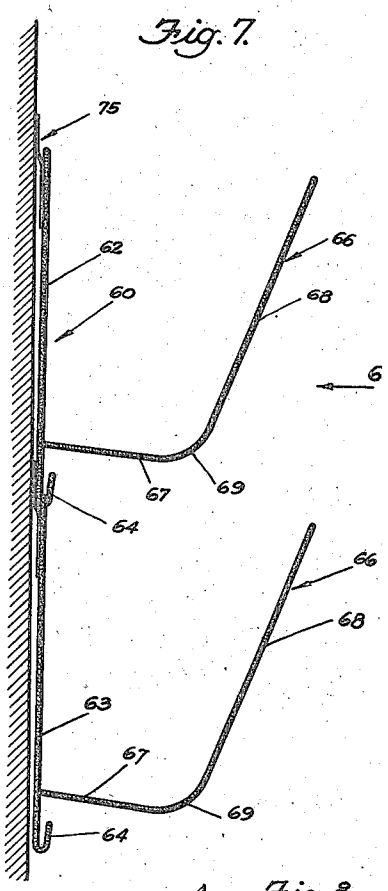


Fig. 6.

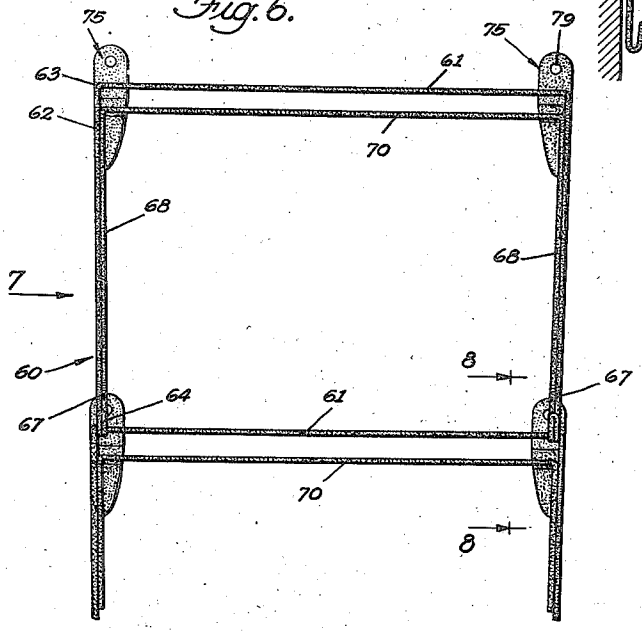
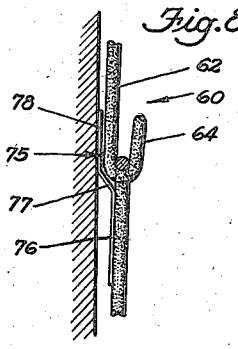


Fig. 8.



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2,066,822

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,066,822

RACK

Leon Cohen, Downey, Calif.

Application August 13, 1935, Serial No. 35,949

5 Claims. (Cl. 211—13)

My invention relates to a rack, built up in units preferably for holding articles such as purses, in a closet or other place in the home and in which succeeding units may be attached to a panel to increase the size.

An object and feature of my invention is the construction of a rack built up of a series of units, each unit being adapted to support one or more of the articles and in which the units may be assembled to form a vertical panel, one unit being attached to the adjacent unit and in vertical alignment therewith. By this means the rack may be extended or reduced in size in accordance with the type and the number of articles to be supported thereon.

An object and feature of my invention is forming each unit in the manner of a flat rectangular block or board, which may be quite thin in a horizontal measurement. The blocks may be assembled in vertical alignment by providing dowels on the upper edge of each block which fit into dowel sockets on the lower edge of the next block above. The adjacent blocks are then secured together by removable staples secured in the vertical edge of adjacent blocks, the staples overlapping horizontal joint between two blocks.

Another feature of my invention is employing a bail which may be removably attached to the upper block, the ends of the bail being inserted in a staple receiving holes and thus the assembly of blocks in the panel may be suspended from a wall or the like.

Another feature of my invention is providing each block with sockets; these being preferably secured to the face of each block and in each socket is removably secured a bracket, these brackets being used to support the articles for display. The proportion of the blocks to the articles is preferably such that the uppermost article obscures the projecting dowels on the uppermost block and the bail. In my invention, in order to give a pleasing appearance and protect the articles from wear or rubbing on the rack, I apply a coating of flock to the blocks, the sockets and the brackets. This flock consists of small portions of cotton, dyed a desired color and blown on the surfaces to be covered while such surfaces are wet with sizing or the like. The surplus flock is removed by brushing and thus leaving a coating.

In a modified form of my invention I form the rack units of wire, combining hooks at the lower ends of side members which are adapted to engage transverse rails at the upper end of a lower unit. In order to hold each unit flat against a wall or the like I attach offset plates to the upper portion of the side bars of a lower unit which extend upwardly and back of the hooks engaging the side bars of an upper unit. Thus when the wire above the hooks is bent outwardly to form a bracket, with a base, an upwardly and outwardly sloping face strip and a transverse bracket rail, and articles are supported on the brackets, the offset plates interengaging with the side bars back of the hooks prevent an outward tilt or displacement of the various units. These units may be attached together by engaging the upper transverse rail of a lower unit with the hooks of an upper unit.

My invention is illustrated in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of my rack, showing an assembly of the unit blocks to form a panel.

Fig. 2 is an elevation showing articles supported on the brackets of the rack, such articles being purses.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1 in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 4 is a vertical section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3 in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a modified form of my construction showing the major portion of the device formed of wire.

Fig. 6 is a front elevation taken in the direction of the arrow 6 of Fig. 7.

Fig. 7 is a side elevation taken in the direction of the arrow 7 of Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is a detail vertical section on the line 8—8 of Fig. 6 in the direction of the arrows.

In my invention I employ a series of unit blocks, each block being designated by the numeral 11. These blocks are preferably flat boards, having a front face 12, a rear face 13, a lower edge 14, an upper edge 15 and marginal edges 16 and 17. The blocks are all preferably the same size and may be comparatively thin in the measurement between the front and the rear face and they are preferably formed rectangular.

In the lower edge 14 of each block there are dowel holes 20, these being preferably two in number, to register with the dowel pins 21 secured to the upper portion of each block and projecting above the upper edge 15 of each block. Each of the marginal edges 16 and 17 of the blocks are provided with staple holes 22, these holes being adjacent the lower edge 14 and the upper edge 15 of each block so that the prongs 23 of staples 24 may engage in these holes. The staples thus overlap the horizontal joint formed

by the contiguous upper edge 15 of one block and the lower edge 14 of the next block above. This causes the assembly of blocks to form a panel designated by the assembly numeral 25. These panels may be suspended by a bail 26, such bail having hook ends 27 engaging in the uppermost staple hole 22 of the uppermost block. The bail may be suspended in any suitable holding device, such as a hook or pin 28 on a wall or the like.

On the outer face 12 of each block I provide sockets 30, these being formed of metal strips 31 having laterally projecting ears 32 through which may be inserted screws 34. Thus the sockets are firmly secured to the face of each block.

In each socket is secured a bracket 40, each bracket having a tongue 41 which is thus held tight against the face 12 of each block and the inside of the strip 31 forming the socket. Such strip if desired may be bent inwardly at the bottom as indicated at 42. The bracket also has a horizontal supporting portion 43, this being formed by a right angular bend 44 from the tongue 41. A face strip 45 forms a continuation of the tongue and the base 43; the base and the face strip being connected by a curve 46. The upper end of the face strip has a rounded end 47 formed by turning the end 48 downwardly in an open bend.

Two or more brackets are usually sufficient on each block and when the blocks are assembled it leaves a space 49 between the upper portion of the face strip of a lower bracket and the curve 46 of the bracket on the next block above. This space allows insertion of articles such as purses indicated at 50; these purses thus having their lower end rest on the base portions 43 of each bracket and either resting against the face strip or being firmly secured by contact between the upper end of each face strip of a lower bracket and the bend 46 of the next upper bracket. It will be noted that the uppermost purse extends above the upper dowels 21 and also preferably above the top of the bail 26 so that these latter elements are obscured.

It will be apparent by the above description that the panels may be built up with any desired number of units and thus a large number of articles may be displayed in a satisfactory manner. In order to protect the articles on display from being scuffed or becoming shopworn and also in order to give a suitable appearance to the rack, the exposed surfaces of the blocks, the socket structures and the brackets are coated with a size and then flock indicated at 51 is blown on the size to form a coating. This flock is fine cotton linters which may be dyed a suitable color and by adhering to the size forms a protective covering on the portions of the rack contacted by the articles. Surplus flock may be removed by brushing.

In the modified construction of Figs. 5 through 8, each unit frame 60 has its main portion formed of wire, of which there is a transverse frame rail 61 at the top, vertical side bars 62 depending from the rail 61 by having a right angular bend 63. At the lower end of the bars there is formed an outwardly bent hook 64, the hook being formed by contiguous parallel sections of wire of which an upward extension forms a tongue 65 for support and connection of the bracket 66. Each bracket has a base wire 67, an upwardly and outwardly sloping face strip 68 joined to 67 by a curve 69. A transverse bracket rail 70 connects the upper ends of the face strips; the angle 71 between the face strips and the bracket rail being a right angle.

Secured to the upper and rear side of each of the side bars there is an offset plate 75 having its lower section 76 preferably spot welded to the wire forming the side bar 62. This spot weld may be used to join the two ends of a wire used to make the combination of the frame and the bracket; these ends being attached at the spot weld to the offset plate. The plate has a rearward offset 77 and a vertical flat strip section 78, the upper end of which is provided with an eye 79 to which may be attached for the upper unit a supporting wiring or cord 80 connecting to a pin or hook 81 in a wall or the like.

In the assembly of the different units to form a panel of a number of units, the rail 61 of a lower unit is engaged in the hooks 64 of the unit next above; the hook fitting close to the right angle bend 63. Then the flattened section 78 of the offset plate 75 engages back of the hook of an upper unit as shown in Figs. 7 and 8. Articles such as purses may be supported on the brackets, the lower edge of such purses resting on the base wire 67 of the brackets and the upper portion of the purse or other article inclining outwardly and being in part supported by the face strips 68 and the bracket rail 70. There is sufficient space between the bracket rail 70 of a lower unit and the curved portion 69 of an upper unit to accommodate an article for its insertion and removal and to allow such article if of sufficient size to extend upwardly in front of an upper bracket. On account of the particular type of hook and offset plate connection, the weight of an article on the bracket of a lower unit prevents an outward tilt at the pivoted connection of a lower to an upper unit of the panel. The side bars 62 are retained close to a wall or the like and moreover, these side bars of different units are in substantial vertical alignment.

Various changes may be made in the details of construction without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a rack, a frame unit having an upper horizontal rail, parallel depending side bars connected thereto, a bracket attached to the frame having a base wire attached to the lower portion of each side bar and each bracket having an upwardly and outwardly extending face strip and a bracket rail connecting the ends of the face strip, the bracket rail being parallel to the rail of the frame, each of the side bars having a hook at its lower end and a lower unit frame having a top rail and depending side bars and an offset plate connected to the upper portion of each side bar of the lower frame and extending upwardly back of the hook to restrain outward tilt of frame units.

2. A rack comprising an assembly of rack units, each unit having a wire frame with an upper horizontal rail, a depending side bar at each end of the rail, said bars being at right angles to the rail, each bar having an outwardly bent hook at its lower end, a bracket connected to the hook, said bracket having a base connected to each side bar, an outwardly and upwardly extending face strip, the ends of the face strips being connected by a bracket rail, the bracket rail being parallel to the rail of the unit, a lower unit being connected to an upper unit by its rail engaging the hooks of an upper unit, the lower unit having offset plates secured to the upper ends of its side bars, the

offset plates extending upwardly behind the hook of an upper unit to restrain outward tilt of frame units.

3. In a rack, a rack unit having a frame with an upper rail, a depending side bar at each end of the frame at right angles thereto, an outwardly bent hook formed by a reverse bend of the lower ends of the side bars, a bracket having a tongue forming part of the hook and parallel to the lower portion of the side bar, an outwardly extending base from each tongue, an upwardly and outwardly extending face strip from each base, a bracket rail connecting the upper ends of the face strips, said rail being parallel to the rail of the frame, an offset plate having a suspension eye secured to the back and upper portion of each side bar extending upwardly above the rail of the frame, and means to suspend the rack from the offset plates.

4. In a rack as claimed in claim 3, a lower rack unit having a frame with a rail, side bars, hooks and bracket, the same as an upper unit, the lower unit being connected to an upper unit by having its frame rail engaging the hooks of the upper unit, the offset plate on the lower unit engaging the lower parts of the side bars of an upper unit back of the hook to restrain outward tilt of frame units.

5. In a rack, an upper frame unit having parallel side bars, each with an upturned hook at the bottom, a lower frame having a top rail and depending side bars and an offset plate connected to the upper portion of each side bar of the lower frame, the top rail being suspended by the said hooks, each offset plate extending upwardly back of a hook to restrain outward tilt of the frame units.

LEON COHEN.