

Nov. 28, 1939.

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2,181,808

DISPENSING AND DISPLAYING MEANS FOR NARROW FABRICS

Filed Aug. 20, 1937

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

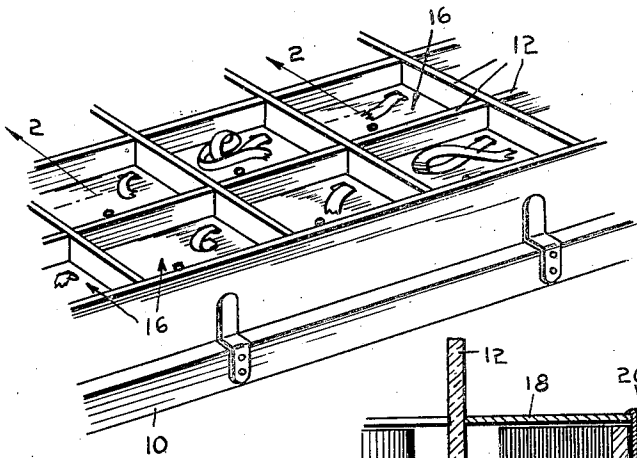


Fig. 1.

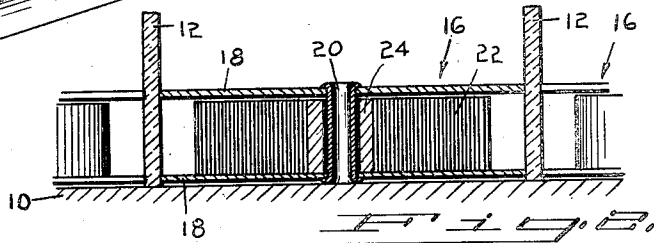


Fig. 2.

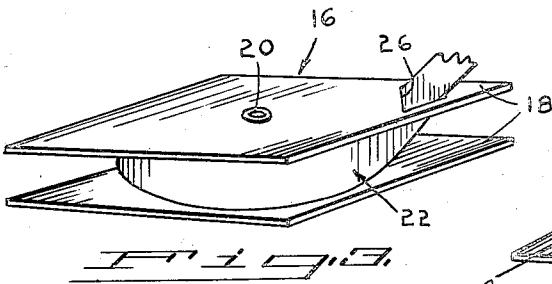


Fig. 3.

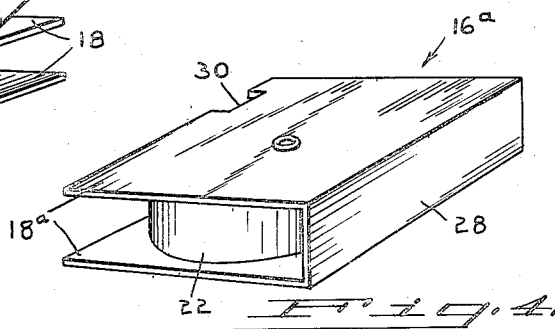


Fig. 4.

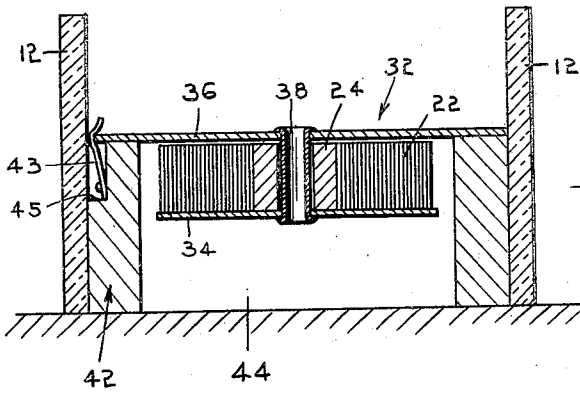


Fig. 5.

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3 Sheets-Sheet 2

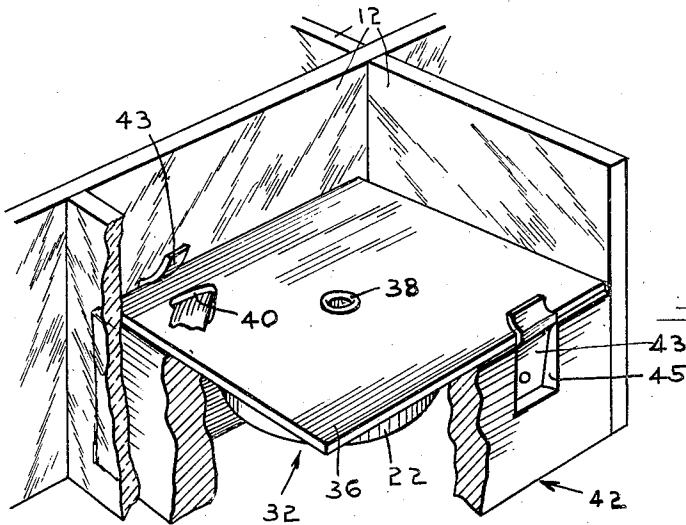


FIG. 6.

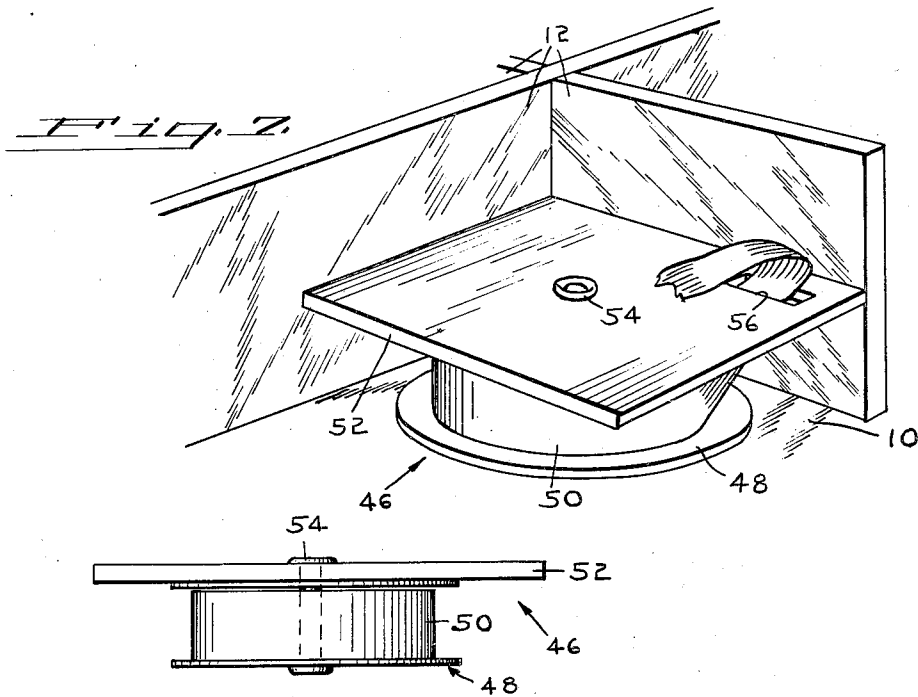
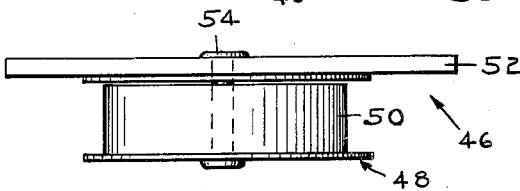


FIG. 8.

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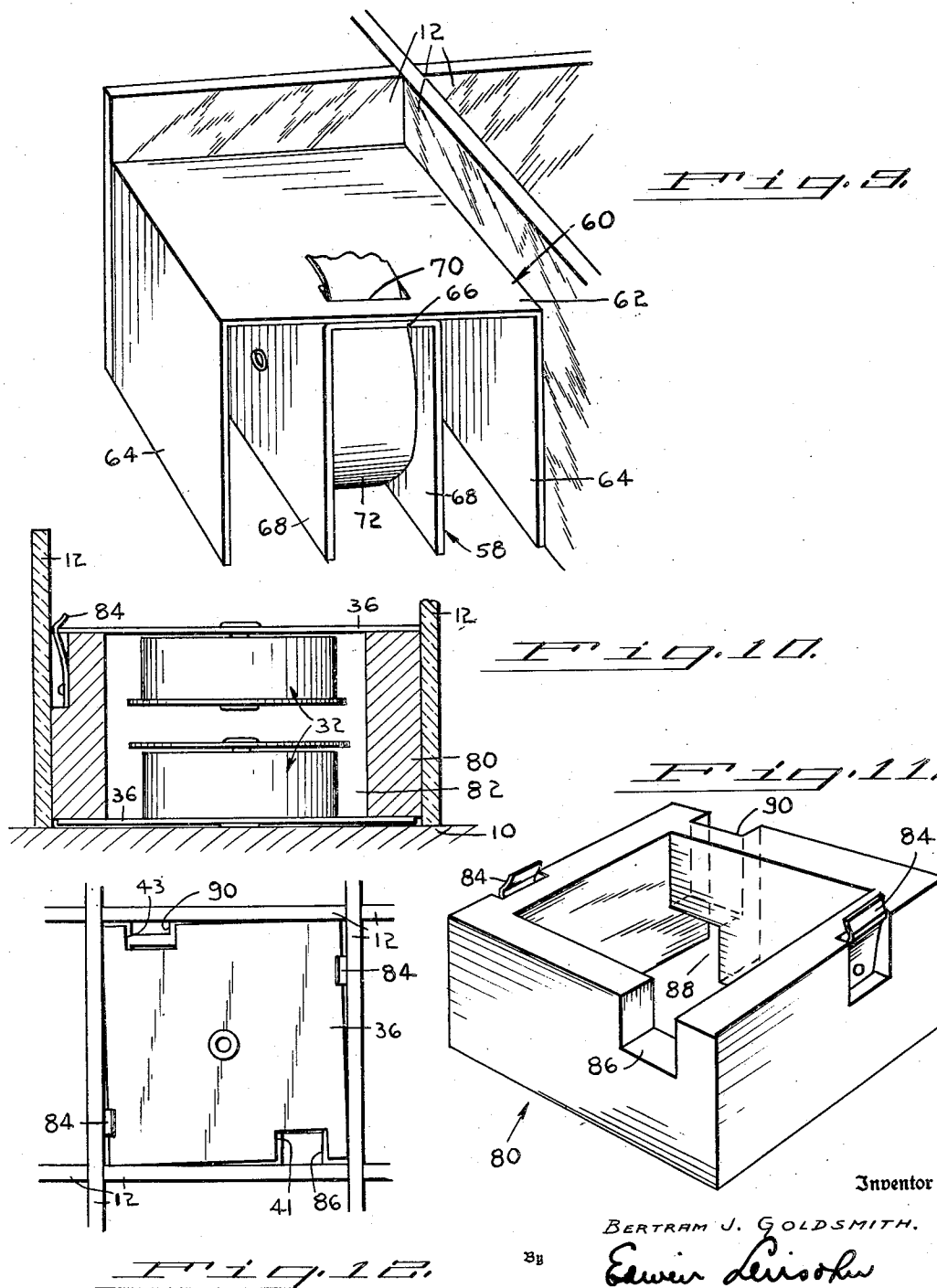
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DISPENSING AND DISPLAYING MEANS FOR NARROW FABRICS

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3 Sheets-Sheet 3



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DISPENSING AND DISPLAYING MEANS FOR
NARROW FABRICS

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6 Claims. (Cl. 206—77)

This invention relates to means for displaying and dispensing ribbons, bindings, tapes, and other narrow fabrics and to spools and similar put-ups or containers for such fabrics.

One object of the invention is the provision of ribbon packages or containers of the spool type constructed and arranged to be used in conjunction with supply and display compartments on the counters or other supports in retail stores.

Another object of the invention is to provide means for dispensing and displaying a plurality of ribbons or other narrow fabrics in compartments defined by walls with which the ribbon containers cooperate for providing the supply and display compartments whereby to facilitate dispensing of the ribbon and the display thereof.

A further object is to provide a ribbon or other narrow fabric container disposed on a store counter in a cell having a supply compartment and a display compartment and constructed to facilitate observation of the fabric in said container.

A yet further object of the invention is generally to improve counter or similar means for the display and dispensing of a plurality of ribbons, bindings, tapes, etc., which for convenience in reference will hereinafter be referred to as "ribbons".

The above objects of the invention, objects ancillary thereto and other objects which might hereinafter appear, will be fully understood from the following description of the several forms of the invention illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a part of a counter display arrangement embodying the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a spool-container utilized in the arrangement illustrated in Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 showing a modification;

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 2 showing another form of the invention;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the ribbon put-up utilized in the arrangement illustrated in Fig. 5;

Fig. 7 is a view similar to Fig. 3 showing another form of the invention;

Fig. 8 is a side view in elevation of the ribbon put-up illustrated in Fig. 7;

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of a ribbon put-

up in accordance with another form of the invention;

Fig. 10 is a view similar to Fig. 5, showing yet another form of the invention;

Fig. 11 is a perspective view of a block used in the arrangement illustrated in Fig. 10;

Fig. 12 is a top plan view of the arrangement illustrated in Fig. 10.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings and first to the form of the invention illustrated in Figs. 1 to 3, the ribbon display and dispensing means embodying the present invention comprises, as here shown, the usual store counter or table 10 which constitutes a support for the ribbon display and dispensing cells defined by the partition walls 12 which, as customarily used in many retail stores, are made of plate glass, and which are maintained in cell defining relation by suitable means frequently constituted by a plurality of blocks, one disposed in each cell. In accordance with the present invention, such blocks may be eliminated and in lieu thereof, the ribbon put-up may be utilized not only for maintaining partition walls 12 in cell defining relation but also for defining the supply and display compartments. Thus, as here shown, a ribbon put-up or spool-container 16, such as that illustrated in Fig. 3, is disposed within each cell defined by walls 12 and the blocks heretofore utilized may be omitted, although it will be understood that it is within the scope of the present invention to place put-up 16 upon the blocks as heretofore customarily used.

Spool-container 16 comprises non-circular, preferably square or oblong, end walls or flanges 18 composed of any suitable material, for example, cardboard, fibre board, metal, etc. assembled in fixed spaced relation with a metal pin or spindle 20 at right angles to the spool axis. The ribbon-roll 22 is wound or otherwise arranged on a suitable core 24 between flanges 18, said core and the ribbon mounted thereon being rotatable about pin or spindle 20. The top flange of spool-container 16 is provided with an opening 26 for the passage of the ribbon from the supply compartment below said flange to the display compartment thereabove. It will be understood that in lieu of opening 26 a passage for the ribbon from the supply compartment to the dispensing compartment may be provided by dimensioning upper flange 18 so that at least one edge or one edge portion thereof is spaced somewhat from the adjacent partition wall 12 to provide an opening between said partition wall and said edge or edge portion of flange 18. The ribbon 55

put-up of spool-container 16a, illustrated in Fig. 4, is substantially the same as spool-container 16, except that the flanges 18a are formed in integral relation with a side wall portion 28. Also as here shown, upper flange 18a has a notch 30 in one side edge thereof to provide a passage for the ribbon from the supply compartment to the display compartment.

It will be understood that in utilizing the spool-containers 16 or 16a in the arrangement illustrated in Fig. 1, said spool-containers, including the ribbon-rolls mounted therein, having been supplied to the retail stores, in lieu of ordinary spools of ribbon as heretofore, will be arranged in the cells defined by walls 12, being supported preferably directly upon the top of counter or table 10, although said containers, specially when the ribbons are narrow, may be placed upon the blocks hereinbefore referred to. By reason of the non-circular formation of the flanges of said containers, the latter are non-rotatable when disposed in their compartments, while the rotatable mounting of the ribbon-roll including its core 24 between the flanges of said containers permits the ribbon to be readily withdrawn from the supply compartment below top wall or flange 18 to the display compartment above said flange, for dispensing the ribbon when making a sale and for displaying a quantity of the ribbon in the display compartment. The quantity of ribbon thus displayed is supported on upper flange 18 which thus constitutes a bottom wall of the display compartment. It will be understood that in lieu of rotatably mounting the ribbon-roll, the ribbon may be wound directly about pin 20 as a core for the ribbon-roll wound in the manner illustrated in Fig. 9 of United States Letters Patent No. 2,082,489, granted June 1, 1937, on an application filed by me, whereby the ribbon may be unwound free from twist while the roll as a whole is stationary.

In the form of the invention illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6 the ribbon put-up or spool-container 32 is similar to container 16 except that bottom flange 34 is substantially smaller than top flange 36, said top flange being square, while flange 34 optionally may be circular or non-circular. Said flanges are held in fixed spaced relation by a pin or spindle 38 about which ribbon-roll 22 and the core 24 on which it is mounted are rotatable as a unit. As here shown an opening 40 is provided in flange 36 for the passage of the ribbon from the supply compartment below said flange to the display compartment thereabove. Ribbon-container 32 is supported, as illustrated in Fig. 5, upon the upper edges of open-top recessed means here shown as a hollow block or receptacle 42, flange 36 resting on the upper edge of said block with the ribbon-roll 22 depending from said flange into recess 44 of said block. Said flange 36 thus constitutes the top wall of the receptacle. If desired, in lieu of a hollow block 42, a box provided with a bottom (not shown) and forming a part of the ribbon put-up or container may be utilized. It will be understood that the outer periphery of block 42 is preferably non-circular and that said block is so dimensioned that it engages the cell defining walls 12 for maintaining said walls in vertical position, thus taking the place of the usual solid blocks heretofore provided in counter arrangements. Hollow blocks 42 are preferred as they provide means for supporting spools of different widths so that ribbons of various widths may be mounted in the manner illustrated in Fig. 5. It will be understood that top flange 36, being non-circular and closely adjacent

walls 24, is held against rotation when ribbon is withdrawn from roll 22 into the display compartment, although it is within the scope of the present invention to make flange 36 circular and to secure said flange against rotation by a few tacks driven therethrough and into block 42. It will also be understood that the ribbon-roll may be non-rotatably mounted in relation to pin 38 as for example, when the ribbon-roll is wound in the manner previously referred to in connection with Fig. 9 of the above mentioned patent. As shown in Figs. 5 and 6, spool-container 32 is removably secured to block 42 by spring clips 43 secured to the opposite outer sides of said block in recesses 45 and projecting above the upper edge of the block in releasable engagement with flange 36. The same or similar releasable securing means may be used instead of tacks when the flange spool is circular.

In the form of the invention illustrated in Figs. 7 and 8, the ribbon put-up 46 may comprise any conventional spool 48 on which the ribbon-roll 50 is wound. Spool 48 being rotatably associated with a plate 52 about a pin or spindle 54 fixed to and depending from said plate. Plate 52 may be mounted in the same manner as flange 36, or if preferred, hollow block 42 may be dispensed with and spool 48 may rest directly upon the top of counter 10. Plate 52 is provided with an opening 56 for the passage of the ribbon from the supply compartment below said plate to the display compartment thereabove. It will be understood that spool 48 is initially separate from plate 52 and is removably mounted on pin or spindle 54 for rotation about the latter when ribbon is dispensed. When plate 52 is associated with a support such as block 42, it may be either circular or non-circular, and when non-circular, it may be held against rotation by securing said plate to said block in any suitable way as by removable tacks or screws or by a suitable adhesive.

As illustrated in Fig. 9, the ribbon-container may be mounted with the axis of the ribbon-roll horizontally disposed instead of vertically disposed as in the above described forms of the invention. For this purpose a ribbon-container 58 similar to the ribbon-container 16a may be utilized in conjunction with a member 60 having a wall 62 which defines the bottom wall of the display compartment when arranged between partition walls 12. Member 60, as here shown, is also provided with side walls 64 by which said member is supported above the bottom of counter 10. The connecting wall 66 between flanges 68 of put-up 58 is provided with an opening which registers with the opening 70 in the top wall 62 thereby providing a passage for the ribbon from the roll 72 in the supply compartment below wall 62 to the display compartment above said wall. It will be understood that in the arrangements illustrated in Figs. 7 to 9, the ribbon rolls 50 and 72 may be non-rotatably mounted, in which case said rolls may be of the type illustrated in Fig. 9 of the patent hereinbefore mentioned.

In Figs. 10 to 12, there is shown an arrangement which is similar to that illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6, except that provision is made for disposing within a single counter cell two spool-containers both of which supply ribbon for the display compartment of said cell. Thus, as here shown, two spools 32, such as that shown in Fig. 5, are assembled with a receptacle comprising a block 80 which has a recess 82 deep enough to accommodate said spools in spaced relation and to allow for ribbons of varying widths. Flange 36

of upper spool 32 engages the upper edge of the block and is releasably secured in position by spring clips 84, and flange 36 of the lower block is positioned between the top of table 10 and the lower edge of said block. Said flange thus constitutes the top wall of the receptacle. Flange 36 of spool 32 is provided with notches 41 and 43 for the passage of the ribbon, in lieu of an opening 40. Block 80 is provided with an upper recess 86 which registers with notch 41 for the passage of the ribbon from upper spool 32 to the display compartment above the flange of said spool. Said block is also provided with a lower recess 88 which communicates with a side recess 90 in the block forming a passage for the ribbon from the lower spool 32 to the display compartment above flange 36 of the upper spool, notch 43 of said flange being in registry with recess 90 when upper spool 32 is positioned in the cell as shown.

As clearly shown in the drawings, in reference to each form of the invention, the opening for the passage of the ribbon from the supply compartment or container to the display compartment of the cell is positioned in spaced relation radially of the spool axis and outwardly of the periphery of the ribbon roll so that rotation of the roll is not interfered with when the ribbon is drawn through said opening. When the axis of the spool is vertical, the ribbon is turned upwardly from the roll for passage through said opening. While I have shown and described several embodiments of my invention, it will be understood that the latter may be embodied otherwise than as here shown. It will also be understood that in the constructions herein shown or described certain changes may be made and will occur to those skilled in the art, particularly in view of the present disclosure. Accordingly, I do not wish to be limited precisely to the present embodiments or to any of them specifically, except as may be required by the appended claims considered with reference to the prior art.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. Means for displaying ribbons or other narrow fabrics in which a receptacle for a spool of ribbon is mounted within a cell defined by vertical walls and forms with said walls a supply compartment in the lower part of said cell and a display compartment in the upper part of said cell, said receptacle having a top wall carrying a spindle depending therefrom and projecting within the spool opening, when said spool is positioned horizontally in said receptacle, for guiding the spool in the rotation thereof while being unwound, said wall carrying the spindle being shaped and proportioned in relation to said cell-defining walls to permit the passage of the ribbon from the spindle side of the top wall to the outer side thereof in the display compartment.

2. Means for displaying ribbons or other narrow fabrics in which a receptacle for a spool of ribbon is mounted within a cell defined by vertical walls and forms with said walls a supply compartment in the lower part of said cell and a display compartment in the upper part of said cell, said receptacle having a removable top wall carrying a spindle depending therefrom and projecting within the spool opening, when said spool is positioned horizontally in said receptacle, for guiding the spool in the rotation thereof while being unwound, said receptacle having a side wall provided with an opening for the passage

of the ribbon from the spindle side of the top wall to the outer side thereof in the display compartment.

3. Means for displaying ribbons or other narrow fabrics in which a receptacle for a spool of ribbon is mounted within a cell defined by vertical walls and forms with said walls a supply compartment in the lower part of said cell and a display compartment in the upper part of said cell, said receptacle having a removable top wall carrying a spindle depending therefrom and projecting within the spool opening, when said spool is positioned horizontally in said receptacle, for guiding the spool in the rotation thereof while being unwound, said receptacle having a side wall provided with a recess in its upper edge portion for the passage of the ribbon from the spindle side of the top wall to the outer side thereof in the display compartment.

4. Means for displaying ribbons or other narrow fabrics comprising a receptacle for a spool of ribbon, said receptacle constructed and arranged to be mounted within a cell defined by vertical walls and to form therewith a supply compartment in the lower part of the cell and a display compartment in the upper part of the cell, said receptacle having a top wall and a spindle carried by and depending from said top wall and projecting within the spool opening, when said spool is positioned horizontally in said receptacle, for guiding the spool in the rotation thereof while being unwound, said wall being provided with means for the passage of the ribbon from the spindle side of the wall to the outer side thereof in the display compartment.

5. Means for displaying ribbons or other narrow fabrics comprising a receptacle for a plurality of spools of ribbons, said receptacle having a removable top and being constructed and arranged to be fitted within a cell defined by vertical walls and to form a supply compartment and a display compartment in said cell and having an opening for the passage of the ribbon from the receptacle to said display compartment, said receptacle having a spindle projecting upwardly from the bottom thereof and a spindle depending from said top thereof projecting, respectively, into the spool openings, when the spools are positioned horizontally in said receptacle, for guiding the spools in the rotation thereof during the unwinding thereof for passage of the ribbon from the receptacle.

6. Means for displaying ribbons or other narrow fabrics comprising a receptacle for a plurality of spools of ribbons, said receptacle being constructed and arranged to be positioned within a cell defined by vertical walls and to form a supply compartment and a display compartment in said cell, said receptacle having opposed side walls thereof provided with recesses in the upper edge portions thereof forming passages for the ribbon from said spools to the display compartment, and a removable top supported on said side walls, said receptacle having a spindle projecting upwardly from the bottom thereof and a spindle depending from said removable top thereof projecting, respectively, into the spool openings, when the spools are positioned horizontally in said receptacle, for guiding the spools in the rotation thereof during the unwinding thereof for passage of the ribbon from the receptacle.

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