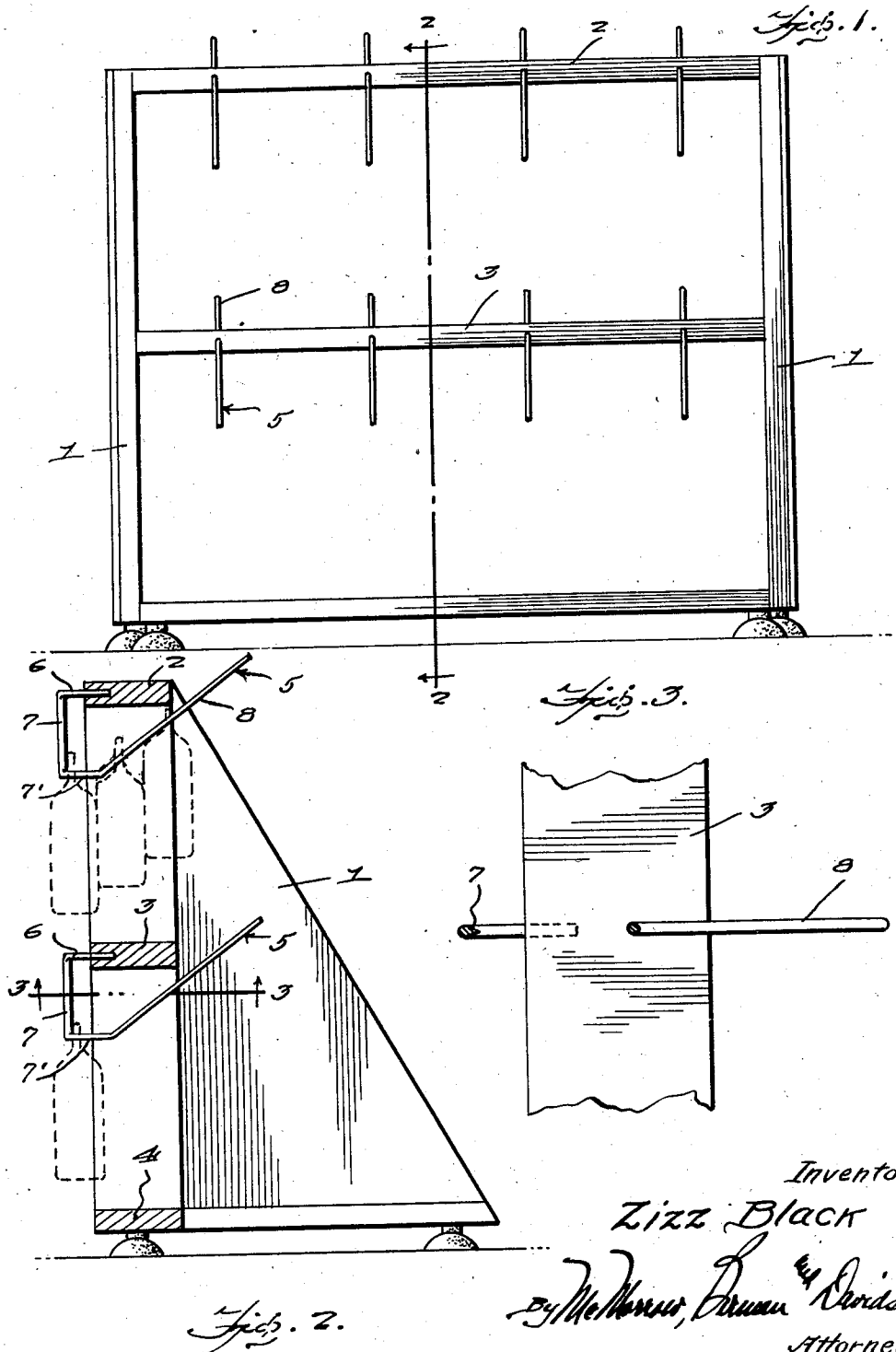


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Z. BLACK
DISPLAY CASE

2,419,624

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,419,624

DISPLAY CASE

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4 Claims. (Cl. 211-59)

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This invention relates to display cases, and more particularly, to a display case for supporting bags of merchandise.

A main object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved display case structure for bags of merchandise wherein the removal of a bag upon purchase thereof is facilitated.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved rack and display device for bags of merchandise such as nuts, candy or the like, which is easily refilled and wherein distribution and replenishment of the merchandise is such that older stock will be vended prior to fresher stock.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will appear from the following description and claims and from the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a front elevational view of a display case in accordance with this invention.

Figure 2 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 2-2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 3-3 of Figure 2.

Referring to the drawings, the display rack in accordance with this invention comprises a pair of generally trapezoidal side walls 1, 1 secured in vertical parallel relationship by a pair of horizontal transverse bar members 2 and 3 and a horizontal transverse bottom bar member 4, said transverse bar members being arranged at the forward portions of the rack to form an upper and a lower compartment. Bar members 2 and 3 are provided with a plurality of uniformly spaced substantially rigid hook members 5, each hook member 5 having an upper support arm 6 rigidly embedded in a bar member, a vertical front portion 7, a horizontal portion 7' and an upwardly inclined rearwardly extending elongated bar portion 8 substantially close to the lower rear edge of the transverse bar member and extending a substantial distance beyond. As shown in Figure 3, vertical front portion 7 is tapered to a sharp edge at its rear surface.

As shown in Figure 2, the bags of merchandise are suspended in rows on the elongated bar portions 8, with the leading bag hanging from the portion 7' each bag being perforated at its upper portion to receive such a bar portion. The bar portions 8 are sufficiently resilient to allow the bags to be pushed past the lower rear edges of the transverse bar members 2 or 3 when replenishing the rack with bags of merchandise.

To remove a bag at the forward end of a row, it is grasped or pulled and its upper portion is

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sheared through by contact with the sharp knife edge formed on the rear surface of vertical portion 7. The remaining bags of merchandise of the row then automatically slide forward by gravity, thus moving a new bag into the forward position. By this arrangement old stock is removed before fresher stock is made available for removal.

Although only two rack compartments are shown in the drawings, any number of rack compartments may be provided by employing an appropriate number of horizontal transverse bar members. The lateral spacing of the hook members 5 may be in accordance with the width of the bags of merchandise which are to be vended from the display case.

The side walls and transverse bar members may be made of any suitable material such as wood, plastic, metal or the like. The hook members 5 may be made of stiff wire or similar material.

While a specific embodiment of a display case has been described in the foregoing description, it will be understood that numerous modifications within the spirit of the invention may occur to those skilled in the art. Therefore it is intended that no limitations be placed on the invention other than as defined by the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A display rack for bags of merchandise comprising an open upright supporting frame having side walls, a horizontal transverse bar member secured to said side walls and a plurality of spaced C-shaped hook members rigidly secured to the front edge of said bar member, each hook member comprising a downwardly extending front portion and an upwardly inclined rearwardly extending bottom portion, said bottom portion being closely adjacent to the lower rear edge of said transverse bar member and extending beyond said transverse bar member.

2. The structure of claim 1, and wherein the rear surface of said downwardly extending front portion is tapered to form a sharp edge.

3. A display rack for bags of merchandise comprising an open upright supporting frame having side walls, a plurality of horizontally spaced transverse bar members secured to said side walls, and a plurality of spaced substantially C-shaped hook members rigidly secured to the front edges of said horizontal transverse bar members, each hook member comprising a downwardly extending substantially straight front portion and an upwardly inclined and rearwardly

extending bottom portion, said bottom portion being closely adjacent to the lower rear edge of its transverse bar member and extending beyond said transverse bar member.

4. The structure of claim 3, and wherein the rear surface of said straight front portion is tapered to form a sharp edge.

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