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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

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FOLDING RACK.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB KOHN, a subject of the King of Hungary, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Folding Rack, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention relates to racks, such as are used in garment factories, stores and other places, for supporting and displaying garments.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved folding rack, which can be readily extended for safely supporting and displaying garments or other articles, or which can be folded when not in use to take up very little space. For the purpose mentioned, use is made of a pair of standards and top and bottom connecting bars arranged for holding the standards spaced apart and for allowing moving the standards one toward the other into folding position, the upper connecting bar forming a support for the garments or other articles to be supported.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the rack with the parts in extended position; Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the rack with the parts in folded position; Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the standard brackets; Fig. 4 is a like view of part of one of the standards and part of the lower connecting bar; and Fig. 5 is a side elevation of a modified form of the rack.

The standards A and A', shown in Figs. 1 and 2, are provided with suitable bases B, B', and when the rack is in use the said standards are held spaced apart by upper and lower connecting bars C and D, of which the upper connecting bar also serves as a support for the garments or other articles to be supported and displayed, it being understood that the space between the said standards and the bars C and D is wholly unobstructed to accommodate the articles E, as will be understood by reference to Fig. 1.

The connecting bar C is pivotally connected at one end at C' to a bracket F form-

ing part of the upper end of the standard A, and the free end of the said connecting bar C is adapted to be seated in a socket G' of a bracket G forming part of the upper end of the standard A'. The free end of the connecting bar C is provided with a pin C², adapted to engage an aperture in the bottom of the socket G' so as to hold the connecting bar C in a locked position to keep the standards A and A' spaced apart. The brackets F and G are connected with each other by a lazy tong H, having the end members H' pivoted on the said brackets, and the end members H² slidably connected with the said brackets by the use of pins H³, held on the terminals of the end members H² and engaging vertical slots F' and G² formed in the brackets F and G.

The lower connecting bar D is made in sections D', D², pivotally connected with each other at D³ and pivotally connected at D⁴ and D⁵ with the standards A and A' adjacent to the bases B, B'. A locking pin I is adapted to engage apertures in the sections D', D² at opposite sides of the pivotal connection D³ so as to lock the sections D' and D² firmly in place when extended, as plainly indicated in Fig. 1. The locking pin I is hung on a chain I' attached to the section D², and when the pin I is disengaged from the sections D' and D² then the latter can be swung into an angular or a folded position, as indicated in Fig. 2. Springs J are held on the fulcrum ends D⁴, D⁵ of the sections D' and D², and the said springs press the sections D' and D² in an upward direction, so that when the locking pin I is withdrawn from the sections D' and D² then the springs J force the sections D', D² upward, to start the folding of the sections whenever it is desired to fold the rack, as indicated in Fig. 2. It is understood that when folding the rack the upper connecting bar C is swung upward to disengage its free end from the socket G', thereby allowing the standards A and A' to move toward each other on folding the connecting bar D, as previously explained. It is understood that after the upper connecting bar C is disengaged from the socket G' and the standards A and A' are moved toward each other, then the said bar C is allowed to swing downward into folding position, as indicated in Fig. 2.

When extending the rack from the folded position shown in Fig. 2 into the open posi-

tion shown in Fig. 1, the operator moves the standards A and A' apart, thus causing the lower connecting bar D to move into extended position, in which it is finally locked by inserting the pin I. The upper ends of the standards A and A' are held apart by a lazy tong H, which opens on moving the standards A and A' apart, and when this has been done the upper connecting bar C can be swung upward and engages with its free end the socket G', to permanently hold the upper portions of the standards A and A' spaced apart. When the rack is extended, the garments or other articles E to be supported can be placed on the upper supporting bar C, as shown in Fig. 1 and previously described.

When the rack is folded as above explained, the parts can be locked in folded position by the use of hooks K and K' held on the standard A and its base B, and adapted to engage the standard A' and its base B', as plainly indicated in Fig. 2.

In the modified form shown in Fig. 5, the standards L and L' are provided with bases L², L³, and are connected with each other by upper and lower connecting bars N and N', both alike in construction and similar to the connecting bar D previously mentioned, that is, each connecting bar N and N' is made in sections pivotally connected with each other and pivotally connected with the standards L and L'. Locking pins O, similar to the pin I, are provided for holding the locking bars N and N' in the extended position. Springs P compress the sections of the lower connecting bar N', to cause the same to swing upward when the locking pin O is withdrawn, and springs Q compress the sections of the upper connecting bar N to support the said sections in extended position when withdrawing the pin O. When this is done the operator presses the sections of the connecting bar N downward so as to permit of moving the standards L and L' toward each other, with the connecting bars N and N' moving into the folded position indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 5. The standards L and L' are locked together by suitable locking hooks K² and K³, similar to the hooks K and K', so that further description of the same is not deemed necessary.

The folding rack shown and described is very simple and durable in construction and can be readily extended for supporting and displaying garments or other articles, or can be folded and locked in the folded position to take up comparatively little room.

Having thus described my invention, I

claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A rack, comprising standards, upper and lower connecting bars arranged for holding the said standards apart, the said upper connecting bar forming a support for the articles to be supported, and being pivoted at one end to one of the standards and engaging at its other end a socket on the other standard, the said lower connecting bar being made in sections and having their outer ends pivotally connected with the said standards, the inner ends of the said sections being pivoted to a connecting member, and a U-shaped locking pin engaging the said sections and connecting member for locking the sections of the lower connecting bar in the extended position.

2. A rack, comprising standards, upper and lower connecting bars arranged for holding the said standards apart, the said upper connecting bar forming a support for the articles to be supported, and being pivoted at one end to one of the standards and engaging at its other end a socket on the other standard, the said lower connecting bar being made in sections pivotally connected with each other and pivotally connected with the said standards, means for locking the sections of the lower connecting bar in the extended position, and springs pressing the sections of the said lower connecting bar.

3. A rack comprising standards provided near their upper ends with brackets on their opposing faces, said brackets having upwardly projecting members, one of the brackets having a socket, an upper connecting bar having one end pivoted to the inwardly projecting member of one bracket, to fold downward between the standards, and its other end in interlocking engagement with the socket of the other bracket, lazy tongs having one of each of its end members pivoted to the upwardly projecting member of the bracket, and its other member pivotally and slidably connected to said bracket members, and a lower connecting bar made in sections pivoted to the standards and pivotally connected with each other to fold upward between the standards.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JACOB KOHN.

Witnesses:

THEO. G. HOSTER,
PHILIP D. ROLLHAUS.