W. M. JOHNSON.

DISPLAY RACK.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 2, 1912.

1,049,726. Patented Jan. 7, 1913.

Fig. 1.

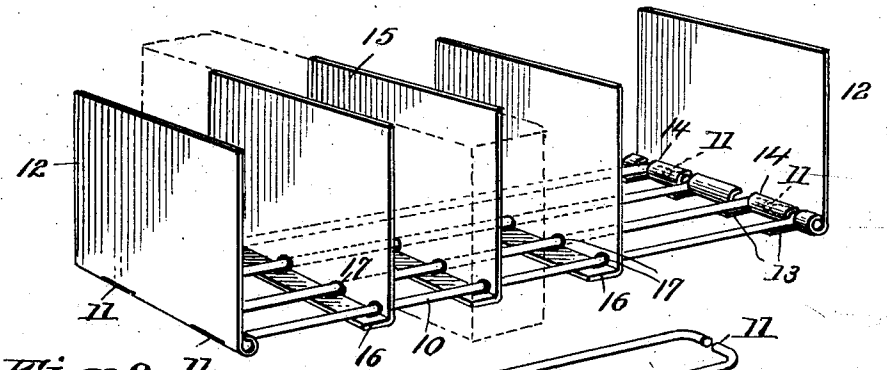


Fig. 2

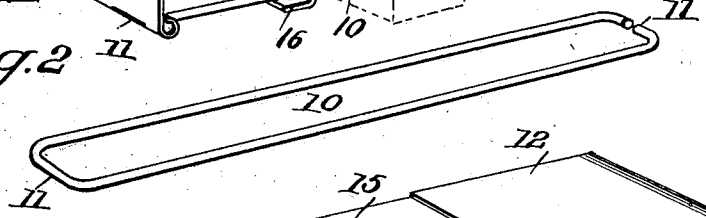


Fig. 3.

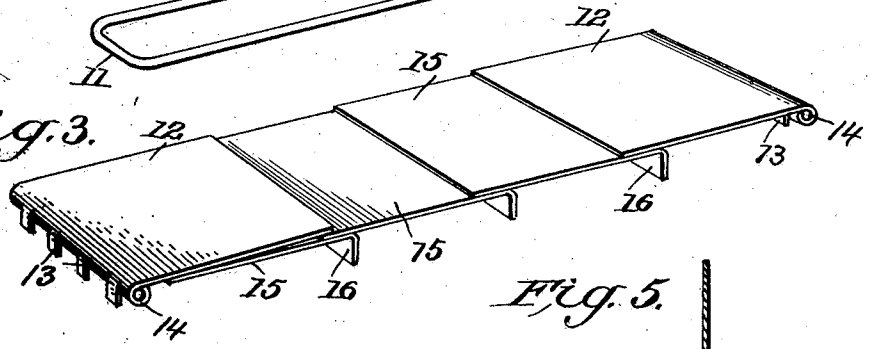


Fig. 4

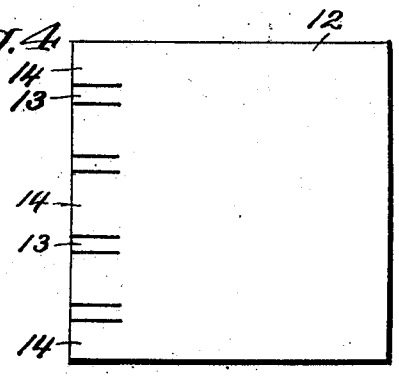
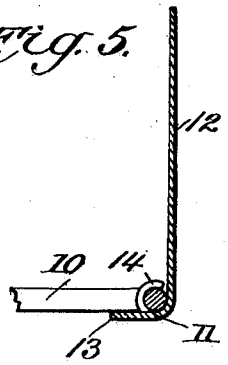


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DISPLAY-RACK.

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Application filed February 2, 1912. Serial No. 675,084.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER M. JOHNSON, citizen of the United States, residing at Bloomfield, in the county of Davis and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Display-Racks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in display racks which may be employed for displaying various goods, but is designed more particularly for the display of stick candy and similar products, and has for one of its objects to provide a simply constructed device whereby different varieties of the goods may be displayed in relatively accessible position and which may be adjusted to receive and support the goods in different sized lots and which may be folded into small space when not required or for shipment or storage.

With this and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction as hereafter shown and described, and then specifically pointed out in the claims, and in the drawings illustrative of the preferred embodiment of the invention;

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved device in open position; Fig. 2 is a detached perspective view of one of the base rods; Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the improved device in folded position; Fig. 4 is a plan view of one of the end members before being bent into shape. Fig. 5 is an enlarged sectional detail of one of the end members.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The improved device comprises in general a supporting portion, end members connected to swing inwardly upon the supporting portion and prevented from outward movement beyond a position at right angles to the supporting portion, and a plurality of division plates slidable upon the supporting portion, and foldable into parallel relations thereto or at right angles thereto and prevented from movement in one direction beyond a position at right angles to the supporting portion.

The supporting portion of the improved device is preferably formed from a plurality of rods 10 arranged in pairs and in parallel relations with the terminals of each pair of the rods united by a transverse member 11. The rods may be of any required length and any required number may be employed, but for the purpose of illustration two pairs of the rods are shown.

Mounted to swing upon each set of the transverse members 11 of the rods is an end member 12, each end member being formed as shown in Fig. 4, with a plurality of pairs of clefts spaced apart and corresponding in position with the rods 10, each pair of clefts thus producing a narrow tongue 13 separated by wider tongue-like portions 14. The intermediate portions 14 are rolled around the terminals 11 of the rods, while the tongues 13 are bent at right angles to the body of the plate. The rolled portions 14 form hinge connections between the end members and the rods and enable the plates to be folded inwardly and lie flat upon the rods as shown in Fig. 3, while the tongues 13 serve to prevent the end members from moving beyond a position at right angles to the rods when open, as shown in Figs. 1 and 5.

Slidably disposed upon the rods 10 between the end members are a plurality of division plates which are slidable upon the rods and foldable flatwise therewith, or adapted to be arranged at right angles to the rods as may be preferred. The intermediate plates are precisely alike and the description of one will suffice for all.

Any required number of the division plates may be employed, but for the purpose of illustration three are shown, and each comprises a sheet metal member 15 with a portion at one end bent at right angles thereto as shown at 16, and with a plurality of apertures 17 at the bends and through which the rods 10 pass. By this simple means the plates 12—15 may be folded in one direction flatwise upon each other and upon the rods 10, as shown in Fig. 3, but will be prevented from movement beyond a position at right angles to the rods when in open position as shown in Fig. 1 through the action of the tongues 13 and the bent portions 16.

The plates 12—15 may be of any required size and of any suitable material, but will preferably be of sheet metal and the size and dimensions proportioned to the goods which are to be supported and displayed,

and it is not desired therefore to limit the size of the device to any extent.

The improved device is simple in construction, can be inexpensively manufactured and of any suitable material, but preferably of metal and plated, galvanized or otherwise protected or ornamented as required.

The improved device will be found especially adapted to the display of small articles of merchandise, such as stick candy, in convenient position for display and wherein each individual article is readily accessible without disturbing the remainder.

As before stated, the plates 15 are readily adjustable longitudinally of the rods so as to increase or decrease the spaces or area between the plates, and vary their size to any required extent.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A display rack comprising a plurality of supporting rods, end members arranged to fold inwardly upon said rods and held from moving beyond a position at right angles to said rods, and a plurality of division members bent at right angles near one end and provided with apertures at the bends to engage over the rods, whereby said division plates are foldable in one direction upon the rods and held from movement in the other direction beyond a position at right angles thereto.

2. A display rack comprising a plurality of supporting rods, end members supported upon said rods, a plurality of division members slidable upon said rods, and means whereby said division plates are foldable in one direction upon the rods and held from movement in the other direction beyond a position at right angles to the rods.

3. A display rack comprising a plurality of rods arranged in pairs spaced apart, each pair of the rods being united at the ends, end members each having a plurality of clefts arranged in pairs and forming a plurality of stop tongues, the material of the end members between the tongues being turned into eyes to swingingly couple the end members to the end portions of the rods with the tongues opposite the longitudinal portions of the rods, whereby the end members are foldable inwardly upon the rods but held from outward movement beyond a position at right angles to the same.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WALTER M. JOHNSON. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
SHERMAN S. MELCHERT,
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