Dec. 20, 1949 J. A. MUENCH 2,491,756

CURTAIN SUPPORT FOR AN ARTICLE OF FURNITURE

Filed May 30, 1945 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1

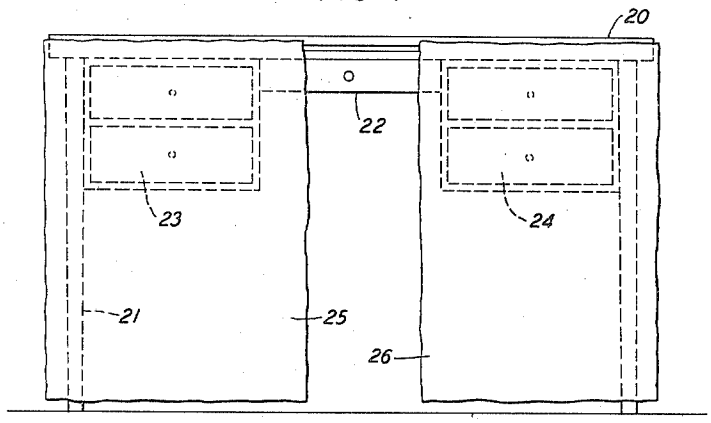


FIG. 2

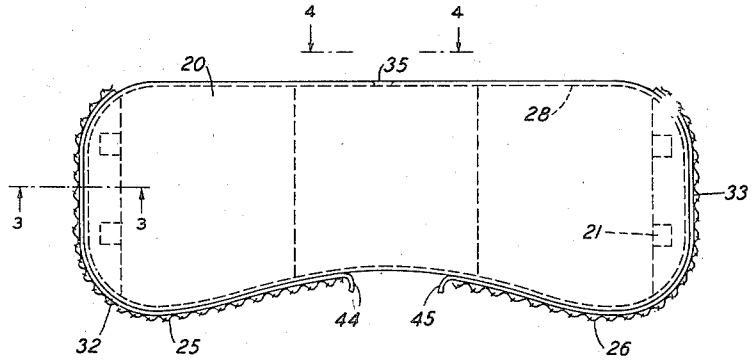


FIG. 3

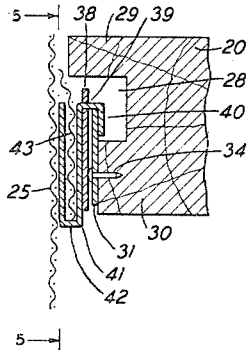


FIG. 4

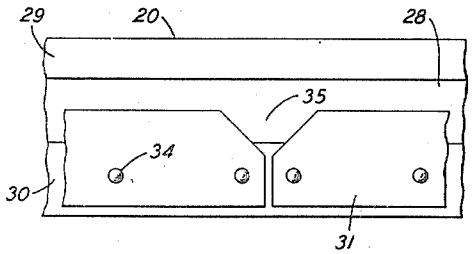
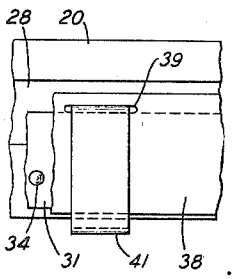


FIG. 5



INVENTOR
JOSEPH A. MUENCH

BY

ATTORNEY

Dec. 20, 1949 J. A. MUENCH 2,491,756

CURTAIN SUPPORT FOR AN ARTICLE OF FURNITURE

Filed May 30, 1945 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 6

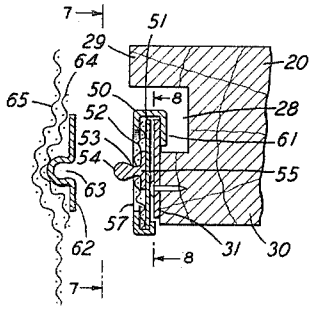


FIG. 7

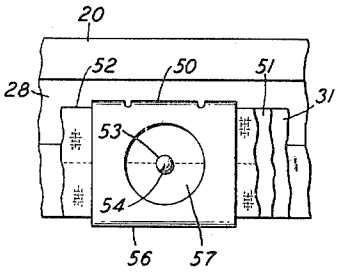


FIG. 8

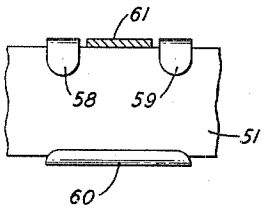


FIG. 9

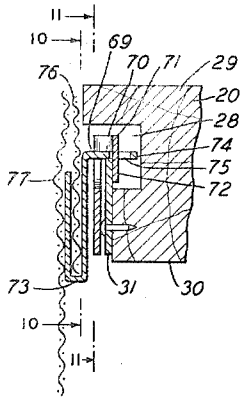


FIG. 10

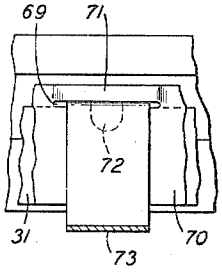


FIG. 11

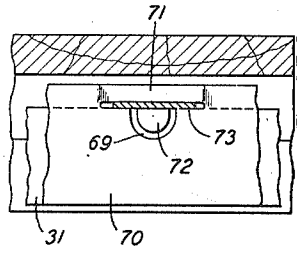


FIG. 12

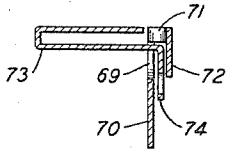
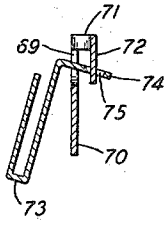


FIG. 13



INVENTOR
JOSEPH A. MUENCH

BY

ATTORNEY

Patented Dec. 20, 1949

2,491,756

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,491,756

CURTAIN SUPPORT FOR AN ARTICLE OF FURNITURE

Joseph A. Muench, New York, N. Y.

Application May 30, 1945, Serial No. 596,638

10 Claims. (Cl. 311—2)

1

This invention relates to an article of furniture having one or more curtains for enclosing the space underneath the top thereof, and particularly to a device for supporting the curtains in a slidable manner adjacent the periphery of such top.

Heretofore, dressing tables of the boudoir type have utilized one or more curtains for enclosing the space below the tops thereof. Known arrangements for supporting such curtains on the table tops tended to bunch-up and thereby disarrange the curtains.

The present invention contemplates supports for the curtains of a dressing table which move as a unit so that the tendency to disarrange the curtains is substantially obviated.

The main object of the invention is to provide for each curtain of a dressing table a support slidable as a unit.

A specific embodiment of the present invention disclosed in connection with a boudoir dressing table of the curtain-enclosed type comprises the table top formed with a peripheral recess, a rail mounted on the table top adjacent such recess to provide an opening between the table top and an upper edge of the rail, a semi-flexible band, and a plurality of hooks mounted in spaced relation on such band. The hooks are formed on corresponding ends with inverted U-shape portions which are disposed in such opening for slidably engaging the upper edge of the rail, and on their other ends with upright U-shape portions for removably receiving a textile strip fastened to the uppermost edge of the curtain whereby the curtain is detachably mounted on the table top.

A second embodiment includes a semi-flexible band, a textile strip positioned coextensively on the band and provided with a plurality of spaced apertures, a plurality of members disposed between the strip and band, each member being formed with a projection extending through one aperture, and a plurality of hooks. Each hook is formed with a central aperture, when positioned on the strip, to receive one projection, and is adapted to bind the strip to the band for fixedly mounting the projection thereon. Also each hook is formed on its upper edge with an integral inverted U-shape portion which is disposed in the opening between the table top and rail for slidably engaging the upper edge of the rail. The curtain embodies a plurality of complementary members for removably receiving the projections whereby the curtain is detachably mounted on the table top.

A third embodiment comprises a semi-flexible

2

band having a plurality of discrete portions partially stamped out of the upper edge thereof at spaced points therealong, each portion including a section integral with the band and an integral projection depending from the last section. Each section and associated projection are spaced from the band adjacent an aperture therein due to each partially stamped out section and associated projection. A plurality of supports, each having a transverse end portion formed with a perforation and U-shape end portion, is so mounted on the band that the transverse end portions extend into such apertures to allow the perforations to receive the projections. The band is positioned adjacent the rail so that the transverse end portions and projections extend into the opening between the table top and the upper edge of the rail to slidably engage the upper edge of the rail. The U-shape portions removably receive a textile band attached to the curtain whereby the curtain is detachably mounted on the table top.

Due to the semi-flexible band in the foregoing individual embodiments of the invention, each curtain support moves as a unit. This means that the entire curtain is moved at the same time so that any tendency to disarrange the initial adjustment of the curtain is substantially obviated. Accordingly, the curtain can be given a desired initial adjustment from a decorative standpoint, and such adjustment will be maintained substantially indefinitely.

The invention will be readily understood from the following description when taken together with the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a front elevational view of a boudoir dressing table equipped with two curtains supported in accordance with a specific embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary cross-sectional view taken along the line 3—3 in Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary elevational view taken along the line 4—4 in Fig. 2;

Fig. 5 is a partial elevational view taken along the line 5—5 in Fig. 3;

Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 3 of a second embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary elevational view taken along the line 7—7 in Fig. 6;

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary elevational view taken along the line 8—8 in Fig. 6;

Fig. 9 is a view similar to Fig. 3 of a third embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 10 is a fragmentary elevational view taken along line 10—10 in Fig. 9;

Fig. 11 is a partial elevational view taken along the line 11—11 in Fig. 9, and

Figs. 12 and 13 are simplified illustrations of Fig. 9 showing the manner of inserting or removing a certain element.

In the following description the same reference numerals are employed to designate identical elements appearing in several figures of the drawing.

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2 a table top 20 is supported by a plurality of spaced legs 21 between which are positioned one or more slidable drawers 22, 23 and 24. Depending from the periphery of the table top are curtains 25 and 26 supported in a manner that will be presently explained.

In accordance with the present invention, a specific embodiment for supporting the curtains 25 and 26 comprises the periphery of table top 20, Figs. 1, 2 and 3, formed with a groove 28 positioned intermediate upper portion 29 and lower portion 30, the outermost peripheral surface of the portion 30 being located in a vertical plane spaced from a vertical plane embodying the outermost peripheral surface of the portion 29. In Figs. 2, 3 and 4 a rail 31 attached to the outermost peripheral surface of the portion 30 by means of tacks 34 extends entirely around the periphery of the table top 20. At the rear of the table top 20 as shown in Figs. 2 and 4, adjacent ends of the rail 31 terminate substantially in a V-shape opening 35 for the purpose that will hereinafter appear.

In Fig. 2 unitary support 32 carries curtain 25 and unitary support 33 carries curtain 26 in a manner that will now be described. Referring to Fig. 3, each of the supports 32 and 33 comprises a semi-flexible band 38 formed with a plurality of spaced elongated slots 39, Fig. 5, in each of which is positioned an inverted U-shape portion 40 embodied on the uppermost end of a rigid member 41 whose lowermost end includes an upright U-shape portion 42, Figs. 3 and 5, these U-shape portions being disposed in opposite directions or effectively in back-to-back relation. Each U-shape portion 40 slidably engages the upper end of the rail 31 as will be subsequently mentioned. The number of members 41 embodied in individual supports 32 and 33 will be hereinafter identified. Positioned vertically in the U-shape portions 42 is a textile band 43 to which is suitably attached one of the curtains 25 and 26. Formed integral with corresponding ends of the semi-flexible bands 38 in the individual supports 32 and 33, Fig. 2, are suitable finger grips 44 and 45, respectively, for actuating each of the supports in a direction and for a purpose that will presently appear.

To assemble the specific embodiment described above in connection with Figs. 1 through 5, the semi-flexible bands 38 of the individual supports 32 and 33 are preselected with an individual length suitable for supporting curtains 25 and 26 of preselected size and weight. Each semi-flexible band 38 is provided with openings 39 in a number consistent with the size and weight of the curtains to be carried by the individual supports 32 and 33. In each opening 39 of individual semi-flexible bands 38 are so positioned the U-shape portions 40 of the members 41 that all U-shape portions 42 thereof lie on the same side of each band 38. Each semi-flexible band 38 is mounted on the rail 31 by inserting the individual U-shape portions 40 of the members 41, in succession, into the V-shape opening 35, Fig. 4, while at the same time moving the semi-flexible band 38 in a clockwise or counter-clockwise direction on the periphery of the table top 20, as the case may warrant, until all U-shape portions 40 slidably engage the upper edge of the rail 31. The finger grips 44 and 45 enable the aforementioned movements of the semi-flexible bands 38 in the respective supports 32 and 33.

Individual curtains 25 and 26 have their uppermost ends suitably attached to the individual textile bands 43 before the insertion of the latter into the upright U-shape portions 42 of the members 41 included in the respective supports 32 and 33. Thus, the curtains 25 and 26 may be prearranged with such adjustment as will tend to be most pleasing to the eye. Thereafter, the individual textile bands 43 are inserted into the upright U-shape portions 42 of the members 41 included in the respective supports 32 and 33. By means of the finger grips 44 and 45 the respective curtains 25 and 26 may be adjusted to enclose or expose the space underneath the table top 20 as desired. Due to the semi-flexible characteristic of the bands 38 embodied in the individual supports 32 and 33, each of the latter tends to move as a unit. This means that each curtain is also moved as a unit at the same time so that any tendency to disarrange the initial adjustments of the individual curtains is substantially obviated. Due to the positioning of the textile bands 43 in the U-shape portions 42 of the members 41 included in the respective supports 32 and 33, the curtains 25 and 26 can be expeditiously dismounted from the table top 20 for cleaning purposes. Accordingly, it is clear that the curtains 25 and 26 embody no elements that would tend to be fouled in the step of pressing during a laundering operation.

Figs. 6, 7 and 8 constitute a second embodiment of the invention comprising the periphery of the table top 20 formed with groove 28 positioned intermediate upper and lower portions 29 and 30, respectively, and a rail 31 mounted adjacent the groove 28 in a manner similar to the formation and location of the corresponding elements in Fig. 3. Slidably mounted on the rail 31 is a hook 50 comprising a semi-flexible band 51 having its inner surface positioned adjacent the rail 31 and its outer surface disposed next to a textile band 52 as shown in Figs. 6 and 7. Through an opening 53 in the textile band 52 extends a projection 54 formed integral with a flat portion 55 positioned intermediate the textile band 52 and semi-flexible band 51. Member 56 having a central opening 57 to accommodate both the projection 52 and flat portion 55 is disposed adjacent the outer surface of the textile band 52 as shown in Figs. 6 and 7.

Extensions 58 and 59 formed integral with the upper edge of the member 56 and extension 60 formed integral with the lower edge of the member 56 are bent approximately 180 degrees to engage firmly the inner surface of the semi-flexible band 51 as shown in Figs. 6 and 8. This fixedly locates the projection 54 on the semi-flexible band 51 for a purpose that will hereinafter appear. Extension 61 formed integral with the upper edge of the member 56 intermediate the extensions 58 and 59 is bent approximately 180 degrees to constitute an inverted U-shape portion for slidably engaging the upper edge of the rail 31 as shown in Figs. 6, 7 and 8. Element 62 provided with a centrally depressed portion 63 for accommodating the projection 54 is suitably secured to a textile band 64 which in turn is suitably secured to a curtain 65 identical with either curtain 25 or 26, Fig.

1. By inserting the projection 54 into the aperture 63 and withdrawing it therefrom the curtain 65 is removably attached to the slidable hook 50.

To assemble the slidable hook 50 of Figs. 6, 7 and 8 to constitute unitary supports equivalent to the unitary supports 32 and 33, Fig. 2, the individual semi-flexible bands 51 of such constituted supports are preselected with lengths suitable for supporting curtains similar to the curtains 25 and 26, Fig. 1. Each preselected semi-flexible band 51 is provided with such number of hooks 50 as is consistent with the size and weight of the curtains to be carried on the respective supports. Each of such supports is mounted on the rail 31 by inserting the inverted U-shape portions 61, in succession, into the V-shape opening 35, Fig. 4, while at the same time moving the semi-flexible band 51 in a clockwise or counterclockwise direction as the case may warrant until all U-shape portions 61 slidably engage the upper edge of the rail 31. It is understood that the individual bands 51, to facilitate their actuation, are provided with finger grips similar to the finger grips 44 and 45, Fig. 2.

Individual curtains similar to the curtains 25 and 26, Fig. 2, have their uppermost ends suitably fastened to individual textile bands 64, and may be detachably mounted on the table top by inserting the projections 54 into the depressed portions 63, Fig. 6, and removing them therefrom as hereinbefore mentioned. As in Fig. 2, the curtains carried by the supports embodying the hooks 50, Figs. 6, 7 and 8, may be prearranged with such adjustment as will tend to be most pleasing to the eye. Due to the semi-flexible band 51 in each support constituted as above explained, each curtain will tend to move as a unit so that each curtain will tend to retain its initial preshaping regardless of the actuations of its support.

Figs. 9, 10 and 11 constitute a third embodiment of the invention comprising the periphery of the table top 20 formed with a groove 28 positioned intermediate upper and lower portions 29 and 30, respectively, and a rail 31 mounted adjacent the groove 28 in a manner similar to the formation and location of the corresponding elements in Fig. 3. Mounted adjacent the rail 31 is a semi-flexible band 70 whose uppermost end is formed with an integral depressed portion 71 including an integral depending portion 72, both of which portions effect a substantially U-shape opening 69. Positioned adjacent the semi-flexible band 70 is a U-shape member 73 having an integral horizontal portion 74 formed with an opening 75 for accommodating the depending portion 72. Thus the portions 72 and 74 provide a bearing surface for slidably engaging the upper edge of the rail 31. A textile band 76 positioned in the U-shape member 73 is suitably secured to a curtain 77.

The U-shape member 73 is mounted on the semi-flexible band 70 in the following manner. Referring to Fig. 12, the U-shape member 73 is initially positioned substantially at an angle of 90 degrees relative to the semi-flexible band 70 so that its horizontal portion 74 lies in a plane parallel to the plane of the depending portion 72. Next, the U-shape member 73 is rotated in a counterclockwise direction whereupon its opening 75 is caused to receive the depending portion 72 as shown in Fig. 13. When the U-shape member 73 lies in a plane parallel to the plane of the semi-flexible band 70, as shown in Fig. 9, the depending portion is fully received in the opening

75. To disengage the U-shape member 73 from the semi-flexible band 70 the former is rotated in the clockwise direction.

To assemble the U-shape members 73 and semi-flexible band 70 to constitute unitary supports equivalent to the individual unitary supports 32 and 33, Fig. 2, the individual semi-flexible bands 70 of such supports are preselected with lengths suitable for supporting curtains similar to the curtains 25 and 26, Fig. 1. Each semi-flexible band 70 is provided with such number of depressed portions 71 and depending portions 72 and thereby a corresponding number of U-shape members 73 as is consistent with the size and weight of the curtains to be carried on the respective supports. Each of such supports is mounted on the rail 31 by inserting the associated portions 72 and 74, in succession, into the V-shape opening 35, Fig. 4, while at the same time moving the semi-flexible band 70 in a clockwise or counter-clockwise direction as circumstances may warrant until all associated portions 72 and 74 slidably engage the upper edge of the rail 31, Fig. 9. It is understood that the individual semi-flexible bands 70 employ finger grips similar to finger grips 44 and 45, Fig. 2. As shown in Fig. 9 individual curtains 77 have their uppermost ends attached to individual textile bands 76 each of which may be positioned in the U-shape members 73 embodied in the unitary supports constituted as hereinbefore pointed out, and removed therefrom for detachably mounting the curtains on the table top 20.

As in Fig. 2 the curtains carried by the supports embodying the U-shape portions 73 may be prearranged with such adjustment as will tend to be most pleasing to the eye. Due to the semi-flexible band 70 in each support constituted as hereinbefore described, each support and the curtain mounted thereon will tend to move as a unit so that each curtain will tend to retain its initial preshaping regardless of the actuations of its support.

What is claimed is:

1. In combination in an article of furniture, a top member, a curtain for enclosing the space underneath said member, a textile strip attached to said curtain, said member formed with a peripheral recess, an elongated element so mounted on said member adjacent said recess as to provide an opening between a peripheral portion of said member and an upper edge of said element, a plurality of supports having corresponding ends shaped to extend into said opening and slidably engage said upper edge of said element, and a semi-flexible band positioned in proximity of said element for maintaining said supports in fixed relation, said band being removably attachable to said strip, said curtain, supports and band moving as a unit as said supports are slidably moved on said upper edge of said element.

2. In combination in an article of furniture, a top member, a curtain for enclosing the space underneath said member, a textile strip attached to said curtain, said member formed with peripheral recess, an elongated element mounted on a peripheral portion of said member adjacent said recess to provide an opening between a further peripheral portion of said member and an upper edge of said element, a band positioned in proximity of said element, and a plurality of hooks fastened in fixed relation on said band, said hooks having inverted U-shaped portions formed on corresponding ends, said last portions being disposed

in said opening to slidably engage said upper edge of said element, said hooks having upright U-shape portions formed on their opposite ends for removably receiving said strip, said curtain, strip, band and hooks moving as a unit as said hooks are slid on said upper edge of said element.

3. In combination in an article of furniture, a table top, a curtain for enclosing the space underneath said top, a textile strip attached to said curtain, said top formed with a peripheral recess, an elongated element mounted on a peripheral portion of said top adjacent said recess to provide an opening between a further peripheral portion of said top and an upper edge of said element, a band positioned in proximity of said element, a plurality of supports fastened in fixed relation to said band to constitute a unit, each support having a portion extending into said opening to slidably engage said upper edge of said element, a projection fixedly secured to each support, and a plurality of complementary members affixed to said strip in spaced relation for removably receiving said projections, said curtain, strip, band and supports moving as a unit as said supports are slid on said upper edge of said element.

4. In combination in an article of furniture, a top member, a curtain for enclosing the space underneath said member, a first textile strip attached to said curtain, said member formed with a peripheral recess, an elongated element mounted on a peripheral portion of said member adjacent said recess to provide an opening between a further peripheral portion of said member and an upper edge of said element, a semi-flexible band, a second textile strip substantially coextensive with said band and positioned thereon, said second strip being provided with a plurality of spaced apertures, a plurality of snap fasteners arranged in spaced relation intermediate said band and second strip, each fastener including a projection extending through one of said apertures, a plurality of hooks, each being formed with a perforation and positioned on said second strip so that said perforation receives said projection of one of said fasteners, said hooks being secured to said band for fixedly mounting said second strip and fasteners thereon to constitute a unit, each hook having an inverted U-shape portion formed integral with the upper edge thereof and extending into said opening to slidably engage said upper edge of said element, and a plurality of complementary snap fasteners attached to said first strip for removably receiving said projections.

5. In combination in an article of furniture, a top member, a curtain for enclosing the space underneath said member, a textile strip attached to said curtain, said member formed with a peripheral groove, an elongated element mounted on a peripheral portion of said member adjacent said groove to provide an opening between a further peripheral portion of said member and an upper edge of said element, a semi-flexible band, a plurality of integral projections spaced along said band, said band having an opening in proximity of each of said projections, and a plurality of hooks, each having a U-shape portion formed on one end and the other end having a perforation, said hooks being so mounted on said band that said other ends project through said openings to receive said projections to constitute a unit, said band being so mounted on said element that said other ends and projections slidably engage said upper edge of said element,

said U-shape portions removably receiving said strip for detachably mounting said curtain on said member, said curtain, strip, band and hooks being moved as a unit with reference to said member as said other ends and projections are caused to slide on said upper end of said element.

6. In combination with a member and a curtain depending therefrom in a preselected decorative manner, an element fixedly mounted on said member, a semi-flexible band detachably secured to said curtain, and supports so mounted on said band as to constitute a unit, said supports slidably engaging said element, said curtain, semi-flexible band and supports moving as a unit as said supports are caused to slide on said element, said movement of said curtain substantially obviating disarrangement of said preselected decorative manner thereof.

7. In combination with an article of furniture including a member and a curtain depending therefrom, said curtain being arranged in a preselected decorative manner, a rail mounted on said member and including rectilinear and curvilinear sections, a semi-flexible band detachably connectable to said curtain, and a plurality of supports so attached to said band as to constitute a unit, said supports slidably engaging said rail, said curtain, band and supports moving as a unit as said supports are caused to slide on said rectilinear and curvilinear sections of said rail, said movement of said curtain substantially obviating disarrangement of said preselected decorative manner thereof.

8. In combination with an article of furniture including a member and a curtain depending therefrom in a predetermined decorative manner, a rail fixedly secured to said member, a plurality of supports, each having one end detachably connectable to said curtain and an opposite end slidable on said rail, and a semi-flexible band for fixedly securing said supports in spaced relation to constitute a unit, said curtain, supports and band moving as a unit as said supports are caused to slide on said rail, said movement of said curtain substantially obviating disarrangement of said predetermined decorative manner thereof.

9. In combination with an article of furniture including a top and a curtain depending therefrom, said curtain being arranged in a preselected decorative manner, a rail fixedly mounted on said top, a plurality of supports slidable on said rail, a plurality of projections one for each of said supports, a semi-flexible band for attaching each of said supports to one of said projections, said band also maintaining said attached supports and projections in spaced relation so that said supports, projections and band slide as a unit on said rail, and a plurality of members affixed in spaced relation to said curtain to detachably receive said projections for removably securing said curtain to said supports, said curtain, supports, projections and band moving as a unit as said supports are caused to slide on said rail, said movement of said curtain substantially obviating disarrangement of said preselected decorative manner thereof.

10. In combination with an article of furniture including a top and a curtain depending therefrom, said curtain being arranged in a preselected decorative manner, a rail fixedly mounted on said top, a semi-flexible band having a plurality of integral projections spaced therealong in parallel relation therewith, and a plurality of supports each having one end detachably con-

nectable to said curtain and having a perforation in its opposite end, said projections being received in said perforations for mounting said supports on said band in fixed spaced relation to constitute a unit, said opposite ends of said supports and said projections slidably engaging said rail so that said supports and band slide as a unit thereon, said curtain, band and supports moving as a unit as said supports and band are caused to slide on said rail, said movement of said curtain substantially obviating disarrangement of said preselected decorative manner thereof.

JOSEPH A. MUENCH.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
255,848	Garey	Apr. 4, 1882
293,643	Eberly	Feb. 19, 1884
1,023,069	Cole	Apr. 9, 1912
1,125,749	Smalley	Jan. 10, 1915
1,239,919	Kirsch	Sept. 11, 1917
1,649,215	Brown	Nov. 15, 1927
1,832,031	Kirsch	Nov. 17, 1931
1,836,484	Meneley	Dec. 15, 1931
1,845,771	Vaughan	Feb. 16, 1932
2,117,606	French	May 17, 1938
2,202,854	Hartnett	June 4, 1940
2,225,847	Frost	Aug. 3, 1943