

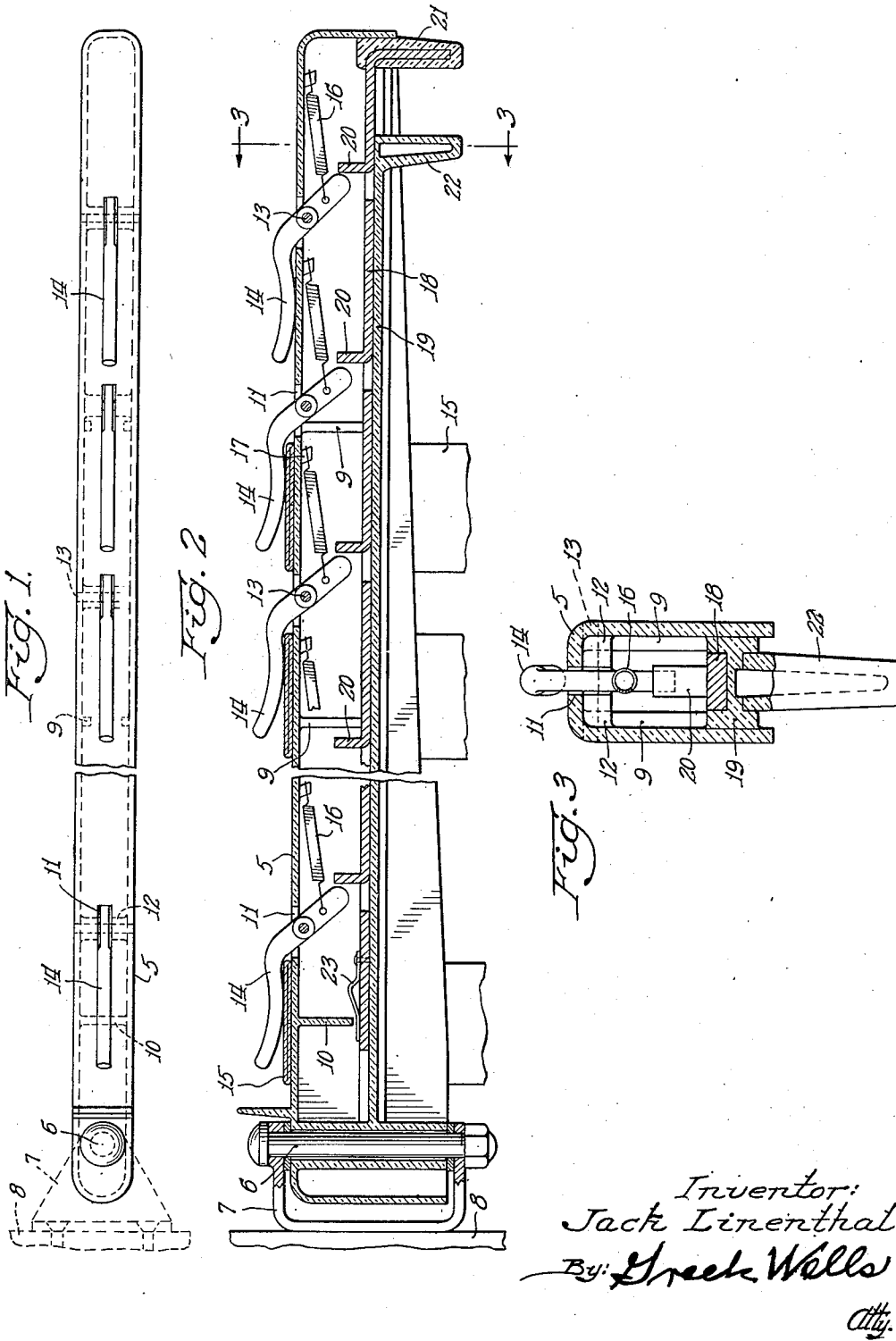
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RACK FOR NECKTIES

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RACK FOR NECKTIES

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4 Claims. (Cl. 211—89)

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The present invention relates to necktie racks of the type shown in my co-pending application, Serial Number 643,847. A tie rack of this character contains a series of individual necktie gripping bars which can be lifted from a horizontally running support so as to permit the placing of the series of neckties and the like over the support, and the bars may thereafter be lowered to grip the neckties and hold them on the rack.

It is the purpose of this invention to provide a necktie rack of this character wherein the individual gripping bars are so arranged as to automatically accommodate themselves to neckties of different thicknesses that may be placed upon the same supporting member. The supporting member consists of a simple trough shaped bar having therein a longitudinally extending actuating element by which the individual necktie holding bars can be raised. The present invention contemplates also a novel combination between the actuating bar and the trough whereby the actuating bar may be releasably latched in position to hold the necktie gripping bars in raised position, the normal position, of course, being in engagement with the top of the supporting bar or with the necktie resting on the bar.

The nature and advantages of my invention will appear more fully from the following description and the accompanying drawings wherein a preferred form of the invention is shown. It should be understood, however, that the drawings and description are illustrative only, and should not be taken as limiting the invention except insofar as it is limited by the claims.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the necktie rack embodying my invention;

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view through the rack taken in a vertical plane; and

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Referring now to the drawings, my improved necktie rack consists of an elongated inverted trough shaped bar 5, which may be constructed of any suitable material. A satisfactory material is a molded plastic compound. The trough shaped bar is mounted by means of a pivot pin 6 to a bracket 7 that can be secured to a wall 8 in any suitable manner. The bar 5 has a plurality of ribs 9 on the interior thereof which serve as a means for strengthening the construction. There is also a cross rib 10 adjacent the mounted end of the bar for a purpose which will presently appear. The top surface of the bar has a plurality of openings 11 therein, and immediately

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below these openings there are bearings 12 formed in the bar to receive pivot pins 13. These pivot pins support a plurality of necktie gripping elements 14 which are adapted to press down upon neckties 15 that are laid over the bar 5.

In the normal use of a necktie rack of this character it is quite evident that the neckties will not all be of the same thickness or weight. Furthermore there may be times when all of the gripping elements 14 will not be needed to hold the neckties. It is essential that the neckties be gripped firmly. I therefore provide individual springs 16 for the several elements 14. These springs have one end secured to a downwardly extending portion of the elements 14 and the other end of the spring is secured to a projection 17 that is formed inside the trough shaped bar 5. The springs are under sufficient tension to cause the elements 14 to grip the neckties adequately and retain them on the bar 5. If for any reason one of the bars, like the right hand end bar in Figure 2, has no necktie beneath it, it will rest on the top of the bar 5 and each of the bars having a necktie thereunder will grip the necktie even though some of the neckties are thicker than others. Two or more neckties may thus be held under a single element 14.

In order to raise the elements 14 and release them from the neckties I mount a bar 18 in the trough shaped bar 5 by securing a guide member 19 within the trough. This guide member may be fastened in place in any suitable manner, but I prefer to cement it in place after the bar 5 has the elements 14 and the springs 16 mounted therein. The actuator bar 18 preferably is constructed of metal so that tongues 20 can be struck up from the bar 18 into position to engage the lower ends of the elements 14. At the free end of the bar 5 the actuator bar 18 is bent downwardly and has a finger piece 21 molded around it. The guide 19 has a depending portion 22 adjacent to the member 21 so that the operator can readily grasp the parts 21 and 22 and move the actuator bar to the left from the position shown in Figure 2, for the purpose of lifting the several elements 14.

It is sometimes desirable to hold the elements 14 in raised position while the neckties are arranged on the bar 5, and it would be inconvenient to have to hold the actuator bar 18 while this is being done. I take advantage of the cross rib 10 to provide a yielding latch by which the several elements 14 can be held in raised position. The leaf spring 23 is secured to the bar 18 in position to engage the lower edge of the cross rib 10. The

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spring 23 will slide under the cross rib and yieldingly oppose movement of the bar 18 because of the hump therein. This hump is so arranged as to present a steeper face to the cross rib 10 when the bar 18 is moved toward the right than when it is moved toward the left. One end of the spring 23 is free while the other end is secured by a rivet or screw to the bar 18.

It is believed that the drawings and foregoing description are sufficient to make the nature and advantages of my invention clear to those skilled in the art. The several elements 14 are individually yieldable to accommodate themselves to the varying thicknesses that will be encountered with neckties that are carried upon the rack. These elements 14 are rounded as shown so as to facilitate their gripping engagement with the neckties without danger of their catching on the material. They are also individually operable without the use of the sliding bar 18 if the user of the rack desires to lift them by grasping the upturned free end. However it is a very simple matter to operate the actuating bar 18 to release all of the neckties at the time a necktie is placed upon or removed from the rack.

Having thus described my invention I claim:

1. A necktie rack comprising a supporting bar, a series of necktie gripping elements pivotally mounted on the bar and having gripping portions overlying the bar, means individual to each gripping element yieldingly urging the overlying portions toward the bar, means carried by the bar to lift the overlying portions away from the bar to permit removal of a necktie held therebetween, and latch means operable to latch said gripping portions in lifted position.

2. A necktie rack comprising a supporting bar, a series of necktie gripping elements pivotally mounted on the bar and having gripping portions overlying the bar, springs mounted by the bar and

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connected to the gripping elements to urge them against the bar, and means for latching the gripping elements in raised position.

3. A necktie rack comprising a hollow bar, gripping elements pivoted in the bar at longitudinally spaced points and having portions projecting through openings in the top wall of the bar to overlie neckties draped over the bar, spring means for each element urging the projecting portions against the bar, and an actuator bar slidable in said bar and having means to engage said elements and lift the projecting portions away from the bar.

4. A necktie rack comprising a hollow bar, gripping elements pivoted in the bar at longitudinally spaced points and having portions projecting through openings in the top wall of the bar to overlie neckties draped over the bar, spring means for each element urging the projecting portions against the bar, an actuator bar in the bar and having a finger piece projecting downwardly from the actuator bar through an opening at one end of the hollow bar, and lugs on said actuator bar for engaging and moving said elements against the force of said spring means to release neckties held thereby.

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