Aug. 15, 1944. E. J. DREISBACH 2,356,036

SUPPORT FOR EASEL-BACK PICTURE FRAMES AND THE LIKE

Filed May 16, 1944

Fig. 1.

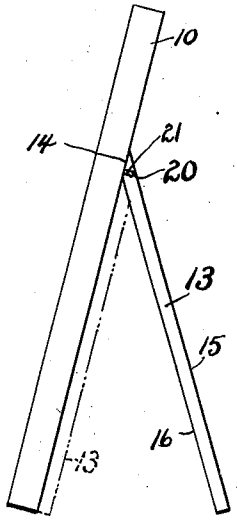


Fig. 2.

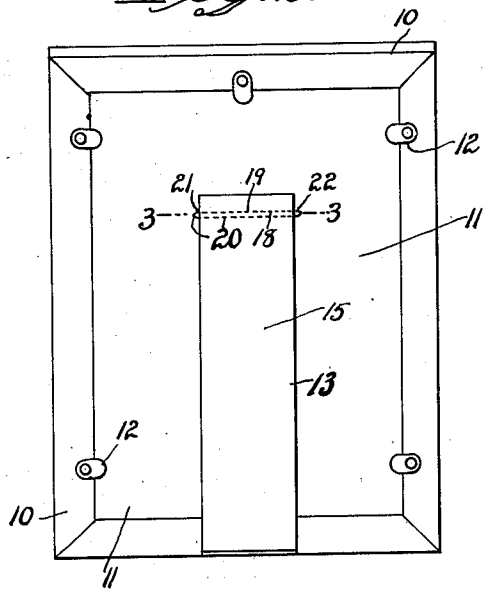


Fig. 3.

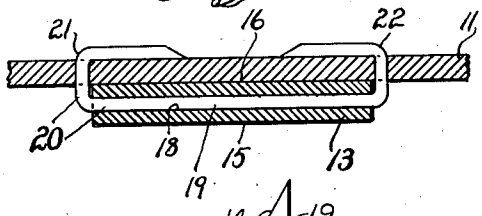


Fig. 4.

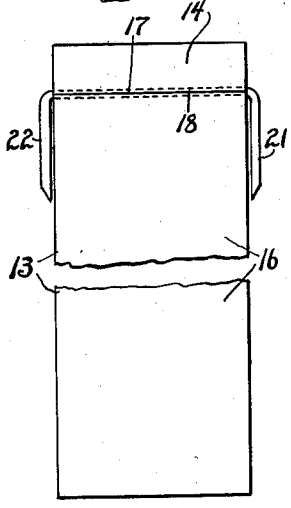




Fig. 5

INVENTOR
EDWIN J. DREISBACH
By Seymour, Earle & Nichols
ATTORNEYS

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SUPPORT FOR EASEL-BACK PICTURE FRAMES AND THE LIKE

Edwin J. Dreisbach, New Haven, Conn.

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2 Claims. (Cl. 248—37)

The present invention relates to improvements in supports and relates more particularly to supports for easel-back picture frames and the like, i. e., picture frames or the like having secured thereto pivotal legs adapted to support the picture frame in an inclined position on a horizontal surface.

One of the objects of the present invention is to provide a superior support for easel-back picture frames and the like, which is so constructed and arranged as to combine strength and durability with low cost for manufacture.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a superior support of the character referred to which may be produced mainly from wood or other low-cost non-metallic material and still possess the characteristics of easy assembly and ruggedness in use.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a superior support for easel-back picture frames and the like which will permit the picture frame to be also suspended from a wall without undue interference from the support.

With the above and other objects in view, as will appear to those skilled in the art from the present disclosure, this invention includes all features in the said disclosure which are novel over the prior art.

In the accompanying drawing, in which certain modes of carrying out the present invention are shown for illustrative purposes:

Fig. 1 is an edge view of an easel-back picture frame equipped with a support constructed in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a view thereof in rear elevation;

Fig. 3 is a broken detail sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2 but omitting the picture frame save only the back-sheet thereof;

Fig. 4 is a broken face view of the leg-plate, detached, together with its connecting-loop; and

Fig. 5 is an edge view thereof.

In the accompanying drawing is shown a picture frame 10 having the usual back-sheet 11 which is usually formed of relatively-heavy cardboard or the like, and which is retained in place in the frame by a plurality of retaining-members 12.

Pivotally secured centrally to the upper-portion of the back-sheet 11 is a leg-plate 13 which may be formed of wood or other suitable non-metallic low-cost material. The upper edge of the said leg-plate 13 is formed with a bevel 14 forming an acute angle with respect to the rear face 15 of the leg-plate 13 and an obtuse angle with respect to the front face 16 thereof. The junction of the bevel 14 and the front or forward face 16 of the leg-plate 13 provides what may be aptly termed a "heel" 17.

At a point substantially in line with the heel 17 in a direction from front to rear of the leg-plate 13, the said leg-plate is formed with a hole or passage 18 leading therethrough from side edge to side edge thereof. The said hole 18 accommodates the body-portion 19 of an attaching-loop generally designated by the reference character 20, which may be conveniently formed of metallic wire. At each of its respective opposite ends, the body-portion 19 of the attaching-loop 20 is formed with attaching-arms 21 and 22 which, prior to their installation in the back-sheet 11, extend in parallelism with the side edges of the leg-plate 13, as is illustrated in Figs. 4 and 5.

The complemental-attaching-arms 21 and 22 of the attaching-loop 20 may be suitably sharpened at their free or outer ends and forced forwardly through the back-sheet 11 until the front face 16 of the leg-plate 13 is lightly seated against the rear face of the said back-sheet. The respective outer-portions of the attaching-arms 21 and 22 may now be bent toward each other into engagement with the front face of the said back-sheet and in parallelism with the body-portion 19 of the attaching-loop 20, as is especially well shown in Fig. 3.

When the leg-plate 13 is pivotally attached to the back-sheet 11 by means of the attaching-loop 20 as above described, the said leg-plate may have its lower end swung outwardly until the bevel 14 at its upper end is brought into flatwise engagement with the rear face of the back-sheet 11, whereupon the further outward-swinging movement of the said leg-plate will be checked. The leg-plate 13 may also be swung so that its front face 16 is in parallelism with the back-sheet 11, as indicated by broken lines in Fig. 1, whereupon the entire picture frame 10 may be suspended from a wall surface if desired, by any suitable suspension device and without the leg-plate 13 or its attaching-loop 20 causing instability or undue spacing from such wall surface.

By locating the hole or passage 18 immediately adjacent the heel 17 of the leg-plate 13, the said leg-plate may be swung into either of its two extreme positions with mild frictional restraint and without injuring the back-sheet 11 or its equivalent, or unduly straining the attaching loop 20. In producing the attaching-loop 20, a suitable length of straight wire may be cut and inserted through the hole or passage 18, after which the opposite ends of such a length of

wire may be bent to produce the attaching-arms 21 and 22, since the material of the leg-plate 13 may be made of material amply strong to withstand the mild strain required to so bend the attaching-arms 21 and 22.

The invention may be carried out in other specific ways than those herein set forth without departing from the spirit and essential characteristics of the invention, and the present embodiments are, therefore, to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, and all changes coming within the meaning and equivalency range of the appended claims are intended to be embraced therein.

I claim:

1. The combination with the back-sheet of a picture frame or the like: of a leg-plate having a beveled upper end constructed and arranged to engage with the surface of the said back-sheet and providing a heel at its point of junction with the inner face of the said leg-plate, the said leg-plate having a hole extending therethrough from side edge to side edge intermediate and substantially parallel with its respective inner and outer faces and at a point substantially coincident and parallel with the heel on the leg-plate; and an attaching-loop having a body-portion extending through the hole in the leg-plate from side edge to side edge thereof and provided with two attaching-arms respectively located at its respective opposite ends, which arms are extended through the said back-sheet and clinched against the face thereof opposite the leg-plate.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a support for easel-back picture frames and the like, comprising: a leg-plate having a beveled upper end constructed and arranged to engage with the back-sheet of a frame-assembly or the like and providing a heel at the junction-point of the inner face of the leg-plate and its said beveled end, the said leg-plate having a hole extending therethrough from side edge to side edge intermediate and in substantial parallelism with the respective inner and outer faces of the leg-plate and at a point substantially coincident and parallel with the heel on the leg-plate; and an attaching-loop having a body-portion extending through the said hole in the said leg-plate and formed with two attaching-arms respectively located at its respective opposite ends and constructed and arranged to be extended through and clinched upon the back-sheet of a frame-assembly or the like.

EDWIN J. DREISBACH.