Dec. 18, 1962 S. SANS 3,069,020

SHOE RACKS

Filed Dec. 20, 1960

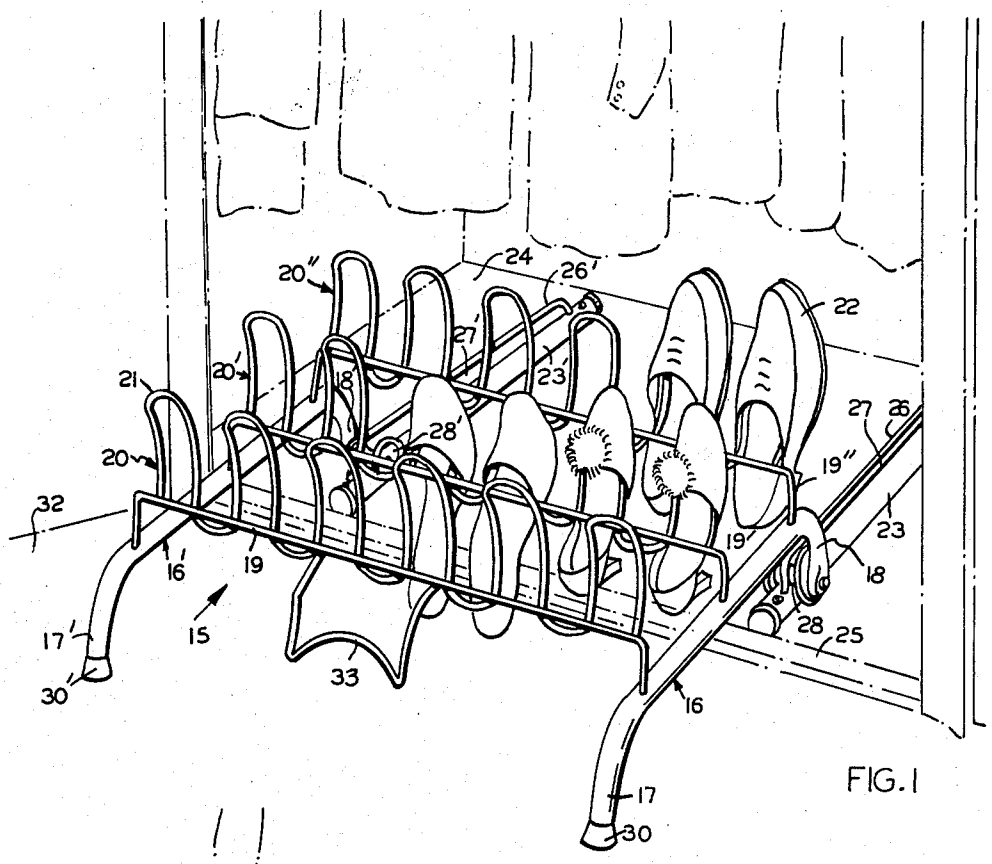


FIG. 1

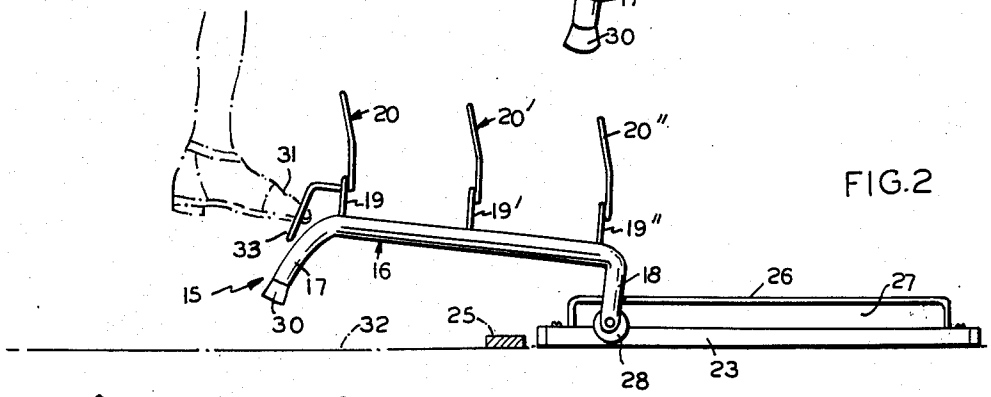


FIG. 2

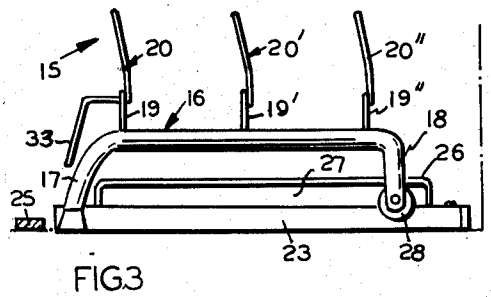


FIG. 3

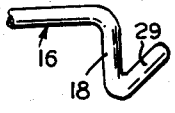


FIG. 4

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United States Patent Office

3,069,020

Patented Dec. 18, 1962

3,069,020

SHOE RACKS

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Filed Dec. 20, 1960, Ser. No. 77,219
4 Claims. (Cl. 211—162)

The present invention relates to shoe racks for closet floors. More particularly, this shoe rack can be brought out of the closet and then shifted back again on tracks with which it is permanently connected.

Since most closets have a door sill at their threshold, a pull-out shoe rack installed therein needed suspended support on a frame structure within the closet or other association to allow it to be pulled straight out to clear the door sill. When the rack heretofore was in its position where it is mostly out of the closet, it hung in cantilever fashion. This required properly fitted and sturdy frame structure.

It is therefore an object of this invention to provide a novel and improved pull-out shoe rack for a closet, which includes foot structure at the forward end of the rack, to rest the rack on the closet floor when the rack is wholly within the closet and to rest the rack on the room floor when the rack is moved outward to attain full accessibilty to the shoes carried on said rack, and to have the structure such, that the foot can be made to clear the door sill,

A further object is to provide an item of the character described which is simple in construction, reasonable in cost and efficient in carrying out the purposes for which it is designed.

Other objects and advantages will become apparent as this disclosure proceeds.

For one practice of this invention, two spaced elongated tracks are secured to the closet floor in perpendicular relation to the door opening. The show rack has two front legs which rest on the floor and two rear legs. Each leg is slidable along one track member and at the bottom, each rear leg is pivotally associated with the track member it slides along so that the forward end of the rack can be lifted by a person with his or her foot to clear the sill while the foot is moved to shift the rack in or out of the closet.

In the illustrated embodiment herein, each track member offers an elongated slot therealong for a horizontal roller carried by each of the hind legs of the rack. This affords permanent association of the rack with the tracks and the required sliding and swinging movements for said rack.

In the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

FIG. 1 is a perspective view showing a shoe rack embodying the teachings of this invention, installed in a closet. The rack is here shown pulled outward of the closet, its front legs resting on the room floor.

FIG. 2 is a side view of the shoe rack shown partly out of the closet and tilted by the foot of a person so that the front legs clear the sill at the threshold of the closet door.

FIG. 3 is a side view of the shoe rack shown entirely within the closet, its front legs resting on the closet floor.

FIG. 4 is a fragmentary perspective view of a constructional detail of modified form.

In the drawing showing a preferred form of this invention, the numeral **15** designates generally a shoe rack consisting of the inverted U-shaped side members **16, 16'** offering front legs **17, 17'** and the rear legs **18, 18'**; the horizontal portions of said members **16, 16'** being joined by the cross rods **19, 19', 19''**, each of which rods have welded thereto shoe supports offered by the sinuous wires **20, 20', 20''** whose "tongues" like **21** are adapted to receive a shoe **22**, one shoe on each such tongue. A pair of straight rails **23, 23'** screwed down on the closet floor **24**, to extending rearwardly from the closet's door sill **25**, have the distal ends of inverted shallow U-shaped rods **26, 26'**, respectively welded thereto to offer the elongated track slots **27, 27'**. The bottom ends of each of the rear legs **18, 18'**, have a lateral extension protruding into said track slots respectively in opposite directions. These extensions may be the rotatably mounted rollers **28, 28'** riding on said rails **23, 23'** respectively, or they may be integral lateral extensions as **29**, which supplanting such roller, will ride on a rail by merely sliding therealong. Said rear legs **18, 18'** in the embodiment illustrated, have the rails **23, 23'** between them. This makes the rack **15** permanently associated with the rails in the installation. It is evident that the rear legs may be inside the rails, which will also effect such permanent association. The rear legs should be very near the rods **26, 26'**, to avoid separation of the rack **15**.

It is evident that the rack **15** is slidable along the floor rails **23, 23'** and is swingable about the common axis of rotation of the rollers **28, 28'**. These rollers are slightly loose in the slots **27, 27'** respectively. When the cylindrical extensions of the type **29** are used, they fit with slight looseness in the respective slots **27, 27'**.

To tilt and slide the rack **15**, it may be provided with a forward loop **33** secured to the rod **19**, to be engaged by the vamp portion of a wearer's shoe **31**, who thereby engages said loop and then by moving his leg, lifts and then slides the rack **15** out of and back into the closet as need be. In lifting the rack, its front legs **17, 17'** will of course clear the sill **25**, and their feet **30, 30'** will not mar any carpeting which may be on the room floor **32**. Instead of said feet elements **30, 30'**, roller casters, not shown, may be provided.

The rails **23, 23'** and the legged side members **16, 16'** may be of round tubular metal stock and the parts **19, 19', 19'', 20, 20', 20'', 26** and **33** may be of suitably sized wire. All joints which are rigid, may be welded.

This invention is capable of numerous forms and various applications without departing from the essential features herein disclosed. It is therefore intended and desired that the embodiments shown herein be deemed merely illustrative and not restrictive and that the patent shall cover all patentable novelty herein set forth; reference being had to the following claims rather than to the specific description herein to indicate the scope of this invention.

I claim:

1. In a slide-out rack to be housed in a closet, a shoe rack having front leg structure to rest on the floor and a pair of spaced rear legs, a pair of parallel elongated rail members adapted to be secured onto the closet floor in a direction from the door to the rear wall of the closet, the lower end of each of the rear legs having a laterally-extending cylindrical element thereon which is slidably and pivotally associated with one of the rail members respectively, and two inverted U-shaped rod members, each secured at each of its distal ends to a rail member; that part joining the legs of a U-shaped rod, being along the rail it is on; said cylindrical elements extending in opposite directions and positioned in the space between a rail and its associated U-shaped rod member and resting on such rail and slightly spaced from said U-member whereby the rack is swingable forward and upwardly and slidable along the rail members.

2. A slide-out rack as defined in claim 1, wherein each of said extensions is a roller rotatably mounted on a rear leg.

3. A slide-out rack as defined in claim 1, wherein each of said extensions is a piece integral with a rear leg.

4. A slide-out rack as defined in claim 1, including an element at the front of the rack, to be lifted by foot whereupon the rack is swung upwardly and to be pulled and pushed to slide the rack on said tracks.

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