Jan. 14, 1936. T. E. WHARTON 2,027,799

ARTICLE STORAGE AND DISPLAY STAND

Filed Aug. 11, 1933

Fig. 1

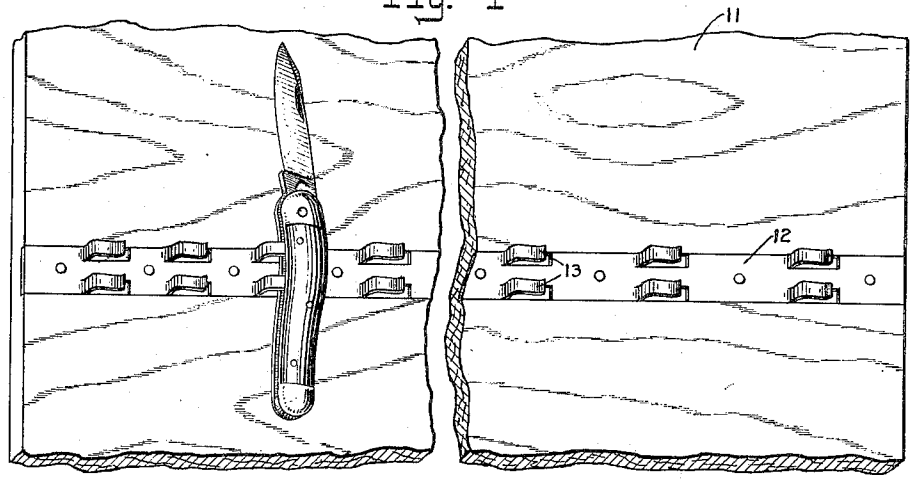
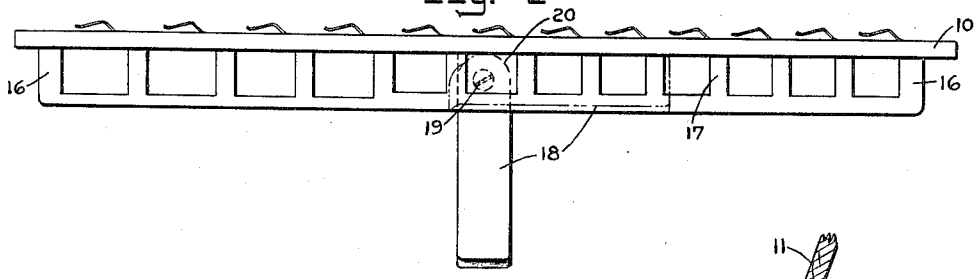


Fig. 2



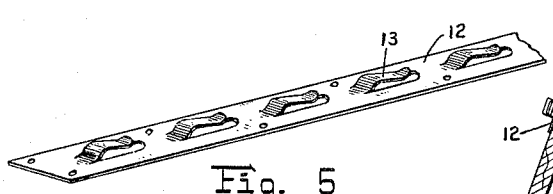


Fig. 5

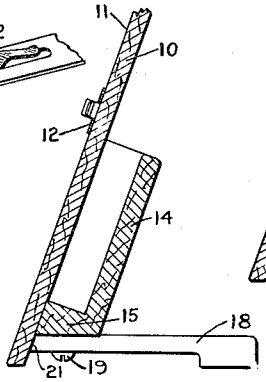


Fig. 4

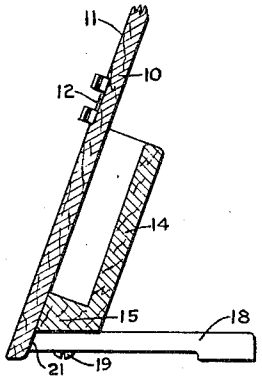


Fig. 3

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ARTICLE STORAGE AND DISPLAY STAND

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Application August 11, 1933, Serial No. 684,633

1 Claim. (Cl. 211—13)

This invention relates to devices for displaying and storing small articles, such as articles of cutlery, and is particularly adapted for use in retail stores in dispensing these articles.

Generally stated, the invention contemplates a means for supporting and advantageously displaying a number of small articles and, in combination therewith, means for storing a stock of the articles in a partially concealed and protected position.

The invention further contemplates an improved device for the support of the displayed articles, which device may readily be adapted to the proper location for effective display of a number of articles of different sizes.

The invention further contemplates a unitary article storage and display device with an integral supporting means adapted to be readily displaced to such a position as to permit of ready packing of the device for shipment.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel constructions, combinations and arrangements of parts, a representative embodiment of which is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary perspective view of the front of a display device embodying one form of the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the device shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a transverse section of the device shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a transverse section of a slight modification of the device shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a perspective of a slightly modified form of article supporting strip.

The device comprises a panel, plate or board 10, which may be of any suitable material, such as wood, ply-wood, fibre, press-board and similar materials, or even of metal. This board is preferably arranged for support in a position somewhat inclined to the vertical, as illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4. The board may be formed and its front surface 11 colored and decorated in accordance with any desired design. Means are provided for supporting small articles, particularly articles of cutlery such as pocket knives, upon the face of the board 10. Said means preferably comprises a strip 12 of spring metal, which strip may and preferably does consist of a single piece extending throughout the length of the board. Said strip may be let into the board so that its outer surface comes flush with the surface 11, as illustrated in Figs. 1, 2 and 3, or it may be secured upon and project outwardly from the surface 11, as illustrated in Fig. 4. If the strip is let into the surface, as in Fig. 1, it is preferably painted or otherwise decorated in the same manner as the surface, and is thus rendered comparatively inconspicuous. The strip, however, may be plated with a suitable metal, such as nickel or chromium, and set upon the surface 11 to extend outwardly therefrom, as shown in Fig. 4. In either construction, the strip is firmly secured to the board by suitable means, such as nails, screws or rivets.

Struck outwardly from the metal strip 12 are a series of article holding spring fingers 13. These fingers are integral with the stock of the strip 12 which, as heretofore stated, is of spring metal, and are formed by making suitable cuts in the strip and bending the fingers thus partially severed from the strip to the proper configuration. The strip preferably comprises a number of sets of such fingers 13, and each set may comprise two fingers struck from the marginal portions of the strip, as illustrated in Fig. 1, or a single finger struck from a transversely intermediate portion of the strip, as illustrated in Fig. 5. In either event, any desired longitudinal spacing of the fingers may be provided. In the construction illustrated in Fig. 1 the spacing of the fingers is increased by regular increments from one end of the board toward the other, although obviously a wide variety of other spaces adapted to particular displays of particular articles may be adopted. Such spring fingers are adapted to easily receive and permit the ready removal of such articles as the pocket knife illustrated in Fig. 1. Any other desired articles may be similarly supported.

The invention further contemplates, in conjunction with the display board and article holding device thereon, a receptacle for the storing of any desired stock which may or may not be associated with the stock displayed on the face of the board panel. Such a receptacle is secured to the back of the board 10 and preferably comprises a plurality of relatively narrow and deep compartments, said compartments serving, in conjunction with the inclined board 10, to partially conceal and substantially protect the stock contained therein. As shown in the drawing, the receptacle comprises a back 14, a base 15, ends 16, and intermediate partitions 17 joining and spacing the back 14 and the board 10. The receptacle may be formed from a single piece of a suitable material, such as wood, or may be fabricated in any desired manner. It is rigidly secured to the back of the board 10 to form an

integral part of the combination display and storage device. As shown in Fig. 2, the receptacle may comprise compartments of varying sizes, and the size of such compartments may conform to the spacing of the article holding fingers 13, thus being adapted to the storage of an article of a size adapted for display on the part of the board immediately opposite the receptacle.

Suitable means are provided for the support of the receptacle with the board 10 in a suitably inclined position, said means being preferably so arranged that it is easily displaced into the plane of the base 15 of the storage receptacle to facilitate packing and eliminate damage in shipping. The supporting device and attaching means shown in the drawing comprise a supporting base 18 extending rearwardly from the receptacle base 15 and attached to said receptacle base by a screw 19. One of the forward corners of the base 18 is rounded as shown at 20 (Fig. 2) to permit the supporting base to be swung about the screw 19 into the plane of the receptacle base 15. The arcuate portion 20 merges with a transversely straight and vertically inclined end 21 which abuts the back of the board 10 to locate the supporting base 18 in its extended or supporting position. A self-contained article display and storage device provided with a remarkably efficient and adaptable display holder is thus provided.

The embodiment of the invention herein described and shown in the drawing is to be understood as typical and illustrative only, the invention being susceptible of embodiment in many other forms, all falling within the scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

The combination with a display panel having article holding and displaying means secured on one side thereof, of an article receptacle comprising a plurality of separate compartments secured to and wholly supported on the opposite side of said panel, and a supporting base comprising a bar pivoted to said receptacle and adapted to be swung from an effective extended position to an ineffective position beneath said receptacle.

THOMAS E. WHARTON.