A. E. MacKINNON.

PORTABLE NEWSPAPER RACK.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 6, 1912.

1,089,569. Patented Mar. 10, 1914.



Fig. 1.

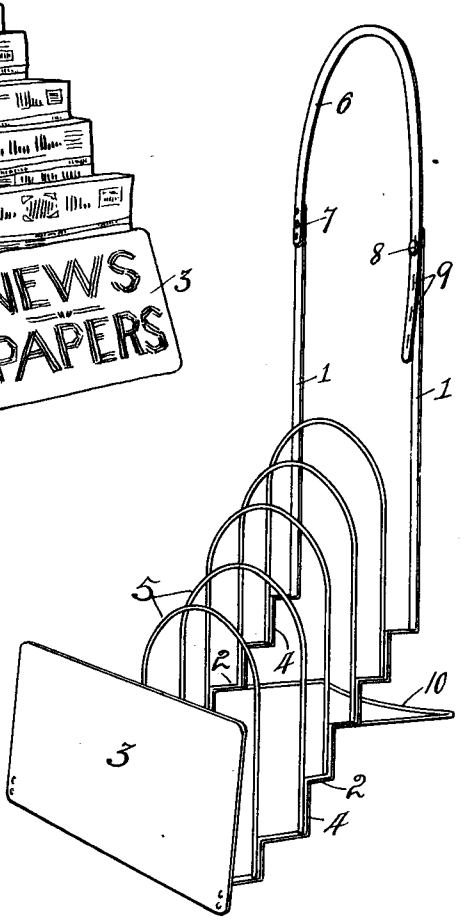


Fig. 2.

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PORTABLE NEWSPAPER-RACK.

1,089,569. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 10, 1914.

Application filed December 6, 1912. Serial No. 735,259.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT E. MacKINNON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Portable Newspaper-Rack; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable other skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the characters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates particularly to a portable newspaper rack for use by newsboys or the like to assist in carrying a large number of papers of different kinds or sets, but is not restricted to such use, as it may be used in any connection for which it may be adapted or appropriate.

The object of the invention is the provision of a rack of this character, which is simple, light, and durable in its construction, and is adapted to be carried by a person in a manner to permit both hands to be free, and to support a plurality of different sets or kinds of papers in such manner as to display the names of the different papers and to enable a paper in any set to be easily and quickly removed without disturbing the papers of the other sets.

The invention is fully described in the following specification, and while, in its broader aspect, it is capable of embodiment in numerous forms, a preferred embodiment thereof is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which,—

Figure 1 illustrates a rack embodying my invention in use, and Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view of the rack.

Referring to the drawings, 1, 1 designate the body members of the rack, which members are preferably formed of strap-metal, are of duplicate construction, and laterally spaced in substantially parallel relation. Each of the members 1, 1 has its lower end portion of stepped outwardly projecting form, as indicated at 2, the steps being of a number to suit the number of different sets of papers to be carried, being shown, in the present instance, as six in number.

The lower ends of the members 1, 1 or, in the present instance, the riser portions of the lower steps of such members, are riveted or otherwise suitably fixed to a front guard part 3, which rises above the said lower steps and is preferably of plate form to permit the printing or otherwise displaying on the outer surface thereof of any information or advertising matter as desired. For this reason the part 3 is preferably of sheet metal.

Fixedly attached to and rising from the corresponding riser portion 4 of each step of the body members 1 is a spacing member 5, which, in the present instance, is formed of a rod or heavy wire bent in inverted U-form, with the terminal portions of the legs thereof attached to the respective riser portions 4. The front plate 3 and spacing members 5 coöperate to connect the body members 1, 1 in quite a rigid manner. The spacing members 5 are preferably of the same height relative to their respective steps so that the upper ends thereof are in stepped order.

The rack is intended to be suspended from the shoulders of the person wearing or carrying the same, and for this purpose the body members 1, 1 are provided at their upper ends with a flexible strap-member 6, which is intended to extend over the shoulders and around the back of the neck of the wearer. This strap member fixedly attaches at one end to one of the members 1, as at 7, and has its other end capable of adjustable attachment to the upper end of the other body member, as by the provision of a button 8 on such body member and the provision of a plurality of longitudinally spaced button-holes 9 in the adjacent end portion of the strap-member 6.

The lower stepped portion of the rack projects outward from the body of the wearer, and, in order to brace such portion against sagging when weighted down with papers, a brace part 10 projects rearwardly from the stepped portions of the body members 1, 1 and is intended to bear against the body of the person. This bracing member is shown as being formed of a rod or heavy wire, which is bent substantially in U-shape with its leg terminals attached to the under sides of registering steps of the two body members and with its loop portion bowed inwardly relative to the rack to adapt it to fit the portion of the body against which it is intended to rest.

It is evident with this form of rack that a considerable number of different sets or

kinds of newspapers or similar articles can be carried thereby with the papers of the different sets resting upon the different steps of the rack and held in spaced relation by the parts 3 and 5, as is apparent. When the different sets of papers are separated by the rack in this manner, the outer paper of each set has its heading exposed so that the names of the different papers carried are in full view of purchasers, and any paper can be removed from the rack without disturbing the others.

This rack is admirably adapted for the needs of newsboys in large cities and on trains, as it enables a large number of different kinds of papers to be easily carried with the names of the different papers exposed, and also leaves both hands of the carrier free to remove the papers from the rack.

I wish it understood that my invention is not limited to any specific construction or arrangement of the parts except in so far as such limitations are specified in the claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is,—

1. A rack of the class described comprising a pair of laterally spaced vertically disposed strap metal body members having the lower end portions thereof provided with successive outwardly projecting steps, rigid spacing means connecting the lower ends of said members, spacing members rising from the riser portions of said steps and connecting the two body members, means attached to the upper ends of said body members for suspending them from the shoulders and neck of the wearer, and bracing means extending rearwardly from the step portions of the body members to brace such portions relative to the body of a person carrying the rack.

2. A portable rack adapted to be carried from the shoulders of a person, and having spaced body members with their lower end portions outwardly stepped in registering form, a plurality of spacing members rising from the stepped portions of said body members, means attached to the upper ends of said body members for suspending the same from the shoulders of the wearer, and means attached to the stepped portions of said body members for bracing such portions relative to the body of the wearer.

3. A rack of the class described having laterally spaced vertically extending body members with their lower end portions provided with a plurality of successive outwardly projecting steps, spacing members rising from the riser portions of said steps and connecting the two body members, means at the upper ends of said body members for suspending them from the shoulders and neck of the wearer, and bracing means extending rearwardly from the stepped portions of the body members to brace such portions relative to the body of a person carrying the rack.

4. A rack of the class described comprising a pair of vertically extending strap metal body parts which have their lower portions formed to provide a plurality of outwardly and downwardly extending steps, rod-like spacing members rising from said steps with their opposite ends attached to the riser portions of corresponding steps of the different body members, means for extending over the shoulders and around the back of the neck of the wearer and attaching to the upper ends of said body parts, and a looped bracing member attached at its leg terminals to the stepped portions of said body parts and extending rearwardly therefrom to brace the rack relative to the body of the wearer.

5. A rack of the class described, comprising a pair of spaced strap-like body members of a non-flexible character their lower end portions provided with a plurality of successive outwardly projecting straps, a guard member rising from and connecting the lower ends of said body members, inverted U-shaped spacing rods rising from different steps of the members with their ends connecting the body members and attached to corresponding steps thereof, a flexible suspending strap fixedly attached to the upper end of one of said body members and adjustably attached at its other end to the upper end of the other of said body members, and a bracing part extending rearwardly from the stepped portions of said body members and having its rear end of inwardly bowed form.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ALBERT E. MacKINNON.

Witnesses:

HENRY H. HIBBINS,

GERTRUDE M. TORRISI.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."