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2,272,092

CUP RACK

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Fig. 1.

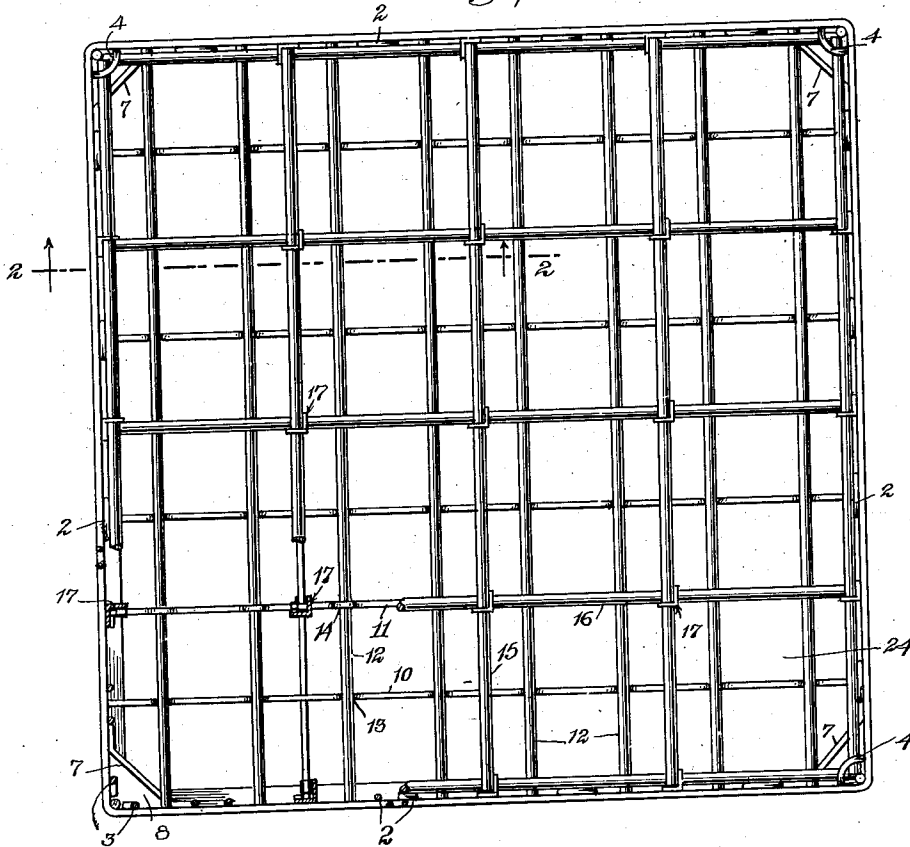


Fig. 2.

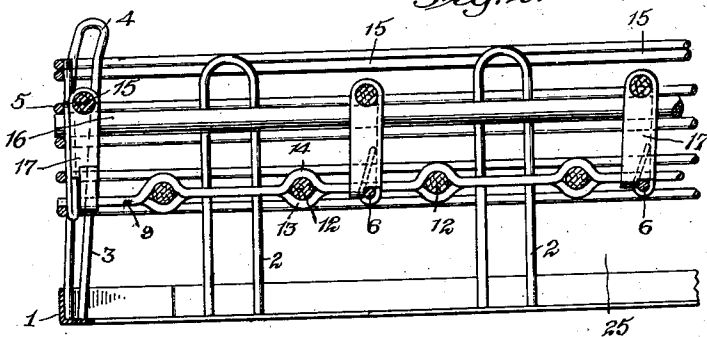


Fig. 3.

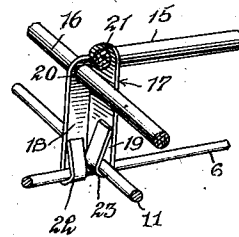
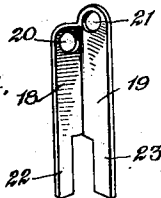


Fig. 4.



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CUP RACK

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3 Claims. (Cl. 141-11)

This invention relates to cup trays or racks used for receiving and drying household cups, an object being to provide an improved construction wherein wooden members are provided for receiving the cups so as to reduce or prevent breakage thereof.

Another object of the invention is to provide a cup rack or tray formed with a rectangular housing and a plurality of wooden rods arranged to present cup-receiving sockets wherein the rods are so positioned as to be the only members with which the cups may contact.

A further object of the invention is to provide a cup rack having a frame and a plurality of rods arranged in different planes for presenting cup-receiving sockets, the rods being associated with supporting and holding members arranged at the juncture of certain of the rods which cross each other.

In the accompanying drawing—

Fig. 1 is a top view of a cup rack or tray disclosing an embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view through Fig. 1 approximately on the line 2-2;

Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of one of the supporting holding members illustrated in Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the supporting member shown in Fig. 3 before the same has been applied.

Referring to the accompanying drawing by numerals, 1 indicates a comparatively stiff rectangular frame forming, in a certain sense, the base of the tray. Mounted on this frame are a plurality of substantially U-shaped members 2 and at the corners U-shaped members 3 are each provided with a slightly inwardly extending projection 4 for permitting one tray to be stacked on another. The members 1, 2 and 3, together with encircling bars or wires 5, form what may be termed a rectangular housing and this housing is comparatively stiff. All the parts just mentioned are made of metal and may be galvanized or otherwise coated.

In addition to the members just described, there are provided a number of transverse bracing members 6 which are strong comparatively stiff rods extending from one side of the housing to the other. At the corners there are provided bracing members 7, as shown in Fig. 1, whereby openings 8 are presented. The projection 4 of one tray extends into the opening 8 of the next superposed tray whereby the trays are removably locked together when stacked.

From Fig. 2 it will be noted that the bottom

structure 9 for supporting the cups is spaced, above the frame 1 almost half the distance to the top of the tray. This is to provide plenty of space so that a cup projecting from a lower tray will have ample head room provided for it in the next tray. The support 9 is formed of a number of supporting bars or wires 10 and 11, as shown in Fig. 1. These bars or rods support the various transverse wooden rods 12. As shown in Fig. 1, the bars or rods 10 have offset, arc-shaped portions 13 which are offset in one direction, while the bars or rods 11 have offset arc-shaped portions 14 offset in the opposite directions whereby the wooden rods 12 are firmly held in position. The wires 10 and 11 extend to the respective sides of the tray. It will be noted that all the wooden rods 12 are spaced apart and are parallel. The rods 12 form a support in a given plane, while arranged above these rods, which act as supporting rods, are wooden holding rods 15 and 16. The rods 16 extend longitudinally and form a group of transverse rods extending at right angles to the rods 12 and also at right angles to the group of rods 15 though in contact therewith as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 3.

At the point of crossing of the rods 15 and 16, there are holding and supporting members 17, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4. Each of these holding and supporting members is formed L-shaped and the respective legs 18 and 19 are provided with apertures 20 and 21 for receiving the respective wooden rods 15 and 16. At the lower ends of the legs 18 and 19 are provided holding fingers 22 and 23 which are bent around the respective tie rods 6 and 11. If desired, these fingers could be welded in place. At each crossing of the rods 15 and 16 there is provided a support and also at each end of these rods there is provided a similar support 17. As the holding and supporting members 17 are rigidly secured to the respective rods 6 and 11 and also to the lowermost circumferential rods, the wooden rods are firmly held in place.

By reason of the above-mentioned construction there are provided a number of sockets 24 in the tray. In the tray shown in Fig. 1, sixteen sockets have been provided, but it will be evident that the tray could be made larger or smaller and, consequently, have more or less sockets. When a cup is placed in any of the sockets it rests on two of the wooden rods 12 and is supported at the sides by the respective wooden rods 15 and 16. Usually the cups project a short

distance above the tray but by reason of the space 25 any desired number of trays may be stacked without the superposed tray coming in contact with any of the cups in the lower tray.

In hotels, restaurants, and elsewhere cups are liable to be subject to more or less rough usage and careless handling. Heretofore, metal traps or racks have been provided but quite often when a cup is placed carelessly in a tray it becomes cracked or broken. Sometimes even when a cup is placed very carefully in a tray and the tray is shifted, the cup will become scarred by reason of its contact with the metal parts of the tray. By making all parts of wood which come in contact with the cup, scarring or breakage is eliminated or reduced to a minimum.

As shown in the accompanying drawing a very strong metal housing and bracing structure is provided, while at the same time only the wooden rods come in contact with the respective cups. The racks are adapted to be made of the same size and shape as racks of the same general style now on the market so as to be stacked therewith and with each other.

I claim:

1. In an article holding receptacle, groups of rods arranged in superposed spaced relation, the rods of each group being disposed crosswise of each other, and a tie member extending between rods in one group to rods in the other group, the rods in said one group extending through said tie member which has suitable holes therein for that purpose, and said tie member having portions

bent around the rods respectively in said other group to fasten the same thereto.

2. In an article holding receptacle, groups of rods arranged in superposed spaced relation, the rods of each group consisting of longitudinal and transverse rods, and tie members extending between rods in one group to rods in the other group, each tie member being L shaped in cross section to provide portions substantially at a right angle to each other and each portion having a hole in one end thereof, each longitudinal rod of one group extending through the holes in portions of a plurality of the tie members, each transverse rod of said last group extending through the holes in portions of a plurality of said tie members, and said portions of all of the tie members having their remaining ends bent around the rods respectively of said other group to fasten the same thereto.

3. In an article holding receptacle wherein there are upper and lower groups of rods and wherein the rods of each group consist of a plurality of spaced rods extending crosswise of another plurality of spaced rods, tie members, each tie member having two rods which cross each other of the upper group extending through the upper end thereof, and the lower end of each tie member having portions bent around two rods which cross each other of the lower group, said tie members thus employed serving to interconnect the upper and lower groups of rods and to maintain a fixed crossed relationship of the rods in each group.

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