Sept. 2, 1930. E. D. PRATT 1,774,524

HAT AND CLOTHES HANGING DEVICE

Filed Oct. 4, 1927 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

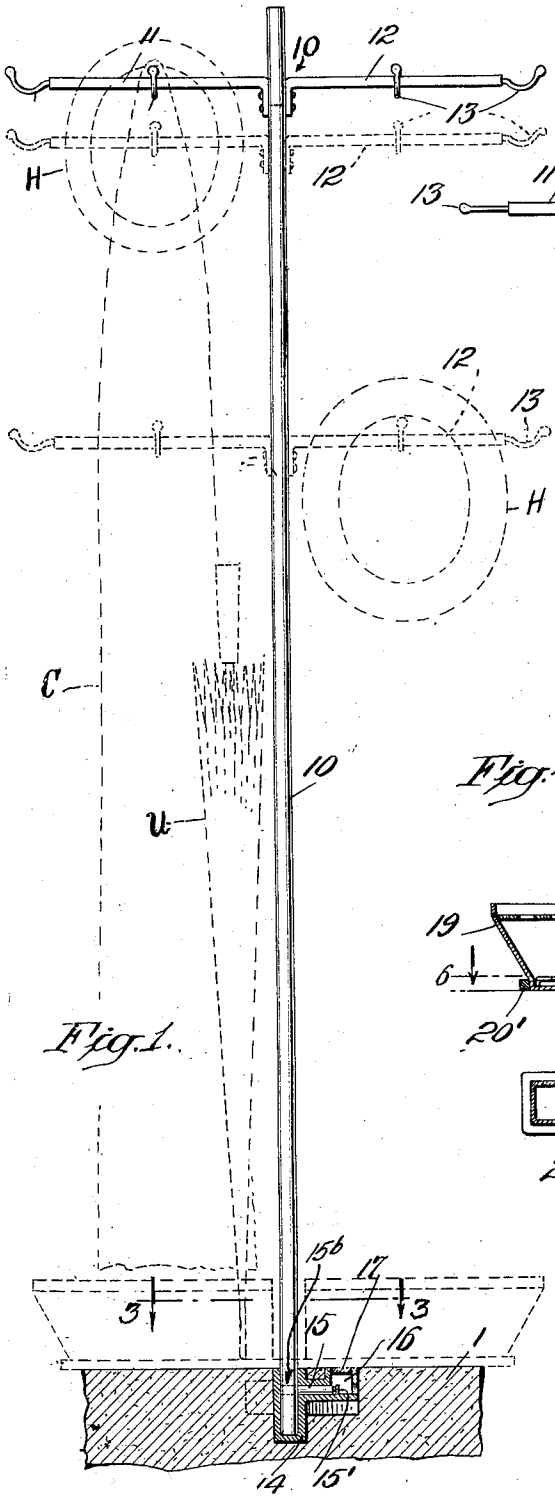
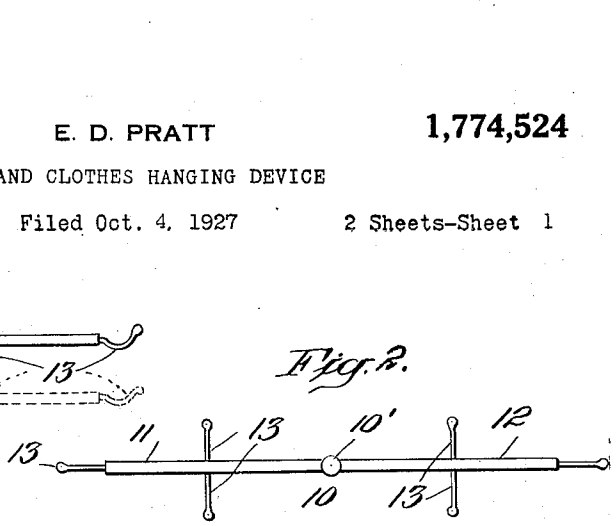


Fig. 1.



INVENTOR
Edwin D. Pratt
BY
Joseph F. O'Brien
ATTORNEY

Sept. 2, 1930. E. D. PRATT 1,774,524

HAT AND CLOTHES HANGING DEVICE

Filed Oct. 4, 1927 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

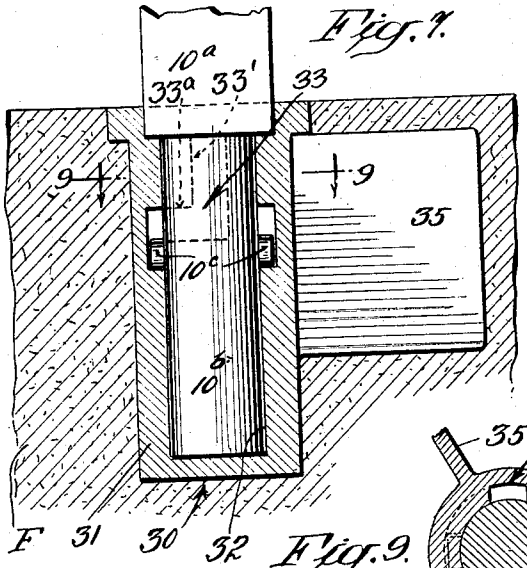


Fig. 7.

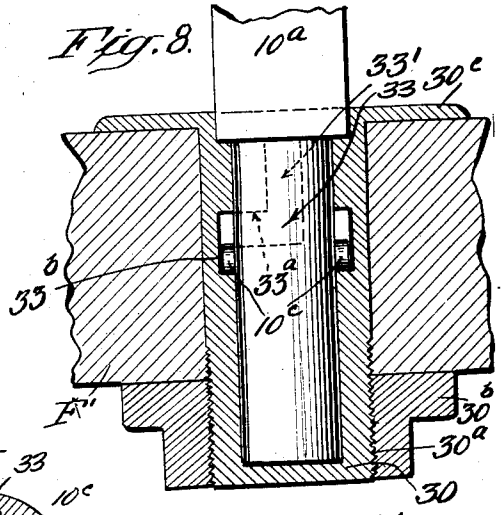


Fig. 8.

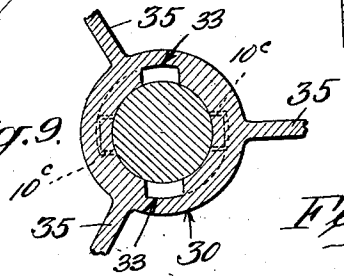


Fig. 9.

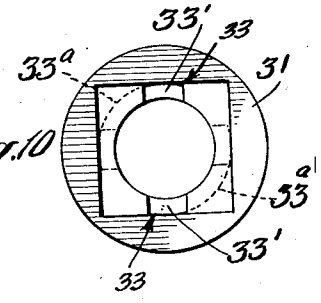


Fig. 10

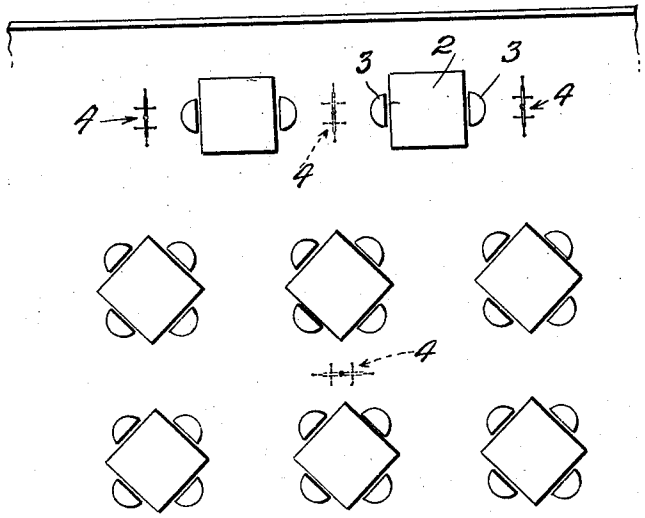


Fig. 11

Edwin D. Pratt
INVENTOR
BY
Joseph F. Dunn
ATTORNEY

Patented Sept. 2, 1930 1,774,524

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

EDWIN D. PRATT, OF PORT CHESTER, NEW YORK

HAT AND CLOTHES HANGING DEVICE

Application filed October 4, 1927. Serial No. 223,860.

This invention relates to improvements in hat and clothes racks.

It is a great desideratum in restaurants to provide means to enable the hanging by the patrons of coats and hats which will eliminate the usual unsightly wall racks, coat trees and chair racks, and at the same time dispense with the necessity of a paid attendant and checking system; and to this end, I provide a neater and simpler means for said purpose which, while positioned away from the wall, will be of low visibility, that is to say, can be positioned at such a height as to be below the plane of the eyes of the average person when tanding; which will be so compact as to avoid unnecessary space and to cause the utilization of substantially all the vertical space between the rack and the floor, and which will, therefore, not only avoid such unsightly wall racks and not seriously obstruct the vision of patrons in standing position, but at the same time will afford accessible, convenient and compact means for hanging hats and clothing.

Another object of the invention is to provide a simple, neat design of hat and clothes rack which will greatly economize floor space over other hat and clothes racks; which will have a maximum capacity and enable a relatively large number of hats or coats to be hung in a given space or area, and to this end I preferably utilize a rack bar of an elongated, rectilinear conformation having hooks arranged on opposite sides and at opposite ends thereof, and position the same at or about the height hereinabove specified.

Another object of my invention is to enable racks of greater outreach to be utilized; also to cause such clothes racks to be non-tiltable and to be securely maintained in fixed position. To this end I provide means for securely fastening or anchoring the lower ends of the racks to the floor, and preferably employ a base-member embedded in the floor.

Still another object of my invention is to enable interchangeability with a single base member, of a plurality of upper rack-portions which may be of varying heights and capacities suitable for summer or winter conditions, as, for example, the hanging of overcoats and hats in winter and of hats and umbrellas in summer. To this end, a releasable locking connection is provided between the base-member which is preferably anchored and embedded, as aforesaid, and the upper part of the rack, said connection preferably embodying a mounting-socket in the base-member for the reception of the vertical standard of the rack and a locking element providing a locking engagement between said rack-mounting socket and said standard.

Another object of the invention is to provide, in combination with racks of the type specified, removable umbrella pans which, when in use, will be securely fixed and locked in place, but which will be readily releasable so as to permit removal and storing in dry weather. The pan is preferably releasably mounted by the same releasable connection between the upper rack portion and the base member.

With these and other objects in view, the invention comprises the combination of members and arrangement of parts so combined as to co-act and cooperate with each other in the performance of the functions and the accomplishment of the results herein contemplated, and comprises in one of its adaptations the species or preferred form illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a rack embodying my invention;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the rack shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrow;

Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3, looking in the direction of the arrow;

Fig. 5 is a cross section of a removable umbrella pan embodying my invention;

Fig. 6 is a view, partly in section, on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5 and partly in plan:

Fig. 7 is a section of a releasable connection employed by me between the lower end of the standard and the base member;

Fig. 8 is a section similar to Fig. 8, showing a modified form of base member;

Fig. 9 is a section on the line 9—9 of Fig. 7, looking in the direction of the arrow;

Fig. 10 is a view, in plan, of a socket with

the body portion of the device removed; and

Fig. 11 is a plan view of a restaurant floor showing an arrangement of tables and of my hat and clothes hanging devices in relation thereto.

Referring now to these drawings, which illustrate a preferred embodiment of my invention, 1 (Fig. 11) indicates the floor or field of a restaurant in which tables 2 and chairs 3 are suitably disposed, some of my improved coat racks 4 being positioned between two tables in perpendicular relationship to and projecting outwardly from the walls, but not attached thereto, while other similar racks are arranged in the field of the room.

In accordance with my invention, my hanging device 10 comprises a standard or vertical member 10′, which is preferably releasably fastened at its lower end in the floor 1 of the restaurant in a manner which will be hereinafter described and is provided adjacent to its upper end with elongated rack-bar members or cross arms of rectilinear conformation. As illustrated, these rack-bar members comprise bars 11 and 12 arranged in rectilinear relationship and having hooks 13 on opposite sides and at the ends.

In said preferred embodiment of my invention, these rack-bar members or cross-arms are preferably positioned in a plane below the plane of the eyes of the average patron when standing up so that the field of vision of a patron in the room will be substantially unobstructed. These rack-bar members, so arranged, will provide a means for permitting the hanging of garments and will, when used to hang coats, utilize all the vertical space between the floor and said arms; they will also eliminate the unsightly wall racks and the usual coat trees while dispensing with the necessity of a paid attendant. Extremely low visibility of the device is thus procured while at the same time affording an accessible and convenient means for hanging hats and garments of a patron. The elongated rectilinear conformation of the arms will occupy a minimum of floor space and will have a maximum capacity because of the fact that hooks may be positioned at opposite sides and at the ends of this elongated rectilinear rack member. A relatively large number of hats and coats may thus be hung in a given space or area.

Devices for hanging hats and clothes of the type hereinabove specified would, if used conventionally, require base portions or feet of large dimensions. I have, therefore, provided means for avoiding any such tilting by securely fastening or anchoring the lower ends of the racks to the floor. In order to economize space around the base portion, I embed the base portion in the floor and also preferably arrange for the interchangeability with a single base-member of a plurality of upper body portions. These body portions may be of varying rack-bar capacities to suit winter or summer conditions. In Fig. 1, I have shown in full lines the body portion of a hat and clothes hanging device suitable for winter use, having a single cross-bar elevated a sufficient distance only to cause all the space between said rack and the floor to be utilized. Note the position of the coat C and hat H in said Fig. 1. In dotted lines in said figure I have also illustrated a body portion, suitable for summer use, which is somewhat shorter than the winter device and has duplicate rack-bar members or cross-arms 12 and 13 at varying heights, the lower rack-bar member being preferably spaced above the floor a distance sufficient to accommodate hats H and umbrellas U, and the vertical space between the racks being sufficient to accommodate any hats H which may be hung on the upper rack-member. It will be seen that the capacity of the summer rack is double that of the winter rack and in view of this fact and also because the number of garments which it is necessary to care for is less in summer, the number of devices may be reduced as indicated in Fig. 11, in which devices in full and dotted lines indicate the number of devices used in winter while the devices in dotted lines will be removed in summer. To enable interchangeability of summer and winter racks, I also provide a base portion which is separable from the upper body portion of the device and is preferably permanently anchored in the floor; and in the preferred embodiment of my invention, I provide a readily releasable connection between the embedded base portion and a body portion.

In the embodiment shown in Figs. 1 to 4 of the drawings, the base portion is composed of a centrally-located socket hub 14 and a plurality of radiating arms 14′, 14ª, and 14ᵇ and, as shown, the arm 14ᵇ is made hollow and has slidably mounted therein a bolt 15. This arm is also preferably provided adjacent to the mounting socket hub 14 with an operating socket 16 closed by a screw-threaded plate 17 which, when removed, permits access to the end 15′ of the bolt 15 with a suitably sharpened tool. The bolt 15 may thus be manipulated to slide within the hollow, horizontal arm and through the wall of the socket 14 into locking engagement with the body portion 10 having a standard portion 10′, said standard portion 10′ being apertured at 15ᵇ (Figs. 1 and 3) for reception of the bolt 15.

In Fig. 7, I have shown a modified form of base member or base portion 30 comprising a hub 31 having a cylindrical socket 32 provided at opposite sides with stepped grooves 33, 33, each of which comprises an axially-disposed section 33′, a horizontally-disposed communicating section 33ª and another axially-disposed section 33ᵇ communicating with

the opposite end of the horizontally-disposed section 33^a.

In this modified form of releasable connection, the standard 10^a of the body portion of my hat and clothes hanging device is provided with a cylindrical end portion 10^b which has side projections or lugs 10^c adapted to fit within the stepped grooves 33 to be turned through the groove portions 33^a and to be dropped into the axial groove portions 33^b, thus securely locking the body portion in readily releasable connection with the base portion.

In said Fig. 7, the floor F is formed of concrete and the hub member 30 is provided with anchoring wings 35.

In Fig. 8, the bottom of the hub portion 30 is provided with a screw-thread 30^a and is fastened by a nut 30^b to a wooden floor F', an annular flange 30^c being provided at the upper end of the socket in order to permit the tightening of the socket to the floor F' by said nut and screw-thread.

It will be seen that this arrangement enables a very quick and secure releasable connection between the body portion of my improved device and the base portion thereof.

I also preferably provide a removable umbrella pan which is also of rectilinear conformation and, as shown, comprises an elongated rectilinear pan 19 having a base portion 20 provided with a cover portion 21 having holes or apertures 21^a, said pan comprising two identical sections arranged on opposite sides of the post, said identical pan portions having a common base frame 20' provided with a socket 20^a through which are removable standard pieces 10 so as to lock said base portion and the pans in place on the floor.

It will be obvious that in dry weather the pans may be released by releasing and demounting the standard or vertical member from the anchored base portion and then moving the pans and again mounting and locking the standard in place as hereinabove described.

Having described my invention, I claim:—

1. A hat and clothes hanging device, embodying a body portion comprising a vertically-disposed standard and elongated rack members on said vertical standard arranged in a single vertical plane extending to opposite sides of said vertical standard in a substantially rectilinear line, said rack members being provided with a plurality of relatively short clothes hooks projecting on opposite sides of said elongated rack and having their outer ends arranged within closely adjacent parallel planes, in combination with a rigidly mounted base-portion, and means for detachably connecting said standard to said base-portion, whereby tilting of the standard under load on the said elongated rack is prevented, and the standard is capable of being used as a releasable fastening element for an umbrella stand in rainy weather.

2. A hat and clothes hanging device embodying a body portion comprising a vertically-disposed standard and elongated rack members on said vertical standard arranged in a single vertical plane extending to opposite sides of said vertical standard in a substantially rectilinear line, said rack members being provided with a plurality of relatively short clothes hooks projecting on opposite sides of said elongated rack and having their outer ends arranged within closely adjacent parallel planes, a base-portion at the lower end of said standard, and a relatively narrow elongated umbrella pan removably mounted at the base of the standard and substantially disposed within the same parallel vertical planes as said hook ends.

In witness whereof, I have signed my name to the foregoing specification.

EDWIN D. PRATT.