June 2, 1964 A. B. FARLEY 3,135,389

ROTATABLE SHOE RACK

Filed April 26, 1961 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

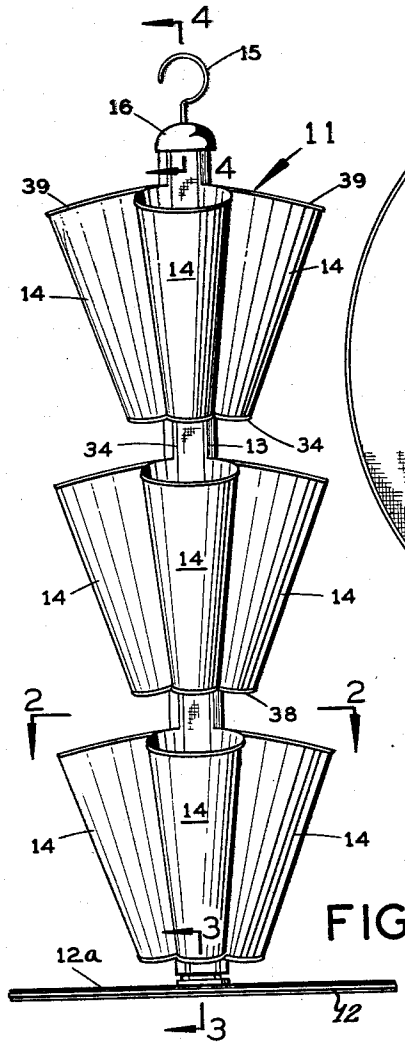


FIG. 1

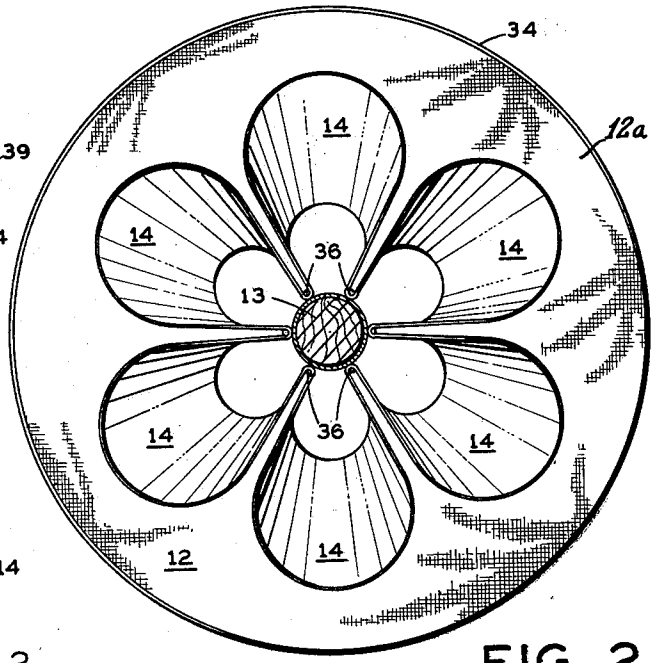


FIG. 2

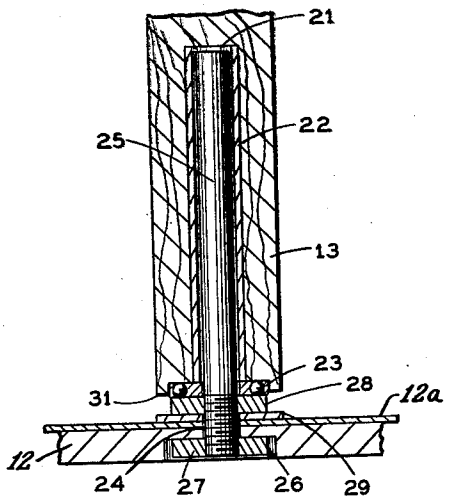


FIG. 3

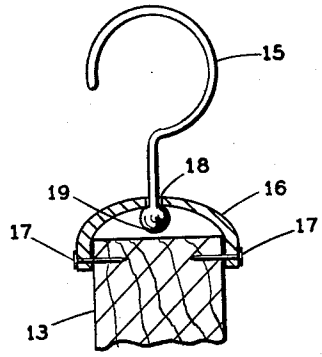


FIG. 4

INVENTOR.
AILEEN B. FARLEY
BY John Cyril Malloy

ATTORNEY

June 2, 1964 A. B. FARLEY 3,135,389

ROTATABLE SHOE RACK

Filed April 26, 1961 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

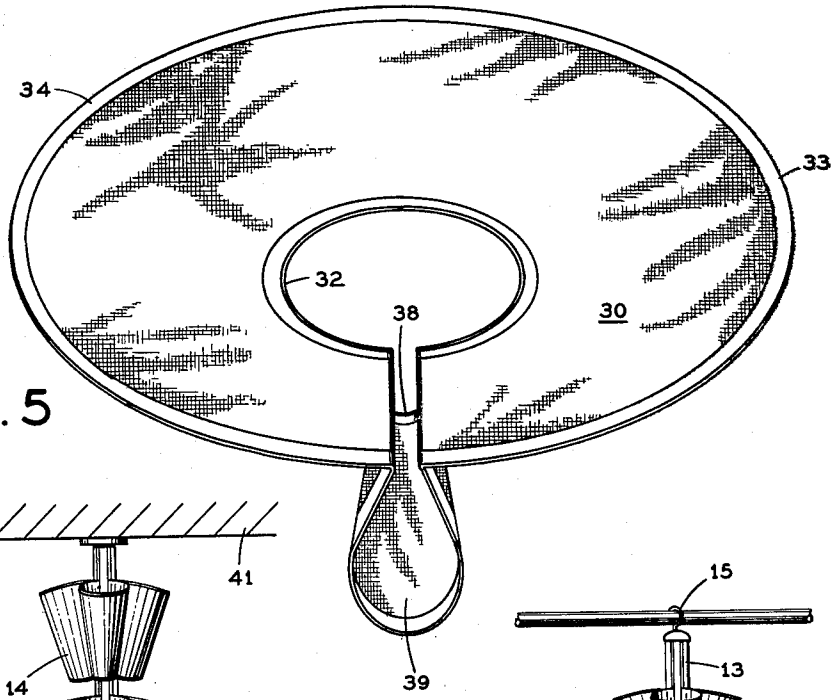


FIG. 5

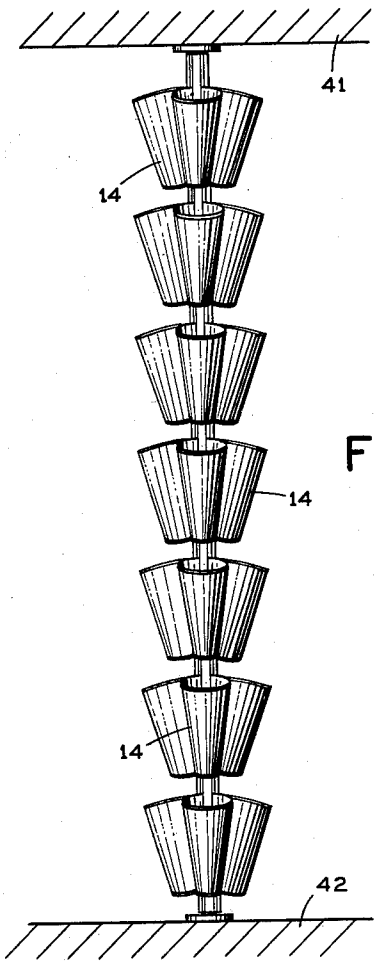


FIG. 7

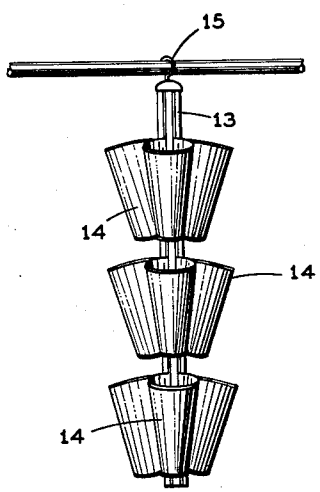


FIG. 6

INVENTOR.
AILEEN B. FARLEY
BY John Cyril Malloy

ATTORNEY

United States Patent Office 3,135,389 Patented June 2, 1964

3,135,389

ROTATABLE SHOE RACK

Aileen B. Farley, 1825 19th St., Vero Beach, Fla.

Filed Apr. 26, 1961, Ser. No. 105,666
2 Claims. (Cl. 211—37)

This invention relates to an article holding device, and more particularly, this invention relates to an article holding device being constructed and having its parts arranged so as to be adapted to hold merchandise such as shoes and the like.

The article holding device described hereinafter is a stand having a base which is designed to provide an upright, space-saving, practical storage unit for shoes or the like which is both decorative and convenient for use in closets with or without doors or those closets provided with sliding doors on which there is no place to hang the conventional shoe bag. When this device is used in closets as a shoe storage unit, it eliminates the need for the conventional horizontal shoe rack with the necessary floor space which it occupies, be it a shelf type or floor type.

Generally, the device comprises a base provided with an upright stem to which stem there are mounted pockets or pouches into which articles may be placed for storage. The base may be of any configuration, preferably circular. The stem or center pin is rotatable about its longiutdinal axis whereby pockets or pouches located thereon may be rotated to any convenient position. In this manner shoes or other articles located within the pockets or pouches can be rotated into full visual range when the device is used in closets and at the same time provide a convenient, accessible storage unit into which shoes may be placed or removed with ease. The device may be constructed or lightweight material and have the advantage of being portable whereby it may be moved and the space which it occupied cleaned readily.

It is accordingly an object of this invention to provide an article holding device of the type described hereinafter which may be used for the storage of shoes or other articles which are customarily kept in closets.

It is also an object of this invention to provide a device which will be useful and decorative and at the same time occupy a minimum amount of floor space such as is useful in displaying merchandise in department stores and the like.

It is another object of this invention to provide an article holding device which may either stand on the floor on a base provided and be rotatable in said base, or also be hung in a closet from a metal hanging hook which is provided on the device.

It is also an object of this invention to provide a device of the type described hereinafter having the aforesaid objects and advantages which is decorative and can be constructed of different material, such as light metal, clear or colored molded glass or plastic material, and other suitable types of decorative fabric and materials, rendering said device susceptible for many uses including, as a flower planter, as at display arrangement, as a counter display unit, or as a storage means for shoes or other articles in closets, the device having cone-shaped pockets or pouches which are peculiarly adaptable for receiving and storing shoes.

In accordance with these and other objects which will become apparent hereinafter, the instant invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings illustrating a preferred embodiment thereof.

In the drawings:

FIG. 1 is a front elevation view of the applicant's invention;

FIG. 2 is a plan view, partially in section, taken along lines 2—2 of FIG. 1 and looking in the direction of the arrows;

FIG. 3 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken along lines 3—3 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 4 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken along lines 4—4 of FIG. 1 and looking in the direction of the arrows;

FIG. 5 is a perspective view illustrating the method of folding or assembling an integral part of the applicant's invention;

FIG. 6 is an elevational view illustrating an alternate use of the applicant's invention; and

FIG. 7 is an alternative embodiment of the applicant's invention illustrating a use thereof.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, wherein like reference characters designates like or corresponding parts throughout the different views, and referring particularly to FIG. 1, **11** designates the invention generally comprising a base **12**, an upright stem **13** having pockets, generally designated **14**, mounted thereto and a hook **15** provided at the top of the stem **13**. The stem is provided at the top thereof with a swivel ball housing **16** affixed to the stem by suitable means **17**, said housing having a hole **18** therein for receiving the hook **15**, which is provided with a swivel ball **19**. The bottom of the stem is provided with a chamber **21** having received therein a sleeve **22** which is locked within said chamber by means of a ball bearing housing **23**. The base **12** is provided with an axial bore **24** therethrough having a counter-sunk portion **26** on the underside thereof. A stud **25** having a threaded end is received within said bore **24** and locked in position therein by means of a first nut **27** housed in the aforesaid recess and a second nut **28** and washer **29** abutting the upper surface of said base, said stud projecting upwardly and being receivable in said sleeve, whereby when said stem is positioned over the stud, it may be rotated with a minimum amount of friction as the end of the stem **31** easily rides on the ball bearings provided. The base **12** and the stem **13** may be covered with a quilted exterior plastic fabric **12***a* of any suitable color and provided with a trim **34** comprising a cotton bias tape as required to cover the seams of the quilted fabric; other suitable coverings and designs for coverings will be apparent and may be employed without departing from the scope of this invention. The pockets **14** are formed from a piece of cloth fabric **30** having a center portion cut out therein forming a donut-shaped circle having an interior periphery **32** and an exterior periphery **33**.

Viewing first FIG. 1 in conjunction with FIG. 2, it will be seen that the pockets **14** are cone-shaped pouches particularly adaptable for receiving shoes, said cone-shaped pounches being affixed to the stem **13** at six radial points on the periphery of the stem, said points being designated **36**. Referring now to FIG. 5, the forming of the pouches **14** from the donut-shaped piece of quilted plastic material is illustrated, said pouches being formed by marking six folds on radial lines emanating from the interior periphery **32** at 60-degree intervals thereon. After the pouches are formed, they are positioned each at a suitable point on the stem and each of the folds along said radial lines is then affixed to the stem as at **36** by means of a colorful tape or any other suitable method. This causes there to be formed six cone-shaped pockets, having an open bottom end **38** of relatively small diameter for receiving the toe end of shoes and a relatively wide-mouthed opening **39** for the heel ends of shoes. It has been found that a suitable size pocket or pouch can be obtained if the outside diameter of the circle is approximately 29 inches and the inside diameter of the circle is approximately 11 inches, and further, that cones having

this structure provide a place in which shoes and other articles can be readily stored or displayed.

Operation

A device of the type described is manufactured and assembled by removably mounting a stem **13** over the stud **25** affixed to the base **12**, said stud being received in the chamber **21** having the sleeve **22** therein. The pouches or pockets are formed as previously described and mounted to positions on the stem **13**. The hook **15** mounted for 360-degree movement to the stem permits it to be rotated through 360 degrees of rotation when the device is hung from a pole, as depicted in FIG. 6. If the device is used as shown in FIG. 6, the device is simply lifted from the base **12** and if used as shown in FIG. 1 joined with the base **12**, it may readily be rotated through 360 degrees on rollers or bearings if provided and, if not provided, by the application of a small torque.

In FIG. 7 there is shown an alternative use of this invention wherein the pockets are mounted to a pin which is adapted to be received between the ceiling **41** and floor **42**. When used in this fashion, the pockets will be mounted on a pole which can be located in an out-of-the-way corner in a closet and rotated through 360 degrees of rotation whereby one using it will have a convenient place for storing shoes or other materials.

It will be readily apparent that the pockets of this device may be made of transparent materials forming an attractive display arrangement.

While the instant invention has been shown and described herein in what is conceived to be the most practical and preferred embodiment, it is recognized that departures may be made therefrom within the scope of the invention, which is therefore not to be limited to the details disclosed herein but is to be accorded the full scope of the claims so as to embrace any and all equivalent apparatus and articles.

What is claimed is:

1. An article holding device of the type described comprising; a long, relatively narrow cylindrically-shaped stem having a first end and a second end, said second end having an axial bore therein forming a chamber; a cup-shaped housing having an axial hole therein mounted to said first end with the lips of said cup disposed downwardly engaging said first end; a hook having a ball on the stem thereof, said ball being disposed in said housing and said hook being passed through said hole; means to maintain said housing in engagement with said first end; a sleeve received in said chamber; means partially sealing said chamber and locking said sleeve within said chamber; ball bearings disposed in said means; a disk-shaped base having an axial counter-sunk bore therethrough forming a recess in one side thereof; a longitudinal stud having a diameter slightly less than the inside diameter of said sleeve; said stud being of substantially the same length as said chamber and having a threaded end, said threaded end being reecived in said bore extending into said recess; a first nut disposed in said recess in threaded engagement with said threaded end and a second nut on the other side of said base in threaded engagement with said stud whereby said base, said stud and said nuts are joined one with each other; a covering over the exterior surface of said base and said stem with tape applied to said covering at the seams thereof, said base being joined to said stem with said chamber having said stud received therein; and three rows of cone-shaped pockets disposed on said stem, said pockets having a relatively small opening at the lowermost end thereof and a larger opening at the uppermost end thereof, there being six pockets in each row, said pockets being formed from a circular, foldable sheet of material having a circular hole in the center thereof.

2. In an article support, a slender pole having a central longitudinal axis, a plurality of holders secured to and along said pole in positions spaced along said axis, each said holder comprising a washer-like sheet of flexible material having concentric inner and outer circular peripheries, the diameter of said inner periphery being much greater than the diameter of said pole, each said sheet being creased along a plurality of equiangularly-spaced lines radially thereof, and means securing said sheet to said pole continuously along each said crease only, with said outer periphery uppermost, to thereby form a plurality of pouches open at the bottom and tapering outwardly and upwardly, each said crease being secured to said pole at respective positions spaced equiangularly thereabout.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

307,193	Hazelton	Oct. 28, 1884
407,927	Haight	July 30, 1889
503,708	Ross	Aug. 22, 1893
739,620	Rocheleau	Sept. 22, 1903
980,098	Hansen	Dec. 27, 1910
1,078,729	Hill	Nov. 18, 1913
1,909,942	Fingerman	May 23, 1933
1,957,564	West	May 8, 1934