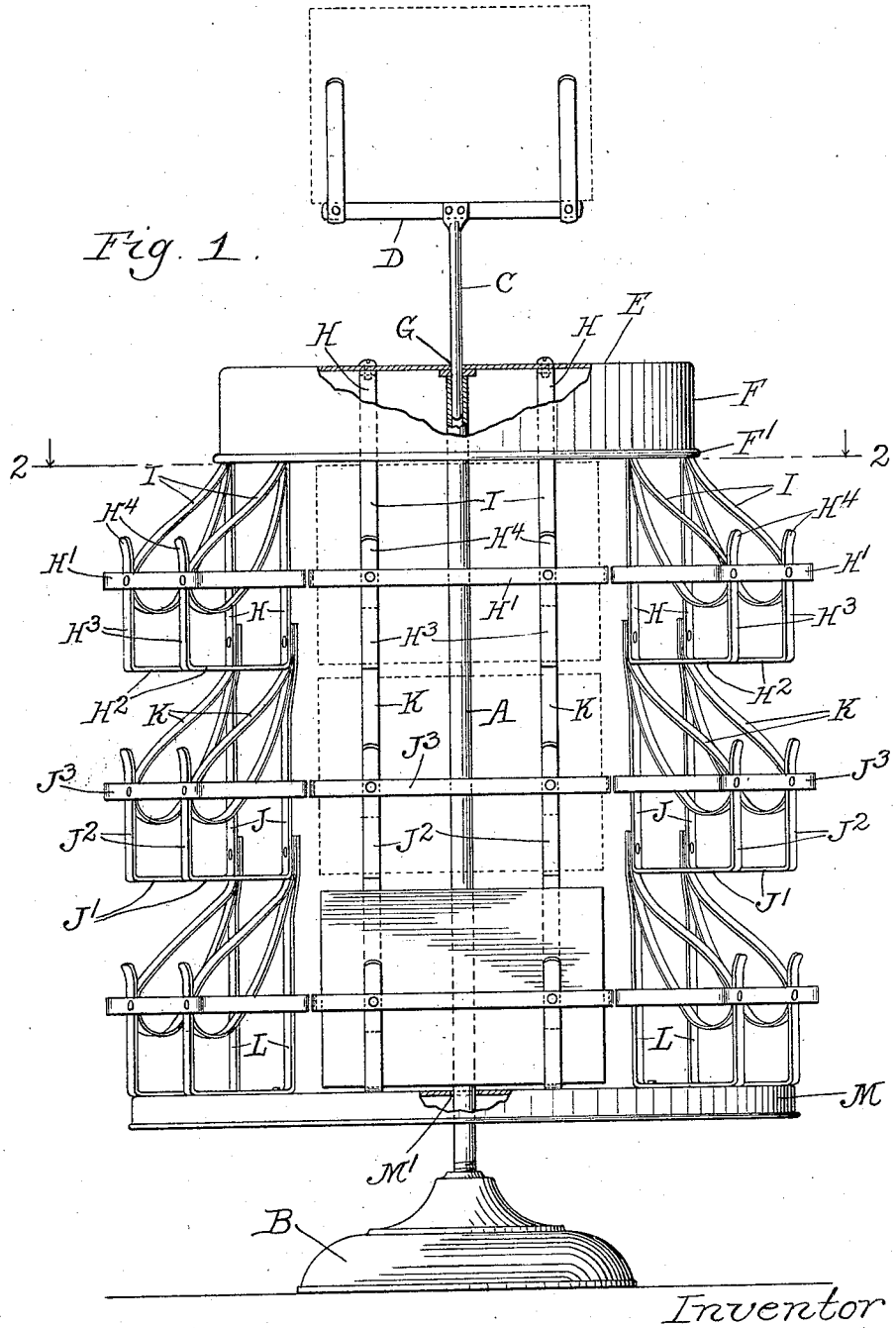
Jan. 22, 1924. 1,481,682

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HAIR NET DISPLAY RACK

Filed Jan. 21, 1922 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.



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Fig. 3.

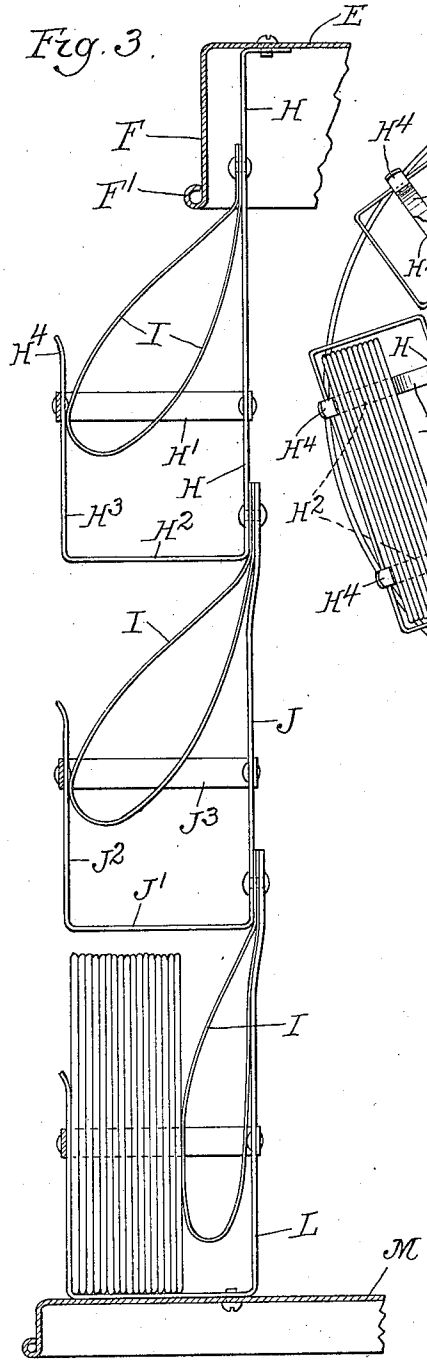


Fig. 2.

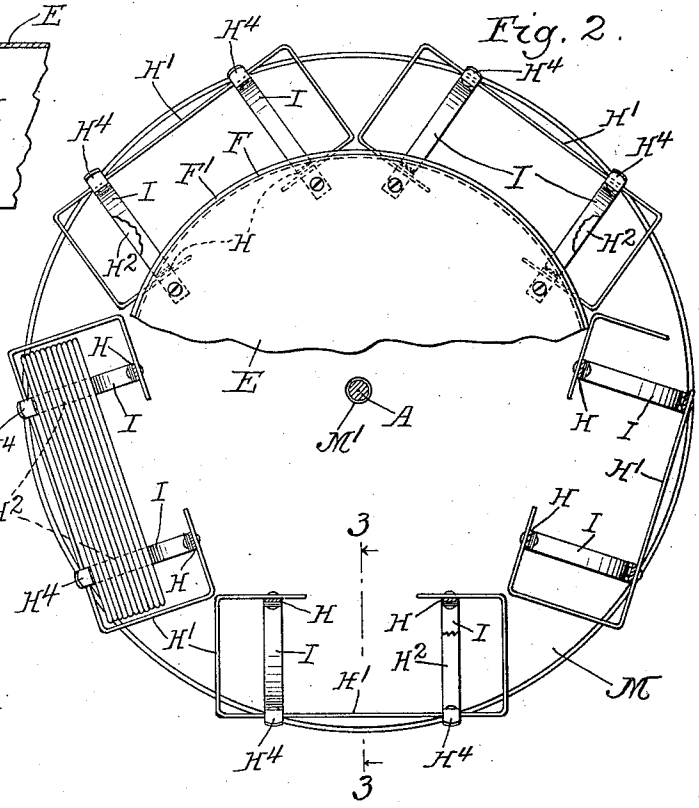
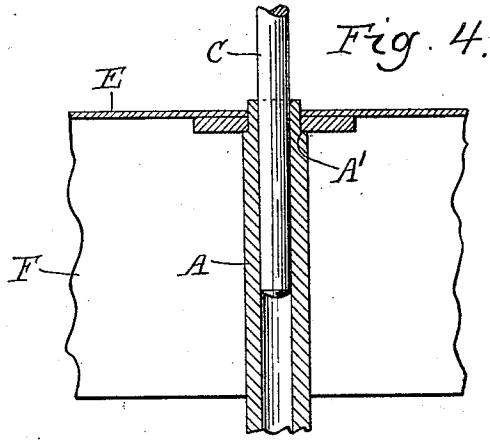


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN J. BUCKINGHAM, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

HAIR-NET DISPLAY RACK.

Application filed January 21, 1922. Serial No. 530,765.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN J. BUCKINGHAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Hair-Net Display Racks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a display device whereby small articles of merchandise may be displayed, for example on a store counter, the display and storage of the article to be sold both being provided for by a storage rack. The device herein shown is susceptible of use with a number of articles, but I have illustrated a rotating storage and display rack particularly adapted to care for light articles packed in envelopes, for example hair nets. Obviously the same device could be used with cards or any other thin objects, and even with objects of relative thickness.

One object of my invention is to provide a combined storage and display rack which shall be attractive in appearance and in which the articles in the various compartments of the rack shall always be kept in upright position and adjacent the front of the rack. Another object is to provide yielding means for maintaining the articles in place in the rack and for increasing the pressure as the weight of the articles in the rack increases. Other objects will appear from time to time in the course of the specification.

My invention is illustrated more or less diagrammatically in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my rack with parts broken away.

Figure 2 is a partly sectional plan view, section taken on lines 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Figure 3 is a section on the lines 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Figure 4 is a section through a variant form of upper bearing.

Like parts are illustrated by like characters throughout the drawings and description.

A is a central shaft or support which is preferably tubular and is secured at the bottom to a foot or base B by any suitable means, the base preferably comprising a heavy mass of metal. It may be shouldered as at A'.

Inserted into the top of the shaft A is a stem C, to the upper end of which a display rack D is secured. The junction point of the shaft A and the stem C, on the shoulder A' provides a bearing, upon which is mounted the disk E with the downwardly turned rim F terminating in a bead F^1. The disk is perforated as at G, the stem C passing through the perforation and into the shaft A.

Secured to the under flat portion of the disk E is a plurality of vertical frame members H, which are preferably arranged in pairs, each pair being joined by a horizontal frame element H^1 which projects forwardly to inclose a substantially rectangular space. The frame members H project forwardly as at H^2, and upwardly as at H^3, to engage and be secured to the forward portion of the frame H^1, thus forming a pocket or display and storage space. The upper ends of the members H^3 are forwardly curved, as at H^4.

Secured to the upper portion of the frame elements H are the loop springs I, which normally project forwardly and downwardly to contact the forward portion of the member H^3. The downwardly sloping, forward surface of the loop converges on the forwardly curved or bent ends H^4, and thus makes it peculiarly convenient and easy to insert any thin, flexible envelopes or other objects which are stored or sold.

Secured to the frame elements H, adjacent their forward extensions H^2, are the similar frame elements J, associated with which are the forward projections J^1 and the upward continuations thereof J^2. J and J^2 are connected together by the horizontal frame element J^3, which, like H^1, forms a practically closed rectangle, the rear side being illustrated in the drawings herein as uncompleted or open.

Secured to the upper portion J, and preferably bolted or locked between it and the member H, are the loop springs K, identical with the springs I. Any preferred number of these display pockets may be superposed as described, but the drawings illustrate a rack having three series. The bottom elements L of the lowest pockets are bolted or otherwise secured to a lower disk M, which is apertured as at M^1, loosely to rotate about the shaft A.

It is obvious that while the individual pockets have been illustrated as separately formed and secured together at top and bot-

tom, the structure might, if desired, be made with a single frame element extending from top to bottom and connecting the upper and lower disks. In the structure as shown, each series of pockets may be detached from the disks and the entire assemblage may be dismounted for storage or shipment. The separate elements would then comprise the pocket series, five being illustrated herein, the central shaft, the base which is detachable therefrom, and the single upper display frame which is pinned into the top of the central shaft.

The assembly is freely revoluble about the shaft A, and experience has shown that the simple friction bearing at the top or shoulder of the shaft gives a very freely rotating assembly.

While a relatively low rack has been shown, which would be particularly advantageous for counter use, it is obvious that the height and number of the display pockets might be increased to provide a rack adaptable for floor use, or the rack might be used as shown but placed on a higher central shaft, and possibly on a heavier base.

It is obvious that while I have shown an operative device, many changes might be made in the number, size, shape, relation and disposition of parts without departing from the spirit of my invention; and particularly I do not limit myself to the specific form shown, the specific method of assembly, or the specific form of the pockets and springs illustrated.

The use and operation of my device are as follows:

I have illustrated a display and storage rack which may be used for the sale of cards or postal cards, seeds, pamphlets, and any relatively light article which is thin in relation to its other two dimensions. The device is particularly adapted for the sale of extremely light objects, such as hair nets, which are commonly sold in thin, light envelopes. The display rack at the top, the stem of which serves to hold the upper disk in place on the top of the shaft, may hold a sample of the goods displayed and sold, which would be high and therefore prominently displayed. In each of the display pockets a bundle of the hair nets or other objects dispensed is inserted and the resilient, thin, flat, loop spring is pressed back.

Referring to Fig. 3, it will be observed that when the display pocket is empty the loop of the spring engages the forward side of the frame about midway in the height of the display space. If a single hair net or envelope is introduced, it is pinned by the spring against the forward frame vertical and horizontal elements, and particularly it is held against the horizontal element by the springs at a point midway between the top and bottom of the envelope and at either end of the envelope. Even if a gust of wind blows through the store, or if the device is rapidly whirled, the envelope is kept firmly in place and in vertical position. If a whole bundle of envelopes or hair nets is used, the spring is pressed back and obviously an increased force is necessary to maintain the bundle in vertical position, but as the spring is pressed backward against the rear of the display pocket the loop is compressed and its rear side contacts the frame over a larger area, thus automatically increasing the stiffness of the spring as the weight to be supported increases. Furthermore, the shape and resiliency of the spring is such that the central portion of the objects is always engaged and they are thus kept snugly against the forward side of the pocket.

If a heavier object or a thicker object is used, the width of the pocket may be increased and a heavier spring may be used, and, of course, the shape of both spring and pocket may be varied to suit the wares therein displayed.

The vertical circular face F of the top disk provides a valuable display space, on which advertising may be affixed.

While I have illustrated my rack as a circular rotary rack, it is obvious that the display pocket elements may be used separately or may be mounted in groups in a non-rotatable frame, or in rotatable frames of any suitable type.

I claim:

1. A display pocket and yielding means adapted to hold the contents thereof against the front of said pocket and in upright position thereagainst, said yielding means comprising a loop leaf spring forwardly and downwardly inclined toward the front of said pocket and adapted directly to engage the contents of the pocket.

2. An open frame display pocket and yielding means adapted to hold the contents thereof in upright position against the front of the pocket, said yielding means comprising a loop leaf spring forwardly and downwardly inclined toward the front of said pocket and adapted directly to engage the contents of the pocket, the front member of said pocket comprising a vertical element aligned with said spring, the upper end thereof being forwardly bent above its normal point of contact with the spring.

3. A display pocket and yielding means adapted to hold the contents thereof in upright position against the front of said pocket, said means being adapted automatically to exert increased forward pressure as further material is introduced into the pocket, said means comprising a substantially elliptic loop leaf spring, initially out of contact with the rear of the pocket but adapted to engage it along an increased length as the contents of the pocket increase.

4. A display pocket and yielding means adapted to hold the contents thereof in upright position against the front of said pocket, comprising a spring adapted to engage and support such contents along an increased length of spring as the contents are increased.

5. A display pocket comprising an open supporting frame-work having a plurality of vertically disposed front elements, and yielding means adapted to hold the contents thereof against the front of said framework comprising a plurality of leaf springs aligned with said vertical elements.

6. A display receptacle comprising an open pocket-like member formed of a plurality of thin intersecting holding strips, a flat leaf spring loop in opposition to one of said strips vertically aligned therewith and yieldingly pressed toward it so as to clamp material against such strip without bending it.

7. In an open display pocket adapted for the display of thin, light articles, an open supporting frame work adapted to reveal the contents from all sides comprising bottom supports and side and front elements, and yielding means for pushing the articles displayed forward along the bottom supports and for compressing them against the front of the pocket.

8. In a display pocket adapted for the display of thin light articles, an open supporting framework comprising bottom supports and side and front elements, said front elements being vertically disposed, and yielding means for securing the articles displayed against said front elements comprising a plurality of downwardly inclined elliptic leaf springs projecting forwardly toward and vertically aligned with said front elements.

Signed at Chicago, county of Cook and State of Illinois, this 16th day of January, 1922.

BENJAMIN J. BUCKINGHAM.