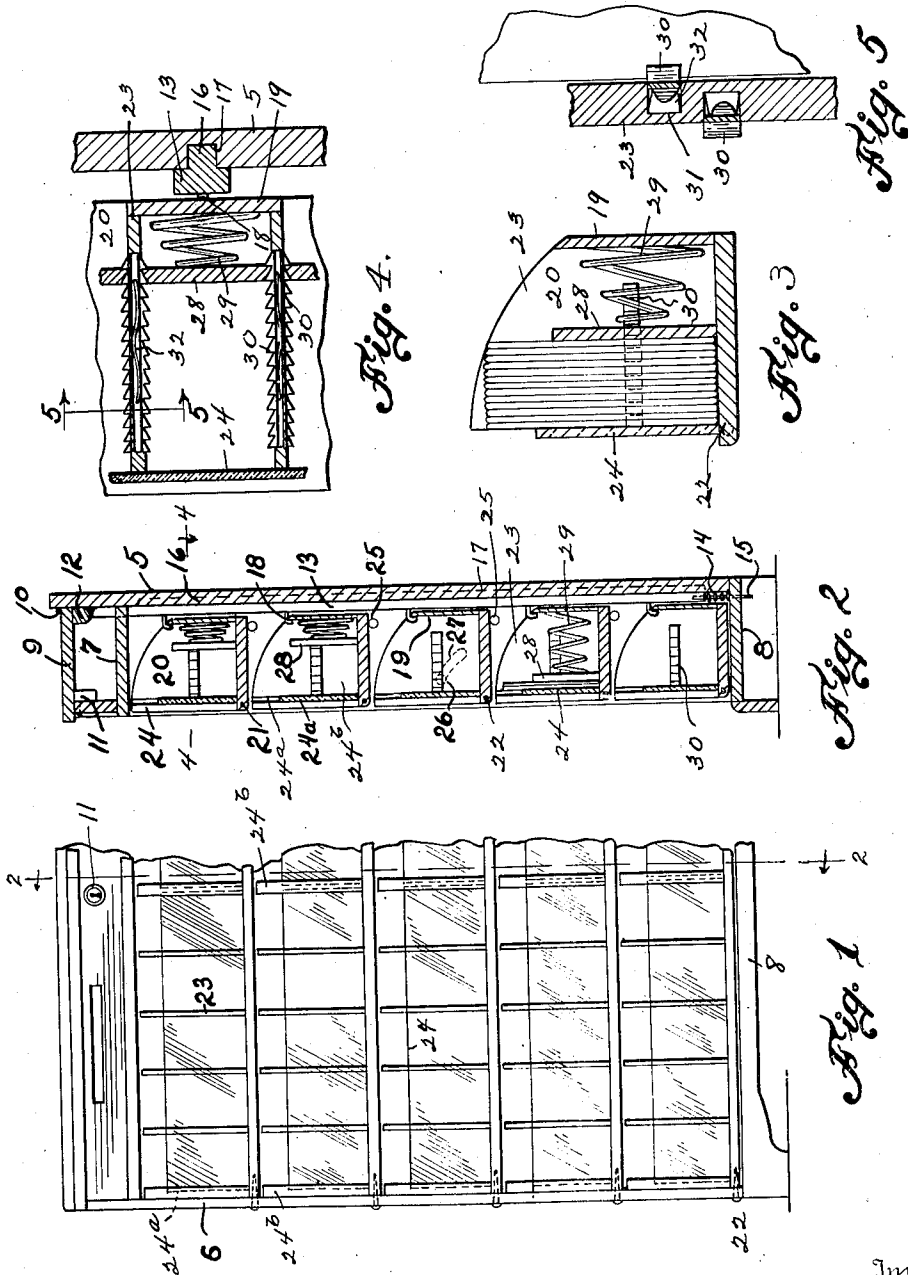


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DISPLAY AND DISPENSING RACK

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DISPLAY AND DISPENSING RACK

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7 Claims. (Cl. 312—62)

This invention relates to display and dispensing racks or cabinets, and it has for its object to provide an improved article of this nature adapted to display and dispense printed matter, folders, circulars and the like in a way yielding important and novel results, as hereinafter set forth.

One of the important uses of the rack is to house, display and dispense railroad time tables and other travel circulars of this general nature. It is well known that racks are maintained in most hotels, bus and railroad waiting rooms, etc., such racks comprising a plurality of compartments for the reception of time tables and travel circulars in general. One great annoyance to those who install and maintain these racks is that unauthorized persons insert their own advertising matter in these racks and thus reap the advantage without having contributed to the cost and maintenance of the racks.

Therefore, an important object of the present invention is to provide a rack having circular-receiving compartments sufficiently accessible to the public to permit the removal of the front circular in any compartment but not so accessible as to permit the insertion of unauthorized matter therein.

A further object of the invention is to provide a rack constructed to protect the circulars from dust and dirt, to hold them in a neat and upright position, to provide storage space for additional circulars, pamphlets, folders and the like, and to incorporate all of these results in a structure which will be neat and ornamental in appearance and simple and economical in construction.

In the accompanying drawing:

Fig. 1 is a partial front elevation of a rack constructed in accordance with the invention.

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical sectional view through one of the bins and associated parts.

Fig. 4 is a horizontal sectional view upon line 4—4 of Fig. 2, and

Fig. 5 is a section on line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Like numerals designate corresponding parts in all of the figures of the drawing.

The rack of the present invention comprises a frame having a rear wall 5, end walls 6, (only one of which is shown) an overhanging box-like top 7 forming a compartment at the top of the frame and any suitable form of base 8. The compartment 7 is provided with a lid 9 that is hinged at 10.

A conventional key-controlled lock 11 serves to lock the lid in its closed position. This locking

of the lid serves the double function of closing the compartment 7 within which circulars, folders and the like may be stored and of causing a rounded block 12 that is carried by the lid 9 to thrust a locking rod 13 downwardly against the tension of a spring 14. This spring surrounds a guide pin 15 which is guided in the top of the base 8. The locking rod carries a guide rib 16 which is guided in a channel 17, formed in the rear wall of the case or frame. The locking rod carries a plurality of hook-like extensions 18, which are adapted, when the rod is moved to locking position, to engage over the rear walls 19 of one of the bins 20 in each of the horizontal rows of bins.

Each horizontal row of bins is pivotally mounted at 21 upon horizontal pivots which may be simple screws 22. Partitions 23 constitute the side walls for the respective bins, and panes of glass 24 constitute the front walls of the bins through which the front pieces of printed matter, in each bin, will be displayed to the public. The panes of glass may be supported in grooves 24^a formed in the thickened end walls 24^b of each of the tiltable groups of bins.

Stop pegs 25 limit the inward or closing movement of the several horizontal rows of bins. Any suitable means may be provided for limiting the outwardly swinging movement of the horizontal rows of bins such, for example, as stop pegs 26 carried by the end wall 6 and engaging in arcuate slots 27 of the thickened end members 24^b of each horizontal row of bins. A follow board 28 is mounted in each bin for movement toward the front wall of the bin. These boards are urged toward the front wall, i. e., toward the glass panes 24 by spring 29 of relatively large diameter. These springs may be attached in any suitable way, as by mere stapling to the rear walls of the follow boards 28.

I may, if desired, provide rack bars such as are shown at 30 in Figs. 3 and 4. The function of these rack bars is to prevent rearward movement of the follow boards while permitting forward movement of the follow boards, and they are simple ratchet-like racks seated in shallow recesses 31 of the partitions and urged toward the follow boards by light springs 32. By thus preventing rearward movement of the follow boards unauthorized persons can not insert printed matter into the bins when the bins are in closed and locked position. This is due to the fact that as the printed matter is withdrawn piece by piece, the follow boards move forward, and since they can not be thrust rearwardly, no other matter

can be inserted to take the place of that withdrawn.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that very simple and efficient means have been provided for accomplishing the described objects. However, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the precise arrangement shown. Many ways will readily suggest themselves to the skilled artisan for the construction of racks to serve the ends described while retaining the basic idea of a compartment mounted for movement from a position in which its interior is not accessible for filling to a position where its interior is accessible for filling, and wherein the front piece of printed matter may be reached for withdrawal over the front wall even when the compartment is in the first-named position. While I have chosen to show bins mounted for tilting, other means of movably mounting the bins may be resorted to while retaining the objectives above outlined.

Therefore, it is to be understood that the invention includes within its purview whatever changes fairly come within either the terms or the spirit of the appended claims.

Having described my invention, what I claim is:

1. In a folder dispensing device of the character described the combination with a frame comprising a pair of spaced vertical side walls, of a plurality of bins mounted therein, said bins comprising bottom, front, side and rear walls, said bins being disposed in a plurality of superimposed rows and being pivotally mounted at the lower front portions of their bottoms for rocking into and out of the frame, means within each of said bins for yieldably thrusting a stack of folders toward the front wall of the bin, the side walls of the bin being of such height as to lie relatively close to the bottom of the bin next thereabove and the front wall of the bin terminating a material distance short of the top of the side walls of the bin to thereby permit the inspection and grasping of the foremost folder and its easy withdrawal over the top of said front wall.

2. A structure as recited in claim 1 in combination with a common locking rod adapted to engage all of said bins when they have been rocked into the frame as far as possible, to hold said bins against outward movement until the locking rod is released.

3. A structure as recited in claim 1 in combination with a vertically movable locking rod disposed in the rear of said bins and carrying downwardly directed hooks adapted to engage over the rear walls of said bins to prevent outward rocking movement of said bins until said locking rod is elevated.

4. A structure as recited in claim 1 in combination with a vertically movable locking rod slidably mounted upon a rear wall of the frame, spring means tending to elevate said rod, hooks carried by the rod, adapted to engage over the rear walls of the bins, a storage compartment at the top of the frame above the bins, a hinged cover for said compartment and means carried by the cover and engaging the locking rod for holding the same in lowered position as long as the cover is closed.

5. In a folder dispensing device of the character described the combination with an open front frame comprising a base, a rear wall and spaced side walls, a plurality of rows of bins mounted in said frame, each of the rows of bins comprising a common bottom and a plurality of walls which constitute the side walls of the individual bins and partition the individual bins from each other, the tops of said partition walls terminating relatively close to the bottom of the row of bins next thereabove, a front wall for each bin which terminates a material distance below the tops of said partitions so that the foremost one of a stack of folders disposed in a bin may be readily removed over the top of said front wall, even while the bin is in closed position, means for mounting the several rows of bins between the side walls of the frame and at the lower forward portion of the rows of bins to thereby mount said rows of bins for bodily tipping movement into and out of the frame.

6. A structure as recited in claim 5 in combination with a locking rod common to all of the rows of bins and means carried by the locking rod adapted to engage said bins to hold them against outward tipping.

7. A structure as recited in claim 5 in combination with a vertically movable locking rod slidably mounted upon the rear wall of the frame, spring means tending to elevate the locking rod, hooks carried by the locking rod adapted to engage over the rear walls of the bins to hold said bins against outward tipping, a swingingly mounted lid and a member upon said lid disposed in position to engage the top of the locking rod and thrust it downwardly to locking position when the lid is lowered.

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