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 [21] Appl. No. **869,100**
 [22] Filed **Oct. 24, 1969**
 [45] Patented **Oct. 5, 1971**
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[54] **GARMENT DISPLAY RACK**
1 Claim, 5 Drawing Figs.

[52] U.S. Cl. 211/7,
 211/124

[51] Int. Cl. A47F 7/24,
 E05b 73/00

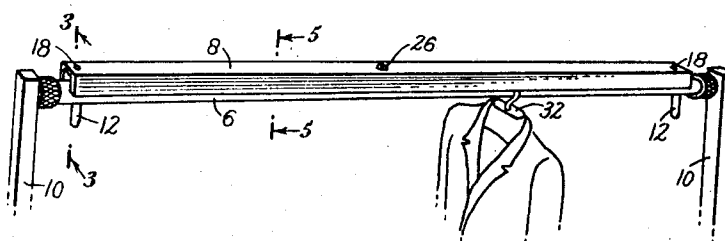
[50] Field of Search 211/124, 7,
 8, 9, 4, 123

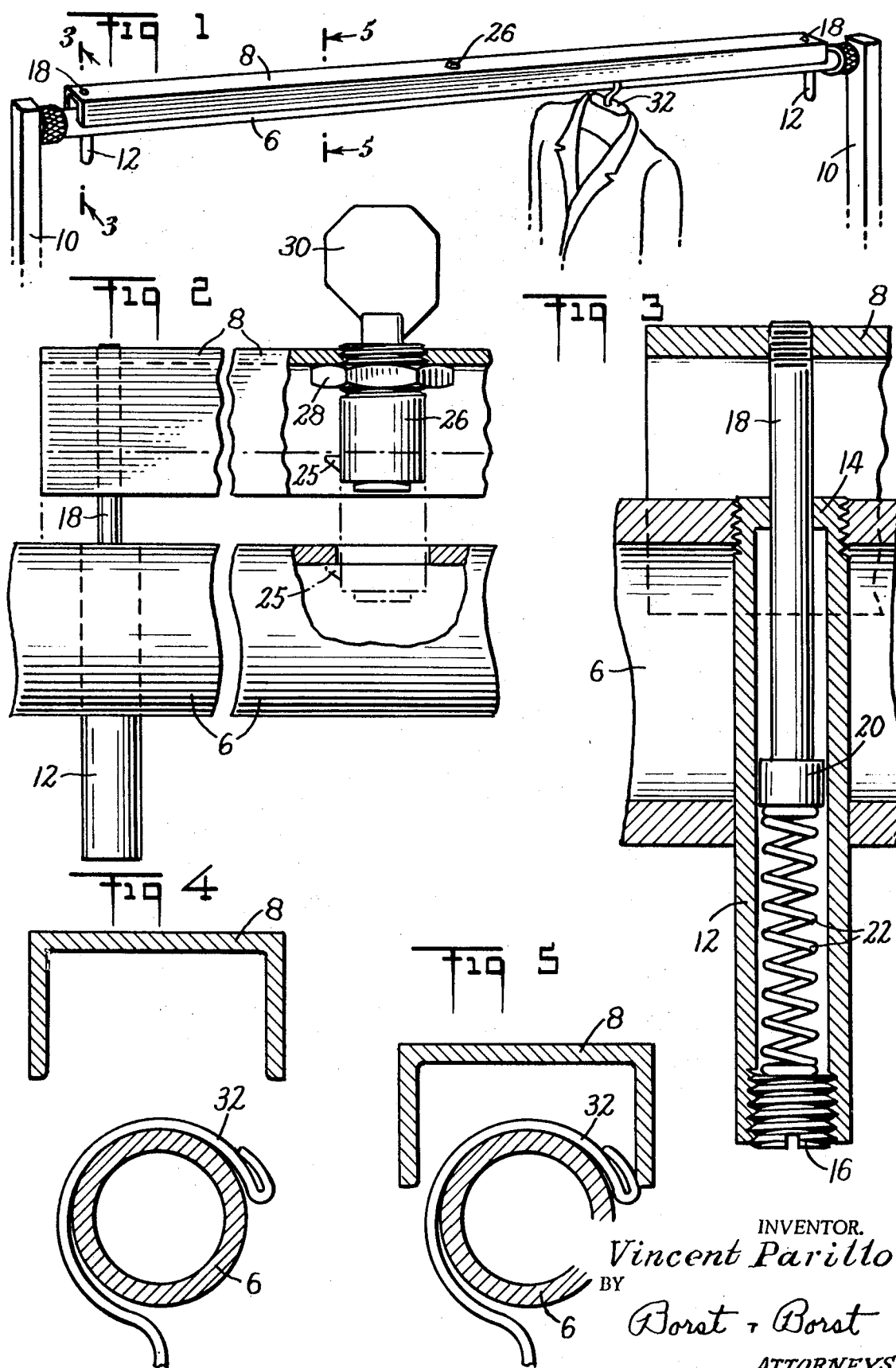
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ABSTRACT: The application discloses a garment display rack having a security device and lock to prevent theft of the displayed articles. The device is spring actuated for opening to unlock position automatically when the lock is released. The lock is arranged on the rack to permit the hangers for the articles, when being loaded thereon, to pass freely from one end to the other thereof, which facilitates the loading of a large number of hangers at a time from one end of the rack until the rack is full while thereafter allowing individual hangers to be removed easily from any point along the length of the rack.





GARMENT DISPLAY RACK

This invention relates to garment display racks and, in particular, display racks having a theft prevention locking arrangement.

Hitherto, garment display racks having a locking bar superposed over a hanger bar and, which move into and out of lock position while remaining parallel to the bar include a lock device which has interfered with the loading of garment hangers thereon when the rack is opened to receive them. This is due to the fact that the bar has an element extending between the locking and hanger bar in open position which prevents hangers from passing the lock when being loaded in the rack. See application Ser. No. 817,707. Particularly when displays are being changed, it is desired to load the rack several hangers at a time from one end and to push the supported hangers to the other end until the rack is full. According to the present invention, the lock components are entirely withdrawn from the hanger bar in open position, the withdrawal being accomplished automatically by spring actuation of the bar. Both hands of the user are thus freed to effect the loading of the rack from either end thereof. The following description of an embodiment of the display rack is taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the display rack;

FIG. 2 is a front elevation in enlarged scale showing the locking arrangement for the rack;

FIG. 3 is a section taken on the line 3—3 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 4 shows the locking channel member and hanger bar in open position;

FIG. 5 is similar to FIG. 4 showing the member and bar in locked position, the view being taken in section on line 5—5 of FIG. 1.

Referring to the drawings, there is shown in FIG. 1, hanger bar 6 with channel bar 8 supported thereon. The bar 6 extends between and is supported by uprights 10. Depending from each end of the bar 6 is a cylindrical spring housing 12 which is threadably joined to the top wall of the bar 6. The housing 12, has an apertured top 14 and a retaining plug 16 at its bottom. Slide bolt 18 connected to the top wall of the bar 8, ex-

tends through the top 14 into the housing 12, its head 20 impinging on expansion spring 22 which is supported in the housing by the plug 16.

The springs 22 urge the two ends of the channel bar upwardly into unlock position as shown in FIG. 4, the bar remaining parallel to the hanger bar 6. When the channel bar is manually depressed, it is retained in lock position by latching element 15 of the key-operated-locking device 26, which is screwed into the top of the channel bar 8 being retained by lock nut 28. The lock is a conventional device manufactured by the Chicago Lock Company of Chicago, Ill. The key 30 serves to withdraw the catch 25 when in locked position under the top wall of the hanger bar 6 which has been apertured to receive the bottom of the lock as shown in its dotted line position in FIG. 2. When released, the lock being shorter is confined within the depth of the member 8, and is spaced from the top of the hanger bar 6, as shown in full lines in FIG. 2, to permit hangers 32 to pass the device 26 by sliding on the hanger bar with the bar 8 in raised position. It is seen in FIG. 5 that the channel bar 8 is adapted to contact the hook portion of the hanger with the bar in lock position to prevent pilferage of the hanger and the garments supported thereon.

Various modifications of the invention may be effected by persons skilled in the art without departing from the scope of the invention as defined in the claim.

What is claimed is:

1. A display rack comprising a hanger bar and a channel member slidably supported at each end of the bar, said channel member being spring biased at each end thereof in a direction away from said bar, said bar being apertured in its top surface, a unitary bar lock secured to the top of the channel member intermediate the ends thereof with the axial dimension of said lock being no greater than the depth of the channel member, whereby the bottom end of said lock being is spaced from said top surface with the channel member in raised position over the bar, said lock including a retractable catch adapted to pass through the aperture in said top surface and establish locking engagement between said bar and the channel member.

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