Aug. 26, 1924. 1,506,335

W. G. BROWN

RACK

Filed March 19, 1923

Fig. 1.

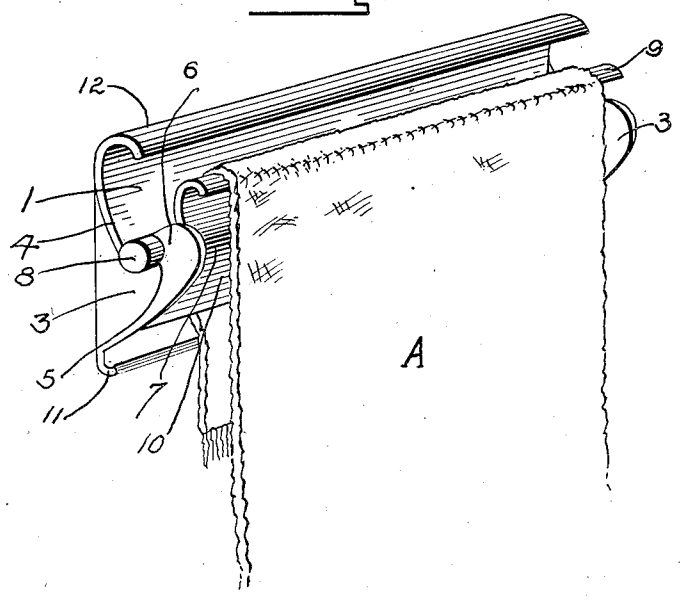


Fig. 2.

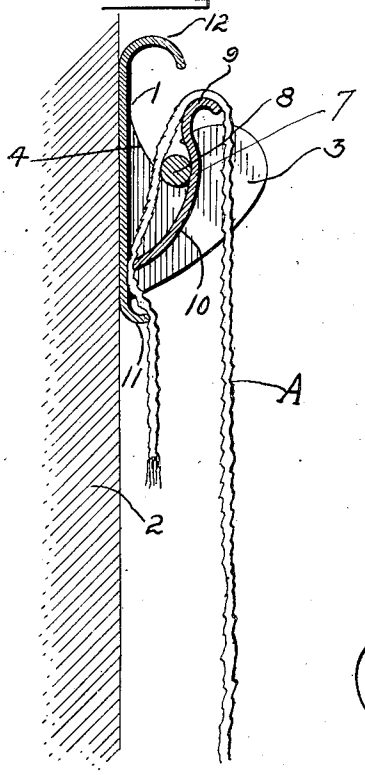
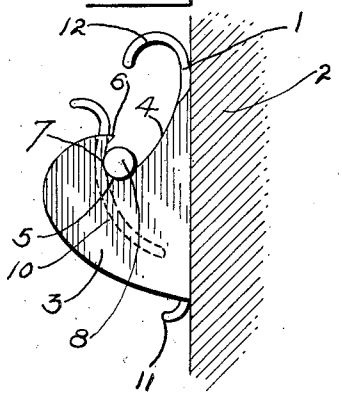


Fig. 3.



Walter G. Brown.
Inventor

By Lancaster and Allwine
Attorneys

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER G. BROWN, OF BALBOA, CANAL ZONE, PANAMA.

RACK.

Application filed March 19, 1923. Serial No. 626,003.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER G. BROWN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Balboa, in the Canal Zone, Panama, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Racks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in supporting racks and more particularly to a rack for supporting towels and flexible articles of like character.

The main object of this invention is the provision of a rack wherein a towel or similar flexible article may be arranged upon the rack and supported in a suspended position and retained in such position through the medium of its own weight.

Another object of this invention is the provision of a supporting rack which includes a rocking support mounted in such a position that one of the longitudinal edges of the support will clamp one end of a flexible article against the main support when the article is arranged over the rocking support so that the weight of the longer end of the article will be transmitted to the rocking support and cause the edge thereof to engage the article.

Another object of this invention is the provision of a rack for supporting flexible articles, such as towels and the like, wherein articles may be readily mounted upon the rack, and the weight of the suspended longer end of the article tending to retain the other or shorter end against movement.

With the above mentioned objects in view, the invention consists in the novel features of construction, the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully set forth and pointed out in the claims and shown in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a rack constructed in accordance with my invention, illustrating its application.

Figure 2 is a transverse sectional view of the same, and

Figure 3 is an end elevation with the article eliminated.

In carrying out my invention, I provide a base member 1, which may be formed of any suitable material, but in the present instance is illustrated as constructed of sheet metal or the like. This base member is preferably mounted upon any suitable stationary support, and for the purpose of illustration, I show the same as mounted upon a section of wall indicated by 2, any suitable fastening means being provided to secure the base member in position. Extending outwardly from each end of the base member and disposed at right angles thereto, are the brackets 3, the upper edges of which are curved downwardly as at 4, and terminate in a semi-circular pocket 5, the forward walls of these pockets being curved upwardly to a point as at 6. The point 6 extends over the pocket 5 for a purpose which will be set forth later.

An article supporting member 7 is arranged between the bracket 3 and mounted upon the pivot rod 8, the ends of said pivot rod being mounted within the pockets 5 for rotation so that the article supporting member 7 may readily have a swinging movement between the brackets 3.

The supporting member 7 in the present instance, is formed of a single piece of sheet metal, the major portion of which is formed arcuate in cross section as shown in Figure 2, and connected to the pivot rod 8 at a point above the longitudinal center of the supporting member, so that the lower edge of the supporting member has a tendency to move toward the base member 1. The upper longitudinal edge of the supporting member 7 is curved outwardly as at 9, away from the curved portion 10, the outer surface of the curved portion 9 forming a smooth unbroken surface over which the flexible articles are adapted to move when being placed in position.

It will be noted that when a flexible article, such as a towel A which is illustrated in Figure 2 is placed in position within the rack so that the shorter end thereof extends beyond the inner edge of the curved portion 10 and the longer end arranged over the curved portion 9 and suspended therefrom, the weight of the longer end of the towel will tend to force the curved portion 10 inwardly so that its longitudinal edge will push or bind the shorter end of the towel against the base member 1, and prevent the same from being drawn out over the curved portion 9. The lower longitudinal edge of the base member 1 may be curved outwardly as at 11 to form an extending spacing ledge against which the shorter end of the towel rests so as to pre-

vent the same from coming in contact with the wall or other support upon which the base is mounted.

In placing the towel in position, one end of the same is arranged over the member 7 and by pushing inwardly toward the base, the upper edge of the rocking member 7, the curved lower edge of the same will be moved away from the base, permitting the end of the towel to drop downwardly between the base and the lower longitudinal edge of the member 7. The end of the towel arranged over the member 7 is extended between the lower longitudinal edge of the member and the base sufficiently to permit the end of the same to extend beyond the ledge member 11 so that upon releasing the upper curved portion 9, permitting the rocking member to swing, the weight of the longer end of the towel will move the rocking member so that the lower longitudinal edge of the same will bind the shorter end of the towel between the base member and the rocking member. From this it will be apparent that any downward pull upon the longer end of the towel will tend to bind the longitudinal edge of the member 7 tighter against the shorter end of the towel, and securely prevent the same from being displaced.

The upper longitudinal edge of the base member 1 may be provided with a curved portion 12 which not only provides for suitable ornamentation, but prevents any dirt or dust from passing between the rocking member 7 and the base, as any dirt or dust falling toward the rack will be shunted off by the outer edge of the member 12.

Attention is called to the fact that while I have shown the rocking member 7 as connected to a longitudinal pivot rod which extends between the brackets 3 and mounted for rotation in the pocket 5, various changes in the mounting of the rocking member 7 may be made without departing from the principle of the invention. I wish also to call attention to the fact that various changes may be made in the substance of the various parts as well as in the assembling of the same without departing from the spirit of the invention; but,

I claim:

1. A device of the class described including a base member, a rocking support, means engaging the end portions of the rocking support for pivotally mounting the rocking support in spaced relation to the base member with its lower edge held in contacting engagement with the base member, by the weight of an article hung over its upper edge and adapted to grip a portion of the article extending between its lower edge and the base member.

2. A device of the class described including a base member, a rocking support, means engaging the end portions of the rocking support for pivotally mounting said rocking support in spaced relation to the base member, the pivot point of said rocking support being arranged above its longitudinal center, whereby the lower edge of the support will be normally moved toward the base member by the weight of an article hung over its upper edge and grip a portion of the article extending between its lower edge and said base member.

3. A device of the class described including a base member, supporting brackets extending at right angles to the base member, a pivot rod having its ends mounted within said bracket, and a supporting member connected to the pivot rod at a point above its longitudinal center, whereby the lower edge of said supporting member may be normally moved toward the base by the weight of an article hung over its upper edge and grip a portion of the article extending between its lower edge and said base member.

4. A rack of the character described including a base member, a rocking support thereon having upper and lower longitudinal edges curved in opposite directions, the pivot point of said support being arranged above its longitudinal center whereby the lower edge of the same will be normally moved toward the base member by the weight of an article hung over its upper edge and grip a portion of the article extending between its lower edge and said base member.

5. A rack of the character described including a base member, brackets extending outwardly from each end of the base member at right angles to said base, bearing pockets formed in the upper edges of said bracket, a pivot rod having its ends mounted within said pockets, a supporting member secured to said pivot rod at a point above the longitudinal center of the supporting member whereby the lower edge of the supporting member will be normally moved toward the base member by the weight of an article hung over its upper edge and grip a portion of the article extending between its lower edge and said base member.

6. A device of the class described including a base member, a pivot rod mounted thereon, a supporting member secured to the pivot rod at a point above the longitudinal center of the supporting member whereby the lower edge of the support will normally bear against the base member by the weight of an article hung over its upper edge and grip a portion of the article extending between its lower edge and said base member.

7. A device of the class described including a base member having its lower longi-

tudinal edge bent outwardly to provide a ledge, a rocking member carried by the base having the pivot point thereof arranged above its longitudinal center, whereby the lower longitudinal edge of the support will be moved inwardly to engage the base member above the ledge by the weight of an article hung over its upper edge and grip a portion of the article extending between its lower edge and said base member.

8. A supporting rack including a base, bearing portions arranged at each end of the base, a curved portion formed integral with the base and extending over the bearing portion, a pivot rod having its end mounted within said bearing portion, and a rocking supporting member carried by said pivot rod and having a lower edge held in clamping engagement with said base by the weight of an article hung over its upper edge to grip a portion of the article extending between its lower edge and said base.

WALTER G. BROWN.