Nov. 22, 1938. L. H. BEST 2,137,749

DISPLAY RACK

Filed Oct. 20, 1937

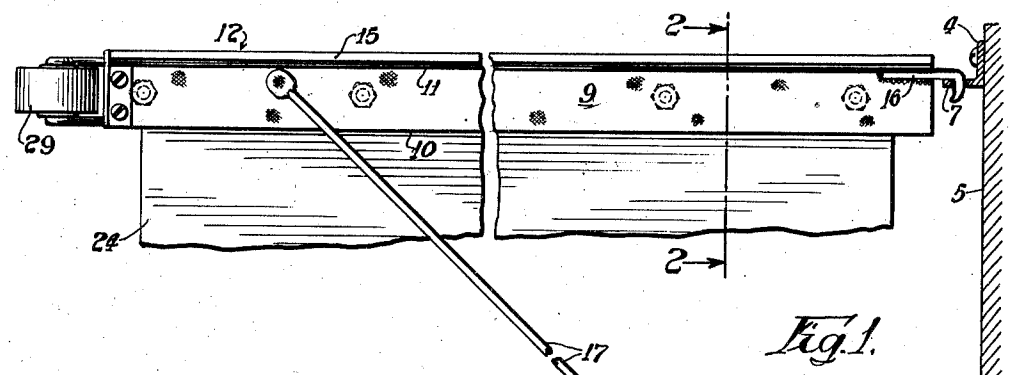


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

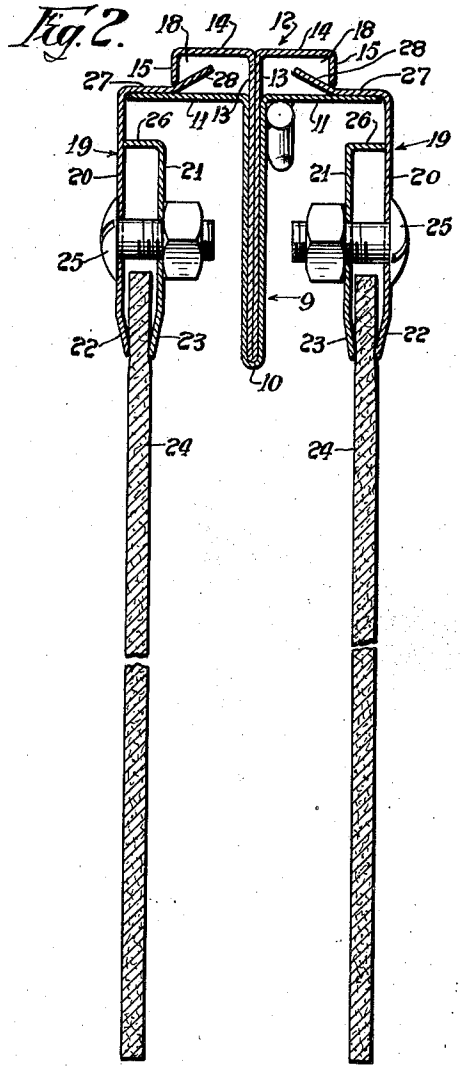
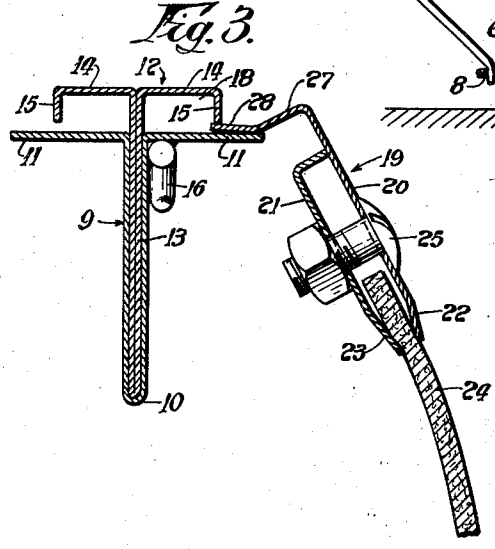


Fig. 3.



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Patented Nov. 22, 1938 2,137,749

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,137,749

DISPLAY RACK

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Application October 20, 1937, Serial No. 169,964

12 Claims. (Cl. 211—48)

This invention relates to display racks and more particularly to a novel and improved rack adapted to be used for the display of sheet samples of carpets, rugs, linoleum, draperies, upholstery and the like.

In the display of sheet samples it has been cutomary to stack the samples one upon the other in piles upon the floor, secure them in piles to stands resting upon the floor or to hang them on pivoted racks to which the samples are attached and which racks may be swung in a horizontal plane so that the samples may be inspected by salesmen and prospective purchasers. The present invention is of an arm and associated parts used in the racks referred to. When the sheet samples are hung in horizontal position it is often desirable to be able to remove the samples for display on the floor so that a prospective customer may more readily visualize the appearance of the product being sold in a location such as it would receive in the customer's home or place of business. For example, a customer being shown linoleum samples by a salesman will often request the salesman to remove the sample from the rack where it is hung in vertical position and place the sample upon the floor so that the customer can look down upon the sample and thus visualize its appearance in his home or place of business. Some of the racks heretofore in use have necessitated that the samples be permanently affixed to the arms so that the salesman would be unable to comply with the customer's request. Other racks wherein the samples are removable often require considerable difficulty in removing the samples therefrom for display upon the floor, which difficulty results in confusion and consequent distraction of the customer's mind. The salesman is desirous of placing the sample upon the floor with little or no confusion and thus preventing the customer's mind from being diverted during the removal operation.

It is therefore the primary object of this invention to enable the ready and easy removal from a rack of samples displayed in a vertical position.

After a salesman has removed a number of samples from the rack and they are strewn about the floor of the salesroom, it is desirable that the samples be replaced as quickly as possible to effect a neat appearance to the salesroom and to make the samples readily accessible to view by the next customer. It is therefore another object to enable quick and easy installation of the samples for vertical display upon a display rack.

A further object of the invention is to provide the top marginal edge of the sample suitably secured to the sample and adapted to be engaged with and disengaged from the display arm so that the sample may be readily and easily removed from the arm and readily and easily replaced thereupon.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a display arm for displaying samples in vertical position whereon sheet samples having hanger bars secured thereto may be installed and removed with ease, and which arm and hanger bars are of relatively inexpensive, light and efficient construction.

Referring to the drawing wherein a selected embodiment of the invention is illustrated—

Fig. 1 is a plan view of an arm having one sample suspended therefrom and having another sample removed;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 3 is a sectional view similar to Fig. 2 but showing one sample removed and another sample in the operation of being removed.

A hinge bar 4 is secured to the wall 5 and directly therebelow a pivot bar 6 is likewise secured to the wall 5. The pivot bar and hinge bar have aligned openings 7 and 8 therein, respectively. An arm comprises a U-shaped body member 10 having horizontal outstanding flanges 11 at the top thereof. A substantially T-shaped retaining member 12 has the vertical portion 13 of the T inserted in the U-shaped portion of the member 10. The T-shaped member also has outstanding flanges 14 at the top thereof which terminate in downwardly extending edge portions 15 at the outer ends. A hinge pin 16 is welded or otherwise suitably secured to the member 9 and is adapted to engage the opening 7 in the hinge bar 4. A brace 17 is likewise welded or otherwise suitably secured near the outer end of the arm 9 and has its lower end inserted in the opening 8 in the pivot bar 6 whereby the arm is held in position for swinging about the hinge bar opening 7 in a horizontal plane.

The edge portion 15 on the T-shaped member of the arm extends downwardly from the flange 14 to a distance less than the entire distance to the flange 11, leaving a space between the edge portion 15 and the flange 11. A chamber 18 is provided by the vertical part 13, the T-shaped member 12, the flange 14 and the edge portion

15 thereof, and the flange 11 of the U-shaped member 9.

A hanger bar, generally indicated by 19 comprises a hanger plate 20 and locking plate 21. The hanger plate is bent slightly at 22 and the locking plate is bent slightly at 23 to engage a sample 24 which is locked therein by means of the bolt and nut 25 extending through the hanger plate and locking plate above the top of the sample. The upper end of the locking plate is flanged at 26 to space the body of the plate away from the hanger plate 20, thereby effecting efficient clamping jaws at 22 and 23 for securely holding the sample therebetween. The hanger plate is bent at the top to form a flange 27. The flange 27 is further bent to form a locking edge portion 28. The locking edge portion is adapted to be inserted through the space between the edge portion 15 and the flange 11 upon the entire hanger being tilted at an angle from the horizontal. The locking edge portion 28 is then pushed into the chamber 18 and the hanger allowed to fall into substantially vertical position where it is held, by reason of the edge portion 28, by an angular bend to secure itself in the chamber against accidental displacement. The construction of the device is such that a hanger as 19 is suspended from both sides of the arm whereby two samples are displayed, one from one side of the arm and one from the other, and may be viewed by a customer upon the salesman swinging the entire arm with hangers and samples about the connection at the hinge bar 4 and the pivot bar 6. A roller 29 is provided at the outer extremity of the arm 9 to space the samples on one arm from the samples on the other arm during the swinging of the arm in the horizontal plane.

It can readily be seen that my invention provides an efficient means for displaying sheet samples and for removing and installing sheet samples from and to the arm. The arm and associated parts are of light but strong and substantial construction and the parts are of simple form but are adapted to be easily assembled and form a strong and rigid rack. The rack is capable of withstanding rough usage and affords a merchandiser an adequate and satisfactory means for storing sheet samples of merchandise so that they are displayed in first-class condition.

I am aware that changes in the form, construction and arrangement of parts may be made without departing from the spirit and without sacrificing the advantages of the invention, and I reserve the right to make all such changes as fairly fall within the scope of the following claims:

I claim:

1. A display rack comprising a supporting arm having a slot therein extending substantially throughout the length of said arm at a side thereof, means for mounting said arm in horizontal position, and a hanger bar adapted to be fastened to an edge of a sample to be displayed and having means thereon extending substantially coextensive with the length of said slot and bodily insertable therethrough for removably retaining said bar on said arm.

2. A display rack comprising a supporting arm having a slot therein extending substantially throughout the length of said arm at a side thereof, means for mounting said arm in horizontal position, a hanger bar comprising a hanger plate, a locking plate, means securing said locking plate and hanger plate together to lock an edge of a sample to be displayed therebetween, and means on said hanger plate extending substantially coextensive with the length of said slot and bodily insertable therethrough for removably retaining said bar on said arm.

3. A display rack comprising a supporting arm having a slot therein extending substantially throughout the length of said arm at a side thereof, means for mounting said arm in horizontal position, a hanger bar comprising a hanger plate, a locking plate, means at one edge of said locking plate to space the body thereof at one end from said hanger plate, means engaging said locking plate and said hanger plate to clamp a sample to be displayed between the opposite edge of said locking plate and an edge of said hanger plate, and means on said hanger plate extending substantially coextensive with the length of said slot and bodily insertable therethrough for removably retaining said bar on said arm.

4. A display rack comprising a supporting arm having a slotted chamber therein extending substantially throughout the length of said arm, means for mounting said arm in a horizontal position, a hanger bar comprising a hanger plate, a locking plate, means on said hanger bar to secure an edge of a sample to be displayed between said locking plate and said hanger plate, and a flange on the hanger plate extending substantially coextensive with said slot and chamber and having the edge portion thereof bent at an angle to the body of said plate and bodily insertable through said slot and into the chamber in the arm for removably retaining said bar on said arm.

5. A display rack comprising a supporting arm, means for mounting said arm in a horizontal position, said arm comprising a body member and a retaining member, said body member and retaining member secured together and having portions of the bodies of said members spaced apart forming an enclosed chamber therebetween, a side wall of said chamber having a slot therein extending substantially throughout the length of said chamber, and means fastened to an edge of the sample to be displayed and bodily insertable through said slot and into said chamber for removably retaining said fastening means on said arm.

6. A display rack comprising a supporting arm, means for mounting said arm in a horizontal position, said arm comprising a body member, a flange on said body member, a retaining member secured to said body member, a bent edge portion on said retaining member bent toward and spaced from said body member flange, means fastened to an edge of a sample to be displayed and adapted to be inserted through said space between the retaining member edge portion and body member flange for removably retaining said fastening means on said arm.

7. A display rack comprising a supporting arm, means for mounting said arm in a horizontal position, said arm comprising a body member having a flange at the top thereof, a retaining member secured to and extending above said body member flange and having a bent edge portion thereon at the upper edge thereof, said bent edge portion being spaced from said body member flange, and means fastened to an edge of a sample to be displayed and adapted to be inserted through said space between said body member flange and said bent edge portion for removably retaining said fastening means on said arm.

8. A display rack comprising a supporting arm,

means for mounting said arm in a horizontal position, said arm comprising a body member having a flange at the top thereof, a retaining member secured to said body member and extending above said body member flange, means on said retaining member defining a chamber with said body member flange, said arm having a slot communicating with said chamber, and means fastened to an edge of a sample to be displayed and adapted to be inserted through said slot and into said chamber for removably retaining said fastening means on said arm.

9. A display rack comprising a supporting arm, means for mounting said arm in horizontal position, said arm comprising a body member having a flange at the top thereof, a retaining member secured to said body member and extending above said body member flange and having a flange thereon, said retaining member flange having an edge portion bent toward said body member flange whereby said body member flange, said retaining member and said retaining member flange and edge portion define a chamber, said arm having a slot in a wall of said chamber other than the bottom wall thereof, and means fastened to an edge of a sample to be displayed and adapted to be inserted through said slot and into said chamber for removably retaining said fastening means on said arm.

10. A hanger bar adapted to be fastened to a sample to be displayed and adjacent the top edge thereof, said bar comprising a hanger plate having a body, a locking plate, means for securing said plates together to secure said sample therebetween, a flange on said hanger plate bent from said body, and a reversely bent edge portion on said flange forming means engageable with a supporting arm of a display rack for removably locking said bar thereto.

11. A sample supporting arm for a display rack comprising a pair of members secured to each other, one of said members having a flange thereon, the other of said members having a flange thereon, said latter flange having a bent edge portion whereby said flanges and bent edge portion define a slotted chamber to receive and removably retain means secured to a sample to be displayed on said arm.

12. A sample supporting arm for a display rack comprising a U-shaped body member, a T-shaped retaining member secured to said body member, said retaining member extending above said body member, and flanges on said body member and said retaining member at the tops thereof, said flange on said retaining member having an edge portion bent toward said body member flange and spaced therefrom whereby means secured to a sample to be displayed will be received in said slot and removably retained on said arm.

LEON H. BEST.