July 14, 1942. H. C. ROBINSON ET AL 2,289,729

FLORAL DISPLAY RACK

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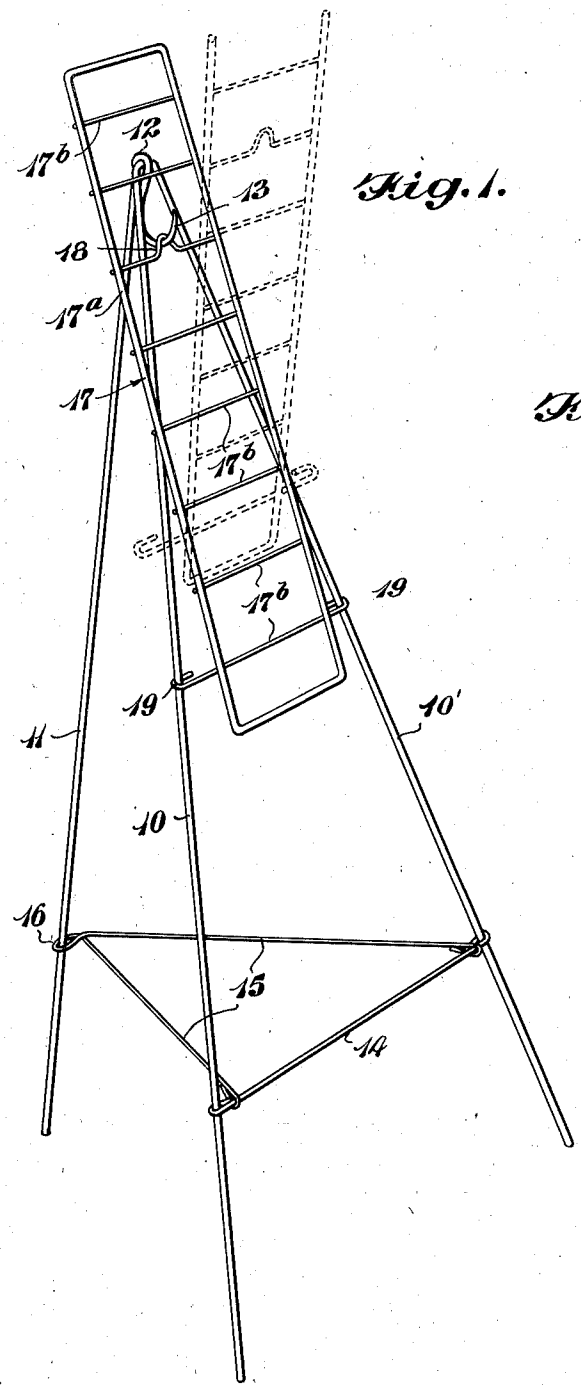


Fig. 1.

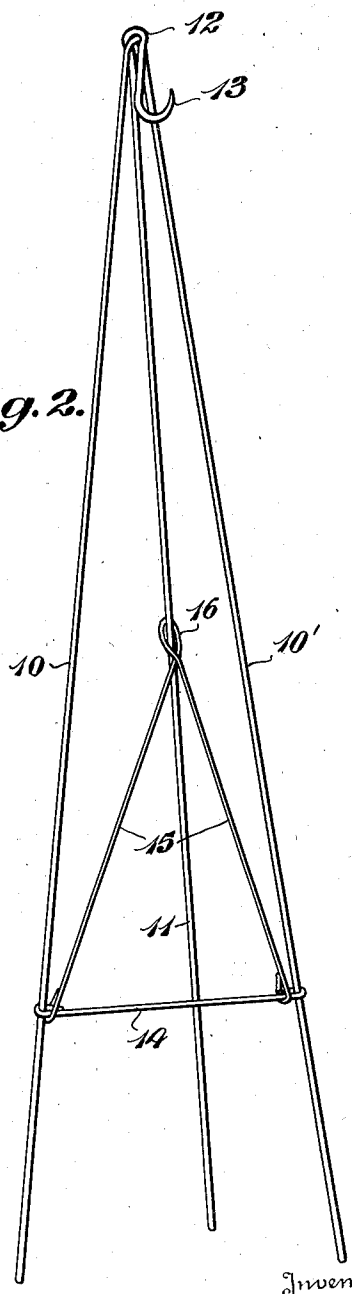


Fig. 2.

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FLORAL DISPLAY RACK

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5 Claims. (Cl. 248—199)

This invention relates to foldable display racks particularly adapted for floral wreaths and the like, and an object of the same is to provide a rack of this type capable of being manufactured or fabricated from wire or rod stock at a low cost and which may be readily set up for use and also collapsed into a compact bundle for shipment and storage and is so constructed as to permit a display, such as a wreath or plaque, to be easily hung upon and removed from the rack.

Another object of the invention is to provide a foldable floral display rack embodying a minimum number of parts, light in weight, which are easily and economically manufactured or fabricated from wire or rod stock but which at the same time when set up result in a relatively strong and sturdy construction, the rack being in the main hidden by the display or thrown well in the background by the latter.

The foregoing and other objects and advantages will become apparent in view of the following description taken in conjunction with the drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a view in perspective of a floral display rack embodying the features of the present invention, the rack being set up for use with the display frame or plaque shown partly removed in dotted lines;

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 but showing the rack in collapsed position.

Referring to the drawing in detail, the rack comprises an easel made up of front legs 10 and 10' which are preferably made of a single piece of wire or rod stock bent in the form of an inverted V or U; and a rear leg 11 which is preferably made of a separate piece of wire or rod stock doubled over at its upper end around the crotch of the legs 10 and 10', as indicated at 12, and terminating in an upwardly bent hook 13. A reinforcing rod 14 cross connects the front legs and has its opposite ends bent around and secured to said legs. The bent portion between the shank of the hook and the upper end of the rear leg constitutes a pivoting eye or hinge for the legs of the rack.

The front and rear legs at their lower extremities are collapsibly connected by means of a latch member 15 preferably made of a single piece of relatively thin wire of generally triangular shape, the wire at its rear end being twisted to provide an eye 16, while the front ends of the wire are bent around or hinged over the cross member or reinforcing rod 14 which connects the front legs 10 and 10'. It will be noted that the looped eye 16 of the latch member 14 is bent downwardly. By bending the eye in this manner, when the latch member reaches an approximate horizontal position with the legs fully spread, the eye is caused to clutch or grip the rear leg 11 holding the legs in spread relation on a substantially equal three-point contact or footing. Also, this bent shape permits the rear leg to fold compactly with respect to the front legs when the easel is collapsed.

A display frame or plaque, generally indicated at 17, is provided in conjunction with the easel and may be of varying shapes in accordance with the type of display. As here shown, the display frame or plaque comprises an outer frame member 17a and a series of cross-connecting rods 17b. While this frame may be given any desired shape, there are two features common to each frame, namely, a hanger 18 provided by giving an inverted U-bend to one of the cross bars 17b, and a pair of oppositely disposed inturned hooks 19 formed on lateral extensions of another of said cross bars.

When the easel is unfolded and set up as shown in Fig. 1, the hanger 18 engages over the hook 13, while the hooks 19 engage over and grip the front legs 10 and 10'. The ease with which the plaque may be placed on the easel will be obvious, the hooks 19 being guided downwardly on the front legs until the hanger 18 engages the hook 13. When this point is reached, the hooks 19 clutch or grip the front legs 10 and 10' and not only hold the display frame or plaque firmly in position but reinforce the legs of the easel. It will be noted that the rear leg of the easel is somewhat shorter than the front legs to cause the easel to tilt rearwardly when set up.

The rack is capable of being manufactured with marked ease and at a low cost.

It will be understood that certain limited changes in construction and design may be adopted without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A display rack comprising an easel or stand having a hook thereon for supporting a floral display or the like and a pair of resilient members extending divergently below said hook, a removable frame or plaque for the display, said frame having a suspension member adapted to engage said hook and means adapted to engage and clutch said divergent members when the suspension member reaches engaged position with respect to the hook.

2. A display rack comprising an easel or stand having a pair of front legs and a rear leg, a hook at the upper extremity of the rack, said front legs extending divergently below said hook, a removably mounted frame or plaque for a floral piece or the like, said frame having a suspension portion adapted to engage said hook and fixed oppositely disposed hook members so located with respect to said portion as to engage and clutch said divergent front legs when the frame or plaque is lowered onto and reaches engaged position with respect to said hook.

3. A display rack comprising an easel or stand having a pair of front legs formed of wire or rod stock and a rear leg, the rear leg being pivotally connected to the front legs at the upper extremity of the easel and together with the front legs forming a tripod, the front legs being arranged in substantially the form of an inverted V and having a hook within the region of the crotch of the V, a removable display frame or plaque formed of wire and having a suspending portion adapted to engage said hook and a pair of fixed oppositely disposed hook members spaced such distance from the suspending portion as to engage the front legs when the suspension member is lowered onto and reaches engaged position with respect to said hook.

4. A display rack comprising a tripod having a pair of front legs formed of a single piece of wire or rod stock bent substantially in the form of an inverted U or V and a rear leg having its upper extremity bent around the crotch of the U or V to provide a pivotal or hinge connection and terminating in a reversely bent free end portion defining a hook for hanging a floral or other display, and a removable wire frame or plaque on which a floral display may be mounted, said wire frame having a cross member formed with a substantially inverted U shaped portion adapted to engage said hook and a pair of oppositely disposed hooks spaced such distance from said portion as to clutch the divergent front legs of the rack when the wire frame is lowered into suspended position on said hook.

5. A display rack comprising a stand or easel having a pair of divergent members and a suspension hook within the upper region of said members, a removable plaque on which a floral display may be mounted, said plaque having a suspension member adapted for engagement with said hook when the plaque is lowered into position thereon, said plaque also having a pair of fixed oppositely disposed hooks spaced such distance from said suspension member as to clutch the divergent members of the stand when the plaque is lowered into suspended position on said hook and hold the plaque against displacement and also brace said divergent members.

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