Sept. 12, 1967 S. C. NICHOLS 3,341,028

DISPLAY STAND

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FIG. 1

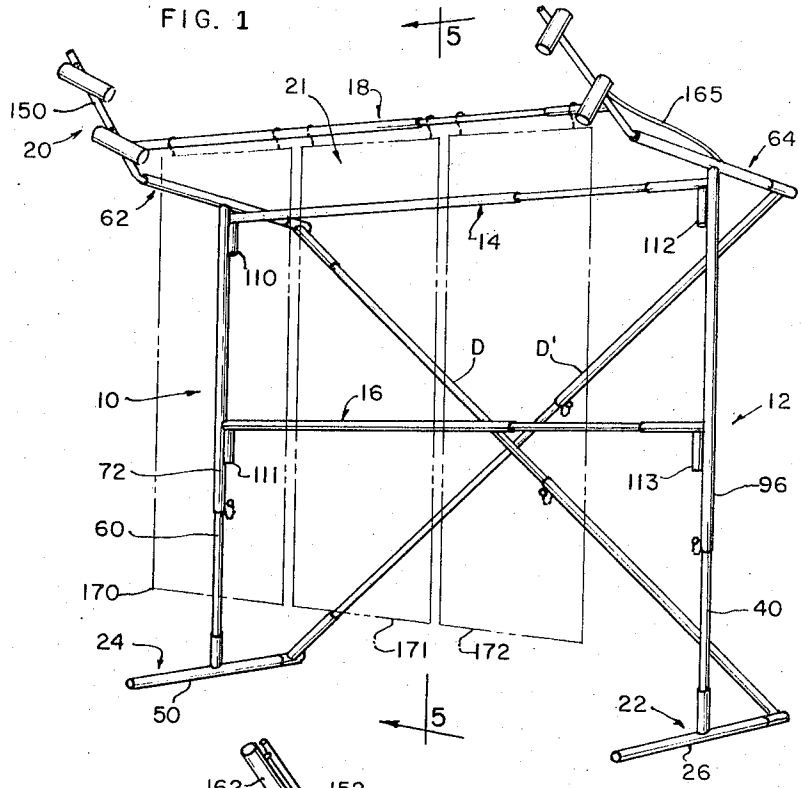


FIG. 2

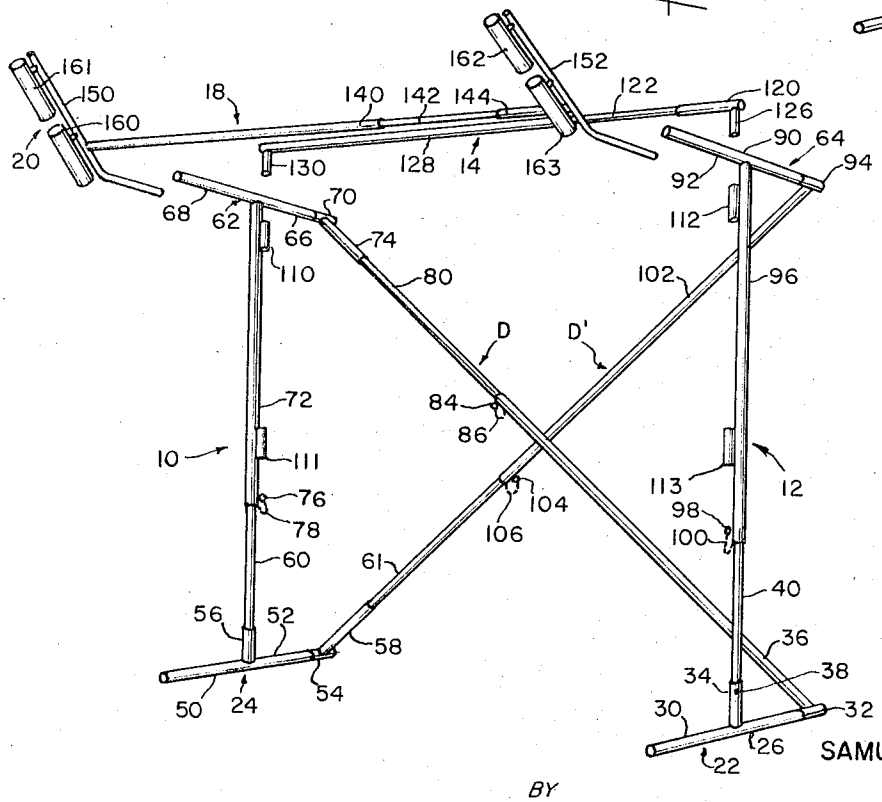
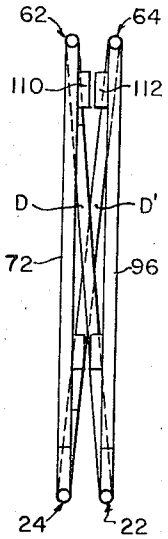


FIG. 3



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FIG. 4

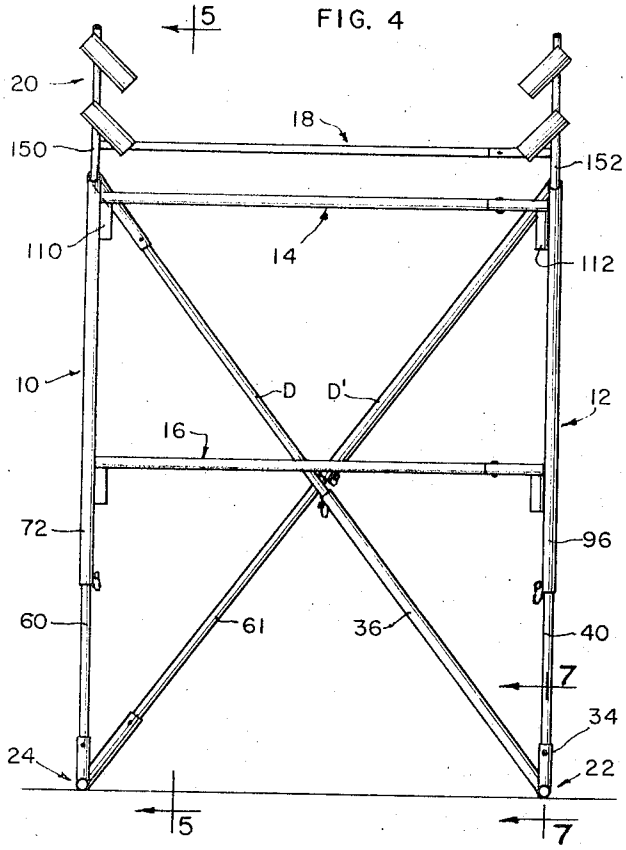


FIG. 5

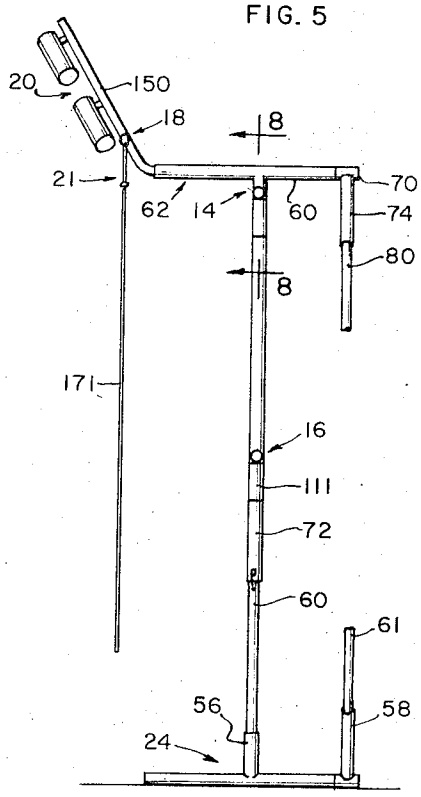


FIG. 6

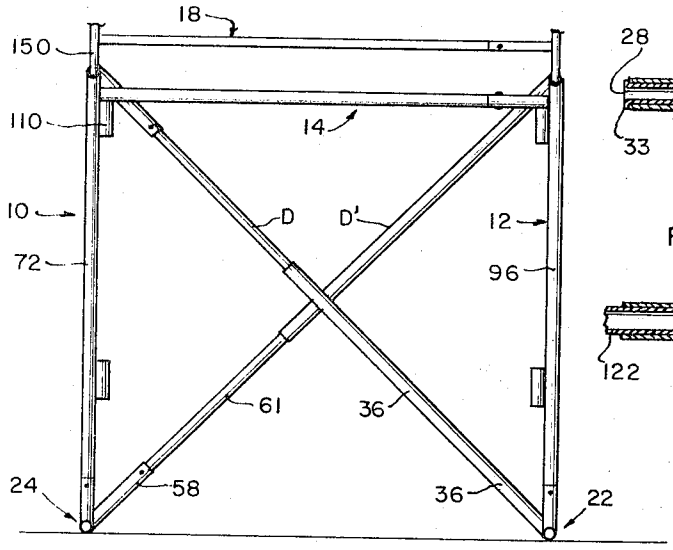


FIG. 7

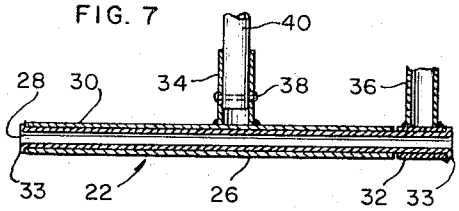
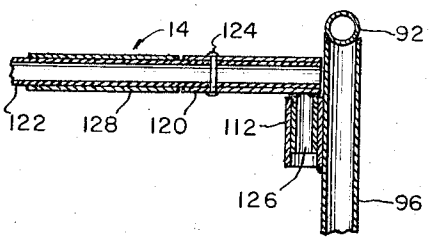


FIG. 8



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DISPLAY STAND

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5 Claims. (Cl. 211—178)

This invention relates to display stands for garments and the like and, more particularly, to a collapsible display stand that is expandable in both width and height.

A lightweight, collapsible display stand is of great benefit to salesmen, and especially to garment salesmen in view of the large amount of traveling that they do. Such a display stand to be practical must be adaptable for quick assembly and disassembly. It should also be capable of displaying the salesman's wares in a manner that will best enhance their sales appeal, and as such, should comprise means to illuminate garments hung thereon and also means to shield them from view until the desired moment for display.

It is thus the principal object of the present invention to provide a display stand that is economical to construct, light in weight and readily transportable by the user.

Another object of the present invention is to provide such a display stand that can expand in both its width and height, so that it may be adapted to changing sales requirements.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide such a display stand having lighting means that are capable of adequately illuminating garments that are hung thereon.

It is a still further object of the present invention to provide such a display stand having means adapted to shield garments from view until the proper time arrives for their display.

Other objects and advantages of the present invention will become apparent hereinafter.

In accordance with an illustrated embodiment, the display stand of the present invention comprises a collapsible tubular framework, telescoping crosspieces on which garments can be hung, and means to support illuminating means and garment-shielding means. The framework includes telescoping diagonals which are disposed in a plane behind that of the telescoping crosspieces, thus not to interfere with the garments hung thereupon. The illuminating means and garment-shielding means are disposed forwardly of the telescoping crosspieces.

The invention will be better understood by referring to the following specification and to the drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the display stand of the present invention, shown in its fully expanded condition, with illuminating means attached and with the garment-shielding means shown in phantom;

FIG. 2 is an exploded perspective view of the display stand shown in FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a front view of the main framework of the display stand of the present invention, shown in its completely collapsed and most compact condition;

FIG. 4 is a front elevational view of the display stand of the present invention, shown in its narrow width, expanded height condition;

FIG. 5 is a sectional view of the display stand, taken on line 5—5 of FIG. 4 with drop cloths;

FIG. 6 is a front elevational view of the lower portion of the stand of the present invention, shown in its narrow width and low height condition;

FIG. 7 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken on line 7—7 of FIG. 4; and

FIG. 8 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken on line 8—8 of FIG. 5.

Referring to the drawings, the display stand **10** of the present invention is comprised of a collapsible framework **12**, telescoping crosspieces **14**, **16** and a telescoping frame **18**, which latter is adapted to support illuminating means **20** and garment-shielding means **21**, as shown. The members shown may all conveniently be made from extruded aluminum, although it should be understood that other metals may be used alternatively.

The framework **12** of the display stand comprises two base members **22**, **24**. The base members are not identical, and the member **22** will be described first. Referring especially to FIGS. 1, 2 and 7, the base member **22** is shown to have a ground-contacting member **26**, which is comprised of a central core **28** and two abutting rotatable sleeves **30** and **32**. The sleeves **30**, **32** are retained in position on the core **28** by an upturned flange **33** formed at each end of the core **28**. A tubular member **34** is welded to the sleeve **30**. Another tubular member **36** is welded to the sleeve **32**. Received in the tubular member **34** and fixedly fastened thereto by a pin **38** is a tubular core member **40**. Since the sleeves **30**, **32** are free to rotate about the core **28**, it is apparent that the tubular members **34** and **36**, and the core member **40**, can rotate about the axis of the member **26**.

The base member **24** is similar in construction to the base member **22**. It has a ground-contacting member **50**, which is also comprised of a central core (not shown) and two abutting sleeves **52** and **54**. The sleeves **52**, **54** are also retained in position on the core by an upturned flange formed at each end thereof. A tubular member **56** is welded to the sleeve **52**. Another tubular member **58**, which is shorter than the corresponding tubular member **36** of the base member **22**, is welded to the sleeve **54**. A tubular core member **60** is received in the tubular member **56** and is fixedly fastened thereto by a pin (not shown). Another tubular core member **61** is similarly received in the tubular member **58** and is also fastened thereto by a pin (not shown). Since the sleeves **52**, **54** are free to rotate about the core in the member **50**, the tubular members **56** and **58**, and their respective core members **60** and **61**, can rotate about the axis of the member **50**.

The framework **12** also comprises two upper horizontal members **62**, **64**. Again, these upper horizontal members, while similar, are not identical, and the member **62** will be described first. The member **62** has a horizontal portion **66**, which is again comprised of a central core (not shown) and two rotatable abutting sleeves **68** and **70**. The sleeves **68**, **70** are retained in position on the core by an upturned flange formed at each end thereof. A depending tubular member **72** is welded to the sleeve **68**; a shorter tubular member **74** is welded to the sleeve **70**. The tubular member **72** is adapted to slide upon the core member **60** such that in the lowermost position of the framework **12**, the member **72** bottoms on the sleeve **56**. In the uppermost position of the framework **12**, the member **72** is retained in position on the core member **60** by a removable pin **76** adapted to be inserted through suitable openings in the members. The pin **76** may be attached to the member **72** by a chain **78**. A tubular core member **80** is received in the member **74** and is fixedly fastened thereto by a pin (not shown). The core member **80** is adapted to slide within the member **36**, such that in the most compact position of the framework **12**, the member **74** bottoms on the tubular member **36**. In the most expanded condition of the framework **12**, the member **36** is retained in position on the core member **80** by a removable pin **84**, adapted to be inserted through suitable openings in the members. Again the pin **84** may be attached to the member **36** by a chain **86**.

The horizontal member **64** comprises a horizontal portion **90**, including a central core (not shown) and two rotatable abutting sleeves **92** and **94** retained in position

on the core by end flanges. A depending tubular member **96** is welded to the sleeve **92** and is adapted to slide on the core member **40** as shown. In the lowermost position of the framework **12**, the member **96** bottoms on the member **34**. In the fully expanded condition of the framework **12**, the member **96** is retained in position on the core member **40** by a removable pin **98**, adapted to be inserted in suitable openings in the members. A chain **100** secures pin **98** to the member **96**. Another tubular member **102** is welded to the sleeve **94** and is adapted to slide on the core member **61**, as shown. In the fully collapsed position of the framework **12**, the member **102** bottoms on the member **58**. In the fully expanded condition of the framework **12**, the member **102** is retained in position on the core member **61** by a removable pin **104**, which is attached to the member **102** by a chain **106**.

Since the tubular members **34** and **36** can rotate about the axis of the member **26**, and the members **56** and **58** can rotate about the axis of the member **50**, and the members **72** and **74** can rotate about the axis of the member **66**, and the members **96** and **102** can rotate about the axis of the member **90**, the entire framework can collapse, as shown in FIG. 3.

The telescoping crosspieces **14, 16**, which serve as rods on which garments are hung, are attached to the framework **12** by means of sleeves **110** and **111** welded to the member **72** and sleeves **112** and **113** welded to the member **96**.

The crosspieces **14, 16** are identical in construction, and as such, only the crosspiece **14** will be described. It is seen to comprise a tubular member **120**, into which a core member **122** is received and fixedly fastened thereto by a pin **124**. (See FIG. 8.) Welded to the tubular member **120** is a depending member **126**, which is adapted to be received into the sleeve **112**, as shown. The crosspiece **14** also comprises another tubular member **128**, which is adapted to slide on the core member **122**, such that in the most compact position of the display stand **10**, the member **128** bottoms on the member **120**, as shown in FIGS. 4, 6 and 8. A depending member **130** is welded to the member **128** and adapted to be received into the sleeve **110**.

The telescoping frame **18** on which is supported the illuminating means **20** and the garment-shielding means **21** is comprised of a tubular member **140**, which is adapted to slide on a core member **142** received in another tubular member **144**. When the frame **18** is in its shortest condition, the member **140** bottoms on the member **144**. Welded to the member **140** is an arm **150**, which is adapted to be received into the core of the horizontal member **62**. Welded to the member **144** is an arm **152**, which is adapted to be received into the core of the horizontal member **64**. The illuminating means **20** comprise two spotlights **160, 161** which are attached to the arm **150**, and two spotlights **162, 163** attached to the arm **152**, power for the lights being supplied through a cord **165**. The spotlights **160, 161, 162, 163** are rotatable and adjustable on the arms **150, 152**. The frame **18** is also adapted to support garment-shielding means **21**, which desirably comprise opaque depending drop cloths **170, 171, 172** hung on the members **140, 142** and **144**.

The display stand **10** is thus seen to be capable of being used in a number of combinations of different widths and heights. In its most compact condition, the display stand **10** can be used with only one crosspiece **14**, as shown in FIG. 6. It can be used with two crosspieces in the expanded height condition without increasing the width, as shown in FIG. 4. Finally, if necessary, the width can be expanded to the condition shown in FIG. 1.

The members **74–80–36** form one of the supporting diagonals D of the framework **12**; the members **58–61–102** form the other supporting diagonal D'. These diagonals are located in a plane behind the plane through the

crosspieces **14, 16**, thus not to interfere with garments hung upon the latter. The horizontal members **140–142–144** of the frame **18** are disposed forwardly of the crosspieces **14, 16**, thereby to maintain the drop cloths **170, 171, 172** in front of the garments hung upon the latter. The construction thus provides a convenient means of displaying a variety of garments in a manner best to enhance their sales appeal.

Assembly of the display stand of this invention is quick and efficient. The collapsed framework **12** is first spread apart to the desired width and raised to the desired height, and it is then retained in this position by inserting the various pins into the openings in the respective diagonal and vertical members. The crosspieces **14, 16** are inserted in the appropriate sleeves, and the frame **18** is inserted into the cores of the horizontal members **62** and **64**. The stand is then ready to display garments. Disassembly is equally quick and easy and is accomplished merely by reversing the above-enumerated steps.

In the foregoing description, the invention has been described with reference to a certain particular preferred embodiment, although it is to be understood that the specific details shown are merely illustrative and that the invention may be carried out in other ways without departing from the true spirit and scope of the following appended claims.

I claim:

1. An expandable display stand for garments and the like, comprising:

a horizontal base member disposed on each side of said stand;

a horizontal upper member disposed above each of said horizontal base members and parallel thereto;

a telescoping vertical member joining each of said horizontal base and upper members;

telescoping diagonal members disposed in a plane behind the plane of said vertical members, the lower ends of said diagonal members being pivotally attached to said horizontal base members, the upper ends of said diagonal members being pivotally attached to said horizontal upper members;

at least one telescoping horizontal crosspiece removably attached to said vertical members and lying in their plane; and

means to retain each of said telescoping vertical and diagonal members in an expanded condition.

2. An expandable display stand as in claim **1**, in which each of said diagonal members is rotatable about the axes through the horizontal members to which its ends are attached.

3. An expandable display stand as in claim **1**, further comprising illuminating means removably attached to said horizontal upper members.

4. An expandable display stand as in claim **3**, in which said illuminating means comprises a horizontal member disposed forwardly of and parallel to said plane of said vertical members.

5. An expandable display stand as in claim **4**, further comprising garment-shielding means disposed upon said horizontal member of said illuminating means.

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