Dec. 26, 1944. A. R. BROTHERS 2,366,085

BELT RACK

Filed Jan. 26, 1944

Fig. 1.

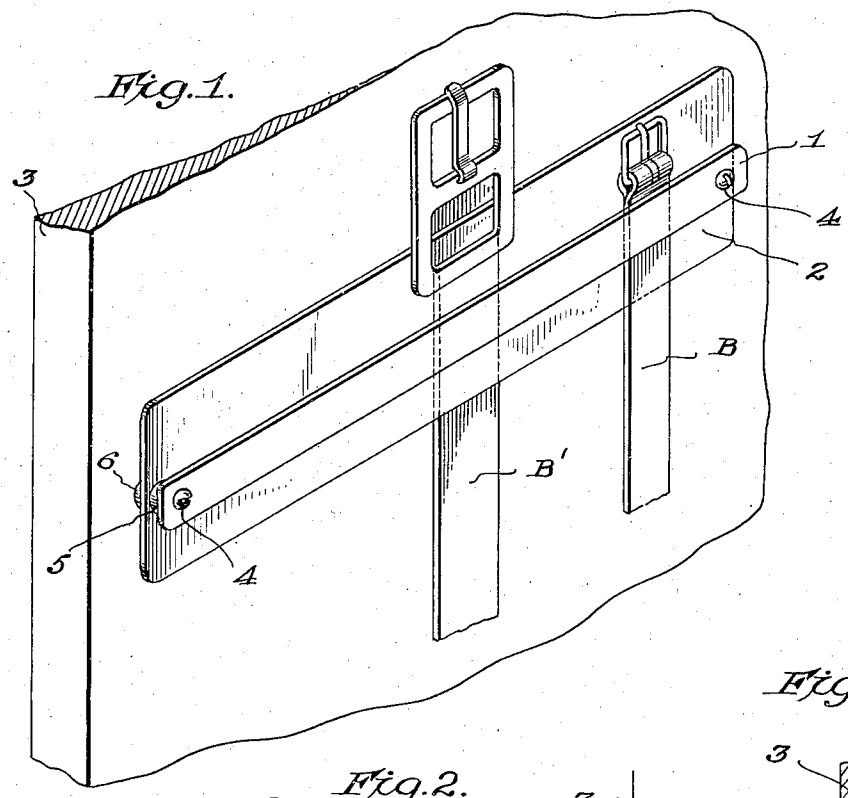


Fig. 2.

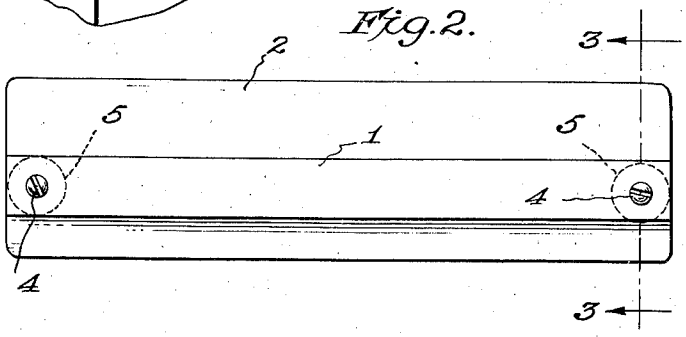


Fig. 3.

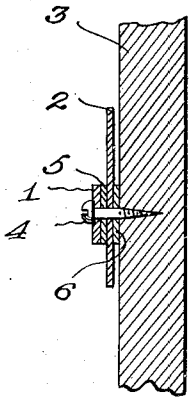
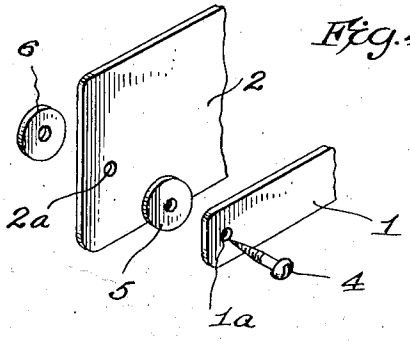


Fig. 4.



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BELT RACK

Abe R. Brothers, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Application January 26, 1944, Serial No. 519,708

1 Claim. (Cl. 211—60)

This invention is a rack for supporting belts when not in use, in such manner that they will be maintained in neat and tidy condition and free of wrinkles, and displayed in a way to permit ready selection and removal from the rack when desired.

According to present styles, a preponderant number of ladies' dresses are of the type which include detachable belts, generally made of material appropriate to the particular dress with which they are adapted to be worn, although belts made from leather or other materials are common. These belts are, in most cases, unattached to the dress, so that when a dress is taken off and hung up, the belts must be stored in a separate place and it is not infrequent that they become lost or misplaced. Many women simply hang up the belts on a hook in the closet where it is often necessary to remove all the belts on the hook before the one peculiar to the outfit to be worn can be selected. Others roll the belts and store them in bureau drawers where they become dusted with face powders or stained with finger nail polish and other extraneous materials.

There is a definite need for some satisfactory means to keep belts in a convenient accessible and tidy condition and this fact not only applies to ladies' belts, but also to those worn by men. The present invention provides a convenient rack for this purpose.

Speaking generally, the belt rack of the present invention comprises a plurality of strips of material which are preferably, although not necessarily, resilient in nature. These strips are adapted to be superimposed on one another with spacers between them and with spacers also at one side of one of them, and screws or nails are passed through alined holes in the strips and in the spacers and engaged with any convenient support, such as the inside of a closet door, so that such strips are positioned horizontally in spaced apart relation to one another and to the contiguous door surface. The spacers employed are of sufficient thickness to permit the strap portion of the belt to pass between the forward strip and the rear strip and between the rear strip and the door surface, but such spacing is insufficient to permit the passage of belt buckles. Consequently belts may be suspended on a rack so mounted, with the buckle ends up and with the strap portions of the belt hanging freely contiguous to the inner surface of the door. In this condition, they may be readily seen so that the particular belt desired can be selected and removed by drawing the belt upwardly to disengage it from the rack.

Features of the invention, other than those adverted to, will be apparent from the hereinafter detailed description and appended claim, when read in conjunction with the accompanying drawing.

The drawing illustrates one practical embodiment of the invention, but the construction shown therein is to be understood as illustrative, only, and not as defining the limits of the invention.

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing a belt rack of the present invention attached to one surface of a door with a couple of belts supported thereon.

Figure 2 is a front elevation of the rack detached.

Figure 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Figure 2 showing the rack secured to the door, which is illustrated in section in this figure.

Figure 4 is a fragmental perspective view of the several component parts of the rack detached and separated from one another, but in substantially the relative positions which they occupy when assembled.

Referring to the drawing, 1 and 2 designate two strips. These may be made of any suitable material, but, in practice, I preferably make them from a synthetic, such as "Masonite" or a plastic. They are preferably made relatively thin, so as not to occupy undue space in the direction of their thickness and to permit parts of certain types of belt buckles to engage themselves over the strip as shown at the left in Figure 1. The strip 1 is also preferably made somewhat narrower than the strip 2. They may be made of different lengths, but for the purpose of illustration I have shown them as both of the same length.

These strips are adapted to be mounted on any suitable support, such as the inner surface of a closet door 3 by means of screws 4. These screws are adapted to be screwed into the door after passing through perforations 1*a* and 2*a* which are provided, respectively, near the opposite ends of the strips 1 and 2 and through perforated spacers 5 and 6, the former of which are positioned between the strips 1 and 2 and the latter of which are positioned between the strip 2 and the adjacent face of the door.

The spacers are of a thickness slightly greater than the thickness of the average belt strap, but less than the thickness of the buckle and the binding which secures the buckle to the strap. Consequently the straps of a plurality of belts, one of

which is indicated at B, may be passed downwardly through the space or slot between the strips 1 and 2 to support such belts as indicated in Figure 1, while the straps of other belts, one of which is indicated at B', may be passed downwardly between the strip 2 and the adjacent face of the door to support these latter belts in a manner also shown in Figure 1. The strip 1 is adapted to hold the narrow belts and smaller buckles, as well as belts of soft materials which usually have small buckles, in the manner indicated at B. The strip 2 is adapted to hold the wider belts with the larger buckles, as shown at B'.

I preferably make the strips 1 and 2 of somewhat resilient material, so that if a belt strap slightly thicker than the thickness of the spacers 5 or 6 is encountered, the strips may be slightly sprung or bent to permit of the support of such a belt, but experience has shown that even when such strips are sprung, the spacing will not be sufficiently great to release other belts having straps of considerably less thickness.

In the form of the invention shown in the drawing, the strips are shown as substantially rectangular with rounded corners, but, if desired, they may be made of more ornate shapes or designs without departing from this invention.

The drawing shows two strips, but, if desired, additional strips may be added in superimposed relation to one another with spacers between successive strips, so as to provide a space for the storage of additional belts and the screws 4 may be utilized to secure all of these strips in spaced superimposed relation in the same manner as these screws mount the two strips as shown in the drawing.

The drawing shows the strips 1 and 2 and the spacers 5 and 6 assembled and secured to the door by the two screws 4. For convenience in merchandising the invention, however, the strips 1 and 2 and the spacers 5 and 6 may be assembled at the time of manufacture by making the screw holes through these parts somewhat larger and then assembling these parts by means of eyelet rivets which, because of their central openings, provide for the passage of the attaching screws 4 when it is desired to mount the thus assembled device on the door or other appropriate support.

The accompanying drawing illustrates the preferred form of the invention, but the invention is to be understood as fully commensurate with the appended claim.

Having thus fully described the invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A belt rack comprising a horizontally elongated relatively narrow front strip, a horizontally elongated back strip of substantially the same length as the front strip but wider than and positioned rearwardly of the front strip with the back strip projecting appreciably above the upper edge of the front strip, spacers adjacent to and between the opposite ends of said strips to space them apart and form between them an elongated slot extending uninterruptedly for nearly the full length of said front strip, and additional spacers adjacent to the opposite ends of the back strip and at the rear thereof to space said back strip from the flat upright surface of an appropriate support on which the rack is adapted to be supported, to form between said back strip and support an additional elongated slot extending uninterruptedly for nearly the full length of said back strip, both of said slots being of sufficient size to permit belt straps to be passed therethrough but too narrow to permit of the passage of the belt buckles, whereby belts are supported in said slots by engagement of their buckles with the upper edges of said strips, and means for mounting the assembled back and front strips and spacers on an appropriate upright support.

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