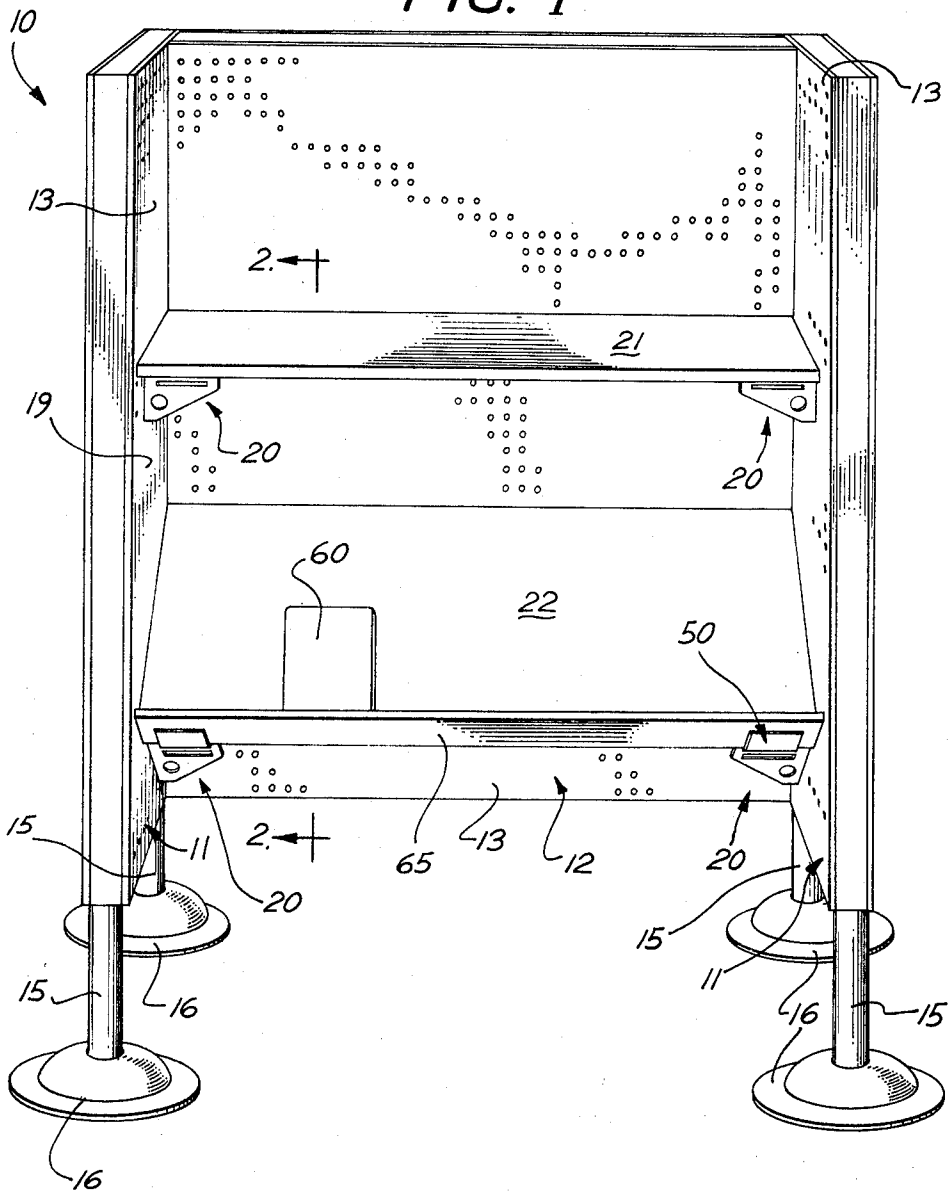
Jan. 13, 1970 C. O. LARSON 3,489,290

SHELF SUPPORT

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FIG. 1



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FIG. 2

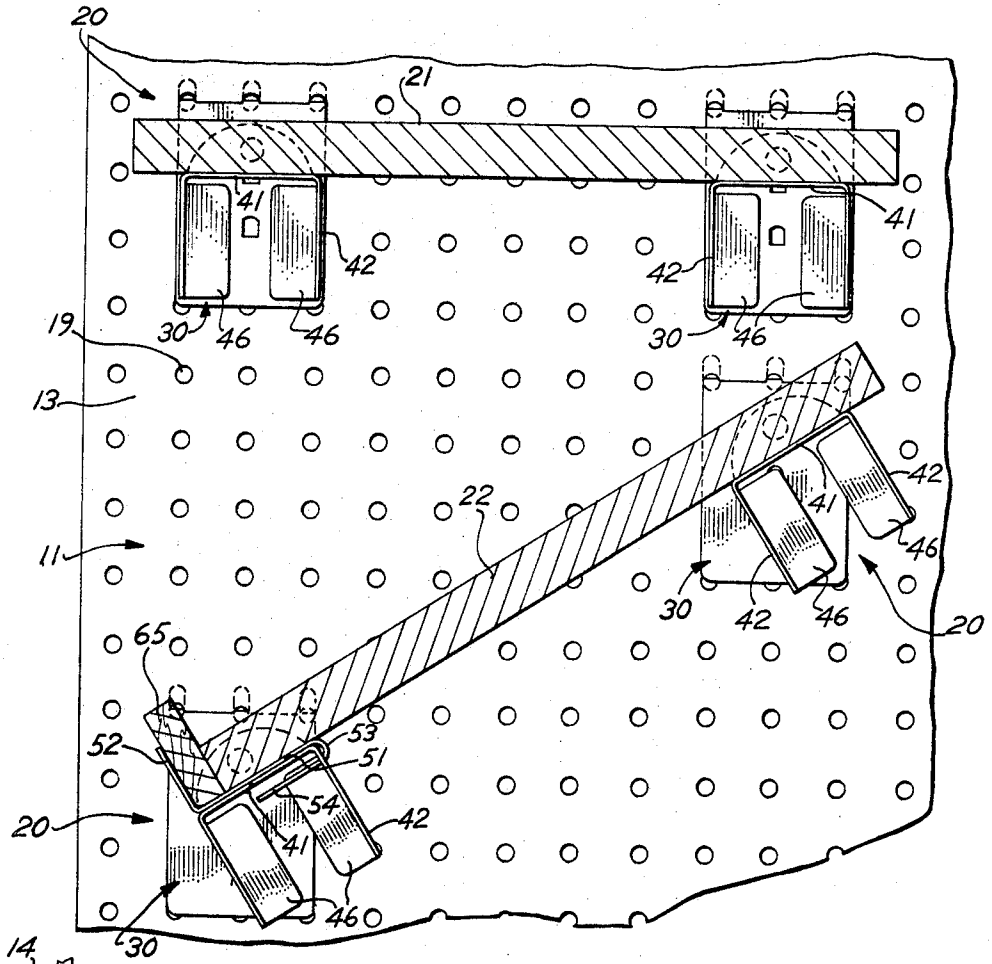


FIG. 3

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SHELF SUPPORT

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FIG. 4

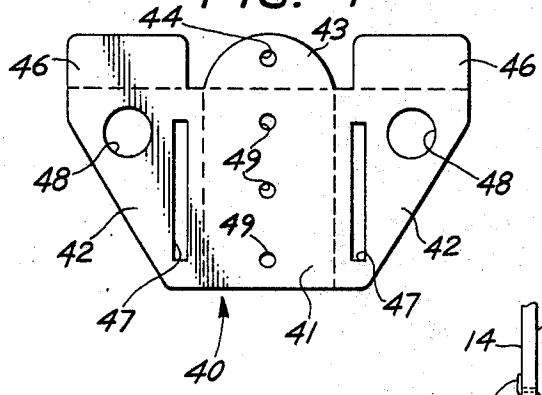


FIG. 5

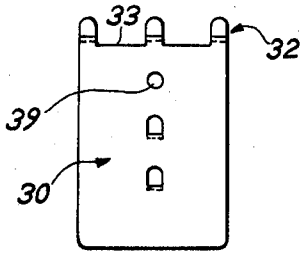


FIG. 7

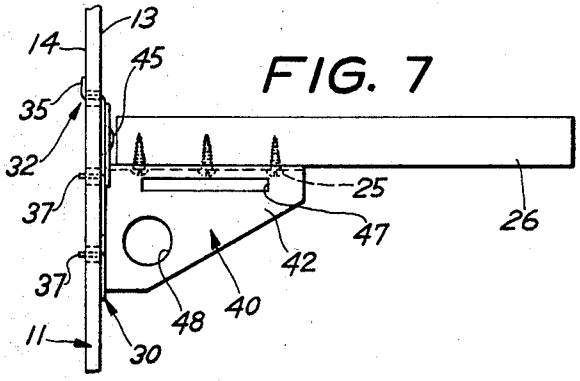


FIG. 6

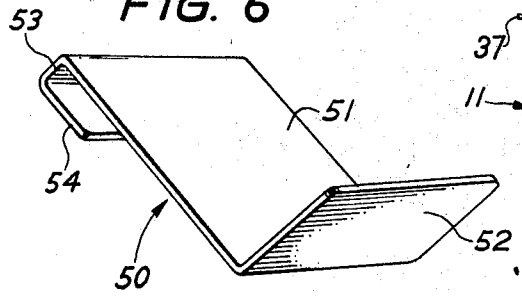


FIG. 9

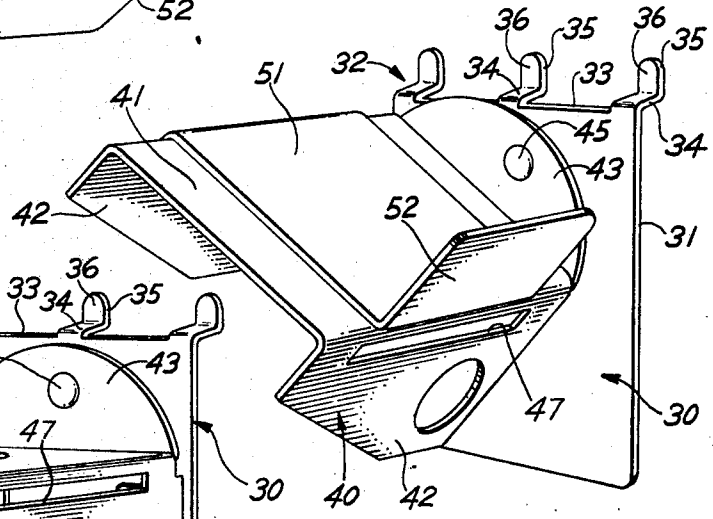
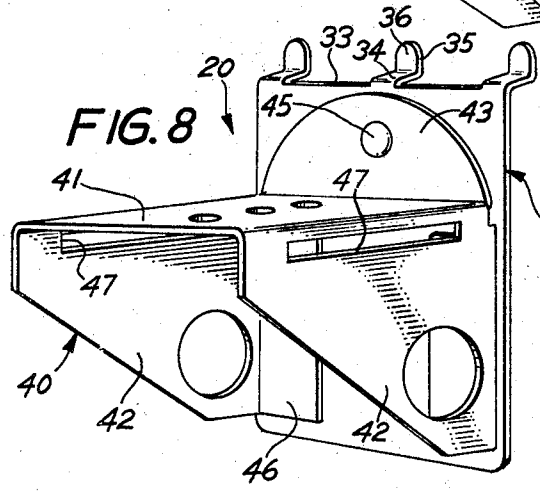


FIG. 8



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Patented Jan. 13, 1970

3,489,290

SHELF SUPPORT

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Int. Cl. A47f 5/00
U.S. Cl. 211—148 13 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A shelf support for supporting a shelf on an upstanding pegboard having a plurality of holes arranged in equidistantly spaced horizontal rows and vertical columns. The shelf support comprises a base member having a planar rear surface adapted to bear against the face of the associated pegboard. Mounting means are formed integral with the base member and extend outwardly therefrom for mounting the base member on the associated pegboard. A support bracket having a bearing surface is rotatably carried by the base member for rotational movement relative thereto about an axis perpendicular to the plane of the base member, whereby the bearing surface of the support bracket is adapted to support one edge of an associated shelf thereon in any one of a plurality of angular positions relative to the associated pegboard, in each of which positions the shelf is disposed in a plane normal to the plane of the pegboard.

This invention relates to shelf supports adapted for use with pegboard displays, and more particularly to a shelf support capable of supporting one edge of a shelf on an upstanding pegboard, display in any one of a plurality of angular positions relative to the display, in each of which positions the shelf is disposed in a plane normal to the plane of the pegboard upon which the shelf support is mounted.

It is a primary object of the invention to provide a shelf support which includes a base member, mounting means for mounting the base member on a pegboard, and a support bracket rotatably carried on the base member for rotational movement relative thereto about an axis perpendicular to the plane of the base member, the support bracket serving to support one edge of a shelf at a desired inclined position relative to the pegboard, whereby the support bracket is particularly useful in supporting a shelf upon a pegboard display having a pair of upstanding parallel pegboards.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a shelf support of the character noted, which further includes stop means removably carried by the support bracket, the stop means being effective to prevent a shelf positioned upon the support bracket from sliding outwardly and off the support bracket when the shelf is downwardly inclined.

It is yet another object of the invention to provide a shelf support of the character noted, wherein the aforementioned stop means includes a plate adapted to overlie the bearing surface of the support bracket and having a flange which extends upwardly from one end of the plate so as to engage the outer edge of the shelf, thereby to prevent outward movement of the shelf over the support bracket when the shelf is in an inclined position.

It is still another object of the invention to provide, for use together with the shelf support of the character noted, a removable article retaining member adapted to engage articles disposed upon an inclined shelf, thereby to prevent movement of the articles off of the shelf.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a shelf support of the character noted, wherein the support bracket includes a planar bearing surface adapted to support one edge of a shelf disposed thereon, the bearing surface further including downwardly extending rigidifying side flanges integral therewith and an end flange integral therewith an extending in a direction opposite to the side flanges; pivot means being provided for rotatably connecting the end flange to the base member whereby the support bracket is capable of rotational movement relative to the base member about an axis disposed normal to the base member.

A further object of the invention is to provide a shelf support of the character noted, wherein the support bracket is provided with edge flanges disposed parallel to the base member, whereby the rear surfaces of the edge flanges are adapted to bear against the face of the base member so as to distribute the forces bearing upon the base member when a shelf is disposed upon the bearing surface.

It is still another object of the invention to provide a shelf support of the character noted, which further includes means for rigidly securing a shelf to the support bracket whereby the shelf may be supported in cantilever fashion on the associated pegboard.

It is yet another object of the invention to provide a shelf support of the character noted, wherein the support bracket may be inexpensively fabricated from a unitary piece of sheet metal or the like, but yet is strong enough to support the shelf on the associated pegboard without distorting and without damaging the associated pegboard in the areas thereof adjacent to which the shelf support is attached.

Further features of the invention pertain to the particular arrangement of the elements of the shelf support, whereby the above-outlined and additional operating features thereof are attained.

The invention, both as to its organization and method of operation, together with further objects and advantages thereof, will best be understood by reference to the following specification, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of a pegboard display having a plurality of shelf supports embodying the present invention mounted thereon, and illustrating a pair of shelves supported thereupon in two angular positions with respect to the display;

FIG. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary side elevational view taken along the line 2—2 in FIGURE 1, illustrating the shelf supports supporting shelves thereupon in two different positions and wherein the lower shelf support of the lower pair of supports is provided with the stop means and the article retaining member as contemplated by the present invention;

FIG. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary partial front view of the shelf supports positioned to support a shelf thereupon in a horizontal plane;

FIG. 4 is a plan view of a unitary sheet metal member prior to fabrication thereof into the support bracket of the present invention;

FIG. 5 is a front elevational view of the base member forming part of the shelf support of the present invention;

FIG. 6 is a perspective view of the stop means usable with the shelf support of the present invention;

FIG. 7 is a side view of the shelf support of the present invention wherein a shelf is rigidly secured to the support bracket thereof;

FIG. 8 is a perspective view of the shelf support of the present invention, illustrating the position of the support bracket when disposed for supporting a shelf in a horizontal plane; and

FIG. 9 is a perspective view of the shelf support of FIG. 8, with the support bracket positioned for supporting

a shelf in an inclined position and the stop means illustrated in FIG. 6 positioned thereon.

Referring now to the drawings, and more particularly to FIG. 1 thereof, there is illustrated a display designated generally as **10**, which includes a pair of spaced apart generally rectangular upstanding side pegboards **11**, and a rear pegboard **12**. Each of the pegboards **11** and **12** have front and rear surfaces **13** and **14** respectively. The pegboards **11** and **12** are mounted by way of any suitable fastening means (not shown) to the upstanding supports provided by the legs **15**, the legs **15** being respectively disposed in bases **16** whereby the display **10** is supported in an upright position with the side pegboards **11** disposed parallel to one another. Each pegboard has a plurality of holes **19** therethrough to receive supporting prongs of various types of display hooks for attachment to the pegboards **11** and **12**. Also as shown in FIGS. 1 and 2, a plurality of shelf supports **20** is mounted on the opposing faces of the side pegboards **11**, with two pair of the shelf supports **20** respectively supporting the opposite edges of a first shelf **21** in a horizontal position, and two pair of shelf supports respectively supporting the opposite edges of a second shelf **22** which is disposed at an inclined position with respect to the display **10**.

Each of the shelf supports **20** is identical, and as best seen in FIGS. 3, 4, 5 and 8, each of the shelf supports **20** comprises a generally rectangular base member **30** having a rear surface **31** adapted to bear against the face **13** of the respective pegboard **11**. A plurality of mounting prongs **32** is integrally formed with one edge **33** of the base member **30**, which prongs extend outwardly therefrom. Each of the mounting prongs **32** comprises a relatively straight first leg element **34** having one end formed integrally with the edge **33** of the base member **30** and extending at right angles to the plane of the base member. Each of the leg elements **34** is of sufficient length to extend through the openings **19** in the pegboards **11**, and thus the length of each of the first leg elements **34** is determined by the thickness of the pegboard with which the shelf support **20** is to be used. Normally, the thickness of the pegboard will be at least one-quarter inch and the thickness of the material from which the shelf support **20** is formed will be less than the thickness of the pegboard with which it is to be used.

A second leg element **35** is carried by the outer end of the first leg element **34** and is disposed normal thereto, whereby the second leg element **35** extends in the opposite direction to the base member **30**. The second leg element **35** comprises a front surface **36** that is substantially parallel to the plane of the base member **30** and offset with respect to the rear surface **31** of the base member **30** a distance substantially equal to the thickness of the pegboard **11**. As best seen in FIG. 3, the upstanding second leg element **35** extends upwardly above the opening **19** a sufficient distance so that the flat surface **36** thereof may bear against the rear surface **14** of the pegboard **11** after the mounting prongs **32** have been inserted through the cooperative openings **19**.

Also as shown in the drawings, the base member **30** preferably includes a second plurality of vertically spaced mounting members integrally formed as by punching from the base member **30**. Each of the second mounting members comprises a single leg element **37** which extends outwardly from the base **30** in the same direction as the first leg element **34** of the prongs **32**. The leg elements **37** are disposed substantially normal to the base member **30** and each has a length equal to the thickness of the pegboard **11**, whereby each leg element **37** is insertible through the openings **19** in the pegboard **11**. The leg elements **37** provide additional support for the base **30** on the pegboard **11**, thereby to distribute the forces applied to the pegboard **11** by the shelf support **20** over a greater area of the pegboard. As best seen in FIG. 5, the base member **30** is further provided with an opening **39** therethrough, for reasons hereafter explained.

It will be apparent from FIG. 2 that the spaces between each of the adjacent mounting prongs **32** is equal to the spacing between two adjacent holes **19** in the pegboard **11**. It will be also understood that the mounting prongs **32** and the mounting members **37** are vertically spaced on the base member **30** such that when the base member **30** is mounted on the pegboard **11**, each of the mounting prongs **32** and the mounting members **37** will be received by vertically spaced openings **19** on the pegboard.

The shelf support **20** further comprises a support bracket designated generally as **40**, rotatably carried by the base member **30** and extending outwardly therefrom in a direction generally opposite to the mounting members **32**. As best seen in FIGS. 4, 8 and 9, the major portion of the support bracket **40** is preferably generally U-shaped in cross section normal to the longitudinal axis thereof and has a generally planar bearing surface **41** and generally planar rigidifying side flanges **42** formed integral therewith and disposed normal thereto.

The bearing surface **41** is further provided with an end flange **43** which is formed integral with the inner end thereof and is disposed normal thereto and extends in a direction opposite to the side flanges **42**. As best seen in FIG. 4, the end flange **43** has an opening **44** therethrough of substantially the same diameter as the opening **39** in the base member **30**. The support bracket **40** is rotatably connected to the base member **30** by passing a rivet **45** through the opening **44** in the end flange **43** of the support bracket **40** and the opening **39** in the base member **30**; the rivet **45** being tight enough to prevent excessively free rotation of the support bracket. When so fastened, the support bracket **40** is mounted for rotation relative to the base member **30** about an axis perpendicular to the plane of the base member. In this regard, it will be appreciated that the bearing surface **41** is always disposed in a plane normal to the base member **30** regardless of the extent of angular rotation of the support bracket **40**.

In the preferred embodiment of the shelf support **20**, each of the side flanges **42** includes an inwardly turned edge flange **46** formed integral with the inner end thereof and disposed in substantially the same plane as the end flange **43**, whereby the rear surface of the edge flanges **46** are adapted to bear against the face of the base member **30** so as to distribute the forces upon the base member **30** when an associated shelf, such as **21** or **22**, is disposed upon the bearing surface **41**.

As seen in FIG. 4, the support bracket **40** may be formed of a single piece of sheet metal or the like, punched to provide the desired pattern and then folded along the dashed lines to provide the desired side flanges **42**, end flange **43** and edge flanges **46**. Also as shown in the drawings, each of the side flanges **42** is provided with a generally rectangular slot **47** disposed substantially adjacent to the planar bearing surface **41** and extending in a direction generally parallel thereto, the slots **47** being provided for reasons hereinafter explained. In order to lighten the support bracket, suitable openings such as **48** may be punched in the side flanges **42**. The bearing surface **41** is also provided with a plurality of aligned openings **49** which are adapted to receive fastening means such as the screws **25** therethrough, whereby a shelf such as **26** may be supported in cantilever fashion upon a single pegboard by passing the screws **25** through the openings **49** and into the bottom surface of the shelf **26**.

As seen in FIGS. 1 and 2, four of the shelf supports **20** are used to support the opposite edges of a shelf in either the horizontal position, as shown by the shelf **21**, or, by appropriately spacing the shelf supports and rotating the support brackets so that the bearing surfaces **41** thereof lie in a common plane, the shelf may be disposed in any one of a number of angular positions with respect to the pegboards **11**, in each of which positions the shelf will be disposed normal to the plane of the pegboards, as shown by the shelf **22**.

When the shelf supports **20** are used to support a shelf

in an inclined position, it is necessary to provide stop means for use in conjunction therewith so as to prevent the inclined shelf from sliding off of the bearing surfaces **41** of the cooperating shelf supports.

A preferred form of stop means, designated generally as **50**, is best illustrated in FIGS. 2, 6 and 9, and comprises an elongated plate **51** which is coextensive in width to the solts **47** provided in the side flanges **42** of the support bracket **40**. One end of the plate **51** is turned upwardly to provide an upstanding end flange **52**. The opposite end of the plate **51** is provided with a generally U-shaped return comprising a bight portion **53** and a return flange **54**. The bight portion **53** is substantially equal to the distance between the slots **47** and the bearing surface **41** of the support bracket **40**, whereby the slots **47** are adapted to receive the return portion **54** with the plate **51** overlying the bearing surface **41**. As seen in FIGS. 2 and 9, the stop means is positioned upon the support bracket **40** by inserting the return portion **54** thereof into the uppermost one of the slots **47** in the support bracket **40**. In this position, the major portion of the plate **51** overlies the bearing surface **41**, while the upstanding end flange **52** is disposed generally normal to and out of the plane of the bearing surface **41**. When the stop means **50** is so positioned, the upstanding end flange **52** is adapted to engage the outer edge of the shelf **22** so as to prevent outward movement of the shelf relative to the shelf supports **20**. When the shelf supports are used to position a shelf in a horizontal plane, the stop means **50** is easily removed from the shelf support **20** by sliding the return flange **54** out of the respective slot **47**.

As illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 2, when the shelf **22** is inclined, articles such as **60** may tend to slide therefrom. In this case, an article retaining member **65**, which may be of the same material as the shelf **72** and coextensive in width thereto, is positioned on the bearing surface **41** between the outer edge of the shelf **22** and the upstanding end flanges **52** of the stop means, whereby the article retaining member **65** extends above the plane of the shelf so as to engage articles positioned on the inclined shelf and prevent them from sliding therefrom.

The shelf supports **20** may be easily removed from the pegboard **11** and relocated in any desirable position so as to position the shelf in a selected angular position on the pegboards **11** by first inserting the second leg elements **36** of the mounting prongs **32** into a corresponding number of openings **19** at the desired location, and then pivoting the base member **30** downwardly to insert the leg elements **37** into the corresponding number of openings, whereby the rear surface **31** of the base member **30** is brought into contact with the face **13** of the pegboard.

The desired angular position is then established by rotating the support bracket **40** until the bearing surface **41** lies in the desired plane. A second shelf support **20** is then placed on the pegboard **11**, the position thereof being determined by the depth of the shelf to be supported. The support bracket **40** of the second shelf support **20** is then rotated so that the bearing surface **41** thereof lies in the same plane as the bearing surface of the first shelf support. Upon positioning a pair of shelf supports **20** on each of the opposing faces of the upstanding pegboards **11** so that the bearing surfaces **41** of all of the shelf supports **20** lie in the same plane, and upon inserting the stop means **50** thereon in the manner heretofore described, a shelf such as **22** may be positioned thereupon in any desired angular position with respect to the parallel pegboards **11**.

While there has been described what is at present considered to be the preferred embodiment of the invention, it will be understood that various modifications may be made therein, and it is intended to cover in the appended claims all such modifications as fall within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A shelf support for supporting a shelf on an upstanding pegboard having a plurality of holes arranged in equidistantly spaced horizontal rows and vertical columns, said shelf support comprising a base member having a substantially planar rear surface adapted to bear against the face of the associated pegboard, mounting means integral with said base member and extending outwardly therefrom for mounting said base member on the associated pegboard, a support bracket carried by said base member and comprising a generally planar bearing surface disposed in a plane normal to said base member and adapted to support one edge of an associated shelf thereon, a pair of rigidifying side flanges formed integral with said bearing surface and disposed normal thereto and an end flange integral with said bearing surface and extending therefrom in a direction opposite to said side flanges, and means rotatably connecting said end flange to said base member, whereby said support bracket is rotatably carried by said base member for rotational movement relative thereto about an axis perpendicular to the plane of said base member so that said bearing surface is adapted to support one edge of an associated shelf in any one of a plurality of angular positions relative to the associated pegboard, in each of which positions the shelf is disposed in a plane normal to the plane of the pegboard.

2. The shelf support set forth in claim **1**, and further comprising stop means carried by said support bracket and extending out of said planar bearing surface thereof for engaging the free edge of the associated shelf supported by said support bracket so as to prevent outward movement of the shelf relative thereto.

3. The shelf support set forth in claim **2**, wherein each of said side flanges has a slot therein disposed substantially adjacent to said bearing surface and extending in a direction parallel thereto, and said stop means comprises a generally planar plate adapted to overlie said planar bearing surface, one end of said plate having an end flange integral therewith and disposed substantially normal thereto, the opposite end of said plate being provided with a return flange disposed in a plane parallel to the plane of said plate and coextensive in width to said slots, whereby said slots are adapted to receive said return flange so as to position said stop means on said support bracket with said plate overlying said bearing surface and said end flange extending upwardly from said plate for engaging the free edge of the associated shelf supported by said support bracket.

4. The shelf support set forth in claim **1**, wherein each of said side flanges includes an edge flange integral with the inner end thereof and disposed in a plane parallel to the plane of said base member, whereby the rear surfaces of said edge flanges are adapted to bear against the face of said base member so as to distribute the force upon said base member when the associated shelf is disposed upon said bearing surface.

5. The shelf support set forth in claim **1**, wherein said bearing surface has a plurality of openings therethrough for receiving a corresponding number of fastening means, whereby the associated shelf is adapted to be rigidly supported upon said bearing surface by the passage of said fastening means through said openings and into the associated shelf.

6. The shelf support set forth in claim **1**, wherein said mounting means comprises at least one mounting prong having a first leg element integral with one edge of said base member and extending outwardly therefrom in a direction opposite to said support bracket, said first leg element being disposed substantially normal to said base member and having a length substantially equal to the thickness of the associated pegboard, and a second leg element carried by the outer end of said first leg element and disposed normal thereto and extending in the opposite direction to said base member, whereby said prong is in-

sertible through an opening in said pegboard with said first leg element thereof being adapted normally to rest within the opening in the associated pegboard so as to support said base member thereon with said second leg element thereof bearing against the rear surface of the associated pegboard so as to prevent withdrawal of said base member from the opening while said base member is disposed on the pegboard.

7. The shelf support set forth in claim 6, wherein said mounting means further comprises a third leg element extending outwardly from said base member and disposed substantially normal thereto and having a length substantially equal to the thickness of the associated pegboard, whereby said third leg element is insertible through an opening in the associated pegboard when said base member is disposed thereon, thereby to provide additional support for said base member on the associated pegboard.

8. A pegboard display comprising a pair of generally upstanding parallel pegboards each having a plurality of holes arranged in equidistantly spaced horizontal rows and vertical columns, a first pair of shelf supports removably carried by one of said pegboards and extending toward the other of said pegboards, a second pair of shelf supports removably carried by said other pegboard and extending toward said one pegboard, each of said shelf supports comprising a base member having a substantially planar rear surface adapted to bear against the face of the respective pegboard, mounting means integral with said base member and extending outwardly therefrom for mounting said base member on the respective member, a support bracket carried by said base member and comprising a generally planar bearing surface disposed in a plane normal to said base member and adapted to support one edge of an associated shelf thereon, a pair of rigidifying side flanges formed integral with said bearing surface and disposed normal thereto, and an end flange integral with said bearing surface and extending therefrom in a direction opposite to said side flanges and means rotatably connecting said end flange to said base member, whereby said bearing surfaces of said first and second pairs of shelf supports are adapted cooperably to support the opposite ends of an associated shelf in any one of a plurality of angular positions relative to said pair of pegboards, in each of which positions the shelf is disposed in a plane normal to the plane of the pegboards.

9. A shelf support for supporting a shelf on an upstanding pegboard having a plurality of holes arranged in equidistantly spaced horizontal rows and vertical columns, said shelf support comprising a base member having a substantially planar rear surface adapted to bear against the face of the associated pegboard, mounting means integral with said base member and extending outwardly therefrom for mounting said base member on the associated pegboard, a support bracket rotatably carried by said base member for rotational movement relative thereto about an axis perpendicular to the plane of said base member, said support bracket having a bearing surface disposed in a plane normal to said base member for supporting one edge of an associated shelf thereon in any one of a plurality of angular positions relative to the associated pegboard, in each of which positions the shelf is disposed in a plane normal to the plane of the pegboard, and stop means removably carried by said support bracket and extending out of said bearing surface thereof for engaging a free edge of the associated shelf supported by said support bracket so as to prevent outward movement of the shelf relative thereto.

10. The shelf support set forth in claim 9 wherein said bearing surface is generally planar and has a plurality of openings therethrough for receiving a corresponding number of fastening means, whereby the associated shelf is adapted to be rigidly supported upon said bearing surface by the passage of said fastening means through said openings and into the associated shelf.

11. A shelf support for supporting a shelf on an upstanding pegboard having a plurality of holes arranged in equidistantly spaced horizontal rows and vertical columns, said shelf support comprising a base member having a substantially planar rear surface adapted to bear against the face of the associated pegboard, mounting means integral with said base member and extending outwardly therefrom for mounting said base member on the associated pegboard, a support bracket rotatably carried by said base member for rotational movement relative thereto about an axis perpendicular to the plane of said base member, said support bracket having a bearing surface disposed in a plane normal to said base member for supporting one edge of an associated shelf thereon in any one of a plurality of angular positions relative to the associated pegboard, in each of which positions the shelf is disposed in a plane normal to the plane of the pegboard, stop means carried by said support bracket and extending out of said bearing surface thereof for engaging a free edge of the associated shelf supported by said support bracket so as to prevent relative movement of the shelf relative thereto, and an article retaining member carried by said support bracket between said stop means and the free edge of the associated shelf supported by said support bracket, said article retaining member extending upwardly from said bearing surface and above the upper surface of the associated shelf and extending the full width of the shelf, whereby said article retaining member is adapted to engage articles disposed upon the shelf so as to prevent outward movement of the articles from the shelf when the shelf is disposed in an inclined position.

12. A shelf support for supporting a shelf on an upstanding pegboard having a plurality of holes arranged in equidistantly spaced horizontal rows and vertical columns, said shelf support comprising a base member having a substantially planar rear surface adapted to bear against the face of the associated pegboard, mounting means integral with said base member and extending outwardly therefrom for mounting said base member on the associated pegboard, and a support bracket having a bearing surface disposed in a plane normal to said base member for supporting one edge of an associated shelf thereon in any one of a plurality of angular positions relative to the associated pegboard, in each of which positions the shelf is disposed in a plane normal to the plane of the pegboard, and having a pair of rigidifying side flanges formed integral with said bearing surface and disposed normal thereto and having an end flange integral with said bearing surface and extending therefrom in a direction opposite from said side flanges, and means rotatably connecting said end flange to said base member for rotatably connecting said bearing surface to said base member about an axis perpendicular to the plane of said base member.

13. The shelf support set forth in claim 12, wherein each of said side flanges includes an edge flange integral with the inner end thereof and disposed in a plane parallel to the plane of said base member, whereby the rear surfaces of said edge flanges are adapted to bear against the face of said base member so as to distribute the forces upon said base member when the associated shelf is disposed upon said bearing surface.

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