Dec. 17, 1940. B. A. AMES 2,224,893

DISPLAY DEVICE

Filed Aug. 15, 1938

FIG. 1.

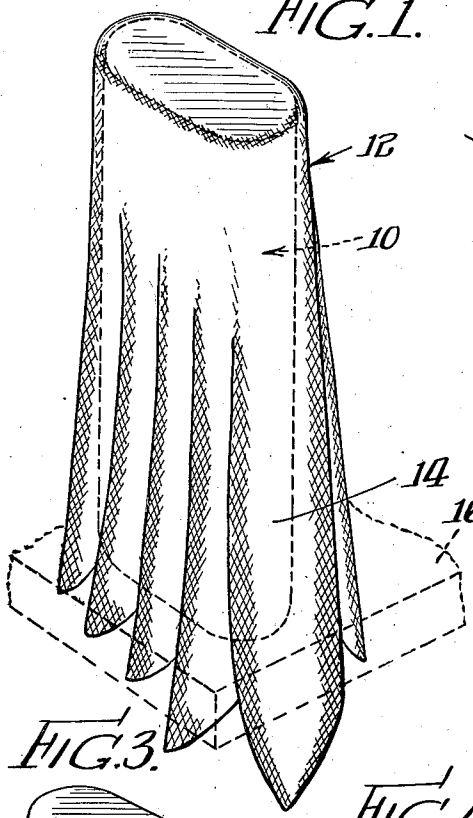


FIG. 2.

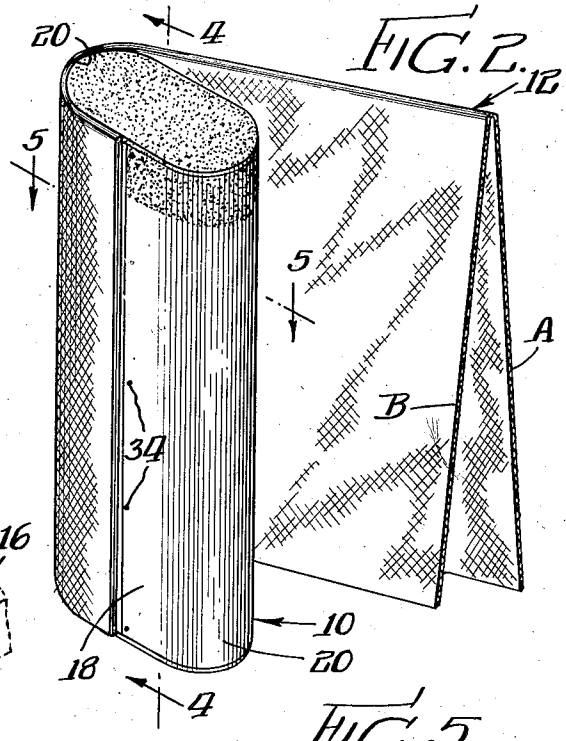


FIG. 3.

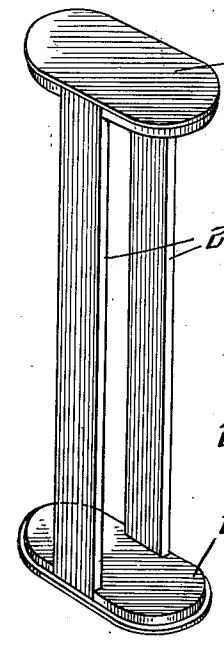


FIG. 4.

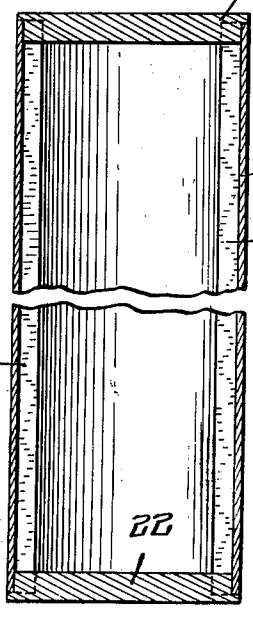


FIG. 5.

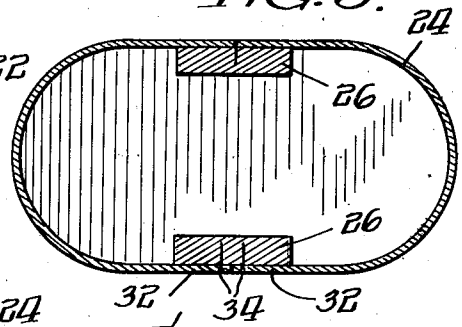
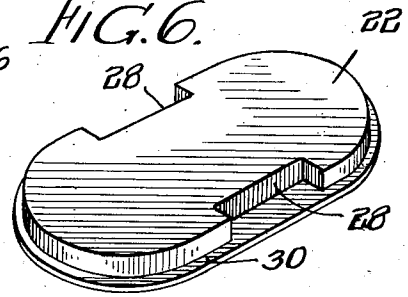


FIG. 6.



INVENTOR.
Burton A. Ames
BY: Cox & Moore
ATTORNEYS.

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DISPLAY DEVICE

Burton A. Ames, Chicago, Ill., assignor to Lussky, White & Coolidge, Inc., Chicago, Ill., a corporation of Illinois

Application August 15, 1938, Serial No. 224,864

3 Claims. (Cl. 206—82)

The present invention relates to an adjunct for displaying stock and more particularly comprehends a support for stock of the type represented by textiles and fabrics.

The present invention more particularly comprehends the provision of a support or drum adapted to simulate in configuration and proportioning a full bolt of textile goods, and being so constructed as to facilitate the mounting thereon of a relatively small body of sheet material in such a manner as to display the material to best advantage.

It is accordingly an object of the present invention to privide an improved supporting and displaying device of the above type of generally prismatic configuration but having smooth, continuous walls gradually curved in places for supporting textile material free from damage thereto, and arranging it smoothly to simulate the surface of a bolt of goods.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a light weight drum as above which is characterized by adequate structural strength, at the same time being light and readily portable with little physical effort, so that the display units may be freely handled and examined.

Yet an additional object of the present invention is to provide an improved drum structure which may be manufactured readily by a simple and inexpensive method, having a framework comprising a minimum number of parts and comprising a regular, continuous outer wall.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide in combination a drum having thereon a relatively small amount of textile material, the combination being so arranged as to support the material in the form and shape of a complete bolt of goods.

Numerous other objects, advantages and inherent functions of the invention will become apparent as the same is more fully understood from the following description, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a drum constructed in accordance with the present invention, having thereon a display sample of sheet material and being arranged in preferred position;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a drum with portions of the sample of goods and showing a method of providing and securing the parts in operative relationship;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the central body or framework of the drum;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view of the drum taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 5 is a sectional view of the drum taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 2; and

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the end pieces of the drum.

Referring to the drawing, wherein the present invention is disclosed more in detail, Fig. 1 shows a display unit arranged in accordance with the present invention and comprising a central supporting member or drum 10, indicated by dotted lines, having thereon a sample of sheet textile fabric 12, visible portions of which hang downwardly in folds 14. It will be noted that the assembly is supported on a suitable floor, shelf or table surface 16, indicated in dotted lines.

As shown more in detail in Fig. 2, the drum 12 is a relatively elongated member having a uniform cross sectional configuration throughout its length, and comprising outer continuous side walls with preferably closed ends. More specifically, attention is directed to the fact that the aforementioned cross section of the present embodiment conforms to an oval shape so that the side walls are divided into flat side wall portions 18 on opposite sides of the unit, said side wall portions being joined by curved, somewhat semicircular edge walls 20. Accordingly, the surface provided by the drum is continuous, regular and uniform so that cloth wound thereon will have the same appearance as a bolt of fabric of the ordinary type.

The structure of the drum 10 is more clearly shown in Figs. 3 to 6, in which the end walls are designated by the reference numeral 22 and the continuous side wall by the reference numeral 24. Each drum comprises upper and lower end walls which, as shown clearly in Figs. 3 and 4, are interconnected with a pair of longitudinally extending frame members or stringers 26 in such a manner as to provide a supporting frame for the fabric supporting wall 24. To the end that these longitudinally extending braces 26 may be constructionally engaged in connection with the end pieces 22 and also positioned centrally within the drum, the end members 22 are recessed interiorly on opposite sides, as indicated by the reference numeral 28 in Fig. 6. The ends of the members 26 fit within the recesses 28 and may be spiked or otherwise fastened in place, as shown in Fig. 3. Attention is further directed to the fact that each of the ends 22 is so configurated as to provide a peripheral outwardly extending flange 30, which is of a depth corresponding to the thickness of the sheet material forming the wall 24. This latter member is accordingly formed about the framework as provided and with its two longitudinally extending edges 32 brought together as shown in Figs. 2 and 5, and secured by means of fasteners 34 driven into one of the members 26. Additional fasteners may, if desired, be employed to secure the member 24 to the other frame 26 and/or the end supports 22.

It is evident from the above disclosure that

the aforementioned construction, while extremely simple and comprising a minimum of parts, will serve to rigidly support the supporting surfaces of the drum and hold them in the particular configuration illustrated in the drawing. Thus the sectional configuration in general is maintained by the curved flanged edges of the end members, while the flat portions are rigidly secured to the stringers **26**.

In use, it has been found desirable to apply a sheet of fabric to the drum as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. In proceeding in this manner, the sheet of textile, which is usually double, as shown in Fig. 2, is arranged adjacent the drum, as indicated, and the end thereof secured in place by means of glue, tacks or any other fastening means. A few turns of fabric may be made about the drum, although in accordance with the present invention it is preferred that the quantity of material employed be only such as is necessary for display and sample purposes. The free end of the cloth remaining after one or more turns have been made upon the drum may then be arranged as shown in Fig. 1 by inserting it over the support. To accomplish this, the outer layer or portion of the doubled fabric sheet, said layer being designated by the letter A, is lifted upwardly, being folded reversely over the other portion B at a point in proximity to the drum so that what would normally be the interior surfaces of the doubled material become the exterior surfaces. The free end thus tends to hang in folds, as shown in Fig. 1, about the support.

It has been found that the present invention is responsible for numerous improved results in merchandising display, it being contemplated as pointed out above that each drum comprise only sufficient material for display purposes. For this reason the main stock of material is not necessarily subjected to display but may be retained in storage or reserve stock. Accordingly it is not necessary to subject the stock itself to handling, clipping or displays in such a manner as to cause loss, shortage or damage. So also the present invention provides a display unit in which it is convenient to provide clippings or samples for prospective purchasers. By merely providing sufficient excess yardage for this purpose, an actual check as to the cost of the clipping service may be determined at any time from the remaining yardage of the pieces on the drum. The lightness of the display unit renders possible close examination at any desired situation, as compared with ordinary relatively heavy bolts of goods, the handling of which involves considerable onerous labor. An extremely wide variety of samples may be carried without the necessity of stocking an extensive inventory of material, and each of the samples may be adequately marked and identified on suitable portions of the drum.

In order to secure the important advantages of the present invention, it is important to proportion the above described display device to achieve the appearance of a full bolt of material. In this connection, there may be employed a drum of the above character having a length from 26 to 28 inches, and a transverse width, that is, between the curved wall portions **20**, of about 9 inches, and a transverse depth between the outer surfaces of the side walls **18**, of about 5 inches. While this is merely illustrative, it is to be preferred that the transverse depth of the drum be at least about one-sixth the length of the bolt, preferably in the neighborhood of one-fifth. It will be understood, however, that these dimensions may be varied within limits in order to permit accomplishment of the above desired results. While one particular method of arranging the textile fabric has been above defined, it will be understood that various methods of draping may be employed.

Changes may be made in the form, construction and arrangement of the parts without departing from the spirit of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages, and the right is hereby reserved to make all such changes as fairly fall within the scope of the following claims.

The invention is hereby claimed as follows:

1. A textile merchandise display drum for samples of fabric comprising a frame having opposed end wall members of substantially oval configuration in which the minor dimension of the oval is substantially one-half the larger dimension of the oval, said end members being connected by spaced oppositely disposed longitudinally extending bars secured to said end members on the opposed elongated sides provided by said oval configuration and having their extremities recessed within the peripheral margin of said end members, and a rigid sheet wall member disposed about said longitudinally extending members and said end members and secured thereto to provide an uninterrupted wall surface of regular oval cross-section, the length of said longitudinally extending bars having a predetermined relation to said end wall members such that the opposite sides of said wall member are spaced a distance equal to at least one-sixth the longitudinal dimension of the drum.

2. A display drum of the type defined in claim 1 wherein the end wall members are recessed inwardly of the marginal periphery to receive the enclosing wall member with its outer surface disposed in the plane of said marginal periphery.

3. A textile merchandise display drum for samples of fabric comprising a frame having opposed end wall members of substantially oval configuration in which the minor dimension of the oval is substantially one-half the larger dimension of the oval, said end members being connected by longitudinally extending bars, and a rigid sheet wall member disposed about said longitudinally extending members and said end members and secured thereto to provide an uninterrupted wall surface of regular oval cross-section, the length of said longitudinally extending bars having a predetermined relation to said end wall members such that the opposite sides of said wall member are spaced a distance equal to at least one-sixth the longitudinal dimension of the drum, the end members being recessed completely thereabout a distance inwardly of the peripheral margin thereof sufficient to accommodate the longitudinal marginal extremities of said wall member with the outer surface of the wall disposed in the same plane as said peripheral margin, and said bars being disposed inwardly of the inner surface of said wall member.

BURTON A. AMES.