Aug. 24, 1926. 1,597,284

W. S. NORMAN

DISPLAY DEVICE

Filed Dec. 14, 1923 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

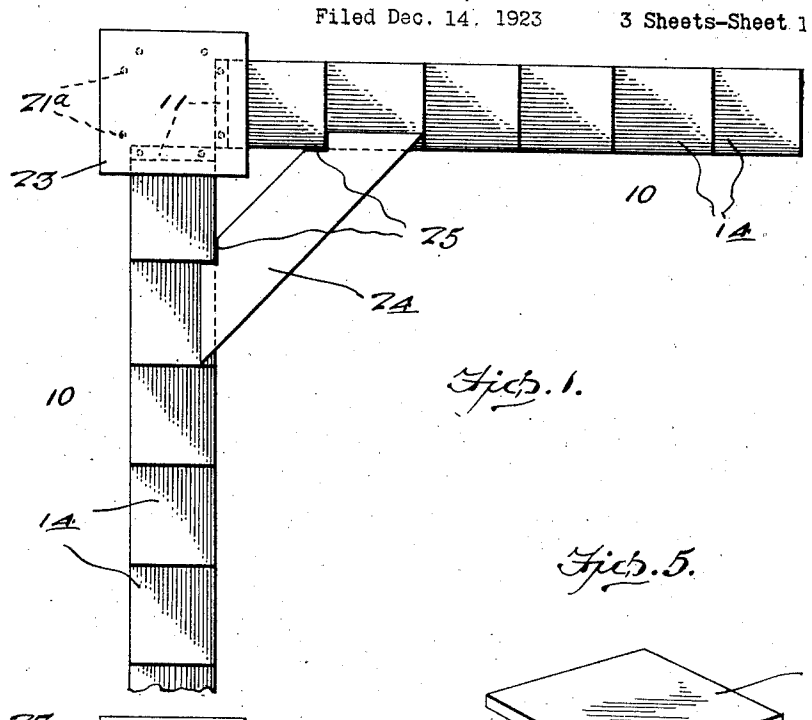


Fig. 1.

Fig. 5.

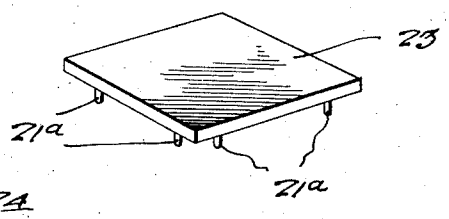


Fig. 2.

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W. S. NORMAN

DISPLAY DEVICE

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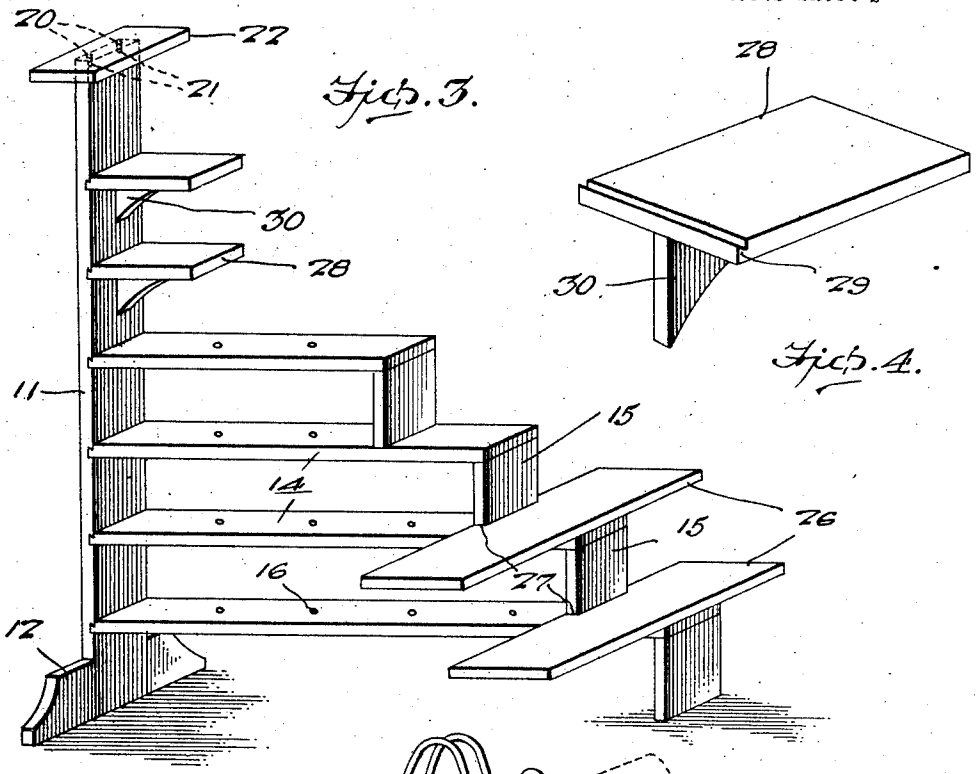


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

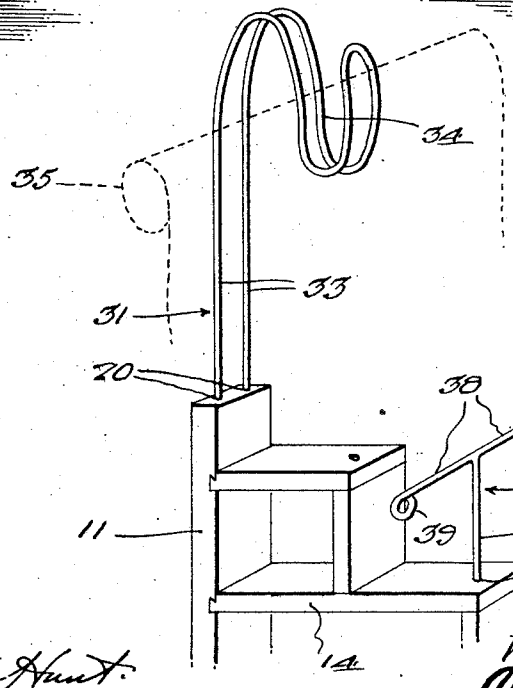


Fig. 6.

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DISPLAY DEVICE

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Fig. 7.

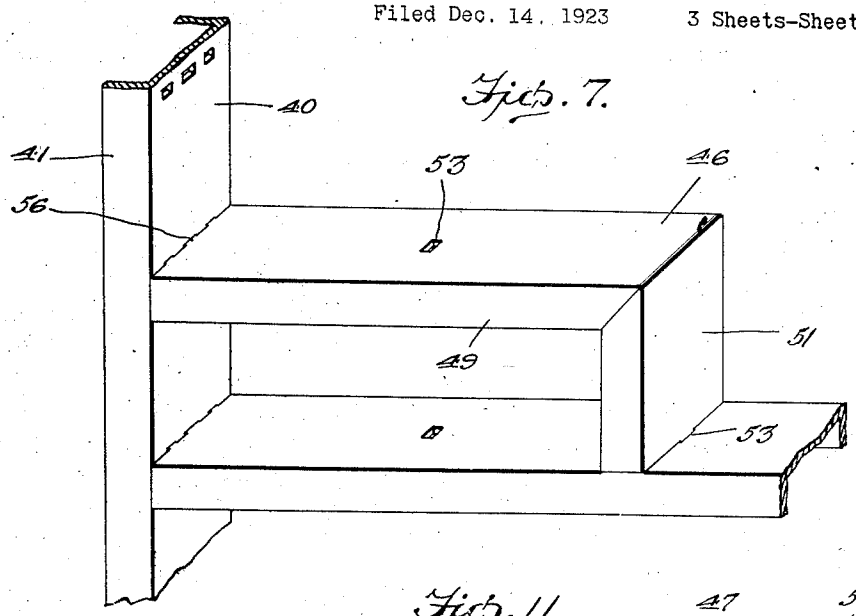


Fig. 11.

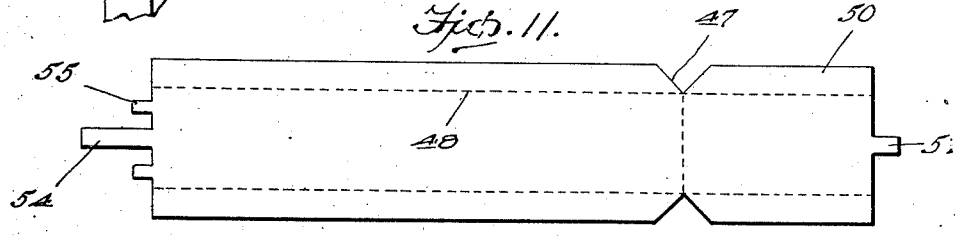


Fig. 8.

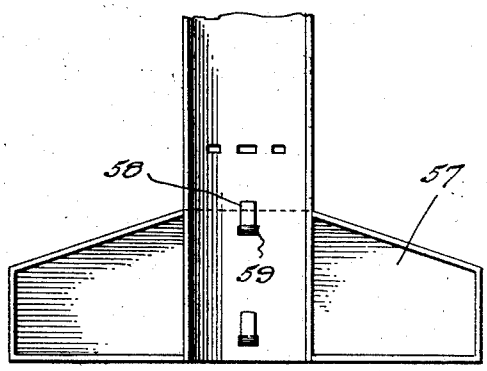


Fig. 9.

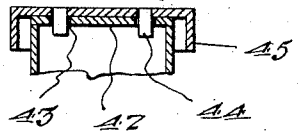
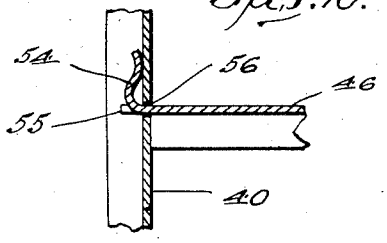


Fig. 10.



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Patented Aug. 24, 1926. 1,597,284

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM SHEPPARD NORMAN, OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO ANTHONY CORNELIUS BREINER, OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS.

DISPLAY DEVICE.

Application filed December 14, 1923. Serial No. 680,745.

This invention relates to improvements in display stands and has for an object the provision of a stand constructed of separate units which are capable of being connected to provide a single stand structure, with each unit of sectional and interchangeable formation, whereby the size and character of the units may be regulated.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a stand of simple and economical construction, whose size and character may be regulated to suit various requirements and which will attractively display a maximum amount of goods in a minimum space.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention further includes the following novel features and details of construction, to be hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a plan view illustrating two units of the stand connected.

Figure 2 is an elevation of the same.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of one unit showing two transverse shelves thereof and two independent supporting shelves included in the unit.

Figure 4 is a detail perspective view of one of the independent supporting shelves.

Figure 5 is a similar view of the cap which connects the units.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary perspective showing display holders carried by the stand.

Figure 7 is a fragmentary perspective view illustrating a modified form of the invention.

Figure 8 is a fragmentary elevation of the lower end of the upright and showing the manner of connecting the latter to the base bar.

Figure 9 is a fragmentary section showing the manner of connecting the cap to the top of the upright.

Figure 10 is a fragmentary vertical section showing the manner of connecting the shelves to the upright.

Figure 11 is a plan view of a blank from which the shelves are formed.

Referring in detail to the drawings wherein like characters of reference denote corresponding parts, the stand is shown as formed of separate units each of which is indicated generally at 10. These units are of sectional formation, the sections of which are removably connected and are interchangeable so that the number and character of the sections may be regulated to regulate the size and character of the unit.

As shown in the drawings each section comprises an upright 11, whose lower end has secured thereto a transverse bar 12 which extends upon opposite sides of and provides stability for the unit. The upright 11 and the bar 12 are joined by a dovetailed connection 13.

Extending from the upright 11 is a plurality of relatively narrow horizontally arranged shelves 14 which carry at their outer ends downwardly extending uprights 15, the latter engaging the next adjacent shelf. The shelves 14 are of different lengths and extend one beyond the other in step-like formation and are provided with spaced opening 16 for the reception of dowel-pins 17 which extend from the uprights 15. The openings 16 are so spaced that a shelf of any desired length may be supported with its dowel-pin engaging one of the openings. The inner ends of the shelves 14 are provided with tongues 18 which are removably received within grooves 19, the tongues and grooves being so shaped as to provide a dovetailed connection.

The top of the upright 11 is provided with spaced openings or sockets 20 which receive pins 21 extending from a single cap 22 as shown in Figure 3 of the drawings, or pins 21^a which extend from a cap 23, illustrated in Figures 1 and 2 of the drawings. This last mentioned cap is designed to connect two or more units 10 and for this purpose is provided with spaced pairs of pins 21^a which engage the sockets 21 of each connected unit so as to provide a single stand structure.

To further connect the units and to provide additional display surfaces there is provided removable shelves 24 which rest upon the shelves 14 and connect the units, the said shelves 24 being notched as shown at 25 to engage the edges of the supports 15.

Transverse shelves 26 may also be supported upon the shelves 14 as shown in Figure 3, the said shelves 26 being notched as shown at 27 to receive the uprights 15 so that these shelves will be held against accidental displacement.

Independent supporting shelves 28 may also be provided. These shelves are shown

in Figure 3 of the drawings and are interchangeable with the shelves 14 and for this purpose are provided with tongues 29 which are removably received within the grooves 19. The shelves 28 are provided with webs or ribs 30 whose ends engage the face of the upright 11 so as to support the shelves in proper position.

In Figure 6 of the drawings there is provided display holders 31 and 32. The display holder 31 is preferably formed of a single length of material bent to provide spaced standards 33, whose lower ends are removably positioned within the openings or sockets 20 provided in the top of the upright 11. Extending from the uprights 33 are spaced double substantially S-shaped portions 34 which are connected at their outer ends and which serve as a holder for a roll of wall paper or the like as indicated by the dotted lines at 35 in Figure 6.

The holder 32 is substantially T-shaped and includes an upright or standard 36 whose lower end is removably positioned within an opening or socket 37 at the outer end of any of the shelves 14. The outer ends of the oppositely extending arms 38 of the T-shaped member are provided with spring retaining means 39 for engagement with various articles to be displayed.

In Figures 7 to 11 there is illustrated a modified form of the invention in which the display device is formed of sheet metal. This form includes an upright 40 which is channel-shaped in cross section so as to provide reinforcing or strengthening flanges 41. The top of the upright 40 is bent over to provide a flange 42 which is provided with spaced openings 43, the latter being designed to receive lugs or pins 44 which extend downwardly from a cap 45. This cap as well as the upright 40 may be formed of sheet metal and pressed or bent into shape.

The shelves of the device which are indicated at 46 are also preferably formed of sheet metal and are shaped to provide the blank shown in Figure 11. The blank is notched as shown at 47 and bent longitudinally along the dotted lines 48 to provide longitudinal strengthening or reinforcing flanges 49 which extend along the edges of the shelf and vertically disposed strengthening or reinforcing flanges 50 which extend along the edges of the upright 51 at the outer end of the shelf. The lower end of the upright is provided with a tongue 52 which is adapted to enter an opening 53 provided in an adjacent shelf, these openings being spaced to accommodate shelves of different lengths. The inner end of the shelf is provided with a central tongue 54 and tongues 55 upon opposite sides thereof, the last mentioned tongues being relatively short. The tongues 54 and 55 are inserted through spaced openings 56 provided in the upright 40 and the long tongue 54 is bent as shown in Figure 10 so as to retain the shelf in place.

The bottom of the upright 40 is provided with a transversely arranged base bar 57 which may also be formed of sheet metal, while stamped from or otherwise formed upon the bar 57 are tongues 58 which pass through openings 59 provided in the upright 40 adjacent the bottom of the latter.

If desired, shelves or brackets similar to the ones shown in Figure 4 of the drawings may be made from sheet metal, the means of connection with the upright 40 being the same as that used for connecting the shelves 46. Also, transverse shelves similar to the shelves 26 may be formed of sheet metal.

The invention is susceptible of various other changes in its form, proportions and minor details of construction and the right is herein reserved to make such changes as properly fall within the scope of the appended claims.

Having described the invention what is claimed is:—

1. A display stand comprising a transversely channel-shaped upright, a plurality of superimposed shelves of different lengths extending from the upright, one beyond the other in step like formation, said shelves also being transversely channel-shaped and carrying at their outer ends a channel-shaped support for contact with adjacent shelves, means for removably securing the inner ends of the shelves to the upright and means carried by the channel-shaped supports at the outer ends of the shelves to removably hold the latter in position.

2. A display stand comprising a transversely channel-shaped upright having openings therein, a plurality of superimposed shelves of different lengths extending from the upright one beyond the other in step-like formation and also having openings therein, said shelves also being transversely channel-shaped and carrying at their outer ends a channel-shaped support for contact with adjacent shelves, spaced tongues extending from the inner ends of the shelves for passage through the openings of the upright, one of said tongues being of relatively great length and bent to engage the adjacent face of the upright and a tongue extending from the channel-shaped support at the outer ends of the shelves for passage through the opening provided in the latter.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLIAM SHEPPARD NORMAN.