Aug. 30, 1955 C. E. PREVETTE ET AL 2,716,495

STORAGE, DISPLAY AND SELF SERVICE STAND

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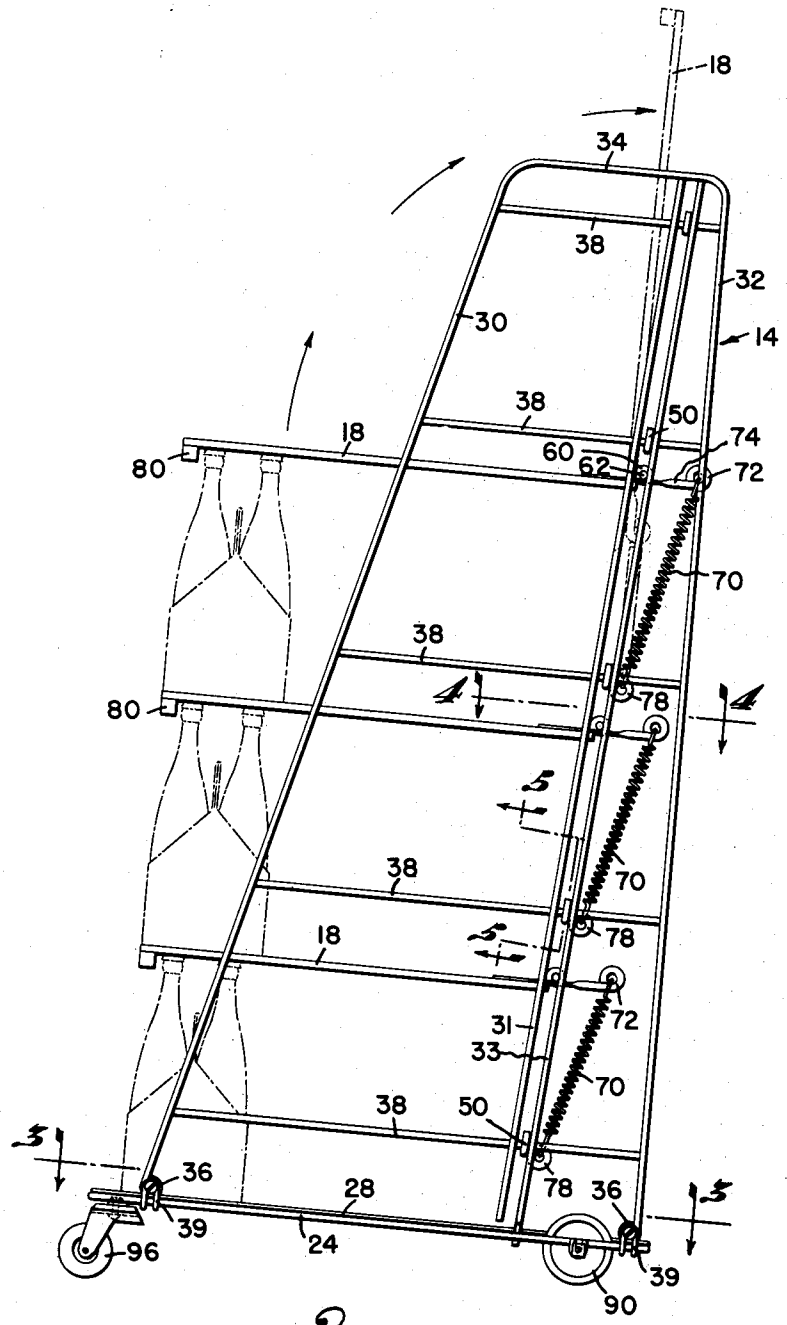


Fig. 1

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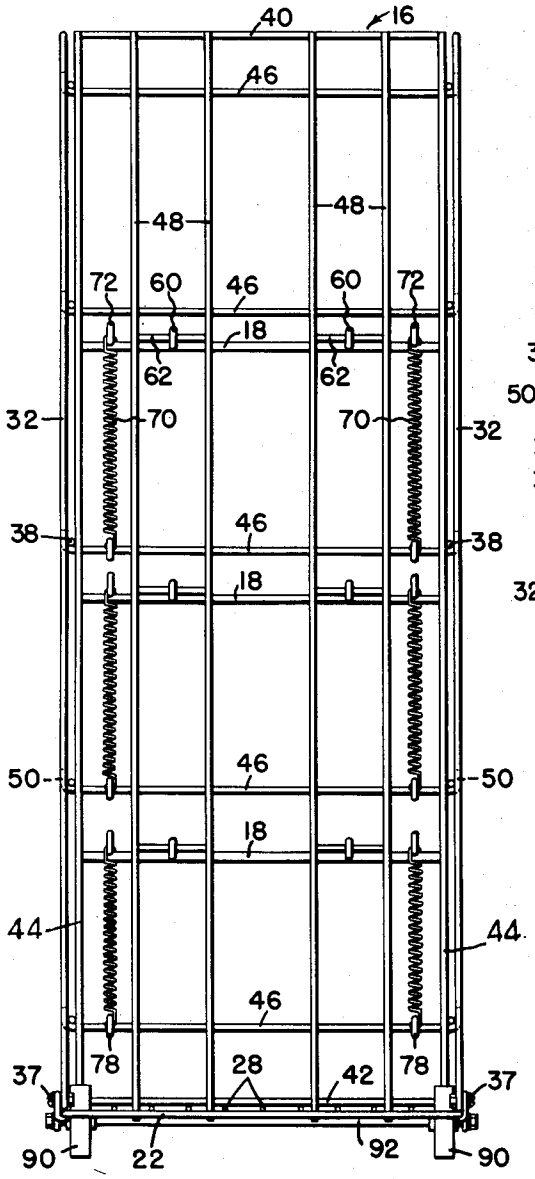


Fig. 2

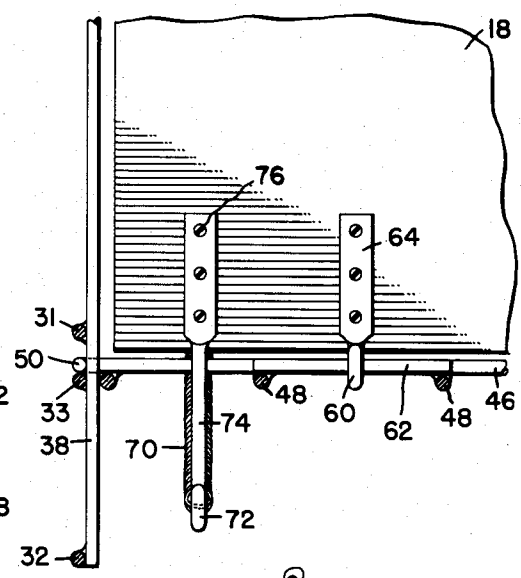


Fig. 4

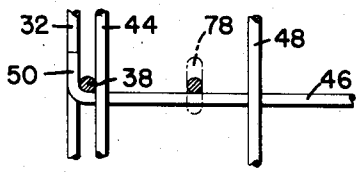


Fig. 5

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STORAGE, DISPLAY AND SELF SERVICE STAND

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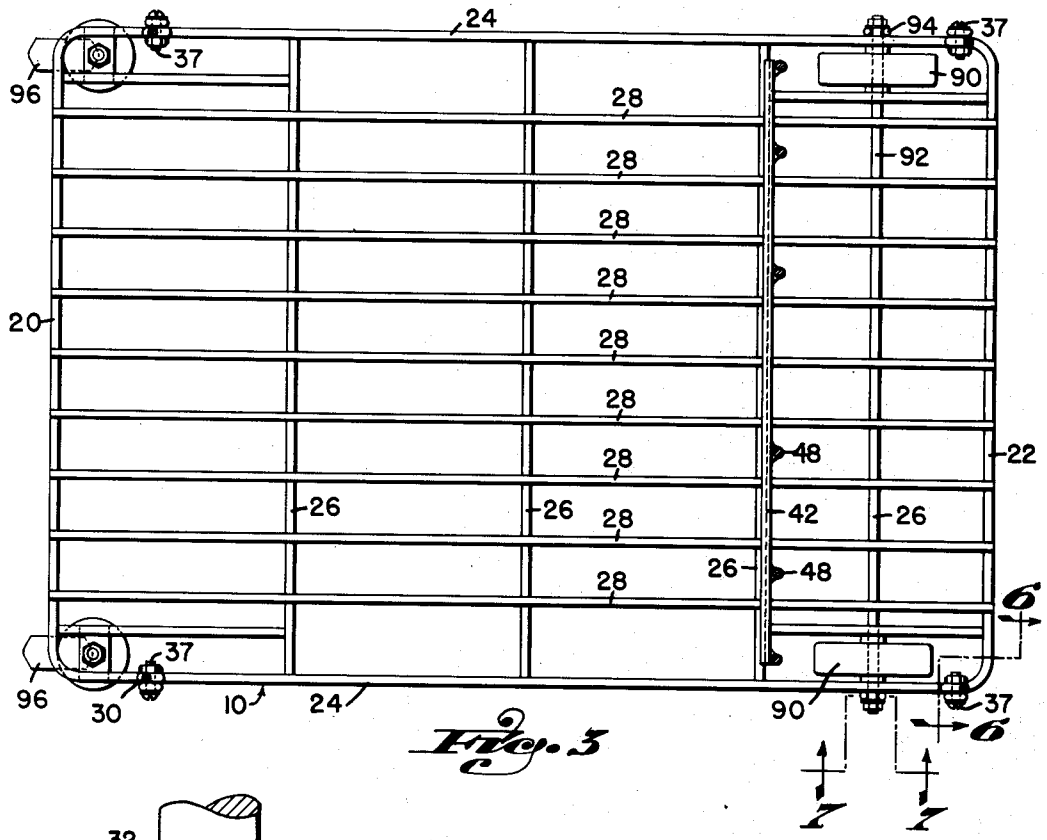


Fig. 5

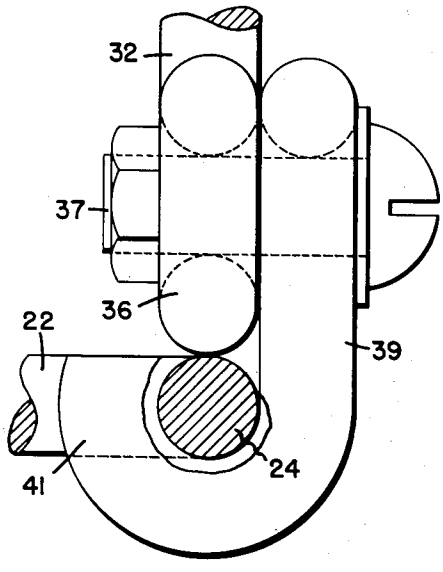


Fig. 6

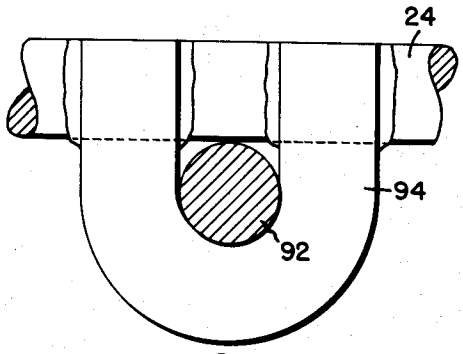


Fig. 7

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STORAGE, DISPLAY AND SELF SERVICE STAND

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Application November 9, 1953, Serial No. 390,850

2 Claims. (Cl. 211—148)

This invention relates to a beverage stand, and particularly to a beverage stand adapted for storage, display and self-service of products, such as, by way of example, bottled goods.

An object of the invention is to provide a beverage stand which includes a plurality of vertically spaced, hingedly mounted shelf members movable between raised and lowered positions and upon which articles may be supported for storage, display and self-service.

A further object of the invention is to provide such a stand wherein each of the hingedly mounted shelves is provided with means for automatically elevating them when the last article supported thereon has been removed, for thereby rendering complete and easy access to the articles supported on the next lower shelf.

Another object of the invention is to provide a soft-drink stand which is comprised of four basic elements or component parts, namely a base, side walls, rear wall, and shelves, said component parts being secured together in a novel manner.

Still a further object of the invention is to provide a soft-drink stand having the hereinabove described characteristics and which is wheel mounted for facilitating transportation of the stand from place to place.

These and other objects are attained by the means described herein and as disclosed in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of a soft-drink stand embodying the teachings of the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the stand of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a view taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a view taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 6 is a view taken on line 6—6 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 7 is a view taken on line 7—7 of Fig. 3.

With particular reference now to Figs. 1, 2 and 3, the particular embodiment of the invention shown includes a base generally designated **10**, a framework comprising a pair of laterally spaced and upstanding end walls **14**, and a rear wall **16** and the numerals **18** denoting shelf members.

Base **10** includes front, rear and side edges **20**, **22** and **24**, respectively, said edges or legs, as best illustrated in Fig. 3, defining the outer periphery of the base. Article supporting means are provided in spanning engagement with the peripheral edge of base **10**, said means comprising a plurality of transverse elements **26** and a plurality of longitudinal elements **28**. Elements **26** and **28** may be fixedly secured to the peripheral edge by means of welding for providing a light-weight, sturdy structure.

Each of the end walls **14** includes front, rear and upper edges or legs **30**, **32** and **34**, respectively, the lower ends of the front and rear legs terminating in loops **36**. A pair of laterally spaced rails **31** and **33** are permanently affixed to side rails **38**, said rails **31** and **33** being spaced forwardly of and inclined relative to rear leg **32**. As best illustrated in Fig. 1, a plurality of side rails **38** are

provided in spanning relationship with the front and rear legs **30** and **32**, said side rails being disposed in substantial spaced parallelism with the upper edge **34**.

As illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, rear wall **16** includes top, bottom and end edges or legs **40**, **42** and **44**, respectively, which define the outer periphery of the rear wall. Cross rails **46** and vertical rails **48** are rigidly and fixedly secured to and carried by the periphery-defining-edges of the rear wall. With particular reference to Figs. 2 and 5, it will be noted that the opposite ends of cross rails **46** are upturned as at **50** for thereby engaging side rails **38** of the end walls **14**, as hereinafter more fully explained.

The shelf members **18** are pivotally secured as at **60** to stub shafts or cross members **62** which are permanently secured to and between adjacent pairs of vertical rails **48** of the rear wall.

As best illustrated in Figs. 1 and 4, each of the shelf members may comprise a sheet of suitable material such as plastic, wood, metal or the like, to the rear edge of which a suitable hinge element **64** is mounted whereby each of the shelves will be pivotally mounted for movement between a lowered article supporting, substantially horizontal position, or to a raised position, as indicated in dotted outline on Fig. 1.

Suitable means such as springs **70** are utilized for automatically elevating a shelf from lowered position to elevated position when the last article has been removed therefrom. One end of each of spring members **70** may be suitably secured to an eyelet **72** provided in the end of a bracket **74** secured to and carried by shelf member **18** such as by screws, rivets, bolts or the like, denoted generally by the numeral **76**. The other end of the spring engages eyelets **78** secured to and carried by cross rails **46** of the rear wall.

In the preferred embodiment of the invention the forward edge of each of the shelf members is provided with a downwardly projecting abutment **80** dimensioned to engage the upper ends of the articles supported on the next lower shelf for precluding accidental or unintentional removal of articles from the next lower shelf so long as the superjacent shelf is in lowered position.

It will be noted that we have thus provided simple yet highly effective means for automatically elevating a shelf whenever the last article has been removed, for thereby providing free and unobstructed access to articles positioned on the next lower shelf.

In assembling the device the upturned ends **50** of the cross rails **46** are disposed beneath and in engaging relationship with side rails **38** at a location between rails **31** and **33**. Bottom edge **42** of the rear wall rests upon longitudinal elements **28** of the base with the lower ends of vertical rails **48** projecting downwardly beyond elements **26** and **28**.

Loops **36** are secured relative to the side legs **24** of the base by means of bolts **37** passing through U loops **39** which, as best illustrated in Fig. 6, include a hook-like end **41** which engages the side legs **22**.

As best illustrated in Figs. 1, 2 and 3, a pair of wheels **90** are secured to and carried by base **10**, said wheels being rotatably mounted on a common shaft **92** secured to the side edges **24** of the base by means of U brackets **94**, note Fig. 7. Wheels **90** are located entirely within the periphery of base **10** being disposed on the inner sides of side edges **24** and between rear edge **22** of the base and the bottom edge **42** of the rear wall. As best illustrated in Fig. 1, rear wall **16** is disposed in forwardly spaced relationship from rear edge **22** of the base.

A second pair of wheels denoted generally by the numerals **96** are secured to and carried by the forward end of the base **10**, said wheels preferably being of the swivel type.

As best illustrated in Fig. 1, it will be noted that the swivel wheel assembly **96** is such as to elevate the forward end of base **10** above the rear end of base **10**, thereby imparting a rearward inclination to the base member for facilitating the stacking of bottled goods thereon.

In the preferred embodiment of the invention each of the shelf members may, when in lowered position, rest upon and be supported by the tops of the articles supported on the next lower shelf.

It will be noted that we have thus provided simple, inexpensive, yet highly efficient means for storing, displaying and facilitating the self-service of articles. By reason of the wheeled mounting, the entire stand may be quickly moved from one location to another, this feature being of particular importance in those instances wherein it is desired to replenish the articles such as bottled goods housed in the stand. Rather than cluttering up the store by trucking a new supply of bottled goods to the stand, the stand itself may be simply and easily wheeled to the storage space where bottled goods are kept and after the stand has been refilled it may be wheeled back to its original position.

It should be understood that various changes and modifications may be made within the scope of the appended claims without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A stand for display, storage and self-service of articles, said stand comprising a generally rectangularly shaped base having front, rear and side legs, a pair of end walls each including oppositely disposed upstanding front and rear legs and a top leg connecting the front and rear legs at their upper ends, a plurality of vertically spaced side rails secured to and spanning said front and rear legs, a pair of upstanding closely associated laterally spaced rails secured to and spanning the side rails of each of said end walls, and spaced forwardly from the rear legs of the respective end walls, a generally rectangularly shaped rear wall including top, bottom and end legs, means securing said rear wall between the laterally spaced end walls extending upwardy from the base

forwardly of the rear rods of the end walls, said means including a plurality of vertically spaced cross rails secured to and spanning the end legs of said rear wall and with the end portions of each of said cross rails terminating in an upturned end disposed beyond the adjacent end legs of the rear wall, the vertical spacing of said cross rails corresponding to the vertical spacing of the side rails of the end walls, said end portions of the cross rails being disposed between said laterally spaced upstanding rails at the underside of corresponding side rails of the end walls and with their upturned ends detachably fitting against the outer sides of said side rails of the end walls, article supporting means supported by and spanning the front and rear legs of said base, the bottom leg of the rear wall abuttingly engaging and being supported by the said article support means, and means detachably securing the lower ends of the front and rear legs of the end walls to the base for anchoring the rear and side walls in upstanding relationship with the base.

2. A stand of the construction defined in claim 1 and wherein the means that detachably secures the lower ends of the front and rear legs of the end walls to the base comprises a loop on the lower end of each of the front and rear legs of the end walls, U-loops having hook-like end portions engaging the side legs of the base, bolts passing transversely through the U-loops and the loops on the lower ends of the front and rear legs of the end walls, and nuts on the bolts.

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