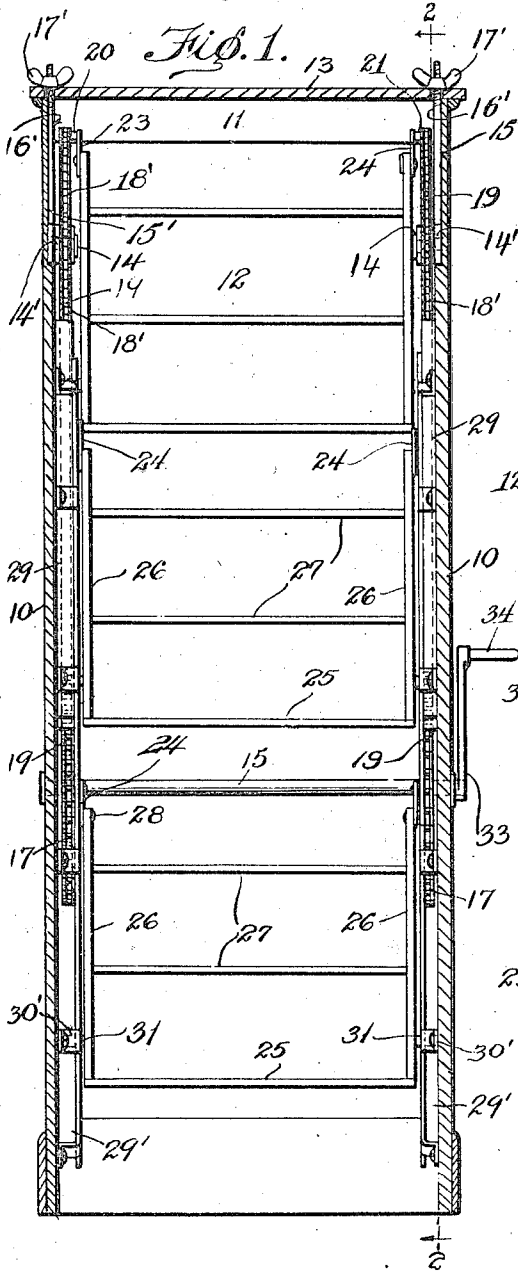
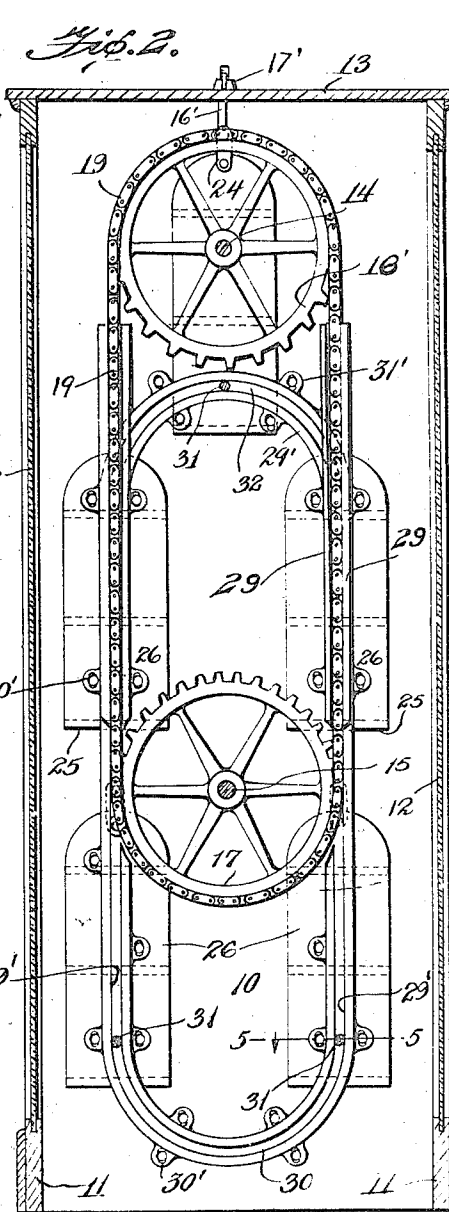


S. M. FITTERLING.
 DISPLAY CABINET.
 APPLICATION FILED MAY 29, 1916.

1,269,414.

Patented June 11, 1918.

2 SHEETS SHEET 1.



WITNESSES

W. H. Mulligan
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INVENTOR

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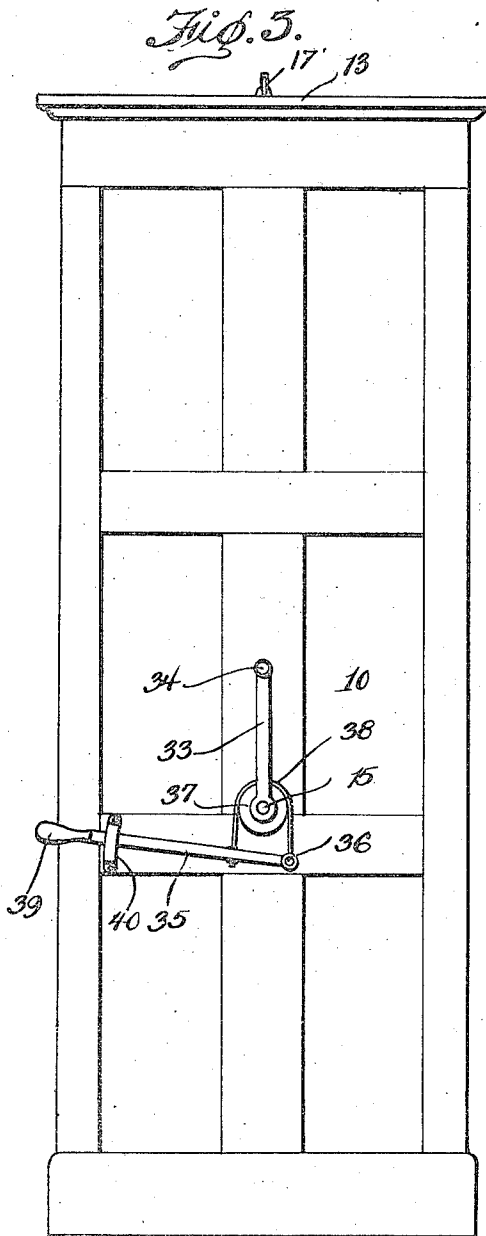
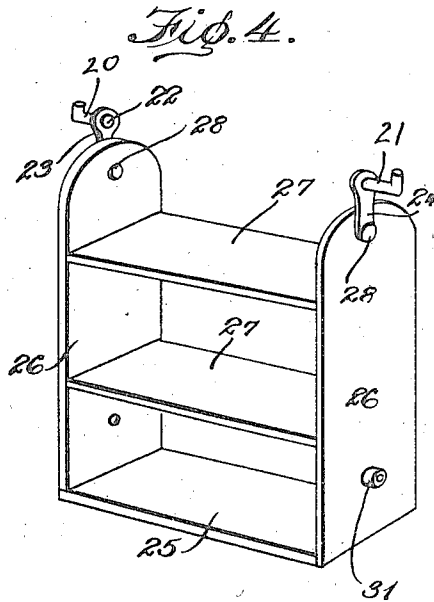
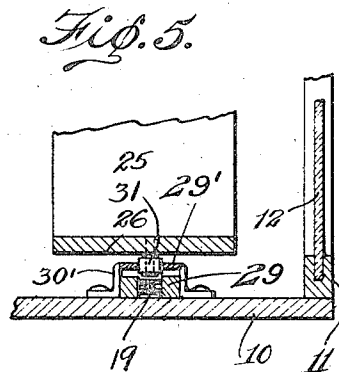
Richard Brown

ATTORNEY

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 2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



WITNESSES

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SILAS M. FITTERLING, OF FULTON, INDIANA.

DISPLAY-CABINET.

1,269,414.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 11, 1918.

Application filed May 29, 1916. Serial No. 100,635.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SILAS M. FITTERLING, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fulton, in the county of Fulton and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Display-Cabinets, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention has relation to certain new and useful improvements in display cabinets and more particularly comprehends adjustable racks for supporting the articles of display and means to properly guide the racks during movement of the common carrier.

A further object of my invention is to provide a device of this type that is extremely simple in construction, strong and durable, and highly practical from both the standpoint of the manufacturer and the standpoint of the user; and which, it is believed may be manufactured at a comparatively low cost.

Various other objects and advantages will become apparent during the continuance of the following description.

These objects are accomplished by such means as are shown in their preferred form in the accompanying drawings, described in the following specification and then more specifically pointed out in the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawings, wherein like characters designate like parts throughout the several views:—

Figure 1 is a view in vertical section of the cabinet showing the several display racks in elevation.

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 showing the display racks in side elevation.

Fig. 3 is a view in side elevation of the display cabinet.

Fig. 4 is a view in perspective of one of the display racks.

Fig. 5 is a view in detail of the means for guiding the several display racks during their movement with respect to the cabinet.

In reducing my invention to practice, I provide a suitable cabinet structure which, in its present embodiment, consists of side and front pieces 10 and 11 respectively, the front pieces carrying inserts of transparent material, such as glass, as designated by the numeral 12, whereby the interior mechanism and the articles of display may be readily

viewed. While it is desirable to close the top of the cabinet, as at 13, at all times, for the purpose of excluding dust and other foreign material, it is pointed out that the bottom thereof may be left open, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 without in any way derogating from the efficiency of the device. However, it is to be fully understood that I do not limit myself to this particular construction in view of the fact that the cabinet structure proper does not fall within the purview of this invention. In other words, any suitable casing or cabinet structure may be employed in connection with the display apparatus, such as will subsequently appear.

A shaft 15 has its end portions journaled in the side pieces 10 of the cabinet, such as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the said shaft carrying sprocket wheels 17 which are secured thereon and are in turn geared with other sprocket wheels, as will subsequently appear. At their upper ends, side pieces 10 are provided with alined vertical slots 15' in which operate carrying blocks 14', the latter having stub-shafts 14 thereon, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. Stub-shafts 14 carry sprocket wheels 18' that are alined with the sprocket wheels 17, above referred to, sprocket chains 19 being trained about the alined sprocket wheels, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. It will also be noted that carrying blocks 14' are provided with upstanding rods 16' which pass through openings in the top 13 of the cabinet and carry winged nuts 17' whereby the carrying blocks may be properly adjusted. Here it will be noted that the carrying blocks lie wholly within the cabinet thus obviating the necessity of providing the latter with enlarged openings such as would permit the entrance of dust, dirt or other foreign material. With a view of effectually supporting the several display racks, I provide each of the sprocket chains with suitably spaced carrying studs 20 and 21 which are designed to receive the eye portions 22 of the supporting links 23 and 24 respectively. By reason of their specific construction, it will be seen that the supporting links 23 and 24 will be movably connected with the studs 20 and 21 so that they always remain in depending positions during the movement of the sprocket chains.

The display racks, as shown in the present embodiment, comprise the body or base

portion 25, spaced side members 26, and a series of shelves 27. Consequently it will be noted that the lower ends of the carrying links 23 and 24 may be connected with the side pieces 26 of the display racks, as shown at 28, whereby the latter will be held in a vertical position at all times during the movement of the respective sprocket chains.

In order to properly guide the sprocket chains, during movement, and to prevent lateral swinging and vibratory movement, it has been found advisable to provide means, in the form of suitably aligned guide-ways or members 29. These guide members are preferably affixed to the sides 10 of the cabinet between the horizontal plane of the shaft 15 and the horizontal plane of the stub-shafts 14 thereby only guiding the sprocket chains between the respective sprocket wheels and preventing vibratory movement at these points. I provide the side members 10 with other guide members 29' (see Fig. 5) between which is designed to operate, a guide roller 31 that is carried on the sides of each of the display frames. These last mentioned guide members 29' overlie guide members 29, above referred to, and are arranged to provide a circuitous path for the guide members or rollers 31 of the display brackets, whereby the display racks will be held in the desired position at all times during movement. In order to properly support the guide members 29' and at the same time retain the same in like spaced relation with respect to the guide members 29, I provide the same with suitably bent lugs or brackets 30' (Fig. 5) which are securely connected to the side members 10. Lugs or brackets 30' also have elongated openings of suitable dimension such as will permit the proper adjustment of the guides. It is also pointed out that the guide members 29' may be constructed of strips of sheet metal or the like durable, yet comparatively inexpensive material.

Although I do not limit myself in any way to the specific means for imparting movement to the sprocket chains, it is pointed out that a crank arm such as shown at 33 may be connected with the shaft 15 and equipped with a handle 34 whereby it may be conveniently rotated. Consequently by rotating the arm 33, movement will be transmitted to the shaft 15 and the sprocket chains carried thereby so as to cause proper movement of the display racks. It is pointed out that mechanical means may be associated with the crank arm 33 whereby actuation of the sprocket chains and display racks may be attained.

Upon operation of the display racks, they are of course, successively brought before the transparent plates 12 of the cabinet whereby they may be readily viewed by persons on the outside. The device has been

found particularly useful in displaying novelties of different kinds in view of the fact that a great variety of the articles may be positioned on the several display racks.

While the operator could, under certain conditions, easily control movement of the display racks, it has been found necessary to provide means whereby the movement of the sprocket chains may be effectually retarded. This means or brake mechanism, as it may be termed, is especially desirable when the sprocket wheels are being driven by means other than by manual operation. To this end therefore, I provide a brake lever 35 which is pivotally mounted as at 36 adjacent one end of the shaft 15, as clearly shown in Fig. 3. The respective carrying shafts may be in turn provided with a brake drum 37 for engagement with the brake band 38, the ends of the latter being suitably connected with the brake lever. Consequently by exerting a downward pressure on the handle portion 39 of the brake lever, the band 38 will be drawn into frictional engagement with the drum 37 thus effectually retarding movement of the respective shafts. Means may also be provided for guiding the brake lever and preventing lateral movement thereof, as shown at 40. For instance, should the party viewing the display racks wish to examine certain of the articles more closely, by exerting a pressure on the brake lever, the racks will be brought to a stop immediately adjacent one of the view plates 12. This construction is believed to add materially to the utility of my invention, and therefore the greatest of stress is directed thereto.

From the foregoing it is believed that the advantages and novel features of my invention will be readily understood and therefore further detail description is deemed unnecessary.

In reducing my invention to practice I find that the form referred to herein as the most practical and preferred embodiment, is the most efficient; but realizing that certain conditions will necessarily vary in concurrence with the adoption of my device, I desire to emphasize the fact that various minor changes in the details of construction and in the proportion of the parts may be resorted to when required without sacrificing any of the advantages of my invention as defined in the appended claim.

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

In a device of the character described, a housing, transparent plates mounted in the sides of said housing, a shaft journaled in said housing, carrying studs mounted above said shaft, sprocket wheels on said shaft, a sprocket wheel on each of said studs, sprocket chains trained about certain of

said sprocket wheels, a series of display racks, means swivelly connecting said display racks and said chains, guide-ways carried by said housing for said chains, guide
5 rollers carried on said display racks, other guide members carried by said housing to guide said rollers and retain said racks in an upright position at all times, and means

to guide said shafts to actuate said sprocket chains, for the purpose specified. 10

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

SILAS M. FITTERLING.

Witnesses:

M. O. ENTART,
E. E. LEWELL.