A. E. MILLER.

DISPLAY RACK.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 5, 1911.

1,063,822.

Patented June 3, 1913.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1

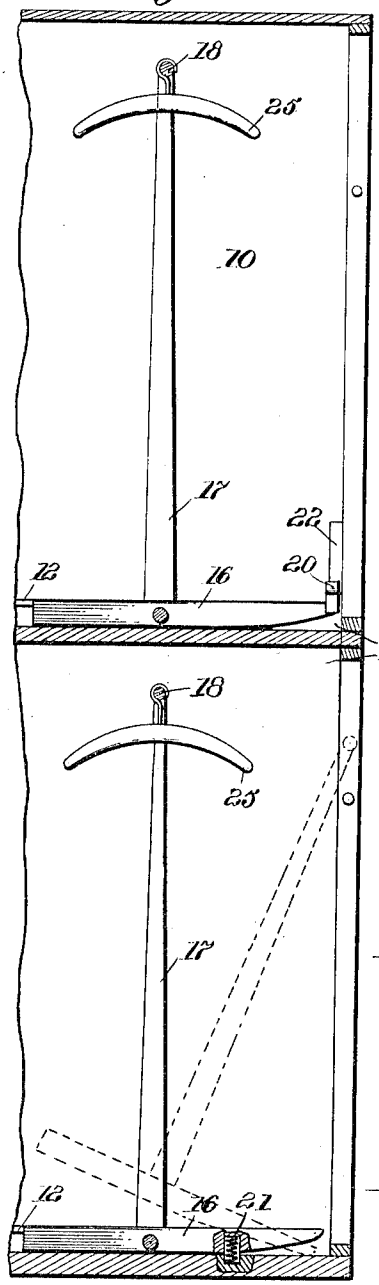


Fig. 2.

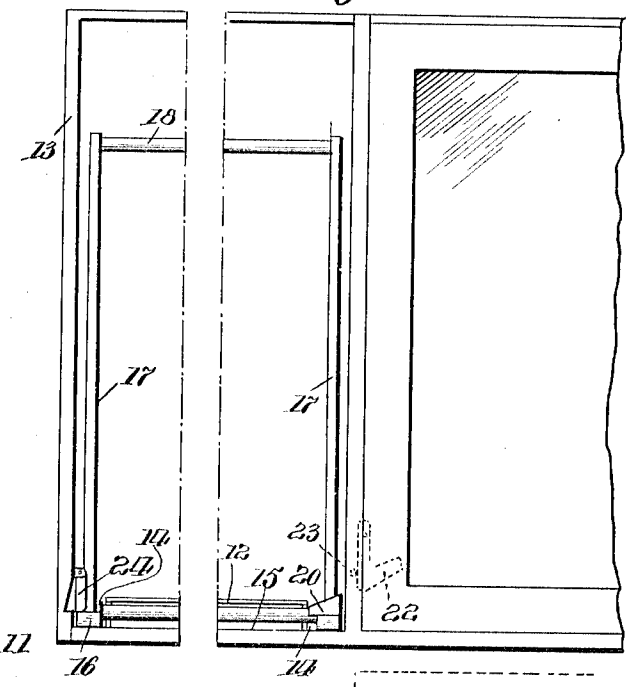


Fig. 5.

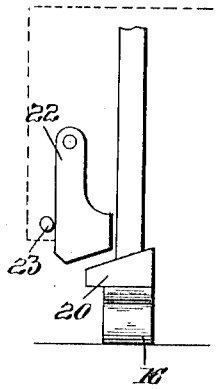
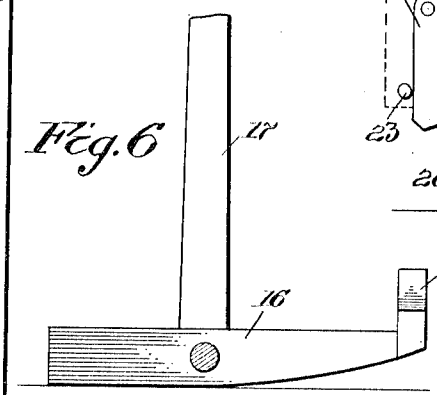


Fig. 6



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

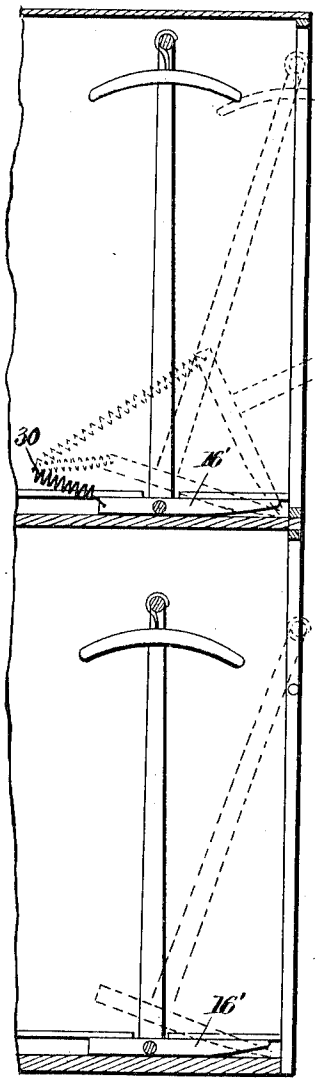


Fig. 4.

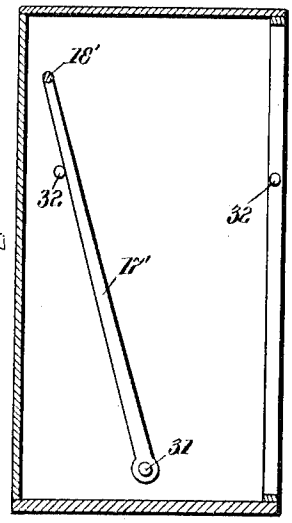


Fig. 7.

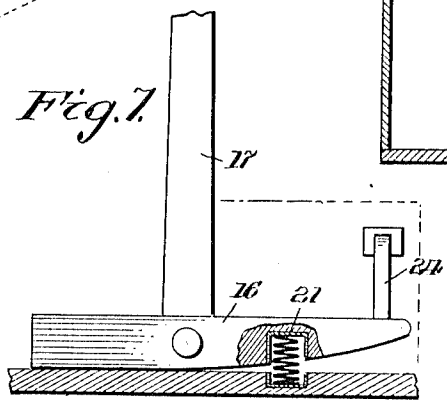


Fig. 8.

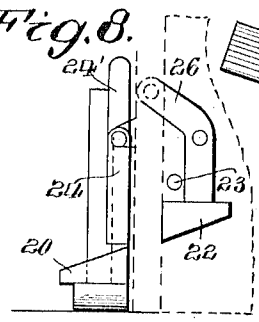
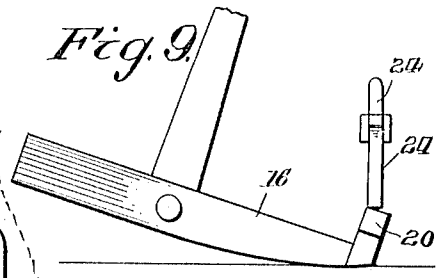


Fig. 9.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DISPLAY-RACK.

1,063,822. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 3, 1913.

Application filed August 5, 1911. Serial No. 642,525.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW E. MILLER, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at Baltimore city and State of Maryland, have invented new and useful Improvements in Display-Racks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in display racks.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide improved means for storing garments and the like in such manner that they may be readily displayed by a salesman to a prospective purchaser.

A further object is to provide an improved rocking support for the garments adapted to be moved forward to display the goods, said rocker being normally retained within a suitable case.

A further object is to provide means for automatically returning the rocker to its normal position within the case after the same has been withdrawn to display garments.

A further object is to provide means for automatically moving the rocker forward and for automatically locking the same in its forward position.

The invention will be hereinafter fully set forth and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is a sectional view of a display case provided with a rack embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a front view of a portion thereof. Fig. 3 is a sectional view illustrating a slight modification. Fig. 4 is a sectional view illustrating a second modification. Figs. 5, 6, 7 and 8 and 9 are detail views illustrating the operating and locking devices for the rockers.

Referring to the drawing, 10 designates a display case of any suitable form, the form illustrated comprising two compartments 11 one above the other. Each compartment is provided with a floor 12 separated from the end walls 13 by spaces 14 forming shallow chambers provided with depressed bottom walls 15. In each space 14 is located a rocker 16 provided with an upright 17, said uprights being connected by a rod 18. One of the rockers 16 in each compartment 11 is provided with a wedge shaped piece 20 extended transversely thereof near the forward point of the rocker portion, and the other rocker in the same compartment is provided with a spring 21 which presses upwardly against said rocker, tending to hold the uprights 17 in a vertical position. Pivotally secured to the sliding door of the case is a second wedge member 22, the swinging movement of said member in one direction being limited by a pin 23. A latch 24 is pivoted to the wall of the case adjacent the spring 21, said latch being adapted to engage the top of the adjacent rocker when the same is depressed, and thereby lock the same in its forward position.

In operation the coat hangers 25, or similar devices are suspended from the rod 18. When it is desired to display the garments the sliding door is moved to one side as indicated in Fig. 2. As the rear edge of said door reaches the limit of its movement the pivoted member 22 engages the inclined surface of member 21, and by reason of the cam action thus developed, the rocker is depressed, swinging the uprights 17 and rod 18 forward out of the case. At the same time the latch 24 engages the contiguous rocker, locking the support in the forward position, as indicated in the lower portion of Fig. 1. When it is desired to return the support within the case the latch 24 may be released manually, whereupon the spring 21 will act to return the support to its normal position. If desired the latch 24 may be automatically disengaged by providing a projection 26 upon one of the doors. (See Figs. 8 and 9.) In operation of this form of the device, the pivoted member 22 engages the incline 20, and depresses the rocker in the manner heretofore described. The latch 24 then engages the rocker and holds the same in the depressed position. When the door is closed, the initial movement thereof brings projection 26 of member 22 into engagement with the upper end 24′ of the latch, disengaging the latter from the rocker and permitting the latter to assume its normal position. In this connection it will be noted that while I have referred to the member 20 being on one rocker and the spring 21 beneath the other rocker, I do not desire to limit myself in this particular as the spring may well be under the same rocker that carries said member 20. Likewise the latch 24 may be placed adjacent either rocker, as shown in Figs. 2 and 8, respectively.

In Fig. 3 I have illustrated a slight modification of the supporting member and rockers, the same being designed solely for manual operation. Referring to said figure the rockers 16′ are each provided with a spring 30 connecting the rear end of the rocker with the rear wall of the case. This spring serves to counterbalance the weight of the garments when the supporting member is moved to the positions shown in dotted lines, and also serves to return the supporting member to its normal position within the case when released by the salesman.

In Fig. 4 I have illustrated a further modification in which the supporting member is shown as comprising uprights 17′ pivoted to the case at 31 and connected by a rod 18′. The forward and rearward positions of the supporting member are defined by stop pins or lugs 32. In this form when in the rearward position, the weight of the garments retains the arms or uprights 17′ against the rear stop pin or lug 32, and the same is true with the relation to the forward stop pins or lugs, when the arms 17′ are swung forward.

Having thus explained the nature of my invention, and described an operative manner of constructing and using the same, although without attempting to set forth all of the forms in which it may be made, or all the forms of its use, what I claim is:—

1. A display rack comprising spaced apart rockers, a garment supporting rod carried by said rockers, a spring acting against the under face of one of said rockers, and an overhanging lock adapted to engage the upper surface of one of said rockers to hold the same against the tension of said spring.

2. A display rack comprising spaced apart supporting rockers having curved bottom faces upon which said rockers rest, uprights carried by said rockers and free at their upper ends, a supporting rod carried by said uprights, and means directly acting on said rockers for maintaining the uprights in a normally vertical position.

3. The combination with a case, of an upright supporting member, means for pivotally supporting the lower end of said member near the bottom of the case, and means acting on the lower end of said member for automatically returning the upper end thereof after the same has been moved to a forward position.

4. The combination with a case provided with a door, of a garment supporting member pivotally mounted in said case, means for automatically moving said supporting member to a forward position when the door is opened, means for automatically locking said supporting member in its forward position, and means for automatically returning said supporting member to a rearward position when released from said locking means.

5. The combination with a case provided with a door, of a garment supporting member mounted to swing within said case, and means for automatically moving said garment supporting member to a forward position within said case when the door is opened.

6. The combination with a case, of a garment supporting member, a rocking support therefor within said case, and locking means adapted to automatically engage said support as the latter reaches its forward position.

7. The combination with a case, of a garment supporting member, a rocking support therefor within said case, means for swinging said garment supporting member to a forward position, and locking means adapted to automatically engage said support as the latter reaches its forward position.

8. The combination with a case, of a garment supporting member mounted to swing within the case, locking means adapted to automatically engage said member as the latter reaches its forward position, and means normally acting to return said member to its rearward position.

9. The combination with a case, of a garment supporting member mounted to swing within the case, means for positively swinging said member to a forward position, means for automatically locking the same in the forward position, and means normally acting to return said member to its rearward position when released from said locking means.

10. The combination with a case provided with a door, of a garment supporting member mounted to swing within the case, means for automatically swinging said member to a forward position when the door is opened, means for locking said member in the forward position, and means for automatically releasing said member from said locking means when the door is closed.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ANDREW E. MILLER.

Witnesses:
MARY M. MAGRAW,
DAVID M. NEWBOLD.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."