Feb. 6, 1940. J. T. SMITH 2,189,254

DISPLAY RACK

Filed March 14, 1938

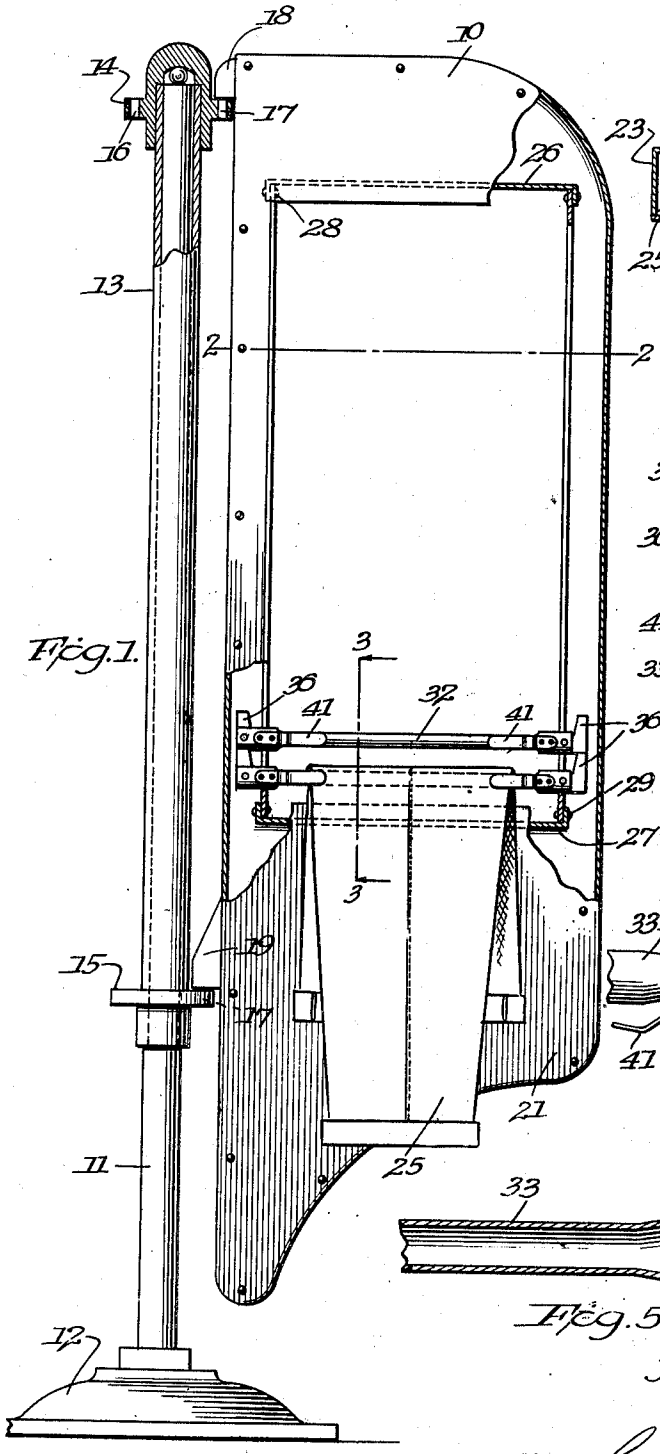


Fig. 1.

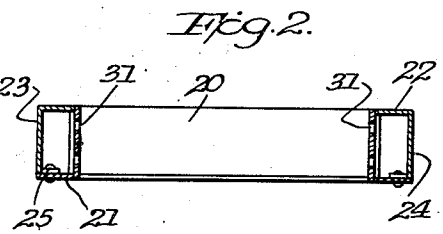


Fig. 2.

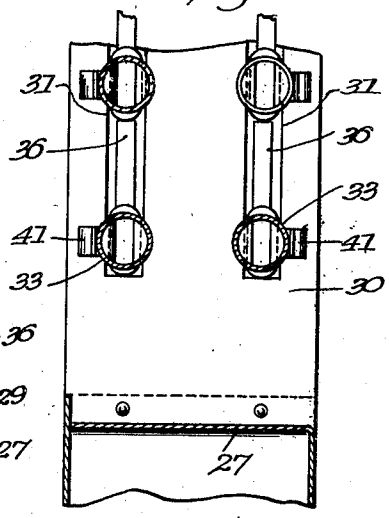


Fig. 3.

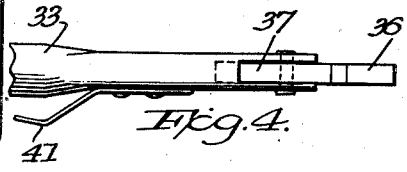


Fig. 4.

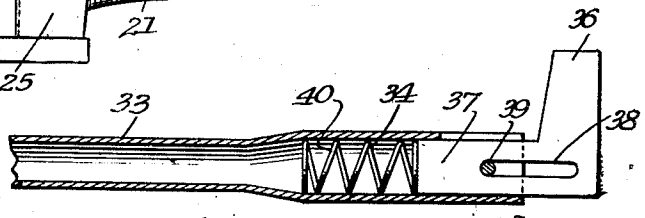


Fig. 5.

Inventor

John T. Smith.

By Cushman Darby & Cushman

Attorneys

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DISPLAY RACK

John T. Smith, Clovis, N. Mex., assignor of one-half to W. C. Overton, Fort Sumner, N. Mex.

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5 Claims. (Cl. 211—13)

The present invention relates to display racks and is particularly useful in displaying articles of apparel, such as men's trousers.

An object of the invention is the provision of a rack which is capable of effectively displaying a plurality of articles of apparel in superposed relation, said rack also permitting each article to be easily and quickly removed from any portion of the rack, as desired.

Another object is to provide a novel construction which will permit articles to be displayed upon opposite sides of the rack. The present invention comprises a panel-like casing provided with means for detachably supporting two sets of spaced hangers designed to effectively display articles of apparel, such as trousers, on both sides of the casing.

A further object is the provision of contractible hangers which may be easily and quickly inserted and removed from the rack as desired.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention will now be more fully described, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a side elevation, partly in section, of my display rack,

Figure 2 is a section on line 2—2 of Figure 1,

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary view on line 3—3 of Figure 1, and

Figures 4 and 5 are enlarged fragmentary views of one of the hangers.

Referring now to the drawing, the numeral 10 designates a display rack forming the subject matter of the present invention. This rack may be supported in any suitable manner and in the present instance I have provided a supporting pedestal 11 mounted on a base 12. A hollow tubular sleeve 13 is telescoped over the pedestal 11 and is freely rotatable thereon. This sleeve is provided with upper and lower flanged brackets 14 and 15 respectively, which directly support a plurality of the display racks 10. As shown in Figure 1, the flanges of the brackets 14 and 15 are provided with aligned openings 16 which receive pins 17 carried by upper and lower extensions 18 and 19 of the display rack. With this arrangement, each display rack is pivotally mounted on the brackets 14 and 15 and the member 13 is, in turn, freely rotatable on the pedestal 11, whereby each rack is individually movable with respect to its supporting member and also rotatable with the sleeve 13 about the pedestal 11.

Each display rack 10 comprises a substantially hollow sheet metal frame or casing of panel-like formation consisting of two sections 20 and 21 respectively. These sections are preferably pressed or stamped to the desired configuration. The section 20 is formed with a flat wall 22, constituting one of the side walls of the rack. The longitudinal edges of this wall are extended and bent to form the end walls 23 and 24 of the casing. Each end wall is provided with a plurality of inturned projections 25 which constitute means for securing the section 21, comprising the other side wall of the casing, to the section 20.

During the formation of the casing sections each wall 21 and 22 is cut away to form an opening of substantially rectangular formation. When the sections are assembled these openings are aligned and cooperate to form a rectangular opening in the casing. The wall 22 is also formed with upper and lower inturned flanges 26 and 27 which extend across the width of the casing to the wall 21 and constitute the top and bottom walls of the casing opening. The flange or top wall 26 is provided with downwardly extending flanges 28, while the lower wall 27 is formed with upwardly extending flanges 29. These flanges are employed to position and support a pair of strips 30 which are secured to the flanges in any suitable manner, such as by rivets.

With the construction as thus far described, it will be apparent that the sections 20 and 21 when assembled comprise a panel-like frame or casing having a rectangular opening formed therein. Each strip 30 is provided with spaced parallel slots 31 which are so arranged that opposite slots are in alignment and cooperate to form two longitudinally extending guides, each of which is adapted to receive a plurality of garment supporting hangers 32.

Referring to Figure 1, it will be observed that several hangers 32 are mounted in one of the guides formed by one pair of slots 31 and it is to be understood that these hangers may be built up and supported one upon the other throughout the whole length of the panel opening. Each hanger is preferably formed of metal and comprises an intermediate tubular portion 33 and flattened end portions 34. The tubular portion is adapted to directly support a pair of trousers 35, while the flattened portions are designed to project through the opposite slots and thus prevent the trouser supporting portion 33 from turning or rotating after it has been placed in the rack. The extremities of the flattened portions 34 are laterally extended to provide spacer arms 36 which, as shown in Figure 1, extend

within the casing and directly support the next adjacent upper hanger, which is subsequently placed on top of the first hanger. Thus the hangers adequately support each other and also sufficiently space the garment receiving portion, so that the weight of the superposed hangers will not be imparted to the pairs of trousers, with the possibility of mussing or injuring the same.

Referring to Figures 4 and 5, it will be observed that each hanger is contractible in order to permit insertion and removal of the hanger from the rack. In this connection, one of the arms 36 of each hanger is formed with an extension 37 telescoping within the flattened portion 34 of its respective hanger. This extension is provided with a slot 38 which rides on a cross pin 39 carried by and adjacent the end of the flattened portion 34. A coil spring 40 is positioned in the flattened portion and presses against the inner end of the extension 37 whereby the arm 36 is normally maintained in its extended position against the tension of the spring.

When it is desired to insert a hanger in one of the guideways, the contractible end of the hanger is first placed in one of the slots and the spring compressed until the other end of the hanger is free to be shifted into alignment with the opposite slot 31. With the hanger in this position it is released and the spring will expand, forcing the other extremity of the hanger through the opposite slot and into the position shown in Figure 1. In removing a hanger, the intermediate trouser supporting portion 32 is grasped and moved in a direction to compress the spring 40. This will release the rigidly mounted arm 36 from its respective slot and permit it to move free of the casing, whereupon the hanger and garment may be completely removed from the rack. It is to be understood that the slots 31 are of sufficiently greater width than the thickness of the arms 36 to permit a lateral swinging movement of the hanger (see Figure 3), as it is inserted and removed from the slots.

Each hanger is preferably provided with a pair of spring clamps 41 which effectively clamp the trousers 35 or other article of apparel to the hanger to prevent any slipping action and thus securely maintain the garment in the desired position for display purposes.

By constructing the rack to form a panel-like casing and by providing the aligned slots to form a pair of spaced guides, a double row of trousers may be effectively supported and displayed from one rack 10. It will be apparent that this provides an efficient means for displaying apparel, since both sides of the rack are utilized for display purposes. Furthermore, this construction permits the easy removal and replacement of an article of apparel from the rack. If, for instance, the rack is substantially filled and it is desired to remove an intermediate hanger, it is merely necesary to raise those hangers positioned above the one to be removed, whereupon the hanger in question may be easily taken from the rack in the manner above described.

While the present means of pivotally supporting the display rack is quite efficient, it is to be understood that any other supporting means may be employed so long as both sides of each panel are free for display purposes. It is to be further understood that such other variations in the construction herein shown and described as are within the skill of a mechanic may, of course, be made without departing from the range of my invention.

I claim:

1. A display rack comprising a hollow panel-like sheet metal casing consisting of a section forming a side and the end walls of the casing and having an opening formed in the side wall, a second section forming the other side wall of the casing and having an opening registering with the opening in the side wall of the other section, a pair of spaced metal strips extending between the side walls within the opening formed by said walls, each strip being provided with spaced parallel longitudinally extending slots, each slot being aligned with one of the slots of the opposite strip and forming therewith a hanger receiving guide, and a plurality of hangers slidably mounted in said guides and adapted to support and display articles of apparel on both sides of the panel-like casing.

2. A display rack comprising a hollow panel-like sheet metal casing consisting of a section forming a side and the end walls of the casing and having an opening formed in the side wall, a second section forming the other side wall of the casing and having an opening registering with the opening in the side wall of the other section, one of said sections having spaced inturned flanges, a pair of spaced metal strips extending between and secured to said inturned flanges, each strip being provided with spaced parallel longitudinally extending slots, each slot being aligned with one of the slots of the opposite strip and forming therewith a hanger receiving guide, and a plurality of hangers slidably mounted in said guides and adapted to support and display articles of apparel on both sides of the panel-like casing.

3. A display rack comprising a hollow panel-like sheet metal casing consisting of a section forming a side and the end walls of the casing and having a rectangular opening formed in the side wall, a second section forming the other side wall of the casing and having an opening registering with the opening in the side wall of the other section, said first mentioned section having spaced inturned flanges extending across to the other section and constituting end walls of the casing opening, a pair of spaced metal strips secured to said inturned flanges and extending between the side walls of the casing within the opening and constituting the side walls of the opening, each strip being provided with spaced parallel longitudinally extending slots, each slot being aligned with one of the slots of the opposite strip and forming therewith a hanger receiving guide, and a plurality of hangers slidably mounted in said guides and adapted to support and display articles of apparel on both sides of the panel-like casing.

4. A display rack comprising a panel-like frame having an opening therein defining at least one pair of opposed parallel side walls, each of said side walls being provided with a pair of spaced slots, each slot extending longitudinally of and throughout substantially the whole length of its respective wall, each slot being aligned with one of the slots in the opposite side wall and forming therewith an uninterrupted hanger receiving guide, and a plurality of freely slidable hangers mounted in said guides and forming therewith two sets of apparel display devices, one set adapted to display apparel on one side of the frame and the other set adapted to display apparel on the opposite side of the frame.

5. A display rack comprising a panel-like casing having a substantially rectangular opening

formed therein, a set of strips carried by said casing and forming opposed side walls of said opening, each strip being provided with a pair of spaced parallel slots, each slot extending longitudinally of and throughout substantially the whole length of its respective strip, each slot being aligned with one of the slots of the opposite strip and forming therewith an uninterrupted closed hanger receiving guide, and a plurality of contractible hangers slidably and removably mounted in said guides and forming therewith two sets of apparel display devices, one set adapted to display apparel on one side of the casing, and the other set adapted to display apparel on the opposite side of the casing.

JOHN T. SMITH.