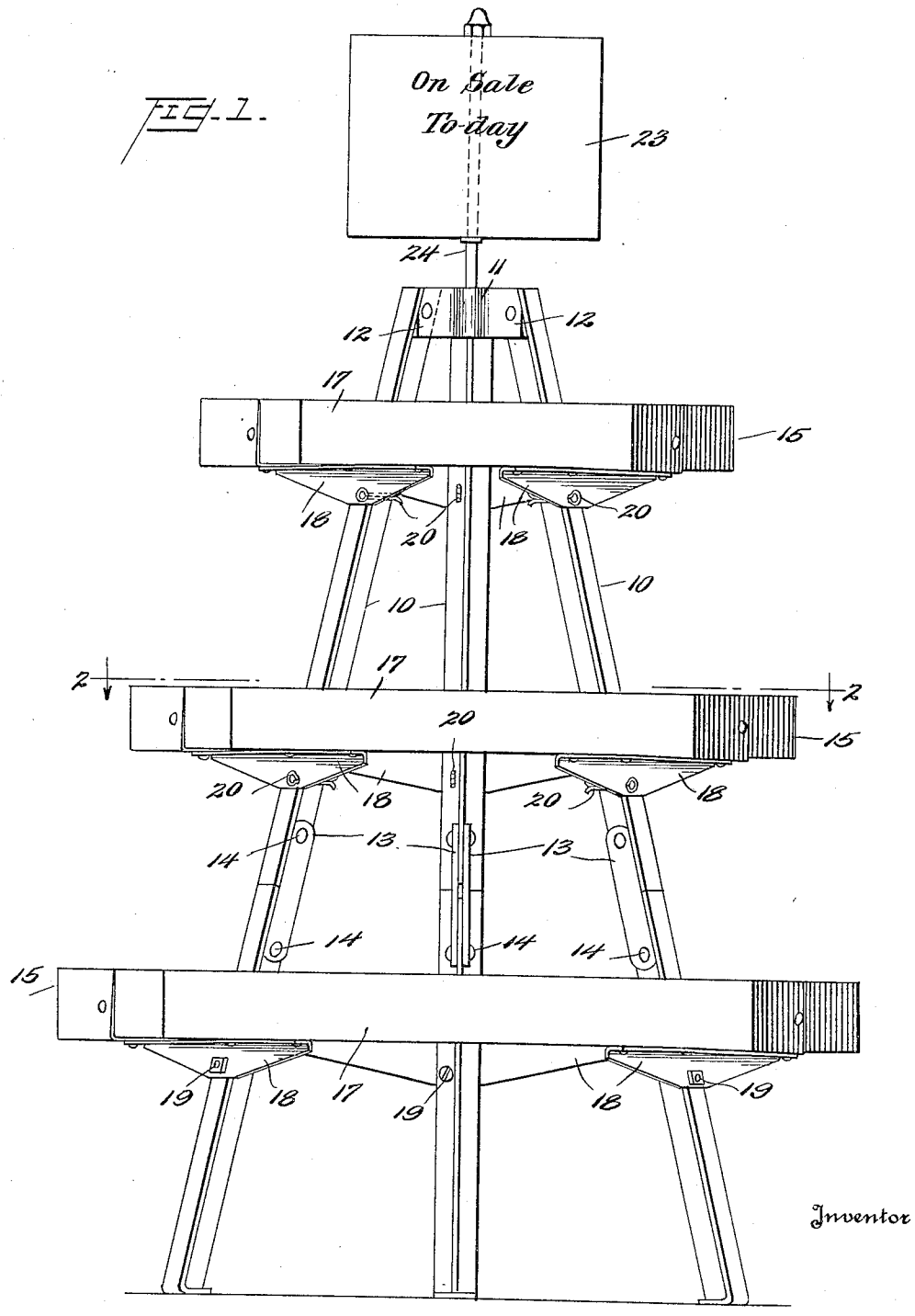
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DISPLAY STAND

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FIG. 1.



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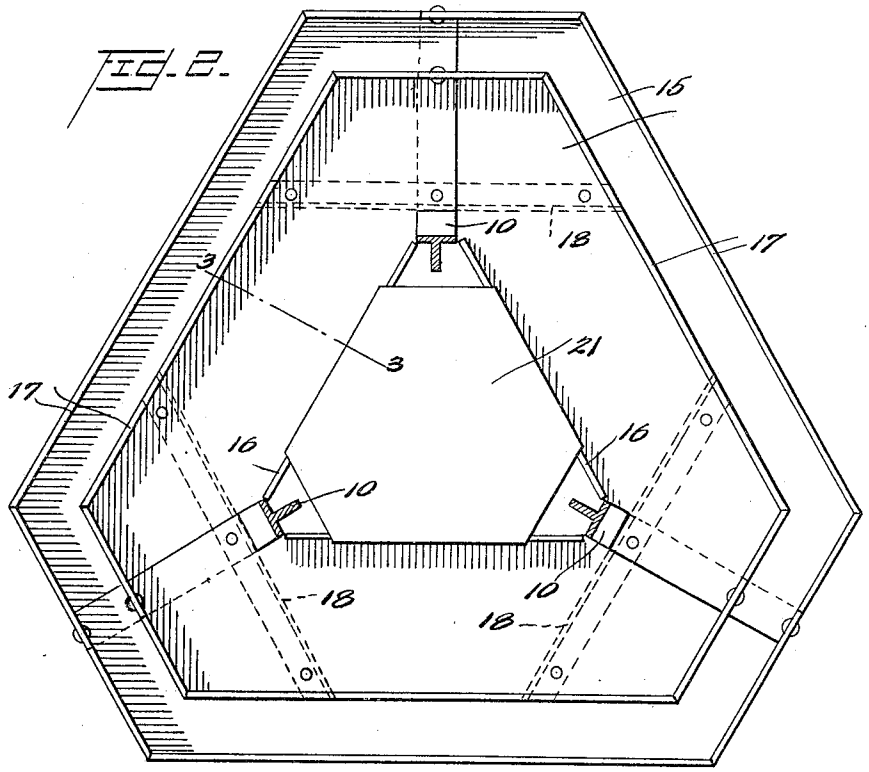
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DISPLAY STAND

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FIG. 2.



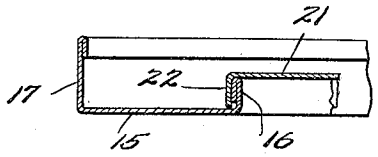


FIG. 3.

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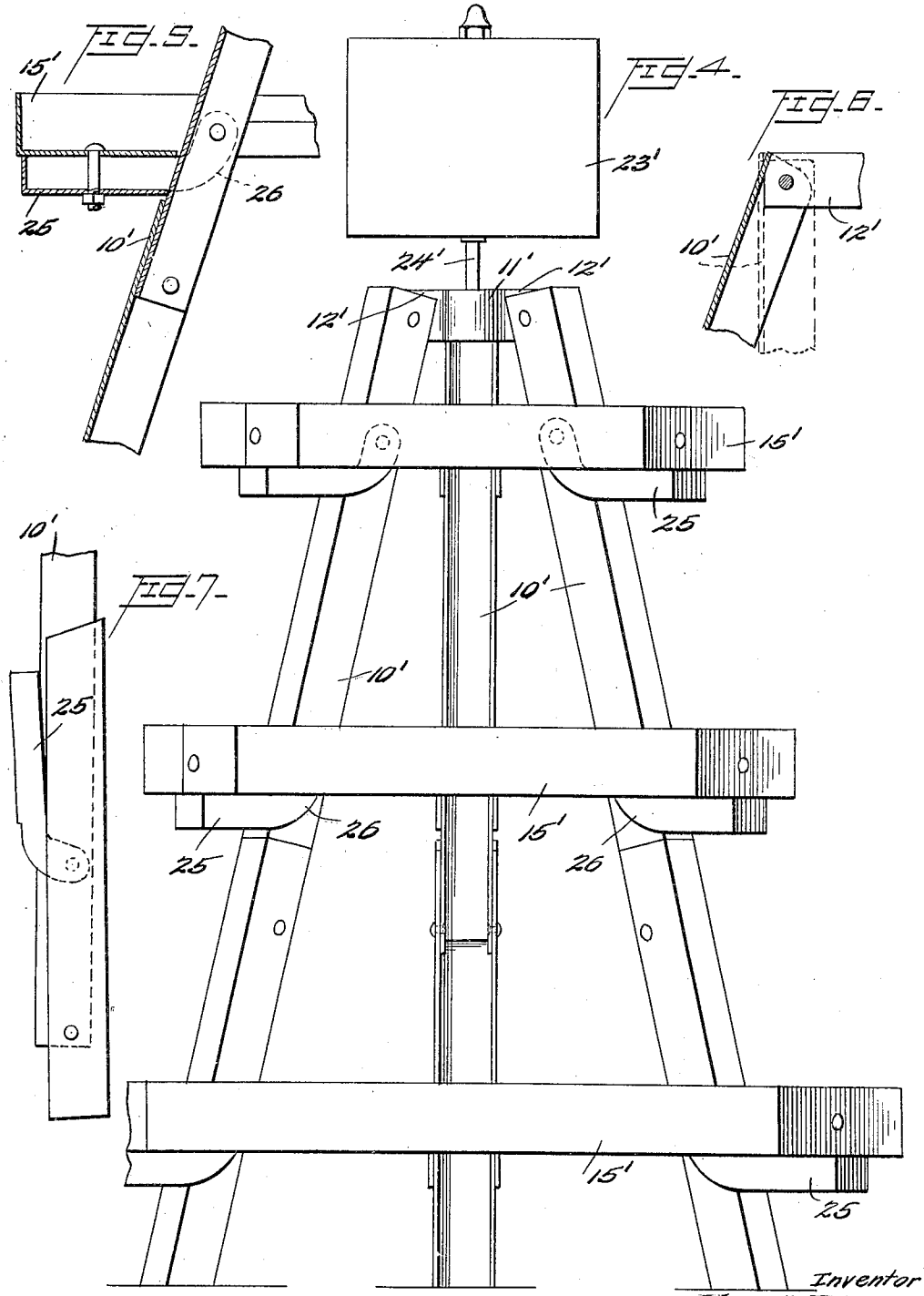
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DISPLAY STAND

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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DISPLAY STAND

Application filed March 9, 1931. Serial No. 521,294.

This invention relates to display stands and, among other objects, aims to provide an improved all metal stand, which may easily be assembled and dismantled, and improved thin sheet metal shelves so shaped and constructed as to provide a maximum amount of display space.

Other aims and advantages of the invention will appear in the description, when considered in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein:—

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a metal display stand embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken on the line 2—2 in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 3—3 in Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of a modified form of stand embodying the invention;

Figs. 5 and 6 are fragmentary sectional views of the modified form; and

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary side elevation of a collapsed or folded leg.

Referring particularly to the drawings, the stand is shown in Figs. 1 and 2 as being supported by a tripod having legs 10 made of T-shaped structural steel and pivotally connected at their upper ends to a top piece or block 11 which has bifurcated arms or brackets 12 to receive the middle flanges of the T bars. The shape of the end faces of the brackets is such as to limit the opening movement of the legs and to permit them to be folded inwardly until they are approximately parallel. Further, the legs are preferably made of sections of any desired length and so connected that the lowermost sections may be folded upwardly and inwardly. In this example, the abutting ends of the sections are square and the inwardly projecting or middle flanges are pivotally secured together by pairs of flat links 13 and ordinary bolts or rivets 14. The lower sections when collapsed and folded inwardly will permit the tripod or support to be shipped in a relatively small crate or package.

A series of fabricated, sheet metal shelves 15 are shown as being secured to the legs of the tripod and arranged in stepped formation. While the shelves may be stamped out of a single piece of sheet metal, they are here shown as being made of three similar pieces of sheet metal bent in the form of channels having narrow inner flanges 16 and wide outer flanges 17. The outer vertical flanges are preferably crimped inwardly to present smooth, reinforced upper edges and to secure the pieces together where they overlap. The pieces overlap at the legs and are conveniently secured together by spot welding or by small rivets, as shown. The narrow inner flanges 16 are also crimped or reversely bent to present smooth upper edges and they are cut off so that they will fit between the legs of the tripod or support. The construction of the shelves is such that they may be slid on the tripod one after the other because each one has a generally triangular opening. For the sake of appearance the outer corner portions are cut away so that all of the shelves are hexagonal.

All of the shelves are secured to the legs of the support or tripod to prevent them from tilting when loaded on one side and also to prevent the legs from collapsing. For this purpose, sheet metal, angle brackets 18 are shown as being suitably secured to the bottoms of the shelves adjacent to the legs so that their downwardly projecting flanges contact with the outside faces of the leg flanges and they have openings registering with openings through the leg flanges. These angle brackets not only serve as convenient securing means for the shelves, but also reinforce them so that they will support relatively heavy loads of display articles. The brackets of the lower shelf are preferably secured by small stove bolts 19 to the legs so that this shelf constitutes a rigid brace for the legs; while the brackets of the shelves are secured by ordinary cotter pins 20 (Fig. 1). This arrangement permits the shelves to be assembled on or removed from the support very quickly.

To increase the shelf space, substantially triangular, sheet metal plates 21, cut away at the corners and having downwardly bent side flanges 22 to fit over the flanges 16 are adapted to be placed between the legs and supported on any or all of the shelves. If desired,

however, these supplemental shelves may be removed or omitted and the available space utilized for an electric lamp or illuminated sign (not shown).

An advertising sign 23 of any suitable size or shape may be suitably secured on top of the stand conveniently by means of a rod or bar 24 conveniently screwed into the block or top piece 11. In this example, the sign happens to be rectangular and is rotatably mounted on the bar 24.

For shipping purposes, the support or tripod may be collapsed and folded, as hereinbefore described, and the shelves may be nested. Further, the advertising sign and its supporting bar may be removed and packed with the shelves. The whole thing can then be packed in a small carton which occupies a minimum of shipping space. In fact, the parts for several stands may be packed in the same space that would be required for one assembled stand.

The modified form of stand shown in Figs. 4 to 7 inclusive has channel-shaped legs 10′ made of relatively thin sheet metal. The upper ends straddle and are pivoted to the arms 12′ on the top piece 11′. The foldable ends or extensions of the legs are sufficiently large to telescope over them and are pivotally connected thereto conveniently by rivets. The arrangement is such that the ends of the webs of the legs will rub against the inner faces of the webs of the extensions when the extensions are swung open and the telescoped ends will snap into place.

The sheet metal shelves 15′ may be like those shown in Figs. 1 to 3. However, the angle brackets for securing them to legs are omitted and foldable, channel-shaped brackets 25 having curved arms 26 straddling and pivoted to the legs, provide supports on which the shelves are adapted to rest. In this instance, the shelves are bolted to the foldable leg brackets by ordinary stove bolts. It will be noted that the shape and pivotal connections of the brackets are such that the inner ends of their webs abut the legs and support the brackets horizontally (Figs. 4 and 5). When the tripod is folded, all of the brackets may be folded against the legs to occupy a minimum of space. Moreover, the shelves may be nested into a smaller space than shelves having attached angle brackets. In fact, the modified form can be manufactured at a lower cost than the first form and is preferred when the load to be carried is not too great.

From the foregoing description, it will be seen that the improved display stands are very easy to assemble and dismantle and are very strong and durable. Moreover, they can be manufactured very cheaply due to the fact that the principal fabricated parts are made of sheet metal and structural steel.

Obviously, the present invention is not restricted to the particular embodiments thereof herein shown and described. Moreover, it is not indispensable that all the features of the invention be used conjointly, since they may be employed advantageously in various combinations and sub-combinations.

What I claim is:—

1. A display stand comprising, in combination, a tripod support having foldable legs; inwardly foldable extensions on said legs; a series of channel-shaped, sheet metal shelves surrounding the legs and adapted to be slipped over the tripod; flanged brackets on the shelves adjacent to the legs; bolts securing the brackets on the lower shelf to the foldable extensions of the legs whereby said lower shelf constitutes a brace for the tripod; and means removably to secure the brackets of the other shelves to each of the legs.

2. A display stand comprising, in combination, a tripod support having foldable structural steel legs adapted to be folded inwardly substantially parallel with each other; a plurality of stepped sheet metal shelves surrounding the legs and having triangular openings whereby they may be slipped over the tripod; angle brackets on the bottoms of the shelves adapted to contact with the flanges of said legs; said legs and brackets having openings whereby the shelves may be secured to the legs; bolts rigidly securing the brackets of one of the shelves to the legs whereby the shelf acts as a brace; and cotter pins securing the brackets on the other shelves to the legs.

3. A display stand comprising, in combination, a tripod support; a series of sheet metal shelves having substantially triangular openings adapted to be slipped over the tripod support; means to secure the shelves to the legs so that the shelves constitute braces therefor; and supplemental, substantially triangular shelves adapted to be secured over the openings in said shelves to provide additional shelf space.

4. A display stand comprising, in combination, a tripod support having sectional, foldable legs; a series of fabricated, substantially channel-shaped, sheet metal shelves presenting triangular openings whereby they may be slipped over the tripod; bolts securing the lower shelf to the tripod so that said shelf constitutes a brace therefor; and substantially triangular supplemental shelf plates removably secured to the inner edges of said shelves whereby to increase the shelf space, said shelves adapted to be nested together for shipping.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature.

FRANK PFOUS.