Dec. 8, 1931. S. EDELHEIT 1,835,764

RACK

Filed May 29, 1930 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

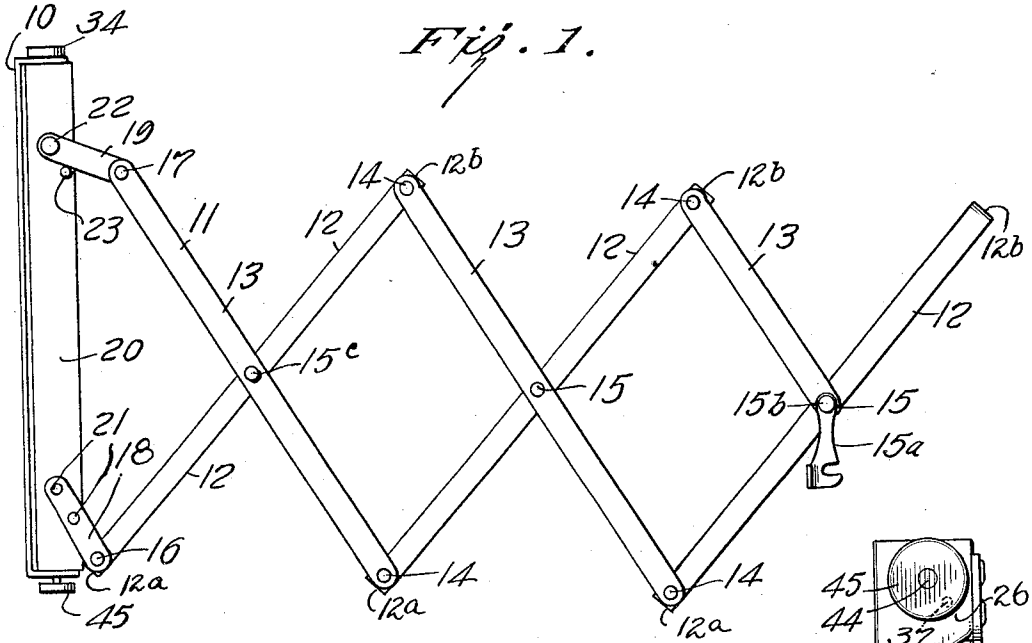


Fig. 2.

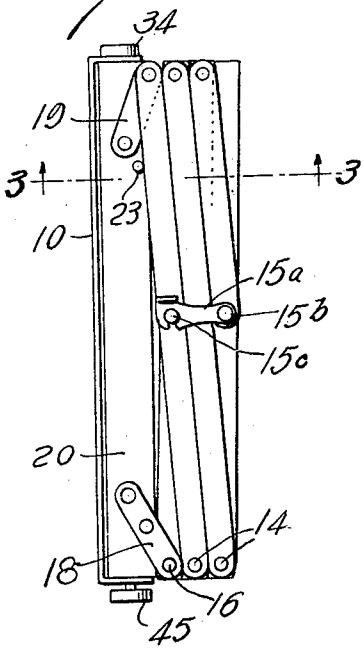


Fig. 4.

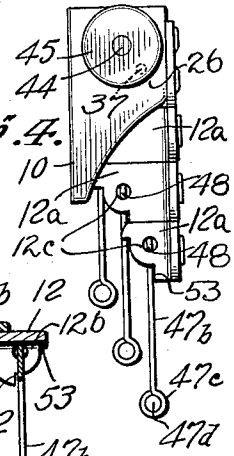
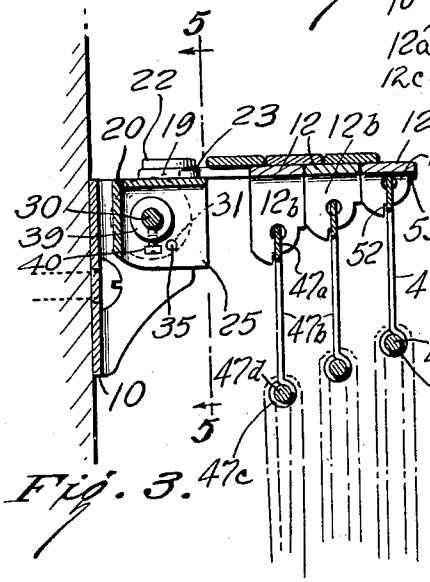


Fig. 3.



Inventor

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Dec. 8, 1931. S. EDELHEIT 1,835,764

RACK

Filed May 29, 1930 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 5.

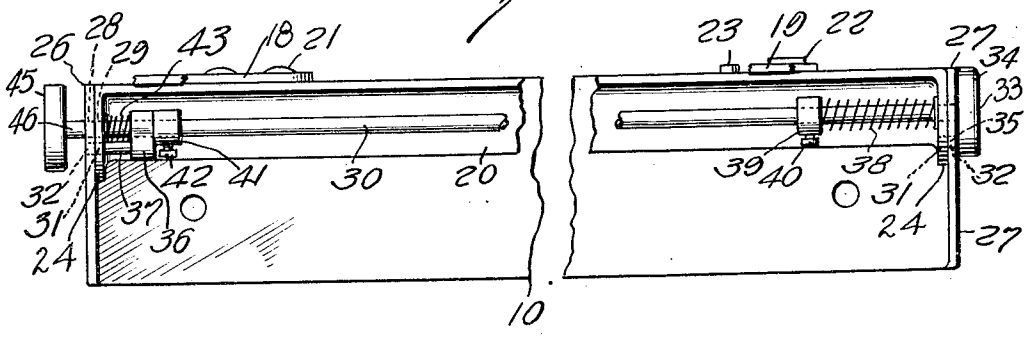


Fig. 6.

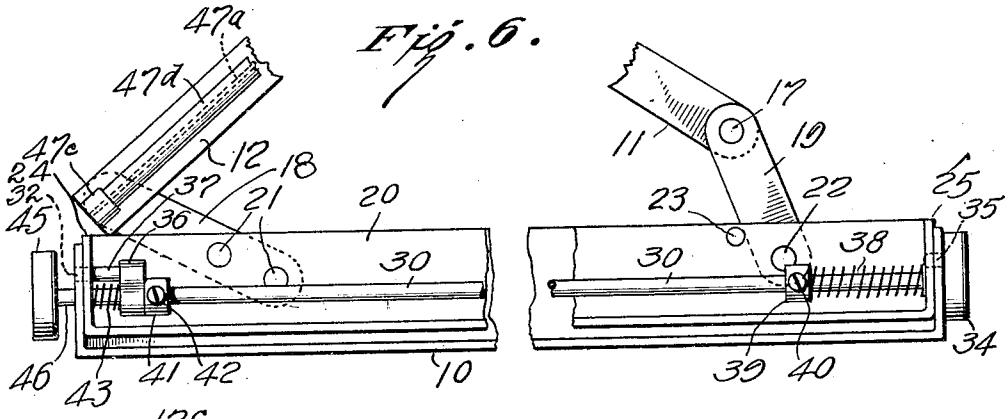


Fig. 7.

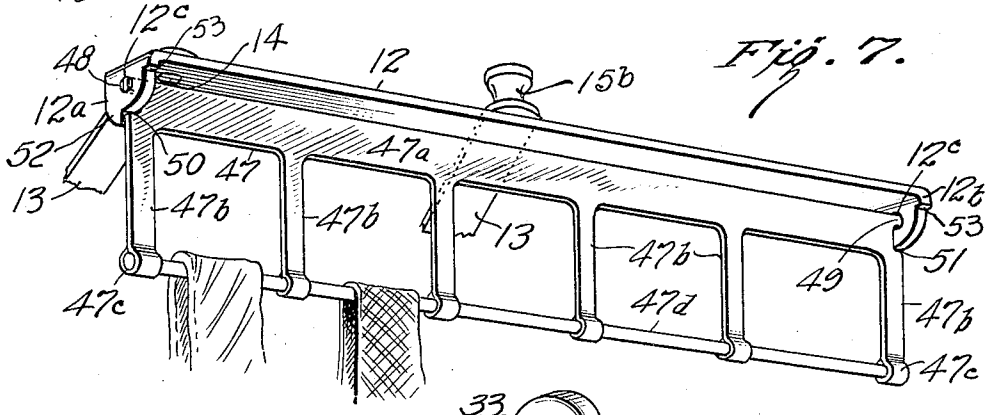
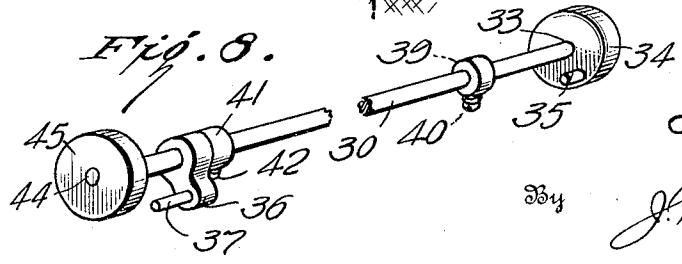


Fig. 8.



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Patented Dec. 8, 1931 1,835,764

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

SOL EDELHEIT, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

RACK

Application filed May 29, 1930. Serial No. 457,223.

This invention relates to a rack; more particularly, a wardrobe rack for such articles of apparel as ties and the like.

It is an object of my invention to provide a rack in the nature of a display device or an accessory for a wardrobe whereby articles of apparel may be conveniently and compactly stored and made readily accessible and examinable, should it be found desirable, whereby when a plurality of articles of apparel, such as neckties, are not in use, they may be conveniently stacked or stored and when it is desired to examine these articles and make a selection therefrom, the rack may be distended to make the individual articles readily accessible for observation and handling.

It is still further an object of my invention to provide a rack in the nature of a display device, which may be used to hold and display a plurality of articles, particularly articles of apparel, such as ties, to make the same readily accessible for observation and handling, and which may be compactly folded, as against a retaining wall for the rack, whereby the same may be conveniently assembled upon a closet door or wardrobe, to take up the minimum amount of space, when not in use. It is contemplated by my invention to provide a distensible rack for articles of apparel, such as neckties, whereby independent articles supported from the rack are made readily accessible for observation and handling, the rack being susceptible of compact folding, serving also simultaneously to stack the articles against relative displacement and clamp the same into position in a compact manner.

Other objects of my invention reside in the provision of a combined hanger and rack for articles of apparel, such as neckties, of simple design and construction, whereby articles may be stored in a minimum amount of space, and clamped into position against displacement, and at the same time afford ready means of displaying and rendering available articles for inspection, with maximum facility.

To attain these objects and such further objects as may appear herein or be hereinafter pointed out, I make reference to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of my device in the distended position;

Figure 2 is a similar view, with the device in the collapsed position;

Figure 3 is a section taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a view similar to Figure 3 with the hangers in the finally pivoted position;

Figure 5 is a section taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 3;

Figure 6 is a view similar to Figure 4, with the lazy tongs distended;

Figure 7 is a perspective view of one of the hanger elements;

Figure 8 is a detailed perspective view of the latch and pintle mechanism.

Making reference to the drawings, my device comprises generally a supporting bracket 10, arranged to be affixed to a supporting member, such as a wall, a door, the wall of a wardrobe, the wall of a casing or show case, and any other suitable fixture. It is contemplated by my invention, as one of its desirable components, to provide an extensible frame to which hangers may be affixed. The frame, so mounting the hangers, may be moved to a position providing ready access thereto so that any articles suspended from the hangers may be easily inspected, and otherwise facilely handled. When not in use for the purposes indicated, the distensible member supporting the hangers and the hangers carried thereby may be compressed against the wall and then folded in substantial parallelism to the wall, to occupy the minimum space.

Making further reference to the drawings, it will be observed that in the embodiment illustrated, the distensible frame 11 is composed of a plurality of substantially equal branches 12 and connecting sections 13, pivoted by pin connections to the extremities of the branches 12 and mid-points thereof, as shown at 14 and 15, respectively, thus forming a frame in the nature of lazy tongs. The free ends 16 and 17 of the branches 12 and 13, respectively, are pivotally connected by

pins to links 18 and 19, respectively. Each of these members is fastened to an angle plate 20, the link 18 being held rigidly by a pair of fastening members or rivets 21, whereas the link 19 has a single pin 22, permitting free pivotal movement of the link 19. A pin 23 serves as an abutment or stop for the link 19, limiting the inward pivotal movement of the link, as will be more clearly observed as this description proceeds. The angle plate 20, previously described, has inwardly turned ears 24 and 25, to either side thereof, arranged to be nested within the branches 26 and 27 of the bracket 10. The ears 24 and 25 and the branches 26 and 27 are provided with cooperative orifices 28 and 29, through which there is passed the latch shaft 30, serving as a pintle permitting pivotal operation of the angle plate 20 relatively to the bracket 10.

As it is contemplated by me to lock the frame formed by the lazy tongs in the horizontal position, as more particularly illustrated in the views in Figures 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6, the angle plate 20 is provided with latching mechanism, to hold the frame in this predetermined position. For purposes of accomplishing this result, the ears 24 and 25 and the branches 26 and 27 are provided with aligned orifices 31 and 32, eccentrically positioned from the orifices 28 and 29, previously referred to, in which is guided the shaft 30.

As previously indicated, the shaft 30 is freely pivotal within the orifices 28 and 29 of the ears 24 and 25 and the branches 26 and 27. The free ends of the shaft extend beyond these members and to the extremity 33 to the right hand side, there is keyed a collar 34. This collar carries interiorly thereof a pin 35, eccentrically positioned to correspond to the orifices 31 and 32, respectively. Intermediate the length of the shaft, adjacent the ear 24, there is affixed the finger 36, carrying the pin 37. The pin 37 is eccentrically disposed to correspond and align with the orifices 31 and 32 formed in the ear 24 and branch 26, respectively.

When mounted in position, as illustrated, a helical spring 38 is disposed upon the shaft 30, bearing against the ear 25 and a collar 39, provided with a set screw 40, serving by reason of the resilient action of the helical spring to urge the collar 34 and the pin 35, carried thereby, against the branch 27. The finger 36, to the opposite end of the shaft 30, is given complementary movement by the collar 41, held in position by the set screw 42. Thus, by the action of the resilient spring 38, the entire shaft 30 is held against longitudinal displacement and always serves to urge the pins 35 and 37, respectively, towards the latching position.

Between the finger 36 and the ear 24, and mounted upon the shaft 30 at this point, there is disposed a short length of helical spring 43 for purposes of absorbing the shock of the movement of the shaft 30, as may be introduced by the longer and more powerful spring 38 at the opposite end, and also for setting the finger 36 in desired position.

At the free end 44 of the shaft 30, there is provided a button 45, preferably screw threaded to the shaft 30, or otherwise making engagement therewith, to facilitate longitudinal shifting movement of the shaft 30. The button 45 is positioned on the shaft 30 so as to leave a section 46, equivalent substantially to the thickness of the material forming the branch 26, thereby limiting the longitudinal sliding movement of the shaft.

To permit unlatching or unlocking of the plate 20 and the lazy tong extensible member 11 carried thereby, the button 45 is pressed to longitudinally shift the entire shaft 30. This action carries the collar 34 therewith and thereby removes the pin 35 from the orifice 31 in the ear 25. Simultaneously with this action, the spring 43 presses against the finger 46 and likewise disengages the finger 37 from the orifice 32 in the branch 26. This operation facilitates the pivotal movement of the plate 20 and the entire frame or lazy tongs carried thereby to the vertical position shown in Figure 4.

The construction heretofore described provides an extensible frame which may be disposed either in the vertical position or in the horizontal position or, more generally stated, the frame 11 may be positioned to be disposed transversely to the supporting wall for the bracket 10 or parallel to the same, and in either position, the lazy tongs may be distended to the full length, and particularly when extended to a position transverse to the supporting wall or at right angles thereto, the latching mechanism provided will serve to hold the same in this relationship.

As it is contemplated by me, in my preferred form, to provide an apparel rack particularly suitable for such articles as ties, I further contemplate disposing from the sections 11, hangers for conveniently holding such articles of apparel and in the embodiment now to be described, the extensible frame previously described is illustrated as particularly applicable for purposes of providing a rack having utility in connection with storing, mounting or displaying ties. For this purpose, each of the sections 12 of the lazy tongs, formed of metal straps, has downwardly disposed ears 12*a* and 12*b*, of graduated length, with the shortest toward the outer extremity of the lazy tongs, as more clearly illustrated in Figures 3 and 4. In each of these ears there is provided orifices 12*c* and in these orifices there are fitted the hangers 47 which preferably comprise a metal stamping 47*a*, of a length corresponding to the spacing between the ears 12*a* and 12*b*, and including pivots 48 and 49, mounted

within the orifices 12*c*, in the ears 12*a* and 12*b*, respectively. Offset portions 50 and 51, formed in the stamping, serve to engage the stops 52 and 53, formed on the ears 12*a* and 12*b*, to thereby limit the pivotal movement of the hangers 47, as will be readily appreciated.

From the stamping 47*a*, previously described, there are formed the extensions 47*b*, each of which is formed with loops 47*c*, in which there is mounted the bar 47*d*. This construction provides each hanger 47 with a plurality of spaced stalls, dividing the bar or rod 47*d* into spaces for independently holding articles of apparel.

By the particular construction provided as more clearly illustrated in Figures 1 and 2, each of the hangers 47, supported from the sections 12, may be held in position wherein each of the stalls is readily accessible for mounting any number of ties and holding the same conveniently for inspection. Also, with the rack in this position, the ties may be arranged in an orderly manner, and permitted to hang in a condition where they will not be wrinkled, as will be readily understood.

With the ties thus arranged, the entire rack may be then folded to occupy the minimum amount of space against the supporting wall, which condition is attained by compressing the members of the lazy tongs, as shown in Figure 2. To hold the lazy tongs in this position, I may provide a latch 15*a* mounted upon the outermost pin 15, and which is provided with an extension 15*b* for pivotally supporting this latch. In the compressed position of the lazy tongs, this latch engages an extension 15*c*, upon the innermost pin 15.

With the lazy tongs thus assembled, I may still further fold the rack to occupy the minimum space by pressing the button 45, to thereby unlatch the fingers 35 and 37, as previously described, and permit the entire frame 11, carried by the angle plate 20, to move to a position in parallelism with the supporting wall for the bracket 10 which, in the example illustrated wherein the frame carries the hangers 47, the pivotal movement of the frame 11 is to the vertical position, more clearly illustrated in Figure 4. In this position, also, the hangers 47 will occupy a vertical position and thereby properly suspend the articles of apparel which may be mounted thereon which, by reason of the overlapping position occupied by the hangers, will serve to hold the articles of apparel, such as the ties, mounted from the bars 47*d*, against shifting movement. This type of construction is admirably suitable for mounting articles of apparel, such as neckties, when the rack is affixed to a portable device, such as a wardrobe trunk, and the pivotal movement of the frame 11 to the vertical position not only serves to move the entire rack to a position where it occupies the minimum space but also serves to clamp the articles mounted from the hangers against shifting movement.

Though I have described my rack as being of a size and form in connection with articles of apparel, such as neckwear, there is primarily for purposes of illustrating one embodiment of my invention. The size and form may be varied with other articles of apparel or merchandise for purposes useful as heretofore mentioned of rendering the articles conveniently accessible for inspection and arrangement, providing a construction which, when not in use, occupies the minimum amount of space.

Having thus described my invention and illustrated its use, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a rack of the character described, a wall engaging bracket, lazy tongs disposed from said bracket, means for pivotally mounting said lazy tongs relatively to said bracket, said pivotal mounting means including latching means to lock said lazy tongs in predetermined angular position to said bracket.

2. In a rack of the character described, a distensible section comprising interconnected pivotal links, means for mounting said distensible section upon a supporting member comprising a bracket, connecting means between said section and bracket for pivotally mounting relatively to each other said section and bracket latching means connected with said pivotal connecting means, said latching means being operable to automatically lock said distensible section transversely to said supporting member, and including releasing means whereby said distensible section may be moved from said aforementioned transverse position.

3. In a rack of the character described, a distensible section comprising lazy tongs, a supporting member for said tongs, a bracket for said member, pivotal mounting between said member and bracket, and latching means between said member and bracket to hold said tongs locked in predetermined angular position to the bracket.

4. In a rack of the character described, a distensible section formed of interconnected links comprising lazy tongs, a supporting member for said tongs, a bracket for said member and pivotal mounting between said member and bracket, said lazy tongs having connector members for supporting hangers in pivotal relation thereto in parallelism to said links.

5. In a rack of the character described comprising a support engaging bracket, lazy tongs connected to said bracket, said lazy tongs including branches thereof formed with offset portions and hangers disposed from said portions lying in the plane of the branches, said hangers being pivotally mounted to said portions, and means for lim-

iting the pivotal movements of said hangers relatively to said portions.

6. In a rack of the character described, a distensible section comprising lazy tongs, means for mounting said lazy tongs for bodily pivotal movement vertically and horizontally, means for limiting the distensible movement of said lazy tongs and a latching member for retaining said lazy tongs in the fully closed position when vertically disposed.

7. In a rack of the character described, distensible sections arranged to move substantially in a single plane, a supporting bracket therefor, an intermediate member connecting said sections to said bracket and a common pivot member for said intermediate member and bracket, said pivot member including means to lock said intermediate member and bracket in predetermined angular position relatively to each other.

8. In a rack of the character described, a distensible section comprising lazy tongs, a plate for said tongs, a supporting bracket to which said plate is connected, a common pivot rod connecting said plate and bracket for pivotal movement, said pivot rod being mounted for longitudinal movement and latching means carried by said rod to hold said plate and bracket in predetermined angular relationship.

9. A rack of the character described, comprising a supporting bracket arranged for horizontal disposition, an angle member connected to said bracket, a lazy tong assembly mounted on and affixed from one end of said lazy tong assembly to said angle member, said assembly cooperating with said angle member to hold said lazy tongs independently in the horizontal position, in various distensible arrangements thereof, whereby said assembly may be viewed from all positions in front of said bracket, said lazy tongs having alternative branches thereof formed with supporting hangers of substantially the full length of said section and lazy tongs, in the plane thereof.

10. A rack of the character described, including a distensibly mounted assembly and comprising supporting means for hangers, said hangers being adapted to lie in the horizontal position, and comprising a plate formed with a plurality of spaced members terminating into a supporting hanger bar forming stalls, and ears, or pivots formed on the opposite edges of said plate for engaging said supporting assembly.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name this 21st day of May, 1930.

SOL EDELHEIT.