Sept. 6, 1938. P. D. ARCHER 2,129,396

RACK

Filed Feb. 20, 1937

Fig. 1.

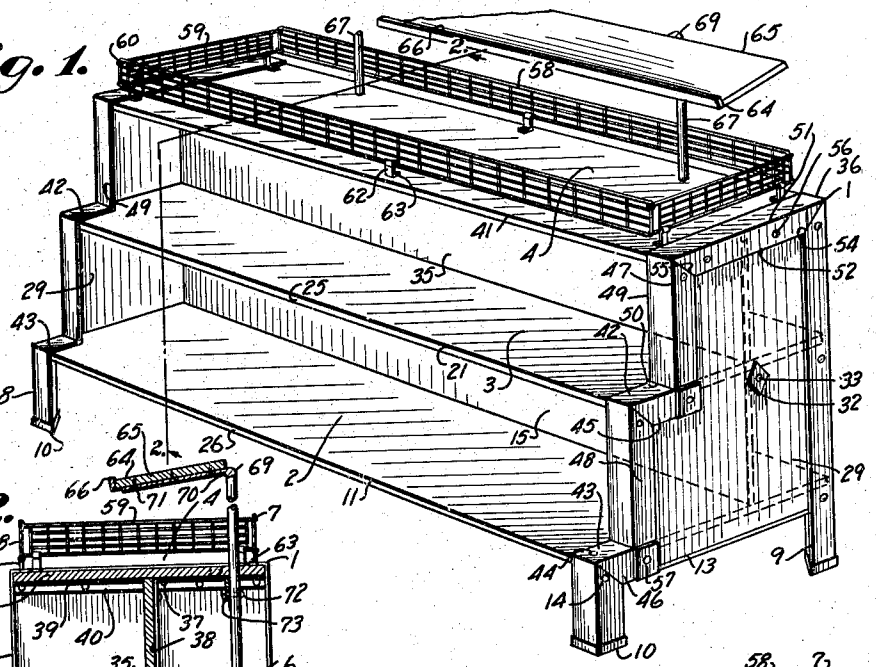


Fig. 2.

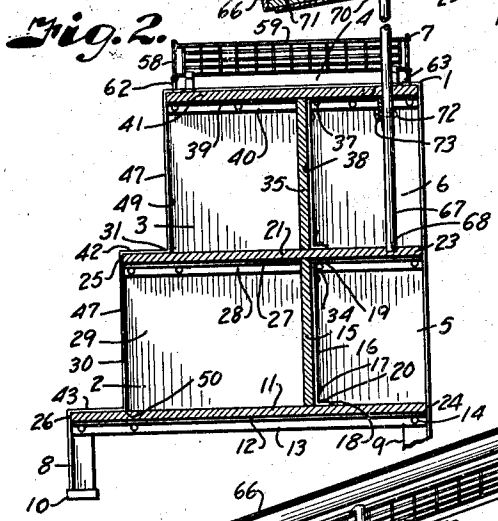


Fig. 3.

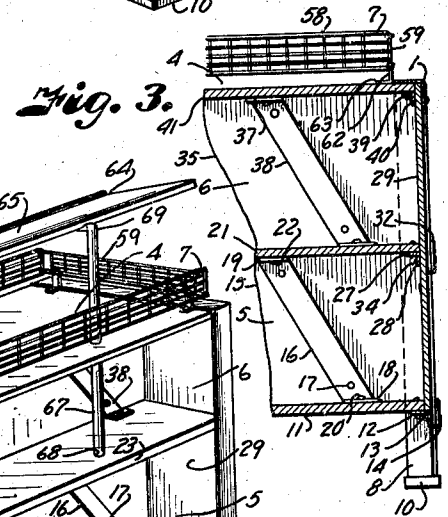
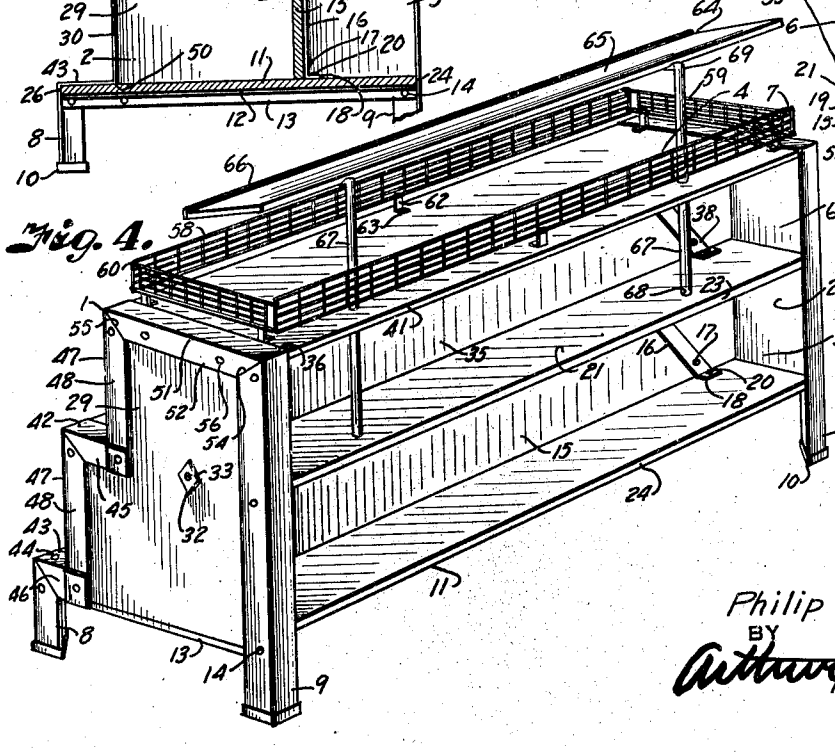


Fig. 4.



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RACK

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Application February 20, 1937, Serial No. 126,847

3 Claims. (Cl. 211—137)

This invention relates to racks and more particularly to a rack of the display type for assisting in merchandising various articles, such as loaves of bread and the like.

The principal objects of the present invention are to provide a display rack of attractive appearance and rigid construction having a plurality of adequate display spaces, and to provide storage compartments formed as a part of the rack.

In accomplishing these and other objects of the present invention, I have provided details of structure, the preferred form of which is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a rack embodying the features of the present invention, portions of the storage compartments being shown in dotted lines and the pastry shelf being shown fragmentarily.

Fig. 2 is a vertical cross section through the rack on the line 2—2, Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary elevational cross section of one end of the rack particularly illustrating the supporting members for the rack.

Fig. 4 is a perspective rear view of the rack.

Referring more in detail to the drawing:

The invention generally consists of a rack 1 having a series of stepped display sections 2, 3 and 4, and a series of storage sections 5 and 6, together with a guard 7 extending substantially around the uppermost display section, and a pastry shelf spaced above the display section 4.

8 and 9 designate a plurality of supporting legs for the rack 1 which preferably consist of upright angle irons of differential height preferably provided with substantially triangular skirted caps 10 engaging over the lower ends of the legs to increase the bearing surface for the rack support. Mounted between the angled arms substantially at the upper ends of the legs 8 and spaced an equal height from the lower ends of the legs 9 is a horizontally extending partition or floor 11 seating on laterally extending flanges 12 of angle irons 13 which connect the legs 8 and 9. The angle irons 13 are mounted on the legs in parallel horizontal relation by suitable fastening devices 14.

Mounted on the horizontal partition 11 in substantially perpendicular relation thereto and in spaced relation of the side edges thereof is a dividing partition 15 of a height suitable to provide a backing for a number of loaves of bread, or the like, when placed adjacent the opposite side faces of the dividing partition. The partition 15 is fixed in its position by channel members 16, having web portions preferably extending in a vertical plane at an angle relative to the partition 15 and fixed to the partition 15 in a suitable manner, as shown at 17. The channel 16 is provided with laterally extending flanges 18 and 19 suitably fixed, as at 20, to the upper face of the horizontal partition 11 preferably in spaced relation to the ends thereof and to a horizontal partition 21, as at 22.

The horizontal partition 21 is of the same length as the section 11, but preferably of less width, one side edge 23 thereof preferably extending flush with the side edge 24 of the section 11 to provide a set-back at its edge 25 relative to the edge 26 of the section 11. The horizontal partition 21 is mounted on the upper edge of the dividing partition 15, the flanges 19 of the channels, and on laterally extending flanges 27 of angle irons having downwardly extending flanges 28 fixed to the inner faces of side walls 29 of my improved rack.

The side walls 29 are mounted at their lower edges on the lateral flanges 12 at both ends of the horizontal section 11 and each has one upwardly extending side face thereof seating between the flanges of the angled legs 9. The opposite side edges 30 of the side walls extend perpendicularly relative to the section 11 in spaced relation to the side edge 26 thereof to a height substantially coinciding with the horizontal partition 21, at which point the edges thereof are set back, as at 31, and again extended perpendicularly. Mounted on the outside faces of the end walls 29 are plates 32 of suitable decorative design having a fastening device 33 extending therethrough and through the side walls for engagement, as at 34, with the vertical flanges 28 of the angle irons which support the horizontal section 21 for aiding in securing the end walls to the horizontal sections and adding a decorative feature to the rack.

Mounted on the horizontal partition 21 in perpendicular relation thereto is a dividing partition 35 substantially similar to the dividing partition 15 and fixed to the upper face of the section 21 in a similar manner as previously described. The upper edge of the partition 35 extends substantially flush with the upper ends 36 of the legs 9 for cooperating with lateral flanges 37 of channel irons 38 and the lateral flanges 39 of angle irons 40, fixed to the end walls 29 substantially at the upper edges thereof, in mounting a horizontal section 41 similar to the previously described sections 11 and 21 with the exception that the section 41 is of less width than sections 11 and 21 to provide a set-back for facilitating observation of articles displayed on the rack.

While the section 41 in the present instance forms a top cover for the rack, it is apparent that additional set-backs may be provided to increase the capacity of the rack.

Angled plates 42 and 43 are provided having lateral flanges suitably fixed, as at 44, to the upper faces of the sections 11 and 21 and having vertical flanges 45 and 46 extending downwardly

over the ends of the sections exteriorly of the set-backs of the end walls for covering, bracing and finishing the ends of the rack, the flanges **45** being beveled to coincide with the mating beveled edges at the upper end of the legs **8**. Angle irons **47** are also provided having flanges **48** in alignment with the flanges of the brace plates for extension upwardly to join the sections **11**, **21** and **41**, flanges **49** also being provided having lower end edges **50** positioned in substantially flush relation with the upper faces of the sections **11** and **21**. The upper end edges of the flanges **48** are beveled to coincide with oppositely beveled edges of the brace plates **46**. The end edges of the section **41** are provided with angle plates **51** having flanges extending over the top thereof and beveled flanges **52** mating with the beveled upper flanged edges **54** and **55** of the legs **9** and angle plates **49** respectively, the plates being suitably secured to the sections by fastening devices as shown at **56**.

Plates **57** are also provided as inserts for the angle formed by the horizontally and vertically extending adjacent plate members **42**—**43** and **47** in order to finish the appearance of the rack and to further brace the same.

The plates and legs of the rack are preferably of a material adapted to be provided with an attractive lustre and which also withstands tarnish in order to enhance the appearance of the device, while the display sections are preferably of naturally finished wood of suitable texture and the end walls are preferably of enamelled "Masonite" or like substance. Such a structure therefore not only provides a rigid rack, but also a rack of attractive appearance capable of withstanding corrosion tarnish, scratches and general rough wear.

Mounted on the top section **41** is the guard **7** which is preferably formed of suitably plated wire and provided with sides **58** and ends **59** which are suitably joined substantially at the corners of the top horizontal section, as at **60**, the lower portion of the guard being suitably mounted, as at **61**, on vertically extending flanges **62** of angle irons having laterally extending flanges **63** suitably fixed to the upper face of the section **41**.

The purpose of the guard **7** is to provide additional display space on the top of the rack which also precludes the danger of dislodging articles on the rack.

A pastry display shelf **64** is also provided for the rack in spaced relation to the top display section **4**. The shelf **64** comprises an article supporting member **65** of a shape adapting it for displaying a suitable number of cakes and similar pastries and is provided with an upwardly extending foot member **66** along one side edge thereof for forming an abutment to retain articles on the shelf. The supporting member **65** is preferably mounted on spaced bar members **67** having their lower ends mounted in sockets **68** of the partition **21**. The bar members extend upwardly through suitable apertures in the upper display section and have their upper ends **69** bent forwardly and slightly downwardly, the outer ends thereof terminating in upwardly spaced relation to the guard **7**. The bent ends of the bars are preferably flattened, as at **70**, and provided with fastening devices **71** extending therethrough and into the supporting member to secure the shelf in forwardly and downwardly slanted position. The bars **67** are preferably plated in a suitable manner to enhance the appearance of the rack and are further braced by fastening devices **72** engaging with the bars and with downwardly extending flanges of angle clips **73** having lateral flanges suitably secured to the under face of the top display section.

In using a rack constructed and assembled as described, various products, for example, loaves of bread may be stacked in the sections **2** and **3** and on the top of the rack within the guard rail for display. Additional storage space is also provided by the sections **5** and **6** at the rear of the rack for either replenishing the supply in the sections **2** and **3**, or for permitting customers to view and choose articles therefrom. It is also apparent that articles on the top of the rack within the guard are effectively displayed and easily removed for sale.

The principal advantages in a rack of this character over other racks heretofore available for this purpose are that it provides increased display space, together with a storage space; that articles on top of the rack are prevented from being accidently dislodged; and that the rack is of an attractive appearance, rigid construction, and will adequately withstand unusual wear and tear incident to overcrowded merchandising establishments.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a device of the character described, a plurality of superimposed compartments having open sides and having horizontal sections forming floors progressing upwardly in consecutively stepped relation, means for supporting said sections including a plurality of legs having substantially the same height as the lowermost of said sections and a plurality of legs of a height substantially equal to the uppermost of said sections, means for joining said stepped portions of said compartments and closing the ends thereof, and means spaced from the side edges of said sections for dividing said compartments into display and storage compartments.

2. In a rack of the character described, a plurality of superimposed and adjacent compartments formed by vertically spaced horizontal partitions, vertically extending partitions mounted on and dividing said horizontal partitions, end walls fixed at opposite ends of said horizontal and vertical partitions, said horizontal partitions being of differential width, legs supporting the side edges at one side of said horizontal partitions in a vertical plane, legs supporting the side and end edges of the lowermost horizontal partition at the side opposite said first named legs, and angle plates mounted on and joining said partitions and legs.

3. A rack of the character described including a plurality of vertically spaced horizontal partitions, vertically extending partitions mounted between said horizontal partitions longitudinally thereof, end walls fixed at opposite ends of said horizontal and vertical partitions for closing the ends thereof and forming compartments therebetween, angle irons having flanges fixed to the inner faces of the end walls and fixedly supporting the opposite ends of one of the horizontal partitions respectively, plates engaged with the outer faces of the end walls for enhancing the appearance thereof, and fastening members engaged with the plates extending through said plates and end walls into engagement with said end wall angle iron flanges for bracing the rack.

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