Nov. 14, 1967 A. VANDERSYS 3,352,523

DISPLAY STAND

Filed Nov. 26, 1965

FIG. 1

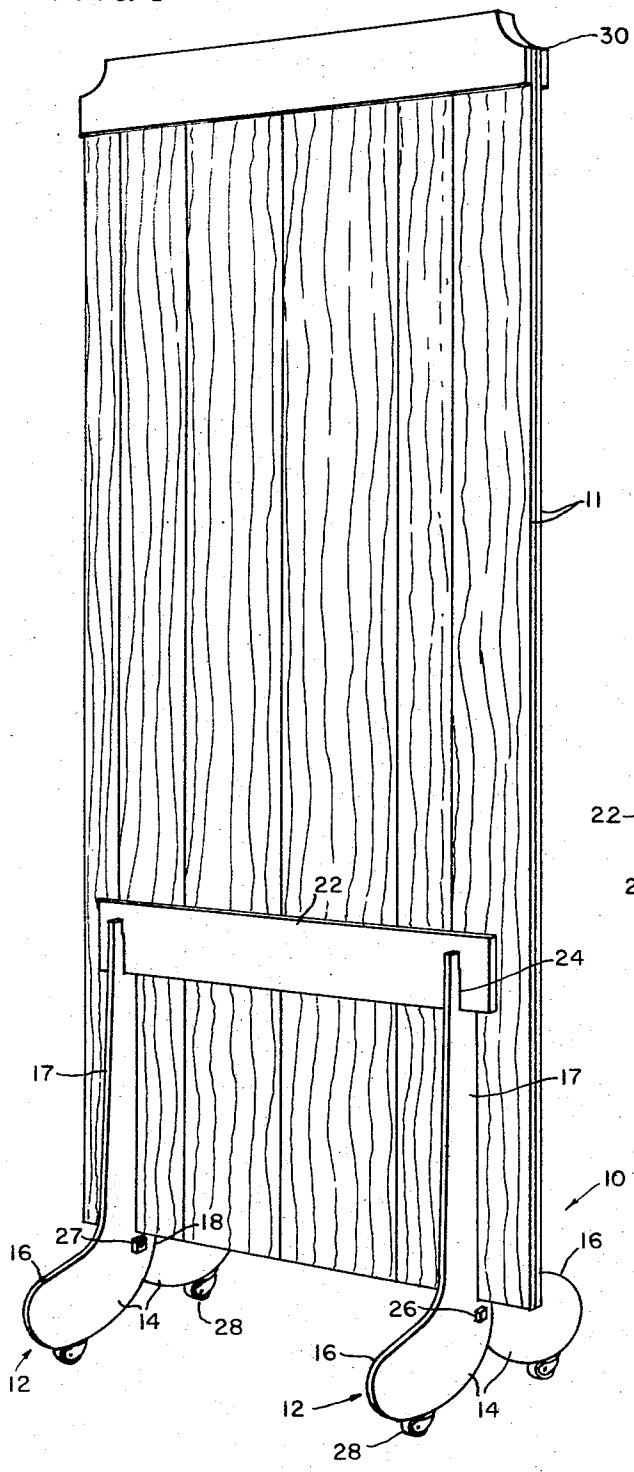


FIG. 2

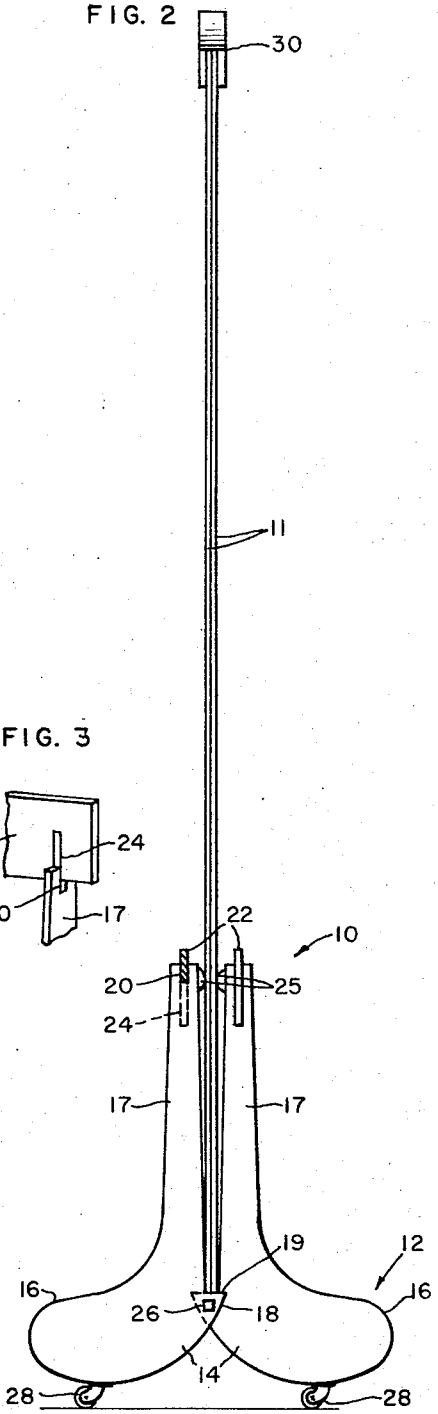


FIG. 3

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DISPLAY STAND

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A display stand for plywood panels having identical L-shaped plywood supporting members, each such member comprising a vertical leg, a ground engaging toe, and a rearwardly-extending heel, the leg having a vertically-extending slot formed in the top thereof. The supporting members are pivotally connected together in pairs through the heels, with the heels overlapping, the toes extending oppositely, and the legs parallel and vertical so that a panel can rest on the heels. A plywood crosspiece is removably received in the slot in the legs of those of the supporting members in contact with a common face of the panel, the crosspiece thus serving to tie the legs together.

This invention relates to display stands for plywood panels and the like and, more particularly, to a display stand in which such panels can be shown to their best merchandising advantage.

So that purchasers may best view prefinished decorative paneling of plywood and the like, it is desirable that the panels be displayed vertically. Such panels are usually in eight foot lengths, and obviously are somewhat unwieldy and must be firmly supported when displayed. A display stand for such panels should, of course, be so designed as to permit easy substitution of panels without damage to the panels.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a new and improved display stand for large plywood panels and the like.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a stand in which decorative panels may be supported without injury or defacement and from which the panels may be readily removed, thereby to permit quick substitution of one for another.

It is a still further object of the present invention to provide such a display stand which can be economically manufactured.

Other objects and advantages will appear hereinafter.

The display stand of the present invention is made of a number of substantially identically-shaped parts, which parts are themselves ideally suited to being made from plywood. The display stand is also so constructed that the weight of the panels that it supports is used to provide the necessary clamping action, thereby to hold the panels securely in place and yet to permit them to be easily removed without damage to their faces. The heavier the weight of the panels that are supported, the firmer the grip that the display stand provides.

For a more detailed description of the invention, reference is made to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the display stand of the present invention, showing the same supporting two large upright plywood panels;

FIG. 2 is a side view of the display stand shown in FIG. 1; and

FIG. 3 is an exploded perspective view of two of the parts of the display stand, showing their method of connection.

Referring to the drawings, the display stand **10** of the present invention is designed to support decorative panels

11 of plywood, hardboard or the like, which when vertically supported extend more than eight feet in height. Such panels, when prefinished, are often displayed in multiples of two, back to back, with their finished sides exposed for effective mechandising. Thus, two such panels **11** are shown in the drawings, although, of course, it should be understood that the display stand of the instant invention would work equally as well with only one panel.

The display stand **10** is formed of two pairs **12** of substantially identical L-shaped supporting members **14**. Each individual supporting member **14** may be cut from plywood and is identical to each of the other supporting members **14**. As such, each member **14** has a toe portion **16** and an upper or leg portion **17**, as shown. Each of the supporting members **14** is also provided with a rearwardly extending heel **18**, which has a substantially horizontal upper surface **19** on which the plywood panels **11** rest.

The supporting members **14** are pivotally connected together to form a pair through the rearwardly extending heels **18** by suitable means, such as a bolt **26** and nut **27**. Each of the toe portions **16** is arranged so as to be pivotal with respect to the ground, as, for example, by providing the same with a rocker-shaped bottom surface, as shown, but preferably by providing a roller or caster **28**, which has the further advantage of increasing the mobility of the stand. The roller or caster **28** is mounted on the bottom of each of the toe portions **16**, as shown.

Each of the supporting members **14** is also provided with a rubber bumper **25** at the rear of each of the leg portions **17**, which rubber bumper serves as a stop when said leg portion contacts the opposed faces of the panels **11**. By this form of construction the weight of the panels **11** on the rearwardly extending heels **18** causes the toe portions **16** to rotate about the casters **28** and the L-shaped members **14** to pivot about the bolts **26**. This causes the rubber bumpers **25** on the upper or leg portions **17** to come into contact with the opposed faces of the panels **11**, thereby to support the same securely. Thus, it is seen that the heavier the weight of the panels **11** on the heels **18**, the firmer the support that will be exerted on the faces thereof.

Each of the members **14** is also provided with a vertically extending slot **20** formed at the top of the leg portion **17** thereof, in which slot is received a plywood crosspiece **22** which serves as a tying member. The crosspiece **22**, of course, only connects the leg portions **17** of those supporting members **14** which contact a common face of a panel **11**. The crosspiece **22** is itself provided with upwardly extending slots **24** adjacent to each end, so that it may be received into the corresponding slots **20** in the leg portions **17** (see FIG. 3). The crosspieces **22** may also conveniently be made of plywood.

When it is desired to remove one set of panels **11** and insert another, the clamping force is relieved merely by lifting the panels **11** upwardly. This permits them to be removed quickly and easily, and without injury to their finished faces.

Finally, a cap **30** is provided to fit over the top edges of the panels **11**, thereby to maintain them snugly together.

It will thus be evident that the display stand **10** of the present invention accomplishes all of the objects above stated and does so in a most economical manner. This is especially due to the fact that the four supporting members **14** are substantially identical, and also that the two required crosspieces **22** are substantially identical. Manufacturing efficiency is thus inherent in the design.

In the foregoing description, the invention has been described with reference to a certain particular preferred embodiment, although it is to be understood that the

specific details shown are merely illustrative and that the invention may be carried out in other ways without departing from the true spirit and scope of the following appended claim.

I claim:

In combination,

a vertically-extending panel of plywood or the like;

two pairs of substantially identical L-shaped plywood members for supporting said panel, one of each of said pairs of supporting members being positioned adjacent each of the side edges of said panel,

each of said supporting members comprising a substantially-vertical leg, a pivotable ground-engaging toe, and a rearwardly-extending heel, each of said legs having a vertically-extending slot formed in the top thereof, each of said toes having a rocker-shaped bottom surface,

each of said pairs of supporting members being pivotally connected together through said rearwardly-extending heels and with said heels overlapping one another, said toes extending oppositely with respect to each other, and said legs extending vertically in

substantially parallel relation, said panel resting on said heels;

stop means in the form of a resilient bumper attached to the rear of each of the upper portions of said legs for engaging the opposed faces of said panel; and

a plywood crosspiece removably received in said slots in the legs of those of said supporting members in contact with a common face of said panel, said crosspiece tying said legs together, whereby the weight of said panel on said heels causes said toes to rotate upwardly and brings said stop means into contact with said opposed faces of said panel.

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