Dec. 28, 1965 C. R. BAILEY 3,225,473

CHART FOR INDICATING THE SALES SPACE OCCUPANCY PERIODS OF PRODUCTS DISPLAYED FOR SALE

Filed April 25, 1963

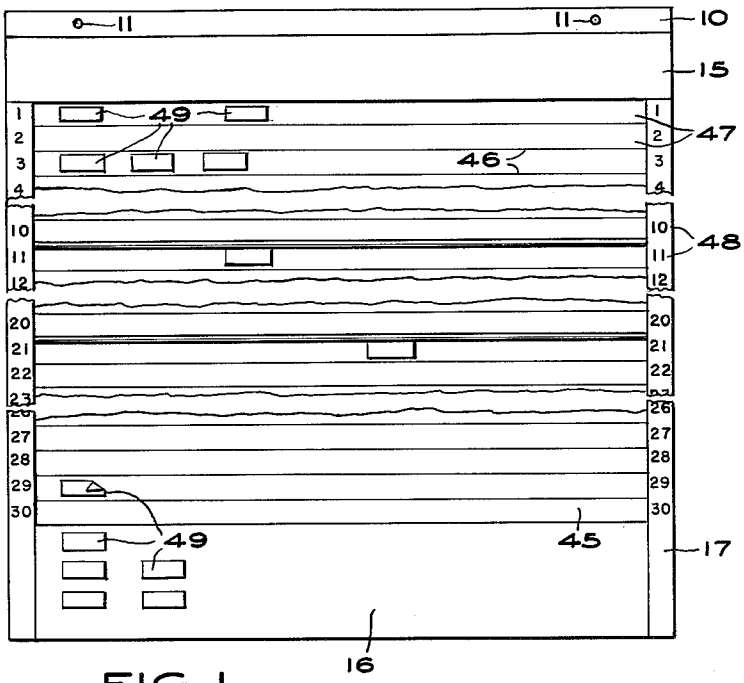


FIG. 1

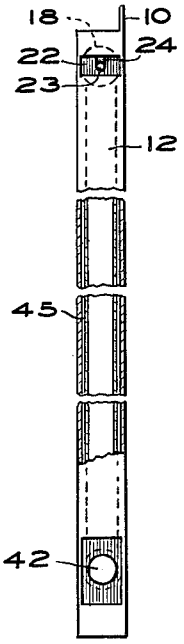


FIG. 2

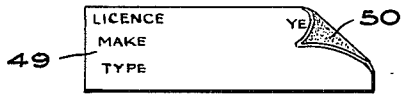


FIG. 6

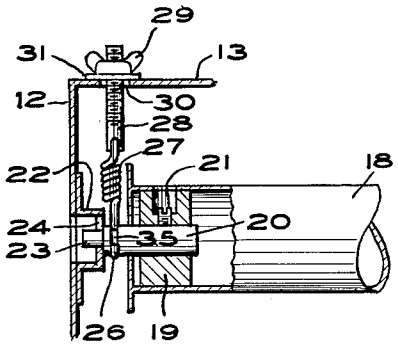


FIG. 5

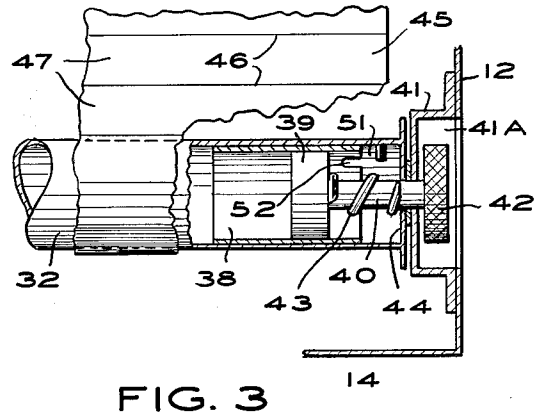


FIG. 3

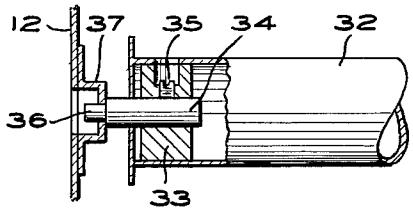


FIG. 4

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CHART FOR INDICATING THE SALES SPACE OCCUPANCY PERIODS OF PRODUCTS DISPLAYED FOR SALE

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The present invention relates to a chart for indicating the sales space occupancy periods of products displayed for sale and it consists in the combinations, constructions and arrangements of parts herein described and claimed.

Generally there is provided a simple and compact device consisting of a frame wherein is displayed one side of an endless belt vertically divided into spaces. Partial front wall sections at either side of the device are marked from top to bottom with numerals "1" to "30" and correspond to the vertical spaces on the endless belt. Novel means is provided for moving the displayed portion of the belt downwardly as desired. The device is such that it may be utilized to give information at a glance as to stock on hand with reference to (a) total inventory and (b) the time which each item of such stock has been on hand. The items of such stock are represented upon the exposed portion of the device with removable stickers forming a part of the invention. The device is particularly adaptable to the used car business, the various stickers representing cars on hand and their particular position with respect to the aforementioned side wall portions indicating the length of time such stock has been on hand.

It is accordingly an object of the invention to provide a novel device of the character set forth which is simple in construction, inexpensive to manufacture and yet effective and efficient in use.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel method of control of sales of various articles.

Still another object of the invention is to provide, in a device of the character set forth, novel roll tensioning means forming a part of the invention.

Still a further object of the invention is to provide, in a device of the character set forth, novel operational means for moving an endless belt forming a part of the invention.

A still further object of the invention is to provide, in a device of the character set forth, novel removable stickers forming a part of the invention.

Other and further objects of the invention will become apparent from a reading of the following specification taken in conjunction with the drawing, in which:

FIGURE 1 is a front elevational view, partly broken away, of an embodiment of the invention,

FIGURE 2 is a side elevational view thereof,

FIGURE 3 is an enlarged fragmentary elevational view, partly in section and partly broken away, illustrating an operational handle and associated mechanism forming a part of the invention,

FIGURE 4 is a fragmentary elevational view similar to FIGURE 3 but illustrating the opposite end of the roller shown in FIGURE 3 and its mounting bracket,

FIGURE 5 is a view similar to FIGURE 4 but illustrating an upper roller and tensioning device forming a part of the invention, and

FIGURE 6 is a perspective view of a tag or "sticker" forming a part of the invention.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, there is shown therein a device of the character set forth comprising a frame having a rear wall with an upwardly projecting portion **10** provided with openings **11** whereby

the device may be attached to a wall or the like, side walls **12**, a top wall **13**, a bottom wall **14**, an upper front wall portion **15**, a lower front wall portion **16** and a pair of side wall portions **17**.

In the upper portion of the frame and concealed by the upper front wall portion **15** is a flanged spool **18** in each end of which is affixed a block **19** having slidably mounted therein an axially extending shaft **20** adapted to be adjustably held in position by a set screw **21**.

A bracket **22** is mounted on each adjacent side wall **12** and a reduced portion **23** of the shaft **20** extends into a vertical slot **24** formed therein.

The shafts **20** are each provided with an annular groove **25** exteriorly of the spool **18**, such grooves being indicated at **25** and in each of which is mounted a hook **26** carried at the lower end of a tension spring **27** the upper ends of which are connected to studs **28** which are exteriorly threaded for the reception of wing nuts **29**, it being apparent that the studs **28** extend through openings **30** in the top wall **13**. Washers **31** are interposed between the wall **13** and nuts **29**, all as illustrated in FIGURE 5 which shows one end structure concerned with the spool **18**, it being understood that the other end thereof is identical in structure.

The lower flanged hollow spool **32** provided in one end thereof with a fixed block **33** having slidably mounted therein a shaft **34** which may be adjustably fixed in position with relation to the block **33** by a set screw **35**. A reduced portion **36** of the shaft **34** is mounted in a bracket **37** affixed to the adjacent side wall **12**.

The other end of the spool **32** has slidably mounted therein a collar **38** in which is fixed a cylindrical member **39** having an outwardly extending shaft **40** which extends slidably through the end of the spool **32** and through a bracket **41** affixed to the adjacent wall **12** and which terminates in a handle **42**. A compression spring **43** surrounds the shaft **40** and bears against the member **39** and the inner face of the end wall **44** of the spool **32**. The bracket **41** is provided with a recess **41***a* in which the handle **42** normally lies.

Entrained over the spools **18** and **32** is an endless belt **45** of canvas or the like which is provided with vertically spaced horizontally extending dividing lines **46** forming therebetween vertically aligned spaces **47**.

Indicia **48**, preferably in the form of numerals reading from "1" to "30," inclusive, are inscribed upon the outer faces of the front wall portions **17** and are so spaced as to each always register with the space **47** immediately adjacent thereto regardless of the positioning of the belt **45**.

To complete the device there is provided a plurality of tags or "stickers" as illustrated, for example, at **49** in FIGURE 6.

In operation, the device may be used, for example, in connection with the used car industry. In such case, as a car or cars are acquired by the particular concern, a tag **49** may be filled out giving the basic information concerning the same and, being provided with an adhesive **50** on its rear face may then be placed in the uppermost space **47** where it will presently register with the numeral "1," thus indicating that the particular car or cars are on hand in the concern for the first day.

This procedure is followed each day first, however, moving the exposed portion of the belt **45** downwardly a distance of one space **47**. This is accomplished by grasping the handle **42** within the recess **41***a* and pulling the same outwardly until a stud **51** extending inwardly from the inner wall of the spool **32** is received in a notch **52** in the member **38**, it being apparent that pulling the handle **42** outwardly will act to move the member **39** and its attached member **38** outwardly so that such engagement between the stud **51** and the notch **52** may take

place. When such action does take place against the action of the spring **43**, the spool **32** may be rotated to thus move the belt **45**. Upon release of the handle **42**, the spring **43** will act to return the device to its normal condition as shown in FIGURE 3 thus keeping the handle out of the way from accidental movement by persons passing in the neighborhood.

Thus it will be seen that from day to day various entries may be made by placing stickers each day in the space indicated at "**1**" and that at all times during a thirty day period, salesmen and managers may see at a glance the length of time each particular car has been with the concern. Cars which have not been sold during the thirty day period may then have their stickers removed from the belt **45** and placed upon the exposed surface of the front wall portion **16** as shown in FIGURE 1 thereby indicating that special attention should be given to the sale of such cars.

If desired, the exposed portion of the front walls **17** may be given distinctive colors as, for example, those portions thereof bearing the numbers "**1**" to "**10**" may be colored green while those portions having the indicia "**11**" to "**20**" may be colored amber while the remainder thereof may be colored red.

It will also be apparent that the belt may be properly tensioned by manipulating the wing nuts **29** in conventional manner.

While but one form of the invention has been shown and described herein, it will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art that many minor modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A movable chart device comprising; a back wall; an upper wall portion formed along the upper edge of said back wall substantially normal thereto; a lower wall portion formed along the lower edge of said back wall substantially normal thereto; side wall portions formed along opposite side edges of said back wall substantially normal thereto; an upper roller rotatably mounted adjacent said upper wall and vertically movable along a predetermined path parallel to the plane of said back wall; slotted brackets at each end of said upper roller fastened to said side walls for movably mounting same as aforesaid; coil spring means having one end fastened to said upper wall portion and the other end to said roller at each end thereof tensioned to urge same towards said upper wall portion; said roller being vertically displaceable against said spring along said path; a lower roller rotatably mounted adjacent said lower wall; an endless belt entrained around said rollers and tensioned by said spring means; vertically spaced indicia indicating the dates of the month located along at least one said side wall portion; horizontal lines on said belt dividing said belt into parallel information receiving areas of a predetermined width equal to the spacing of said indicia, said areas being movable into horizontal alignment with said indicia and means for manually moving said belt.

2. The device as claimed in claim **1** including threaded rod means extending through said upper wall portion and manually adjustable means in engagement therewith, and wherein said coil spring means are attached to respective said rods for adjustment thereof.

3. A device as defined in claim **1** wherein information stickers are provided for removably mounting on said belt in said areas.

4. The device as claimed in claim **1** including axle shaft means extending from opposite ends of said upper roller, and annular grooves formed in said shaft means for engagement by said spring means.

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