

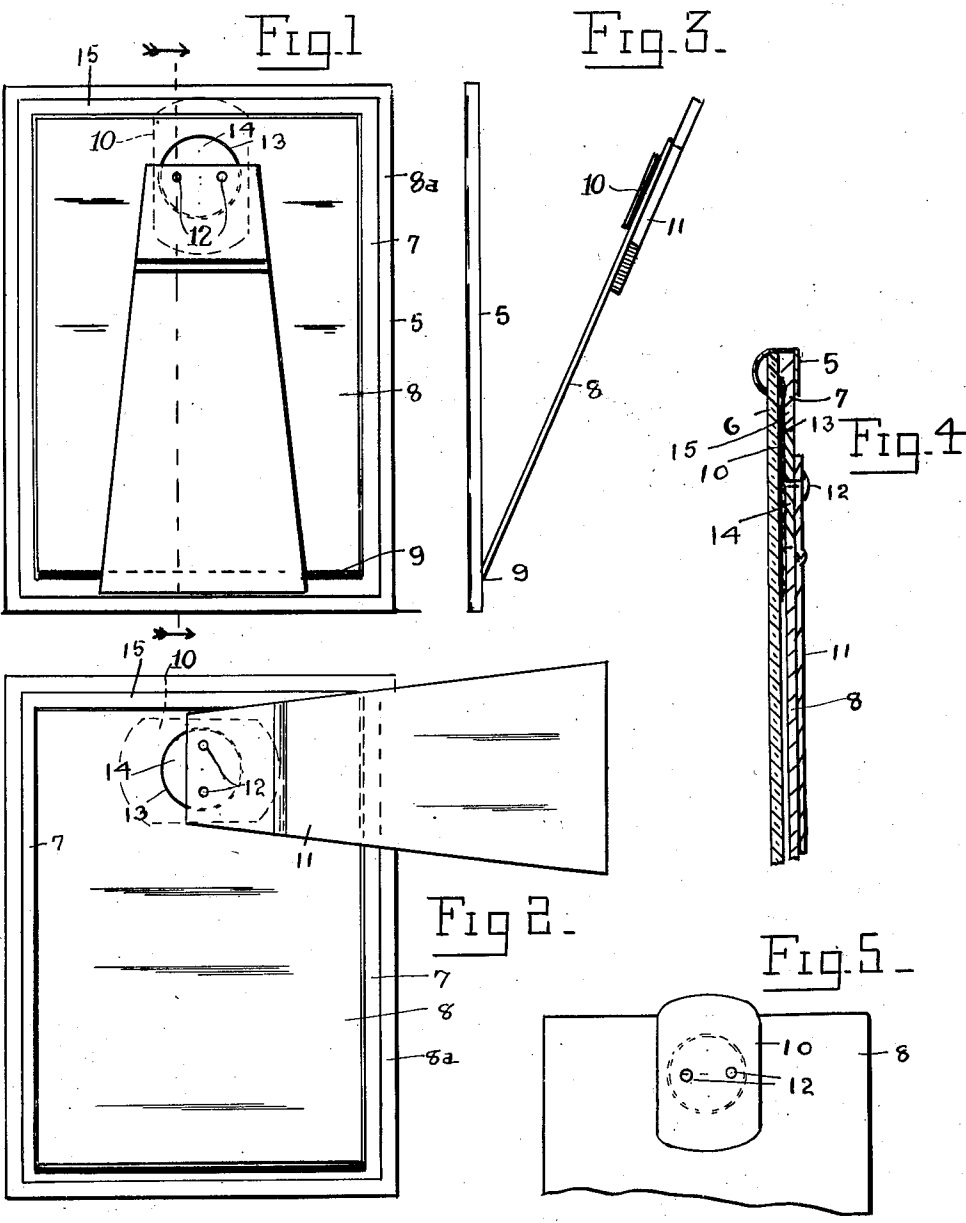
March 12, 1935.

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1,993,947

PICTURE FRAME

Filed Oct. 19, 1934



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,993,947

PICTURE FRAME

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Application October 19, 1934, Serial No. 749,024

5 Claims. (Cl. 40—148)

This invention relates to an improved picture and display frame, and one of its objects is to provide a device of this character with an easel which is equipped with means for locking the back to the frame, so as to retain any picture or other object within the frame.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a holding frame with a back which opens near its lower end portion to provide a gapless frame back to prevent a picture or similar object from working through the back of the frame or dropping out of proper aligned position, and locking means carried by the easel, which is adapted to hold the back normally locked to the frame, to seal the picture therein, but which can be swung or turned on the picture frame to release the back for opening movement, to permit of the changing of the picture or other object within the frame.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain new and useful combinations, constructions, and arrangements of parts, clearly described in the following specification, and fully illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a rear view of the improved holding frame and easel locking device, shown in closed position.

Fig. 2 is a similar view, showing the easel in unlocked position to release the hinged back.

Fig. 3 is a side view, showing the back in open position.

Fig. 4 is a detail vertical sectional view, taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 5 is a detail view of the back and lock.

Referring to the accompanying drawing illustrating the practical construction of the invention 5 designates a metal or other frame, having a glass panel or plate 6, and a backing sheet 7, which is confined against the plate or panel 6 by means of the marginal frame retaining flange 8^a, or other means.

The backing sheet 7 is formed of any suitable material such as cardboard or the like, and is provided with a major central area or closure plate 8, which is struck out from the body of the sheet along its upper edge and side edges, but united to the main sheet 7 by the flexible hinge portion 9 at the bottom thereof, so that it will leave a gapless construction for the backing sheet near the bottom of the frame.

In the usual practice the picture or other object is placed against the glass panel 6 and held

in place by the closure plate 8 of the backing sheet. In our improved device the closure plate is locked positively by means of a locking plate 10, consisting of a part of thin metal or other stiff material, which is pinned or fastened directly to the easel 11 by means of the rivets or fastening elements 12. In order to insure a rotary movement of the lock on the closure plate 8, without endwise or side-wise shifting of either the lock or the easel, the closure plate 8 is formed with a circular cut out bearing or recess 13 in which a circular disc 14 is inserted. This disc may be formed of the same material used for the construction of the combined backing and closure plate or sheet.

The disc 14 thus serves as a bearing for the easel and the lock and also insures the proper spacing of the lock from the easel. The lock is wider than the disc, and the upper end of the easel is also wider than the disc, so that the disc is retained in the circular bearing recess against displacement in either direction from the closure plate.

In its normal position one end of the lock projects above the disc under the overlying marginal strip 15 of the backing sheet, and thus affects locking engagement with the same, so as to retain the easel and the closure plate locked to the backing sheet and the holding frame.

By turning the easel to a position approximately at right angles to the normal supporting position of the easel, the lock will be shifted out of locking position, and the closure plate may be opened.

It will be seen, therefore, that when the easel is in its normal supporting position the lock will retain the closure plate closed, and thus prevent any dust from reaching the picture or other object.

Various changes in the details of construction and arrangements of parts may be resorted to, within the meaning of the invention as defined by the claims.

We claim as new:

1. A holding frame having a closure sheet hinged to the back thereof and opening downwardly, an easel movably connected to said closure sheet and provided with means for locking the closure sheet to the frame.

2. A holding frame having a closure sheet hinged to the back thereof, an easel pivoted on the closure sheet and provided with a locking element adapted to engage the frame to retain the closure sheet locked thereto.

3. A holding frame having a closure sheet hinged to the back thereof, an easel pivoted to the

closure sheet, and a lock mounted on the easel to turn therewith and adapted to engage the holding frame to retain the closure sheet in closed position.

- 5 4. A holding frame having a closure sheet hinged to the back thereof, an easel pivoted to the closure sheet, and a lock carried by the easel and movable therewith and having an edge portion adapted to lockingly engage the frame when the easel is in normal supporting position, and to
10 be disengaged from locking position when the easel is moved to a different position.

5. A holding frame having a closure sheet hinged to the back thereof and provided with a circular recess, a disc disposed in said recess, a lock secured to the disc and larger than the disc to retain the same against displacement from the sheet in one direction and to engage the frame and lock the sheet in closed position, and an easel secured to the disc to turn the lock from locking position to unlocking position.

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