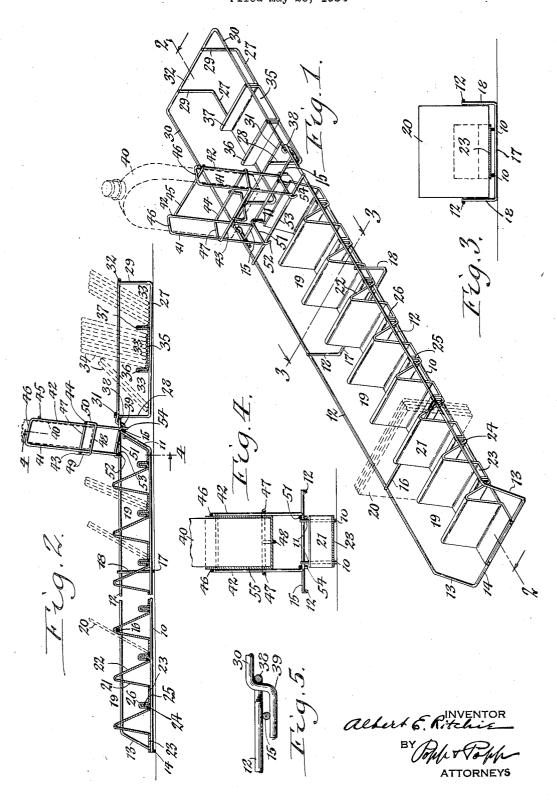
A. E. RITCHIE

DEVICE FOR DISPLAYING CONTAINERS
Filed May 26, 1934



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,023,150

DEVICE FOR DISPLAYING CONTAINERS

Albert E. Ritchie, Buffalo, N. Y., assignor to The Wildroot Company, Inc., Buffalo, N. Y., a corporation of New York

Application May 26, 1934, Serial No. 727,698

1 Claim. (Cl. 211-50)

This invention relates to a device for displaying containers of merchandise and more particularly to a device of this character whereby a plurality of containers in the form of flat packages and in the form of a bottle may be displayed in rows on the counters or tables of a store, so that the same may be readily examined by the customers and are conveniently available for making sales to a purchaser.

It is the object of this invention to provide a simple, inexpensive and efficient display device of this character which permits of simultaneously displaying and storing a substantial quantity of containers in an attractive manner on a comparatively small amount of space on the counter or table of a store and enable goods to be sold directly from this display device without interfering with the neat and attractive appearance of the device, notwithstanding that the same may not always be completely filled with containers of goods which are to be dispensed.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a container displaying device which embodies a satisfactory form of my invention.

Figure 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of the same taken on line 2—2 Fig. 1.

Figure 3 is a cross section taken on line 3-3 Fig. 1.

30 Figure 4 is a cross section taken on line 4—4 Fig. 2.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary vertical longitudinal section, on an enlarged scale, showing the preferred form of part of the coupling for detachably connecting the front and rear sections of this display device.

In the following description similar characters of reference indicate like parts in the several figures of the drawing.

In the preferred construction of this container displaying device the same comprises two sections having the general form of trays or baskets, which are adapted to be placed one behind the other on a counter or table and receive containers of the material which is to be sold, which sections are detachably connected with each other so that it is possible to either use one section in case only a comparatively narrow counter or table is available for supporting the same, but if a wider counter or table is available for supporting the container displaying device then both sections of the device may be utilized so as to display the maximum amount of goods.

As shown in the drawing, the front section of the displaying device is constructed as follows:

The numeral 10 represents two horizontal longitudinal lower or bottom rods, rails or bars which are arranged parallel with each other and are provided, respectively, at their rear ends with upwardly projecting and inclined rear arms 11. 5 On opposite lateral sides of these bottom rods and on a higher plane are arranged two upper retaining rods, bars or rails 12 which are provided at their front ends, respectively, with downwardly projecting inclined arms 13. The The 10 numeral 14 represents a front cross rod which has its intermediate part connected with the front ends of the bottom rods 10 while its opposite ends are connected with the lower ends The numeral 15 repre- 15 of the front arms 13. sents a rear cross rod which has its intermediate part connected with the upper ends of the rear arms II while its opposite ends are connected with the rear parts of the side rods 12.

For the purpose of holding the front parts of 20 the upper side rods 12 in position relative to each other the same are connected by means of a cross rod 16, and the rear parts of the lower rods 10 and the upper rods 12 are for a like purpose connected with each other by means of a lower cross 25 rod 17 which has its intermediate part connected with the lower rods 10, while its opposite ends are provided with upwardly projecting arms 18 which are connected at their upper ends with the rear parts of the side rods 12.

Within the frame of the front section of the display device formed by the above-described rods a plurality of receptacles or pockets 19 are formed which are adapted to receive flat packages or containers 20 in which the goods to be dis- 35 pensed are held in an upright transverse position and stored in groups for convenience in supplying the trade. These pockets are arranged in a longitudinal row upon the lower rods 10 and between the side rods 12, and in the preferred 40 construction the several pockets are separated from each other by means of upright transverse partitions, each of which is preferably constructed of sheet metal so as to form a front wall 21 and a rear wall 22, which walls are con- 45 nected with each other at their upper ends and diverge downwardly toward the lower bars 10. At their lower ends the front and rear walls of each partition are provided with horizontal front and rear base flanges 23, 24 which rest on the lower 50 bars 10 and may be connected therewith by any suitable means, as for example by spot-welding.

The lower ends of the adjacent walls of two partitions are preferably connected with each other by an interlocking joint so as to stiffen the 55

structure as a whole, this being preferably accomplished by providing the rear base flange 24 of each partition with an upwardly projecting locking flange 25 which engages with a downwardly opening channel-shaped flange 26 formed on the front end of the respective base flange 23.

Each of the pockets 19 is adapted to receive a small batch or group of flat containers which hold the goods which are to be dispensed, and these containers are confined in these pockets by the side rods or rails 12 which are adapted to engage with the vertical edges of the containers.

The rear section of this display device is preferably constructed as follows:—

The numeral 27 represents two lower longitudinal bottom rods arranged parallel and provided at their front ends with upwardly projecting arms 28, while their rear ends are provided with upwardly projecting arms 29. Lengthwise on opposite sides of the bottom rods and in a higher plane are two longitudinal upper side rods 30, the front parts of which are connected by an upper transverse rod 31 with the upper ends of the arms 28, while the rear ends of these side rods 30 are connected with the upper ends of the rear arms 29 by means of a rear cross-rod 32.

Within the frame of the rear section of the display device formed by the rods just described, 30 means are provided for dividing the same into a plurality of pockets 33 which are adapted to receive a plurality of batches or groups of flat containers 34 which hold the goods to be dispensed. The pockets in this rear section are preferably 35 formed by means of a horizontal transverse plate 35 which is secured at its opposite lateral edges to the top of the rods 27 by means of soldering, spot-welding or other suitable means, and provided at its front and rear ends with upwardly turned flanges 36, 37 forming partitions which divide the space within the frame of the rear display section into three pockets or compartments, one of which is above the plate 35 while others are arranged within this frame in front 45 and in rear of this plate.

As best shown in Fig. 2 a quantity of containers may be supported in an upright position upon the plate 35 and held in place thereon by the upper side rods 30 while other containers or packages may be arranged in groups in front and rear of the plate 35 and rest with their lower edges directly on the lower rods 27.

Means are provided for detachably connecting the front and rear sections of the display device 55 so that the same can be either used on a counter or table as a unit, or the same can be detached and used separately in different places.

Although various means may be employed for accomplishing this purpose, those best shown in 60 Figs. 1 and 5 preferably consist of coupling eyes 38 arranged at the rear ends of the upper side rods 12 and offset hooks 39 arranged at the front ends of the upper rear side rods 30, and each adapted to be passed downwardly through one of 65 the eyes 38 and engaged with the underside of the adjacent part of the rear cross rod 15. This means of coupling the front and rear sections of the display device is not only very simple and inexpensive in construction but the same operates 70 to hold these sections in proper position relatively to each other when in use and also permits of readily assembling the same for use as well as dismembering the same when required.

In addition to providing means for displaying 75 containers or packages of flat or envelope form

which hold the goods to be dispensed, such as powders, means are provided for holding a bottle-shaped container 40 in an upright position on the rear part of the front display section in order to acquaint the trade as to the manner of using the preparation which is contained in the flat packages or envelopes.

The holder for this bottle, as best shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 4 is constructed in the form of an upright pocket, which is formed by a plurality of 10 upright rods or wires 41, 42 arranged at the corners of this pocket, a lower front cross rod 43 connecting the lower parts of the front corner rods 41, a lower rear cross rod 44 connecting the lower parts of the rear corner rods 42, an upper 15 rear cross rod 45 connecting the upper parts of the rear corner rods 42, upper and lower side rods 45, 47 connecting the upper and lower parts of each pair of front and rear corner rods 41, 42 and a longitudinal bottom rod 48 arranged mid- 20 way between the pairs of corner rods 41, 42 and provided at its opposite ends with upwardly projecting arms 49, 50 which are connected at their upper ends with the central parts of the front and rear cross rods 43, 44.

The space enclosed by the rods just mentioned forms an upright pocket into which a bottle **40** or similar container may be readily introduced for display or removed therefrom when not required.

This bottle supporting holder may be detach- 30 ably mounted on the rear part of the front section of the display device by any suitable means, but preferably by the means which are constructed as follows:

The numeral 51 represents two horizontal lon- 35 gitudinal supporting rods, each of which is connected with the lower ends of a pair of front and rear corner rods 41, 42. Each of these supporting rods is provided at its front end with a downwardly projecting hook-shaped lug 52 which en- 40 gages over a transverse coupling bar 53 arranged in front of the rear cross bar 15 and connected at its opposite ends with the side bars 12 of the front section of the display device. At its rear end each of the supporting rods 5! is provided 45 with a downwardly projecting lug 54 which is arranged at right angles to the respective supporting rod 51 and engages with the rear side of the rear cross bar 15 when the bottle holder is mounted on the front section of the display device. By 50 this means the bottle holder may be readily mounted on or removed from the front section of the display device and thus permits of displaying a bottle or omitting such display, as best suits the particular conditions under which the 55 goods are being displayed.

If desired, the bottle may be placed directly in the holder, as shown by dotted lines in Figs. 1 and 2, or this bottle may be placed within a casing 55 and the latter in turn placed within the pocket 60 of this bottle holder, as shown by full lines in Fig. 4, in which latter case the casing may be provided on its exterior with suitable advertising matter relating to the goods which are being displayed.

As a whole this display device is of simple construction and capable of being produced at low cost. Moreover the same permits of displaying a comparatively large quantity of containers in small groups so that when the number of containers is reduced by sales which are made from time to time, the containers still remaining in the pockets will assume an orderly position and thereby maintain a neat and attractive appear-75

ance as a whole, of the goods which are being offered to the trade.

I claim as my invention:-

A device for displaying containers, comprising two longitudinal bottom rods each of which is provided at its rear end with an upwardly projecting arm, a front cross rod connected with the front ends of said bottom rods and projecting laterally beyond opposite sides of the same, two upper guard rods arranged lengthwise on opposite sides of said bottom rods and above the plane of

the latter and provided at their front ends with downwardly extending arms which are connected with opposite ends of said front cross rod, a rear cross rod having its intermediate part connected with the upper ends of said rear arms and its opposite ends connected with the rear ends of the side rods, and a plurality of pockets arranged on said lower rods and between said upper rods and adapted to receive containers to be displayed.

ALBERT E. RITCHIE.