Oct. 7, 1930. A. W. JOHNSON 1,777,438

OVER-THE-TOP DISPLAY ROTATOR

Filed June 24, 1929 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

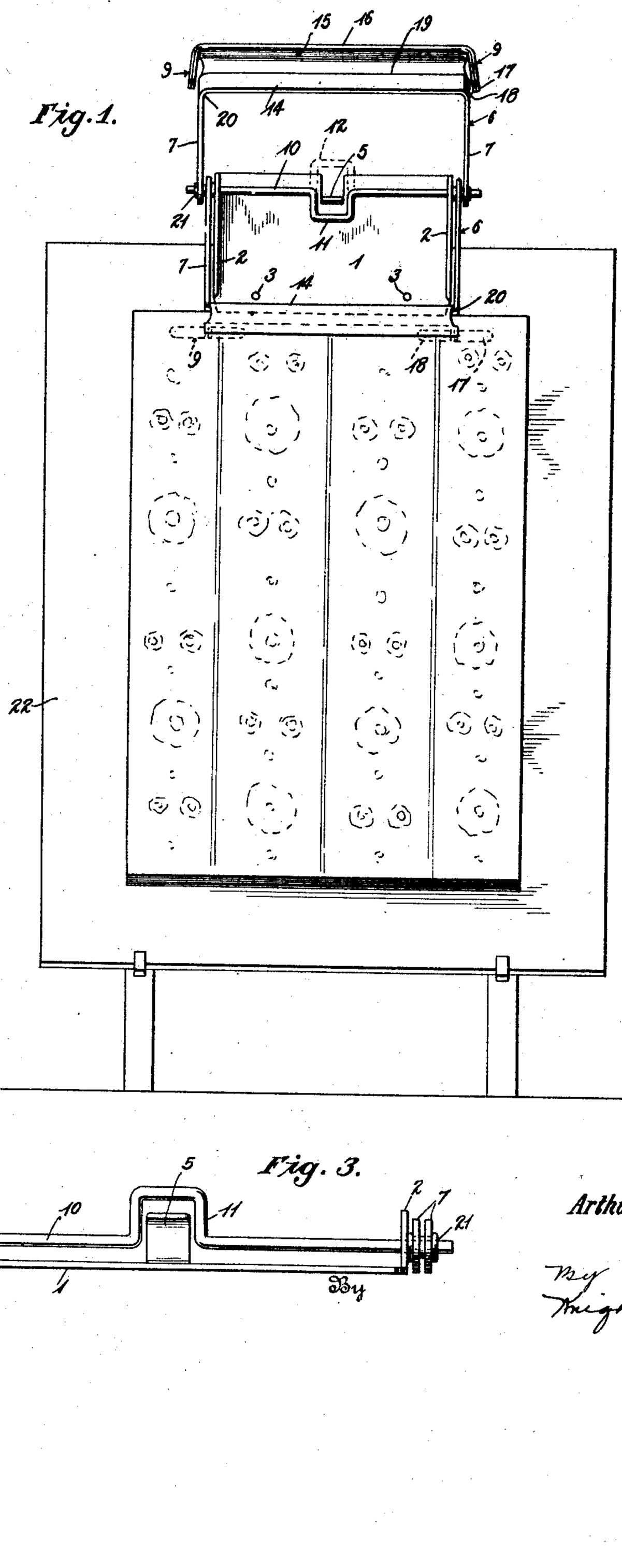
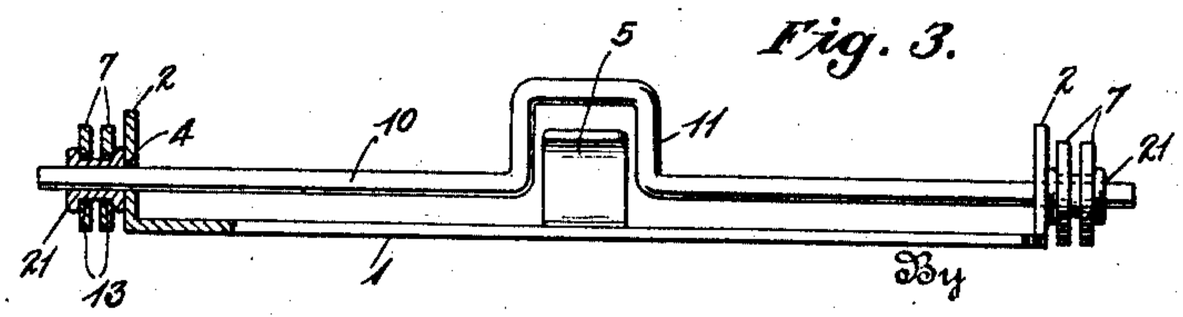



Fig. 3.

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Filed June 24, 1929 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 2.

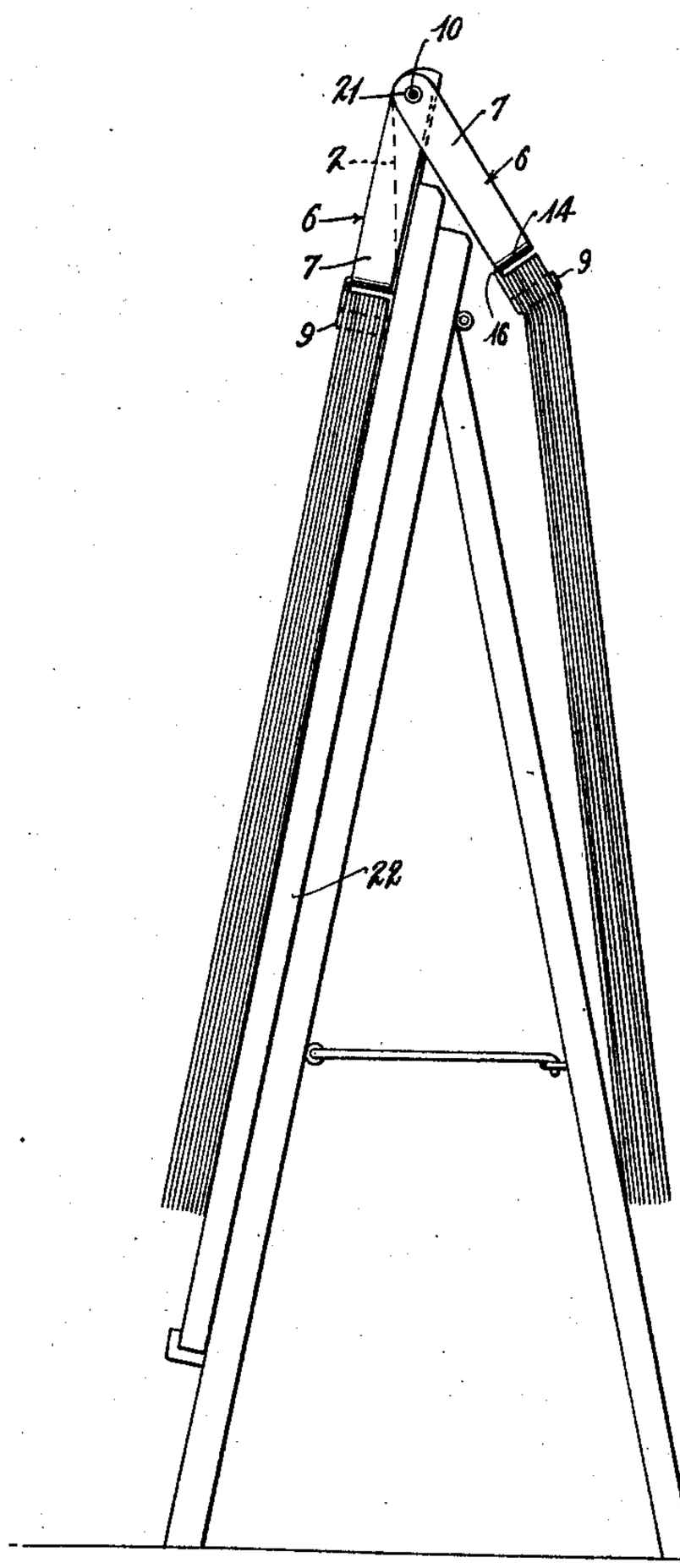



Fig. 4.

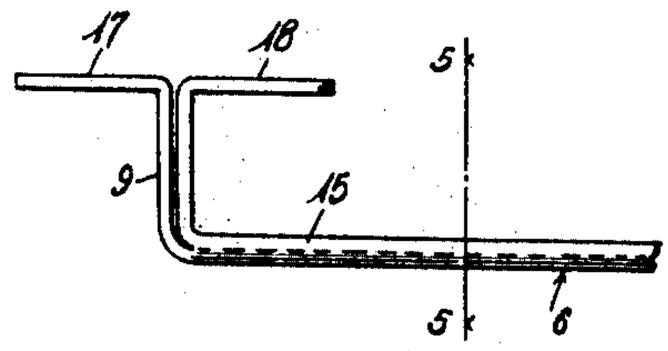



Fig. 5.

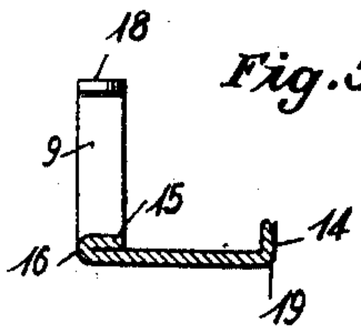
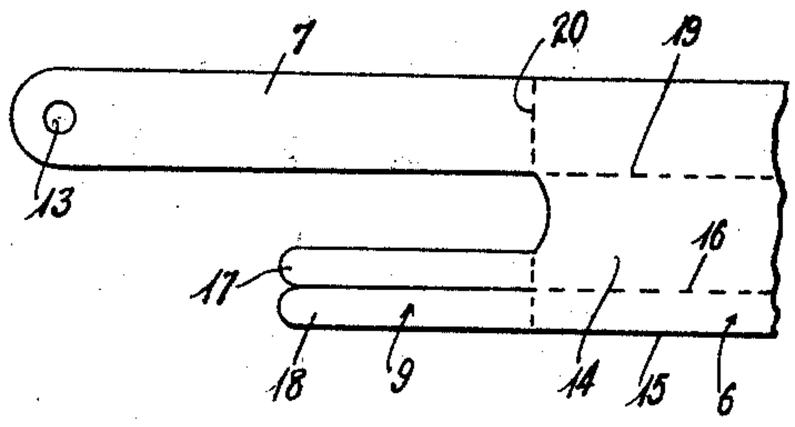



Fig. 6.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ARTHUR W. JOHNSON, OF LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN

## OVER-THE-TOP DISPLAY ROTATOR

Application filed June 24, 1929. Serial No. 373,382.

This invention relates to display devices and particularly to such devices for the display of foliated articles like sheets of paper, sample books and similar objects.

The main objects of this invention are to provide a device of the character referred to which permits the easy exchange of the articles to be displayed; to provide such a device which will keep the objects in good condition in spite of continuous handling, and in proper order; to permit easy and convenient inspection and comparison of the articles displayed; and to provide such a device which is simple, inexpensive and yet exceptionally strong and suited to its particular purpose.

In the accompanying drawing,

Fig. 1 is a front view of the device according to the invention,

Fig. 2 is a side view thereof,

Fig. 3 is a view of the mounting plate with fastening rod and part of the arms of the holders in section,

Fig. 4 is a view of the holder prongs,

Fig. 5 is a section thereof, and

Fig. 6 is a diagram of the stamping for a holder.

In order to simplify the drawing, only two material holders are shown, one of them with samples attached to it; but, it is of course understood that any suitable number of holders can be used.

Referring now to the figures, like numbers being used to indicate like parts in different views, 1 is a mounting plate which may be fastened to any kind of suitable easel, stand, table, etc., by means of screws or nails inserted through holes 3. This plate is provided with two flanges 2 with holes 4 and with a turned-up part 5. The U-shaped holders 6 have two arms 7 with holes 13, and prongs 9 at the corners. The flange 14 not only contributes to the rigidity of the holder, but serves also as a backing strip and distancer for the articles to be fastened to the holder, as will be described later on.

Mounting plate and holders are made from sheet metal, by stamping, bending and rolling and the design of these parts is particularly adapted to this method of production. While the manufacture of these parts from sheet metal will not present any difficulties to those skilled in the art, the peculiar and simple manner of making the holders and particularly the prongs of these holders is considered to be part of the present invention. In order to obtain these prongs, the outer straight edge 15 of a flat stamping, as shown in Fig. 6, is rolled over along line 16 as indicated in this figure. The band is split over the desired length of the prongs so as to form the two halves 17 and 18 of the prongs 9, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5. The flange 14 is formed by bending the sheet on line 19, whereupon the arms are obtained by making a bend at 20.

While I found it most suitable to make mounting plate and holders of sheet material by means of punching and bending, the shape and design of these parts lending itself most readily to this inexpensive method of production, they may, of course, be made of any other suitable material by any convenient method.

The holders are fastened to the mounting plate by means of a rod 10 with a U-shaped deformation 11 near its middle, this deformation being adapted to be engaged and disengaged with part 5 by turning the rod around its longitudinal axis, whereby it can be locked in position 11 shown in full lines in Fig. 1, whereas it is inserted in position 12 shown in dotted lines in the same figure.

For using the device, mounting plate 1 without holders and rod, is fastened to any convenient support. The samples are to be provided with holes corresponding to prongs 9, which are inserted in these holes, whereupon the protruding ends of the prongs are

forced apart in the manner of split rivets. The flange 14 acts hereby as a backing strip and distance piece for the samples. It prevents their distortion by keeping the upper edges straight and in line and it also prevents any injury due to compression, etc., which might be caused by adjacent holders and samples. Any convenient number of holders is then attached to the mounting plate by means of the rod inserted in position 12 and then locked by turning it into position 11, as described above. In many cases it will be desirable to join a plurality of holders to one unit by permanent or semi-permanent means, so that they may be mounted and removed together, as, for instance, in cases where a set of sample books is furnished, which is then exchanged for a set of books previously in use. The joining of the holders may, for instance, be accomplished with hollow rivets or bushings 21, as shown in Fig. 3, these rivets having holes adapted to receive with sufficient play the rod 10. This arrangement permits the free rotation of the holders so that the sample books can be easily turned over.

It will be readily seen that a stand with mounting plate has to be furnished only once while the display objects can easily be changed by means of the holders which may be furnished together with the samples, separately or in sets, or may be used over and over again, whereby the changing of the samples is very much simplified, because it can be conveniently performed while the holders are detached from the mounting plate and stand.

The mounting plate may be arranged in any convenient way, for instance so that the samples are lying on a table while being inspected or so that they hang vertically. A preferred manner of mounting is indicated in Figs. 1 and 2, 22 being the front board of a conventional easel to which the mounting plate is fastened. Such an arrangement permits convenient inspection of the samples, each book being turned over as it is not needed any more, thereby being removed from the front of the easel and entirely out of the way.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. In a device for displaying foliated material, a mounting plate, a plurality of material holders, a rod-shaped member inserted in corresponding co-axial perforations of mounting plate and holders and locking means for removably engaging the rod with said mounting plate, said locking means comprising a deformation on said mounting plate and a cooperating deformation on said rod.

2. In a display device, a mounting plate having co-axial perforations and an appendage protruding therefrom, a plurality of material holders having co-axial perforations, a rod having a U-shaped deformation, adapted to be inserted in the corresponding perforations of mounting plate and holders and locked in said position by engaging said deformation with said appendage by rotating said rod.

3. In a device of the character described, a mounting plate comprising a base, a plurality of co-axially perforated flanges and a protruding appendage, material holders having co-axial perforations, and a rod member for hinging the holders to the mounting plate by inserting it in the corresponding perforations, said rod member having means for engaging said appendage to hold said rod member in operative position.

4. In a device for displaying foliated material, a mounting plate having co-axially perforated flanges, a plurality of U-shaped material holders comprising co-axially perforated arms and prongs for fastening the material, and a rod adapted to be engaged in the perforations of said flanges and arms to pivotally secure said material holders to said mounting plate.

5. A device for displaying objects, consisting of a mounting plate with two flanges and an appendage protruding between said flanges, a plurality of U-shaped holders with perforated arms and prongs for fastening the display objects, and a rod with a U-shaped deformation corresponding to said appendage, said rod being adapted to hinge the holders exchangeably to the mounting plate by inserting it through the perforations of flanges and arms, and to be kept in position by engaging said deformation with said appendage.

6. In a device of the character described, a substantially U-shaped material holder of sheet metal consisting of a back flange, two arms bent backward from said flange and perforated at their ends, a supporting flange bent at right-angles from one of the long sides of said back flange, the free edge of said supporting flange extending beyond said arms in the form of two strips, said edge being bent over and the strips split so as to form prongs.

7. In a device for displaying foliated material, a mounting plate having coaxially perforated flanges, a plurality of U-shaped material holders comprising coaxially perforated arms and prongs for fastening the material, said holders being attached to each other by means having an aperture concentric with said perforations and permitting rotation of said holders, and a rod adapted to be engaged in the perforations of said flanges and the apertures of said attaching means.

8. A device of the character described consisting of a mounting plate with two flanges and an appendage protruding between said flanges, a plurality of U-shaped material holders of sheet metal, consisting of back flanges, arms bent backward from said flanges and perforated at their ends, supporting

flanges and prongs, said holders being rotatably attached to each other by hollow rivets, and a rod with a U-shaped deformation corresponding to said appendage, said rod being adapted to hinge the holders exchangeably to the mounting plate by inserting it through the perforations of said flanges and rivets, and to be kept in position by engaging said deformation with said appendage.

The foregoing specification signed at La Crosse, Wisconsin, this 21st day of June, 1929.

ARTHUR W. JOHNSON.