Aug. 1, 1950 G. V. CALVERT 2,517,284

DEEP RECESS SHELF

Filed Feb. 26, 1946

FIG. 1.

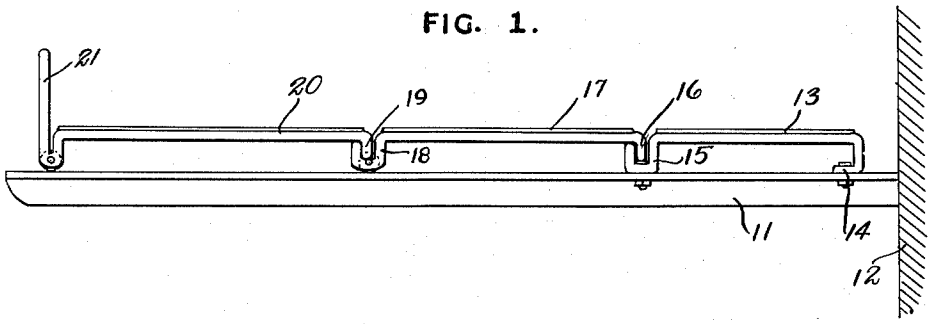
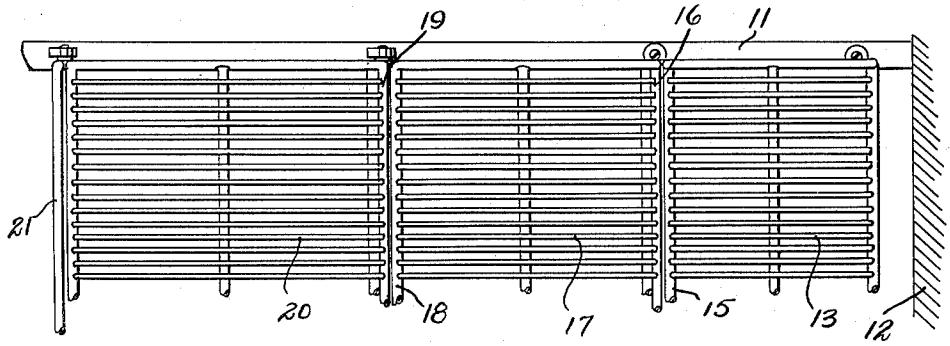


FIG. 2.



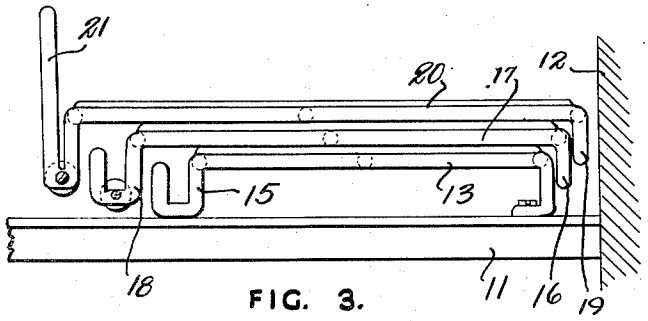


FIG. 3.

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DEEP RECESS SHELF

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4 Claims. (Cl. 211—153)

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This invention relates to article supports, and more particularly to shelves.

A main object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved adjustable shelf structure which may be employed to utilize deep recesses in closets or similar locations which are normally not readily accessible for the storage of articles.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved collapsible shelf structure which may be employed to store articles in deep recesses, said shelf structure being progressively extensible in accordance with the amount of storage space required, and being easily retractable when it is desired to unload the shelves, the empty shelf sections being received beneath the front loaded shelf section so as to facilitate access to said front loaded shelf section.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description and claims, and from the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a row of shelf sections constructed in accordance with the present invention.

Figure 2 is a top plan view of a side edge portion of the row of shelves of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a side elevational view of the row of shelves of Figure 1 shown in retracted and nested position.

Referring to the drawings, 11 designates a supporting rail for the shelf sections, said rail being one of a pair mounted opposite each other on the side walls of a closet, cabinet, receptacle, or other storage compartment of substantial depth. The front wall of the storage compartment is designated at 12, said front wall being provided with a suitable door or opening, not shown, allowing access to the interior of the storage compartment.

Positioned on the guide rails and secured in stationary position adjacent the forward wall 12 and the access opening in said forward wall is a first shelf section 13. Said section is provided with an inturned front leg portion 14 which is bolted to rails 11 and a channel-shaped rear leg portion 15, likewise bolted to rails 11. Engaged in channel-shaped portion 15 is the depending front leg portion 16 of a succeeding shelf section 17, said succeeding shelf section 17 being slightly wider than first shelf section 13 and being formed with a channel-shaped rear leg portion 18 provided with suitable rollers bearing on rails 11. Engaging channel-shaped portion 18 is the front leg portion 19 of a next succeeding shelf section, slightly wider than section 17 and also formed

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with a rear leg portion provided with rollers bearing on rails 11. Any desired number of shelf sections may be employed. The last shelf section is formed with an upstanding rear wall element 21 to prevent articles from dropping rearwardly off the last shelf section.

When the shelves are to be loaded, the sections are first arranged in nested position as shown in Figure 3. Articles are deposited on the topmost section 20 until said section 20 is filled. Then said topmost section is disengaged and moved rearwardly until its front leg portion 19 interlocks with the channel-shaped rear leg portion 18 of the adjacent shelf section 17 which has now become the topmost section of the nested shelf elements at the forward end of rails 11. The process of loading section 17 is completed and then said section 17 is disengaged and moved rearwardly, together with the previously loaded rear section 20. Front leg portion 16 of section 17 is interlocked with channel-shaped portion 15 and the front remaining shelf section 13 may then be loaded. To unload the shelves this procedure is reversed, the final nested configuration of the unloaded shelf sections being shown in Figure 3.

Any desired number of shelf sections may be employed, three sections being shown in the drawing only by way of example. The sections may be fabricated of any suitable material such as sheet steel, built-up steel rods, plywood, or the like.

While a specific embodiment of a collapsible shelf structure for deep recess storage compartments has been disclosed in the foregoing description, it will be understood that various modifications within the spirit of the invention may occur to those skilled in the art. Therefore it is intended that no limitations be placed on the invention other than as defined by the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A collapsible shelf structure, comprising a pair of guide rails adapted to be secured to the opposite side walls of a compartment, a front shelf section secured to said guide rails, said front section being formed with a channel-shaped rear leg portion, and a second shelf section movably supported on said guide rails, said second shelf section having a front leg portion received in said channel-shaped portion, said second section being longer than the front shelf section in an amount sufficient to permit the second shelf section, when picked up and disengaged from the

front shelf section, to be placed over said front shelf section in nesting relation.

2. The structure of claim 1, wherein said second shelf section is formed with a channel-shaped rear leg portion, and wherein a third shelf section having a front leg portion is removably interlocked with the rear leg portion of said second section, said third section being longer than the second shelf section in an amount sufficient to permit the third shelf section, when picked up and disengaged from the second shelf section, to be placed over said second shelf section in nesting relation.

3. The structure of claim 1, wherein said second shelf section is formed with a channel-shaped rear leg portion, and wherein a third shelf section having a front leg portion is removably interlocked with the rear leg portion of said second section, said third section being formed at its rear edge with an upstanding wall element.

4. A collapsible shelf structure, comprising a pair of supporting members, a front shelf section secured to said supporting members and having a recessed rear edge portion, and a second shelf section having a front leg portion adapted to be removably interlocked with the rear edge portion of said front shelf and slidably supported on said supporting members, said second section being longer than the front shelf section in an amount sufficient to permit the second shelf section, when picked up and disengaged from the front shelf section, to be placed over the front shelf section in nesting relation.

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