Nov. 13, 1923. 1,474,106

J. H. CARROLL

SELF SERVICE STORE FOR A BUILDING HAVING LIMITED FLOOR SPACE

Filed May 6, 1922 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

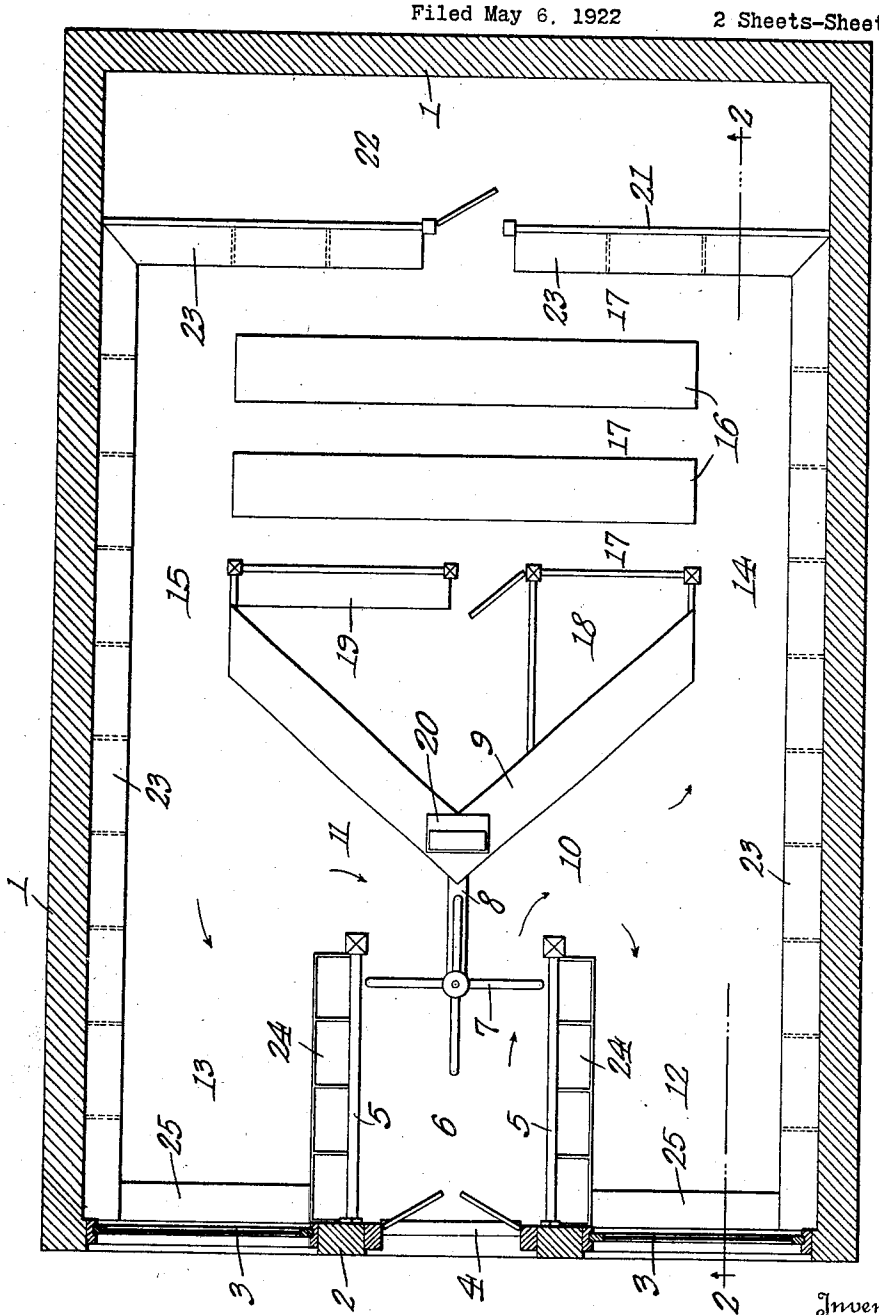


Fig. 1.

Inventor

James H. Carroll

By Lester L. Sargent

Attorney

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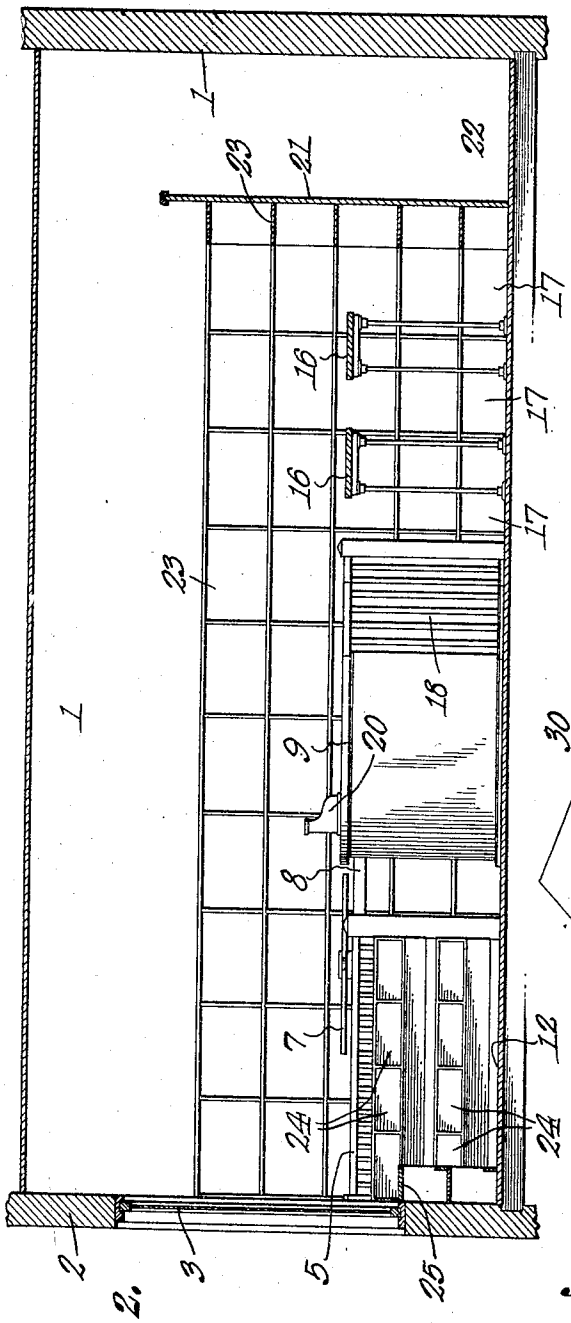


Fig. 2.

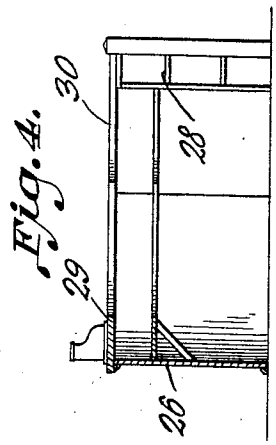


Fig. 4.

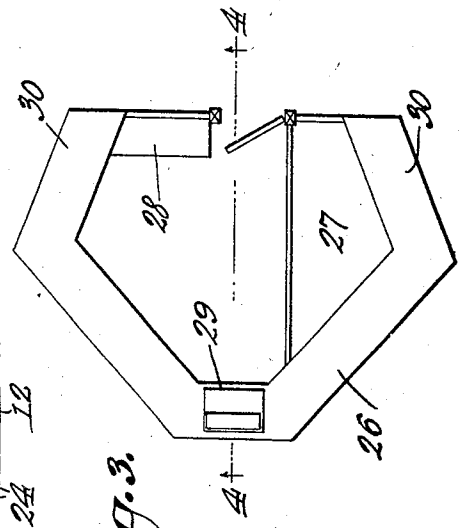


Fig. 3.

Inventor

James H. Carroll

By Lester L. Sargent

Attorney

Patented Nov. 13, 1923. 1,474,106

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES H. CARROLL, OF CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA.

SELF-SERVICE STORE FOR A BUILDING HAVING LIMITED FLOOR SPACE.

Application filed May 6, 1922. Serial No. 559,077.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES H. CARROLL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Charlotte, in the county of Mecklenburg and State of North Carolina, have invented a new and useful Self-Service Store for a Building Having Limited Floor Space, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a self-service store having novel store fixtures, arranged in a novel manner to permit of the use of a building having relatively small floor space for operating a self-service store; to provide an arrangement of the store fixtures whereby the store can be operated by one person; to provide a novel arrangement of the fixtures whereby both windows of the store can be utilized advantageously for display purposes; and to provide a novel arrangement of entrance and exit passageways to the store and to provide other innovations in the details of construction and arrangement of the store fixtures, as hereinafter described.

I attain these and other objects of the invention by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a top plan of the invention;

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section on line 2—2 of the Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a detail plan view of a modified form of cashier's compartment; and

Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section through same on line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Like numerals designate like parts in each of the several views.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, 1 designates the side and rear walls of the building and 2 the front wall. Arranged in the front wall of the building are two display windows 3. A central doorway 4 is provided and railings 5 extend longitudinally rearward from the front door on either side of the central entrance passageway 6 for a short distance to or slightly past the turnstile 7. The turnstile 7 is suitably mounted in alignment with a rearwardly extending turnstile railing 8 which extends to the substantially triangular cashier's compartment or counter 9 which is arranged approximately centrally of the store to form one side of the entrance passageway 10 and of the exit passageway 11, as shown in Fig. 1. By arranging the entrance doorway and turnstile centrally of the store front there is provided side passageways 12 and 13, respectively, to windows 3 on either side of the central doorway 4. I provide suitable fruit and vegetable bins 24 arranged along the sides of the railings 5 and suitable shelving 23 arranged around the sides of the store and across the rear partition 21, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, any suitable shelving being used. Entrance passageway 10 opens into a side passageway 14 extending toward the rear of the store. A similar side exit passageway 15 is provided on the opposite side of the store opening into the exit passageway 11; and the side passageways 14 and 15 are in communication through the cross passageways 17, which are separate by the transversely extending tables or tiers of shelving 16.

The triangular cashier's counter or compartment 9 is provided with a partitioned-off portion 18 for use as a basket compartment, and the compartment is also provided with a storage shelf 19 for the storage of bundles which are left by customers temporarily. I provide a suitable cashier's desk 20, which ordinarily is equipped with a combined cash register and adding machine. At the rear of the store I may provide a suitable storage room 22 of any suitable size.

Referring to Fig. 3, I provide a slightly modified cashier's compartment and counter 26 which is only approximately triangular, it being provided with a cut-off end 30. It has a basket compartment 27 and a storage shelf 28 similar in function to the compartment 18 and the shelf 19 of the form of the invention illustrated in Fig. 1. The modified form of the cashier's compartment disclosed in Fig. 3 is utilized where the floor space of the store is relatively narrow. In other respects the store construction is unchanged from that illustrated in Fig. 1.

By providing the novel arrangement of fixtures disclosed in the accompanying drawings, I make it possible to install and operate a self-service store in a building having relatively small space for the store, and also make it possible for a single person, in the cashier's compartment, to attend to the entire store. By providing a central entrance passageway and the arrangement of entrance and exit passageways disclosed in the accompanying drawings, I make it possible to utilize the entire store front, including windows on both sides of the central entrance passageway for the

purpose of the display of goods, thus gaining an important advantage in the matter of retaining valuable advertising space for the display of goods to the public. By providing the cross-passageways 17, I make it possible for customers to circulate freely about the store without making it necessary for them all to travel the same route or to keep in line in passing through the store and selecting their purchases, while at the same time making it necessary for them to enter and leave the store by prescribed passageways, and to pass in front of the cashier's desk and thus necessarily pay for their purchases before leaving the store.

The type of fixtures shown are adapted for installation in any store regardless of the size or shape of its floor space, since it is merely necessary to extend or widen the cashier's compartment 9 (or 26) and the cross-tables or shelving 16 to suit the fixtures to the particular floor space available for the store.

What I claim is:

1. In a self-service store, the combination of a central doorway display windows and space for the display of goods on opposite sides of the central doorway, railings extending rearwardly from said doorway to form a passageway, a turnstile arranged in said passageway, a turnstile railing extending rearwardly from the center of the turnstile to form an entrance and exit passageway beyond the turnstile, and a substantially triangular cashier's compartment and counter, said triangular counter being of suitable width to provide passageways on either side thereof, said triangular counter having its apex contiguous to and aligned with the aforesaid turnstile railing.

2. In a self-service store, the combination of a central doorway display windows and space for the display of goods on opposite sides of the central doorway, railings extending rearwardly from said doorway to form a passageway, a turnstile arranged in said passageway, a turnstile railing extending rearwardly from the center of the turnstile to form an entrance and exit passageway beyond the turnstile, a substantially triangular cashier's compartment and counter, said triangular counter being of suitable width to provide passageways on either side thereof, said counter having its apex contiguous to and aligned with the aforesaid turnstile railing, and one or more cross-tables or shelving tiers positioned in back of the triangular compartment and having cross-passageways extending from one side of the store to the other between said elements.

3. In a self-service store, the combination of a store front having a central doorway display windows and space for the display of goods on opposite sides of the central doorway, railings extending rearwardly from the sides of the doorway, a turnstile disposed between said railings, a cashier's counter arranged in proximity to the turnstile, said counter being of substantially triangular shape and having its apex in proximity to and aligned with the turnstile to divide the store into an entrance and an exit passage in communication with the central passageway on either half of the turnstile space, side passages extending past the cashier's counter toward the rear of the store, one or more transversely arranged tables or shelving tiers spaced back of the cashier's compartment, and transverse passageways, permitting free passage from one side of the store to the other without requiring the customer to follow a predetermined path through the store.

4. In a self-service store, a main entrance passageway, the store having windows and space for display of goods in the windows on each side of the main entrance passageway, a turnstile disposed in the path of said passageway, a substantially triangular shaped cashier's compartment and counter arranged with its apex contiguous to and in alignment with the turnstile to divert customers entering the store to one side of the counter and those leaving the store to the other side, said cashier's compartment including a compartment for baskets, and including shelving for storing parcels checked by customers, shelving extending along the side walls of the store, and passageways disposed between said shelving and the triangular counter for the passage of customers to and from the rear part of the store, whereby a single central fixture is provided which is suited for installation in any self-service store for the purpose described in the foregoing specification.

5. In a self service store having a substantially central doorway, the combination of railings extending rearwardly from said doorway to form a passageway, a turnstile arranged in said passageway, a turnstile railing extending rearwardly from the center of the turnstile to form an entrance and exit passageway beyond the turnstile, and a substantially triangular cashier's compartment and counter, said triangular counter being of suitable width to provide passageways on either side thereof converging into the central passageway.

6. In a self service store having a substantially central doorway, the combination of railings extending rearwardly from said doorway to form a passageway, a turnstile arranged in said passageway, a turnstile railing extending rearwardly from the center of the turnstile to form an entrance and exit passageway beyond the turnstile, a substantially triangular cashier's compartment

and counter, said triangular counter being of suitable width to provide passageways on either side thereof converging into the central passageway, and one or more cross tables or shelving tiers positioned in back of the triangular compartment and having cross passageways extending from one side of the store to the other between said elements.

7. In a self service store, means forming a main entrance passageway, a turnstile disposed in the path of said passageway, a substantially triangular shaped cashier's compartment and counter arranged with its apex in alignment with the turnstile to provide opposite passageways converging toward the main entrance passageway to divert customers entering the store to one side of the counter and those leaving the store to the other side, said cashier's compartment and counter including a compartment for baskets, and including another compartment for parcels checked by customers, shelving extending along the side walls of the store, and passageways disposed between said shelving and the triangular counter for the passage of customers to and from the rear part of the store.

8. In a self service store for a building having limited floor space, and having a substantially central doorway, the combination of railings extending rearwardly from said doorway to form a common entrance and exit passageway, a turnstile arranged at the inner end of said passageway, a turnstile railing extending rearwardly from the center of the turnstile to divide the space into an entrance and exit passageway beyond the turnstile, a triangular cashier's compartment and counter, said triangular counter being of suitable width to provide passageways on either side thereof, said counter having its apex contiguous to and aligned with the aforesaid turnstile railing, and one or more cross tables or shelving tiers positioned in back of the triangular compartment and having cross passageways extending from one side of the store to the other between said elements.

9. In a self-service store for a building having limited floor space, the combination of a store having a central doorway and having windows on either side thereof, railings extending rearwardly from the sides of the doorway a turnstile disposed between said railings. a cashier's counter arranged in proximity to the turnstile, said counter being of substantially triangular shape and having its apex in proximity to and aligned with the turnstile to divide the store into converging entrance and exit passageways in communication with the central passageway on either half of the turnstile space, side passages extending past the cashier's counter toward the rear of the store, transversely arranged tables or shelving tiers spaced back of the cashier's compartment, and transverse passageways therebetween to permit the customer to select any desired passageway without following a predetermined path through the entire store.

10. In a self service store for a building having limited floor space, a central entrance and exit passageway, a turnstile disposed at the inner end of said passageway, a substantially triangular shaped cashier's compartment and counter arranged with its apex in alignment with the turnstile to divert customers entering the store to one side of the cashier's counter and those leaving the store to the other side of the cashier's counter, the cashier being stationed at the apex of the counter, compartments for the storage of baskets and parcels, passageways arranged on either side of the triangular counter and extending to the rear of the store, and shelving on the side walls of the store extending the entire length of the store.

11. In a self service store for a building having limited floor space, and having a central doorway and display windows on either side thereof, railings extending rearwardly from the sides of the doorway, a turnstile disposed at the end of the railings, a turnstile railing extending rearwardly from the turnstile, an approximately triangular cashier's counter and compartment having its apex aligned with the turnstile railing and having the cashier's station at the apex of the compartment, converging passageways leading directly into the passage to the central doorway whereby customers entering and leaving the store must pass the cashier's station at the apex of the compartment, side wall shelving extending the entire length of the store, and one or more transversely arranged tables or shelving tiers spaced back of the cashier's compartment, and transverse passageways therebetween to permit the customer to select from a plurality of passageways in going through the store.

JAMES H. CARROLL.