March 26, 1957 S. MALKIN 2,786,728

DISPLAY CABINET

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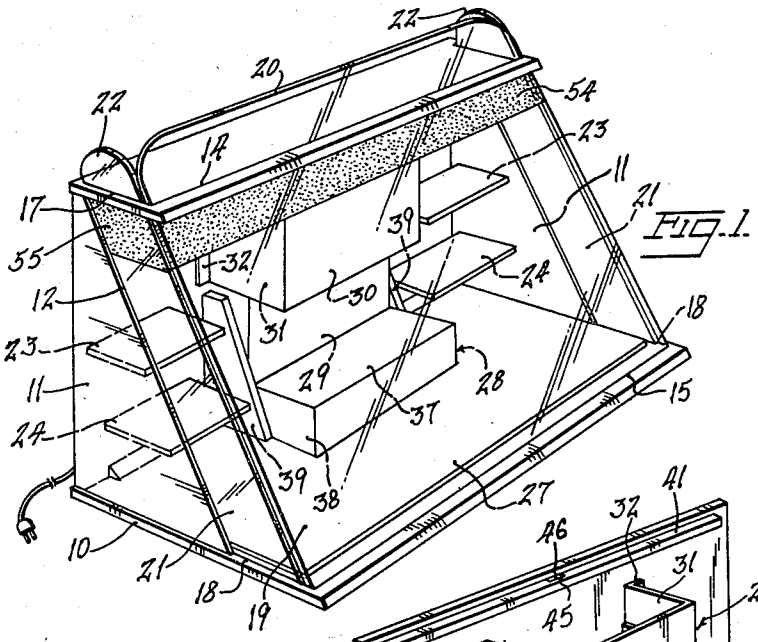


FIG. 1.

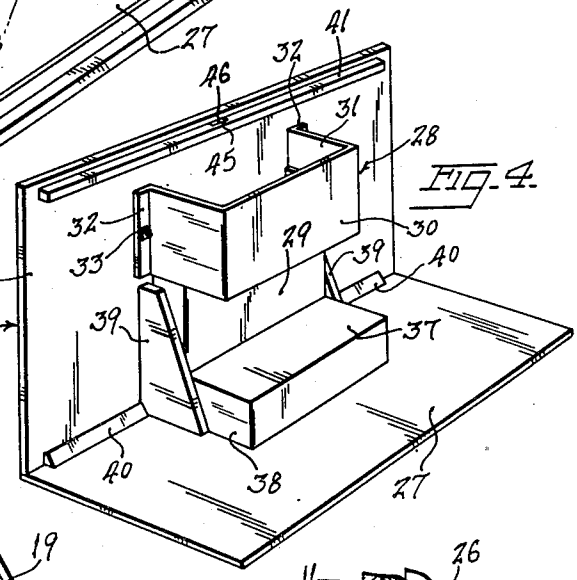


FIG. 4.

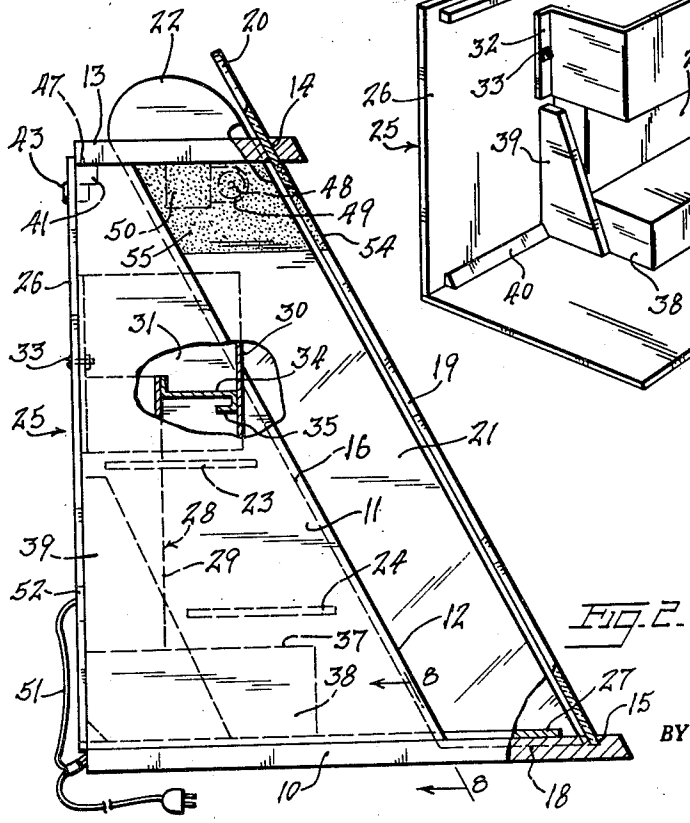


FIG. 2.

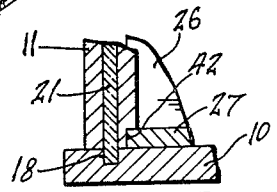


FIG. 8.

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DISPLAY CABINET

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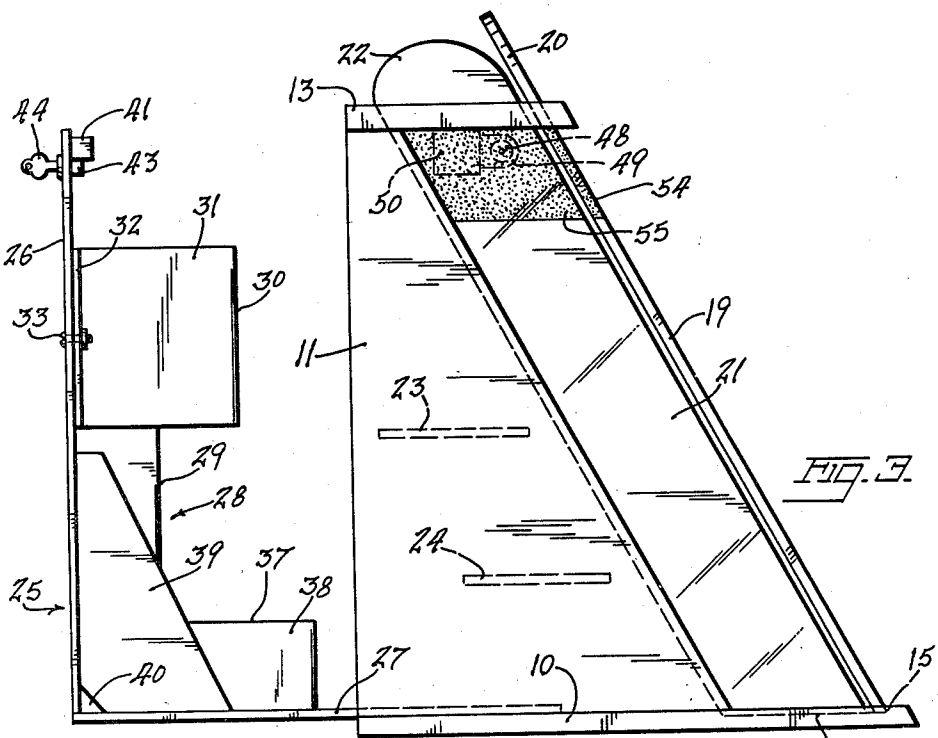


FIG. 3.

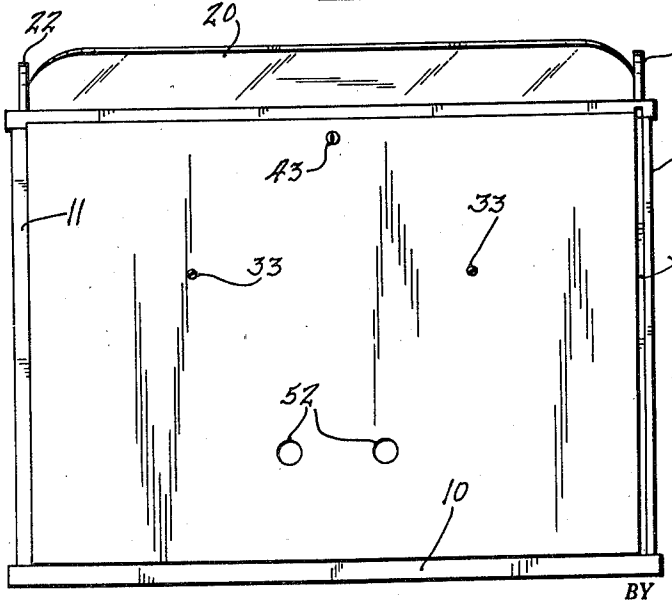


FIG. 7.

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DISPLAY CABINET

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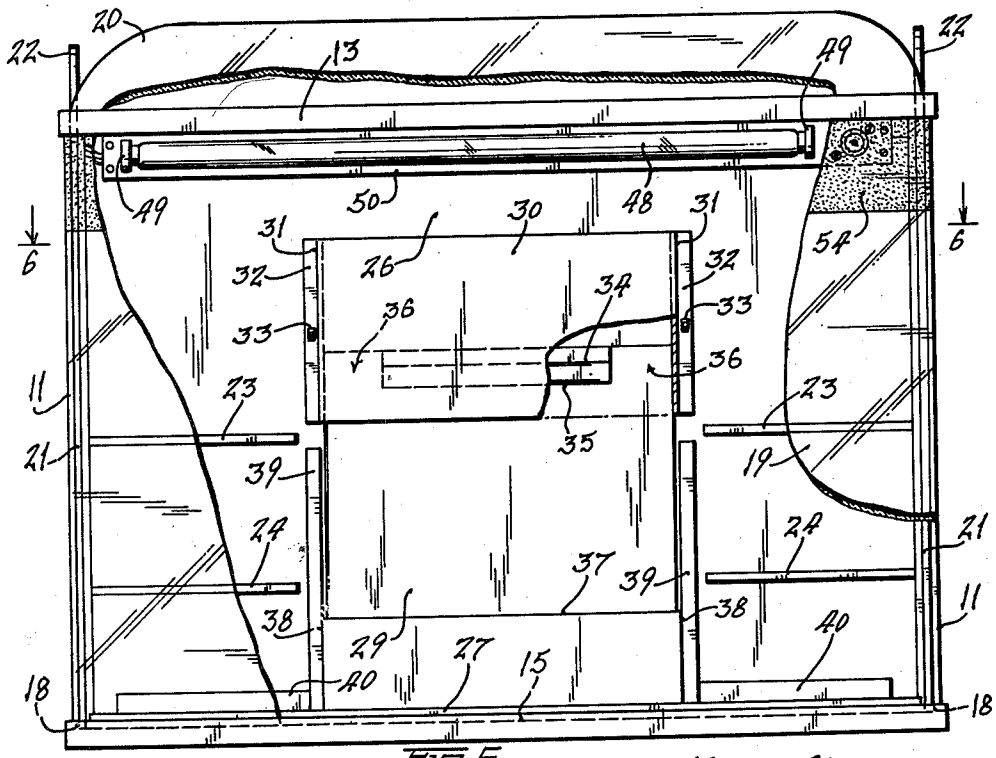


FIG. 5.

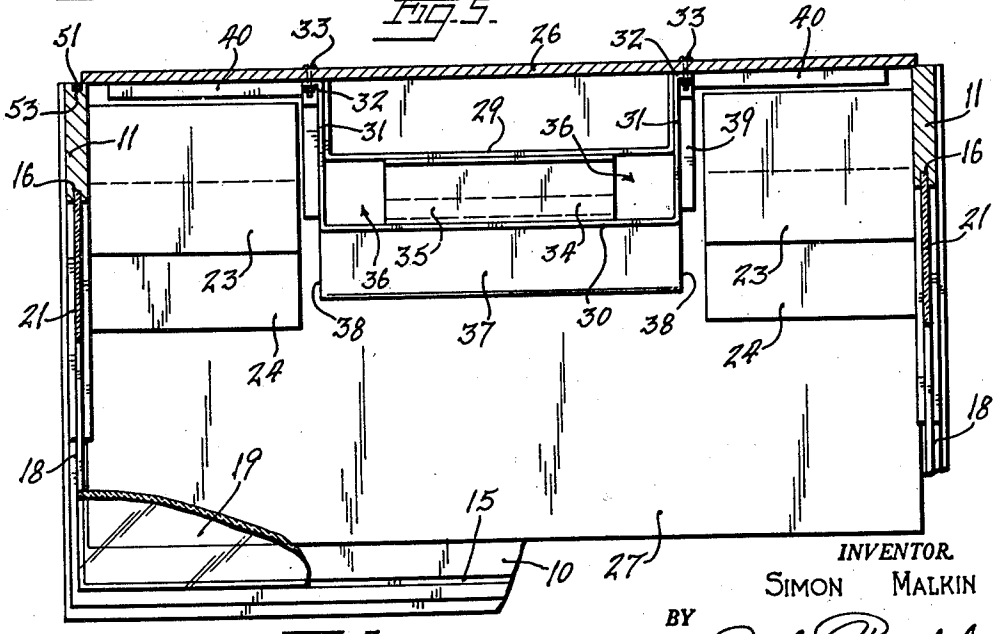


FIG. 6.

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2,786,728

DISPLAY CABINET

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Application January 29, 1954, Serial No. 407,012

1 Claim. (Cl. 312—129)

This invention relates to display cabinets for displaying and demonstrating various types of fixed and movable merchandise in stores and other establishments.

The usual practice is to provide a display cabinet with permanent transparent front closures through which the merchandise in the interior of the cabinet can be exhibited. Such cabinets present difficulty in cleaning the interior of the glass or other transparent closures, and such closures are liable to become damaged during transportation. Access to the interior of such cabinets is usually provided by sliding or swinging closures which necessitate considerable space around the cabinet which is often not available. Furthermore, the cabinets usually have to be refilled when in position in the window from the rear of the cabinet without the benefit of a view from the normal viewing angle.

A principal object of the present invention is to provide a display cabinet with a removable closure at the rear so as to permit ready access to the merchandise inside the cabinet, which closure serves as a rack unit for supporting various types of fixed and movable merchandise and the mechanism for actuating the movable articles.

Another object of the invention is to provide a display cabinet with a removable rack assembly which serves as a rear closure and which is adapted to be refilled and the goods arranged thereon either at the location of the cabinet or at the stock room while viewing the rack assembly from the normal front viewing angle available to the customer.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a store display carbinet with removable glass front and side closures in order to permit ready assembly and to provide safety in transportation and ready replacement in the event of breakage.

It is further proposed to provide a display cabinet which is simple and durable in construction and which can be manufactured and sold at a reasonable cost.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, and to the appended claim in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawings forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a display cabinet embodying my invention.

Fig. 2 is a side elevational view thereof showing the rear enclosure in locked position, parts being shown broken away and parts being shown in section.

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 with the rear enclosure in partly removed position.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the rear enclosure removed from the cabinet.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged front elevational view, parts being broken away for the sake of clearness.

Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional view taken on the plane of the line 6—6 of Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 is a rear elevational view thereof.

Fig. 8 is a sectional view taken on the plane of the line 8—8 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings in detail, the display cabinet shown in Fig. 1 is hollow and comprises a base **10**, upright solid side walls **11**, with sloping front ends **12**, and a top wall **13**. The base and walls may be made of wood, metal, pastic or any other suitable material. The top wall is formed with a slanting slot **14** cut therethrough along its front edge and extending substantially the length thereof. The base is formed with a slanting groove **15** along its front edge, extending substantially the length thereof. The front sloping ends **12** of the side walls are formed with grooves **16** which communicate with slots **17** cut through the top wall, along the ends thereof, and with grooves **18** cut in the base along its ends adjacent the front. A glass panel **19** extends through the slot **14** in the top wall and closes the front of the cabinet with its bottom edge seated in the groove **15** in the base and with its top end **20** protruding above the top wall in order to facilitate handling. The panel may be readily inserted and readily removed as desired. Glass panels **21** are inserted through the slots **17** in the ends of the top wall and into the grooves **16** in the side walls **11** with their bottom end edges seated in the grooves **18** in the base and with their top ends **22** protruding above the top wall to facilitate handing.

A pair of opposed wooden shelves **23** are secured to the inner surface of the side walls **11** by gluing or in any other suitable manner. The shelves extend inwardly toward the middle of the cabinet. Another pair of opposed shelves **24** are similarly mounted on the side walls below the shelves **23**, the upper shelves being somewhat narrower than the lower shelves.

The rear of the cabinet is closed by a rack assembly **25** shown in detail in Fig. 4. The rack assembly may be made of sheet metal or any other suitable material and includes a rear wall **26** and an integral bottom wall **27**.

A combined housing and platform unit **28** is fastened to the rear wall **26** centrally thereof. The unit includes a vertically disposed channel-shaped plate member **29** opening toward the rear wall with its edges in contact therewith. A housing, formed of a strap bent to provide a front wall **30** and side walls **31** with integral flanges **32**, is fastened to the rear wall by bolts **33** passing through openings in the flanges and rear wall. The strap surrounds the top end of the channel-shaped plate **29** and protrudes thereabove with its front wall extending outwardly of the plate. A flanged plate **34** is interposed between the plate **29** and the front wall of the strap, at the bottom of the strap, providing a floor for the housing. The flanged edges of the floor are welded or otherwise suitably fastened to the channel-shaped plate and front wall of the strap and with the outer flange continuing into an inwardly directed flange **35** in order to make the flanged plate more rigid. The floor extends only part way along the channel-plate and the strap leaving an opening **36** between each end of the floor and the adjacent side wall **31** of the strap.

At its bottom, the channel-shaped plate **29** extends forwardly and then downwardly into engagement with the bottom wall **27** to form a platform **37**, having end walls **38**. The platform extends forwardly of the upper housing. The unit is braced by side plates **39** having sloping front ends. Molding strips **40** may be provided to finish off the corner between the rear and bottom walls of the assembly. A supporting rail **41** may be suitably fastened to the inner surface of the rear wall **26** along its top end edge and extending substantially the length thereof.

The rack assembly is slid through the rear opening in the cabinet with the end edges of the bottom wall **27** riding in notches **42** formed in the inner surfaces of the bottom ends of the side walls **11**. When completely

closed, the upper rail **41** on the rear wall **26** is positioned under the rear end edge of the top wall **13**. An ordinary lock **43**, actuated by a key **44**, is carried by the rear wall **26** and the upper rail **41** is slotted as indicated at **45** to permit the sliding bolt **46** of the lock to slide into a keeper **47** on the under side of the top wall **13** for locking the rear wall in closed position.

The interior of the cabinet may be illuminated by an electric fluorescent tube **48** removably held by brackets **49** fastened to the ends of a rail **50** secured to the under side of the top wall **13** at its center. Electricity is supplied to the tube from a source of electromotive force by conductors **51** passing through an opening **52** in the rear wall **26** and along a groove **53** in the rear end edge of one of the side walls **11** of the cabinet.

The front glass panel **19** may be frosted or made translucent just below the top wall **13** as indicated at **54**, and the side glass panels **21** may be similarly treated as indicated at **55** in order to conceal the tube **48** and the top of the housing.

In use, the bottom wall **27** of the rack assembly and the shelves **23** and **24** may be used for supporting articles of merchandise, such, for example, as watches (not shown) or the like, and the platform **37** may support, for example, a glass bowl (not shown) or the like at one end, in line with one of the openings **36** to the side of the floor **34**, and may also support at its other end, for example, an anvil (not shown) or the like in line with the other opening **36**. The floor **34** of the housing may support, for example, an electric motor (not shown) for actuating mechanism for moving, for example, a watch, up and down into water in the bowl on the platform, and for moving, for example, a watch up and down against the anvil for demonstrating the waterproof and shockproof qualities, respectively, of the watches.

The rack assembly may be readily removed by merely opening the lock **43** by means of the key **44** and by withdrawing the same from the cabinet. When withdrawn, the motor and mechanism in the housing may be attended to, and the bottom wall **27** refilled with articles of merchandise. This refilling can take place while viewing the rack assembly from the front which is the normal viewing angle of the customer. When the rack assembly is removed, access to the interior of the cabinet is afforded for refilling the shelves **23** and **24** with articles of merchandise.

The glass panels **19** and **21** may be readily removed for cleaning same on both sides or for refilling the cabinet, or may be removed for transporting the cabinet without the panels in order to minimize the chance of damaging the panels.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise construction herein disclosed and the right is reserved to all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claim.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

In a cabinet for displaying merchandise having a base, transparent front and side walls, a top wall, a rack device constituting the rear closure for said cabinet, said rack device including a vertical wall closing the rear of the cabinet, a horizontal wall integral with the vertical wall resting on the base, a channel-shaped plate secured to the vertical wall centrally thereof, a U-shaped metal strap extending across the upper ends of said channel-shaped plate with its bight portion spaced inwardly from the channel-shaped plate and with its ends secured to the vertical wall, means of connection between the upper end of said channel-shaped member and the U-shaped strap, the bottom end of said channel-shaped member extending inwardly and downwardly constituting a platform bottomed on the base.

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