Dec. 22, 1931. F. E. STEVENSON 1,837,300

REFRIGERATING APPARATUS

Filed Feb. 28, 1930

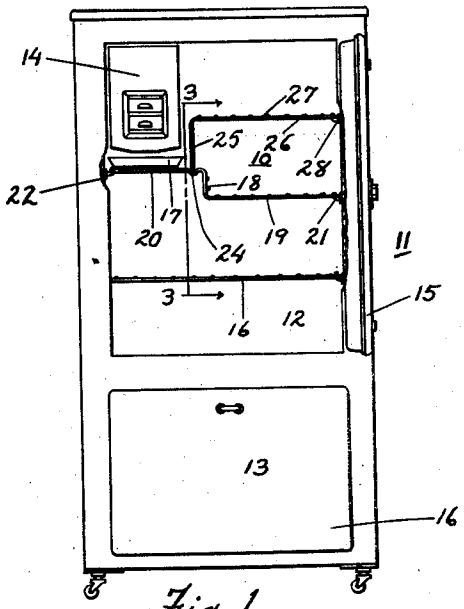

Fig. 1

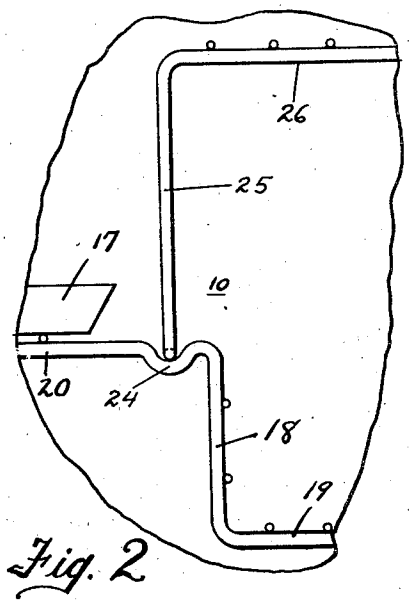

Fig. 2

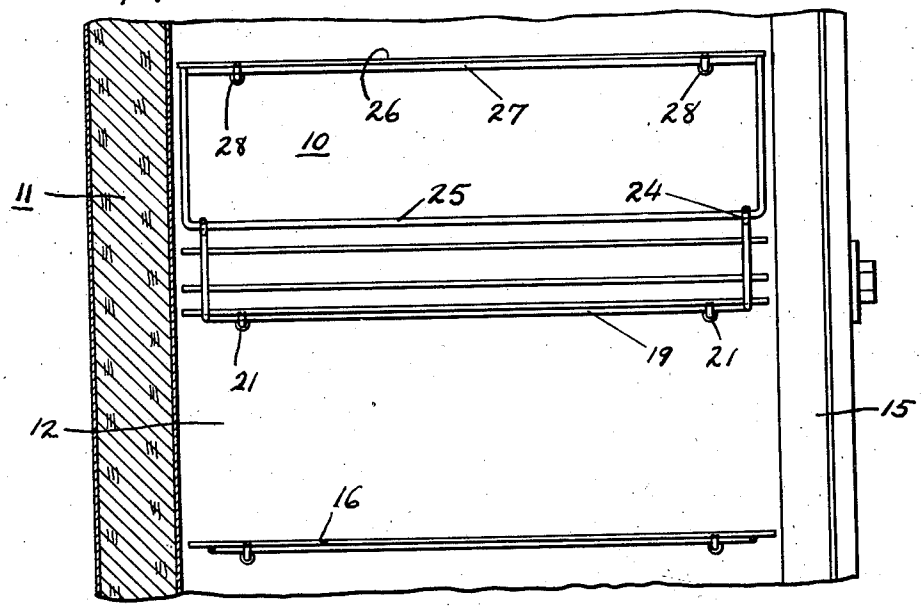

Fig. 3

Francis E. Stevenson INVENTOR

BY

Spencer, Hardman & Fehr ATTORNEY

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

FRANCIS E. STEVENSON, OF DAYTON, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO FRIGIDAIRE CORPORATION, OF DAYTON, OHIO, A CORPORATION OF DELAWARE

REFRIGERATING APPARATUS

Application filed February 28, 1930. Serial No. 432,096.

This invention relates to refrigerating apparatus, and more particularly to a shelf construction for refrigerator cabinets embodying refrigerating apparatus.

For one of its objects, this invention contemplates an improved shelf structure for refrigerator cabinets. More particularly to provide an improved shelf structure which will make available heretofore wasted space within the cabinet in the vicinity of the cooling unit.

A further object of this invention is to provide a stepped shelf arrangement for a refrigerator cabinet, one surface of which will serve as means for supporting the drip pan below the evaporator or cooling unit, which surface will also provide means for supporting an additional shelf, for utilizing the space within the cabinet in the vicinity of the cooling unit, which has heretofore been wasted.

Further objects and advantages of the present invention will be apparent from the following description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, wherein a preferred form of the present invention is clearly shown.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front view of a refrigerator cabinet with the door open, embodying features of my invention;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the shelf arrangement of Fig. 1, and

Fig. 3 is a view in section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, showing the door in closed position.

Referring to the drawings, I have shown my improved shelf arrangement, generally designated by the reference character 10 as embodied in a refrigerator cabinet 11, including an upper refrigerated food compartment 12, and a lower machine compartment 13. An evaporator 14 is located within the food compartment 12, and is connected by means of conduits, not shown, to a heat dissipating element located within the machine compartment 13. The heat dissipating element may be a compressor-condenser unit for example, or it may be the ordinary absorption apparatus. The evaporator 14, otherwise known as a cooling unit, may be any of the well known evaporators now in use. For example, it may be similar to the evaporator disclosed in the patent to R. G. Osborn, 1,556,708, patented October 3, 1925. The food compartment 12 is provided with an opening in its front wall which is closed by a closure member 15, while the machine compartment is provided with a door member 16 in its front wall.

Heretofore, in refrigerator cabinets, it has been customary to provide a plurality of substantially flat horizontal shelves within the food compartment similar to the shelf 16 for instance. The use of such shelves, however, has one disadvantage in that the space just to the right of the cooling unit 14 has been of such a vertical height that much of the upper portion thereof has been wasted. I propose to provide a shelf arrangement which will utilize this heretofore wasted space, and at the same time will provide means for supporting the drip pan 17 below the cooling unit. To this end, I provide the shelf 18 which is provided with a plurality of substantially flat horizontal surfaces 19 and 20, attached to the side walls of the cabinet at different vertical heights, as shown at 21 and 22. The upper of the flat surfaces indicated at 20 is located just below the cooling unit 14 and provides means for supporting the drip pan 17 beneath the cooling unit. This section 20 is also provided with a groove 24 in which groove fits the downwardly turned edge 25 of the second shelf 26. The second shelf is provided with a substantially flat supporting surface 27 attached to the side wall of the refrigerator cabinet, as at 28, above the bottom of the evaporator 14.

It will be noted that by providing the stepped shelf arrangement 18, and by supporting the second shelf 26 on the upper surface 20 of the shelf 18, that I am enabled to take advantage and to utilize the space adjacent the top of the evaporator. Further, this shelf arrangement provides for three supporting surfaces for provisions, whereas heretofore, only two such surfaces have been provided.

While the form of embodiment of the invention as herein disclosed constitutes a preferred form, it is to be understood that other

forms might be adopted, all coming within the scope of the claims which follow.

What is claimed is as follows:

1. In a refrigerator including a plurality of side walls, a horizontal shelf having a plurality of offset surfaces attached at different vertical heights to said side walls, and a second shelf attached at one end to one of said walls and resting on said first named shelf at its other end.

2. In a refrigerator having a plurality of vertical walls, a horizontal shelf having a plurality of substantially flat offset supporting surfaces attached to said side walls at different vertical heights, and a second shelf attached at one end to one of said walls and resting at its other end on one of said flat surfaces.

3. In a refrigerator having a plurality of vertical walls, a horizontal shelf having a plurality of substantially flat offset supporting surfaces attached to said walls at different vertical heights, and a second shelf attached at one end to one of said walls and having its other end fitting within a groove in one of said flat surfaces of said first named shelf.

4. In a refrigerator, a shelf having a plurality of substantially flat supporting surfaces arranged in different horizontal planes, and a second shelf having one end supported by one of said flat surfaces of said first named shelf.

5. In a refrigerator, a shelf having a plurality of substantially flat supporting surfaces arranged in different horizontal planes, and a second shelf having a substantially flat supporting surface provided with a turned down portion, said turned down portion being supported by said first named shelf.

6. In a refrigerator, a shelf having a plurality of substantially flat supporting surfaces arranged in different horizontal planes, a second shelf arranged above said first named shelf and having one of its ends bearing in a groove formed in one of said surfaces of said first named shelf.

7. In a refrigerator, a shelf having a plurality of substantially flat supporting surfaces arranged in different horizontal planes, a second shelf arranged above said first named shelf, one end of said second shelf fitting within a groove in the higher of said surfaces of said first named shelf, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I hereto affix my signature.

FRANCIS E. STEVENSON.