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J. L. DAVIDSON

COUNTER WALL OR PARTITION

Filed Sept. 2, 1924

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

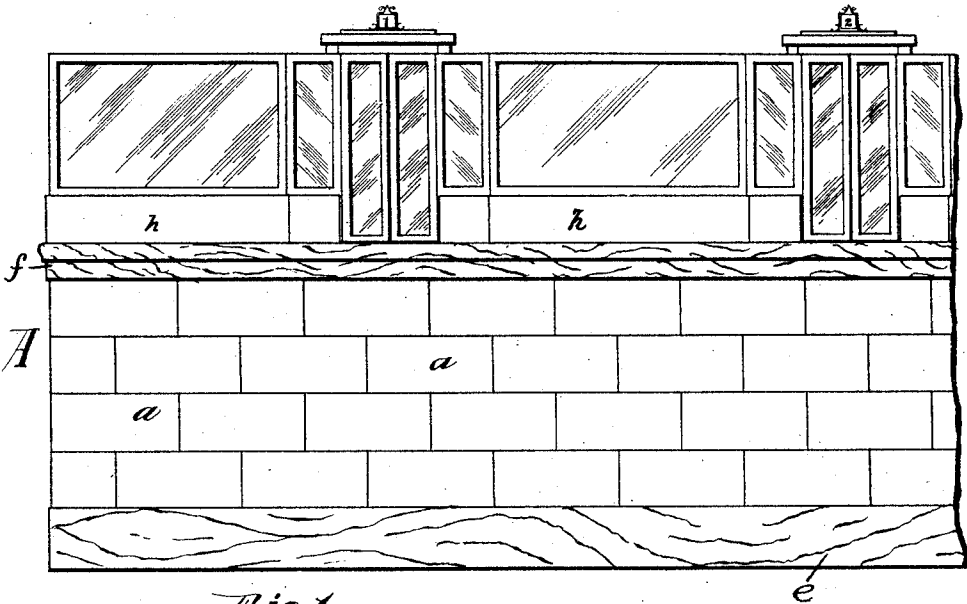


Fig. 1

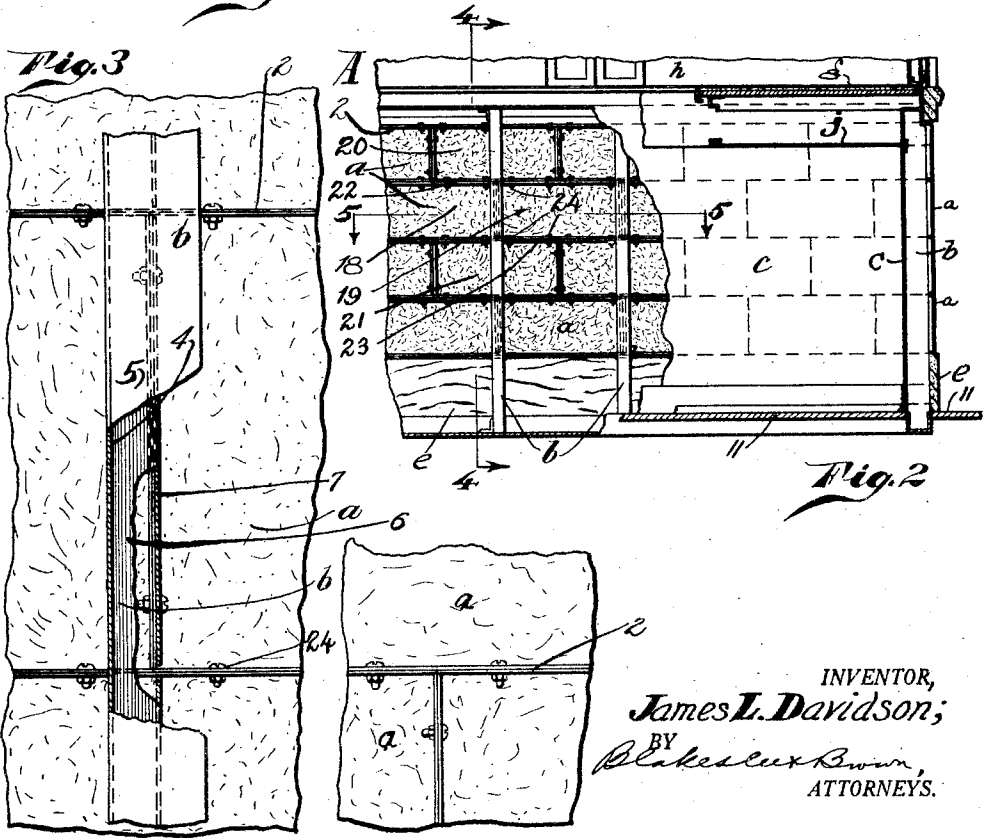


Fig. 2

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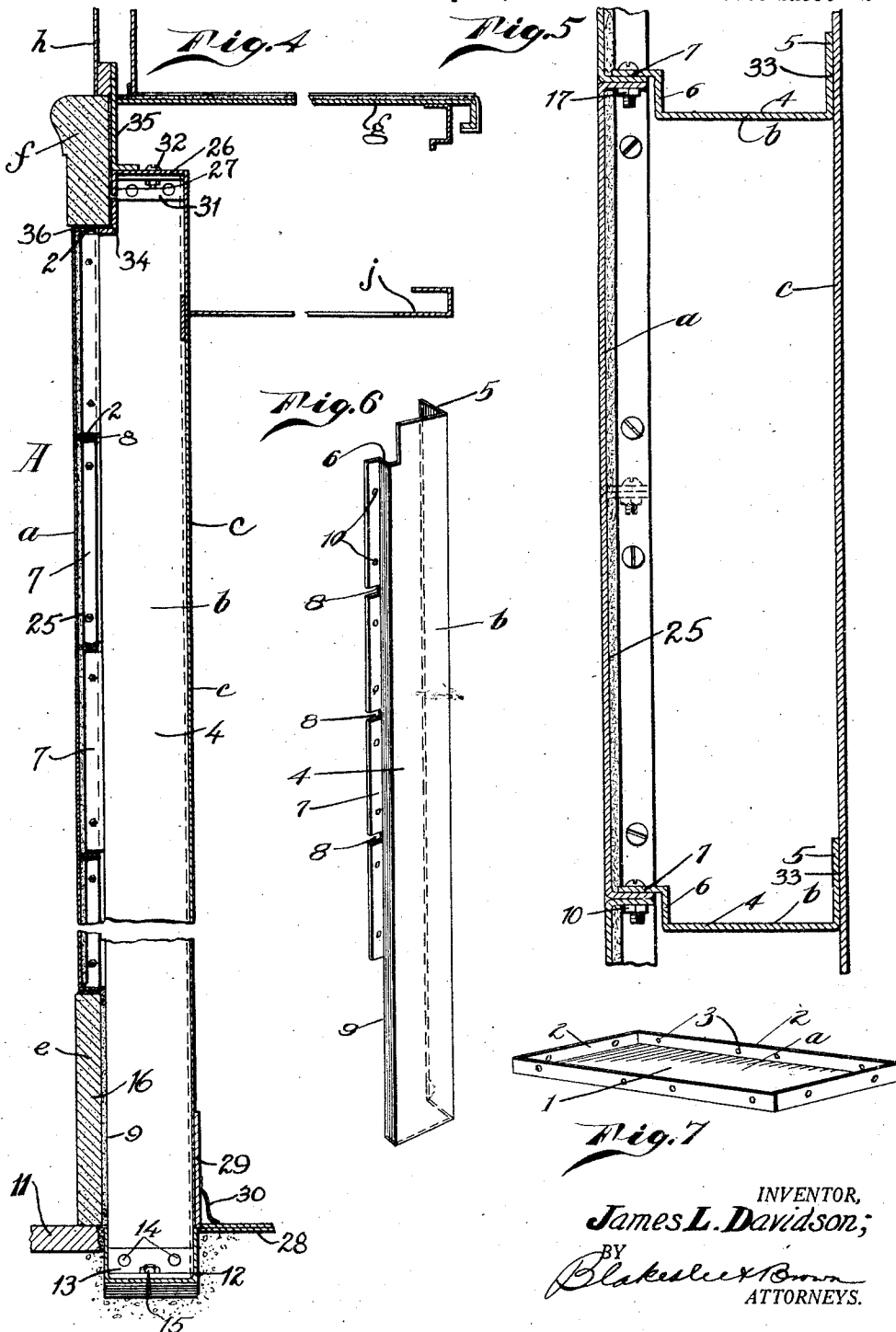
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES L. DAVIDSON, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

COUNTER WALL OR PARTITION.

Application filed September 2, 1924. Serial No. 735,261.

This invention relates to counter walls or partitions, and is particularly applicable for use in banks, trust companies, stores and the like, where it is desired to present a partition or counter front which is pleasing in appearance and at the same time strong, durable, and not liable to breakage.

In practicing one embodiment of the invention, dies or pans are used in the formation of the front, which dies or pans may be substantially rectangular or square or assume various other shapes, according to use and service, and which dies or pans are flanged so that respective dies or pans may be bolted together through the flanged portions thereof, or in other words, joined in a connected series. The dies or pans are preferably formed of sheet metal with the outwardly facing surface portions thereof painted, sanded, or given any other appearance such as imitation marble or the like. Other features, including reliability, simplicity and inexpensiveness of the invention will appear as the description proceeds.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel and useful provision, formation, construction, association and relative arrangement of parts, members and features, all as shown in certain of its embodiments in the accompanying drawings, described generally and more particularly pointed out in claims.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a fragmentary elevation of a counter front embodying the invention, and such as would be used in banks or trust companies;

Figure 2 is a rear view of the counter front shown in Figure 1, and partially fragmentary, to show the assemblage feature of such counter front;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary detail view on an enlarged scale, and showing the method of joining various dies together;

Figure 4 is a fragmentary cross sectional view on the line 4—4 of Figure 2, said view being on an enlarged scale;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary cross sectional view on an enlarged scale, and taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 2;

Figure 6 is a perspective view of one of the uprights or studs used for giving rigidity to the dies or pans; and

Figure 7 is a perspective view of one of the dies or pans.

Referring with particularity to the drawings, I have designated the counter front or partition as an entirety by A, of which *a* are dies or pans, and *b* uprights or stud- ings, and *c* a sheathing,—all of which elements are used in practicing one embodiment of the invention.

The dies or pans may comprise a flat portion as shown at 1 in Figure 7 bounded along their marginal edges with flanges 2, and such flanges may be provided with transverse perforations 3. The upright or studding is illustrated in Figure 6, and may comprise in the embodiment shown a channel iron member having a base portion 4 and two spaced leg members 5 and 6, the leg member 5 being of greater length than the leg 6, the leg member 6 being formed with an angularly directed and interrupted flange member 7, the interruptions being shown at 8. The interrupted flange member 7 need not extend full length of the leg 6, as shown at 9. Such flange member 7 is provided with a series of perforations as illustrated at 10.

The remaining details of the invention may be best described by stating the method of assembling the elements *a*, *b* and *c*, reference being had to Figures 2 and 4. If one form of counter is used incorporating such elements the procedure of assemblage would be as follows: The flooring is shown at 11 and such flooring would be cut away so that the channel iron member 12 might be placed therein as shown in Figure 4. The uprights or studding *b* are then received between the leg portions of such channel iron member 12 and secured within such channel by means of angle irons 13. Such angle irons having leg portions bolted as shown at 14 to the respective uprights or studding members and likewise bolted to the channel iron member as illustrated at 15. Thus in appearance we would have a series of spaced uprights similar in appearance to that of

Figure 2. These uprights would be so arranged as to have the flange members 7 facing outwardly so that the die members might be assembled thereon. A slab or base member *e* will be cemented as indicated at 16 to the portion 9 of such uprights. The dies or pans *a* are assembled in brake-joint relation as indicated in Figures 1 and 2, and such assemblage may be accomplished by the method shown in Fig. 5 in which it will be seen that the end flange portions of the dies may be bolted to the flange portions 7 by suitable bolt members as 17 passed through the perforations 3 and 10.

As the various dies or pans are to be assembled in brake-joint relation the dies or pans immediately above or below the pans shown in Figure 5, will have their meeting end flanges placed intermediate the long flange of the pan shown in such Figure 5, and such long flange will be received in the cut-away portions 8 of the flange 7 and may bear against a surface of the leg 6.

Reference to Figure 2 will show that the dies or pans *a* shown at 18 and 19 have been bolted together and to one of the interrupted lengths of the flange 7, while the dies or pans *a* shown at 20 and 21 straddle such interrupted flange 7 and have their long length flanges 2 as shown at 22 and 23 received in certain of the cut-away portions 8 of such interrupted flange, and that such dies or pans as shown at 20 and 21 are secured to the dies or pans shown at 18 and 19 as by means of bolts 24. This method of assemblage will form the brake-joint relation and will present an outward appearance for the dies as shown in Figure 1. It will further be seen that in building up the dies or pans every other die or pan is secured to an upright and that intermediate dies or pans are secured to the pans held by the uprights. This forms a very rigid structure. After the dies or pans have been assembled in brake-joint relation to the desired height for the partition or counter front the back sheathing *c* may be positioned. If the dies or pans *a* are formed of sheet metal the inner portion of such dies or pans may be covered with deadening material such as felt, shown at 25. It is desirable to so deaden the dies or pans that anyone pounding against the pans for any reason would not get a hollow sound, but on the contrary would give the person pounding upon such pans a solid sound, so that the general nature of the structure could not be ascertained.

The back or sheathing *c* is provided with flanges as shown at 26 and 27 and such backing or sheathing may rest upon a leg of one of the channel irons 12 and be braced to flooring 28 by means of a plate 29 and securing molding 30. Angle irons 31 are secured to the portions 4 of the uprights

or studding *b* by suitable bolts or the like, and such angle irons are likewise secured to the flange 26 of such studding as shown at 32. The back or sheathing may be of one piece formation as indicated in Fig. 2. Likewise it will be noted that the backing or sheathing will bear against the leg portion 5 of the uprights as shown at 33, and if desired such back or sheathing may be secured to such leg or legs 5 by welding or by bolts or by other means. When the structure is used for counter fronts a combined ledge and apron member *f* may rest upon the top flange 2 of the dies or pans, as shown in Figure 1, as well as against framing 34 and 35. The frame 35 may be secured to the flange 26 of the backing or sheathing *c*, and cement or the like 36 may be placed between such frame members and combined ledge and apron *f* for securing the same together. A sheet metal counter is indicated at *g* and wicket members *h* may be mounted above such counter in accordance with use and requirements. Drawer framing may be joined to the backing or sheathing as indicated at *j*. Corners are easily executed as indicated in Fig. 2, and while the dies are shown in brake-joint relation it is of course obvious that the dies may be secured to each other so that a break-joint relation does not exist according to the uses and purposes desired. The dies may assume various shapes other than shown, and it is only intended that the drawings illustrate one adaptation and form of dies.

The structure as shown may be quickly assembled upon a given job without first determining exact measurements, so that dies of fixed length must be manufactured. In other words, after dies or pans of a given form have been selected they may be sent to a place for erection and the entire counter front or partition built up without the necessity of having taken previous measurements. Where marble or other complicated structures are used it is of course necessary that exact measurements be taken prior to a cutting of the marble, and unskilled workmen can assemble the structure such as shown in the drawings, as well as the most skilled workmen.

It is obvious that various changes and modifications and variations may be made in practicing the invention, in departure from the particular showing of the drawings, without departing from the true spirit of the invention.

Having thus disclosed my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. In improvements of the character disclosed, a plurality of uprights, each comprising a channel iron member with one leg formed with a series of spaced flanges,

a sheathing secured to the other leg of each upright, and die members having marginal flanges adapted to be received between said spaced flanges.

- 5 2. In improvements of the character disclosed, a plurality of uprights, each comprising a channel iron member with one leg formed with a series of spaced flanges, a sheathing secured to the other leg of each

upright, die members having marginal 10 flanges adapted to be received between said spaced flanges, and means for detachably securing said marginal flanges to said spaced flanges.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my 15 name to this specification.

JAMES L. DAVIDSON.