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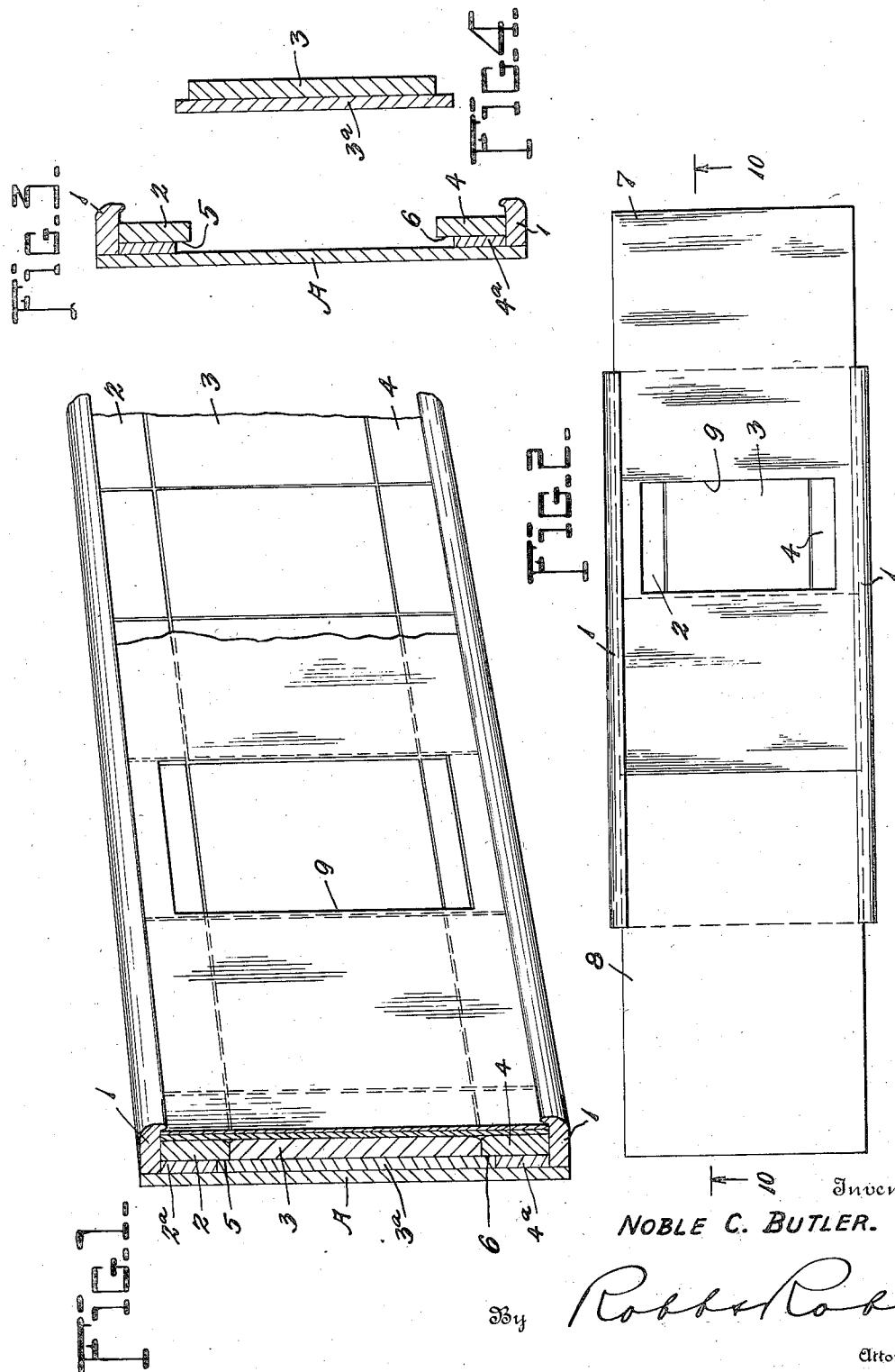
N. C. BUTLER

2,011,843

TILE AND FIXTURE DISPLAY APPARATUS

Filed July 13, 1934

3 Sheets-Sheet 1



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FIG. 5.

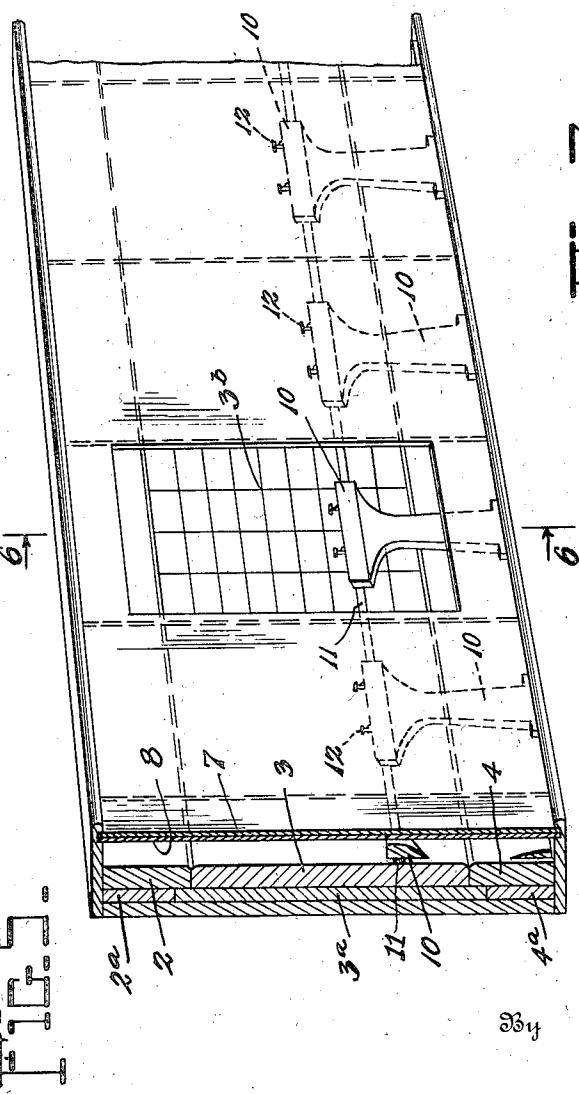


FIG. 8.

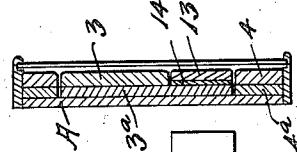
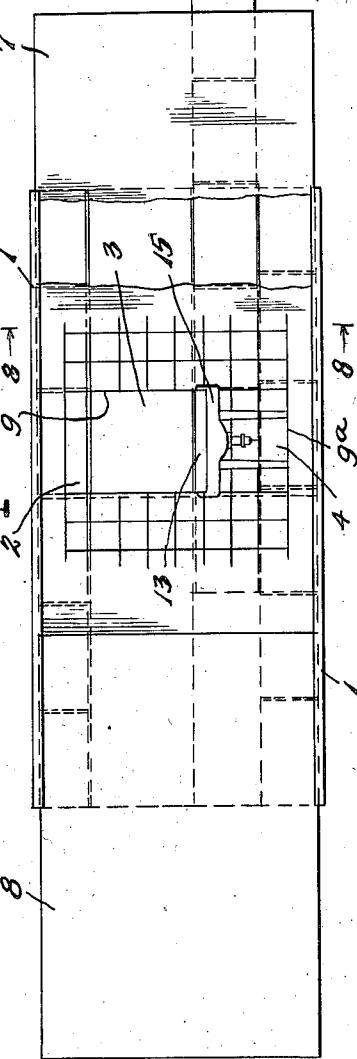


FIG. 7.



Inventor

NOBLE C. BUTLER.

By

Roger Codd

Attorneys

Aug. 20, 1935.

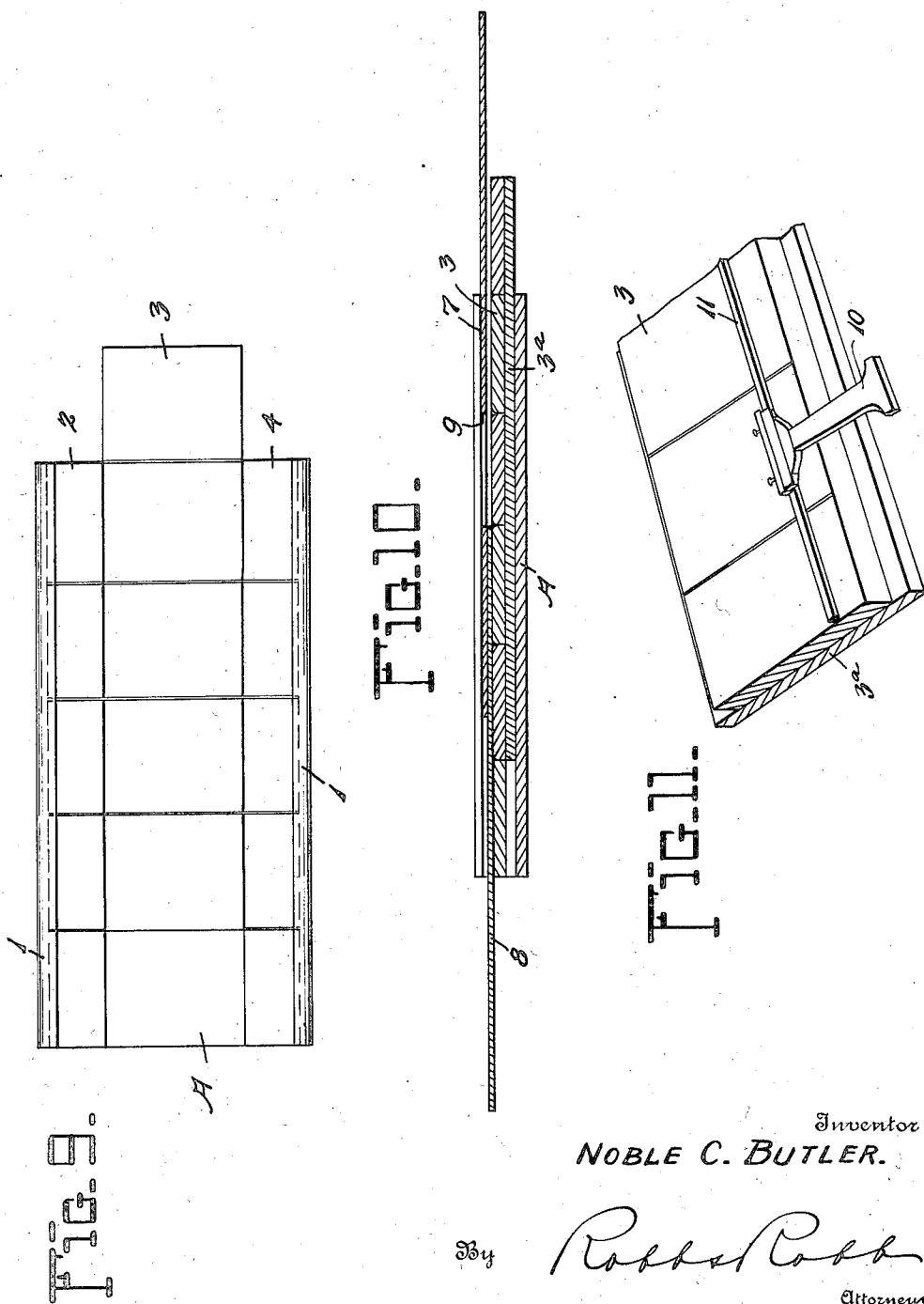
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TILE AND FIXTURE DISPLAY APPARATUS

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,011,843

TITLE AND FIXTURE DISPLAY APPARATUS

Noble C. Butler, Anderson, Ind., assignor to The National Tile Company, Anderson, Ind., a corporation

Application July 13, 1934, Serial No. 735,630

11 Claims. (Cl. 35—53)

In the selling of tile used on walls of bathrooms, kitchens, and in similar places, it is desirable to provide convenient means or apparatus for the purpose of readily displaying different colors of tile and/or different styles or colors of fixtures that may harmonize with the tile, for facilitating the selection of the tiles and fixtures that are to be built into the room or other structure.

10 The primary object of the present invention has been to devise an apparatus of the above kind.

While the apparatus of my invention may be made in miniature for convenience in handling and for carrying from place to place, in which event either full size or miniature sizes of tiles and fixtures may be employed, the invention is equally adapted for use in large size displays and the latter would be used especially in exhibition places.

20 In the carrying out of my invention I have designed a display apparatus wherein a relatively large number of color combinations can be employed by the use of tiles of different colors mounted on a suitable base or support, with certain of the tiles shiftable relatively to the others so as to bring into displayed relation the different colors of the tiles and thus enable a person to select the color combinations of the tiles which most appeal to his artistic taste. In like manner when the apparatus of the invention is built with display members in imitation of fixtures such as may be used in the bathroom, kitchen or elsewhere, such fixtures may be of different colors to imitate the realistic colors of metal or porcelain fixtures, and the fixture display members may likewise be movably supported and thus are adapted to be shifted into displayed relation to the differently colored tiles that will go to make up, for instance, the cap section, base section, and field section of wainscot such as may

25 be provided in a tile bathroom or other room or compartment. Indeed, the invention is adaptable to a construction for the display of wainscot that might run from the base of a room or a compartment to the ceiling, as the principle of the invention is fully adaptable to such a use.

30 Generally summarized, my invention comprises a suitable supporting base equipped with a plurality of relatively movable tile sections together with an associated primary or display shield equipped with a display opening through which portions of the said tile sections may be viewed when they are arranged in different relations or combinations of colors. Also, there is 35 preferably provided a secondary or cut-off shield

whereby to cover the main bodies of the different sections of tiles which are not to be displayed through the display opening of the said display shield. The said display shield is movable at times to certain positions by reason of the peculiar construction employed, in which positions, were it not for the cut-off shield, certain portions of the tile sections would be exposed to view, tending to confuse the user and viewer of the said display apparatus.

40 My invention involves other detailed features of construction and arrangement of parts, the purpose of which will be more fully apparent as this description proceeds, and an understanding of the display apparatus of my invention, disclosed in several modifications or forms, may be had upon reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a simplified embodiment of my invention, cut away and shown in section at one end and having the display and cut-off shields broken away near the opposite end to show more clearly the tile normally underneath or behind the same.

45 Figure 2 is a front elevation of the apparatus of Figure 1, showing the display shield adjusted to exhibit portions of the cap, field, and base sections of the tile, and showing the cut-off shield adjusted to cover or hide certain parts of these sections that would otherwise be revealed by reason of the adjustment of the display shield in the rightward position shown in the figure.

50 Figure 3 is a sectional view showing the base or back member of the shield, the top and bottom finishing and guide members for the apparatus, and the cap and base tile sections.

Figure 4 is a view similar to Figure 3, but showing the field or movable tile section which is adapted to operate between the cap and base tile sections of Figure 3.

55 Figure 5 is a perspective view, also in section, at the left-hand end illustrating in somewhat the same manner as Figure 1, a modified form of the apparatus wherein the several tile sections are associated with a fixture display section provided with a series of preferably differently colored fixture members that are adapted to be brought to view one at a time at the exhibit opening and thus placed in a related, realistic association with the tile sections, the apparatus for this purpose being provided with a special space between the tile sections and the shields in which space the fixture display section is disposed.

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Figure 6 is a sectional view taken about on the line 6—6 of Figure 5.

Figure 7 is a front elevation of a modified form of the invention wherein the fixture display is carried in part by the display shield.

Figure 8 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line 8—8 of Figure 7.

Figure 9 is a view of the construction illustrated in Figure 2 with the shields removed and disclosing the manner in which the tile sections may be shifted relatively to one another to bring different colors of tiles forming parts of said sections into view at the display opening.

Figure 10 is a horizontal, longitudinal section taken on the line 10—10 of Figure 2.

Figure 11 is a fragmentary perspective view bringing out a little more clearly the construction of the fixture display section showing one of the fixtures mounted thereon in association with the field tile section.

The simplified embodiment of my invention of Figures 1 to 4 and 9 and 10 will first be set forth. The apparatus is made of relatively few parts so as to be readily and cheaply manufactured and yet afford considerable facility of adjustment of the parts to give varied display effects as regards the color combinations of the tiles. I provide a base A equipped at its upper and lower edges with outstanding strips which act as guide members 1, and between the said members 1 are disposed the tile sections 2, 3, and 4. The tile section 2 is a cap section having in view the display purposes of the invention, the section 4 is a base section, and the section 3 is a field section, these sections having tiles in imitation of those which might be provided in many different places such as bathrooms, kitchens and the like. Preferably, the various tiles of each of the above sections will be of different colors, certain of the colors of the tiles of one section, however, corresponding with those of the others.

As one preferred means of assembling the sections 2, 3, and 4 upon the base A, I provide a fixed attachment strip 2a secured suitably to the base for the section 2, a similar fixed attachment strip 4a secured to the base for the section 4, and a movable attachment strip 3a slidable on the base A and carrying the tiles of the field section 3. The tiles of the cap section 2 project slightly downward beyond the strip 2a and the tiles of the section 4 project slightly upwardly beyond the fixed strip 4a of this section, thereby providing guide grooves 5 and 6 established by the projecting tiles and in which the upper and lower edges of the movable strip 3a for the field section 3 is adapted to operate or slide, as quite evident from Figures 3 and 4 of the drawings.

The parts which act as shielding members are the display shield 7 and the cut-off shield 8, these parts being largely of the same general dimensions and distinguished only in that the body of the cut-off shield is solid or un-interrupted whilst the body of the display shield is provided with a display opening designated 9, see Figures 1 and 2. The display opening 9 is of such a size that when the display shield 7 is disposed in an adjusted position such as illustrated in Figure 1, a portion of the tile of the cap section 2, substantially the whole area of the tile of the field section 3, and a portion of the tile of the base section 4 are visible. Now, of course, the adjustment of the shield 7 lengthwise of the apparatus in either direction from

a centralized position will cause exposure of certain of the tile members of the parts 2, 3, and 4 near the ends of the base A unless provision is made otherwise. Since the person viewing the apparatus might become confused by the exposure of tiles of different colors adjacent to those exhibited at the display opening 9, I preferably use the cut-off shield 8 previously mentioned, by which, as shown in Figure 2, for instance, when the shield 7 is adjusted in a rightward direction, the shield 8 may cover the tiles that would otherwise be exposed at the left end of the base A, all in a manner clearly seen from the drawings. In the arrangement of the parts in Figure 3 at the display opening 9 are visible portions of the cap and base section tiles which may be of the same color or different colors, and the tiles of the field section 3 may be of another color as desired by the person observing the apparatus. Figures 9 and 10 illustrate the disposition of the field section 3 adjusted to the right in relation to the cap and base sections, as to Figure 9 (with the shields removed) and a similar adjustment of the parts in Figure 10 but with the shields adjusted as shown in Figure 2.

It is possible in the employment of my invention to extend its usefulness by providing fixture members 10 carried by a fixture display section 11 as shown in Figures 5 and 6. The fixture members 10 may be miniature built fixture imitating parts, as for instance in the present case imitations of a porcelain lavatory. I provide on the fixture display section 11 which consists of a strip of suitable material, a plurality of fixture members which may take different forms but in the present case are miniature imitations of porcelain lavatory basins. Each of the fixture members 10 may have small elements 12 in imitation of faucets, to give realism to the display. The section 11 will slide in front of the field section 3 as seen in Figures 5 and 6, and the fixture members 10 will be attached or affixed to the part 11 in any substantial way. Now of course it would be possible to use a fixture member 10 in imitation of a refrigerator or in imitation of a cabinet such as disposed adjacent to a sink or a wall cabinet such as used for holding kitchen utensils, so that considerable latitude is allowed in this manner.

In Figure 5 the field section or panel 3 may be built up of miniature tiles if desired, as is illustrated at 3b, or an imitation of miniature tiles may be resorted to. Of course in the construction of Figures 5 and 6 the shields 8 and 9 are employed, but in this modification the said shields are spaced some distance from the sections 2, 3, and 4 to permit of the free movability of the fixture section 11 with its fixture members 10.

Passing now to Figures 7 and 8, a further modification of the invention is illustrated. Those parts which are the same as previously referred to are similarly numbered. In this modification I contemplate using beneath the field section of tiles 3 a special auxiliary section 13 having a base strip 14 freely movable in contact with the attachment strip 3a which carries the tiles of the field section. In this construction the display shield 7 has the desired display opening 9 previously referred to, and in addition thereto said shield has a secondary display opening designated 9a. On the outer surface of the shield 7, below the opening 9, there may be provided an illustration of a lavatory basin 15, and this illustration may be made by printing directly upon the

shield, or it is possible to apply to the shield a metallic member removably connected therewith. If metallic members are used, they may be provided in different colors and detachably engaged with the shield at the lower opening 9 in any convenient manner. The auxiliary tile section 13 comes into play in the apparatus of Figures 7 and 8 by the adjustment of the different colored tiles thereof opposite the opening 9 so as to render visible a portion of said tiles, as seen in Figure 7, which gives the appearance of the upper portion or top of the imitation fixture indicia or member 15. Thus, in Figure 7 there is shown one of the tiles of the cap section, a tile of the field section, a portion of the tile of the auxiliary tile section 13, and through the opening 9a at the bottom of the shield 7 there becomes visible a portion of the base section 4. By the above arrangement and by suitable manipulation of the parts as described 20 a very realistic ensemble of colored tiles making up a section of a wainscot and even imitating the fixture that may be desired to match the tiling of the wainscot, may be obtained.

The apparatuses of the modified construction 25 as hereinbefore set forth may be cheaply constructed, affording a very handy sales apparatus for the display of different colored effects in tile color combinations, and said apparatus, being portable, can be used either in miniature or in 30 full size for different kinds of exhibiting purposes. The tile sections 2, 3, 4 and 13 are in reality display sections.

The fixture members 10 are guided in their movement to be maintained in proper positions 35 relative to the tile sections by contact of the strip or part 11 with the section 3, and engagement of the lower ends of the members 10 with the upper side of the lower guide member 1.

It is to be understood that I use the expressions "display sections" and "tile sections" herein, and in my claims, in a generally comprehensive sense of included equivalency of structure, for the members 2, 3 and 4 might readily be "brick sections" of different tapestry brick imitation, or 45 panel sections of different wainscot structures, or they might carry paper in imitation of wall papers, etc.

Having thus described my invention, what I 50 claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. In tile display apparatus, in combination, a base, a plurality of tile display sections thereon including a section movable relatively to the other sections, said other sections being secured to said 55 base, guide members carried by the base, and a display shield movable on the guide members and over the said display sections and having a display opening for exposing to view portions of the tiles of said sections.

2. In tile display apparatus, in combination, a base, a plurality of tile display sections thereon including a section movable relatively to the other sections, guide members carried by the base, a display shield movable on the guide members and over the said display sections and having a display opening for exposing to view portions of the tiles of said sections, and a cut-off shield cooperating with the display shield for shutting off from view the parts of the display sections which would be exposed at points other than at the display opening by adjustments of the display shield.

3. In tile display apparatus, in combination, a base, a plurality of tile display sections thereon including a section movable relatively to the 75 other sections, guide members carried by the base,

a display shield movable on the guide members and over the said display sections and having a display opening for exposing to view portions of the tiles of said sections, and a display fixture section interposed between the display shield and the display sections and comprising a fixture member adapted to be exposed to view at said display opening. 5

4. In tile display apparatus, in combination, a base, a plurality of display sections of different colored tiles and including a section movable relatively to the other sections, guide members carried by the base, a display shield movable on the guide members and over the said display sections and having a display opening for exposing to view portions of the tiles of said sections, and a display fixture section interposed between the display shield and the display sections and comprising a plurality of differently colored fixture members adapted to be exposed to view at said display opening. 15

5. In tile display apparatus, in combination, a base, a plurality of tile sections thereon including a section movable relatively to the other sections, guide members carried by the base, a display shield movable on the guide members and over the said tile sections and having a display opening for exposing to view portions of the tiles of said sections, a cut-off shield cooperating with the display shield for shutting off from view the parts of the tile sections which would be exposed at points other than at the display opening by adjustments of the display shield, the said guide members being equipped with guide grooves facing each other and receiving opposite edges of the said shields, and said shields being spaced from the tile sections, and a display fixture section comprising a plurality of fixture members arranged to operate in said space provided between the shields and tile sections and adapted to be exposed at the display opening. 30

6. In tile display apparatus, in combination, a base, a plurality of display sections of different colored tiles and including a section movable relatively to the other sections, guide members carried by the base, a display shield movable on the guide members and over the said display sections and having a display opening for exposing to view portions of the tiles of said sections, and a display fixture section interposed between the display shield and the display sections and comprising a plurality of differently colored fixture members adapted to be exposed to view at said display opening, the display fixture section including a strip of material supporting the fixture members and movable in contact with one of the display sections. 50

7. In tile display apparatus, in combination, a base, a plurality of tile display sections thereon including a section movable relatively to the other sections, guide members carried by the base, a display shield movable on the guide members and over the said display sections and having a display opening for exposing to view portions of the tiles of said sections, a cut-off shield cooperating with the display shield for shutting off from view the parts of the display sections which would be exposed at points other than at the display opening by adjustments of the display shield, and means in imitation of a display fixture and associated with the display sections of the base. 60

8. In a display device of the class described, a flat panel base having guide channels along at least two edges thereof, display sections secured to said base simulating various cap, field, and 75

base tile associations, the edges of which are received in the guide channels, and a display shield having its edges also received in said guide channels and disposed in front of said display sections, 5 said shield being slideable over said display sections to selective positions and having a display opening therein through which a particular cap, field, and base tile association may be observed.

9. In a display device of the class described, a 10 flat panel base having guide channels along at least two edges thereof, display sections secured to said base simulating various cap, field, and base tile associations, the edges of which are received in the guide channels, a display shield having its edges also received in said guide channels and disposed in front of said display sections, said shield being slideable over said display sections to selective positions and having a display opening therein through which a particular cap, field, 15 and base tile association may be observed, and a second imperforate shield complementary to the first disposed in overlapping relation to said display shield and movable relatively thereto in said guide channels so as to cut off from view other parts of said display sections which otherwise would be exposed at points other than at the display opening in certain positions of the display shield.

10. In a display device of the class described, a 20 flat panel base having guide channels along at least two edges thereof, display sections secured to said base simulating various cap, field, and base tile associations, the edges of which are received in the guide channels, a display shield having its edges also received in said guide channels and disposed in front of said display sections, said shield being slideable over said display sections to selective positions and having a display opening therein through which a particular cap, field, 25 and base tile association may be observed, a second imperforate shield complementary to the first disposed in overlapping relation to said display shield and movable relatively thereto in said guide channels so as to cut off from view other parts of said display sections which otherwise would be exposed at points other than at the display opening in certain positions of the display shield.

11. In a display device of the class described, a 30

and base tile association may be observed, a second imperforate shield complementary to the first disposed in overlapping relation to said display shield and movable relatively thereto in said guide channels so as to cut off from view other parts of said display sections which otherwise would be exposed at points other than at the display opening in certain positions of the display shield, and a series of miniature fixture pieces 5 slidably mounted intermediate said shields and said display sections for selective adjustment into positions where they can be observed through said display shield opening in association with said display sections.

12. In a display device of the class described, a 10 flat panel base having guide channels along at least two edges thereof, display sections secured to said base simulating various cap, field, and base tile associations, the edges of which are received in the guide channels, a display shield having its edges also received in said guide channels and disposed in front of said display sections, said shield being slideable over said display sections to selective positions and having a display opening therein through which a particular cap, field, 15 and base tile association may be observed, a second imperforate shield complementary to the first disposed in overlapping relation to said display shield and movable relatively thereto in said guide channels so as to cut off from view other parts of said display sections which otherwise would be exposed at points other than at the display opening in certain positions of the display shield, and a miniature fixture piece carried by said display shield so as to occupy a position representing the 20 normal relation to the cap, field, and base tile associations exposed through the display opening.

NOBLE C. BUTLER