June 26, 1923. 1,460,332

J. TRIPP, JR

STORE FURNITURE

Filed Nov. 11, 1920 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

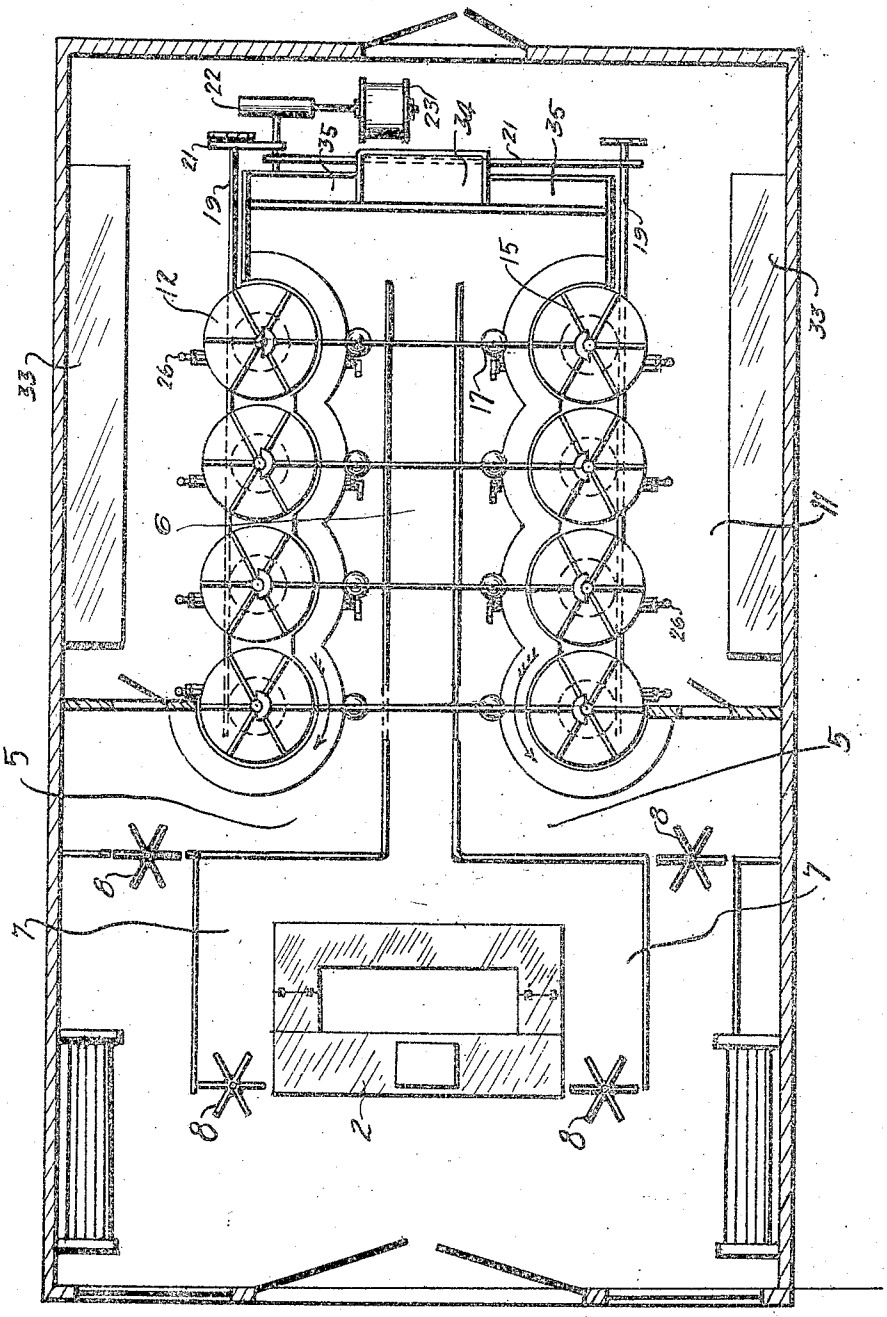


Fig. 1.

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Fig. 2.

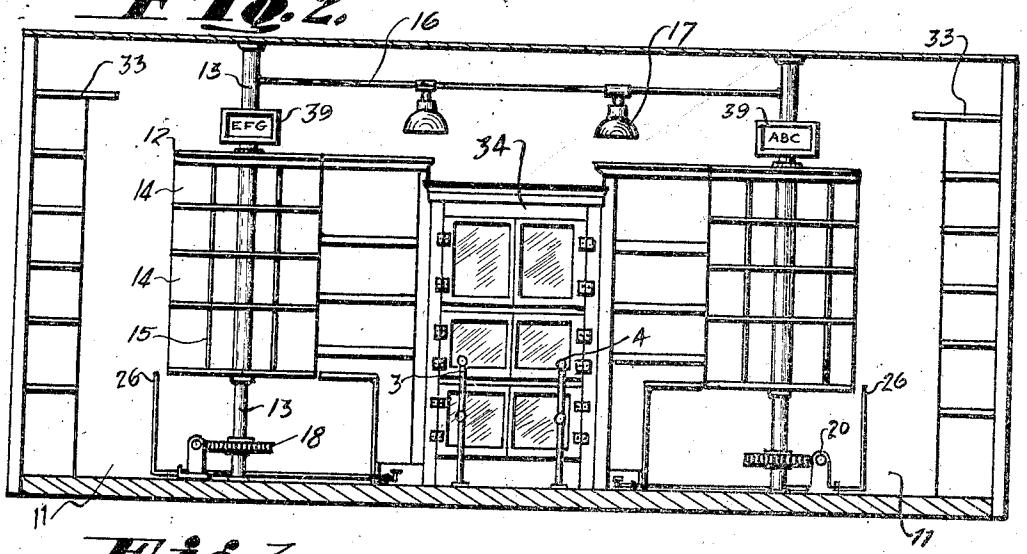


Fig. 3.

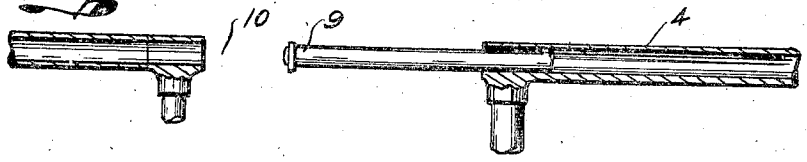


Fig. 4.

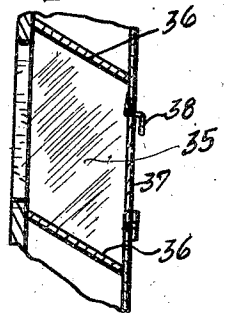
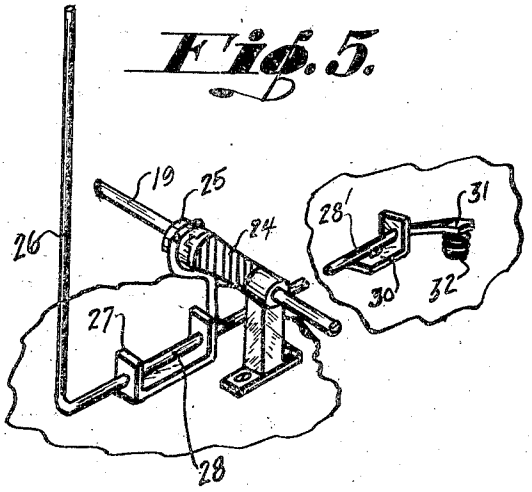


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JESSE TRIPP, JR., OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

STORE FURNITURE.

Application filed November 11, 1920. Serial No. 423,301.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JESSE TRIPP, JR., a citizen of the United States, residing at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Store Furniture, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to store furniture adapted to provide a system for stores whereby the goods to be sold are readily displayed to customers and they may help themselves to the articles which they desire.

The invention will be readily understood from the following description of the accompanying drawings, in which;

Figure 1 is a plan view of a store constructed in accordance with the invention.

Fig. 2 is a vertical section through the same taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a side elevation showing a detail of the store furniture.

Fig. 4 is a detail section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the clutch mechanism for one of the revolving display cases of the store.

The storeroom in which the improved store furniture is used is shown at 1 and is provided with suitable rails forming passages for the entrance of customers and exits for the customers past a cashier's desk 2. These rails may include the usual supports 3 carrying rail 4 and, preferably, divide the storeroom longitudinally into entrance passageways 5 at opposite sides of the medial line through the storeroom, and a return central passageway 6 communicating at the far end of the store with each of the passageways 5 and, preferably, branching into exit passageways 7 leading around opposite sides of the cashier's desk to the main door of the store.

Turnstiles 8 may be provided in the entrance passageways and in the exit passageways and the rails 4 dividing the passageways 5 from the central return passageway 6 may be provided with gates at their front end so that the customers may enter the return passageway 6 without going to the far end of the store and then returning through passageway 6. These gate ways may be formed by providing sliding bars 9 adapted to be retracted within hollow portions of rails 4 or withdrawn therefrom so as to close spaces 10 left in the rails 4.

Revolving cases for the merchandise to be sold are mounted at the sides of passageways 5 opposite the rails 4 so as to form a space between the cases and the rails through which the customers pass. These cases are also so positioned as to leave a passageway 11 in rear of the same through which employees may pass in order to reach the cases for filling the same. The revolving cases are shown at 12 as mounted upon supports 13 which, preferably, extend from the floor to the ceiling. The cases may include a plurality of shelves 14 arranged one above the other and, preferably, divided into compartments by radial partitions 15. The cases are rotatably mounted upon their supports by suitable antifriction bearings and the supports 13 may also carry cross rods 16 which in turn support lighting fixtures 17.

The revolving cases are so positioned relative to one another as to permit free turning of the same while preventing customers passing between the cases to the passageways 11 in rear thereof. The cases are continuously rotated by suitable driving connections which may include gears 18 fixed upon the supporting shafts of the cases so that rotation of the gears will turn the shafts and cases.

The driving connection for the gears of the cases at the respective sides of the store may include a driving shaft 19 extending lengthwise of the store and mounted in suitable shaft bearings 20. At the rear of the store the two driving shafts 19 are connected by suitable belts 21 to a reduction gear 22 which may be actuated in suitable manner as by an electric motor 23.

At each of the cases 12 a worm 24 is mounted upon shaft 19 and said worm meshes with the gear 18 of the rotatable shaft 19 by a usual jaw clutch 25 which is actuated by a lever 26 extending into passageway 11 and journaled in a suitable bracket 27. By this arrangement an employee of the store by actuating lever 26 may stop the rotation of the case controlled thereby when it is desired to restock the shelves of the case.

The actuating rod 28 controlled by lever 26 for operating clutch 25, preferably, also extends beyond the revolving case controlled

by the same into the passageway 5 as shown at 28'. This portion of the actuating rod may be journaled in a bracket 30 and is provided with a foot treadle 31 adapted to be depressed by the customer for disengaging clutch 25 so as to stop the rotation of the case. The foot treadle may be returned to normal position when the pressure of the foot is released by means of a spring 32. It will thus be seen that a customer may readily stop the rotation of one of the cases when it is desired to remove merchandise from the shelves thereof.

The walls of the storeroom may be provided with stock shelves 33 from which an employee standing in passageway 11 may conveniently stock the shelves of the cases 12. At the rear of the store beyond the ends of passageways 5 and return passage 6, a refrigerator 34 for perishable articles of merchandise may be provided, and at the sides thereof bins 35 for fruits and vegetables may be arranged. These bins are, preferably, provided with rearwardly downwardly sloping tops and bottoms 36, and hinged doors 37 provided with latches 38 may be provided for the backs of the bins.

In order that customers may be advised as to the location of various articles of merchandise, the goods are preferably classified when placed upon the shelves of the cases, and indexes are provided for the respective cases. These indexes are preferably placed in suitable frames 39 mounted upon the supports 13 of the cases.

Various changes may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed is:

The combination, in a store, of upright merchandise receiving cases, said cases being arranged in two rows, which rows are spaced apart from each other and from the walls of the store to form passageways for customers and for employees, means for simultaneously rotating all of the cases in the two rows, and means associated with said rotating means for selectively stopping the rotation of any one case from the intermediate passageway or the passageways between said cases and the walls of the store.

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

JESSE TRIPP, JR.