

Dec. 6, 1927.

A. ASHKENAS

1,651,940

ADJUSTABLE PARTITION SUPPORT

Filed Aug. 13, 1926

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

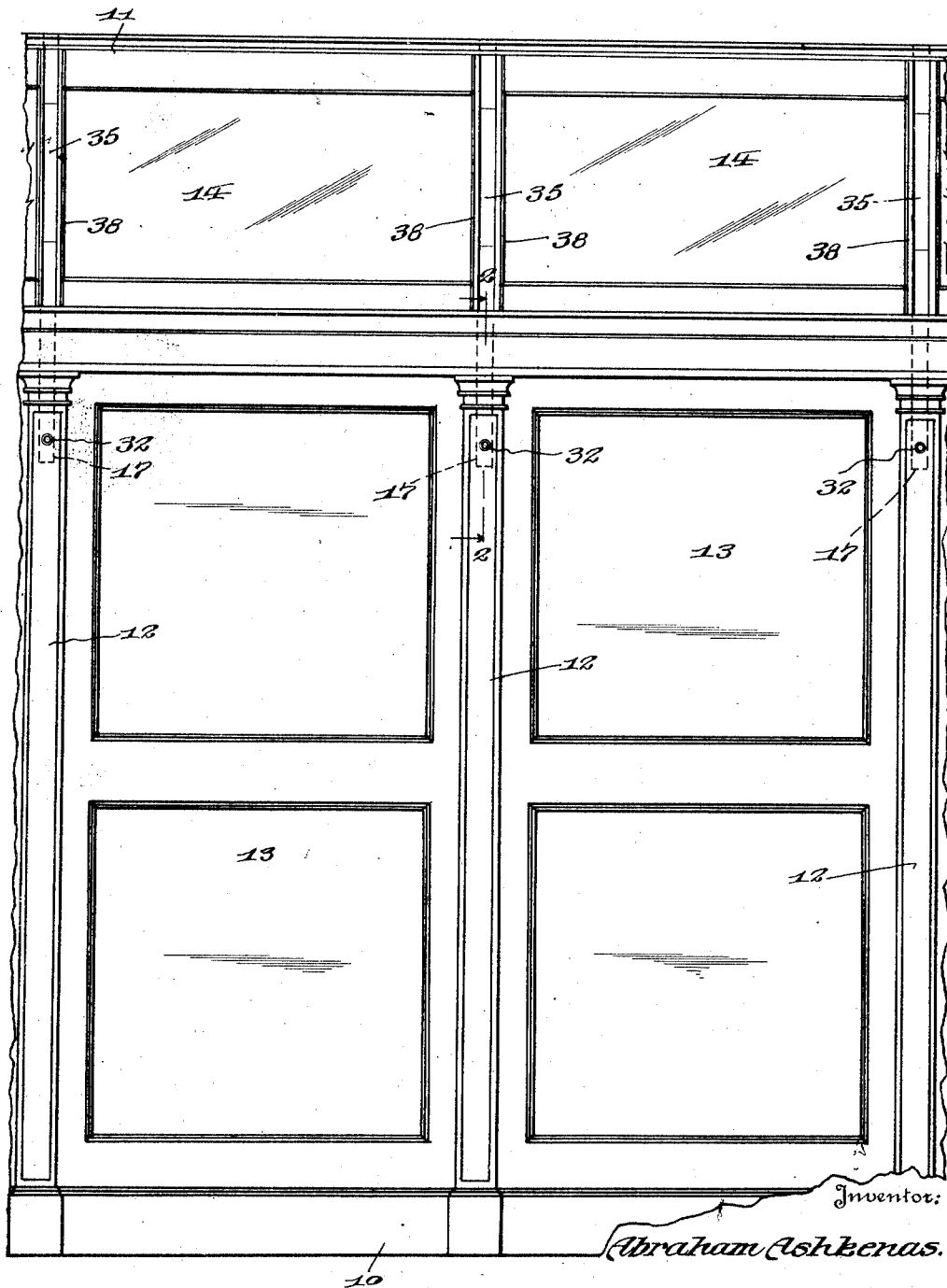


Fig. 1.

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Fig. 2.

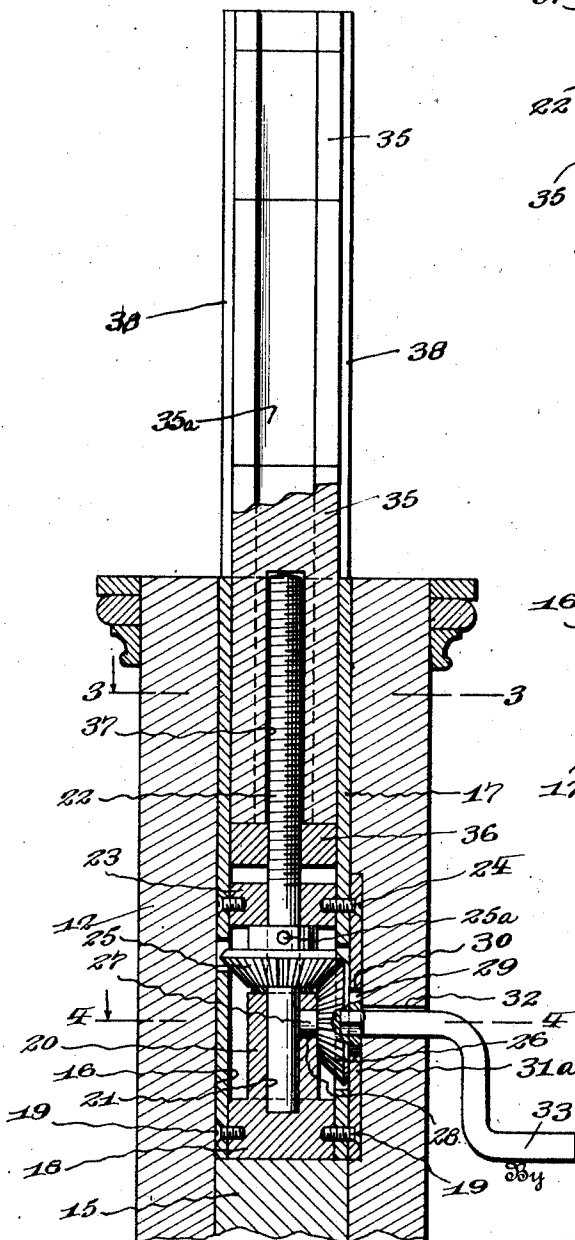
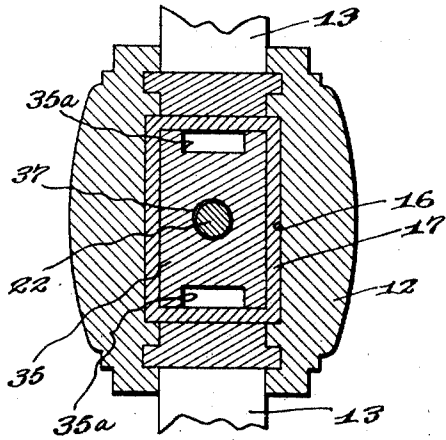


Fig. 3.

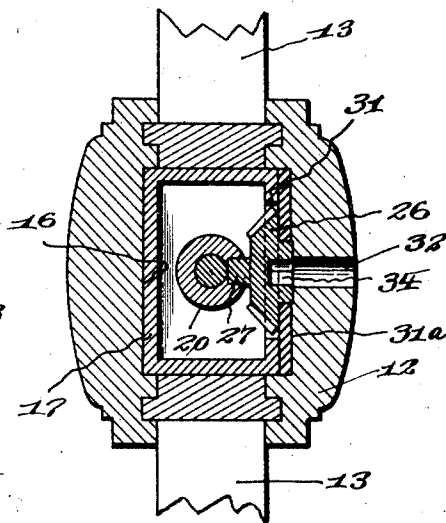


Fig. 4.

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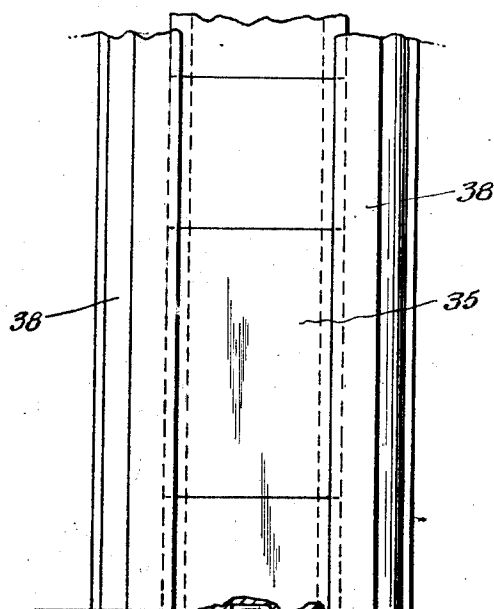


Fig. 5.

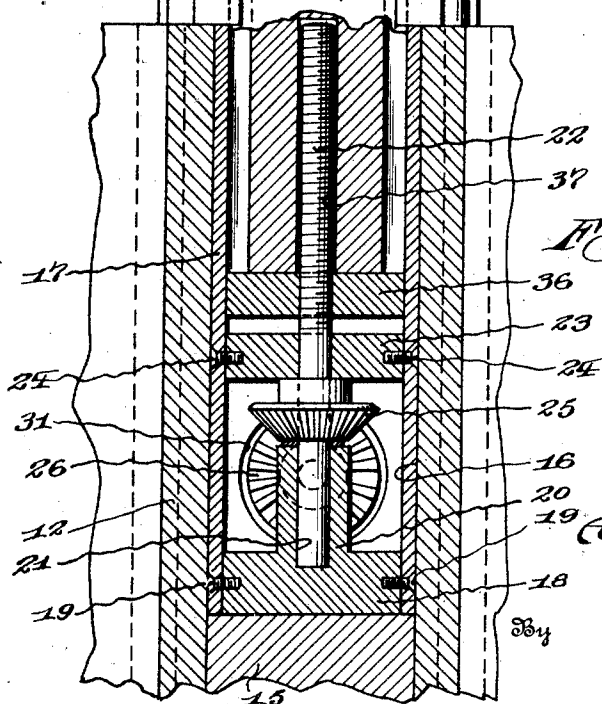
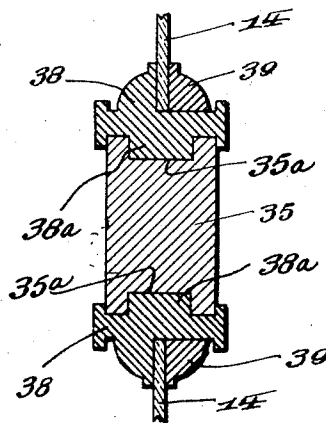


Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABRAHAM ASHKENAS, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

ADJUSTABLE PARTITION SUPPORT.

Application filed August 13, 1926. Serial No. 123,961.

The present invention relates generally to partition construction but specifically has to do with improved means for anchoring or placing temporary room-dividing units, such as partitioning or the like, within a building wherein it becomes necessary to divide space within a room for office purposes or the like.

Hitherto the preferred practice has been to purchase partitioning in sections and in the event the room is to be completely divided from floor to ceiling, said floor and ceiling must be mutilated to effect a more or less attachment of said partitions. Obviously there comes a time when this particular division of space is either unsuited for the instant occupant or he departs for other quarters and as the tenant himself under most circumstances is the owner of the partitioning it is invariably removed and the condition of the room thereafter is a consideration.

Forgetting for the moment the possible removal of the partitioning, one is confronted with the changes in a particular building, such as those which attend a change of temperature and particularly is this true in new buildings wherein a constant drying out of materials used in constructing said building takes place. The partitioning is but another wall in the room and like all other similar structures it must assume its proportionate share of strains and stresses attending the changes aforesaid. The partitioning is made in most instances from well-seasoned lumber and due to its position in the room acts as an abutment unwilling to absorb any shrinkage or expansion in a new building. Oftentimes the expansion or contraction may seem infinitesimal but such change when applied to the portions of a partition which engage the floor or side walls and ceiling of a room becomes a serious factor in view of the fact that most partitioning contains a goodly portion of glass and the effect of any pressure thereon may well be imagined. Partitioning is composite in nature and the various parts, such as the paneling and mortised joints, must react to the detriment of the former.

An important object of this invention is to provide novel and improved means for securing the partition sections in position, wherein the use of fastening devices, such as nails or screws is obviated.

Another object is the provision of means for adjustably securing the partitioning in place under a two-point contact system, and thus it is possible to insert and adjust a partition and also to readily remove or change the same from one position to another and alter the dimensions of the room according to the particular requirements.

A still further object resides in the improved idea to provide removable parts consisting of extensible spaced supporting means concealed from view and yet readily operable when desired.

A further object of the invention is to provide a removable partition embodying extensible means, and certain improvements in fitting and details whereby a neat and attractive construction will be produced and which may be readily assembled and disassembled and moved to other rooms or buildings.

Briefly in carrying out my invention I provide a partitioning with a series of posts or pilasters, which latter are connected by a series of paneling or sections which are given decorative effects, said post or pilaster being hollow to contain the operating parts of a structure as will presently appear.

With these objects in view, together with others which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the novel formation, combination and arrangement of parts, all as will be described more fully hereinafter, illustrated in the drawings and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In said drawings:

Figure 1 is an elevation of a portion of a partition constructed in accordance with my invention and extending from the floor to the ceiling.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged vertical sectional view taken substantially on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, the upper sections being shown in elevation.

Fig. 3 is a transverse section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a similar section but taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is an elevation, partly in section; the sectional portion thereof being taken at right angles to Fig. 2; and

Fig. 6 is a typical transverse section of the sections and molding carrying the same.

Referring now more specifically to the ac-

companying drawings, it will be observed upon inspection of Fig. 1, that my partitioning comprises essentially two portions, denoted generally by the numerals 10 and 11 respectively.

The portion 10 may be considered the ordinary style of partitioning which in most instances extends approximately seven feet from the floor, while the other section 11 fills the space between the former section 10 and the ceiling. My improved partition support is especially designed for this type of structure and further comprises a plurality of pilasters 12 which terminate adjacent the top of the lower portion 10 and are constructed to lend beauty to the structure.

The spaces between the pilasters 12 may be filled with suitable paneling 13, either glass or wood as conditions or fancy dictates. The upper portion 11 I prefer to provide with glass paneling 14 for the admission of light but here wood may be used.

In order to produce a stable and rigid structure the lower central portion of each of the pilasters 12 is provided with a core 15 (see Figs. 2 and 5), said core terminating short of said top portion of each pilaster 12 to define a socket 16 therein and it is these sockets which receive the means for effecting the vertical adjustment of the supporting means and since said means is common to all pilasters it is thought a description of one will suffice.

Said operating means is composite in nature and comprises a casing 17 fitting snugly within said socket 16, its lower end resting on said core 15 while its upper end terminates flush with the top of the portion 10. A bearing member 18 is secured to said casing 17, as indicated at 19, said bearing member being provided with an upwardly directed extension 20 having an axial bore 21 for the reception of the lower end of a non-travelling screw 22, the latter also being journaled in a cross-piece 23 rigidly carried by said casing 17, screws 24 being used for this purpose.

Disposed between said cross-piece 23 and extension 20 is a beveled gear 25 fixedly secured to said shaft 22, as indicated at 25^a, said gear meshing with a similar gear 26 having its pintle-like extension 27 journaled within an aperture 28 in said extension 20, while its hub portion 29 is supported within an opening 30 in the cover plate 31^a, (see Fig. 2). In order to effect a neat and compact arrangement one side of the casing 17 is apertured, as at 31 so that the gear 26 may fit therein. As noted in Fig. 2 the pilaster is provided with an aperture 32 into which may be inserted a crank 33 for operating said gears, the inner portion of said crank being squared to engage a similarly disposed socket 34 in said gear 26. From the foregoing it is obvious that the operation of said crank 33

imparts a rotary motion to said screw 22 through the medium of the beveled gearing 25—26.

The direct supporting means of my device comprises a plurality of sections 35 which correspond to the cross-sectional area of said casing 17 and one or more of said sections may be inserted within said casing to rest on a block 36, the latter having a threaded central aperture for the reception of said screw 22, and as shown in the drawings the lowermost sections may be provided with a central bore 37 to loosely receive said screw. It is now quite obvious that when the screw 22 rotates said block 36 rises and falls within the casing in accordance with the manipulation of the crank 33 and naturally such reciprocatory motion is imparted to said blocks 35 and as noted in the drawings the sections 35 must be provided with some sort of guide above the lower portion 10 of the partition. I have provided such means for guiding said sections 35, in the form of a molding 38 positioned at the opposite sides of the sections and presenting inwardly directed tongues 38^a fitting within grooves 35^a in said sections. The structural arrangement and combination of these parts will be clearly understood upon inspection of Fig. 6 and it will be observed that the glass paneling 14 is also secured to said moulding 38 and is held therein through the medium of the strips 39.

As mentioned hereinbefore each and every pilaster 12 is preferably provided with my supporting means and it is quite obvious that the sections 35 may be raised or lowered so that the upper most of the sections engages a ceiling and thus firmly anchors the partition in place. The sections 35 may be arranged at different heights in order to build up the requisite number to substantially fill the gap between the block 36 and the ceiling.

The more general practice has been to terminate partitions approximately seven foot high, and to secure same in a rigid position at its base by nails and a rail or moulding at its top to retain same into a proper alignment, and when seclusion is desired, said partition is continued up to a ceiling; to accomplish said extension, much of the work of the said seven foot partition must be removed and the supports lengthened and secured to the ceiling also by nails; and when said partition becomes loose from drying out, it causes a shrinkage and a misfit and loose partition, which becomes very difficult to refit and tighten and to replace the effects or defacement caused thereby.

With my solid post or pilasters installed, no hindrance to the erection of a seven foot partition is present, but and whenever it is desired to place an extension between the top of said seven foot partition and the ceiling, all that is necessary is to place my operating parts in said solidly builtup posts or pilas-

ters, as shown, and operate the means aforesaid; when a binding effect takes place at two points, top and bottom, respectively, the upper bind against said ceiling, and the lower bind at the base, which binding means that any degree of rigidity for said posts or pilasters may be obtained by operating crank 33, all of which is accomplished when erecting said extension without the removal or destruction of a single piece of material from said seven foot partition or the use of a single nail or one bit of disfiguration, and should a dry-out or shrinkage occur, or a partition erected embodying my device ever become loose or wobbly, all that is necessary is to place crank 33 in place and operate same until a degree of rigidity is obtained, there being no parts of a partition to be removed when a tightening up or rigidity is desired; when said partition is to be removed for any reason, it is only necessary to insert crank 33 and turn same to reduce any rigidity present, when the partition may be removed, leaving a non-nail punctured floor and ceiling.

Having set forth in the foregoing, the principal functioning and results obtained by my device, one can readily perceive the great saving of time and expense in constructing, or the removal of a partition equipped therewith.

In view of the foregoing it is obvious that the same is a disclosure of the preferred embodiment of the invention, and it is, therefore, to be understood that the invention is not limited thereto, as manifestly various changes in the minor details of construction, proportion and arrangement of parts may be

resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. An adjustable pilaster comprising a casing secured to the interior of said pilaster, a slidable section arranged within said casing, a block having a threaded aperture positioned at the base of said section, a second block secured to said casing, a non-travelling screw threadedly engaging the block carried by said section, means for rotating said screw for imparting reciprocatory motion to said section, and means for guiding the ascent and descent of said section.

2. An adjustable pilaster comprising a casing secured to the interior of said pilaster, a reciprocating section telescopically arranged within said casing, a block having a threaded aperture positioned at the base of said section a second block secured to said casing, a non-travelling screw threadedly engaging the block carried by said section and means for rotating said screw for imparting reciprocatory motion to said section.

3. An adjustable pilaster comprising a casing secured to the interior of said pilaster, a slidable section arranged within said casing, a block supporting said section and slidably mounted in said casing and having a threaded aperture, a non-traveling screw threadedly engaging said block, means for rotating said screw for imparting reciprocatory motion to said section, and guide means for said section.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ABRAHAM ASHKENAS.