June 4, 1957 E. F. SCHILD 2,794,555

SHELF WITH REPLACEABLE SURFACE

Filed Aug. 31, 1954

Fig. 1.

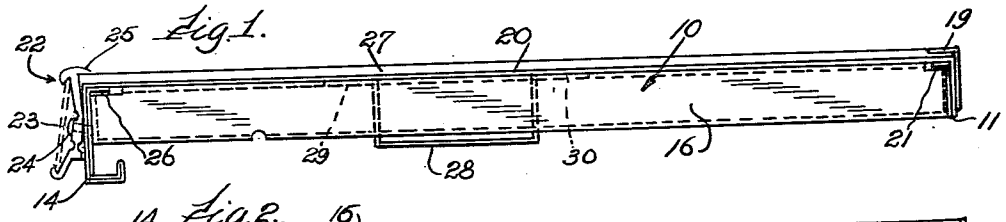



Fig. 2.

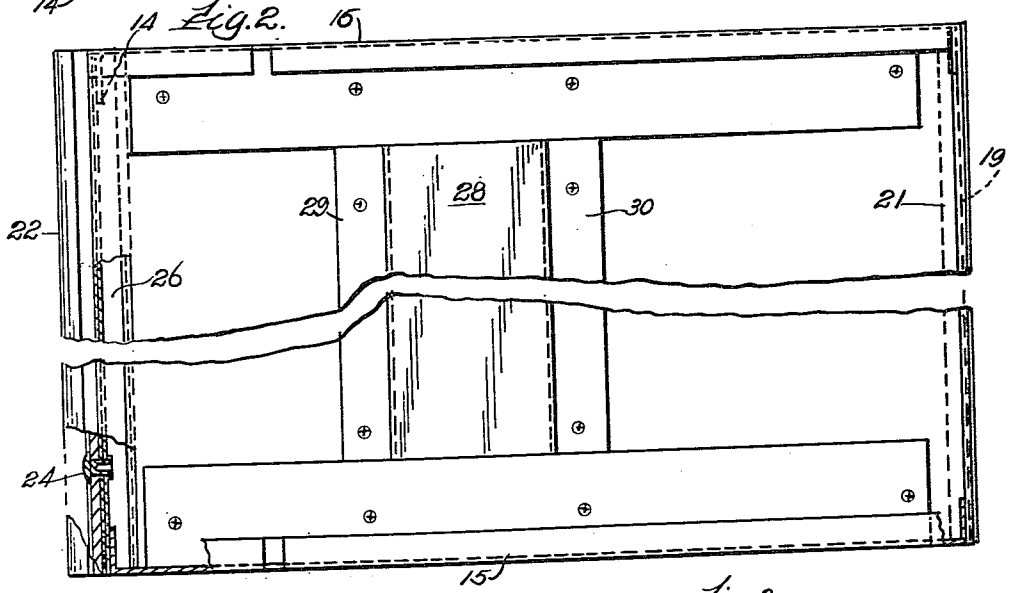



Fig. 3.

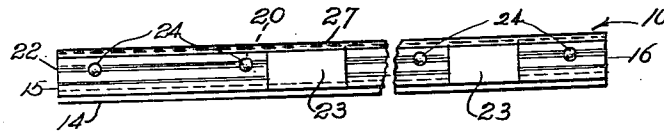



Fig. 4.

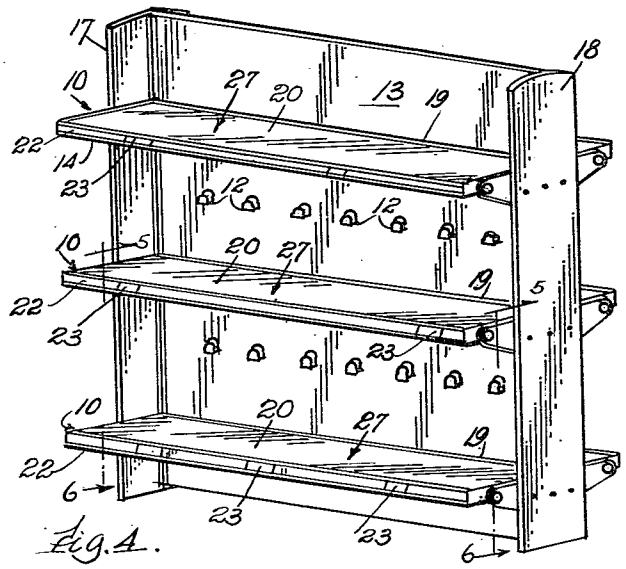



Fig. 5.

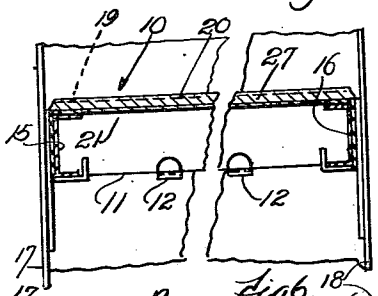
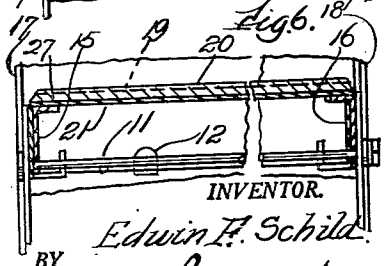



Fig. 6.




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# SHELF WITH REPLACEABLE SURFACE

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Application August 31, 1954, Serial No. 453,349

1 Claim. (Cl. 211—135)

My invention relates to a shelf having a surface which may be replaced when desired, by a new surface.

In food stores and super markets where there is a very heavy use of shelves displaying goods for sale, the top surfaces of the shelves become worn, discolored, scratched and distorted. Because such stores require a high degree of neatness and attractiveness for the sale of their products, such equipment heretofore had to be replaced or entirely refinished. This was a great economic waste because much of the shelving should have been saved. The main replacement need was the tops or surfaces of the shelves. It is among the objects of my invention to provide shelving construction in which the top portions may be removable and replaceable. This results in substantial economies in saving the rest of the shelving equipment.

My invention also contemplates such other objects, advantages and capabilities which will later more fully appear, and which are inherently possessed by my invention.

While I have shown in the accompanying drawings a preferred embodiment of my invention, yet it is to be understood that the same is susceptible of modification and change without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, Fig. 1 is an end elevational view of my shelf with replaceable surface; Fig. 2 is a bottom view partly broken and in section; Fig. 3 is a front elevational view on a reduced scale; Fig. 4 is a perspective view of my shelf as support in an illustrative construction; Fig. 5 is a detailed broken sectional view on line 5—5 of Fig. 4; and Fig. 6 is a detailed broken sectional view on line 6—6 of Fig. 4.

The embodiment selected to illustrate my invention comprises a shelf body member **10** having a downwardly extending rear flange **11** adapted to engage the spaced cut lugs or seats **12** formed in rear wall **13**. Body member **10** also has a downwardly extending front flange **14**. Body member **10** is bent back on itself for double thickness and added strength throughout flanges **11** and **14**. Downwardly extending side flanges **15** and **16** are attached to body member **10** by spot welding or other suitable means and are adapted to engage spaced uprights **17** and **18**.

Since my invention is concerned with the shelf, it may be removably attached in any suitable manner to any desired support.

Attached by spot welding or other suitable means to rear flange **11** is retainer **19** which extends above the top level **20** of body member **10**, and then is bent inwardly at right angles thereto and extends substantially parallel with the doubled back end **21** of body member **10**.



A front molding **22** inwardly curved and slotted on its outer portion for the reception and holding of removable advertising tickets **23** is attached to front flange **14** by spaced rivets **24** or any other suitable attaching means. The upper portion of molding **22** extends above top level **20** of body member **10** and has an inwardly bent lip **25** extending substantially parallel with the doubled back end **26** of body member **10**.

A surface member **27** of pressed wood, fiber board, linoleum, metal or other suitable material of a thickness sufficiently less than the heights of retainer **19** and lip **25** is slid into position covering surface **20** of body member **10**. It is held in position by retainer **19** and lip **25**.

When it is worn or damaged or change is desired for any reason, surface member **27** may be removed and another inserted. A U-shaped member **28** has spaced extensions **29** and **30** attached by spot welding or other suitable means to the under-surface of body member **10** for strengthening the same and preventing buckling thereof due to heavy loads.

It is within the contemplation of my invention that either one of the retainer **19** or lip **25** on molding **22** be eliminated so that there is but a single retaining means for surface member **27**.

My retaining means may be in the form of retainers similar to retainer **19** but attached to flanges **15** and **16** for the removable reception of surface member **27**.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

A display shelf for heavy use in super markets in which the top surface member of the shelf becomes worn, discolored and scratched from heavy use and may be promptly replaced by a new, neat, attractive surface member comprising a rectangular metal body member having a flat body portion and integral front and rear downwardly extending flanges, a retainer attached to said rear flange and extending above said flat body portion and then bending inwardly at substantially right angles thereto and extending substantially parallel with said body portion, a front molding attached to said front flange and extending above said flat body portion, and having a lip at its upper end extending inwardly at substantially right angles thereto and substantially parallel with said body portion, and a removable and replaceable surface member positioned on top of said body portion and of a thickness sufficiently less than the height of said molding and said retainer above said body portion to extend beneath and be removably held by said lip and said retainer, said surface member slidably and immediately removable from said body portion and under said lip and said retainer and replaceable with another surface member.

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