B. W. KLEIN.

SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT AND CUSTOMER'S WAITING ROOM THEREFOR.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 6, 1919.

1,399,390. Patented Dec. 6, 1921.

Fig: 1.

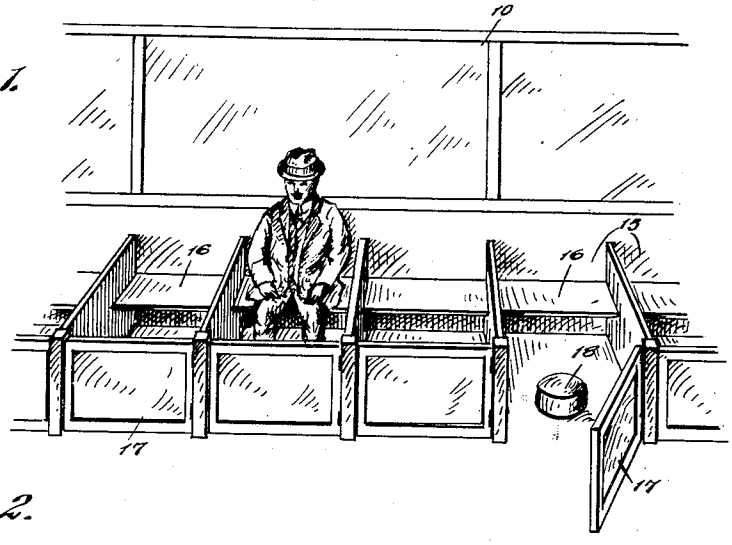


Fig: 2.

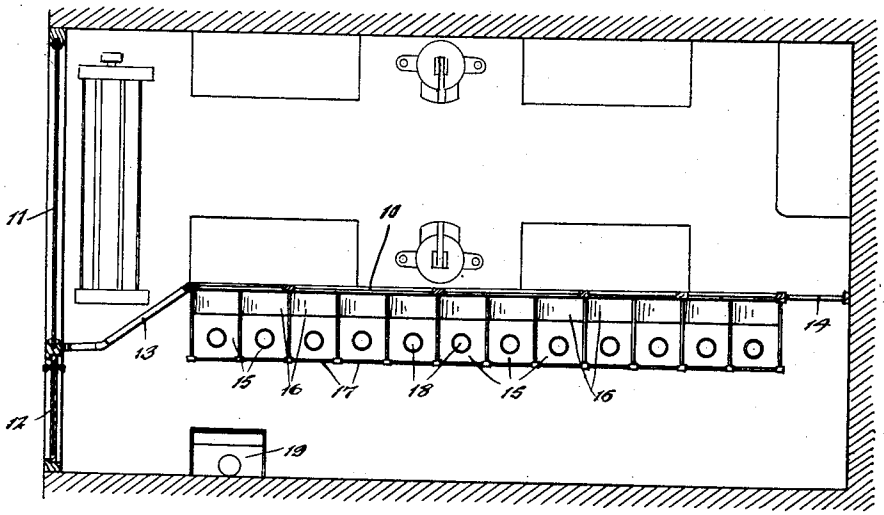
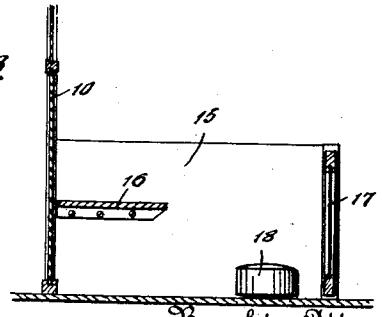


Fig: 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT AND CUSTOMER'S WAITING-ROOM THEREFOR.

1,399,390. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 6, 1921.

Application filed December 6, 1919. Serial No. 343,068.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN W. KLEIN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the borough of Manhattan, city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Service Establishments and Customers' Waiting-Rooms Therefor, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to improvements in service establishments and customers' waiting rooms therefor, and particularly in shoe repair shops. An object of the invention is to provide a shop of this character in which customers may have privacy while changing their shoes, and may wait comfortably and with their unshod feet hidden from view while they wait for their shoes to be repaired, and also with which their wants may be readily ascertained by an attendant especially trained for this purpose, who receives the shoes from the customers and returns them when they are repaired. A further object is to provide a shop in which the checking up of customers entering and leaving the shop, the work done, the issuing of checks for charges, and the making of payments for work done, may be simplified and so systematized as to render the operation of the shop efficient, time and labor saving, and with the greatest comfort, accommodation and convenience for the customers.

To this end I propose to provide in the shop, preferably in a portion thereof partitioned from the workroom, a plurality of individual booths, each having a seat therein and of such height as to inclose the lower parts of the body when the customer is seated, while at the same time exposing the upper parts of the body so that he is free to look about the shop and will not therefore become disinterested or wearied as he otherwise would if his whole person were inclosed, while at the same time the booth affords sufficient privacy for the feet and limbs so that the customer is relieved from any embarrassment in removing and replacing his shoes.

With these and other objects in view, an embodiment of my invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, and this embodiment will be hereinafter more fully described with reference thereto, and the invention will be finally pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing a part of the shop and several of the individual booths according to the present embodiment of my invention;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the shop; and

Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view through one of the booths.

Similar reference characters indicate corresponding parts throughout the several figures of the drawings.

Referring to the drawings, the embodiment of my invention shown therein, comprises a room divided longitudinally by a partition 10, the front wall of the room having preferably a show window 11 therein and an entrance door 12, the workroom portion of the shop at one side of the partition being at the show window side so that persons upon the street may look into the shop and see the same in operation. This proves to be a considerable attraction from an advertising standpoint. The partition may extend entirely to the door, or adjacent the door there may be a railing 13 as shown, separating the shop from the customer's waiting room. Preferably, however, the arrangement is such that the customer will not of his own initiative come into contact with or enter into conversation with the workmen, and to this end the partition preferably extends the full length of the room; or, on the other hand, an attendant may be stationed within the rail to receive the shoes to be repaired from an attendant in the customer's waiting room, and either of these attendants will direct the customer to one of the individual booths. A door 14 is provided in the partition from the customer's waiting room to the workroom at any suitable or convenient point.

The booths 15 are arranged adjacent each other and extend along the partition, or they may, if desired, be arranged along the side wall. In a shop of sufficient size, the booths can be arranged in two rows, back to back along the center of the room. The booths are of sufficient height to cover the lower portion of the body when the customer is seated, that is, they are about twenty-eight inches high and are provided at their inner ends with seats 16, and at the forward ends

with swinging doors 17 preferably mounted on spring hinges and adapted to swing in either direction. A hassock or cushion 18 is provided within the booth for the customer to rest his unshod feet on.

At a convenient location within the customer's waiting room, there is provided a cashier's cage 19 where the customer may pay his check for services, the check having been handed to him by the attendant. The partition may, if desired, have transparent glass panels therein so that the customers may see the workmen at work while at the same time they are separated from them. The fact that the customers see the men working upon their shoes, and the efficient and high-grade manner in which the work is done, inspires confidence in the quality of the work.

With my improvements, polite, efficient and rapid service may be rendered, the customer may wait for his repairing to be done in comfort and without embarrassment, and the inducement to have one's old shoes repaired is stimulated, and conservation is encouraged.

I have illustrated and described a preferred and satisfactory embodiment of my invention, but it is obvious that changes may be made therein within the spirit and scope thereof as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A shoe repair shop comprising an inclosure, a partition in the inclosure defining divided compartments therein, one compartment being adapted for use as a work-room and the other compartment being adapted for use as a waiting-room, a plurality of booths arranged in said waiting-room compartment for individually housing customers, said partition having an opening therein and said booths having relatively low walls to permit an attendant to carry shoes between the customer and said work-room and to quickly determine the entrance and position of customers in said waiting-room.

2. A shoe repair shop comprising an inclosure, a partition dividing the inclosure into separate compartments, one compartment being adapted for use as a work-room and the other compartment being adapted for use as a waiting-room, booths arranged in said waiting-room for individually receiving customers therein and having relatively low walls adapted to close in the lower portion of a person to obscure unshod feet and to expose to view the upper part of a person, whereby an attendant working between the compartments may quickly ascertain the entrance and location of customers in the booths, said inclosure having a window in its wall at one side of the compartment through which prospective customers may view the work-room and having a door in its wall at the other side of the partition through which customers may enter the inclosure without access to the work-room.

3. A shoe repair shop comprising an inclosure, a partition arranged in the inclosure to provide separated compartments, one compartment being adapted for use as a work-room and the other compartment being adapted for use as a waiting-room, a plurality of booths arranged in the waiting-room for accommodating customers during the repairing of shoes, said partition having transparent portions therein arranged in line of view between the work-room and the booths whereby customers in the booths may inspect repair operations carried on in the work-room, said booths having relatively low walls whereby the lower part of the customer is obscured from view and the upper part of the customer exposed and whereby an attendant collecting shoes from the customers may observe location and entrance of customers in the booths and the customers may readily inspect the work-room through said transparent portions of the partition.

4. A shoe repair shop comprising an inclosure, a partition arranged in the inclosure to provide a pair of separate compartments adapted for use as a work-room and a waiting-room respectively, a plurality of booths arranged along one side of the partition in the waiting-room and said partition providing inclosure for the rear ends of all of said compartments, said booths having relatively low walls for permitting ready inspection of the booths by an attendant as to the location and entrance of customers.

5. A shoe repair shop comprising an inclosure, a partition arranged in the inclosure to provide a pair of independent compartments, one compartment being adapted for use as a work-room and the other compartment being adapted for use as a waiting-room, a plurality of booths arranged in said waiting-room adapted to accommodate customers and having relatively low walls permitting ready inspection of the customers by an attendant, said inclosure having in its front wall a window of greater width than that of the work-room compartment and arranged opposite thereto and said partition being offset into the waiting-room compartment, said window being adapted to permit inspection of said booths by prospective customers exteriorly of the inclosure, and said front wall of the inclosure having an entrance and exit door therein opposite said waiting-room compartment through which prospective customers are permitted to enter said waiting-room subsequently to inspection of the work-room and the booths through said window.

6. In a service establishment, an inclosure, a partition in the inclosure defining sepa-

rate compartments and having an opening therethrough inter-communicating the compartments and provided with a transparent portion through which inspection of the compartments may be made one from the other, and a plurality of booths arranged in one compartment and having relatively low walls for exposing the upper part of persons in the booths, said transparent portion of the partition and said low walls of the booth permitting an attendant passing between the compartments to quickly determine the entrance and positions of persons in the booths.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention, I have signed my name hereunder.

BENJAMIN W. KLEIN.