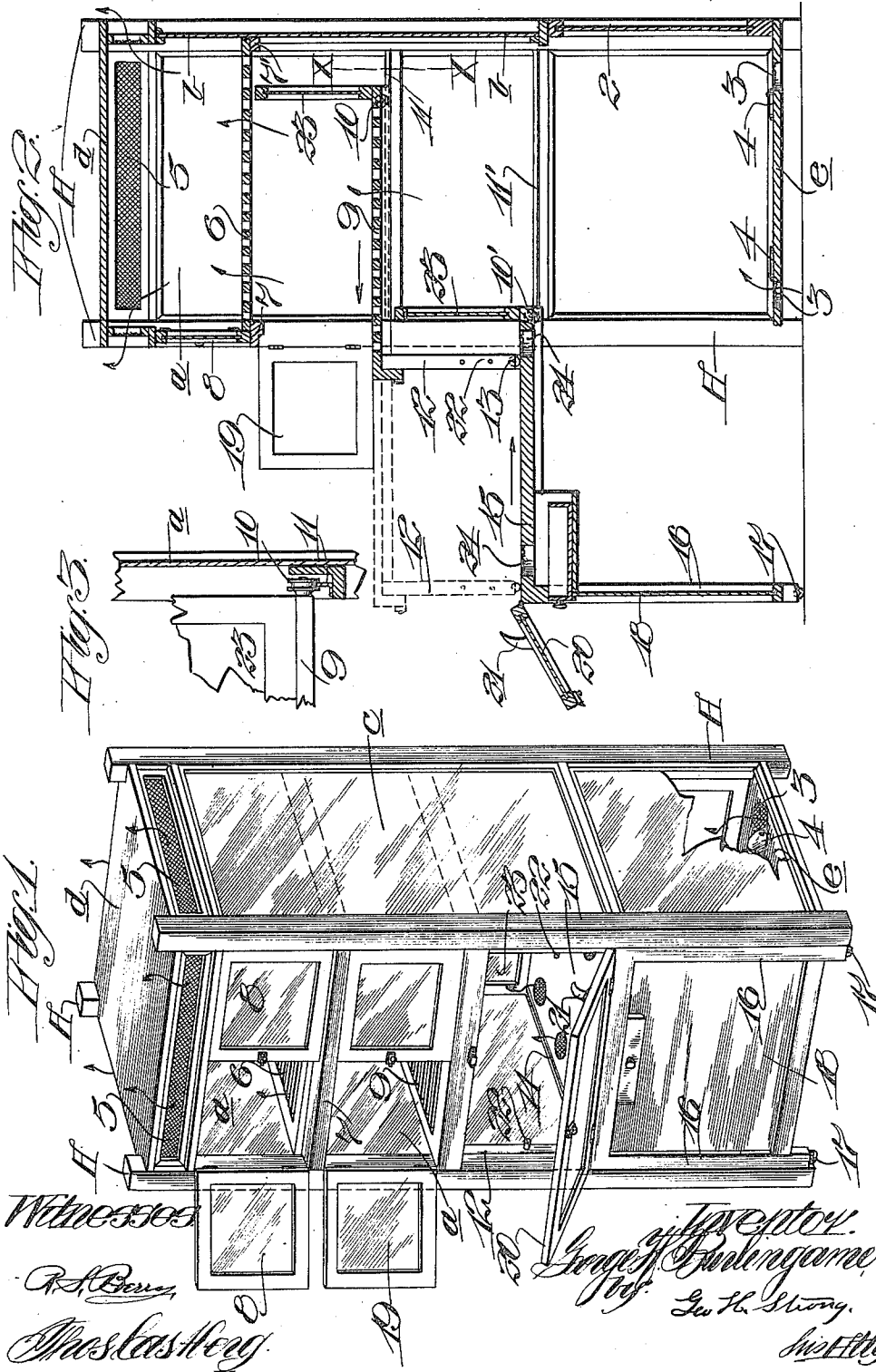


G. H. BURLINGAME.
CHEESE CASE.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 10, 1911.

1,011,112.

Patented Dec. 5, 1911.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CHEESE-CASE.

1,011,112.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 5, 1911.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE H. BURLINGAME, citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of San Francisco and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Cheese-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a cheese case.

It is the object of this invention to provide a cheese case which is so constructed and arranged that the cheese supporting shelves may be readily withdrawn from and replaced in the case with ease.

Another object is to provide a simple and effective means for directing air currents throughout the interior of the case and for regulating the flow of air therethrough.

A further object is to provide a cheese case embodying the above features, which is simple in construction, durable and not liable to get out of order.

The advantages to be derived by the use of this invention will become apparent in the following specification.

The invention consists of the parts and the construction and combination of parts as hereinafter more fully described and claimed, having reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the invention with portions broken away and with parts opened to disclose portions of the interior of the case. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the invention showing the lower shelf in its outermost position. Fig. 3 is a detail section on the line X—X of Fig. 2.

In the drawings the case is shown as formed with four upright posts A, arranged at each corner, on which posts side panels *a—b—c* and end or top and bottom panels *d* and *e* are supported. The panels *a—b—c* are preferably formed of glass; the side panels *a—c* extending approximately the full height of the case while the rear panel *b* terminates some distance above the bottom panel *e*; the space below the panel *b* being provided with doors 2 which form closures for the lower portion of the rear side of the case. The bottom *e* of the case is provided with a series of perforations 3 which are screened and are adapted to be covered to any desired extent by means of dampers or plates 4 which are pivoted adjacent to each

perforation 3 and are arranged to be swung thereover so as to regulate the flow or rise of air through the perforations 3 into the interior of the case.

Disposed in the sides of the case below the top panel *d* are screened panels 5 which permit of the passage of air currents from the interior to the exterior of the case.

Mounted within the case a short distance below the top panel *d* is a removable slatted shelf 6 which rests on cross-pieces 7—7' extending between the posts A across the front and rear sides of the case in the interior thereof. The space between the cross-piece 7 and the screen panel 5 on the front of the case is designed to be closed by means of doors 8 hinged on the upright posts A. Beneath the slatted shelf 6 and a suitable distance therefrom is a slidable, slatted shelf 9. This shelf 9 is provided with flanged rollers 10 which are arranged on the side thereof near its rear end, as shown in Fig. 3, the rollers 10 being mounted upon parallel tracks 11 extending between the posts A on the inner side of the side panels *a* and *c* and form supports for the rear end of the shelf 9.

The forward end of the shelf 9 is supported upon legs 12 which extend downward alongside of the posts A and have casters 13 on their ends which are adapted to travel in guide grooves 14 formed on the upper face of a slidable self 15 arranged in the case beneath the shelf 9.

The shelf 15 is supported at its rear end upon rollers 10' mounted to travel on tracks 11' supported on the upright posts A. The rollers 10' and the track 11' correspond to the rollers 10 and track 11 on which the shelf 9 is supported. The forward end of the shelf 15 is supported upon legs 16, which extend downward adjacent to the posts A and are provided with casters 17 upon their lower ends which are adapted to travel upon the floor or platform on which the posts A rest. The space between the legs 16 below the shelf 15 is closed by means of a panel 18, which may be hinged to open if desired. This panel 18 is provided to form a closure for the lower portion of the front of the case when the shelf 15 is in its innermost position. The space between the crosspiece 7 and the slidable shelf 9 is adapted to be closed by means of doors 19 hinged to the

front posts A. The space between the front edge of the shelf 9 and the shelf 15 is designed to be closed by means of a paneled door 20 which is hinged to swing vertically on the forward edge of the shelf 15.

An important feature in this invention resides in providing a simple and effective means by which the shelves 9 and 15 may be connected so as to be reciprocated in unison or independent of each other. This means is here shown as consisting of hook-shaped engaging members 21 mounted on the inside face of the door 20, and which members are adapted to engage pins 22 mounted on the legs 12, when the door 20 is in its vertical and closed position.

Mounted on the rear edge of each of the slidable shelves 9 and 15, is a vertically disposed panel 23, which panels are designed to close the spaces between the shelf 9, the cross-piece 7 and shelf 15, when the shelves 9 and 15 are in their outermost position, and are provided for the purpose of preventing the ingress of flies to the interior of the case.

The slidable shelf 15 is provided with a series of screened perforations 24, which are disposed near its outer edges and are provided for the purpose of permitting the passage of currents of air upward through the shelf 15.

In the application of this invention, a large cheese cake is placed on each shelf 9 and 15; the two cakes of cheese being usually of different varieties, and may be mounted in the ordinary cheese-cutting machines, if desired, not necessary to be here shown. When it is desired to cut the cheese on the upper shelf 9, the doors 19 are opened and the shelf 9 together with the shelf 15 are drawn outwardly from the case in unison, the shelves 9 and 15 being locked together by means of the hooks 21 on the door 20 engaging the pins 22 on the legs 12.

The two shelves 9 and 11 in moving outward in unison, travel on the rollers 10—10' on the rear ends of the shelves and on the casters 17 on the legs 16 on the forward end of the shelf 15. When the shelves 9 and 15 are in their outermost position, the cheese on the shelf 9 is exposed and may be cut. If it is desired to have access to the cheese on the shelf 15 when the two are in their outermost position, the door 20 is opened and swung to its forwardmost position so as to disengage the hook 21 from the pin 22. The upper shelf 9 may then be moved backward into the case independent of the shelf 15, so as to expose the cheese on the shelf 15 and admit of its being cut.

In moving backward, the shelf 9 travels on the rollers 10 and casters 13, the latter running in the groove 14 on the shelf 15. The shelf 9 being restored to its innermost position within the case, the shelf 15 may be closed independent thereof; and if desired,

may be drawn outward without disturbing the shelf 9 by previously opening the door 20.

The doors 2 admit of the space beneath the shelf 15 being utilized in any manner desired. The shelf 6 and the space thereabove are employed for displaying fancy cheese which are usually packed in small packages. When the doors of the case are closed, there will be a constant circulation of air therethrough, which air rises through the perforations 3 in the bottom *c* and will pass upward through the perforations 24 in the shelf 15 thence through the slatted shelves 9 and 6 and then out through the screen panels 5 adjacent to the top panel *d* of the case. This admits of a free circulation of air through the interior of the case, thereby keeping the cheese therein cool and in good condition. By adjusting the dampers 4 the quantity of air admitted to the interior of the case may be regulated as desired, which is an important feature, inasmuch as in some instances a too free circulation of air would tend to dry the cheese and thereby depreciate its value. The space below the shelf 15 may be utilized for holding ice or other agents for cooling or moistening the air within the case.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. The combination in a cheese case having transparent side panels, a top panel, screen panels arranged at the upper ends of the side panels below the top panel and a bottom panel, said bottom panel having screened perforations and means for closing same, of a pair of superposed slidable shelves arranged within the case, with their rear ends slidably supported therein, legs on the forward end of the lower shelf forming a support therefor, said legs adapted to travel on the floor, legs on the forward end of the upper shelf forming a support therefor and adapted to travel on said lower shelf, and means for connecting said upper and lower shelves that they may be moved in unison.

2. The combination in a cheese case having transparent side panels, a top panel, screen panels arranged at the upper ends of the side panels below the top panel and a bottom panel, said bottom panel having screened perforations and means for closing same, of a pair of superposed slidable shelves arranged within the case, with their rear ends slidably supported therein, legs on the forward end of the lower shelf forming a support therefor, said legs adapted to travel on the floor, legs on the forward end of the upper shelf forming a support therefor and adapted to travel on said lower shelf, and means for connecting said upper and lower shelves that they may be moved in

unison, said means including a vertically hinged panel on the forward end of the lower shelf, hooked members on said panel, and pins on the legs of the upper panel adapted to be engaged by said hooked members.

3. The combination in a cheese case having transparent side panels, a top panel, screen panels arranged at the upper ends of the side panels below the top panel and a bottom panel, said bottom panel having screened perforations and means for closing same, of a pair of superposed slidable shelves arranged within the case, with their rear ends slidably supported therein, legs on the forward end of the lower shelf forming a support therefor, said legs adapted to travel on the floor, legs on the forward end of the upper shelf forming a support therefor and adapted to travel on said lower shelf, means for connecting said upper and

lower shelves that they may be moved in unison, said means including a vertically hinged panel on the forward end of the lower shelf, hooked members on said panel, 25 and pins on the legs of the upper panel adapted to be engaged by said hooked members, said slidable panels perforated to admit of the passage of air currents there-through, and vertically disposed panels 30 rigidly mounted on the rear ends of the slidable panels to close open spaces in the front of the case above the slidable panels, when the latter are in their outermost position.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set 35 my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

GEORGE H. BURLINGAME.

Witnesses:

F. E. MAYNARD,
S. S. PHILLIPS.