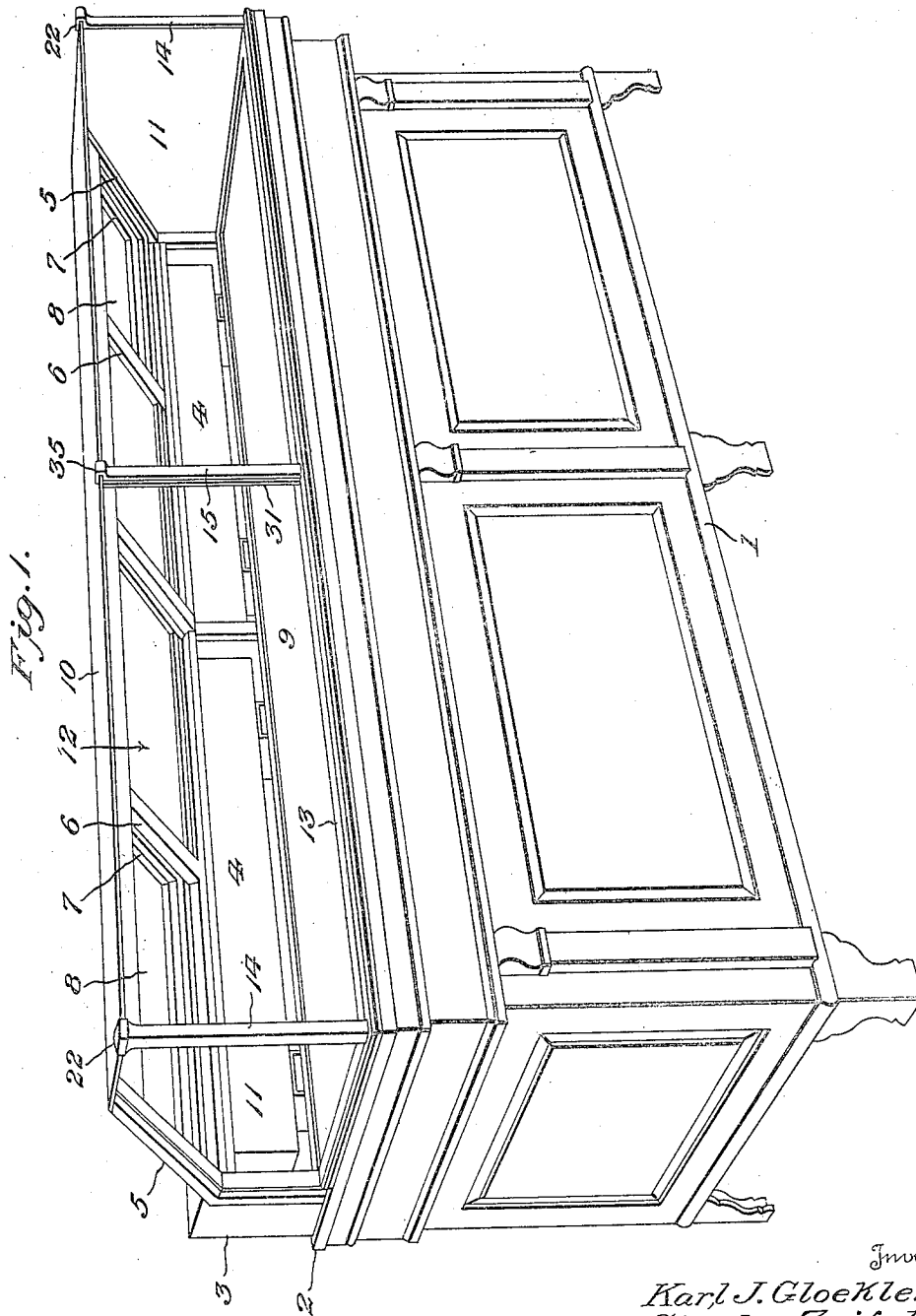


C. ZIEFEL AND K. J. GLOEKLER.
SHOWCASE AND COUNTER GUARD CONSTRUCTION.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 3, 1920.

1,379,554.

Patented May 24, 1921.
3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses
Edwin G. McKee
Thomas E. Turpin

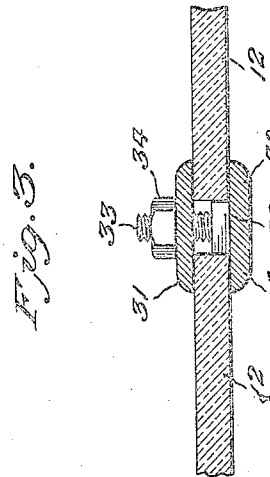
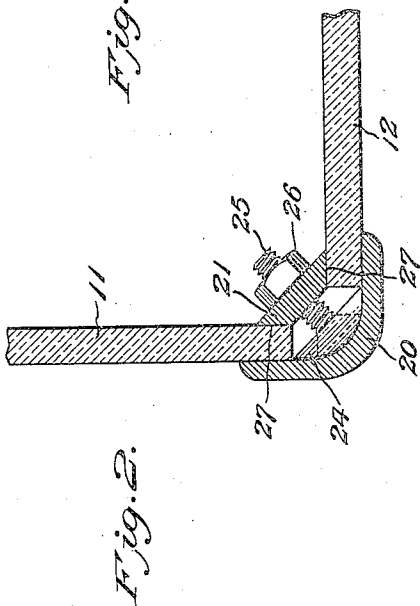
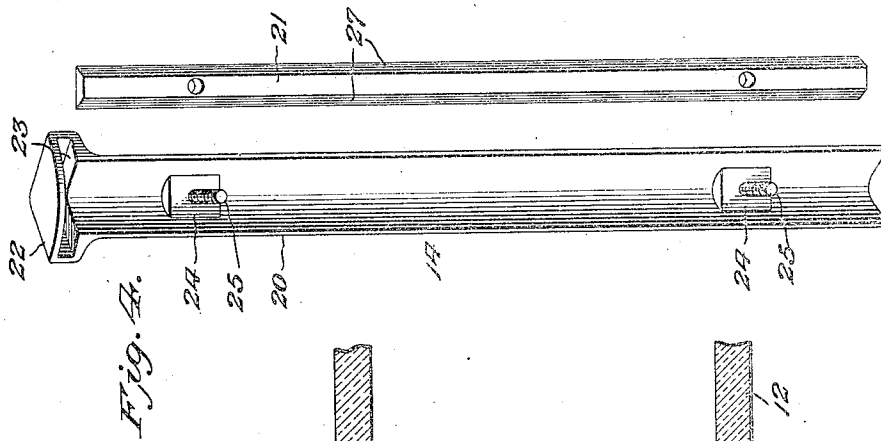
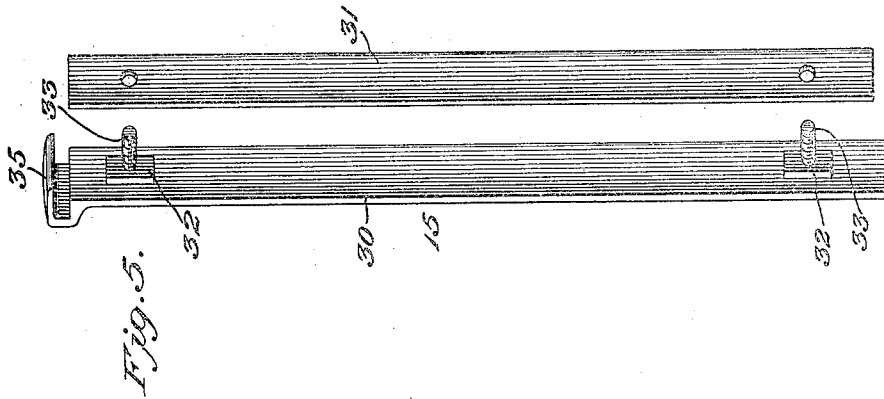
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

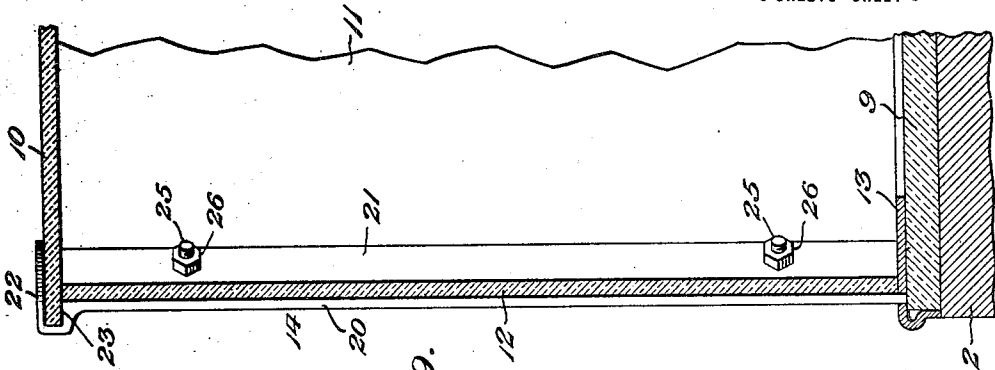


Fig. 9.

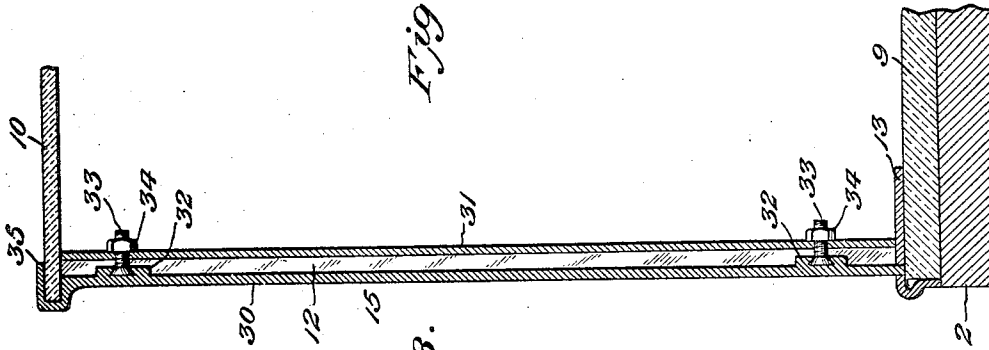


Fig. 8.

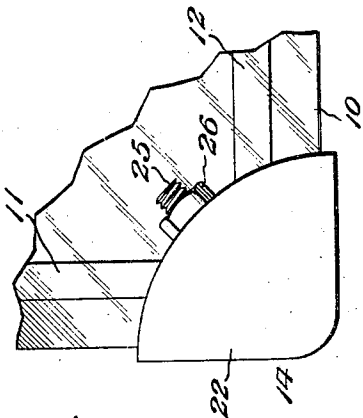


Fig. 6.

Witnesses
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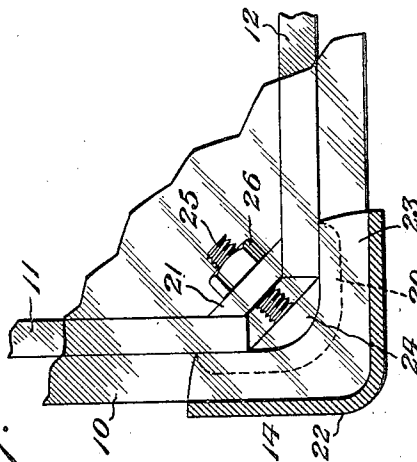


Fig. 7.

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SHOWCASE AND COUNTER-GUARD CONSTRUCTION.

1,379,554.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 24, 1921.

Application filed February 3, 1920. Serial No. 355,937.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES ZIEFEL and KARL J. GLOEKLER, citizens of the United States, residing at Pittsburgh, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented new and useful Improvements in Showcase and Counter-Guard Constructions, of which the following is a specification.

One object of our present joint invention is the provision of an economical show-case construction embodying glass plates and brackets to grasp the glass firmly without entailing the provision of drilled or other holes in the glass which might tend to weaken the glass and cause the same to break in use.

Another object is the provision of a show-case construction designed more especially for the display of fresh meats, and having its elements so relatively arranged that the show-case is rendered stiff and strong without detracting materially from its transparent display capacity—i. e., its adaptability to display fresh meats to advantage, while precluding the handling of the meats and protecting the same against flies and the deleterious action of air such as generally prevails in stores.

Another object is the provision of improved corner brackets of metal for incorporation in a show-case construction or counter-guard construction, and in which the major portion of the case or guard is formed of plates of glass.

Another object is the provision of an improved intermediate bracket of metal for embodiment in a show-case or counter-guard construction.

To the attainment of the foregoing, the invention consists in the improvement as hereinafter described and definitely claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, hereby made a part hereof:

Figure 1 is a perspective showing a show-case construction embodying our invention.

Fig. 2 is a detail horizontal section through one front corner of the case.

Fig. 3 is a detail horizontal section through the intermediate bracket and the adjoining glass plates of the case.

Fig. 4 comprises disconnected perspectives of the members comprised in each corner bracket.

Fig. 5 comprises disconnected perspectives of the members of intermediate bracket.

Fig. 6 is a plan view of the head on the body member of one corner bracket.

Fig. 7 is a horizontal section taken through said head, looking downwardly.

Fig. 8 is a vertical section taken through the intermediate bracket when in use.

Fig. 9 is a vertical section taken through one of the corner brackets when in use.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all of the views of the drawings.

While our improvement is designed primarily for incorporation in a show-case for use on counters or other supports, it will be understood from the following description that some of the elements of the improvement are adapted to be used in combination and to advantage in what is commonly known as a counter-guard.

In the construction illustrated, is included a counter 1 which, *per se*, may be of any approved construction, and arranged in superimposed relation on the counter 1 is a show-case that comprises a base 2, preferably of wood, and a casing 3, also preferably of wood, on the rear portion of the base 2, and adapted to contain any approved air-cooling or refrigerating means, generally indicated by 4. The show-case also includes end frames 5 of wood, an upper rear open-work frame 6, also preferably of wood, slidable closure sashes 7 complementary to the frame 6 and each carrying a pane or plate of glass 8, a bottom plate 9, preferably of opalite white glass, a top transparent glass plate 10, end transparent glass plates 11 and front transparent glass plates 12, together with a metallic board strip 13 arranged on the bottom plate 9, metallic corner brackets 14 and an intermediate metallic bracket 15. The bottom plate 9, the end plates 11 and the front plates 12 are by preference slidably arranged in the manner illustrated, and the corner brackets 14 and the intermediate bracket 15 are preferably of aluminum or some suitable metallic alloy, so that said brackets will not be unduly heavy, and will serve thereby a mechanical function while enhancing the finished and attractive appearance of the show-case.

The top plate of glass 10 is superimposed

upon the upper edges of the end plates 11 and the front plates 12, and all of the exposed edges of glass are preferably ground and polished to contribute to the finished appearance of the case.

Each of the corner brackets 14 comprises a body member 20 and a glass clamping or retaining member 21. The body member is of angular form in horizontal section, and on the upper end of said body member is an integral head 22 of general triangular form in plan. The said head 22 is hollow and has a bottom wall 23 on which is supported one corner of the top plate 10, the said corner being interposed horizontally between the said bottom 23 and the top wall of the head, and being strongly held and protected by the head which extends laterally outward from the body member, and is therefore adapted to serve as a projecting fender. In the body member 20 are integral lugs 24, and carried by and projecting from said lugs 24 are threaded bolts 25, equipped with nuts 26. The glass clamping or retaining member 21 is apertured to receive the bolts 25, is beveled as indicated at 27, and is preferably of a length slightly less than that of the body member 20 from the bottom 23 of the head to the lower end of the said member 20. By virtue of this construction of the corner brackets 14, it will be readily understood that the said corner brackets are adapted to receive the front corners of the top plate 10 in their heads 22, and are also adapted to receive in their body members 20 the contiguous ends of the end plates 11 and the front plate 12; the latter plates abutting against the lugs 24 and being clamped or held in their proper relative positions by the plates 21, and this in such manner that the glass plates 11 and 12 are held in fixed relation, and without the necessity of providing apertures of any description in the said plates 11 and 12, which is manifestly a material advantage.

The intermediate bracket 15 comprises a body member 30, and a retaining plate 31. The said body member 30 is provided on its inner side with lugs 32 which carry threaded bolts 33, equipped with nuts 34. On the upper end of the body member 30 is a hook-like integral head 35, the bight portion of which rests in front of the vertical plane of the body member 30, and is therefore adapted to serve as a protecting fender. Said head 35 receives the forward edge of the top glass plate 10. The retaining plate 31 is apertured to receive the bolts 33, and is held by the nuts 34 against the inner sides of the inner end portions of the front glass plates 12, which abut at their inner ends against the lugs 32, with the result that the said inner end portions of the glass plates

12 are strongly held between and are reinforced by the body member 30 and the plate 31, and are coupled together through the medium of the head 35 on the body member 30 to the top glass plate 10.

It will be manifest from the foregoing that the parts of our novel construction are adapted to be assembled with great facility and without the employment of tools, other than a common nut-wrench; also, that when assembled as described, the said elements form a show-case or a counter-guard that is at once efficient in the advantageous display of goods, finished in appearance, and susceptible of being quickly and thoroughly cleaned.

Having described our invention, what we claim and desire to secure by Letters-Patent, is:

1. A metallic corner bracket including an upright body member of angular form in horizontal section adapted to bear at its lower end on supporting means and having interior lugs and threaded bolts thereon adapted to be interposed between the contiguous ends of a front wall and an end plate of a show case and also having a hollow triangular head projecting laterally outward from the body member and adapted to receive a front corner of a top plate, an apertured retaining plate adapted to be arranged on said bolts and at opposite sides of said wall and end plate to the body member, and nuts to secure the retaining plate on said bolts.

2. A metallic bracket comprising an upright body member adapted to bear at its lower end on supporting means and to rest at the outer side of the contiguous ends of upright plates of a show case and having inner lugs and threaded bolts thereon to be interposed between said ends and also having a forwardly-projecting hook-like head to receive the forward edge of a top plate, a retaining plate mounted on said bolts and adapted to be arranged at the inner sides of said upright plates, and nuts to secure said retaining plate on said bolts.

3. An upright metallic corner bracket for joining front, end and top plates and fixing the same relatively to each other; said corner bracket comprising an upright body member to receive the ends of front and end plates, a hollow outwardly-projecting integral head at the upper end of the body member to receive a corner of a top plate, and means connected with the inner side of the body member to retain the ends of front and end plates in said body member.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

CHARLES ZIEFEL.
KARL J. GLOEKLER.