M. KURTZON.

COUNTER PROTECTING BRACKET.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 5, 1919.

1,373,137. **Patented Mar. 29, 1921.**

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

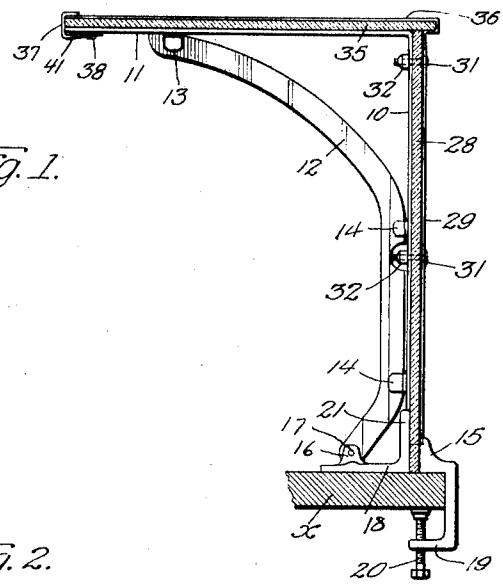


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

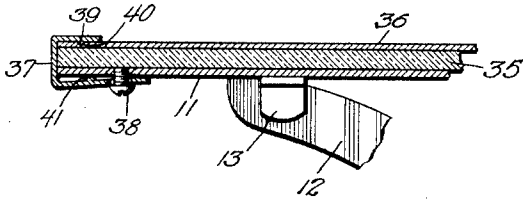


Fig. 3.

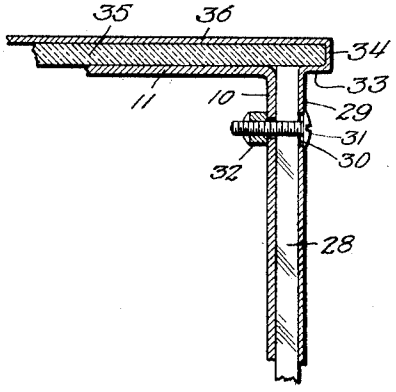
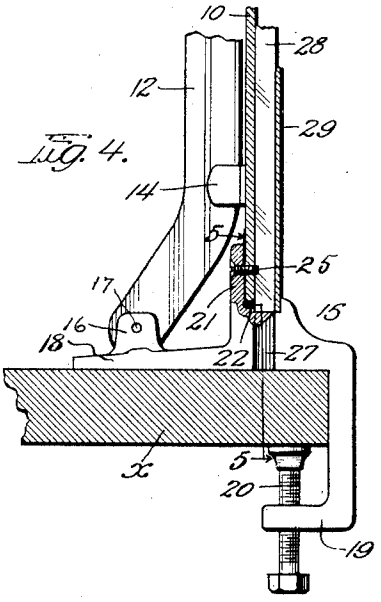


Fig. 4.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 5.

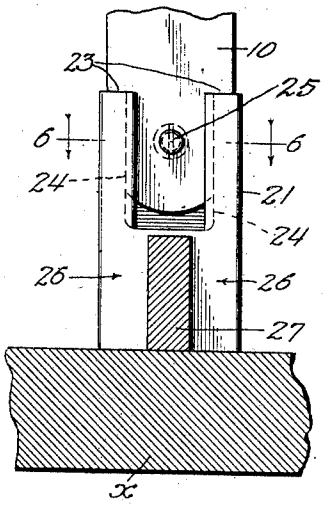


Fig. 6

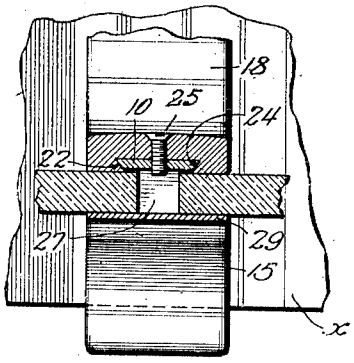


Fig. 7

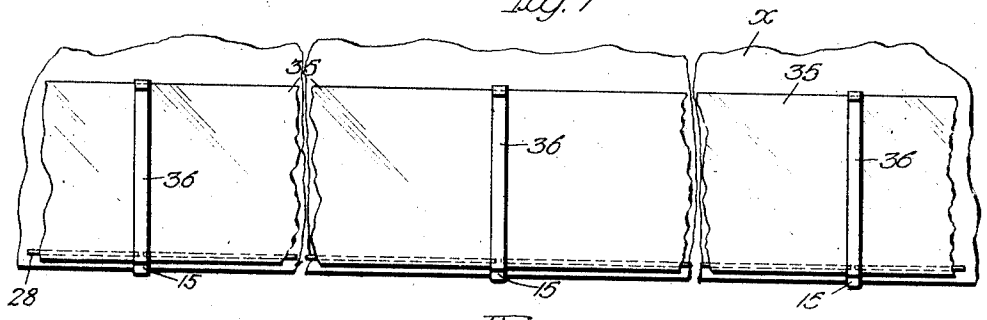
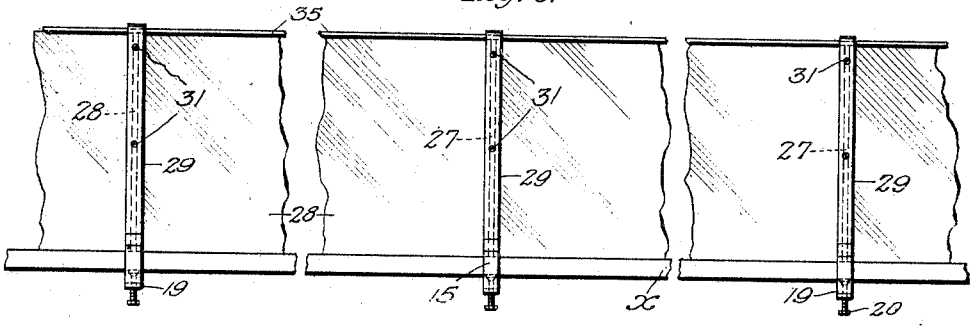


Fig. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COUNTER-PROTECTING BRACKET.

1,373,137. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 29, 1921.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MORRIS KURTZON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Counter-Protecting Brackets, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention appertains to structures for protecting counters and the like, in stores, restaurants, markets, and other establishments, where it is desirable to display articles of merchandise upon counters or tables. Specifically stated, my invention has reference to a bracket structure adapted to be secured to the edge of the counter for supporting horizontally and vertically disposed glass plates that comprise the transparent front and top walls of what might be termed an "open showcase," that is, closed upon the customer's side of the counter to prevent loss or handling of the merchandise, and open on the opposite side so that the trades persons may readily have access thereto.

Among the divers objects of my invention is the provision of a bracket of this character that will firmly clamp the glass plates so as to avoid accidental movement or dislocation thereof. Also it is one of my objects to provide a bracket structure wherein a continuous strip of sheet metal that is suitably bent, may be employed for the purpose of clamping both the vertical and the horizontal glass plates in position. In this connection I employ novel means for fastening the said clamping strip whereby it may be adjusted to accommodate glass plates of divers thicknesses, or to take care of inaccuracies in construction of the bracket proper, and I am also enabled by this structure to employ glass plates that are continuous and extend across several brackets so that the glass need not be cut in short lengths, such as would extend only from one bracket to the next adjoining bracket. A further object is to provide a novel structure wherein a counter clamping member of malleable cast metal may be dependably combined with standards and braces of wrought metal; and I also have for an object the construction of a bracket that is simple in design so that it may be quickly and cheaply fabricated without detracting from its appearance or dependability, and may be readily installed.

All of the above objects I prefer to accomplish in the manner hereinafter fully described and as illustrated in the drawings, reference now being had to said drawings that form a part of this specification, in which,—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of one of my brackets clamped to a display counter or other support.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail, partly in section, of the rear portion of the horizontal member of the bracket.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged longitudinal section of the assembly of the upper outer corner of the structure illustrated in Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail of the lower or clamping end of the bracket standard.

Fig. 5 is a vertical section taken on line 5—5, of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a transverse section taken on line 6—6, of Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 is a top plan view of a length of counter that is protected with my improved structure, illustrating the manner of using a continuous plate of glass and supporting the same upon several brackets.

Fig. 8 is a vertical elevation view from the front of the counter.

In the drawings, I have employed similar reference characters to designate identical elements throughout the views, and by referring to the drawings it will be seen that my bracket preferably consists of a standard member that has a lateral or horizontal extension at its upper end and at its lower end has provision for clamping the structure to the outer edge portion of a counter, while coacting elements are employed to clamp the plates of glass to the standard and its extension.

The frame of the bracket preferably comprises the upright or standard 10, having the horizontal shelf 11 extending laterally from the upper end thereof, said standard and shelf being preferably formed from an integral strip or band of cold rolled wrought metal, of usual stock or commercial form, and of relatively small gage, that is bent intermediate its ends at substantially a right-angle and braced by a segmental shaped strut 12, of the same commercial band metal disposed in a plane at a right angle to the

strip that connects the outer portion of the shelf with the lower portion of the standard. The strut 12 is secured in position by means of angle-shaped corner cleats 13 and 14, that are spot or electrically welded to the surfaces of the strut, standard and shelf, substantially in the manner shown.

At the lower end of the standard is a suitable malleable metal clamp 15, of somewhat U-shape, while the lower portion of the strut below the cleats 14 is curved away from the standard and has its lower end secured in a slotted embossment 16, arising from the clamp, by means of a rivet 17, or otherwise. One of the parallel arms 18 of the clamp is adapted to rest upon the upper surface of the counter x and the opposite arm 19 extends below said counter and is provided with an adjusting bolt 20, for firmly securing the clamp and bracket to the forward edge of the counter. In order to rigidly connect the standard 10 to the clamp 15, the latter is formed with an upright embossment 21, that has an undercut recess 22 in one of its faces, as seen in Figs. 5 and 6, that extends to the top of the embossment. The lower portion of the standard is reduced in width to provide shoulders 23, that rest upon the top of the embossment 21, and the side edges 24 of said reduced portion are beveled or chamfered and inserted in the recess 22, after which the embossment and the reduced portion of the standard are transversely bored and threaded to receive a screw 25, that secures the parts together. Immediately in front of the embossment 21, the clamp is provided with oppositely disposed vertical channels 26, 26, and the web of metal separating the channels is reduced in height to a point below the lower edge of recess 22, whereby a relatively narrow neck 27 is provided that connects the casting of which the clamp 15 is made.

The plates of glass 28, 28, comprising the vertical front wall of the structure, are positioned against the outer face of the standard 10, with their lower adjacent corners inserted in the channels 26, 26, with the lower end edges abutting the vertical sides of the neck 27 that spaces the plates apart a distance equal to the width of said neck. The means for securing these glass plates in position against the standard comprises a length of strap metal forming a clamping-strip 29, that is provided with a vertically elongated slot 30 through which a screw 31 is passed and extends between the edges of the glass plates, through the standard where a slotted nut 32 is screwed thereon to permit the tightening of the clamping strip 29, from both sides of the glass plates.

At the top of the standard 10, the strip 29 is preferably bent laterally outwardly at 33, in the horizontal plane of the shelf 11, and then upwardly a short distance to provide a stop or keeper 34, against which abuts the outer edge of the top glass plate 35, disposed flat or horizontally upon the shelf 11. The strip is now bent rearwardly in a horizontal plane above the glass plate 35 to provide an upper clamping strip 36, that extends approximately to the rear end of the shelf 11, as shown, where it is secured in position by a clip 37, of substantially U-shape. One of the arms of the clip 37 is longer than the other, so that it extends a distance under the end of the shelf 11, where it is secured in place by a screw 38, passing through said arm and tapped into the shelf, and the under surface of the opposite or shorter arm is provided with a teat or projection 39, that fits into a depression 40 in the alining portion of the upper surface of the clamping strip 36. In order to provide some elasticity of "spring" to this clip and avoid a too rigid clamping of the glass, which is liable to injure or crack the same, I prefer to provide a small projection 41 on the inner surface of the longer arm of the clip between the location of the screw 38 and the lateral or connecting web of the clip so that the clip is positioned upon the bracket in what may be termed inclined relation thereto.

From the foregoing it will be seen that I have provided a substantial connection between the bracket body or frame, which is wrought metal, and the counter clamp, which is a malleable casting. Such a construction is much stronger than an ordinary casting and is much more economical to make than an entire malleable or processed casting and a much smoother surface is obtained. Also a single integral clamping strip is provided for securing both the vertical and the horizontal glass plates to the standard and shelf, respectively, and the construction and disposition of the horizontal upper member 36 of the clamping strip is such that a continuous glass top plate extending over several brackets may be employed, instead of short lengths of glass extending only between two adjacent brackets as is the general practice. The manner of securing the upright member 29 of the clamping strip to the standard 10 permits the vertical adjustment of the strip to accommodate and secure glass plates of divers thicknesses upon the shelf without the necessity of employing separate clamping strips for the top and side glass plates, as would ordinarily be necessary. I am also enabled by the construction and arrangement of the strut 12, to assemble the clamp with the standard and shelf by welding the corner cleats to these parts, after which the bracket is trued to correct any inaccuracies before the lower end of the strut is tapped. This permits the truing operation to be performed before the strut is riveted to the slotted embossment and provides a finished

article that is stronger and neater in appearance than if of any other construction, because the parts may be readily finished before assembly.

While I have herein disclosed certain specific means for carrying out my invention, it will be understood the drawings, in a sense, are merely diagrammatic for the purpose of convenient illustration, and it is obvious that changes may be made without affecting the principles involved. I therefore desire it understood that all such modifications or refinements of my invention are contemplated as within the scope of my appended claims.

What I claim is:—

1. A bracket for counter protecting structures comprising a standard the lower portion of which is reduced in width to provide a shoulder and the side edges of said reduced portion being beveled, a clamp for securing the standard to a counter having a vertical recess undercut therein adapted to receive the reduced and beveled portion of said standard, and means for securing said standard in said recess.

2. A bracket for counter protecting structures comprising a vertical standard, a lateral shelf extending from the upper portion thereof, means for securing said standard to a support, a continuous clamping strip of substantially L-shape the vertical portion whereof extends the height of and is positioned adjacent said standard whereby a vertical glass plate may be retained between said strip and standard and the lateral portion of said strip extends along said shelf to adjacent the free end thereof whereby a horizontal glass plate may be retained between said strip and shelf, and means mounted at the free end of said shelf independent of the bracket and clamping strip for securing said strip in position.

3. A counter protecting bracket constructed to receive a horizontal glass plate, a clamping strip secured to said bracket and adapted to extend across said glass plate, a clip of substantially U-shape one arm whereof is connected to said bracket in inclined relation thereto and the remaining portion whereof is adapted to extend over the edge of said glass plate and the adjacent end of said strip and bear upon the upper surface of the latter and means for varying the inclination of said inclined arm, whereby divers thicknesses of glass may be retained by said clip.

4. A fitting comprising a clip of substantially U-shape one arm whereof is adapted to be secured to a support and the opposite arm adapted to engage an element to be clamped on said support, the first-mentioned arm being provided intermediate its ends with an inwardly disposed projection and a screw for securing said clip to the support, the location of said screw being between the projection and the end of said arm to cause said structure to fulcrum on said projection upon the tightening of said screw.

5. A bracket for counter protecting structures comprising a member formed from a strip of sheet metal bent to provide a standard and a lateral shelf, angle pieces secured to and extending from said standard and shelf, a brace formed from a strip of sheet metal and secured to the extended flanges of said angle pieces at right angles to the planes of said standard and shelf, and a foot constructed to receive the lower portions of the standard and brace.

Signed at Chicago, county of Cook and State of Illinois, this 28th day of March, 1919.

MORRIS KURTZON.

Witnesses:
E. K. Lundy, Jr.,
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