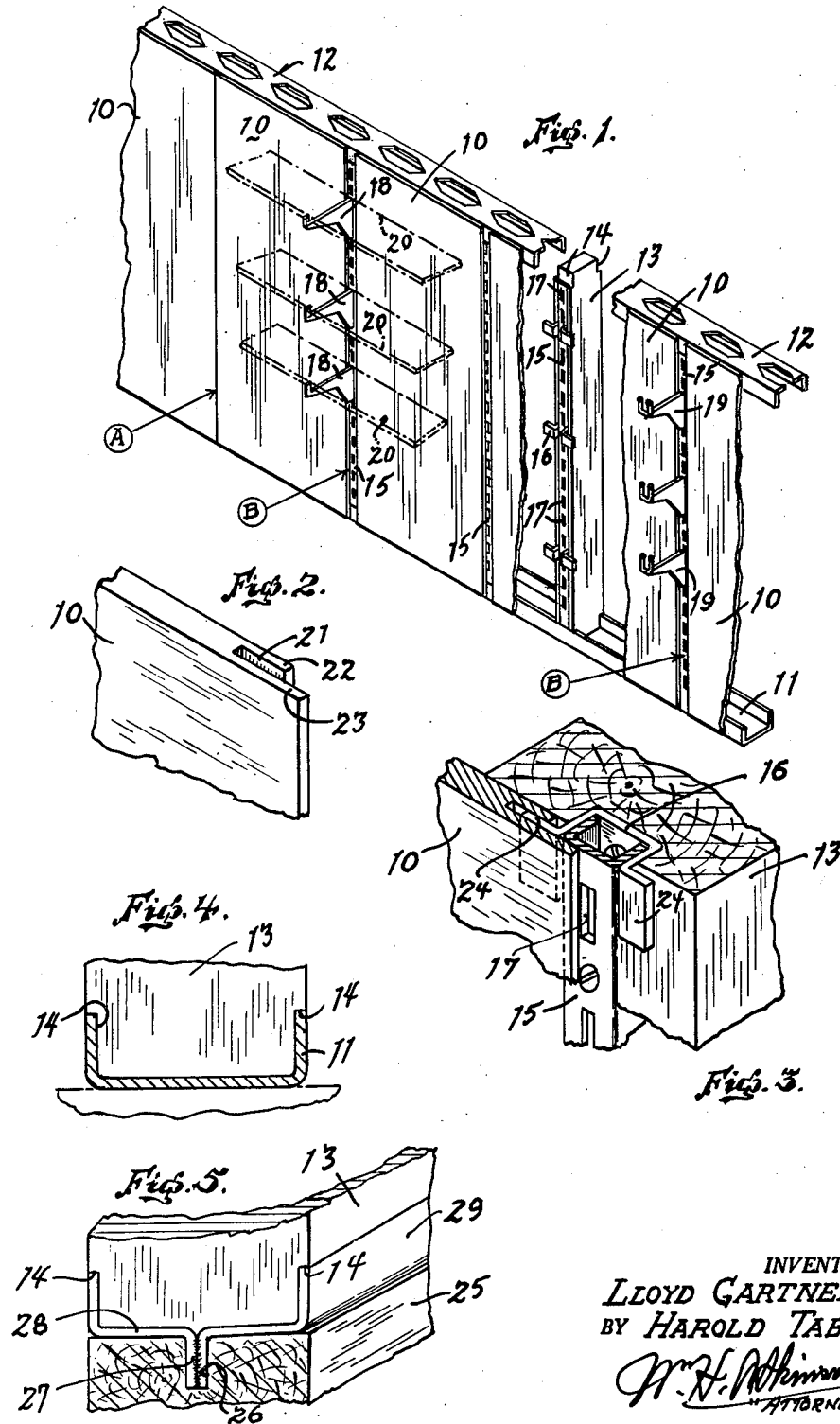


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L. GARTNER ETAL
WALL WITH FLOATING STUD

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WALL WITH FLOATING STUD

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1 Claim. (Cl. 20-4)

Our present invention relates to building construction and more particularly to an erectable area defining wall or partition which may be set up in a rapid, convenient and economical manner.

An object of the invention is to provide a wall construction employing prefabricated panel members and supporting frame members having interlocking parts which may be assembled in a practical and effective manner with a minimum of on-the-job carpentry.

Another object of the invention is to provide a wall construction having prefabricated panel portions and floating studs with key slotted standards for knife brackets which may be employed in various combinations to provide a supporting wall or partition for defining the limits of a particular floor area or as a partition to divide up a larger floor area into smaller areas.

While our invention may find many uses and fields of application, it is at this time primarily intended to function as a wall or partition such as is resorted to by large retail stores and the like to either temporarily or permanently partition off smaller portions of a given floor area to provide a convenient storage space immediately adjacent the sales area. In this use, in addition to dividing up the floor space, our partition has the further advantage of providing a novel and neat appearing arrangement by which shelves and/or article supporting hangers may be applied thereto and used in an effective and neat appearing manner.

Other objects and advantages will be in part evident to those skilled in the art and in part pointed out hereinafter in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein there is shown by way of illustration and not of limitation a preferred embodiment of the invention.

In the drawing, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout the several views:

FIGURE 1 is a fragmentary perspective view showing a portion of a wall or partition constructed in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention,

FIGURE 2 is a fragmentary view showing a detail of one of the panel members as employed in FIGURE 1,

FIGURE 3 is a fragmentary view partly in section showing details of the invention in their assembled relationship,

FIGURE 4 is a fragmentary sectional view showing a detail of the assembly of FIGURE 1, and

FIGURE 5 is a further fragmentary view partly in section showing a modified detail of the invention.

In its preferred form, as illustrated in FIGURE 1 of the drawing, we may employ any number of preformed panel members 10 of the same or different widths that are held in coplanar relation by a foundation or base plate 11 and a top plate 12 which is spaced vertically thereabove at a distance corresponding to the height of the wall desired. As shown, the foundation plate 11 and the top plate 12 are preferably of channel cross-section, but this is not a necessary requirement. Extending between the foundation plate 11 and the top plate 12 we employ a number of vertically extending members or studs 13 that are frictionally seated for limited lateral movement at their ends within the channels of the foundation plate 11 and the top plate 12. To this end the studs 13 are shown as notched along each of their edges as at 14 to accommodate the flanges of the channel members 11 and 12, the latter of which is in an inverted position. With this ar-

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angement it is to be understood that the vertically extending members or studs 13 are laterally movable between the channels 11 and 12 as a wall is being assembled, as will hereinafter appear. While it is conceivable that these studs 13 may form a sufficient support for the top plate 12, it will be understood that the top plate 12 may be steadied or otherwise secured in parallel relation above the foundation plate 11 by laterally extending stays or brackets (not shown). In other circumstances we may also employ additional vertically extending studs that will be permanently fixed and secured at their ends against lateral movement between the foundation plate 11 and the top plate 12. These fixed studs (not here shown) will be located at the ends of a partition or at approximately every third or fourth one of the panels 10, and where they will not interfere, as will hereinafter appear, with a lateral or floating movement of the vertically extending studs 13 when the wall or partition is being erected. In addition to being notched at their ends as at the points 14 the floating studs 13, as will be hereinafter explained, also have a continuous vertically extending rabbet along one or both outer sides into which bracket supporting standards 15 and a plurality of vertically spaced U-shaped clips 16 are mounted. The bracket supporting standards 15 are of a conventional design and have vertically spaced key slots 17 into which key like extensions carried by shelf supporting brackets 18 or garment hangers 19 are inserted, as shown in FIGURE 1 of the drawing. As indicated at the left of FIGURE 1, these shelf supporting brackets 18 may be employed as a support for shelves 20 as here shown by dot and dash lines and the garment hangers 19, as shown at the right of FIGURE 1, may be used independently of each other or as a support for a hanger rod upon which garments may be suspended along the wall or partition with conventional garment hangers.

The panel members 10 may be of any available composition board such as "Masonite" or the like and can be obtained, as shown in FIGURE 2, with a rabbet 21 cut or formed along each of the vertical edges thereof. As here indicated, the rabbets 21 are located substantially in the center of the panel 10 with one side of the rabbet foreshortened as at 22 in such a manner that the other side of the rabbet will extend outwardly therefrom as at 23. This configuration of the panels 10 with the different degrees of extension at the sides of the rabbets 21 as at 22 and 23 renders it possible, as illustrated in FIGURE 3 of the drawing, to secure the panels upon the studs 13 with different degrees of separation when brought into engagement with outwardly disposed and oppositely extending tongues 24 of the clips 16. Under some conditions of use it is conceivable that the bracket supporting standards 15 may not be required and in such a case the adjacent panel members 10 will be brought into abutting relation to thus completely conceal clips 16 and the underlying stud 13, as indicated at "A" in FIGURE 1 of the drawing. Under other circumstances the panels 10 may be secured upon the studs 13 in spaced relation with each other so as to expose the slots 17 of the bracket supporting standard 15, as shown at "B" in FIGURE 1.

As is more clearly illustrated in FIGURE 4 of the drawing, the notched or recessed portions 14 of the floating studs 13 are of such character that the outer sides of the studs 13 will be substantially flush with the outer surfaces of the flanges carried by the channel like base and top plates 11 and 12 and therefore the panel 10 when finally assembled as indicated in FIGURES 1 and 3 of the drawing will lie substantially flat against the surface of the studs 13 at each side of the rabbets 25 carried by the studs 13 in which the bracket supporting studs 15 and the clips 16 are shown as mounted. At their upper and lower ends

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the preformed panel members 10 will be held in engagement with the outer sides of the flanges of the foundation plate 11 and the upper plate 12.

In FIGURE 5 of the drawing we have shown a modification of the invention in which instead of employing a metallic foundation plate 12 of channel cross-section we may employ a wooden plate 25 or a similar plate in an inverted position in which there is formed a longitudinally extending slot 26 into which a depending portion 27 of a clip 28 is recessed. As here shown, the clip 28 has up-standing sides or flanges 29 along each side between which the studs may be positioned and held in proper alignment above and below the bottom and top plates.

When the panels 10 and the floating studs 13 are formed and equipped as described the matter of assembling the wall will be carried out in the following manner. First assuming that the foundation plate 11 and the upper plate 12 are properly aligned and secured in vertically spaced relation, as shown in FIGURE 1 of the drawing, one of the floating studs 13 will be positioned, for example, at the left of the assembly as here shown with two of the panels 10 interlocking with the tongues 24 of the clips 16 carried thereby. If at this position no knife brackets, such as the brackets 18 and 19, are required these first two panels 10 will be brought into abutting contact with each other. As the next step, another of the floating studs 13 will be maneuvered laterally between the top and bottom plates 11 and 12 to bring the tongues of the clips carried thereby into interlocking relation with the rabbets at the adjacent side of the second above mentioned panel 10. Then a third panel 10 will be moved laterally into engagement with the tongues 24 of the clip 16 of the adjacent floating stud 13. At this point should it be desired to employ key brackets 18 or 19 this third panel 10 will be stopped short of the second panel 10 so as to expose the slots 17 in the bracket supporting standard 15. Finally, to complete the wall for any desired length these operations may be repeated by adding panels 10 to the wall as the floating studs 13 are likewise successively inserted and moved laterally between the top and bottom plates 11 and 12. A feature of this assembly is that the floating studs 13 and the panels 10 will be frictionally held between the top and bottom plates 11 and 12 without any securing means such as nails, rivets or the like.

While we have, for the sake of clearness and in order to disclose our invention so that the same can be readily understood, described and illustrated a specific form and arrangement, we desire to have it understood that this invention is not limited to the specific form disclosed, but may be embodied in other ways that will suggest them-

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selves to persons skilled in the art. It is believed that this invention is new and all such changes as come within the scope of the appended claim are to be considered as part of the invention.

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

In a dismountable wall for a temporary or permanent interior partitioning purpose, the combination of a base forming channel member, an upper ceiling supported channel member, a plurality of vertically extending studs movably held between said channel members having a rabbet along at least one side thereof, a plurality of U-shaped clips secured at vertically spaced points within the rabbet of said studs having oppositely extending tongues formed integrally therewith, said oppositely extending tongues being spaced outwardly from the surface of said studs adjacent the rabbet therein and parallel thereto, an elongated shelf supporting channel member having conventional shelf bracket accommodating slots in the web thereof disposed within said rabbet and over said U-shaped clips and secured to said studs independently of said clips with the slotted web outwardly disposed, and cooperating panel members having continuous rabbets extending centrally along their meeting edges and receiving corresponding clip tongues, characterized by the fact that the rabbets in the meeting sides of said panel formed members are of a depth and have edges of unequal width, whereby said panels when positioned upon said studs with one side out the longer sides of said rabbet will meet and conceal said shelf supporting member and when positioned upon said studs with the reverse side out the shorter sides of said rabbet will expose the shelf supporting slots of said bracket supporting member.

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