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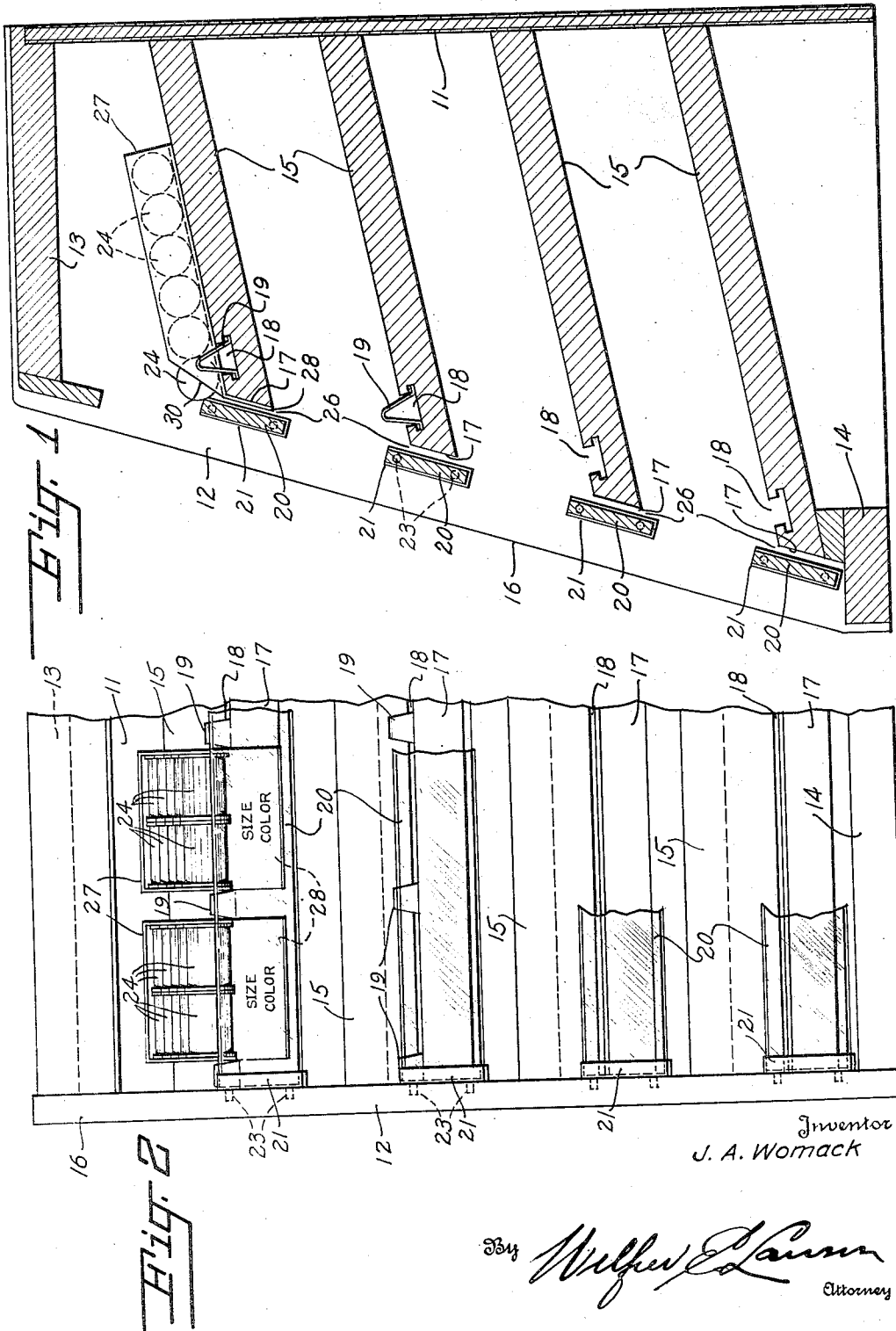
J. A. WOMACK

2,492,912

DISPLAY AND SELF-SERVICE CABINET

Filed April 21, 1947

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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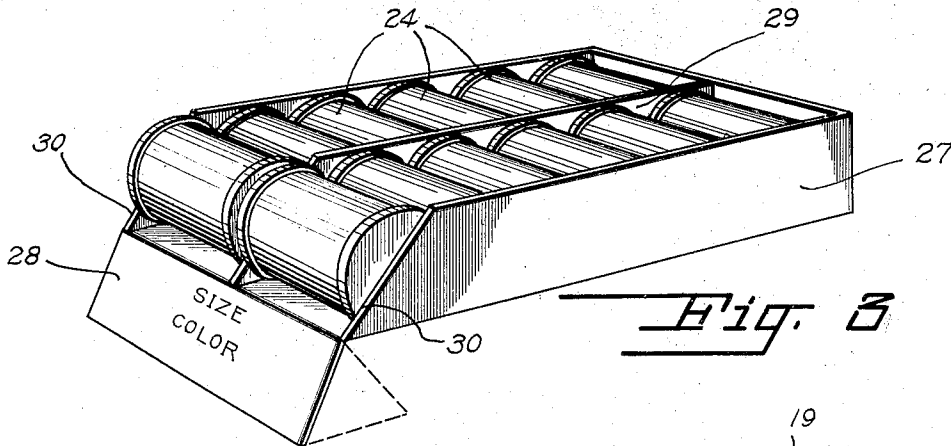


Fig. 3

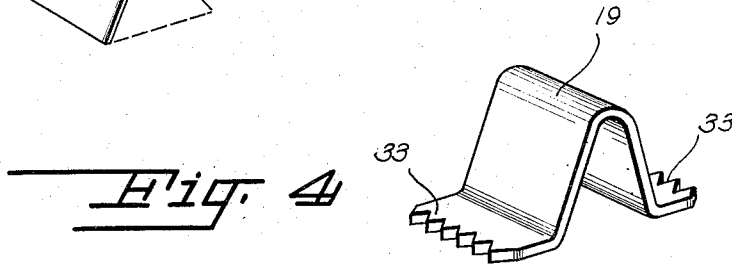


Fig. 4

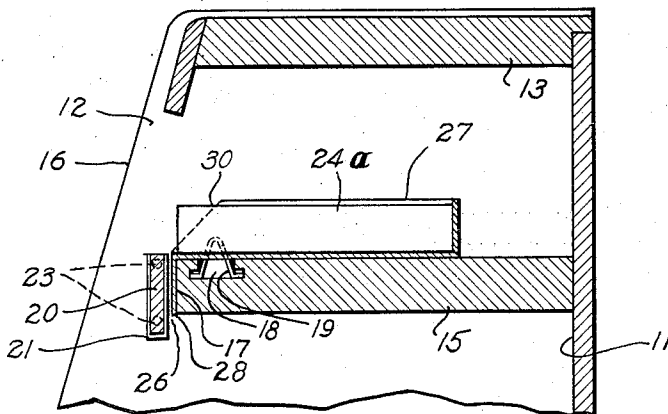


Fig. 5

Inventor
J. A. Womack

By *Walter E. Laum*
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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DISPLAY AND SELF-SERVICE CABINET

James A. Womack, Atlanta, Ga.

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5 Claims. (Cl. 312-45)

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My invention relates to a display case or cabinet, more particularly for threads on spools, packed in boxes, which are placed on forwardly inclined shelves in said case, in such a manner, that the spools will roll forward against a front glass, so that the customer can see, not only the goods itself, but be given information as to size, color and price through said glass and pick out what he wants. Thus, as soon as one spool has been removed, the one next behind will roll forward to take its place right in front of the plate glass window.

The spools are deposited in cardboard boxes holding about a dozen spools in pairs, and the end walls of each box are labeled, giving size, number, color and price. Before placing a box on a slanting shelf, the front end corners are cut through and the labeled wall bent down to act as a flap behind the glass window, while a triangular portion of the side walls is cut away or bent back in order to insert a finger to grip the spool, for removing it.

In the drawings one embodiment of the invention is illustrated and like numerals denote the same details in the different views.

Figure 1 is a view of the case or cabinet in vertical section;

Figure 2 is a front elevation of a portion of Figure 1 with shelves and spool boxes in position;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of one cardboard box filled with spools and opened ready for installment on a shelf of the cabinet;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of a separator for the boxes; and

Figure 5 a fragmentary vertical section of a modified form of a cabinet with horizontal shelves intended for holding other articles packed in boxes such as chewing gum, cigarettes, soaps, tooth paste, razor blades and others.

This cabinet, made of wood, metal or plastic material, has a flat upright rear wall 11, two upright side walls 12 narrowing upwardly and a top 13 firmly connecting the three walls. Near the bottom at front a board or threshold 14 connects the two side walls 12 firmly.

Between the top 13 and the bottom board 14 is provided a series of shelves 15, rigidly secured to the side and rear walls 11, 12 and terminating at equal distances from the front edge 16 of the side walls 12. Depending on the bulkiness of the articles on display, the shelves are spaced one above the other and all inclined at the same angle, about 15° to 20° against the horizontal plane in order to assure the round or cylindrical articles to roll forward towards the front edge of a shelf 15.

A short distance behind the front edge 17 of each shelf 15 is provided a T-shaped groove 18 running parallel to said edge. This groove is intended to accommodate spring clips or separa-

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tors 19 between the cardboard boxes as well as at the sides of the boxes on the shelves in order to properly position the boxes.

In front of the edge 17 of each shelf 15 is placed a window 20 in the shape of a long, narrow strip of heavy plate glass reaching from end to end of each shelf.

This window 20 is supported at its ends by a channel-shaped bracket 21 closed at its lower end 22 to provide a seat for the window 20 when slipped down between its flanges. This channel bracket 21 may be made of metal or plastic and held in place on the side walls 12 by lugs or screws 23 or the like, which fit in corresponding round holes in said walls.

In Figure 1, the glass window 20 is high enough to provide a stop against the foremost spool 24 on a shelf, and is positioned far enough in front of the shelf 15 to provide a narrow space 26 to accommodate the label flap 28 on a box 27.

Such a cardboard box 27 is seen in Figure 3 containing two dozen spools placed end to end in two rows which may be separated by a middle partition 29. These boxes are filled as shipped by the manufacturer and when opened are to be cut back slantingly from the front bottom corners as at 30 for two specific reasons, the first being to free the front wall 28 of the box 27 and bend it down as a flap for insertion into the space 26 formed between the shelf edge 21 and the plate glass window 20. In this manner it will be possible for a customer to identify the goods needed by reading the label printed on flap 28 which is visible through the window 20.

The modification in Figure 5 shows a cabinet with level shelves 15 the glass window 20 of which is no higher than the top line of the shelves, so that the outermost of the stored articles 24a is completely exposed. As stated, articles other than thread spools in boxes are intended to be carried on three horizontal shelves. This modified cabinet is in all other respects similar in construction to that with the inclined shelves shown in Figure 1.

The separators 19 are made of spring steel or other metal in the form of an inverted V. The free ends of the shanks are bent outwardly as at 33 to provide serrated edges in order to insure a firm hold of the separators in the T-groove 18.

This case and box is designed for displaying and selling of merchandise from cardboard boxes as packed by the manufacturers without removing the contents from the packing boxes. This case can be made with any number of shelves in height and any length. The slanting shelf case can be used for thread, mints, ribbons or any item made round or packed in a round box. The level shelf case can be used for most any item such as chewing gum, cigarettes, soaps, tooth paste, razor blades, etc. The merchandise is never re-

moved from the cardboard packing boxes. All boxes are labeled on the inside on two sides or two ends giving the manufacturers' name, contents, size, color, price, etc. Cases can be made of wood, plastic or metal.

It is to be understood that the invention as herein disclosed may be varied from the details described and shown without departure from the spirit of the subjoined claims.

I claim:

1. The combination in a display and selfservice cabinet, of a shelf supported between cabinet side walls, a transparent panel disposed across the width of the shelf between said side walls and in spaced relation with the front edge of the shelf, and a receptacle for containing articles for display, on the shelf and having an end wall disposed downwardly and inserted between the transparent panel and the said front edge of the shelf.

2. The combination as set forth in claim 1, wherein said panel projects slightly above the surface of the shelf and functions as a stop in front of the receptacle to maintain the receptacle in position, the downward disposition of the receptacle front wall providing an open forward end for the receptacle, the projecting edge of the panel further acting as a check to the advancement of articles through the open front end of the receptacle.

3. In combination, a cabinet having spaced, vertical side walls, a shelf disposed between said side walls, a transparent panel extending transversely between the side walls in spaced relation with the front edge of the shelf, a merchandise containing receptacle disposed upon the shelf with an end adjacent to the said front edge, the wall of the receptacle at said end being disposed downwardly and positioned between the front edge of the shelf and the transparent panel whereby informative markings upon the inner

side of said wall are displayed through the panel.

4. The combination as set forth in claim 3, wherein said shelf slopes downwardly and forwardly and the said transparent panel projects at its top edge above the top of the shelf and functions as a stop to limit advancement of articles in the receptacle through the forward end of the receptacle.

5. A display cabinet designed to receive cartons of material, comprising spaced side walls, a shelf supported between said side walls, a transparent panel extending across the width of the shelf between said side walls, the front edge face of the shelf and the back face of the transparent panel being in spaced parallel relation to receive between them an end wall of a carton supported upon the shelf whereby informative material on the surface of the end wall will be displayed through the panel.

JAMES A. WOMACK.

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