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SHELF SUPPORT

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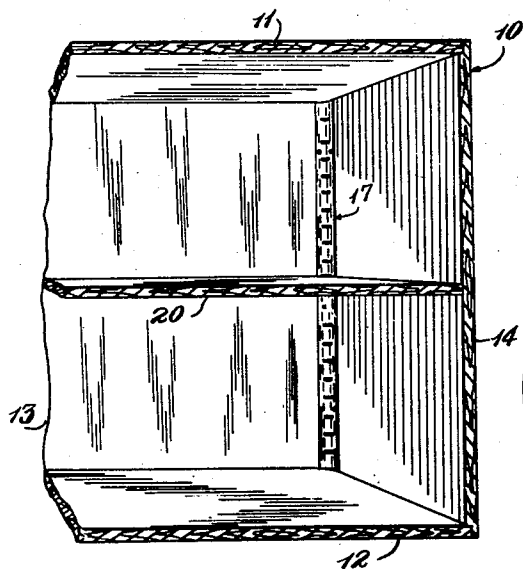


Fig. 1

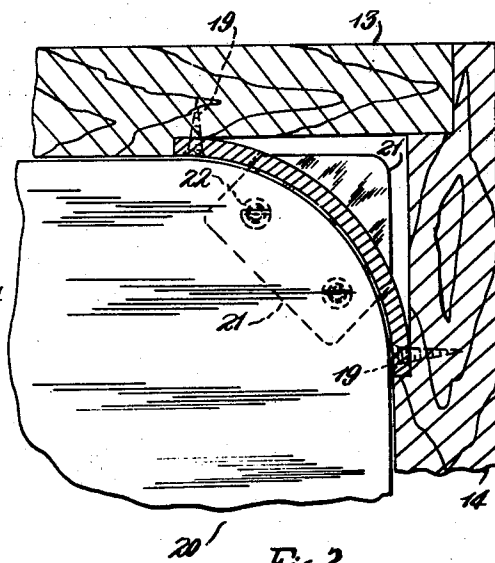


Fig. 2

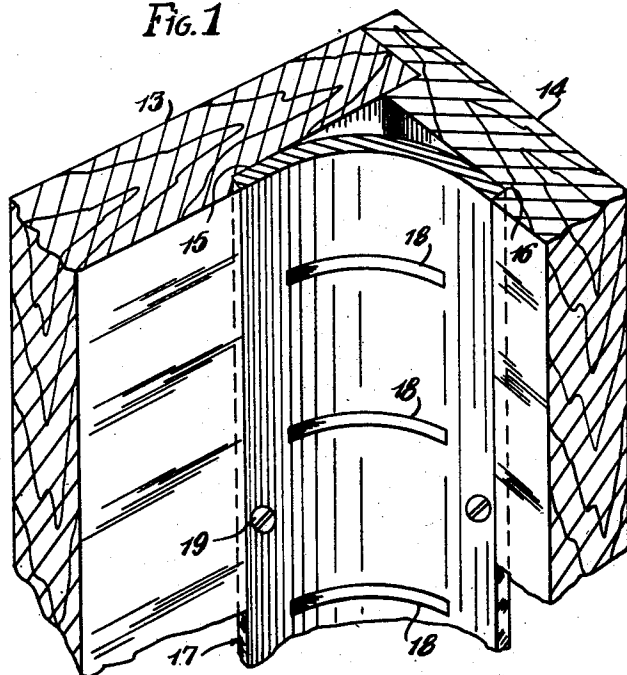


Fig. 3

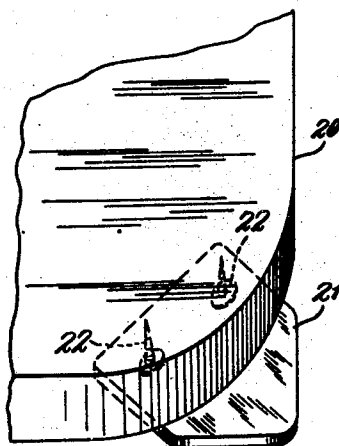


Fig. 4

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SHELF SUPPORT

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1 Claim. (Cl. 211-147)

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This invention relates to a means for supporting adjustable shelves, such as those employed in stores, libraries, display cabinets and the like, and has as its principal object the provision of an improved construction which is economical to manufacture, simple to install, and pleasing in appearance.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved means for supporting adjustable shelves at various heights which is adapted to be easily installed in the corners of a cabinet or a tier of shelving, and which is so constructed that the shelves may be inserted therein and removed therefrom by a simple straight line motion, thus enabling the positions of the shelves to be readily changed with little effort.

A further object of the invention is to provide a rear support for adjustable shelving comprising an elongated, transversely curved, member provided with a plurality of vertical spaced openings adapted to be engaged by the shelves to be supported, the said member being adapted for installation in a corner of a cabinet or tier of shelving.

A still further object of the invention is to provide an elongated, transversely curved, shelf supporting member adapted to be installed in a corner of a cabinet or tier of shelves in such a manner that the said member spans the corner and forms a smooth continuous surface with the walls of the cabinet or tier of shelves.

It is also an object of the invention to provide an improved shelf support comprising an elongated, slotted member adapted to be installed in the corner of a cabinet or tier of shelves, and a plate member adapted to be attached to a corner of a shelf for selective engagement in the slots of the elongated member.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following detailed description and the accompanying sheet of drawings, illustrating one embodiment of the invention, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary perspective view of a vertical section of a cabinet showing the rear portion thereof with the improved shelf support in the rear corner and supporting a shelf at a selected position;

Fig. 2 is a horizontal sectional view through the rear corner of the cabinet shown in Fig. 1 and illustrating, on an enlarged scale, the manner in which the improved shelf support is engaged by a member attached to a shelf;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary perspective view of a portion of the cabinet of Fig. 1 illustrating, on

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an enlarged scale, one mode of mounting the improved shelf support in the cabinet; and

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary perspective view of one of the adjustable shelves showing the details of the member mounted thereon for engagement with the shelf support.

It is well-known that the shelving in stores, libraries and display cabinets are most efficient when they may be adjusted to different vertical heights in order to provide flexibility of the spacing between the shelves. To provide for this adjustability in installations of this nature, where there are a relatively large number of shelves, it is essential that the supporting means therefor be inexpensive yet easily operated and kept clean. The manner in which the improved shelf supporting means of this invention meets these requirements will be apparent from the following detailed description of one embodiment of the device.

Referring to Fig. 1, I have shown the rear portion of a cabinet, generally designated 10, formed by top 11, bottom 12, back wall 13 and side walls 14 (only one of which is here illustrated) united together to form a rectangular compartment. This cabinet is disclosed as being constructed from wood, but it is obvious that metal or other suitable materials may be employed if desired, since the cabinet per se does not constitute a part of this invention.

The rear wall 13 and side wall 14 are joined together to form a rectangular corner as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3, and the faces of the walls 13 and 14, adjacent their point of intersection, are recessed slightly as shown at 15 and 16, to receive the improved shelf support. This shelf support, generally designated 17, is formed from an elongated member, which is transversely curved and is provided throughout its length with a plurality of spaced openings 18, which may be formed as horizontally extending slots as shown. The shelf supporting member 17 may be constructed from light gauge metal, plastic, wooden strip or other suitable materials and has a thickness of substantially the same dimension as that of the aforementioned recesses 15 and 16 provided in the walls 13 and 14.

The shelf supporting member 17 is mounted, as shown in detail in Fig. 2, by inserting it in the corner of cabinet 10, so that its longitudinal edges are in engagement with the edges of the aforementioned recesses 15 and 16, thus providing a smooth continuous surface from wall 13 to wall 14. The member 17, by virtue of its relative thinness and curved configuration, has a slight

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springiness so that it may be forced into the corner of a cabinet or tier of shelves and retained therein by its spring-like action which forces its longitudinal edges against the edges of recesses 15 and 16.

To further assist in retaining the shelf supporting member 17 in proper position, it may be provided with a plurality of openings adjacent its longitudinal edges for receiving screws 19, or other suitable fastening means, which may be inserted into the walls of the cabinet. However, when the construction is as shown in Figs. 2 and 3; i. e., with walls 13 and 14 recessed, the screws 19 are not necessary and may be omitted. It is obvious, however, that the shelf supporting member 17 may also be mounted in the corner of a cabinet or tier of shelves without recessing the intersecting walls thereof, in which event screws 19 or equivalent means are essential to retain the member 17 in proper position. If mounted in this latter manner, the front surface of the member 17 may form a smooth continuous surface with the corresponding walls of the cabinet or tier of shelves by suitably bevelling the longitudinal edges of member 17 or by employing other well-known expedients.

The shelves 20, one of which is shown in supported position in Fig. 1, are adapted for use with the improved shelf supporting member 17 by rounding the rear corners thereof (in the manner shown in Figs. 3 and 4) to substantially conform with the forward surface of the member 17. A plate 21 is then attached to the under surface of the shelf 20 at substantially the midpoint of the curved corner by means of screws 22 or other fastening means, passing through suitable holes in the plate. The plate 21 extends beyond the curved corner of shelf 20, and this extended portion has a substantially triangular configuration with the sides thereof intersecting at right angles. The thickness of plate 21 is slightly less than the width of slots 18 in member 17, and the width of plate 21 is slightly less than the length of the said slots. Hence, when it is desired to position a shelf 20 at a desired height, the plates 21 (there being one on each rear corner of the shelf) are inserted in corresponding openings 18 of the shelf supporting members 17, which are located in the rear corners of the

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cabinet, by a simple, straight line movement of the shelf in a horizontal plane. The forward corners of the shelf 20, which are not illustrated, may be adjustably supported by any conventional means.

It will now be apparent that the construction of my improved shelf supporting means is such that it may be economically manufactured and easily installed. Moreover, after the shelf support has been installed, the resulting cabinet is easier to clean than heretofore, because the rear corners thereof are now rounded and there are no projections where dust or other foreign matter may lodge, which is an important consideration in all types of shelving or cabinets.

While I have disclosed a preferred embodiment of the invention in considerable detail, by way of example, I do not wish to be confined to the exact construction illustrated but desire to cover all modifications coming within the spirit and scope of the invention as defined in the appended claim.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

A shelf support comprising a pair of upright walls defining a corner, the inner faces of the walls being recessed adjacent the corner formed thereby to provide longitudinally extending shoulders, and an elongated, transversely curved, upright member spanning said corner with the longitudinal edges thereof positioned in said recesses and abutting said shoulders, the depth of the recesses being equal to the thickness of said upright member so that the walls and upright member provide a smooth continuous surface without corners, the said upright member being provided with a plurality of vertically spaced openings adapted to receive corner portions of the shelves to be supported.

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