July 14, 1936. P. H. MEYER 2,047,794

INTERCHANGEABLE WALL COUNTER

Filed Sept. 15, 1934 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

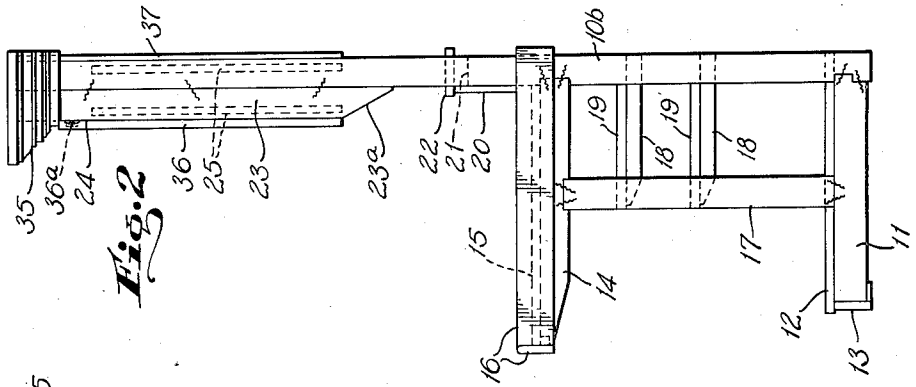


Fig. 2

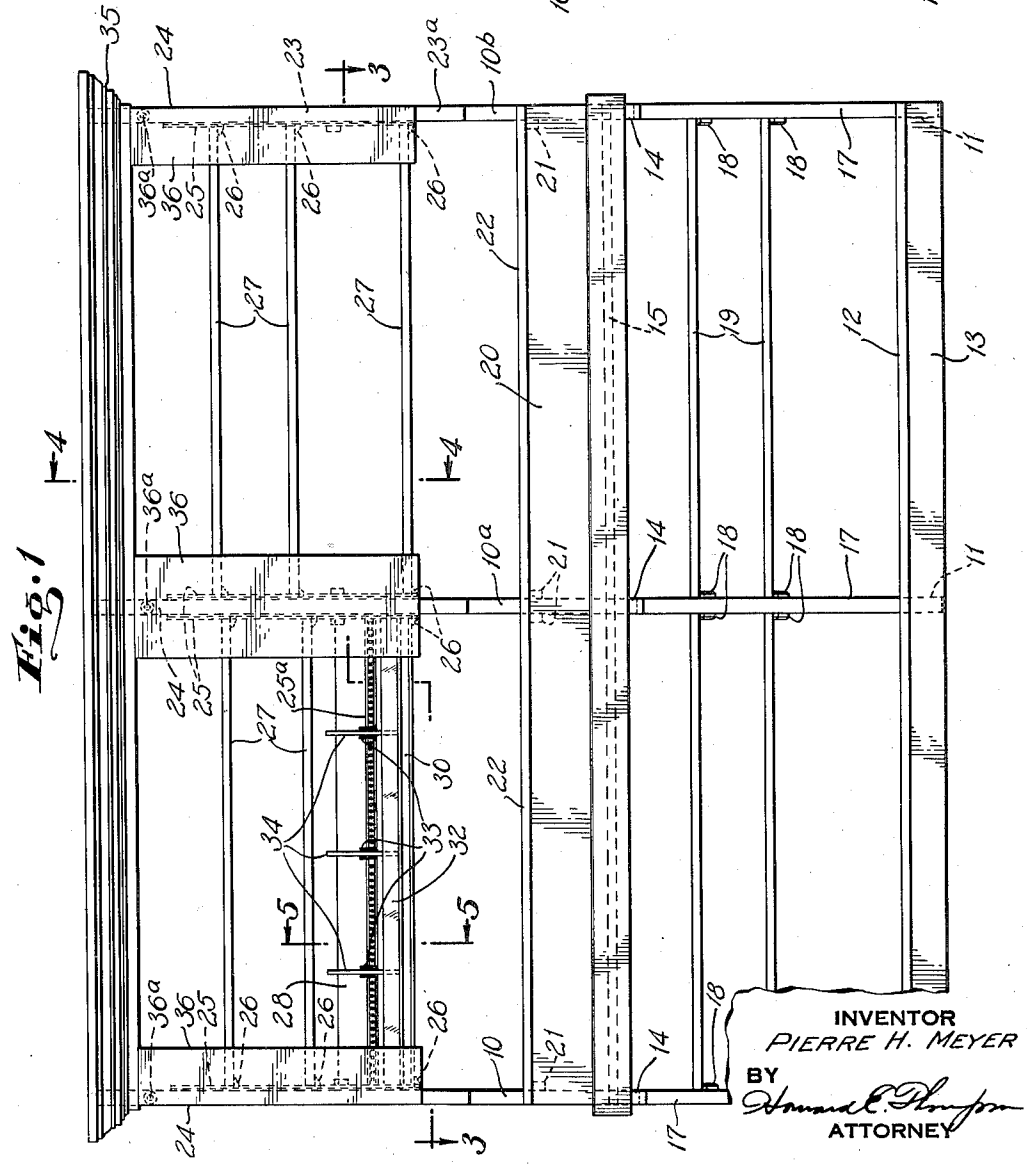


Fig. 1

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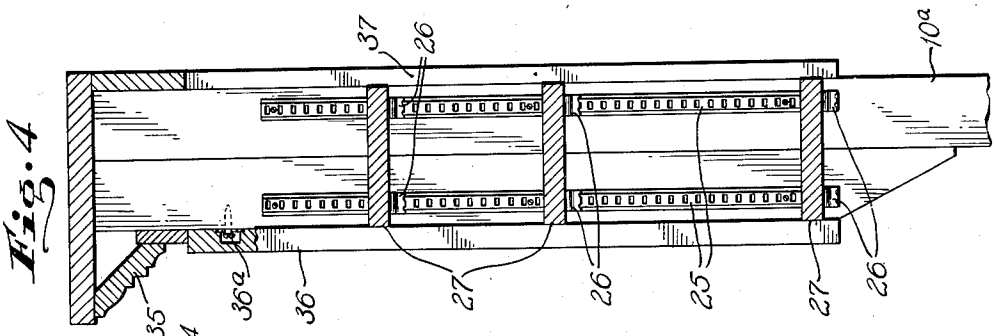


Fig. 4

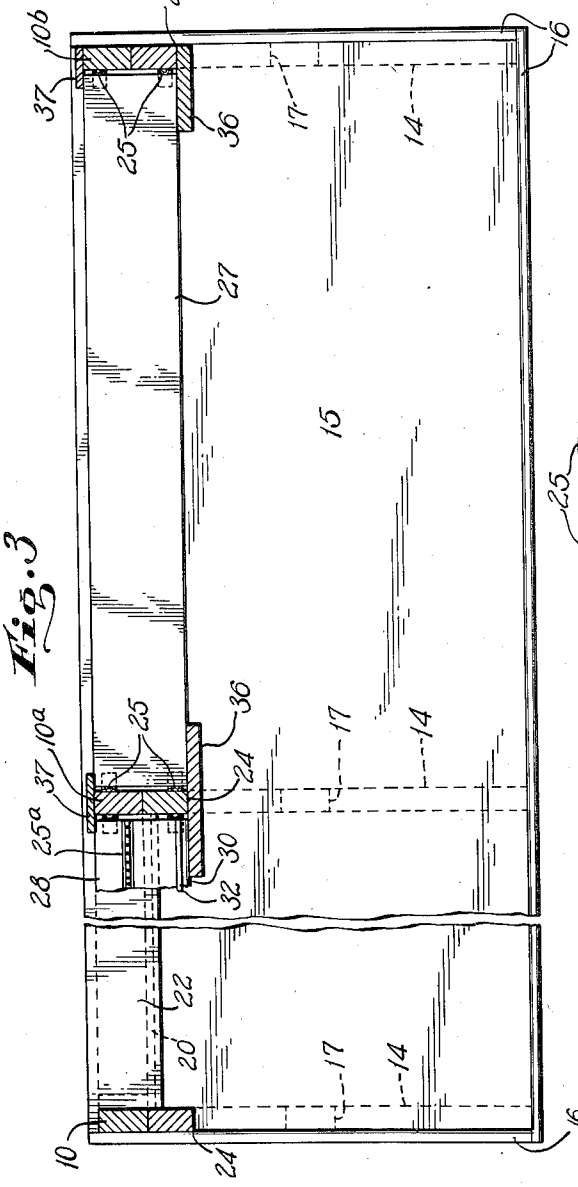


Fig. 3

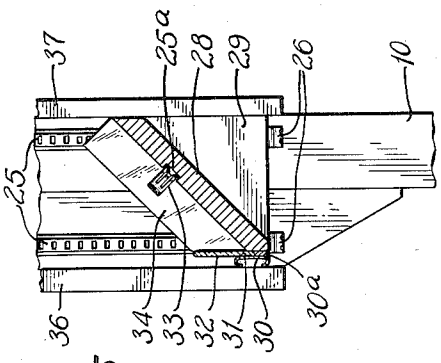


Fig. 5

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,047,794

INTERCHANGEABLE WALL COUNTER

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Application September 15, 1934, Serial No. 744,157

1 Claim. (Cl. 211—134)

This invention relates to wall counter and shelving construction, and the object of the invention is to provide a unit assemblage of this type of simple and economical construction as well as being practical and accessible in use and in the display of merchandise of various kinds and classes; a further object being to provide a unit of the class described wherein the various shelves are interchangeable as to uprights or standards to provide different shelf spacings, as well as to provide means for supporting shelves at an inclined position to provide an angular display of the merchandise; a further object being to provide means for sub-dividing the shelves into separate compartments and to adjust the size of the compartments; and with these and other objects in view the invention consists in a unit of the class and for the purpose specified which is simple in construction, efficient in use, and which is constructed as hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention is fully disclosed in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawings form a part, in which the separate parts of my improvement are designated by suitable reference characters in each of the views, and in which:—

Fig. 1 is a front view of a unit made according to my invention with part of the construction broken away.

Fig. 2 is a side view of the structure shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a partial section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a partial section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1; and,

Fig. 5 is a sectional detail view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1.

In carrying my invention into effect, I construct the wall counter and shelving unit in one or more sections, and for the purpose of illustration I have shown the unit, in Fig. 1 of the drawings, as composed of two sections. The unit disclosed is composed of a frame consisting of three standards 10, 10*a*, and 10*b* preferably made from strips of given cross sectional size, which extends from the bottom of the unit to the top thereof in one continuous strip and upon which the entire unit may be set, hung or built.

Secured to and extending outwardly from the standards 10, 10*a*, and 10*b* are forwardly directed bottom rails 11, two of which are indicated in Fig. 1, and one of which is shown in Fig. 2 upon which is formed a bottom wall or shelf 12 having a front finishing strip 13. Above the members 11 are other forwardly directed members 14 which are also secured to the standards 10, 10*a*, and 10*b*, and these members form supports for a counter board or platform 15 which is bordered by finishing or facing strips, 16, at the front and ends thereof, and the upper edges of which project beyond the upper surface of the counter board 15 to form retaining flanges for holding articles against displacement from the counter.

The members 14 are also braced by short uprights 17 which are secured to the members 11 and arranged in alinement with the standards of the unit. Cleats 18 are secured to the uprights 17 and standards 10, 10*a*, and 10*b* to support shelves 19 under the counter 15 upon which articles or packages may be stored, the bottom wall 12 also serving for the same purpose.

At the back of the counter 15 and secured to the face of the standards 10, 10*a*, and 10*b* is a facing board or strip 20, which forms a back wall to the counter and on top of this strip and supported on cleats 21 are narrow shelf boards 22, the position of which is fixed.

Secured to the upper portions of the standards 10, 10*a*, and 10*b* are supplemental strips 23, the lower ends of which are beveled as indicated at 23*a*, and these strips in conjunction with the standards themselves form relatively wide shelf supporting portions 24 at the upper ends of the standards. The outer shelf supporting portions of the unit are provided on their inner surfaces with a pair of apertured strips 25 and similar pairs of strips 25 are disposed on both side surfaces of the central shelf supporting portions. Sheet metal supporting brackets 26 are detachably coupled with the strips 25 to provide an adjustable mounting of shelf boards 27 vertically in the shelf sections.

In the construction shown in Fig. 1, three of the boards 27 are disposed in a horizontal position at the right of said figure and two at the left of said figure; and below the bottom board 27, at the left in Fig. 1, I have shown an inclined shelf construction 28 including angular end pieces 29 for supporting the shelf in inclined position. The lower edge of the shelf 28 includes a channeled finishing strip 30, the channel being directed outwardly to form a mounting for price tickets or cards, a spacing strip 30*a* being included in back of the strip 30 to form a groove 31 between the upper end of the strip 30 and the lower edge of the shelf 28, in which groove, a glass or other panel 32 is mounted to form a stop wall for sup-

porting articles against displacement from the shelf **28**. The shelf **28** also includes a longitudinal perforated strip **25***a* similar to the strip **25** and countersunk in the surface of the shelf, and U-shaped partition supporting clips **33** are detachably and adjustably coupled with the strip **25***a* to support partition walls **34** at different positions longitudinally of the shelf **28**, as is indicated in Fig. 1 of the drawings and shown in detail in Fig. 5 of the drawings.

In this connection, it will be understood that all of the shelves employed may be of the inclined type, or all of the horizontal type, or a combination of the two types may be employed—thus providing different and varied types of display in the complete counter shelf unit. It is preferred that the upper end of the complete unit be finished off by a molding or other strip **35** to give a neat and finished appearance to the top of the complete unit.

I may also employ article displaying panels **36** on the front edges of the members **23**, the panels on the end members being approximately one-half the width of the central panels **36**. These panels provide means for supporting articles at the front of the shelf portion of the complete unit and also cover up the ends of the shelves or the shelf brackets **26** on the standards. The panels **36** are detachably supported on pins or hooks as indicated at **36***a* in Fig. 4 of the drawings.

Stop strips **37** are also employed at the rear edges of the standards **10**, **10***a* and **10***b* to limit inward movement of the shelves, and while in the construction shown the rear of the unit is left open so that the wall or other surface may form a backing therefor, it will be understood that a back wall or closure may be provided of any desired basing material, especially if the counter construction is arranged on the middle of the floor, and in some cases where two units may be arranged back to back.

With a shelving unit of the class described, articles of merchandise of various kinds and classes may be placed in visible display and in an acceptable manner, thus materially aiding sales, as will be apparent. By constructing counter shelf units from standardized parts of the kind designated, units of this type may be erected or manufactured and sold at a very nominal cost. A unit of the class described will afford to the store owner or merchant a means of displaying relatively large volume of merchandise in a minimum amount of space.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is,

A counter shelf unit comprising a frame having widely spaced back standards, each consisting of an elongated board of predetermined width and thickness throughout its length and of a length equal to the height of the resulting unit to be formed, a forwardly directed counter arranged centrally of the unit and attached to and extending between said standards, other short boards equal in width and thickness to the boards of said standards arranged upon and in alinement with and secured to the front surface of the upper end portions of the standards to form in conjunction therewith relatively wide shelf supporting portions, said shelf supporting portions being arranged above and in spaced relation to the counter, shelf supporting means arranged vertically on adjacent surfaces of said shelf supporting portions whereby shelves may be adjustably supported vertically thereon, a narrow stationary shelf arranged horizontally above the counter and between said standards, and a vertical facing panel extending from said stationary shelf to the upper surface of the counter to form a back wall for the counter.

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