

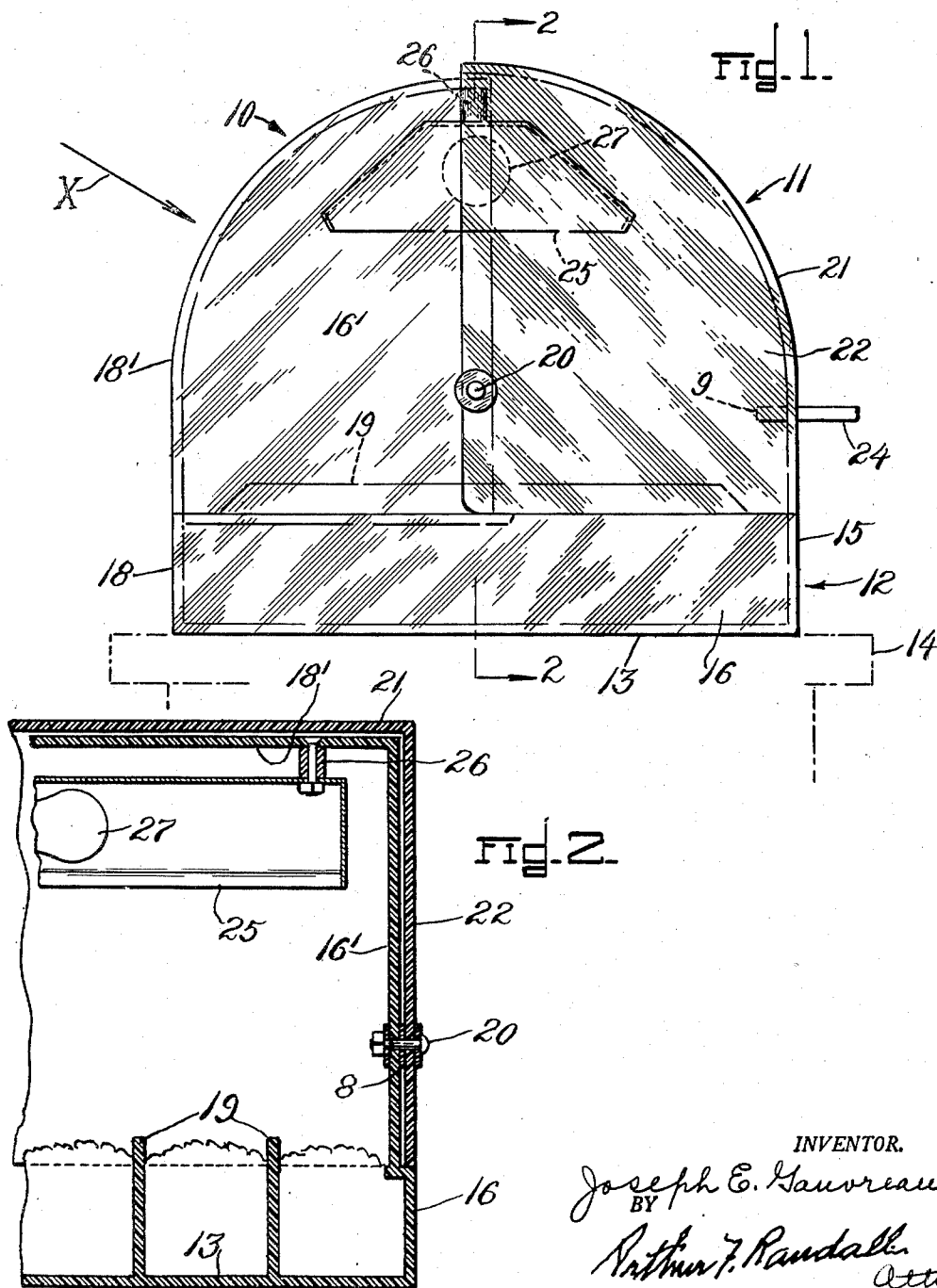
Aug. 1, 1950

J. E. GAUVREAU
DISPLAY CABINET

2,517,420

Filed Sept. 9, 1947

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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FIG. 3.

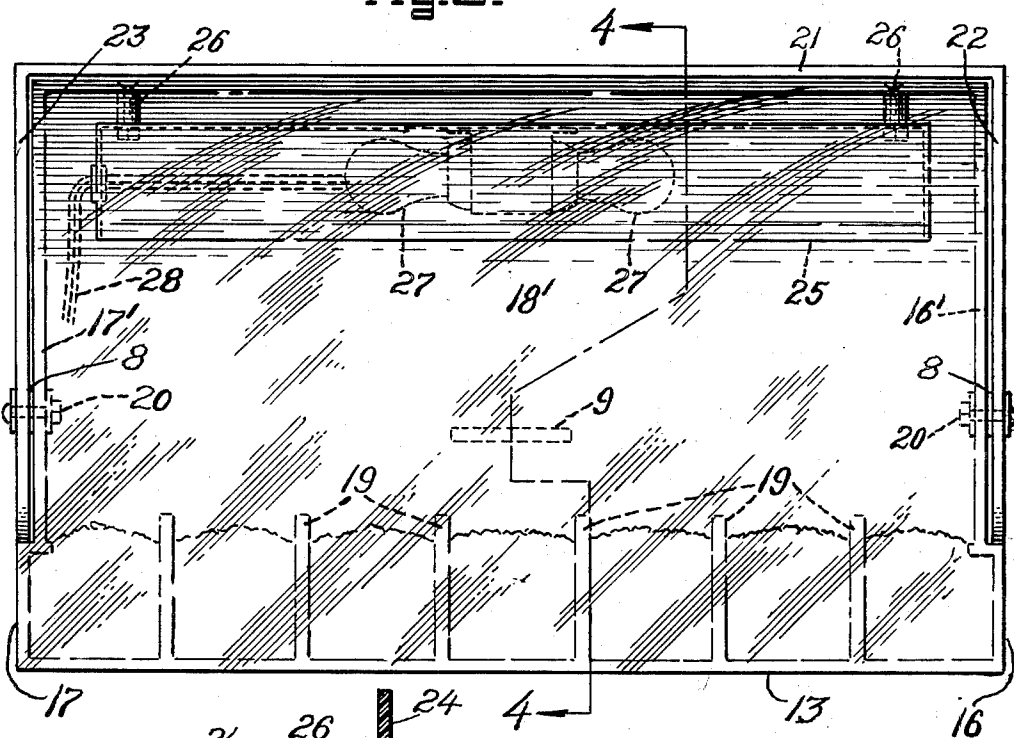
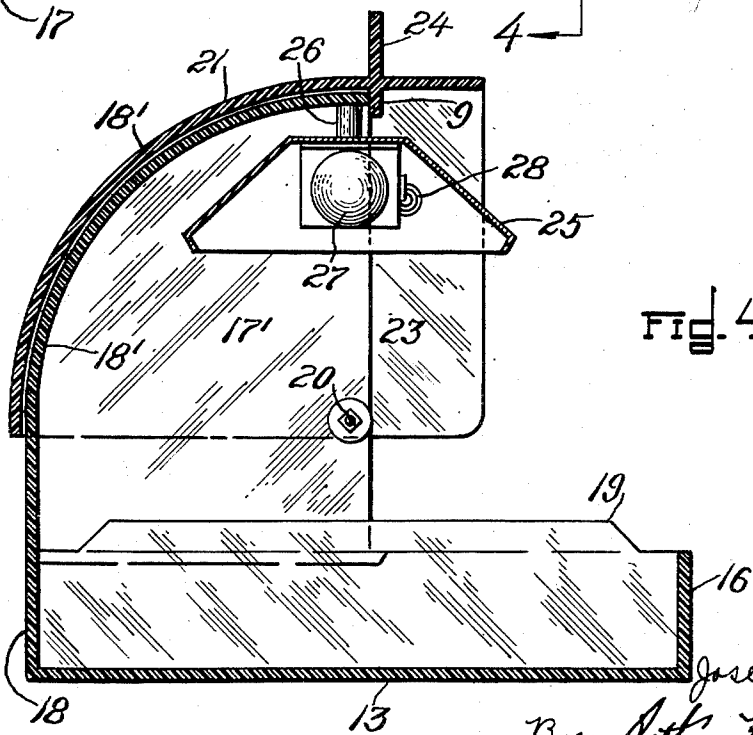


FIG. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,517,420

DISPLAY CABINET

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Application September 9, 1947, Serial No. 773,017

1 Claim. (Cl. 312-138)

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This invention relates to improvements in display cabinets for use in displaying and dispensing merchandise, particularly nuts, and it has for its object to provide an attractive display cabinet comprising but few parts and within which the merchandise is stored and protected from contamination and also readily accessible for delivery to customers.

It is also an object of the invention to provide a display cabinet whose contents are always fully exposed to view from all sides and whose interior may be maintained at a predetermined temperature by means which also illuminates the contents of the device.

A further object of the invention is to provide a display cabinet of the character described including a normally closed housing provided with an adjustable closure section and having all of its top and side walls made from colorless transparent thermoplastic sheet material, such as "Plexiglas" or other synthetic resin, and directly integrated so as to minimize the employment of metallic coupling members or fasteners.

To these ends I have provided an improved display cabinet which, in the preferred embodiment thereof, may be constructed and utilized as set forth in the following description, the several novel features of the invention being particularly pointed out and defined in the claim at the close of said description.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is an end elevation of my improved display cabinet.

Figure 2 is a section on line 2-2 of Fig. 1.

Figure 3 is a front elevation of the display cabinet shown in Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a section on line 4-4 of Figure 3.

The illustrated embodiment of this invention comprises a housing consisting of but two sections including a body section 10 and a closure section 11, both of which are made from transparent synthetic thermoplastic sheet material such as synthetic resin. Each of these two sections is made up of a plurality of originally separate panel elements that are directly united or integrated by means of cement or a solvent to form a unitary one-piece structure thereby dispensing with metallic coupling elements.

The body section 10 comprises a rectangular shallow base portion 12 made with a flat horizontal bottom wall 13 to seat upon a counter or other support that is indicated by broken lines at 14 in Fig. 1; with a relatively low perpendicular rear wall 15; with two oppositely disposed perpendicular side walls 16 and 17, and with a front wall 18.

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This base portion of body section 10 is divided interiorly into a series of bins or compartments by a plurality of relatively parallel perpendicular transparent partitions 19 which are also parallel with the oppositely disposed side walls 16 and 17, and these compartments are adapted to hold various kinds of nuts, or other merchandise, all of which is exposed to view of a customer viewing the device from the front thereof as indicated by the arrow X in Fig. 1, or from any other side of the device.

For approximately one-half of their fore and aft lengths the oppositely disposed side walls 16 and 17 are made adjacent to the front of the cabinet with upward extensions 16' and 17' whose upper portions are of quadrantal form and disposed with their curved marginal portions uppermost and facing forwardly.

The front wall 18 of base 12 is made at its top with an upward extension 18' which is integrated at its opposite sides with the marginal portions of extensions 16' and 17' of the oppositely disposed side walls 16 and 17 of base 12. The upper portion of the front wall extension 18' is of arcuate shape complementing the arcuate shape of the curved portions of the side wall extensions 16' and 17' with which it is connected. In this manner the base 12 is provided at its front with an upwardly extending superstructure whose top is approximately of the form of a quadrant of a hollow right cylinder that is closed at its opposite ends by the quadrantal walls 16' and 17'.

The front wall extension 18' is concentric with the axes of two axially aligned pintles or bolts 20 mounted in the oppositely disposed side wall extensions 16' and 17' by which the closure section 11 (Fig. 1) is pivotally connected with said side wall extensions for angular adjustment relatively thereto.

Closure section 11 is constructed with a rear wall 21 whose upper portion is arcuate and concentric with the axes of the pintle bolts 20 and interiorly of slightly greater radius than the radius of the outside of the front wall extension 18'. At its opposite sides the rear wall 21 is provided with approximately quadrantal side walls 22 and 23 which are apertured to receive the bolts 20, said side walls 22 and 23 being spaced apart a slightly greater distance than the exteriors of the side walls 16' and 17' and overlapping the same as shown in Fig. 1.

The side wall extensions 16' and 17' of base 12 are offset inwardly from the side walls 16 and 17 somewhat (Fig. 2) to permit the closure section

11 to seat on the tops of said side walls 16 and 17 and rear wall 15 when said closure section occupies its closed position as shown in Fig. 1, where its exterior is flush with the exteriors of said walls. Thus base 12 limits pivotal movement of section 11 in one direction while a stop 9 provided upon the interior of rear wall 21 of closure section 11 limits the opening movement of said section to ninety degrees through its engagement with the upper end of the front wall extension 18' of base 12 (Fig. 4). While the closure section occupies its closed position its center of gravity is disposed rearwardly with respect to the pivots 20 so that it is held in that position by gravity and when said closure section occupies its open position its center of gravity is disposed forwardly with respect to said pivots 20 so that it is held in that position by gravity.

A handle lug 24 is provided upon the exterior of rear wall 21 of closure section 11 by means of which the latter may be manually adjusted from one position to the other.

Washers 8 mounted upon the pintle bolts 20 between the side walls 22 and 23 serve to maintain said walls spaced apart slightly so that rubbing contact is avoided.

Within the cabinet constructed as above described I may provide an elongate sheet metal reflector-shade 25 fastened to the upper end of the front wall extension 18' by means of hangers 26, one near each end thereof, and within this reflector-shade two electric lamps 27, 27, may be provided that are supplied with current through a circuit 28 extending to the outside of the cabinet where it is connected with a source of current. These lamps serve to illuminate the contents of the compartments of base 12 and also, in the case of certain kinds of nuts, to maintain the interior of the cabinet at a desired temperature.

While I prefer to construct the two sections 10 and 11 from transparent synthetic resin as above described, it is to be understood that said sections may be made from any other suitable rigid and transparent material, such as transparent glass, with or without the use of coupling elements hereinbefore referred to.

What I claim is:

A display cabinet comprising two sections of transparent material whereof one section is constructed with a relatively shallow rectangular tray-like base made at its front with a superstructure whose upper portion approximates in form that of a quadrant of a hollow right cylinder having oppositely disposed flat side walls that are inwardly offset integral extensions of the oppositely disposed side walls of said tray-like base and also having a front wall that is an integral extension of the front wall of said tray-like base and whose upper portion is rearwardly arcuate, and the other section consisting of an adjustable closure section that approximates in form that of a quadrant of a hollow right cylinder having a forwardly arcuate rear wall normally seated upon the top of the rear wall of said tray-like base with its upper end overlapping the upper end of the arcuate front wall of said superstructure and also having oppositely disposed flat side walls normally seated upon the tops of the oppositely disposed side walls of said tray-like base and permanently overlapping the oppositely disposed inwardly offset side walls of said superstructure, and means pivotally connecting the overlapping side walls of the closure section and superstructure concentrically with respect to the arcuate portions of said closure section and superstructure.

JOSEPH E. GAUVREAU.

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