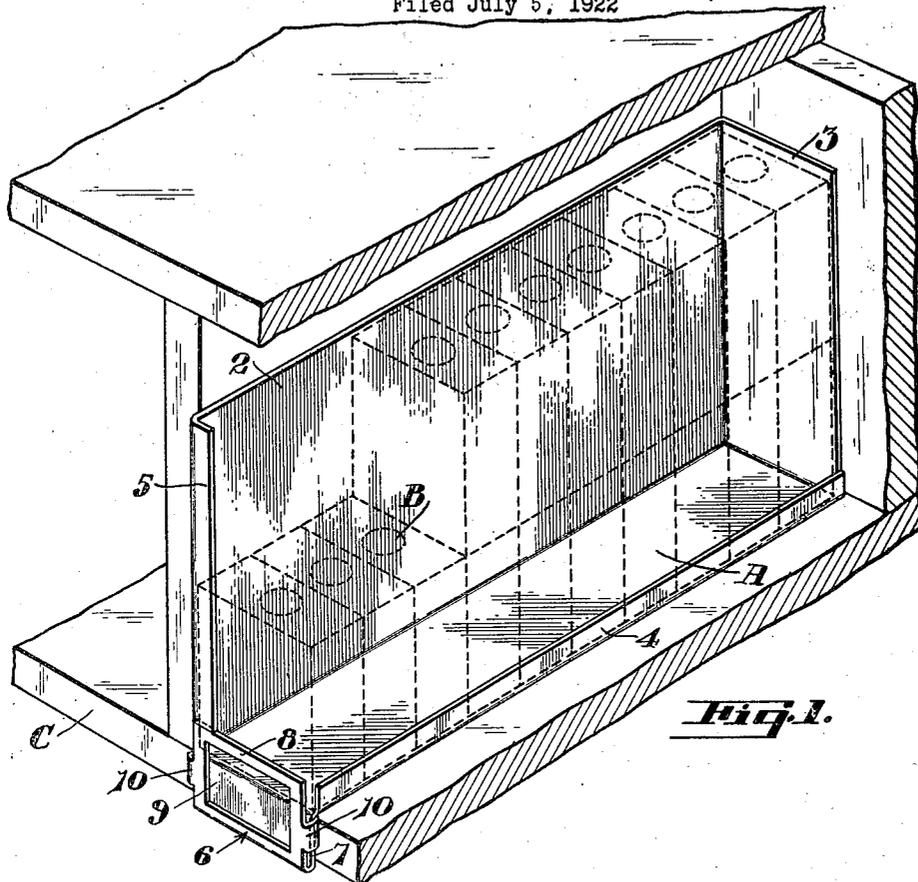


Aug. 28, 1923.

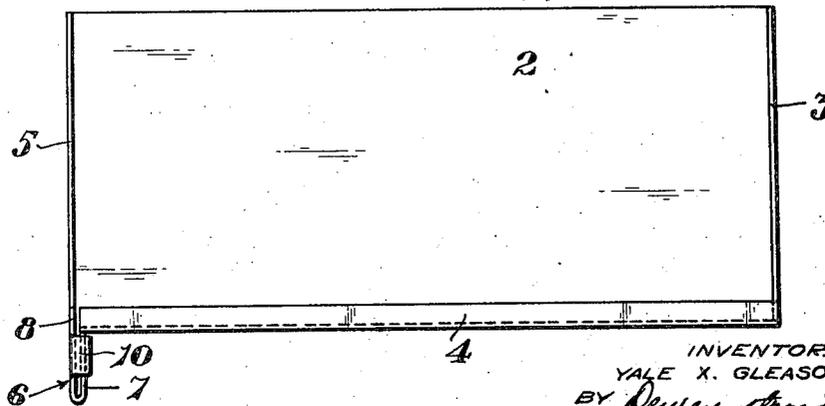
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Y. X. GLEASON  
SHELF STACKING TRAY  
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*Fig. 1.*

*Fig. 2.*



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## SHELF-STACKING TRAY.

Application filed July 5, 1922. Serial No. 572,879.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, YALE X. GLEASON, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city and county of San Francisco and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Shelf-Stacking Trays, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to trays and especially to a tray which permits systematic displaying and stacking of certain classes of merchandise on store shelves.

The object of the present invention is to generally improve and simplify trays of the character described; to provide a tray which insures systematic arrangement and order of the goods, prevents mixing or misplacing of the same, permits stacking of the goods and conservation of space and insuring regularity and uniformity in piling; to provide a tray which may be constructed of sheet metal throughout and which is provided with a label holder adapted to display the name of the merchandise, quality, price or any similar data desired, and further to provide means for preventing displacement of the merchandise when in position on the tray. Other objects will hereinafter appear.

One form which my invention may assume is exemplified in the following description and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the tray showing it in position on a shelf.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same.

Referring to the drawings in detail, and particularly to Fig. 1, A indicates the bottom portion of the tray, and 2 the main side section. The tray is preferably constructed of sheet metal which is placed in a blanking die and then bent so that the side and bottom sections 2 and A, respectively, will be disposed at right angles to each other. The merchandise to be supported and displayed is placed on the tray, as indicated by dotted lines at B, and the tray is particularly designed to receive such merchandise as spice containing cans and the like. One, two or more rows of cans may be stacked on top of each other, as indicated, and the vertical height of the side section 2 is determined entirely by the number of rows to be stacked, in this instance the side section is designed to receive two rows, one placed on top of the other. For the purpose of retaining the merchandise in position when on the tray, an end section 3 has been provided,

an auxiliary side section 4, an auxiliary front section 5 and a combined handle and label section 6. All of these parts are formed integral. For instance the end section 3 is formed as an integral part of the side section 2 and is bent at right angles thereto, the end section preventing endwise movement of the merchandise on the tray. The side section 4 which, in reality, is nothing more or less than an upturned flange, is formed as an integral part of the bottom section and is vertically disposed at right angles to the bottom section. The cans placed between the side sections 2 and 4 are in this manner secured against lateral or side movement on the tray. The front section 5 is also nothing more or less than an inturned flange and is formed as an integral part of the side section 2, being bent at right angles thereto. This front section engages one corner of the foremost cans in the rows and as such serves as a front stop to prevent the foremost cans from toppling off the tray. The combined handle and label holder is formed as an integral part of the bottom section. This label holder consists of a rear section 7 bent downwardly at right angles to the bottom section A and then returned upon itself to form a face section 8. A slight spacing is maintained between the sections 7 and 8 and in this space is inserted a card or label displaying the name of the goods or any other information or data desired; the front section 8 being provided with a window or opening 9 through which the card or label is displayed. The inner section 7 is sufficiently long to project a slight distance below the shelf C, upon which the tray is supported, and as such permits the shelf to be easily grasped and pulled in a forward direction when the merchandise is to be removed. The front or outer section 8 is similarly projected upwardly into alignment with the top edge of the side section 4 and as such forms a second front stop against which the foremost can in the lowest row engages, thus further securing the same against toppling over when the tray is pulled out or replaced during the removal of merchandise.

To maintain the spacing between the sections 7 and 8, a pair of side lugs 10 is provided. These lugs are formed as an integral part of the section 8 and are bent inwardly behind the section 7, thus securing the sections 7 and 8 with relation to each other

and reinforcing and strengthening the same.

The tray here illustrated may be placed on the usual store shelves and when so placed may be filled with merchandise such as spice cans and the like. This merchandise is in this manner displayed in a systematic and orderly way, and it is furthermore easily removed when purchases are made. One tray after another may be placed side by side and one tray will not interfere with the movement of the adjacent tray as spacing is maintained between the same by the shallow side flanges or sections 4. The length of the trays will depend entirely upon the depth of the shelves, and the height of the side section 2 and the end section 3 may be varied so that one, two or more rows of merchandise may be stacked if desired.

While certain features of the present invention are more or less specifically illustrated, I wish it understood that various changes in form and proportion may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims, similarly that the materials and finish of the several parts employed may be such as the experience and judgment of the manufacturer may dictate or various uses may demand.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. A tray of the character described comprising a vertical sheet metal side and an integral horizontal bottom section, an upturned flange on the bottom section on the edge opposite to the side section and parallel therewith, and a front and rear stop cooperating with the bottom section, said tray being open at the front and side above the flange of the bottom section and the front stop to expose goods at the front and to permit lateral displacement of the goods at the side of the tray.

2. A tray of the character described comprising a vertical sheet metal side and an integral horizontal bottom section, an upturned flange on the bottom section on the edge opposite to the side section and parallel therewith, and a front and rear stop cooperating with the bottom section, said rear stop forming a part of the side section and being bent at right angles thereto and the

said tray being open at the front and side above the bottom flange and the front stop to expose goods at the front of the tray and to permit lateral displacement of the goods at the side of the tray.

3. A tray of the character described comprising an integral sheet metal side and bottom section, an upturned flange on the bottom section on the edge opposite to the side section and parallel therewith, a vertically disposed inturned flange formed on the front end of the side section, and an inturned end section integral with the side section, said tray being open at the front and side above the front stop and the bottom flange to expose goods at the front of the tray and to permit lateral displacement of the goods at the side of the tray.

4. A tray of the character described comprising an integral sheet metal side and bottom section, an upturned flange on the bottom section on the edge opposite to the side section and parallel therewith, a vertically disposed inturned flange formed on the front end of the side section, an inturned end section forming a part of the side section, and a combined handle and label holder integral with the bottom section and disposed at the front end thereof, said tray being open at the front and the side above the front stop and the bottom flange to expose goods at the front of the tray and to permit lateral displacement of the goods at the side of the tray.

5. In a tray of the character described the combination with the bottom section, of a combined handle and label holder forming a part thereof, said handle and label holder comprising an inner section bent at right angles to the bottom section and then turned upon itself to form a front section, said inner and front sections being interspaced to receive a display card, a window formed in the front section to permit display of the card, and a pair of side lugs formed as an integral part of the front section, said side lugs being bent behind the inner section to tie the front and inner sections and to maintain the spacing between the same.

YALE X. GLEASON.