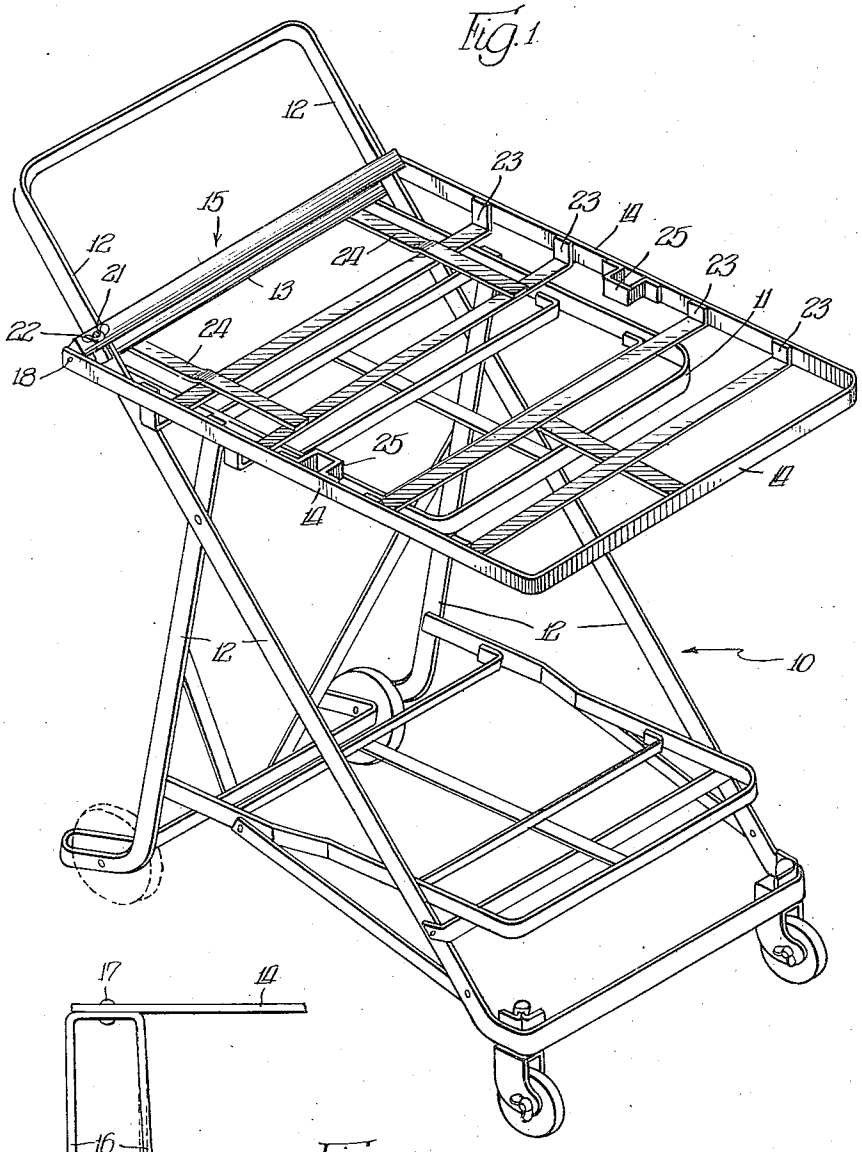
Oct. 19, 1948. H. I. SIDES 2,451,985

AUXILIARY SHELF FOR CARTS

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Fig. 1



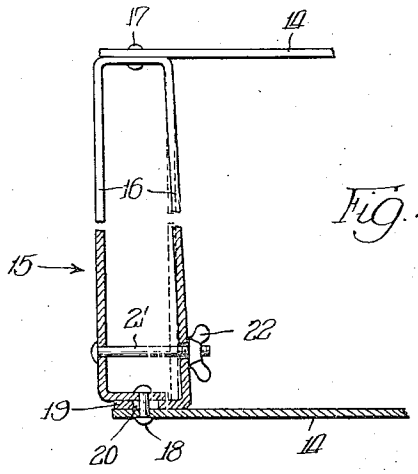


Fig. 4

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Fig. 2.

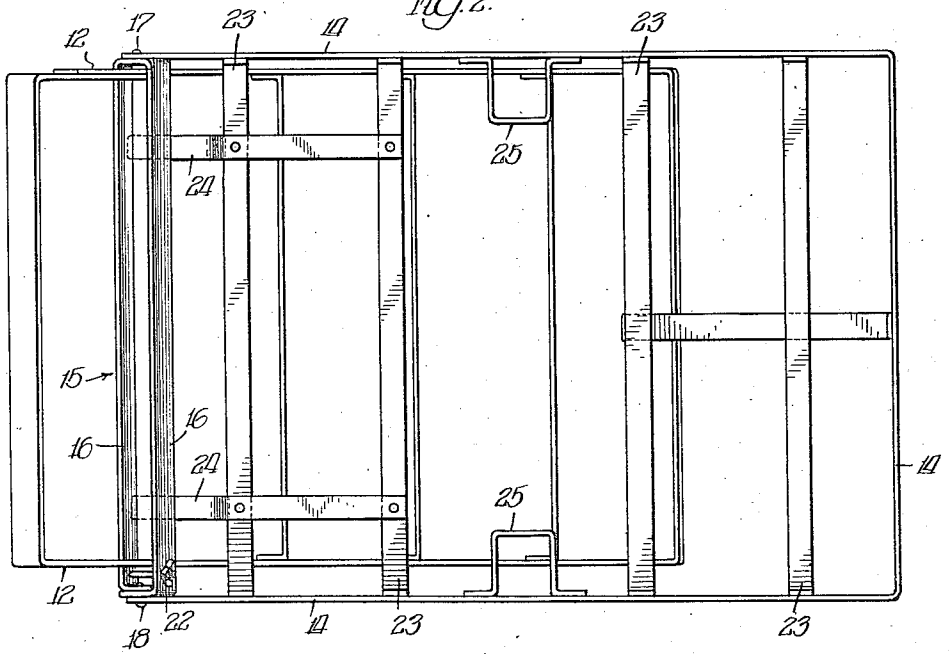
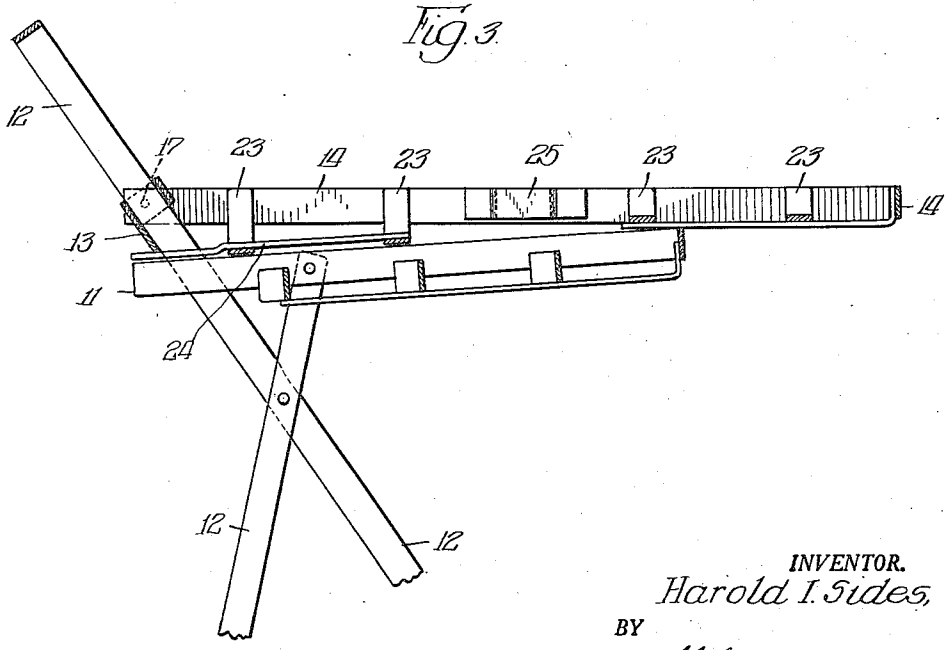


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,451,985

AUXILIARY SHELF FOR CARTS

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Application September 15, 1945, Serial No. 616,485

6 Claims. (Cl. 211—135)

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The present invention relates to improvements in basket carrying carts of the type employed in self-service stores, in which a basket carrying shelf is supported in substantially horizontal position, having particular reference to an auxiliary shelf which is adapted to be detachably mounted over the basket carrying shelf of such a cart, and the provision of such a device is a principal object of the invention.

Specifically, it is an object of the invention to provide, in a basket carrying cart having a basket carrying shelf supported in substantially horizontal position by side frames, an auxiliary shelf adapted to be detachably mounted upon and carried by the first shelf and the side frames, the auxiliary shelf including a frame member defining an area greater than the first named shelf and adapted to carry two baskets disposed transversely thereof and a clamping member connected to one end of the auxiliary shelf and adapted to be clamped around the side frames and supported above the first shelf.

The auxiliary shelf embodied by the present invention is intended for use with all types of self-service store carts. By this is included the rigid type of cart as well as the more modern collapsible type of cart. A collapsible type of frame and shelf construction for a basket carrying cart is disclosed in my Patent No. 2,377,815, granted June 5, 1945.

The present invention is a continuation-in-part of my copending application, Serial No. 586,473, filed April 4, 1945, which has become Patent No. 2,398,863 on April 23, 1946, also for a basket carrying cart and an auxiliary shelf arrangement, the latter being adaptable for use with an upper basket carrying shelf of the particular collapsible cart disclosed in that application, and it is a further object of the present invention to provide an improved auxiliary shelf construction over what is disclosed therein.

Other objects of the invention will in part be obvious and will in part appear hereinafter.

The invention accordingly comprises an article of manufacture possessing the features, properties, and the relation of elements which will be exemplified in the article hereinafter described and the scope of the application of which will be indicated in the claims.

For a fuller understanding of the nature and objects of the invention reference should be had to the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a basket carrying cart illustrating the auxiliary shelf arranged in clamped position over the top basket carrying shelf of a collapsible type of cart;

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Fig. 2 is a plan view of Fig. 1, somewhat enlarged, showing the auxiliary shelf embodying the present invention and arranged in clamped position;

Fig. 3 is a side elevational view, partly in section and with parts broken away, further illustrating the auxiliary shelf of Fig. 2 in mounted position; and

Fig. 4 is a plan view, with parts broken away and with parts in section, illustrating a clamping member connected to the end of the auxiliary shelf.

Referring more particularly to the drawings there is indicated generally at 10 a basket carrying cart in which a basket carrying shelf 11 is supported in substantially horizontal position by side frames 12, 12 having portions extending above the basket-carrying shelf. The side frames of all carts are usually connected by a cross bar as at 13 disposed above the basket carrying shelf 11.

The auxiliary shelf includes a frame member 14 which defines an area greater than the basket carrying shelf 11 so that the auxiliary shelf can carry two baskets disposed transversely thereof. A clamping member indicated generally at 15 is connected to one end of the auxiliary shelf and is adapted to be clamped around the side frames 12, 12, above the shelf 11. The clamping member 15 preferably comprises two spaced apart members 16, 16, which in effect are provided by a bar of metal bent back upon itself. This bar of metal is pivotally mounted to one end of the side frame 14 by any suitable means, such as a rivet 17. The other ends of this bar constituting the spaced apart members 16, 16, are also pivotally mounted by means of a rivet 18 at the other end of the side frame. However, the members 16, 16 are movable with respect to each other. That is, one end 19 of one member 16 is slotted as indicated at 20 (see Fig. 4). The rivet 18 passes through the end of the other member 16, through the slot 20, and through the end of the frame 14. The movable members 16, 16, constituting the clamp 15, can be drawn toward each other against their own resiliency by means of a bolt 21 and wing nut 22.

Opposite sides of the auxiliary shelf are preferably connected by a plurality of bracing members 23, 23, which are adapted to rest upon the top of the basket carrying shelf 11.

Connected to bracing members 23, 23, adjacent the clamping member 15, are extensions 24, 24,

which are adapted to project underneath the cross bar 13, and these extensions bear against the under surface thereof additionally to lend rigidity and support to the auxiliary shelf.

In order to keep the baskets from racking, and to keep them in spaced apart position, spacer members 25, 25, can be provided at an intermediate point along the auxiliary shelf. The spacer members could also be constructed to perform the functions of the bracing members.

It will be observed that the auxiliary shelf preferably is of a width approximately the length of the basket carrying shelf 11 and of a length approximately twice the width thereof. By this construction at least two baskets of a size adapted to be accommodated by the shelf 11, or a lower shelf when one is utilized, can be carried by the auxiliary shelf. Where only two baskets are filled by a customer they can both be carried on the upper basket carrying shelf 11 when the auxiliary shelf is used and it is unnecessary for them constantly to be stooping down to reach a lower basket ordinarily carried on the lower shelf.

The auxiliary shelf can readily be adapted to any type of basket carrying cart. This is accomplished merely by slipping the clamping member 15 over the side frames to the position illustrated and, because the frame members 14, 14, of the auxiliary shelf are pivotally mounted with respect to the clamping member 15, they will drop down to position on the upper basket carrying shelf 11 and come to rest thereon because of the bracing members 23, 23, or any other suitable cross pieces such as, for example, the spacing members 25, 25, when they are constructed so as to take the place of the bracing members. In the meantime, the extension members 24, 24, will pass underneath the cross bar 13 and bracingly come to rest thereagainst. The bolt 21 and wing nut 22 are provided so that the parts 16, 16, of the clamping member 15 can tightly be drawn to the side frames 12, 12, to hold the auxiliary shelf in fixed position.

It will thus be seen that the objects hereinbefore set forth can readily and efficiently be attained, and since certain changes may be made in the above article and different embodiments of the invention could be made without departing from the scope thereof, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying drawings shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

It is also to be understood that the following claims are intended to cover all of the generic and specific features of the invention herein described, and all statements of the scope of the invention which, as a matter of language, might be said to fall therebetween.

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

1. In a basket carrying cart of the type employed in self-service stores having a basket carrying shelf supported in substantially horizontal position by side frames, said side frames having portions extending above said basket-carrying shelf, the improvement comprising an auxiliary shelf adapted to be detachably mounted upon and carried by said first named shelf and said side frame portions, said auxiliary shelf including a frame member defining an area greater than said first named shelf and adapted to carry two baskets disposed transversely thereof, clamping means connected to one end of said auxiliary shelf and adapted to be clamped to said side frame portions above said first named shelf, and bracing members connecting opposite sides of said frame member constituting the auxiliary shelf, which bracing members are adapted to be supported by said first named shelf.

2. In a basket carrying cart of the type employed in self-service stores having a basket carrying shelf supported in substantially horizontal position by side frames, said side frames having portions extending above said basket-carrying shelf and connected by a cross bar disposed above said shelf, the improvement comprising an auxiliary shelf adapted to be detachably mounted upon and carried by said first named shelf and said side frame portions, said auxiliary shelf including a frame member defining an area greater than said first named shelf and adapted to carry two baskets disposed transversely thereof, clamping means connected to one end of said auxiliary shelf and adapted to be clamped to said side frame portions above said first named shelf, bracing members connecting opposite sides of said frame member constituting the auxiliary shelf and adapted to be supported by said first named shelf, and extension members connected to said bracing members and bearing against the under surface of said cross bar when said bracing members are supported by said first named shelf.

3. In a basket carrying cart of the type employed in self-service stores having a basket carrying shelf supported in substantially horizontal position by side frames, said side frames having portions extending above said basket-carrying shelf, the improvement comprising an auxiliary shelf adapted to be detachably mounted upon and carried by said first named shelf and said side frame portions, said auxiliary shelf including a frame member defining an area greater than said first named shelf and adapted to carry two baskets disposed transversely thereof, a clamping member comprising two spaced apart bars movable with respect to each other and pivotally connected to the ends of said frame member and adapted to embrace said side frame portions above said first named shelf, and bracing members connecting opposite sides of said frame member constituting the auxiliary shelf and adapted to be supported by said first named shelf.

4. In a basket carrying cart of the type employed in self-service stores having a basket carrying shelf supported in substantially horizontal position by side frames connected by a cross bar disposed above said shelf, said side frames having portions extending above said basket-carrying shelf, the improvement comprising an auxiliary shelf adapted to be detachably mounted upon and carried by said first named shelf and said side frame portions, said auxiliary shelf including a frame member defining an area greater than said first named shelf and adapted to carry two baskets disposed transversely thereof, a clamping member comprising two spaced apart bars movable with respect to each other and pivotally connected to the ends of said frame member and adapted to embrace said side frame portions above said first named shelf, bracing members connecting opposite sides of said frame member constituting the auxiliary shelf and adapted to be supported by said first named shelf, and extension members connected to said bracing members and bearing against the under surface of said cross bar when said bracing members are supported by said first named shelf.

5. In a basket carrying cart of the type employe in self-service stores having a basket carrying shelf supported in substantially horizontal

position by side frames, said side frames having portions extending above said basket-carrying shelf, the improvement comprising an auxiliary shelf adapted to be detachably mounted upon and carried by said first named shelf and said side frame portions, said auxiliary shelf including a frame member defining an area greater than said first named shelf and adapted to carry two baskets disposed transversely thereof, and a clamping member comprising two spaced apart bars movable with respect to each other and adapted to embrace said side frame portions and being pivotally connected thereto above said first named shelf to hold said auxiliary shelf in locked position and adapted to be supported by said first named shelf.

6. In a basket carrying cart of the type employed in self-service stores having a basket carrying shelf supported in substantially horizontal position by side frames, said side frames having portions extending above said basket-carrying shelf, the improvement comprising an auxiliary shelf adapted to be detachably mounted upon and carried by said first named shelf and said side frame portions, said auxiliary shelf including a

frame member adapted to carry a plurality of baskets thereon, clamping means, including spaced apart elements connected to each end of said frame member to embrace said side frame portions above said first named shelf to hold said auxiliary shelf in position on said first named shelf.

HAROLD I. SIDES.

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