July 26, 1966 A. WEBER 3,262,746

DISPLAY GLASS CONTAINERS

Filed Sept. 13, 1963

Fig. 1

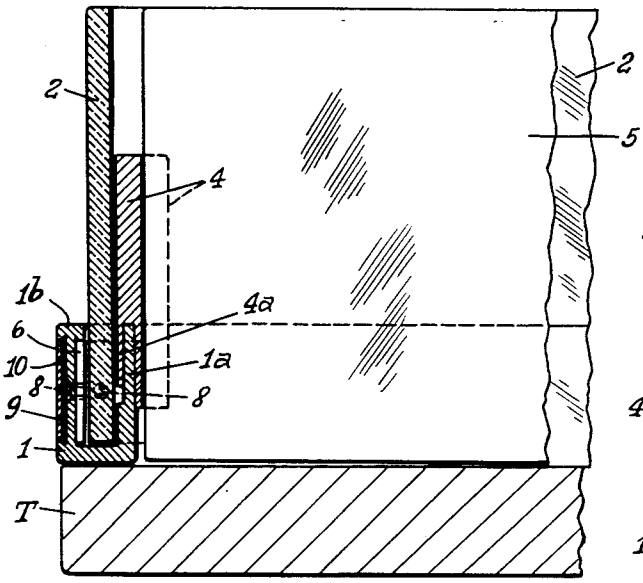


Fig. 5

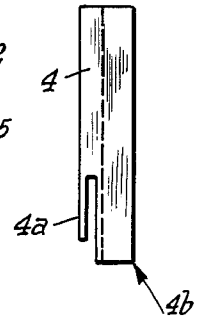


Fig. 6

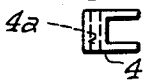


Fig. 3

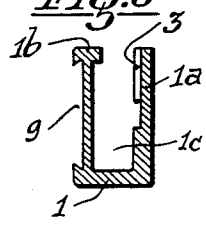


Fig. 2

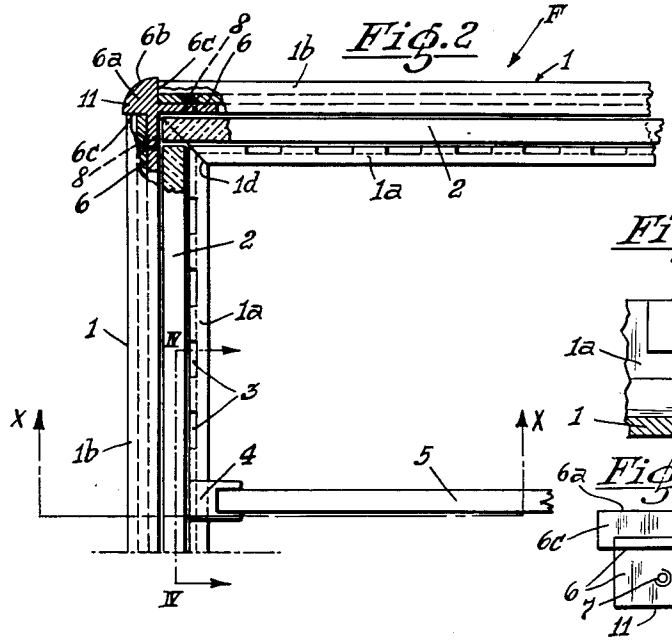


Fig. 4

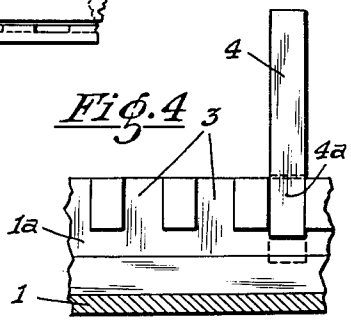


Fig. 7

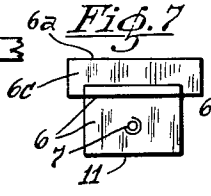
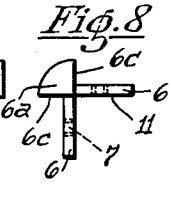


Fig. 8



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3,262,746

DISPLAY GLASS CONTAINERS

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6 Claims. (Cl. 312—140.3)

The invention relates to displays and relates more particularly to display containers having outer glass walls and inner glass partitions, and relates still more particularly to such containers which may be mounted on tables or counters.

Containers of this type now in use give rise to troubles in connection with the holders of the glass partitions: many of these holders include laterally projecting parts which hinder the easy exchange of wares from the container.

It is accordingly among the principal objects of the invention to provide a container of this type which is free from the difficulties that had been experienced with recent containers.

It is another object of the invention to provide a container the parts of which substantially are free from laterally projecting parts, thereby facilitating the exchange of wares to and from the interior of the container.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will be set forth in part in the following specification and in part will be obvious therefrom without being specifically referred to, the same being realized and attained as pointed out in the claims hereof.

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 fragmentary vertical sectional view, taken on the line X—X of FIGURE 2, of a container in accordance with an embodiment of the invention;

FIG. 2 is a fragmentary plan view thereof, partly in section;

FIG. 3 is a vertical sectional view of a channel member shown in FIGS. 1 and 2;

FIG. 4 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line IV—IV of FIG. 2, but omitting the glass pane;

FIG. 5 is an elevational view of a partition holder shown in FIGS. 1, 2 and 4;

FIG. 6 is a plan view of the holder of FIG. 5;

FIG. 7 is a front elevational view of a corner piece shown in FIG. 2; and

FIG. 8 is an end elevational view of the corner piece of FIG. 7.

In carrying the invention into effect in one of the embodiments which has been selected for illustration in the accompanying drawings and for description in this specification, and referring now particularly to FIGS. 1 and 2, there is provided a display container with glass walls and glass partitions. The container includes a frame F which comprises a plurality of U-shaped members or channel members **1**. The frame F may be secured by any suitable well known means such as, for instance by screws (not shown), to the top of a display table or counter T. The channel members **1** adjoin each other endwise.

There may be four channel members **1**, forming right angled corners as shown in FIG. 2, for a rectangular frame F. There may, however, instead be more than four channel members **1** that form the frame F, in which event the corner angle may be different from a right angle. Thus, the plurality of channel members **1** may comprise four, or more than four, channel members **1** without departing from the invention save as limited in the claims hereof.

As best shown in FIG. 3, each channel member **1** includes an inner wall **1***a* and an outer wall **1***b*, and defines an elongated upright chamber **1***c* that is open at both longitudinal ends and on top. As best shown in FIG. 2, the ends of each channel member **1** are so shaped, for instance at **1***d*, that the engagement of the adjacent channel member **1** will be in accordance with the polygonal corner angle as determined by the number of channel members **1** of the frame F.

The external upper wall of the container is formed by glass sheets **2** which are supported in the chambers **1***c*.

Each channel member **1** defines on its inner wall **1***a* a plurality of upright grooves **3**. Holders **4** (FIGS. 5, 6) are provided for holding a glass partition **5** in upright position. Each holder **4** forms on its lower end a bifurcation or fork **4***b* that includes a tine **4***a*. As best shown in FIGS. 2 and 4, when the holder **4** is emplaced on a channel member **1**, the fork **4***b* of the holder **4** will engage the inner wall **1***a* in such a manner that the tine **4***a* will rest in one of the upright grooves **3** of the channel member **1**.

A plurality of corner pieces **11** (FIGS. 7, 8) is provided; for each channel member **1** the frame F includes one corner piece **11**.

Each corner piece **11** comprises a head section **6***a* and two flanges or flange sections **6**, and both flanges **6** are integral with the head section **6***a*. The head section **6***a* has two angularly offset flat surfaces **6***c*, and each flange **6** projects from one of said flat surfaces **6***c*. The angle that is formed between the surfaces **6***c* is the same as the angle between the flanges **6**, and the same as the corner angle between two adjoining channel members **1** in the frame F.

In the instant exemplification, four channel members **1** and four corner pieces **11** are used, and the corner angle which is the same as the angle between the flanges **6** and between the surfaces **6***c*, as shown in FIG. 2, is 90°.

A round surface **6***b* extends between the flat surfaces **6***c* and, as best shown in FIG. 2, forms the round corner face of the frame F.

In assembly, as best shown in FIG. 2, the end of each outer wall **1***b* at one corner abuts against a flat surface **6***c* of the corner piece **11**. For that purpose, the outer wall **1***b* terminates at a surface angled so as to facilitate such abutment, again depending on the corner angle; in accordance with the instant exemplification, they form an angle of 90°.

The flanges **6** will be positioned adjacent the ends of the outer walls **1***b*. Each flange **6** has a threaded hole **7**, and each outer wall **1***b* has a hole which in the assembly position will be aligned with the hole **7** of a flange **6**. A screw **8** is positioned in the aligned holes, at each flange **6**, to complete the rigid frame F.

The outer wall **1***b* defines an external horizontal groove **9** that, as best shown in FIG. 3, may be dovetail shaped at the top and bottom. An elongated band member **10** may slidingly be positioned in the groove **9**, and may include a label or other identifying intelligence, or serve a decorative purpose.

Two holders **4** will be needed for each partition **5**, the holders **4** being positioned at opposite channel members **1**.

Certain of the advantages of the invention have already been herein referred to. It may be useful, however, to allude particularly at this point to the advantage of the instant invention of building a frame F having a smooth outer surface free from any protrusion. Furthermore, the corners of the frame F are rounded, at **6***b*. Lastly, neither the partition holder **4** nor the grooves **3** provide for any objectionable projection of the type that could protrude into the path of putting in or taking out wares to be displayed in the container. Yet, the connection between the holder **4** with its tine **4***a* that engages

a groove 3 gives sufficient support for holding steady the partition 5.

I wish it to be understood that I do not desire to be limited to the exact details of construction shown and described, for obvious modifications will occur to a person skilled in the art.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new and desire to be secured by Letters Patent, is as follows:

1. A display container having outer wall glass sheets and at least one glass partition, comprising in combination a plurality of endwise adjoining channel members, a plurality of corner pieces, each corner piece being operable to be inserted between two channel members and to be connected thereto, the interconnected channel members and corner pieces completing a frame, each channel member defining an upright elongated chamber open on top adapted to receive and to hold uprightly a glass sheet and including an inner wall defining on the inner surface a series of upright internal grooves, each groove being entirely open on top and bottom and terminating above the chamber bottom, said inner wall having a smooth outer surface, and a holder including a lower end operable to clamp said inner wall of a channel member at a groove thereof and adapted to hold a glass partition in upright position.

2. A display container, as claimed in claim 1, each channel member defining an elongated external groove, and an elongated band member operable for slidingly engaging said external groove.

3. A display container, as claimed in claim 1, said holder including a bifurcation at the lower end adapted to surmount said inner wall of the channel member, said bifurcation comprising two opposite members engaging therebetween said inner wall, one of said members forming a tine operable to fit into and to engage one of said internal upright grooves.

4. A display container, as claimed in claim 1, each corner piece comprising a head section and two flanges integral with said head section, means operable for releasably connecting each flange to one of the channel members adjacent thereto, each head section having two angularly offset flat surfaces operable for receiving in abutment the ends of said adjacent channel members and having between said flat surfaces a rounded external surface forming a rounded corner face of said frame.

5. A display container, as claimed in claim 4, said frame being rectangular, said flat surfaces and said flanges being offset from each other for a right angle.

6. A channel member, for use in supporting inside a glass sheet and outside with the aid of a holder a glass partition, comprising a U-shaped elongated body defining a chamber open at both longitudinal ends and open on top for receiving said glass sheet, said body including an inner wall having on its inner surface a series of internal upright grooves spaced from each other horizontally, each entirely open above and below and each commencing and terminating above the chamber bottom, and adapted to support a partition holder, and having a smooth outer surface.

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