April 23, 1940. B. KRASBERG 2,197,870

AUXILIARY SHELF

Filed Jan. 24, 1938

Fig. 1.

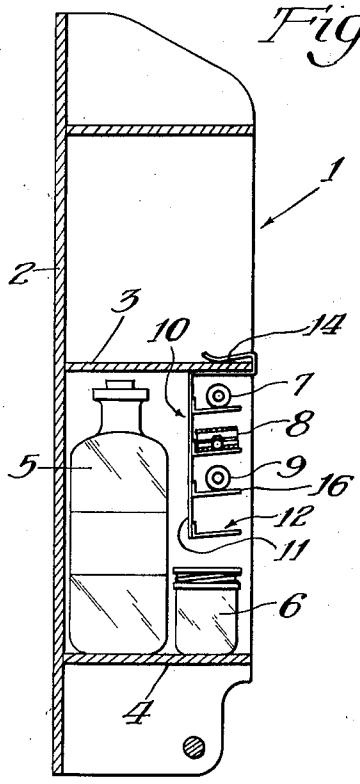


Fig. 2.

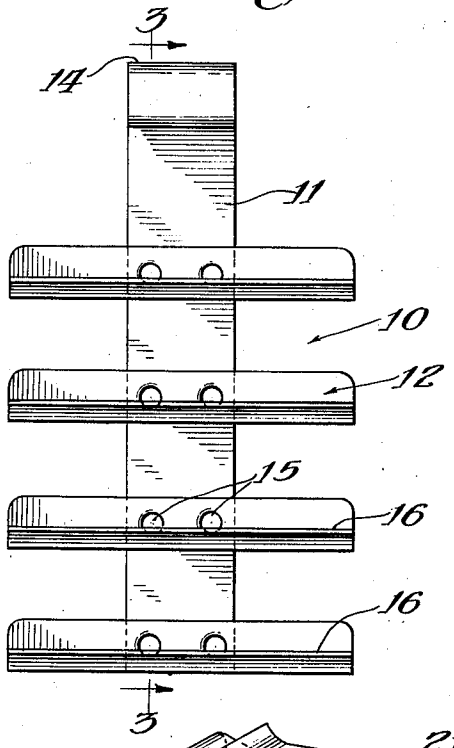


Fig. 3.

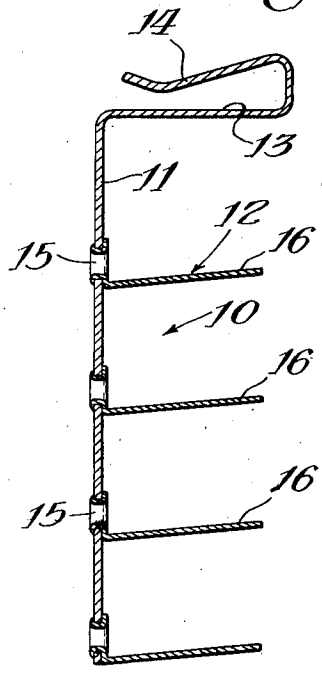
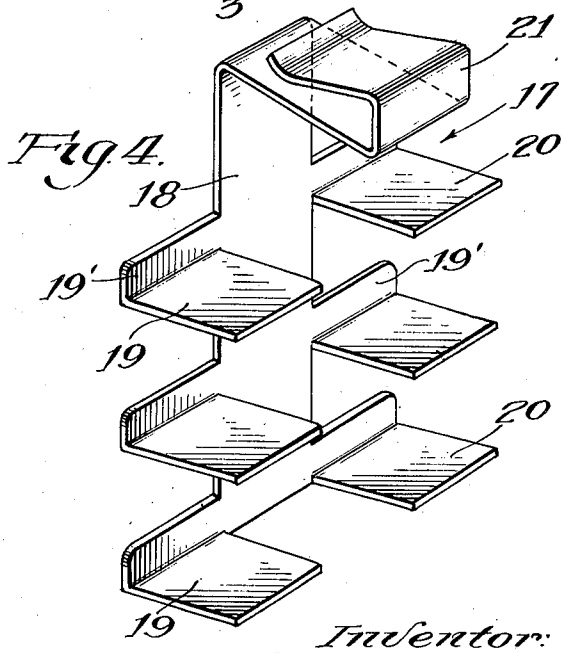


Fig. 4.



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AUXILIARY SHELF

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Application January 24, 1938, Serial No. 186,630

2 Claims. (Cl. 211—90)

This invention relates to improvements in auxiliary shelves for cabinets such as bath room cabinets, medicine cabinets and the like, and refers specifically to an auxiliary shelf which is so mounted in the cabinet as to occupy space within the cabinet which would in most instances be otherwise wasted.

Auxiliary shelves for cabinets have heretofore been proposed. However, said shelves by virtue of the position which they occupy within the cabinet are not auxiliary to the shelf space but merely occupy space which could otherwise be used.

For example, bath room shelves usually carry a variety of bottles, tubes and the like which may be generally classified into articles which occupy a comparatively large shelf area but a very small percentage of the total space above the shelf, and articles which occupy shelf area and also extend into the space above the shelf. The latter, of course, merit, so to speak, the shelf area which they occupy, but they form merely waste shelf space in that they do not efficiently fill the cabinet. Specifically, bottles fall within the latter class, that is, they usually efficiently fill a cabinet. Tooth paste tubes, shaving cream tubes, tooth brushes, razors and the like, in effect waste shelf space since they do not efficiently fill the space above the shelf.

In addition, those articles such as bottles and the like are usually required infrequently and can conveniently be placed along the rear of the shelf, whereas the smaller articles hereinbefore enumerated are used more or less frequently and must for convenience occupy the front portion of the shelf.

Devices heretofore used are suspended in most instances from the rear edge of a main cabinet shelf and, hence, occupy space which could, just as efficiently be occupied by other articles. Hence, little or no saving of space is obtained.

As a feature of my invention, I provide means for suspending my auxiliary shelf from the front edge of a main cabinet shelf, whereby small, frequently used articles are placed in a most convenient location. The auxiliary shelf, in effect, comprises a plurality of small shelves which occupy otherwise unused space above the main shelf, yet ample room is provided in back of the auxiliary shelf for the larger, infrequently used articles.

Other objects and advantages of my invention will be apparent from the accompanying drawing and following detailed description.

In the drawing,

Fig. 1 is a sectional view through a cabinet, illustrating my auxiliary shelf in position.

Fig. 2 is a front elevational view of my auxiliary shelf.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a slight modification of my invention.

Referring in detail to the drawing, 1 indicates a cabinet such as a bath room cabinet, medicine cabinet or the like. The cabinet 1 is provided with a rear wall 2 extending outwardly from which are a plurality of shelves 3 and 4. If desired, a door (not shown) may be provided for the cabinet.

As is customary, bottles, such as bottle 5; jars, such as jar 6, and various smaller articles such as tooth paste tube 7, razor 8 and shaving cream tube 9, may be carried in the cabinet 1. Usually, the larger articles such as the bottle 5 are used infrequently and, consequently, are positioned on the shelf 4 adjacent the rear wall. However, such articles as shaving cream, or tooth paste tubes, razor and the like, being used frequently are disposed conveniently adjacent the front edge of the shelves. Obviously, when the latter articles are positioned upon the shelf 4, the cabinet space above said articles is wasted.

As a feature of my invention I contemplate utilizing this otherwise waste space by providing an auxiliary shelf 10. The shelf 10 is preferably constructed of metal and comprises a longitudinally positioned strip 11 and one or more cross-strips 12. The longitudinal strip 11 is bent at substantially a right angle at its upper portion to provide a contact surface 13. The end is then bent upwardly and tapered backwardly to form a spring clamp member 14.

The cross strips 12 comprise auxiliary shelves of substantially L-shaped cross-section, the base of each L so formed being secured at its center to the longitudinal strip 11. For purpose of illustration, the securing means is show as comprising rivets 15, but any convenient means of attachment is contemplated. The cross-strips 12 are spaced along the length of the strip 11 to form a plurality of superimposed shelves 16, the shelf portions of which are tilted backwardly toward the strip 11 to prevent articles carried thereupon from rolling therefrom.

My auxiliary shelf 10 is secured to a main cabinet shelf, such as, shelf 3 by engaging the clamp portion comprising the bearing surface 13 and spring member 14 upon the front edge of shelf 3. The arrangement is such, that when the auxiliary

shelf 10 is so mounted, the bearing surface 13 engages the lower face of the main shelf 3 and is held in resilient contact therewith by means of the spring portion 14. The strip 11 extends downwardly at right angles to the plane of the shelf 3 into space above shelf 4 which would ordinarily not be used. Upon the auxiliary shelves 16 the small, frequently used articles 7, 8 and 9 are positioned. In this manner, a bottle 5 may be disposed upon shelf 4 behind the auxiliary shelf 10 and may be removed by sliding the bottle to either side of the auxiliary shelf, or if desired, the entire auxiliary shelf 10 may be removed carrying the articles 7, 8 and 9 whereby convenient access is provided for the bottle. Because of the tilt of the cross-shelves 16, this may be readily accomplished without danger of the small articles rolling from said cross-shelves.

Referring particularly to Fig. 4, a modified auxiliary shelf 17 is illustrated. Shelf 17 is of integral construction and may be formed from a unitary piece of metal. The structure is preferably formed by stamping a flat piece of metal in order to form a longitudinally extending portion 18 and cross portions 19 and 20. The portions 19 and 20 are formed in pairs and are bent to have each pair in a single plane, the planes thus formed being superimposed. The rear of each portion 19 and 20 is maintained in the plane of the longitudinal member 18 to form a back 19' for the shelves formed by the pairs 19 and 20. The upper end of the longitudinal portion 18 is bent similar to the corresponding end of the strip 11 to provide a clamping member 21 which is adapted to engage the front of a main cabinet shelf such as shelf 3.

The small articles 7, 8 and 9 may be laid across the portions 19 and 20 similar to the manner in which they would be supported by the shelves 16. Similar to shelves 16, the cross-members 19 and 20 are tilted whereby the articles carried thereby tend to roll into contact with the backs 19'.

Of course, it is to be understood that the auxiliary shelves 10 or 17 may be provided with one or more unit shelves, but because of the nature of the articles adapted to be carried two or more unit shelves are preferred. It is also to be understood that my invention is applicable to any type of shelf structure, such as, a pantry shelf, store shelf or the like.

I claim as my inevntion:

1. An auxiliary shelf member for bath room cabinets or the like which comprises a relatively narrow elongated element and a plurality of spaced cross-elements carried thereby, a clamp formed at one end of said elongated element for embracing the front edge of a shelf of said cabinet, said elongated element depending from said cabinet shelf, said cross-elements forming superimposed auxiliary shelves disposed beneath the front portion of, and behind the front edge of said cabinet shelf.

2. An auxiliary shelf member for bath room cabinets or the like which comprises a relatively narrow elongated element and a cross-element rigidly secured to, and extending an appreciable distance on each side of said elongated element, a clamp formed at one end of said elongated element for embracing the front edge of a shelf of the cabinet, said elongated element depending from said cabinet shelf, said cross-element forming an auxiliary shelf spaced beneath the front portion of said cabinet shelf and behind the front edge of said cabinet shelf.

BRUCE KRASBERG.