

No. 894,505.

PATENTED JULY 28, 1908.

A. O. JOHNSON.

SIGN BOARD.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 16, 1907.

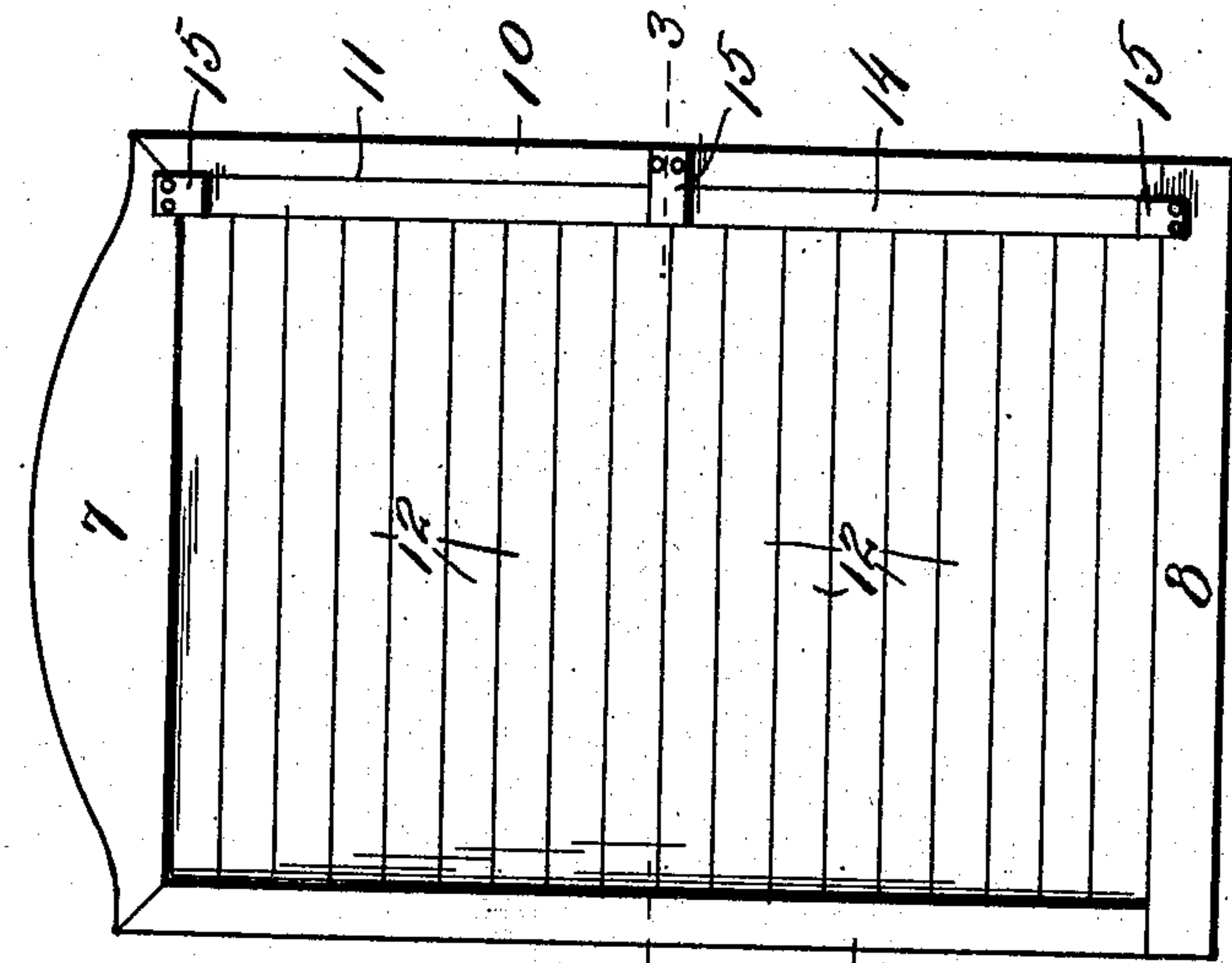


Fig. 2.

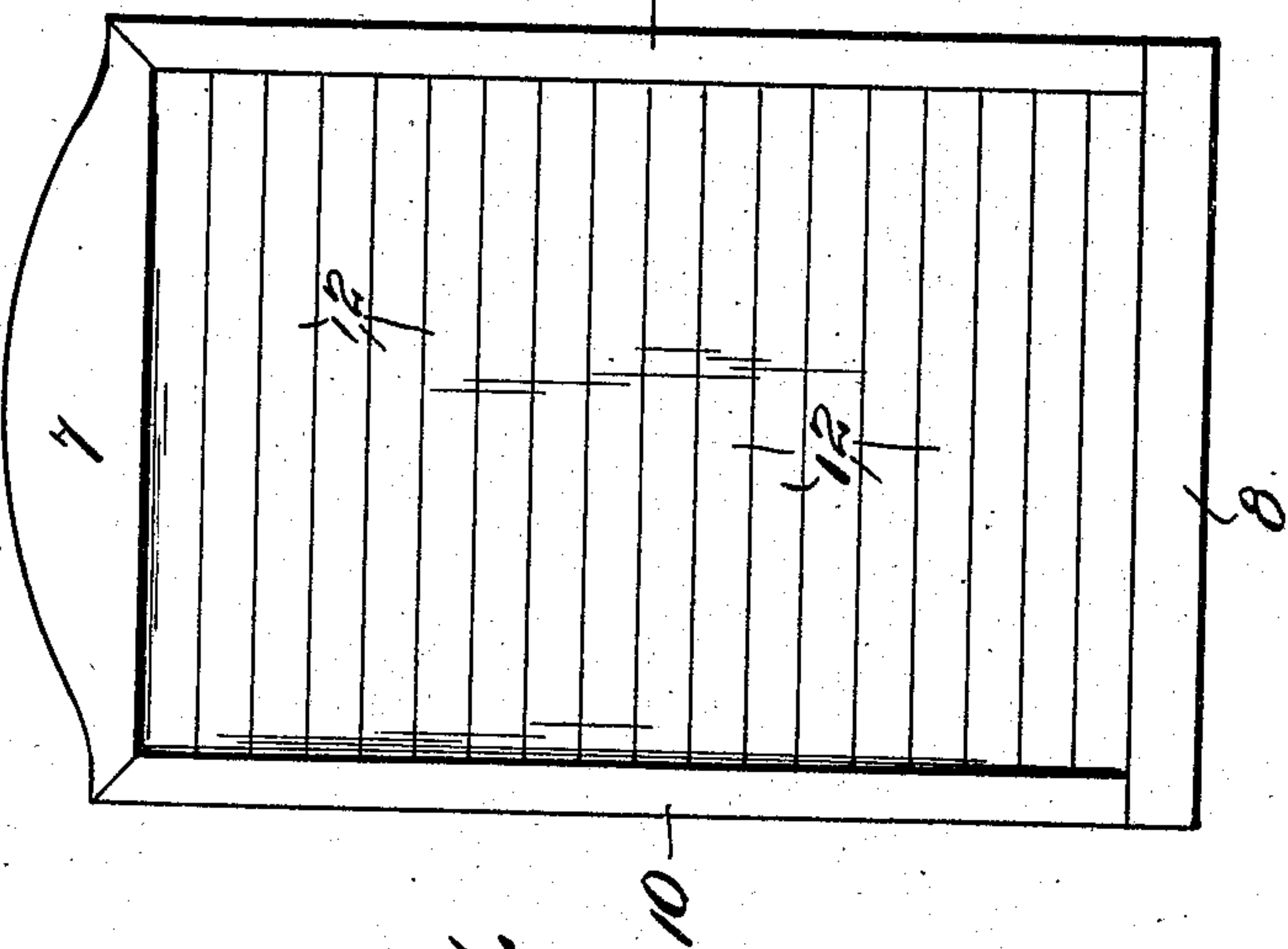


Fig. 1.

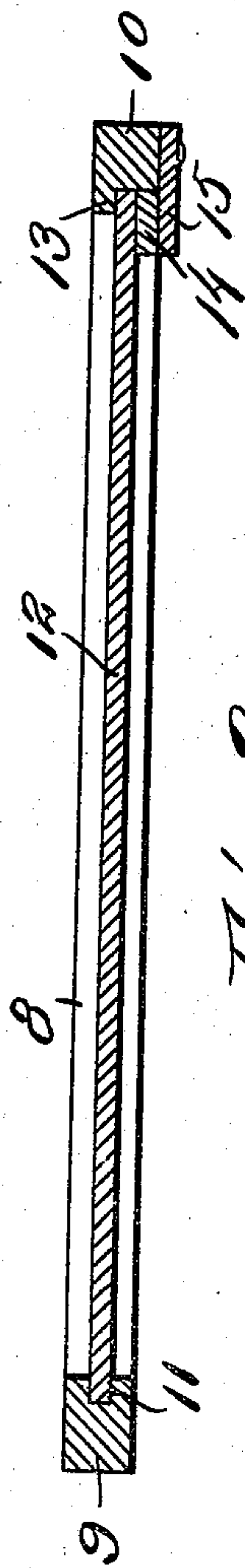


Fig. 3.

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SIGN-BOARD.

No. 894,505.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 28, 1908.

Application filed August 16, 1907. Serial No. 388,909.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALVIN O. JOHNSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook, State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sign-Boards; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as it appertains to make and use the same.

The present invention relates to improvements in sign boards, and it aims to provide an exceedingly simple and inexpensive device adapted for use as a menu-board in cafés, restaurants, drug stores, and similar places to indicate the side dishes or flavors ready to be served.

Heretofore where a set bill-of-fare or syrup list in the form of a painted sign board has been made use of, it has been found impossible to indicate thereon the non-service of certain dishes or syrups on the particular day, or to add extra dishes to the list without marking or otherwise marring the bill-of-fare, which is rendered more unsightly by the erasure of such dishes as have become out of season, or discontinued.

It is the particular object of the invention, therefore to overcome these defects by providing a sign-board in the form of a frame carrying a plurality of slats, upon which the names of the various dishes are indicated, such slats being readily and quickly removed from the frame or disposed therein.

The invention further resides in the provision of an improved fastening device for retaining the slats in place and preventing accidental or wilful misplacement thereof, such device consisting of a cleat which extends across all of the slats and is itself held in place by a series of ears secured to the frame.

With the above and other ends in view the invention consists in the construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, all as hereinafter fully described, specifically claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which like parts are designated by corresponding reference numerals in the several views.

Of the said drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of the present invention, Fig. 2 is a rear elevation thereof, Fig. 3 is an enlarged horizontal section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

In its practical embodiment the sign board comprises an open rectangular frame includ-

ing top and bottom members 7 and 8 and side members 9 and 10, the latter having rabbets 11 formed in their inner faces and extending from end to end thereof, which rabbets form seats into which the opposite ends of a series of slats 12 extend.

The rear face of the side member 10 is cut away at its inner edge to provide a longitudinal seat 13, which communicates with and serves as an extension of the rabbet formed therein, the said seat being coextensive in length with said rabbet.

The slats above referred to, are held against displacement by means of a cleat 14, which is movable between the inner faces of the top and bottom frame members 7 and 8, directly across the rear faces of the slats into and out of engagement with a vertical series of ears 15, which are secured to the frame. As shown in Fig. 2, three such ears are illustrated, the upper ear of which is carried by the top member 7, the lower ear by the bottom member 8, and the central ear by the side member 10, said ears being arranged in vertical alinement with each other.

It will be apparent from the foregoing that when the slats are properly arranged one above the other with their opposite ends fitting in the rabbets, and the sliding cleat 14 is moved into position across the rear faces of the slats beneath said ears, any displacement or removal of the slats will be positively prevented. When, however, the cleat is disengaged from the ears, the slats may be readily removed from the frame by reason of the fore-shortening or decreased width of the rear face of the side member 10 caused by the formation of the seat 13 therein.

In practice the slats are painted or otherwise marked with names of the particular dishes, and it will be obvious therefore that when the supply of a particular dish has become exhausted or such dish has become out of season, it is possible to readily and quickly remove the slat upon which the name of such dish is marked from the frame, and it will be equally apparent that where certain dishes are added to the list, the slats which bear the names of such dishes may likewise be inserted in place within the frame.

The various parts of the sign board may be formed of any preferred material, and may be ornamented in any desired manner, and changes in the shape, size, and proportion of such parts, and in the minor details of the in-

vention generally may be made within the scope of the claims, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What is claimed, is—

- 5 1. A sign-board comprising an open frame including top, bottom and side members, said side members having rabbets formed in their inner faces and extending from end to end thereof, the rear face of one of said side
10 members being provided with a seat located at the inner edge thereof and forming an extension of the rabbet therein throughout its entire length, a series of removable slats having their opposite ends extending into said
15 rabbets, a series of ears secured to the rear face of the frame, and a member slidable across the rear faces of said slats into and out of engagement with said ears, to prevent displacement of said slats.
- 20 2. A sign-board comprising an open frame including top, bottom, and side members, said side members having rabbets formed in

their inner faces and extending from end to end thereof, one of said side members having a seat formed in its rear face at the inner edge
25 thereof communicating with the rabbet therein and coextensive in length therewith, a series of removable slats having their opposite ends extending into said rabbets, a series of ears secured to the rear face of said
30 frame and extending over the rear faces of said slats in vertical alinement with each other, and a cleat movable directly across the rear faces of said slats between the inner
35 faces of the top and bottom members into and out of position between said slats and ears, to prevent displacement of said slats.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

ALVIN O. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

E. L. AQUART,
JOS. CROMPTON, Jr.