

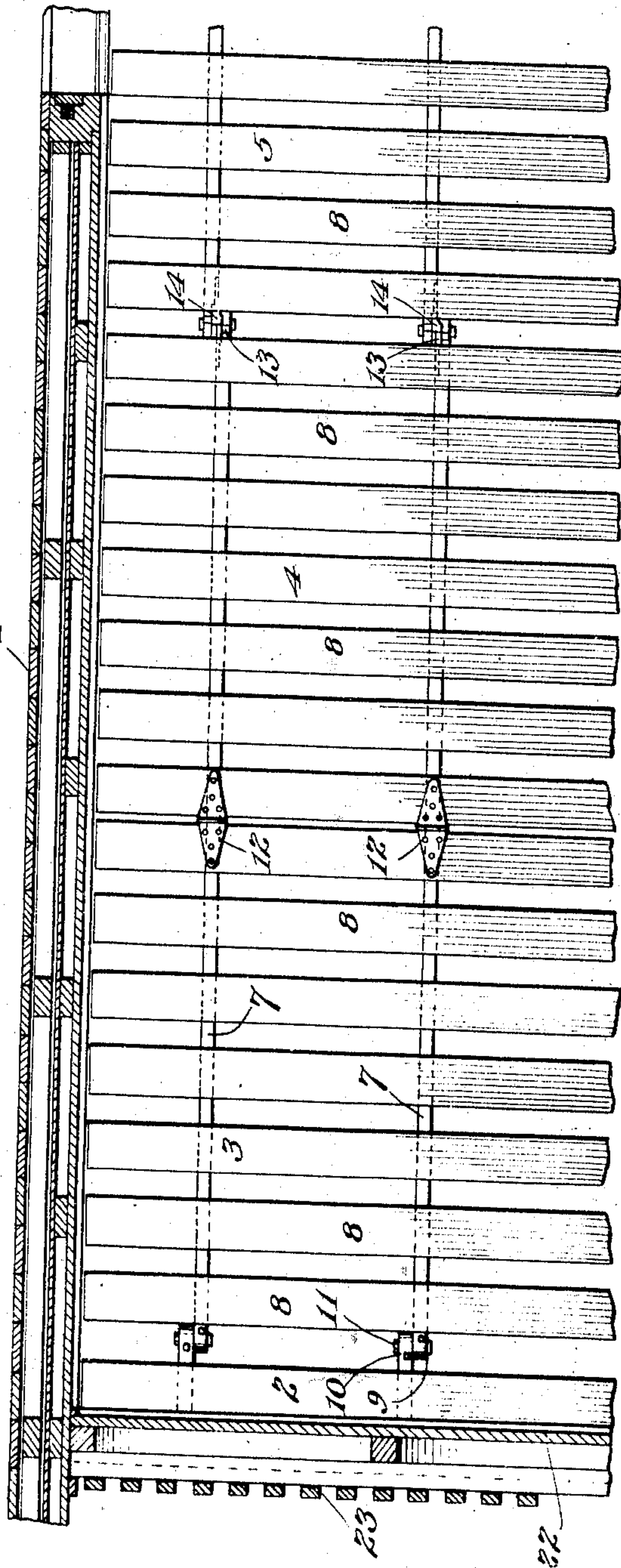
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FLOOR CONSTRUCTION FOR REFRIGERATOR CARS.  
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 17, 1908.

928,406.

Patented July 20, 1909.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses  
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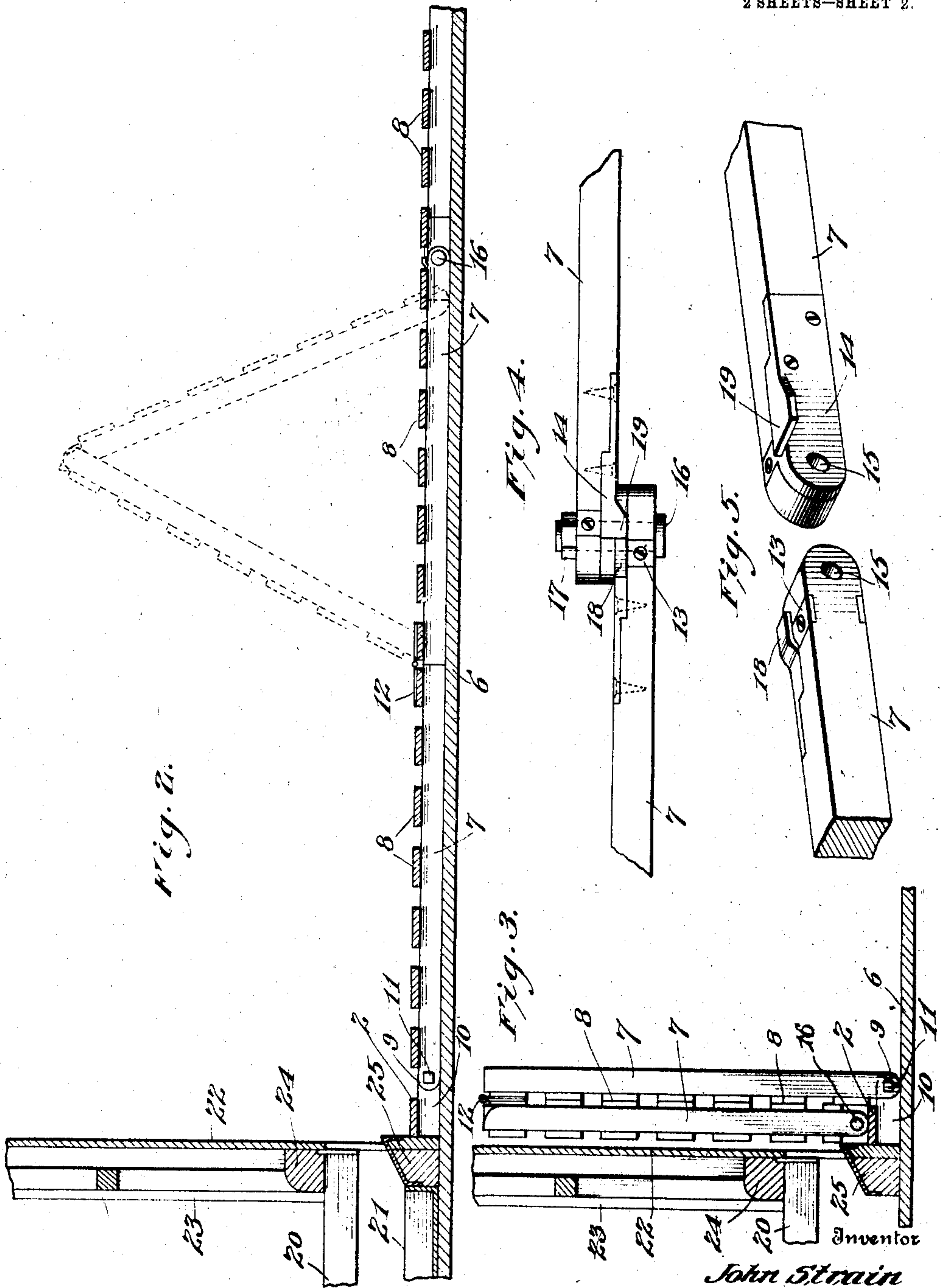
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN STRAIN, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## FLOOR CONSTRUCTION FOR REFRIGERATOR-CARS.

No. 928,406.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 20, 1909.

Application filed November 17, 1908. Serial No. 463,111.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN STRAIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Floor Construction for Refrigerator-Cars, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in refrigerator cars, an object of the invention being to provide an improved slatted floor made up in sections, so as to enable the floor to be folded against the ends of the compartment, and the hinges will permit the floor to be hinged in none but the correct manner, preventing damage and injury through the stupidity of employees.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists in certain novel features of construction, and combinations and arrangements of parts as will be more fully hereinafter described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1, is a fragmentary view partly in horizontal section, and partly in plan illustrating my improvements. Fig. 2, is a view in longitudinal vertical section showing in full lines the floor in normal position, and in dotted lines partly folded. Fig. 3, is a view in vertical section illustrating the floor folded, and Figs. 4 and 5, are detailed plan and perspective views illustrating one of the hinge connections.

1 represents the side of a refrigerator car, and 2 a fixed slat secured in one end of the car just above the solid floor thereof.

3, 4 and 5 illustrate three sections of my improved slatted floor.

It is to be understood that Fig. 1 illustrates less than one fourth of a floor in which there are preferably six sections, and are of a width to extend practically from side to side of the compartment, and when the several sections are down upon the permanent floor 6, they will cover the entire length of the compartment.

All of the sections are made up of a series of longitudinal stringers 7 upon which the transverse slats 8 are secured as shown. The stringers 7 of section 3 are provided at their ends with bearings 9 to aline with fixed pivot bolts 11, and pivotally connect the section to the compartment end.

Ordinary leaf hinges 12 are secured upon the slats at the adjacent ends of sections 3 and 4, to hinge said sections together, and as the stringers 7 of these sections 3 and 4 abut when the sections are down upon the car floor, it will be seen that section 4 can only be swung in one direction and that is first upward and then down upon the section 3. The hinged connection between sections 4 and 5 is best illustrated in Figs. 4 and 5. The stringers 7 of these sections 4 and 5 are not in alinement as clearly shown in Fig. 1, and the ends of the stringers overlap and are provided with reinforcing metal castings 13 and 14 respectively secured to the respective stringers. These castings and the stringers are made with openings 15 to receive pivot bolts 16 secured in place by nuts 17. The castings 13 on the stringers of section 4 are made with raised shoulders 18 to be engaged by raised shoulders 19 on the castings 14 of the stringers of section 5 and limit the hinged movement of the sections as will be clearly seen. By this construction and arrangement of parts, it will be seen that the section 5 cannot be swung upward with the bolts 16 as the pivots, as the shoulders 18 and 19 will absolutely prevent such movement, hence to fold the platform it is necessary to lift or elevate the hinged connections of sections 4 and 5 as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2, and as the stringers of these sections 4 and 5 are not in alinement, the sections can be folded flatly together with their stringers parallel, and both sections are then folded down upon section 3, then all three sections are folded up against the end of the compartment with the bolts 11 acting as pivots, and be supported in this position out of the way as clearly shown in Fig. 3.

As seen in Fig. 2, 20 illustrates an ice supporting platform, and 21 a drip pan below the same. 22 illustrates an end wall of the refrigerating compartment separating the same from the ice compartment, and having an opening in its lower end extending throughout the width of the car to permit free circulation of cold air from the ice compartment to the refrigerating compartment, and a slat work partition 23 normally holds the ice away from the wall 22, and the lower cross timber 24 of this partition 23 is rounded on its upper edge as clearly shown to direct any dripping on the one face of the wall 22 into the drip pan 21 below. A cross



timber 25 is located below the wall 22, and is of such width as to project within the refrigerating compartment, so as to catch any drip from the inner face of the wall 22, and as the upper face of this timber 25 is inclined toward the drip pan and covered with a protecting metal covering, any drip from the inside of the wall 22 will be directed thereby into the drip pan.

Slight changes might be made in the general form and arrangement of parts described without departing from my invention, and hence I do not restrict myself to the precise details set forth, but consider myself at liberty to make such changes and alterations as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention.

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

1. In a refrigerator car, the combination with a fixed support, of a series of slatted floor sections, each comprising longitudinal stringers and transverse slats thereon, hinges connecting the floor sections, said hinges so constructed as to compel the floor sections to be folded with the slats of two adjacent sec-

tions against each other, and the slats of two adjacent sections away from each other.

2. In a refrigerator car, the combination with a support, of a floor section hinged to said support and adapted to swing upward to a vertical position, an intermediate floor section, hinges connecting said sections to compel the intermediate section to fold downward upon the top of the first mentioned section, an end section, hinges connecting said intermediate and end sections and constructed so as to compel the under faces of the end and intermediate sections to fold against each other.

3. In a refrigerator car, the combination with a support, of a series of sections hinged together and constructed to be folded to a vertical position against the ends of the compartment.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN STRAIN.

Witnesses:

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